

In Our Prayer

Tay Arrow Sherman and sons Emerset and Oz (Dawn Charron's niece) **Linda Syphers (friend of Gail Berlepsch)** **Louis Pasierello Jr. (friend of Mike and Pam Savenelli)** **Jeff Clay (progressive throat cancer, (Tina Caldwell's brother in law)** **Gladys Wells** **Carolyn Keehan (in Hospice)** **Bob Kaden (having neck surgery)** **Andrew (brain cancer)** ** Friends of Cynthia Bruestche** ** Healing for Justin Weekes, son of Sandy Weekes** **Those impacted by nature's fury** ** Tina Caldwell** **Sally Coleman** ** Megan Perkowski **Cousin Jean Farrell and Aunt Joyce Gorsky (the McKenna Family) ** Mark and Lynn Bailey (friends of John and Sherry Perkowski)** ** Tim Keogh** ** Charmaine Craggs** ** Ashley Sibley (Bernie and Tony's great-niece)** **Tom Jastermsky** ** Gabe and Jude Heidenis (Bernie and Tony's grandsons)** **Jack Grotti (friend of Sally Coleman)** ** Wendy Riddle, sister of Sandy Weekes ** Cathy Kovi** ** Sandy McCume** ** Betsy-Sue Eisenman** **Janice Frey** **David Lick** **Those around the world who live in areas of conflict and war.



The First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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To make a gift to First Church



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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First Congregational Church



September 29, 2024

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST**

September 29, 2024
ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *Kindness "Sowing the seeds of kindness"*
BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES /Setting, David Evan Thomas

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Gentleness*
"If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb"
CRANHAM/Setting, David Evan Thomas

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome in the name of the Lord.

P: Thank you. We are glad to be here.

L: Open your hearts today to hear God's word for you.

P: We open our spirits to receive God's healing love.

L: Remember that God has called you to service.

P: Lord, help us to be ready to serve you in all that we do. AMEN.

+HYMN Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

NCH # 18

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Compassionate God, you are ever changing and yet always the same. You have given us the Bible as a guide for how we are to live our lives, and yet you are still speaking, offering new ways to think of old problems and assumptions. Forgive us when we'd rather read the latest best seller than your book, the Best Seller of all time. Forgive us when our televisions, phones, and computers fill our days to the exclusion of spending time with you and your Holy Word. In the midst of our anxiety, fear, and apathy, help us to push aside that which is separating us from you. Discipline us to use you and your Word as tools to get us

through each day, so that as we become more knowledgeable of you, and might be clearer reflections of your unending love and grace. Amen

MOMENT OF QUIET PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE - The B-I-B-L-E

5th Grade Bible Recipients

Benjamin Hally, Amalie Haddad, Ava Pereira

SOLO *Goodness of God* Marsha Mather,
soloist

Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram & Jenn Johnson

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Psalm 119 (select verses)

MESSAGE A Lamp and Light

HYMN I Love to Tell the Story

NCH # 522

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 *Listen with Your Heart*
Brad Nix/ Chancel Choir

+DOXOLOGY

NCH #780

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN Sing Them Over Again to Me NCH

319

+COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE *Go with Us, Lord*
Text: Mary Jackson Cathey

POSTLUDE *Temperance*
*"All who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,
Let them in constancy follow the Master."*
ST. DUNSTAN'S/setting, David Evan Thomas

Announcements

Welcome to the First Congregational Church of Wallingford!

If you are visiting with us this morning, we extend a special welcome and greeting to you. First Church is a part of the United Church of Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

The flowers on the altar are given in memory of our beloved son and brother, Nate, by the Davies Family.

Serving the church today: Lois Doherty, Steve and Cathy Knight, Bruce and Katherine Ollodart, Ushers. Bernie Annunziata, Chimes. John Lenox, Liturgist.

Come and learn about the storied history of the First Congregational Church of Wallingford this morning at 11:30 in the Guild Room. Bob Westervelt will be our storyteller. On October 20, Ken Minkema will help us uncover the history of Congregationalism and the United Church of Christ. These offerings will help newcomers to the church to learn more about our history and others as they prepare for membership. All are welcome!

Would you like to **Become a member of FCCW?** New members will be received November 10. If you would like to learn more about membership and joining the church, speak to Pastor Meredith or call her at (914) 255-1690

popcorn, Popcorn, **POPCORN!** Get your **FREE POPCORN!!!** Help us share the GREAT NEWS of OUR CHURCH during CELEBRATE WALLINGFORD! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED to work at the Popcorn Tent during this wonderful COMMUNITY EVENT. Please see

KATHY WALLACE or HOLLY FRANCKE to sign up and LET'S GET POPPING!!!!

Our Neighbors in Need Offering will be received on World-Wide Communion Sunday, October 6. For more information see the Spire or next Sunday's bulletin.

Rev. Dr. Meredith Jeffers, Interim Pastor

Dr. Jeanette Gross, Minister of Music

Ms. Maureen Czentnar, Office Manager

Mr. Tony Annunziata, Sexton

Ms. Maddie Torre, Coordinator Sunday School
and Youth Ministries