



July/August 2015

The CRIER



The Trumbull Congregational Church

3115 Reservoir Avenue

Trumbull, CT 06611

Phone: 203.268.2433

www.TrumbullCC.org

“Rise up, O Lord! Do not let mortals prevail; ... Put them in fear, O Lord; let the nations know that they are only human.” – Psalm 9:19-20

“What are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.” – Psalm 8:4-5

Notes from Pastor Tim.....

It is interesting to me that these two psalms are right next to each other. I first read Psalm 9 and was struck by its ending. “Let the nations know that they are only human.” For whatever reason, those words repeated in my head. They struck me as a passionate prayer, part of the psalmist’s cry for the kind of justice that is rooted in a common humility before a great and almighty God. “Let kings and politicians and nations treat one another fairly, with compassion and kindness because in the end we are all just people, frail, mortal, and dependent.” The psalmist might have said that. He might have said that before God we are all small and in need of help. Before God there is no room for superiority.

And then there is Psalm 8, a powerful and poetic reminder that because of God, because of grace, we are sacred. We are made just “a little lower than God.” We are those for whom God would shed God’s own life. We are those with whom God would share God’s own life. Built into our humanity is the invitation to share fellowship with the source of all love and life. There is something remarkable about being “only human.”

I don’t know if the Book of Psalms places these two psalms next to each other intentionally, but their juxtaposition strikes me a spiritually (theologically) significant. Any strong and authentic religious experience does for us what these psalms together do. True spiritual awareness both humbles us in the light of God’s beauty and strengthens us in the knowledge that we are a part of it. Religious experience awes us and sanctifies us at the same time. It makes us both small and great.

There’s something about summertime worship that brings all of this to mind. There’s a simplicity to our summer services and an intimacy. There is no sense of a production and there are no competing agendas to the basic desire to receive God and to risk anew the giving of ourselves to God. Don’t get me wrong; I also love our worship during the high seasons of the year. However, there’s something special about summer’s toned-down feel. Summer worship is a new invitation to be ourselves before God, to be small and human and to find in our humanity that we are tied to something much greater.

Remember, worship starts at 9:30!

Peace,

Pastor Tim

A Message from the Music Director

Greetings!

First, I want to say thank you all for the warm welcome on June 7th, I am very excited to be here at Trumbull CC!

After closing out the choir season with choir appreciation Sunday, the music ministry is looking forward to taking a bit of a break over the summer. This will be a time of planning and preparation for the fall, with lots of music to look forward to when the new season begins!

Paul Jacobson will be our guest organist for several Sundays in July. Please give him a warm welcome! I am sure you will enjoy his musical offerings.

Looking ahead: keep your eye out in August for news about choir kick-off Sunday, which will be in September. As always, we are looking for singers, and all are welcome! Also, if you play an instrument, or would like to contribute to the music ministry in some other way, please let me know! We are hoping to incorporate special music into our worship services more regularly in the fall.

I look forward to making music with all of you and wish you a wonder filled summer!



CALLING ALL BABYSITTERS!

TCC will be compiling a list of contact information for all interested babysitters. This list will be filed in the office for all TCC members who request a copy. If you are interested in adding yourself to the list, email or call the office: Office@TrumbullCC.org



Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all our members and friends celebrating in July and August!

Ladies Luncheon

Just a reminder that the Ladies Luncheon group does not meet in July or August.

Have a Great Summer!!



Summer Worship Hours:
July and August
Worship is at 9:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS

As the summer shifts into full gear, my regular office days and hours will vary. It is best to call or email me at Office@TrumbullCC.org or 203.268.2433 if you need to stop by the office for any reason. I will always do my best to get back to you promptly!

Cindy

Fall Retreat "To Be Alive"

(Participating in an Unending Conversation)



wiseGEEK

a weekend experience for men and women

WISDOM HOUSE
229 East Litchfield Rd.
Litchfield, CT 06759

September 25-27, 2015
(Friday, 7:00 p.m. ~
Sunday after lunch)



We all want to be alive...To feel alive, to thrive, to live "out loud"! We want to be less lonely, less exhausted, less conflicted; more awake, more grateful, more energized, more purposeful. We can do that by joining the unending conversation of the Biblical story...

- Alive in the story of creation
- Alive in the adventure of Jesus
- Alive in the peaceful uprising
- Alive in God's Spirit

Led by Reverend Caroly R. Gibson

Total Cost \$235.00 (includes 5 meals, room, program, and materials)

Register Soon - Space in Farmhouse is Limited

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Special Diet: _____

Mail Registration with \$150.00 deposit to:
Rev. Caroly Gibson 145 Hilltop Drive Trumbull, CT 06611
Balance due by September 1*

Questions or Further Details, call (203) 380-1260 email: cgibsonumc@peoplepc.com

God is Everywhere!

Let's fill up the Sunday School bulletin board
with (drumroll, please). . .

Summer God Sightings!

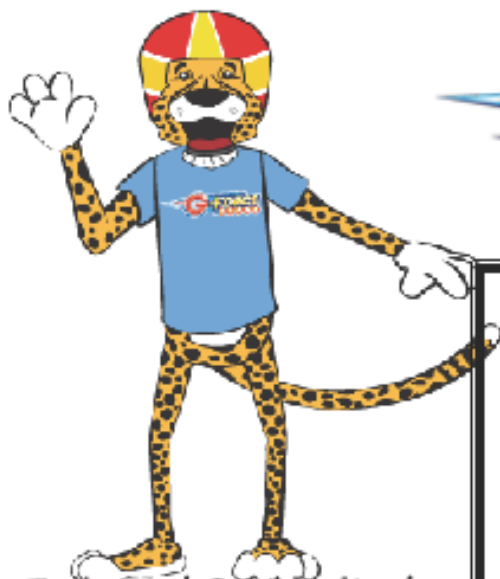
Take photos OR draw pictures of where you
see/experience God

Is God in the mighty ocean waves? Is God there in the
bird's nest? Do you see God in the hug of your dog?
Deep along a hiking trail? Is God in the face of your
grandma? The view from a mountaintop?



Bring in your photos/drawings
ANY time, and give them to
Miss Tara (or slide them
under my office door). I'll be
displaying them when we
return to Sunday School!

God Sightings



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

In God, we live, move and exist

Acts 17:28

July 13th - July 17th 2015

9:00-11:30

REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Allergies/Medical Information: _____

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3115 Reservoir Avenue

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(203) 268-2433

Check out our Facebook Page!

Early Bird Registration!
Register between NOW
and May 31st:
\$40/child

Register after May 31st:
\$50/child

Scholarships are
available (contact Tara
Brophy)

Children must have one
year of preschool
under their belts AND
be at least 4 years old

Sorry, but no
registrations accepted
after July 1st and no
refunds after June 30st

Please return this form
(filled out) along with
your check payable to:
Trumbull
Congregational Church

Email Tara Brophy with
any questions or for
more details:
tara.brophy@trumbullcc.
org

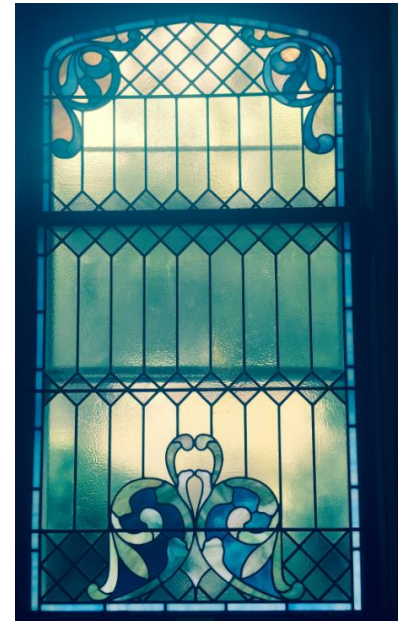
WINDOW RENOVATION UPDATE

In wrapping up our long campaign to renovate every single one of our stained glass windows from the narthex, through the sanctuary, into the sacristy and around the Round Room and all the way up into the bell tower, we find ourselves left with one last double hung window in the Round Room (6A) that has not been taken to the stained glass studio for its cleaning and re-leading. After 117 years, the glass is shifting down toward its sill and will eventually fall out with continued opening and closing.

The fund raising started in the 1990's for this renovation, the work in 2009, and the Stained Glass Group hopes to close the books on it before the end of 2015. To avoid budget impact, this process was quietly pursued by sending a window to the studio only after it had been paid for in full. Since no one has shown interest in buying 6A, we think we will refer to it as "Congregational Window" to help us raise the \$4,500 for this last window. Of course an individual family or a couple of families can still step forward to cover the cost.

Think about making a tax-deductible donation in someone's memory or in honor of a baptism, confirmation, graduation, or wedding. No amount is too small. We thank you for your continued support of this project.

The Stained Glass Group
(Herb Gratrix, Kathy Hering, Kent Lewis and LeAnn Slater)



Your Name _____

Donation Amount \$ _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In Honor of or in Memory of:

Make checks payable to "Trumbull Congregational Church"

Memo: "Congregational Window"

Enclose this form and send to TCC Office, 3115 Reservoir Avenue, Trumbull, CT 06611

TCC Goals and Priorities

Church Council and our various church boards have been engaged in a discussion about “what’s next” for the ministries of our congregation. We’ve divided church work into a number of different categories and we’ve shared thoughts about where we might most effectively focus our energies. Here’s what we came up with:

Spiritual Nurture

Pastor Tim will offer regular spiritual growth opportunities throughout the year by leading a weekly evening class for adults during which we’ll exchange thoughts as we engage with a variety of small group resources, including books and videos that Tim will select.

Additionally, we hope to offer a youth group program that meets more consistently and includes faith nurture opportunities as part of its gatherings.

Worship

We are thrilled that Ilana is with us now as our settled music director and we are looking forward to encouraging parishioner involvement through increased special music opportunities. Additional ideas for special holiday music, such as a Good Friday cantata and an Easter brass quintet are in the works as well.

Missions

The Outreach committee is excited about discerning new ways to be hands-on and interactive in missions. We hope to build on new initiatives such as Heifer, CROP, and LIGHT (Sarah’s Thornton’s organization,) and we are considering an “Alternative Christmas Fair” in early December, which will raise social awareness along with funds that will benefit people in crisis all around the world.

Hospitality/Evangelism

We want to focus on making sure that people feel welcomed and engaged when they visit our church. We’ll talk a bit about intentional acts of hospitality. We’ll also more actively publicize the good works we do through local media outlets (Thanks, Don Esbach!) and we’ll more effectively use social media by transferring responsibilities to the office.

Stewardship

Our “New Consecration Sunday” fall campaign will aim at increasing participation by focusing on the *need to give* that we have as people of faith. You’ll be invited to a special luncheon to celebrate our ministries and we hope you will come!

Lay Leadership

Pastor Tim is working with CT Conference leaders to put together an event that will assist local congregations as they consider ways to restructure that enhance vision and better utilize member gifts. Please look for a November event and consider joining a team of TCC participants.

Pastoral Leadership

Pastor Tim is planning to use a week of spiritual renewal/continuing education time in August, which will allow him time to review resources for adult education, research field trip/excursion ideas, plan worship themes, work on a church calendar, and more

Walking since 1974

GREATER BANGORPORT CROP HUNGER WALK

May 2015

Dear Friends of CROP, *Pastor Tim & David -*

The 2015 CROP Hunger Walk (our 41st) held on Sunday, May 3, 2015 is now history, and you were a vital link in the success of this important endeavor. The Hunger Walk Committee wants to express their deep appreciation for your invaluable assistance.

The continuing fight against hunger must involve all of us, and you may be justly proud of helping meet our challenge.

Next year's walk date will be announced after our June 1 CROP Board meeting, and the location and date for the 2016 Rally will also be announced shortly.

Thanks again.

In any language - we say thank you.

Gratefully,

Carol & Allen Fanslow
2015 CROP Walk Committee

Thank you again for helping to make Trumbull the #1 town in collecting money for CROP. To date your congregation has contributed \$3,828. Rachel Brunt.

P.S. Trumbull is the highest church in collecting money. In fact, we've included churches in all participating churches in the Walk. Congratulations!

Dekuji

Blagodarya

Dziękuję

Takk

thank you

Grazie

merci

Obrigado

Köszönöm

Tanani

arigato gozaimasu

Xieie

Dank

Spasi

Edgopora

Donke

Multur

Dear friends at Trumbull Congregational Church - thank you so much for the donation that your congregation made to Heifer International in April.

Your gift will go to providing livestock, training, hope and more to families in need around the world. Furthermore - since every Heifer participant 'passes on' their livestock offspring, their training on more to others in their community - your gift will actually have an exponential impact towards ending hunger and poverty.

Thank you so much for being part of this transformative work.

Sincerely,

Liz Ellis

PRAYER CONCERNS

June 21, 2015

If there are prayer requests you would like included, please fill out a Prayer Card from the pew rack and place it in the box in the Narthex. You are invited, when you pray, to add specific prayers for the people listed below:

Mark Ronge
William Jasmine, recovering from leukemia
Susan Bryan Ricketson
Dave Palumbo, Chiche Guion's grandson
Jeanne Knecht
James Bonazzo
Mary Ann Kurtz, waiting for a kidney transplant
Robin Boccanfuso
Julie Otto, friend of Portia Antonio
Wilma Ricketson
Becky Harmon, fighting ovarian cancer
Alex Foell, bone cancer
Brian Surber, recovering from surgery
Kay Kisell, Sue Hill's Mother,

Anne Murray, battling recurrent cancer
Frank, diagnosed with cancer
Megan McDowell
Nick Maida, in a coma after a fall and brain surgery
Ufrozyna Parkes, Diane McLevy's Mother
Ellie Spellman Bennett, Barbara DeAngelo's sister with severe emphysema and cardiac complications
Jose Morales recovering from a severed spinal cord
Mary Court, Lee Deppen's sister-In-law, with multiple myeloma
Carla Jones, wife of Paul Nestro's co-worker, cancer
Lena Lima, recurring cancer
Linda Werner

Bob Warren, Chip Warren's father afflicted with Parkinson's-like condition
Diane Moller, cousin to the Rosatis
John Kurilec, recovering from a stroke
Bob Dixon, Jenn Leigland's father undergoing cancer treatment
Ron Steinmetz
Vincent Duva, open heart surgery.
Patti Richards, Angela Hare's aunt: health concerns
Ken Makawka, Father of Angela Hare's Sister-in-law.
Suzanne, tumor.
Norman, heart problems.
Louis D'Amanda, nephew of Andy and Jen Durfee, diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma two years ago, and is now waiting at Johns Hopkins on good scan results for a bone marrow transplant from his brother
George Hobart, medical issues
Doc Dougherty
Bill Tiesler
Art Carrano, Elva Steinmetz's son-in-law, ruptured intestine
Ruth Silver

(Revised 6/18/2015)

FOR THE CHILDREN DURING SUMMER WORSHIP

We hope that children will feel encouraged to attend worship during the summer even though we don't have Sunday school. We'll offer special children's bulletins with bible based activities along with a newly organized children's station in the back of the church. Also, it IS our intention to provide **nursery care** throughout the summer from 9:15-10:30. Please let Pastor Tim or Amy Ferguson know if you have any questions about nursery care or if you would like to provide supervision for a Sunday.

FROM WESLEY VILLAGE.....

Wesley Heights will host the TEAM Festival of Trees on Saturday, November 21st and Sunday November 22nd 2015. In conjunction with this event, we will also be featuring a Wesley Village Craft Fair, and would like to give you the opportunity to take a booth at this fair. Because the event is a two-day event, you may register for either or both days. If you plan on doing both days, you must be aware that it will not be possible to leave your booth set up overnight. You will have to clear the booth at the end of the fair on Saturday and set it up again on Sunday morning. Set-up is 8:00 AM both days. After you set up your booth, you will drive your car to the parking lot at Long Hill School, and there will be a shuttle available to return to Wesley Heights.

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis because we are limited in space. We will supply an 8-foot table and two chairs, but you will need to provide your own tablecloth; and if you need electricity, you will also have to provide extension cords. Electricity will be very limited because of the number of Christmas trees on display. The cost of the table is \$50 per day; electricity is an additional \$10 a day. Proceeds from this event will help support our award winning activities and programs such as our Music and Memory Program for our residents who struggle with Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

If you wish to register, contact Barbara Quinn, Director of Volunteers, Wesley Heights, 203.944.8292.

Donations for our bake sale will gladly be received on November 20th or the days of the event. Thank You!

Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 5th

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday, July 12th

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Monday, July 13th – July 17th

- Vacation Bible School “G Force”

Sunday, July 19th

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday, July 26th

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday, August 2nd

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday, August 9th

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday, August 16th

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday, August 23rd

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday, August 30th

- Sunday Worship 9:30 AM





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Non Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Bridgeport, Connecticut
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