



The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme
2 Ferry Road
Old Lyme, Connecticut
(860) 434-8686
Website: www.fccol.org

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OLD LYME
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE of LESSONS AND CAROLS**

Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister
Carleen R. Gerber, Senior Associate Minister
Joan W. Priest, Minister of Visitation
Simon D. Holt, Director of Music

December 24, 2016

8:00 & 10:00 PM

Prelude Music

Carols from Around the World and Music of the Season
played by Jill Maurer-Davis (flute) and Simon Holt (organ)

*Processional Hymn: #155 "Once In Royal David's City"

Verse 1 sung as a solo
The congregation joins in verse 2

Call to Worship

Invocation

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Welcome

Choir Carol: *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree* Elizabeth Poston
Lisa Feltes, soprano soloist

First Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

*Hymn #114 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Second Lesson: Isaiah 11: 1-10

Choir Carol: *Mary's Magnificat* Andrew Carter
Lisa Feltes, soprano soloist

Third Lesson: Luke 1: 26-35, 38

Choir Carol: *In The Bleak Mid-Winter* Harold Darke
Lisa Feltes and Brian Cheney, soloists

*Hymn #151 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2: 1, 3-7

Choir Carol: *Glory to God from Messiah*

G.F. Handel

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2: 8-16

Choir Carol: *Ding Dong! Merrily On High*

16th Century French Tune
Arr David Willcocks

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 2: 1-12

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Solo: *O Holy Night*

Adolphe Adam

Brian Cheney, tenor soloist

Offertory Prayer

*Hymn #132 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Choir Carol: *Sans Day Carol*

John Rutter

Seventh Lesson: John 1: 1-14

Christmas Litany

*Hymn #142 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Christmas Eve Prayer

The Pealing of the Bells

*Recessional Hymn #134 "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Postlude Music: *In dulci jubilo*

J.S. Bach

*We thank our scripture readers this evening: Scott Mahon,
Olwen Logan, Sean McCarty, Austin Hack, Giselle Ingabire and Mattie Renn*

*The Christmas prelude music is a time for quiet meditation. We ask that you visit with friends **after** the service this evening so that all may enjoy the special music.*

We are grateful for the generous contribution of time and talent given by the members of our Senior Choir.

We also thank our soloists, Lisa Feltes and Brian Cheney, and our bell ringers, under the direction of Gary Jungkeit.

Our special music this evening is given in loving memory of

**Everett and Catherine Fisher and John and Anne Griswold;
loved ones of the Charlton and Unangst families;
in celebration of the joy of the season by Marilyn and Bob Regan;
Dan and Sari Butt; Laura, Leland and Gary Reynolds;
Phil Simmons; the parents of Bob and Sally McCracken;
F. A. Godly, Jr.; Mark C. Stanberry;
Richard T. Blair, by his family;
Jack and Valerie Evans by Wendy and Emily Knight;
loved ones of S.C. Morrison.**

The special flowers this evening are given in memory of

**In loving memory of our parents, Elizabeth and Paul Bates and Dorothy and David Sams, Sr.; Jack and Valerie Evans by Wendy and Emily Knight;
loved ones of the Charlton and Unangst families;
the parents of Bob and Sally McCracken; F.A. Godly, Jr.;
loved ones of S.C. Morrison.**

“O Holy Night” is sung in honor of David Sargent.

As a young soldier serving in WWII he came into a church in a small village in France on Christmas Eve as “O Holy Night” was being sung.

**For him this was a moment of peace in the midst of war,
and so the song held special meaning for him all his life.**

Our offering this evening will go to the Ministers' Discretionary Fund, used locally to assist those in need with housing, food, fuel and special medical assistance. We ask that you give generously.

Ministers' Discretionary Fund

The Ministers' Discretionary Fund, for which we will receive donations on Christmas Eve, is the fund within our church that is used to help individuals and families with personal needs throughout the year. In the winter months, the need for fuel assistance is often critical, but there are all kinds of special needs that are handled with discretion by the ministers in all seasons. These might include partial rent assistance, help with an electric bill, a medical need, or countless other possibilities. Approximately \$42,000 was dispersed this year.

The Board of Missions gives money to the Ministers' Discretionary Fund each year out of their allocation from the operating budget. The Ladies Benevolent Society, using their profits from the annual White Elephant Sale, also contributes generously each year. Occasionally there are gifts from citizens within the wider town community who hear about our work and want to be supportive, but the largest single collection comes in the form of the Christmas Eve offering.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th
ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 11 AM
with the South Lyme Union Chapel
and there will be no Sunday School that day

The church office will be closed Monday, December 26th.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st
ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 11 AM
And there will be no Sunday School that day

The Church office will be closed Monday, January 2nd.

We resume our regular 9 and 11 services on Sunday, January 8th.

The Deacon on Duty is Susan Lang and Julie Martel at the 8:00 pm service and Elizabeth Nocera and Don Gonci at the 10:00 pm service.

The Rev. David W. Good serves as our Minister Emeritus.

The Rev. Rebecca T. Crosby is our Minister for Haitian Outreach.

The Rev. Christine Caton serves this church as minister of the South Lyme Union Chapel.

**Mission Outreach at The First Congregational Church of
Old Lyme in 2016**

This evening's offering will be used to support the Minister's Discretionary Fund of the First Congregational Church. This fund, which dispersed about \$42,000 this past year, is used to support local families in need. It is supported by this church's annual budget, by the Ladies Benevolent Society of this church, and, most importantly, by the annual Christmas Eve collection. We ask that you give as generously as you can.

In this past year, \$90,000 was dispersed by the Board of Missions to agencies within our community, New London County and the world. An additional \$70,250 was given by the Ladies Benevolent Society of our church – an extraordinary amount made possible by the hard work and success of the White Elephant Sale.

\$12,925 was raised for the "One Great Hour of Sharing" mission work of the UCC, and an additional \$9,135 was given to support the operation of the food pantry which takes place here every Saturday.

An additional \$3,782 was raised to continue our Syrian Refugee program in which we hope to work with others in our community to settle refugee families here in the Old Lyme region in the New Year.

An anonymous gift of \$5,000 was given to directly supplement the work of the Minister's Discretionary Fund. Over \$500 was raised for the Crop Walk, UNICEF and Heifer International.

Thus, a total of over \$233,592 in aid and support was made possible through the generosity of the people of this church.

All the agencies supported by this church are listed below in random order:

The United Church of Christ; The Storefront Academy of Harlem, NYC; One Great Hour of Sharing (UCC); The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education; the Hospital Chaplaincy Programs of L&M and Middlesex Hospitals; Habitat for Humanity of SECT; Bethlehem University in Palestine; Safe Futures of New London (formerly the Women's Center of New London); New London Soup Kitchen; Homeless Hospitality Center of New London; Shoreline Soup Kitchens; Thames River Family Program; the Martin House; the Alliance for Living of SECT; the Covenant Shelter of New London; the International Rescue Committee of New York; the Midnight Run of New York City; the Shepherd's Field School of Beit Sahour; Old Lyme Children's Learning Center; Old Lyme Visiting Nurse; Center for Hospice Care of SECT; Connecticut Hospice of Branford; Hospice and Palliative Care of Middlesex Hospital; Lymes' Senior Center; Estuary Council of Seniors; Literacy Volunteers; Morningstar Camp; Wheels of Justice Fall journey; Veteran Assistance Program; Warm the Children Fund; Church World Service; New Life Prison Ministry; the Ministers' Discretionary Fund of FCCOL; FRESH New London; Riverfront Children's Center; Camp Claire in Lyme; The Major Edward A. Good Home for Veterans in New London, managed by the Homeless Hospitality Center; Barbara Fund of York Prison; Lymewood Elderly Housing; Tree of Life; Ct. Coalition to End Homelessness; India micro-credit of Franciscan Brotherhood; Tribal Crafts; Every Dollar Feeds Kids; Middle East Children's Alliance; Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services, Inc. of New Haven, Ct.; Community Cloud Forest Conservation, Guatemala; Educational Center of the Crosby Fund for Haitian Education; Veteran's Assistance Program; Wheels of Justice Journey.

We look forward to many opportunities for fellowship at The First Congregational Church as the New Year begins. All our programs are open to all!

Book Study of Bryan Stevenson's Just Mercy. We'll meet following the 11 am worship on *Sunday, January 8th*. Come to the library and bring your own sandwich if you want! Martha Beaudoin is leading this study group, but we are pleased that some of the folks who made the bus trip to see the **Equal Justice Initiative** last October will be joining us to tell their stories of that visit. All are welcome.

Winter Pot-Luck Gatherings A few years ago we instituted a "Winter Potluck" night, which proved to be a lot of fun. Our objective is to find several host homes-homes where folks would be willing to offer hospitality around their dining room table – and we could gather in groups to fend off the winter blues and enjoy an easy night of fellowship. It's a chance to get to know one another better in small group gatherings. We'd like to plan for *Saturday night, January 28th*. If you have any questions about participating as a host or guest, please call the office at 860-434-8686.

14th Annual Soup Bowl Supper *Friday, February 3rd*

Celebrating 29 Years Benefiting the Church Food Ministry

Soup Served 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

\$15 buys a handmade bowl and all the soup you can eat!

Homemade soups donated by local restaurants. Soup bowls made by Walt's Pottery Studio.

NOTICE OF FCCOL ANNUAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OLD LYME
WILL BE HELD ON THE 29th DAY OF JANUARY 2017
AT 12:15 PM IN THE MEETING HOUSE
AT 2 FERRY ROAD, OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT.

As 2016 draws to a close, we invite anyone who is able to make a donation of any amount to the annual stewardship campaign of our church.

The work of this church is entirely funded by its members and friends.

Additional gifts, at any time, are very much appreciated.