

YOUTH NEWS

The DESSERT AUCTION was a HUGE success.

We raised close to \$4,000 which will fund AMTRAK transportation for the youth summer service trip “PERSPECTIVE.” We want to thank all who helped by making desserts for both the silent and live auction as well as the crowd that turned out to bid. We also thank many of you who could not attend but made donations. All of this helps so much. NOTE - If you made a dessert and did not get a thank you, please forgive ... some desserts slipped past us without getting registered! But please know we are grateful for your time, effort, calories and support!

SUNDAY SCHOOLHOUSE - Sundays at 10am

April 3, Peg Giles will lead the children in a KIDZ-EYE view of Communion, while Paula Abrahamson takes the young ones outside for Spring sightings. Off for April 10th due to Spring break, back on April 17. Last Sunday in April is Family Service, we join our families upstairs for worship.

FAITH ED - Thursdays at 6:45pm

Our study discussions will be about how one goes about making faith a personal thing. We will look at famous and not-so-famous people who found faith to be an important thing in their lives.

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH - 7-8:30pm

On April 3, Brendan Dutton will lead the evening meeting. April 17 & 24, we continue with the PERSPECTIVE theme, discussing student leadership needed in the upcoming year, officer elections, plans for DC trip, car wash fundraiser and other ways to earn money for METRO passes in DC.

SUMMER SERVICE TRIP - “PERSPECTIVE”

The trip takes place July 31-August 6. We will stay at dorms at George Washington University and taking AMTRAK from Windsor Locks to DC. This trip is all about Perspective - experiences, conversations, interactions, service and exposure to things, ideas, and people that shift the way we look at the world and the way we choose to live our lives.

Email articles for the next First Edition to
sue@firstchurchgranby.org by April 20th


First Congregational
Church of Granby
219 North Granby Rd.
Granby, CT 06035

The First Edition

April 2016

Happy Spring!

After many weeks exploring the Deep Woods for gifts hidden therein, we’ve got it all figured out, right? Well, actually...

Jesus’ time with his disciples was short. But from the beginning, he began to prepare them to continue his ministry once he was no longer with them. It is an ancient tradition to read from the Book of Acts in the weeks between Easter and Pentecost. In this chapter of the Bible we learn how the first followers of “The Way” of Jesus tried to recall what Jesus had taught them. With them, our theme for the Season of Easter is “When in doubt, read the instructions.”

April 3	HOW TO wait for inspiration
April 10	HOW TO be an agent of healing
April 17	HOW TO speak up
April 24	HOW TO be a caring community
May 1	HOW TO end an argument
May 8	HOW TO keep the main thing the main thing

See you in worship!

Pastor Ginny

Spring Tune Up

A 6-week wellness series at First Church beginning April 15

Are you feeling the post-winter blahs?
Feeling the need for an all-around tune-up?

Join us **Friday evenings from 6-7:30 pm**,
and launch into the weekend feeling GREAT!

Topics will include: journaling and meditation, yoga,
self-massage, nutrition and diet, organizing and decluttering,
laughter and brain health.

All are welcome - \$75
email heatherdobbert@gmail.com for more info

CONNECT

IN NEED OF A HOST!! SOUPER SATURDAY

Saturday, April 9 at 6 – 8 pm

We need a host! Please let Pastor Ginny or Linda Betsch know if you are willing to open your home to 15-20 people for an evening of soup and socializing. Hosts provide soup and guests bring appetizers, sides or desserts to share. BYOB. Bring friends! Want to share a ride, call Linda 860-920-2500.

CHORAL FESTIVAL - SATURDAY, APRIL 23 7:30pm

BARBARA CROUSE MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES

Join us at First Congregational Church of Granby to share and celebrate the importance of Negro spirituals! Joined by guest conductor Dr. Vernon Huff, the choirs of First Congregational Church, South Congregational Church, and Old Saint Andrews Episcopal Church will join forces to present an exciting evening of high-energy music. Dr. Vernon Huff currently serves on the faculty of SUNY-Fredonia and is a leading scholar on the spirituals of William Dawson and is one of the country's most vocal advocates for the promotion and preservation of negro spiritual singing. Each choir will sing a couple of spirituals individually, then combine under the direction of Dr. Huff to sing a set of historic spirituals with solos by tenor Jerron Jorgensen and sopranos Dr. Christi McLain and Lisabeth Miller.

Admission to all Barbara Crouse Memorial Concerts is free with a free-will offering accepted at the door. This event is family friendly and the First Church sanctuary is wheelchair accessible.

WOMENS RETREAT ~ “The Path You Carve”

Where are you on your life's path? Are you in a rut? Are you feeling lost? Are you wanting adventure?

In *Wild*, the harrowing story of her solo 3-month hike on the Pacific Crest Trail, Cheryl Strayed writes that she got “out of the woods” by walking the path she carved herself.

Join other First Church women (and friends) on our annual retreat at the beautiful campus of the Mercy Center on the shore of Long Island Sound in Madison, CT. It will be a weekend of laughter, relaxation, comfort food (we'll cook our own!), rest, and challenge, led by Pastor Ginny. Cost is \$230 per person, Friday night through Sunday noon. Speak to Linda Smyth for more information.

EXPLORE

ANTI-RACISM TRAINING - April 8

Join Pastor Ginny at SURJ Hartford for our first Member Meeting on April 8th! We, as the Hartford chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ), are building a base of committed White folks to challenge and transform racism on all levels.

Our shared purpose: As we strive to dismantle white supremacy, we mobilize white people to show up to public, political actions for racial justice. We do so as accountable partners in this work, following the lead of local and national activists of color.

White racial justice activists need connection to sustain courage and hope. We need to know there are other white people, like us, who will take risks, make mistakes, and learn. We need other white people to lean on when we are discouraged, and to share our excitement with! Racial justice movements, including Black Lives Matter and others, need a constituency of accountable white racial justice activists who are connected, hopeful, and many.

Join us on April 8th to begin the work (and fun!) of finding each other and building a base of courageous white people showing up for racial justice.

"Another world is not only possible, she is on her way.
On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing" - Arundhati Roy

For more information please contact: Jason Fredlund:
jason.fredlund@gmail.com or Liz Castle: eliz.castle@gmail.com

CONVERSATIONS ON RACE - May 1

There will be a poetry reading by Kate Rushin followed by a discussion on May 1, 4pm at South Congregational Church. The event is co-sponsored by First Congregational Church and South Congregational Church. Event is free and open to the public. Call 860-653-7289 for more information.

ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

April 10 – Discussion of *Not in God's Name*
11:30am at First Church with Pastor Ginny

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY

We are reading *Reluctant Pilgrim* by Enuma Okoro.
April 18 & 25 at 10:30 am at FCC
April 18 - 7pm at Linda B.; April 25 - 7pm at Laura K.

SERVE

FIRST SUNDAY = GRANBY FOOD BANK

God offers us a place at the table....

We can offer food for the hungry....

Donations most needed:

Soup, Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta

Paper products, Detergent

BIKE AND BUILD - SAVE THE DATE - Tuesday, June 7

The Bike & Build Team will stay overnight at First Church on Tuesday, June 7. All are invited for dinner at 6pm. This is the beginning of their trip to Seattle WA. During their trip they will help build Habitat for Humanity houses and raise money for affordable housing. Greeting and Cook Hall setup teams are needed for the afternoon. If you can help with this event, please contact Bill Bentley at billbentley@cox.net or 860-844-0008.



JERRON JORGENSEN'S DMA RECITAL

Tuesday, April 12 7:30pm

Please join us as tenor Jerron Jorgensen presents his final performance recital in partial fulfillment of a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice Performance from the Hartt School of Music. In a recital of both popular and rare chamber works, Jerron will be joined by pianist Kyle Swann, soprano Christi McLain, countertenor Benjamin Rauch, and oboist Sehwan Kim.

Featured works will include "Ten Blake Songs" by Ralph Vaughan Williams for tenor and oboe; "Tre duetti" by Carl Maria von Weber for soprano, tenor, and piano; and "Canticle II: Abraham & Isaac" by Benjamin Britten for tenor, countertenor and piano. Admission is free.

Important Dates at FCC

Sundays:
Every 10am Worship & Sunday SchoolHouse
4/3, 4/17 & 4/24 8:30am Governance Meetings
4/24 8:30am Stephen Ministry (fourth Sunday)
Every 7pm Sunday Night Youth

Mondays:
4/4 6:30pm Trustees (first Monday)
4/18 7pm Deacons (third Monday)
4/25 4pm Care Committee (last Monday)
Every 7pm Stephen Ministry Training

Tuesdays:
4/5 & 4/19 1pm NeedleworX
4/12 7:30pm Jerron Jorgensen DMA Recital
4/19 7pm Seth & Lucy Holcombe Trust Meeting

Wednesdays:
Every 6:30pm Marquis
Every 7pm Bell Choir

Thursdays:
4/14 12pm Women’s Fellowship
Every 8:45am Yoga
Every 6pm Jerrotones
Every 6:45pm Faith Ed
Every 7pm Chancel Choir

Fridays:
4/1 7:30pm Sound Healing

Saturdays:
4/9 6-8pm Souper Saturday
4/23 7pm BCMCS Choral Festival
4/30 VPS Tag Sale

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