

To make a gift to First Church



The First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

23 South Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492

Church telephone: (203) 265-1691

Church Office Hours: Tues.- Fri. - 9:00am - 2:00pm

Email: officemanager@firstchurchwlfld.org (office)

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At the First Congregational Church, UCC of Wallingford, CT, we have discerned the following vision and mission for our faith lives together:

Vision

Our faith – rooted in the compassion and teachings of Jesus Christ – is the foundation of our love for one another and service to the world around us.

We offer a home for those seeking deeper meaning or purpose in their lives through the exploration of Jesus Christ's teachings. The love and compassion found in those teachings commit us to up lift each individual and celebrate our shared humanity.

Mission

We will foster spiritual growth, loving communication, and mutual care, thereby empowering us to confront issues that impact our community and the world, including poverty, isolation, and exclusion.

We commit to developing a nurturing environment where all are loved, valued, and inspired to meaningful participation in the life of the church. Through our Christian faith, compassion, and service, we will dedicate ourselves to making a positive impact on the lives of people in our community and beyond.

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Dawn Charron,

First Congregational Church Wallingford, CT



July 13, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER

PENTECOST

ORDER OF WORSHIP
+ Please rise in body or in spirit
NCH = New Century Hymnal (Black)

PRELUDE *Fantasia in d minor, K.397*
 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*
 Sebastian Temple/arr. Mark Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP
Children of God, are you listening? Have you noticed?
God has planted seeds of hope among us.
We have heard of this hope!
Are you listening? Have you noticed? God nurtures
hope among us, helping us bear the fruit of
faithfulness in this world.
We seek this hope as we learn to live in faith.
Are you listening? Have you noticed? The hope of
God’s good news forms you to love one another with
the love of Christ.
**We cling to this hope as we grow in love of God,
self, neighbor, and all creation.**
Children of God, come! Come, let us worship God who
graciously offers us the gift of hope.
**Come, let us worship God who empowers us to put
our hope into faithful and loving actions!**

+HYMN O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
NCH # 42

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Gracious and Merciful God, your love is steadfast,
and your mercy endures forever. Forgive us for not
loving as you love. Forgive us for the ways and
words we’ve used to oppress your people and help
us to forgive those who’ve oppressed us. Forgive us
for the deeds that we’ve done that have burdened

instead of uplifted the hearts and minds of those
we’ve encountered. Forgive us for silence during
times of injustice and free us to rise and advocate
for those who live under the leadership of unjust
rulers,

who live in a state of turmoil and depression. Help
us to reconcile and make peace with one another.
Help us to bear one another’s burdens and to be
agents of your liberating love so that all of your
people will be able to live justly. We confess our
sins before you silently now, knowing that you are
willing to able to cleanse and revive us through
Christ’s resurrecting power, in whose name we
pray. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

BAPTISM OF CALLAN MARTHA CRAIG

HYMN Child of Blessing, Child of Promise
NCH #325

DUET *Thy Word* Michael W. Smith and Amy Grant
 Holly Francke and Marjorie Martin, singers

READING FROM THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Luke
10:25-37

THE MESSAGE Mercy Revisited

HYMN Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life NCH
#543

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as
we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen

CALL TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY *The Summons*
KELVINGROVE/adapt. John L. Bell/arr. Mark Hayes

+DOXOLOGY

NCH #779

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter;
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN God of Grace and God of Glory NCH
436

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE *It Is Well with My Soul (St.2)* NCH
#438

POSTLUDE *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
NETTLETON/arr. Becki Slagle Mayo

Announcements

Serving the church today: Matt Bushey, Jay Mather, Cheryl Naski, Deanna Holloway, Ushers. [Dawn Charron and Holly Francke, Sacramental Ministers.](#) Russ Hinckley, Chimes.

The flowers on the altar are given in honor of and with gratitude to all Staff, Vision Board officers, Ministry Coordinators, Team Members, and volunteers who served the church in the 2024-2025 program year.

It is a joy to **Celebrate the Baptism of Callan Martha Craig**, born January 22, 2025. Callan is the daughter of Alyssa and Duncan Craig. He Godparents are Kyle Bosucki and Megan Barracato.

Summer Sunday School presents **Walking on Water: The Miracles and Mysteries of the Bible.** Join us on July 13, 20 & 27.

SNEAKERS FOR SCOW - The Monthly Drives Team of the Mission & Outreach Ministry in partnership with the Spanish Community of Wallingford (SCOW) is collecting **NEW** sneakers for SCOW families in need. Prefer to make a monetary donation? Store gift cards (e.g.. Walmart, Target, Kohl's) and other monetary donations will also be gratefully accepted the day of the drive or at any point before the drive. Sneakers will be collected on **Saturday, July 19, 2025** - **Time: 9:00 am to 11:00 am.** This is a drive-up, drop-off event at the rear of the church. As always, your donations are greatly appreciated! **COMING SOON:** A Sign-Up Genius link with a list of shoes that are needed, giving you the chance to sign up for a particular shoe. The link will be provided in a future email. Questions? Please contact David Wells at detawells@sbcglobal.net or 203-599-5422.

Mission Trip 2025 Scranton, July 20-26, FCCW participants are Sam Haddad, Erica Haddad and Lorraine Westervelt. In a world filled with pressure from school, social media, and division, this year’s theme, **“Illuminate,”** invites them to discover Jesus as the unstoppable Light (John 1:1-18). His Light brings clarity, purpose, and hope—shining through every challenge and never fading. As we explore what it means to carry that Light, we’ll see that faith isn’t just something we do—it’s who we are. Please keep their work in your prayers.

The ONA Team invites you to read a book focused on autism this summer and join us to discuss it on Thursday August 21st at 6:30 pm. Snacks will be provided. We are reading **A Little Less Broken: How an Autism Diagnosis Finally Made Me Whole** by Marian Schembari. See you there.

Summer Craft Workshops Please have a refreshment after church and join us for craft workshops in Congregation Hall as we prepare for our Christmas Fair. Materials and instruction will be provided. Your ideas are welcome.

Rev. Dr. Meredith Jeffers, Interim Pastor
Dr. Jeanette Gross, Minister of Music.
Ms. Maureen Czentnar, Office Manager
Mr. Tony Annunziata, Sexton
Ms. Madison Torre, Coordinator of Sunday School and Youth Ministries

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