

*The First
Congregational Church
of Old Lyme
JANUARY 2017*



Dear friends,

One of the Christmas carols that we sing every year around this time has the following refrain:

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere,
Go tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.

It's a song that embodies an ancient, but also a very modern conundrum: how do we communicate what we have seen and heard about the life of faith to others? How do we share what we take to be most true about the world? How do we proclaim the stories, and the values, that we hold dear? How do we spread the message of peace, love, justice, and common life that Jesus proclaimed, that the apostles proclaimed, and that the Hebrew prophets proclaimed? What does it mean to sing those words today, Go Tell it on the Mountain?

People of faith have struggled to answer those questions for a long time. One response, used by the Apostle Paul, was to write long letters, and to send them throughout the Mediterranean world. Another, also used by Paul, was travel, visiting the communities he was in touch with. Still another, also used by ancient believers, was public speech, in assemblies that came to be called churches. Yet another was articulated in the Medieval period by St. Francis of Assisi, who said: "Preach the gospel at all times. If necessary, use words." Those are time tested methods that we continue to use, no matter the era in which we live: writing, speech, travel, and embodied action are all indispensable modes of telling it upon the mountain.

In modernity, the question of communication has been heightened by the explosion of new technologies that connect us to the wider world, whether televisions, radios, and telephones earlier in the twentieth century, or tablets, iPhones, and Facebook accounts in the twenty-first century. Communities of faith have adapted accordingly, sometimes with grace, and other times a little more awkwardly. But it's always been clear that it's necessary to embrace new technologies, and new forms of communication, with some measure of responsiveness. And it's no different for us. We too are called to be responsive to new modes of telling it upon the mountain.

Ever since I arrived in Old Lyme, our various boards have discussed how to extend our message, not simply to attract new people to our church, but because we're excited about, and believe in, the good things that go on in our community. We're proud of that work, and proud of our identity as a progressive community of faith on the Connecticut Shoreline, enriched by more than 350 years of ministry in this region. And we believe that it's worth sharing who we are. Those conversations inevitably led toward questions of technology, and all of the communications platforms that people use to communicate these days: Facebook and Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat, as well as countless others. And that led us to begin conversations with those who work on these issues professionally to help us adapt to the new technological ecosystem.

After several months of planning, we're now ready to launch a new website for the church. It will still have everything you've come to depend upon for updates – sermons and bulletins, schedules and announcements. But it will also be a more visual and interactive site, built for mobile platforms like tablets and phones. And it will convey through pictures and videos the sorts of ways our community lives our faith – through our Sunday morning activities, yes, but also in the ways we engage our region, and the world beyond Old Lyme. We hope that the website will be a way of engaging all of you in a more meaningful way. But we also hope it will attract others to "come and see," as we carry forth Jesus's prophetic ministry throughout the world.

Look for the new website in early January. It's designed to be ever changing, as we continually add new images and videos demonstrating our wide array of commitments. In time, we'll expand upon that platform to include other social media as well. It's a way of reaching out, of communicating who we are and what we take to be true, of going and telling on the mountain the things we have seen and heard as a result of our faith journey.

It's but one way, a necessary way, of proclaiming the birth of that child, destined to shake the world from its torpor with his message of prophetic love. But there are others. And so I ask: in this time of uncertainty and fear-mongering, of anxiety and suspicion over differences of race, class, or religion, how will you proclaim that message of prophetic love in your own life? How will you go tell it on the mountain?

With faith, hope, and love....

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

We then, as members of this Church gladly welcome you to take part with us in the hopes, the labors, and the joys of the Church of Christ.

We promise to walk with you in Christian love and sympathy, and to promote, as far as in us lies, your growth in the Christian Life.

We are pleased to welcome as new members:

**Paul Chapman
Marcy Conway
Marion DeTour
Bob Emerson
Sandra and Dean Eubank
William and Carolyn Fish
Becca Frost
Betsy Katz
Alan and Barbara Macgregor
Dennis and Joan Overfield
Paul Spitzer
Tracey and Keith Sutherland**

14th Annual Soup Bowl Supper

Celebrating 29 Years Benefiting the Church Food Ministry

Friday, February 3rd

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.

Baptisms

William Kevin Bauer, son of Christi and Ryan Bauer
Weston Adron Bennett, son of Ashley and David Bennett

Memorials

Bob Chapman
Gordon Austin



Church News



Trip to see “Come From Away” in NYC Based on a true story about the grounding of 38 jets and the stranding of almost 7,000 passengers, following 9/11 in Gander Newfoundland, it is a story of hope and humanity in the way the local population welcomed and cared for their unexpected visitors. The play is receiving rave reviews, and FCCOL will be sending a bus to see the show in New York on March 15, so don't miss this introduction!

We have a bus reserved, and we have wonderful theatre tickets reserved, for the production of “Come From Away” on Broadway – March 15, 2017. This is the story of the hospitality offered by the people of Newfoundland on the day planes landed there in the emergency of 9/11. The musical has been getting great reviews. And Sue Frost, our “own Sue Frost,” is one of the producers. So way back in October we reserved 55 seats in the theatre for a matinee on Wednesday, March 15 – and we reserved a bus for the day. The total cost for transport and theatre ticket is \$150 per person. The seats are excellent, and as we priced all options, we discovered there is no more affordable way to get there and have such good seats. **However** final payment for the tickets is slated for **Wednesday, January 4th**. We can release some of our theatre tickets without penalty at that time. But those who want this great price and great seating, must let us know their intention **by January 4th**. We can hold onto our bus reservation till early February, and we will do so. But as of January 4th anyone wanting to go with us will need to purchase their own theatre ticket. The cost will be higher, and the tickets are selling fast. Please call the office as soon as you possibly can if you want to sign up!

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. We'd like to find host homes in several geographic regions. The host would simple offer

the site - the guests would bring the food! 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. (We will, of course, have a weather cancellation plan in case a storm is slated!) Now we need some folks to call in to the office and offer a host site. And we need lots of others to call in to the office to let us know you'd like to attend a gathering and bring along your offering of food to share. If you have any questions about participating as a host, please call Carleen at 860-434-0058.

The **Partnership Co-operative** would like to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who made this holiday season our most successful yet! Collectively, the group brought in over \$10,000 in sales and donations. From set-up to break-down and the shifts worked in between; from shopping in our store to sharing with friends on social media; we truly are better when we work together, representing all of the partnerships here at FCCOL. Please remember the Partnership Co-operative for all your holiday, birthday and everyday gifts! For more information visit our sites: www.tribalcrafts.org ~ www.crosbyfund.org ~ www.tolef.org.

Refugee Resettlement Project Update Hani Hamou, the energetic father in our Syrian refugee family, is eager to move from his present work as dishwasher into full-time employment that would better help him support his family. Hani has outstanding past experience as a distributor/deliveryman in Turkey and as assistant head waiter in a high-end restaurant in Syria, though he is open to other forms of work. We are currently helping Hani launch his job search and would appreciate hearing from anyone in our three co-sponsoring churches with ties to a business, or who might be able to make a referral to one, that could lead to a job interview for this highly motivated, hard-working man. Contact Arthur Pope at 860-227-6369 or apope721@gmail.com.



More Church News



Memorial Sunday Flowers The 4th week in January is available for Memorial Sunday flowers. Please call Susan Griggs, 860-434-7660, for more information.

Church World Service Blanket Drive During February and March the LBS collects the annual blanket offerings. Each blanket costs \$10 and special envelopes will be in the Church pews, starting on Sunday, January 31. Checks should be made out to CWS, indicating in the memo space "Blanket Drive." The envelopes may be placed in the collection plate or sent to the Church c/o LBS.

Growing Through Grief Group, Friday, January 6, 2017, 10:00 a.m. in the Hoag Parlor

The holidays are past, a new year is upon us. All of us have experienced loss this past year, and know one of the best ways to cope and heal is to be with and share with others who have also experienced such loss. Come join our Growing Through Grief Group. New members are always welcome. Our next meeting will be Friday, January 6. And if this day or time does not work for you but you are still interested in the group or if you would like to meet one-on-one, contact the Rev. Joan Priest.

Care-giver's Support Group, Friday, January 13, 2017, 10:00 a.m. in the Hoag Parlor.

Beatitudes for Caregivers

Blessed are those who care and who are not afraid to show it — they will let people know they are loved.

Blessed are those who are gentle and patient — they will help people to grow as the sun helps the buds to open and blossom.

Blessed are those who have the ability to listen — they will lighten many a burden.

Blessed are those who know how and when to let go — they will have the joy of seeing people find themselves.

Blessed are those who, when nothing can be done or said, do not walk away, but remain to provide a comforting and supportive presence — they will help the sufferer to bear the unbearable.

Blessed are those who recognize their own need to receive, and who receive with graciousness — they will be able to give all the better.

Blessed are those who give without hope of return — they will give people an experience of God.

Come join our Care-giver's Support Group. New members are always welcome. Our next meeting is Friday, January 13. If you are interested in this group but this day or time does not work for you, or if you would like to meet one-on-one, please feel free to contact the Rev. Joan Priest

American Red Cross CPR/First Aid Classes will be available on January 28, February 25 and March 28, from 1-5 p.m. in the teen room at FCCOL. The cost is \$27. This is a good course for anyone working with elderly persons, children or in any job where it is required. Please contact Cathy Mathis at 860-399-7714 to register.



More Church News



A NEW LOOK IN THE NEW YEAR FOR THE CHURCH WEBSITE

As we launched ourselves into the New Year, you may have noticed that we also launched a new look and feel for our website. All the familiar elements of the website that you know and love – our sermons, calendars, bulletins and newsletters – are still there. But the design features larger type, a lot more pictures and videos of parishioners engaged in church activities, and is easier to read and navigate on smartphones, tablets and laptops.

The redesign is part of our ongoing efforts to engage with you more meaningfully online, and to attract new people into our congregation who can help us carry on Christ's work. When people look for a church, they aren't looking for a building so much as they're looking for a community they can be a part of. We are a community of people of faith who care about the world we live in – whether it's right outside our door or half a world away. We're a community that's constantly striving to live up to Christ's calling of "Love thy neighbor as thyself" – to be a place of grace that welcomes everyone, regardless of theological expression, age, race, gender, sexual identify, national origin or financial means. We are a community of people who embody the beliefs we profess to believe. And that genuineness, that true compassion, is a quality that is important to both prospective and existing members.

The new website shows our congregation in action, following in the footsteps of Christ's life and His teachings. People can see – not just read about – how we open our arms and our hearts to people in need. They can see our congregation providing food for our neighbors who are hungry ... shelter for those who are homeless ... protection for women who've been battered ... relief for families and individuals coping with illness, grief, loss or disaster. They can see how we help care for – and join in fellowship with – people of diverse faiths across the country and around the globe.

They can see our church hard at work doing Christ's work and, hopefully, see their new home.

Tree of Life News

March Journey: The Wisdom of Jesus, Mohammed and The Prophets of Israel (Peace be upon them), with extension to Bosnia

Just a few months away now, and we are thrilled to share that, in addition to several teens and college students, we will be joined by Bishop John Selders and his wife Pamela. Bishop Selders is a powerful voice of conscience on topics of race, oppression and reproductive justice, and serves as minister at the Amistad UCC in Hartford. He and Pamela are co founders of Moral Monday CT. Learn more about them at <https://moralmondayct.wordpress.com> We have several travelers in need of scholarship support. We believe that this is an excellent investment to grow the voices of conscience speaking out for social justice. Will you help us make this Journey a reality for our diverse group of travelers? Any size donation is greatly appreciated.

Upcoming programs

Wednesday February 1st at 7pm, Yale University "No Child Behind Bars: Living Resistance From US to Palestine."

With the help of Abigail Cipparone and the SJP Yale chapter, we will host a Friends of Sabeel North America event "No Child Behind Bars: Living Resistance From US to Palestine." This tour focuses on Israeli abuse of children, which includes night raids, capture and imprisonment of children, and restrictions to education, play, and childhood. Palestinian activist Ahed Tamimi, a 15-year-old from Nabi Saleh, the daughter of well-known activists Bassem and Neriman Tamimi and a vocal community activist against the Israeli Occupation, will be co-presenting with Amanda Weatherspoon, Unitarian Universalist minister and Black liberation activist.

Save the date!

Shoruq Debke Dance & Hip Hop Tour – a fantastic event for families-join us!

March 31 at the Artists Collective in Hartford, and **March 30th at Southern Connecticut State University**, with great thanks to John Fussell for his tireless fundraising and organizing efforts, we welcome Shoruq Debke Dance & Hip Hop Tour featuring 18 young Palestinian artists from Dheisheh Refugee Camp. Middle East Children's Alliance has made this tour possible, and we are grateful to partner with this excellent organization to bring the children to the east coast.



SENIOR CHOIR



Thank you all for such wonderful singing in December, especially on Christmas Eve!

Here is the list of rehearsals and Sunday morning commitments for the month of January:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sunday, January 1 | 11:00am service, no choir needed |
| Wednesday, January 4 | Rehearsal <u>at 7:30 pm</u> |
| Sunday, January 8 | Singing at the <u>9:00 am</u> service with a rehearsal <u>at 8:15am</u> |
| Wednesday, January 11 | Rehearsal <u>at 7:30 pm</u> |
| Sunday, January 15 | Singing at the <u>11:00 am</u> service with a rehearsal <u>at 10:15 am</u> |
| Wednesday, January 18 | NO REHEARSAL - Please enjoy your night off!! |
| Sunday, January 22 | Singing at the <u>9:00</u> am service with a rehearsal at 8:15 am |
| Wednesday, January 25 | Rehearsal <u>at 7:30 pm</u> |
| Sunday, January 29 | Singing at the <u>11:00 am</u> service with a rehearsal <u>at 10:15 am</u> , followed by Annual Meeting! |

Happy New Year to all, and thank you for all your support of the music program,

Simon

Church Business News

A TIME FOR JOY, GRATITUDE, AND RESOLUTIONS

The beginning of a new year is a time to give thanks for the joys in our lives, to reflect on the things that are truly important, and to determine where we want to focus our efforts moving forward. This year we are particularly challenged because of the highly-charged political divides in our country and around the world. In this climate, our church offers a sanctuary from conflict, a place of welcome for all, intellectual and spiritual growth, uplifting music, education for our young, and solace in times of difficulty. It provides opportunities to help meet basic human needs and to strive for social justice. Through active service our members change lives - theirs and those they touch.

The Stewardship Campaign is essential to our church because it annually accounts for over four-fifths of the funds to support these endeavors. As of December 27, the 2017 campaign stands at \$565,249, or 90% of our goal of \$630,000, with 308 generous members and friends participating. If you are among those who have made your commitments, we are extremely grateful.

If you have not yet returned your commitment card, we invite you to make a resolution to do so as soon as possible. Your participation *will make a difference!*

*It's not just about being able to write a check,
it's about being able to touch someone's life."*

--Oprah Winfrey

Thank you for your generosity, and have a joyous New Year!

The Board of Stewardship: Barbara Smith (Chair), Emily Fisher, Wendy Knight, Mike Long, Sandy Long, Chuck Lynch, Wayne Mountz, Paul Stigliano, Matt Winkler

A Moment for Planned Giving

A Planned Gift is one that you would like to give to charity but not right now. Often times our home is not desired by our children or other relatives when we no longer can live in the home or at death. So how can you make a Planned Gift of your home and still live there until you no longer can?

A donor can transfer a farm or personal residence to a charity or the Church subject to the donor's right to reside at the farm or in the home for the rest of his or her life and qualify for a charitable deduction equal to the present value of the charity's remainder interest.

The amount of the deduction is a function of several factors, the most significant of which are the value of the property and the age(s) of the donor(s). It can also be affected by the *discount rate*.

Example: Don and Paula both age 75, have long intended to leave their home to the Church, currently worth \$500,000, at their death. This kind of testamentary gift would qualify for an estate-tax charitable deduction but may not generate any actual savings unless Don and Paula's estate exceed the current \$10,900,000 Federal Estate tax exemption at their deaths.

Don and Paula are intrigued that there is a way they can fulfill their charitable objective of directing the house to the church *and* generate a current income tax savings while they are still alive.

If the *discount rate is 1.4%*, they will be entitled to a current income tax deduction of \$342,535. They will continue to live in, enjoy, and maintain their home just as before, but it will automatically pass to the Church at the death of the survivor of them. This deduction can be carried forward for 6 years if the tax deduction cannot be used in the first year.

If you would like to know more about this technique or have other Planned Giving questions, please call the Church at 860-434-8686 or Tom Grant at 860-598-9419.



More Church Business News



**Annual reports
from Boards and Committees are due
Friday, January 13, 2017.
The Annual Meeting is Sunday,
January 29, 2017 after the 11:00 AM service.**

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.**

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING SHALL BE:

- TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS OF THE MINISTERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES, AND THE CHURCH OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2016;
- TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE;
- TO ELECT OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE COMING YEAR;
- TO APPROVE THE CHURCH BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2017;
- AND TO CONDUCT SUCH OTHER OLD OR NEW BUSINESS AS SHALL PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE MEETING.

*Offering Envelopes
If you ordered offering envelopes for 2017,
they are available on the cart in the connector.*



More Church Business News



YEAR-END MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

As is the case every year at this time of year, we are trying to ensure that all of the church's financial obligations are met, and that we end the year with the books balanced, as our 2016 budget predicted.

Please fulfill your 2016 gift intentions as soon as you can. We will keep the 2016 books open for a few days after the new year. For any of you who are able, extra gifts are especially appreciated at this time of year, not only to help balance the budget, but to meet additional holiday demands that always arise. If you have any questions about contributions for 2016 or 2017, please call our bookkeeper Julie Scocozza, or me, at the church office. Julie is generally in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but you may leave a message for her at any time, and I know she or I can help you. Also at this time your Board of Trustees, the Budget Committee and your Treasurer are hard at work finalizing the church budget for 2017 that will come before the congregation for approval at the annual meeting in January. In addition to being able to continue our missions, ministries and staff, this year we face significant challenges to accomplish several major maintenance projects. So we hope as many who are able will respond to our "invitation to step up" for financial support for 2017. (See the Board of Stewardship message on page 3.)

Thank you, everyone, for your continued and generous financial support of our church.

WHEN SENDING A CHECK

Please be sure to note on the check where the offering is to be credited (i.e. pledge, food pantry, donation, Habitat, etc.). It is also important to note whether your contribution is for 2016 or 2017, especially vital this time of year. Thank you for your help.

WHEN MAKING A GIFT OF STOCK

Please notify the Church of your gift, including the designated use, at the time you request your broker to make the transfer. You may also use the Church's broker, Morgan Stanley, to make the transfer if you wish. We occasionally receive gifts from a broker without knowing the donor, or whether the gift is intended for a 2016 or 2017 giving, or for another purpose.

If you have any questions, or need further instruction, please feel free to call me or Julie Scocozza at 434-8686. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Bob McCracken, Treasurer



Christian Education News



GOD'S NEIGHBORHOOD SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please remember to stop and look at our Bulletin Board
in the hallway across from Sheffield Auditorium on the way to our Fellowship Hall.

During January our Fruit of the Spirit is PEACE!

January 8 Join us as we celebrate Epiphany!

January 15 We will celebrate the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. this morning as well as visit with friends from the Berlin Mosque.

January 22 We will continue our story about The Prince of Peace with the flight into Egypt. Kendall and Rodney will be our storyteller and musician for the day!

January 29 This morning we will learn about Jacob and Esau and peacemakers of the world and work on a Peacemaker project.

Pilgrim Fellowship

If you are not getting emails from me please let me know! LisaDoggart@gmail.com

January 8 We will be celebrating Epiphany today during the morning!

At 12:15 there will be an informational meeting for high schoolers about this year's trip to Haiti with The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education.

January 15 We will be celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. day today with activities that celebrate peace and diversity. Our friends from the Berlin Mosque will be joining us during the morning.

January 22 We will talk about world peace and ways we can promote peace. We will be researching peacemakers from around the world. After church a group of high schoolers (SPF) will be going to The Ultimate Escape in Norwich. Email me if you are interested lisdoggart@gmail.com

January 28 Movie and Discussion about Peace and Lock-In for SPF. I will email more information soon.

January 29 This morning we will be presenting a peacemaker performance to the younger children.

2017 Senior Pilgrim Fellowship Trip to Haiti

The Senior Pilgrim Fellowship 2017 Annual Trip to Haiti is scheduled for *Friday, April 7 to Friday, April 14, 2017*. For more information about the trip, please join us on *January 8, 2017* at 12:15 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium of the FCCOL. This is the 4th annual trip led by Becky and Ted Crosby, founders of The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education. Priority is given to current SPF youth. After January 30th, the trip is open to youth from local churches and towns (youth must be in 9th to 12th grade). Any questions? Please email Becky at <rtcros@ftcrosby.com> or call 860-434-8054.



Adult Enrichment Programs



BOOK GROUP

Book Study of Brian 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! We'll have a cold drink available. 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. If warranted, we'll convene again on Sunday, January 15th for further discussion of this very thought-provoking book. All are welcome.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

No Bible study from December 22- February 9. Winter Bible Study (5 weeks): February 16, 23 and March 1, 9, 30, 1 John, 2 John and 3 John (2 weeks). Acts of John (3 weeks) (I will provide this text for everyone). **Spring Bible Study (2 weeks),** May 4 and May 11. Letter of James **Led by Becky Crosby.**

WRITING FROM THE SPIRIT

The writing group will meet on alternate *Wednesdays at 4:00 pm* (January 4 & 18) in the Hoag Parlor. All writers of prose or poetry are welcome. Bring something of your own to share and/or a poem or short prose piece by an author you admire. An appreciative and supportive group! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Vicky at (860) 662-5038. **4:00pm in the Hoag Room. Led by Vicky Murphy.**

POETRY READING

The poetry-reading group will meet on alternate *Wednesdays at 4:00 pm* (January 11 & 25) in the Hoag Parlor. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in our readings. If you are interested in joining us, please contact **Alan Bradford** at (860) 434-0247 or atbra@conncoll.edu or just show up; texts will be provided. **Alternate Wednesdays at 4:00 in the Hoag Room.**

JANUARY ADULT FORUMS

January 8: Karen Fischer, Prevention Coordinator for more than six years at Lyme's Youth Service Bureau, coordinates our community coalition, Community Action for Substance Free Youth (CASFY). She has spent most of her long career working as a Mental Health Counselor and will provide an update on substance use rates among teens and current preventative methods. Valuable information for all caring adults.

January 15: Alden Murphy, President of Musical Masterworks, will speak on "Musical Masterworks and its Impact on Our Community and Beyond."

January 22: Sue Frost, our theater producer extraordinary, will talk about her upcoming musical, **Come From Away**, the journey from Newfoundland to Broadway. Based on a true story about the grounding of 38 jets and the stranding of almost 7,000 passengers, following 9/11 in Gander Newfoundland, it is a story of hope and humanity in the way the local population welcomed and cared for their unexpected visitors. The play is receiving rave reviews, and FCCOL will be sending a bus to see the show in New York on March 15, so don't miss this introduction!

January 29: Art Meister, a veteran of 24 years with the FBI, conducted and supervised large scale international criminal enterprise investigations. He also became Chief of the FBI's National Center for Analysis of Violent Crime, which provides behavioral crime analysis and threat assessment services to law enforcement agencies worldwide. In addition, he did important work for the White House in aviation security and revitalized the FBI's behavior-based computer system to ID and track perpetrators of serial murder and sexual assault. His recent book, The Bottom Line, a management primer for law enforcement supervisors, will be available.

Seeking Employment:

American Craftsmen need America's help. As a furniture maker of 33 years, I am offering my services to fellow church members at 25% off: \$65/ hour. My work includes restoration of antiques, work on cherished family pieces, and general furniture repair. As well, my passion is designing and building fine furniture: large and small pieces include dining and side tables, beds, benches, and chairs; religious pieces, pet coffins, etc. Please contact Dick Humphreville at 860-442-5003 or www.humphrevillefurniture.com.

Experienced master carpenter, licensed and insured, looking for work. Call Tom Kratzert at 860-271-9633.

Home Designer Design & drawing from concept to construction documents for new homes, additions, and renovations. Servicing home owners, builders, and architects. Other services include drawings to help sell a house, develop & present an idea. Computer aided using DATA CAD 12 - 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional. David S Nelson-Building Design Services 860 434-5526 DSNdesign@comcast.net.

Handyman Service Light Carpentry, Installation Help, Painting, Seasonal & Holiday Preparation and Light Hauling. I have an enclosed pick-up truck, tools and a shop. If you need something done just give me a call. Dave Nelson 860 434-5526.

The "Pet Nanny" Carol Giuliano, an Old Lyme resident, will provide loving care for your pets when you are not there. Over forty years experience with all types of animals. Call (203) 738-9932.

Paul Fitzpatrick-Nager Experienced master carpenter. Will design and build comfort zones for your home, indoors and out. Patios, pergolas and more. Call me anytime at 860-304-9916 or 860-434-4366.

Caregiver - Companion Long or short term, reasonable rates and references. Call Marion Campo in Old Lyme at 860-389-1872.

Weaving Classes Always wanted to learn to weave? Start by weaving a rag rug on Stephanie Morton's ENORMOUS loom in her Old Lyme studio. Call her at 860-434-1188 or 917-3429.

Wendy Knight – Organizer, writer, researcher, editor, proofreader Happy to work on any project, big or small, update lists, prepare mailings. Also love to sort and organize closets, cabinets, libraries, photos, files and documents. Please contact Wendy Knight anytime at (860) 304 – 6665 or wendyknight@gmail.com.

Sue Mandeville Transportation and/or accompaniment to professional or medical appointments, outpatient surgeries and home stay following anesthesia. Airport, train or bus transport. Livery license, insured, references and medical training. Call Sue Mandeville 860-908-2310.

Lorelei Mitchell Mediator, Lorelei Mitchell, is available to assist with family dilemmas, landlord-tenant disputes or workplace conflict. Mediation is a better alternative to litigation and can often transform relationships, while giving you a say in the outcome. Call Lorelei Mitchell at (860) 536-0260 or email lmitchell18@comcast.net to schedule a consultation.

Guli Gvelesiani I lived in Old Lyme and have worked for 7 years as a live-in caregiver for a local family. I live in Essex and have worked for 2 years as a live-in caregiver for a local family. I am seeking a new full time, live-in position with a caring family. I do house work, cooking and baking as well as give home care. I can provide references. Please call Guli at 860-391-5691.

Alterations I'm a professional with over 20 years experience, from shortening jeans to restoring or redesigning a beloved wedding gown. Estimates and references freely given. Please call Hazella Pease at 860-434-5784 for an appointment.

Marilyn Taylor My name is Marilyn. I have many years of experience in elderly homecare. I live in Old Lyme and have references. Please call 860-373-1789.

January 2017

January 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Jan 1, 17	2	3	4	5	6	7
No Coffee Hour 11:00am Worship Svc	Holiday Office Closed Mark's Birthday 7:00pm AA (S)	9:30am Staff Mtg 1:00pm AA Day Mtg (S) 5:30pm Walt's Pottery	1:00pm ARC Drive (F) 4:00pm Writing Group 5:00pm Children's Choir 5:30pm Walt's Pottery 7:30pm Sr. Choir (S)	7:30pm BOS (L)	10:00am Grief Group (H)	FF/SK 12:00pm TOL Journey Mtg (S) 3:00pm Syria Forum (S) Stan Haller 40 (S)
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Adult Forum (S) 11:00am Worship Svc 12:15pm Haiti Trip Info	10:00am Sewing Group (S) 7:00pm AA (S)	Bob's Birthday 9:30am Staff Mtg 1:00pm AA Day Mtg (S) 5:30pm Walt's Pottery 7:30pm Trustees (L)	4:00pm Poetry Group 5:00pm Children's Choir (S) 5:30pm Walt's Pottery 7:30pm Sr. Choir (S)	Simon Holt's Birthday	ANNUAL REPORTS DUE Carleen's Birthday 10:00am Care Group (H)	FF/SK
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Adult Forum (S) 11:00am Worship Svc	HOLIDAY Office Closed 7:00pm AA (S)	9:30am Staff Mtg 1:00pm AA Day Mtg (S) 5:00pm Duck River GC Potluck (F&K) 5:30pm Walt's Pottery	4:00pm Writing Group (H) 5:00pm Children's Choir 5:30pm Walt's Pottery 7:30pm Sr. Choir (S)	6:00pm Pac 27 Mtg (F)	FEB NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	FF/SK 2:00pm Piano Recital Natalia (S)
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Adult Forum (S) 11:00am Worship Svc	10:00am Sewing Group (S) 7:00pm AA (S)	9:30am Staff Mtg 10:00am LBS Mtg (L) 1:00pm AA Day Mtg (S) 5:30pm Walt's Pottery 7:00pm Brd Deacons (L)	4:00pm Poetry Group 5:00pm Children's Choir (S) 5:30pm Walt's Pottery 7:30pm Sr. Choir (S)		9:00am Newsletter Fold (S)	FF/SK 2:00pm Piano Recital /Snow Date 7:00pm Music Teachers Piano Recital (S)
29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3	4
9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Adult Forum (S) 11:00am Worship Svc 12:00pm ANNUAL MITG	10:00am Sewing Group (S) 7:00pm AA (S)	9:30am Staff Mtg 1:00pm AA Day Mtg (S) 5:30pm Walt's Pottery				

The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme

Our email address has changed.

The new email address is fccol@fccol.org

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister (860-434-8686)

The Rev. Carleen R. Gerber, Senior Associate Minister (860-434-0058)

The Rev. Joan W. Priest, Minister of Visitation

Simon D. Holt, Director of Music (860-705-3037)

The Rev. David W. Good, Minister Emeritus

The Rev. Christine Caton, South Lyme Union Chapel

The Rev. Rebecca T. Crosby, Minister for Haitian Outreach

The Rev. Cynthia C. Willauer, In Ministry for The Care of Creation

Betsey Webster, Sunday School Leader

Mary Tomassetti, Sunday School Coordinator (860-391-5384)

Lisa Doggart, Senior Pilgrim Fellowship Leader

Lisa Feltes, Director of Children's Music (860-691-2226)

Robert McCracken, Church Administrator

Joan Kelley, Church Office Manager

Julie Scocozza, Bookkeeper

Mark Testori, Sexton

Church Office Tel: 860-434-8686

Fax: 860-434-1135

e-mail: fccol@fccol.org

Website: www.fccol.org

Sunday Worship - 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

South Lyme Union Chapel Worship - 9:00 a.m.

Pastoral Counseling Center Tel: 860-767-0221

Candace E. Wilson-Stanberry, MSN

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OLD LYME,
Member U.C.C.

The reproduction of our Meetinghouse on the cover is from a sketch by William Steeves.

*The First Congregational Church
2 Ferry Road
Old Lyme, Connecticut 06371*

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Old Saybrook, CT
Non-Profit Organization

*The next FCCOL Newsletter will be in February;
the deadline will be January 22.
If possible, please send articles by e-mail as a Word document, fccol@fccol.org.*

THE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS HELP FROM ALL OF US

Whenever you come to church....worship, church events, meetings, or just to visit....

PLEASE bring some non-perishable food items each time to restock the food pantry.

Please let us know if you have some time to volunteer at the food pantry and/or with food drives.

THANKS!

Please e-mail the church office at [<fccol@fccol.org>](mailto:fccol@fccol.org) if you want to be removed from the newsletter mailing list and read it on the website. Each household that can read the newsletter on (and print from) the website rather than receive it by mail will save the church \$5.17 each and every year. We will ask for your e-mail address so we can alert you when the new issue is available on our web site. Thanks for your help!