

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager, Senior Associate Minister Carleen R. Gerber, Associate Minister Simon D. Holt, Director of Music

May 26, 2024Memorial Day Sunday10:00 AMPreludeIntroit: "My Lord, What a Morning"arranged by Loonis McGlohon

Soloists: Sean McCarty and Marcy Conway

*Processional Hymn: #18 "Praise to the Living God"

*Call to Worship:

For the gift of our lives and the life of this world, we give you thanks and recommit our lives to you anew this day

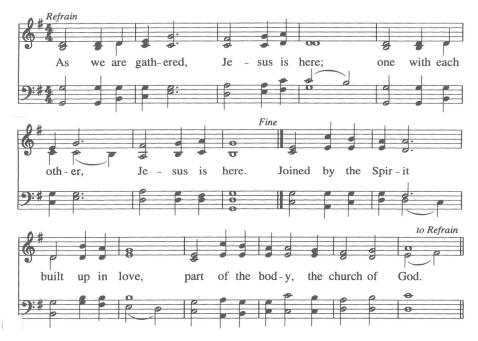
Help us to learn from this good land and the beauty of creation all around us Teach us the boundlessness of your beauty and love

In this land of river and forest and field, brilliant sunrise and glowing sunset, teach us to use each day to bless the lives of others. Let us worship God.

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer						
Welcome and Announcements						
*Hymn: #532 "O	D Beautiful for Spacious Skies "					
Children's Message	Allison Hine					
Children's Song: #54 "For the Beauty of Earth" (First verse only, as the children proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated.)						
Offertory Invitation	L					
Offertory Anthem: "Old Irish Blessing"		by Denes Agay				
*Doxology: Praise	e God from whom all blessings flow;					
Praise	e God, all creatures here below;					
Praise	e God for all that love has done;					
Create	or, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.					
*Offertory Prayer						

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: As We Are Gathered



Scripture: Ecclesiasticus 4:11-16 (from the Apocrypha), John 15:7-13

Sermon: "A Memorial Day Reflection"

Rev. Carleen R. Gerber

We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain.

*Hymn: #534 "O God of Earth and Altar"

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

*Congregation Standing

We thank you for worshipping with us. Following the life and teachings of Jesus, we are a church that strives to be a place of grace, welcoming all regardless of theological expression, age, race, gender, sexual identity, national origin or financial means. In our Church Constitution we recognize that "each member shall have the undisturbed right to follow the word of God according to the dictates of his or her own conscience, under the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit." The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, established in 1665, cherishes this proud Pilgrim tradition. We are honored by your presence among us, and we invite you to help us become what we endeavor to be.

Choir Anthems Today

Introit: "My Lord, What a Morning"

arranged by Loonis McGlohon Soloists: Sean McCarty and Marcy Conway

My Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall. You'll hear the trumpet sound to wake the nations underground. Look in my God's right hand when the stars begin to fall. You'll hear the Christians shout to wake the nations underground. Look in my God's right hand when the stars begin to fall. My Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.

Offertory Anthem: "*Old Irish Blessing*" by Denes Agay May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand. May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord cause his face to shine upon you and give you peace.

Scripture Readings

Ecclesiasticus 4:11-16 (from the Apocrypha)

Wisdom raises her sons to greatness and gives help to those who seek her To love her is to love life; those who rise early to greet her will be filled with joy He who holds fast to her will gain honour; the Lord's blessing rests on the house she enters To serve her is to serve the Holy One, and the Lord loves those who love her He who is obedient to her will give true judgement, and because he listens to her, his home will be secure.

If he trusts her, he will possess her and bequeath her to his descendants.

John 15:7-14

If you dwell in me, and my words dwell in you, ask whatever you want, and you shall have it. This is how my Father is glorified: you are to bear fruit in plenty and so be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Dwell in my love. If you heed my commandments, you will dwell in my love, as I have heeded my Father's commandments and dwell in His love.

I have spoken thus to you so that my joy may be in you, and your joy complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this; that someone should lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.

Also as scripture, we read excerpts from a poem by Walt Whitman, written as a lament for the death of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln was assassinated on April 14, 1865, when the lilacs were indeed blooming. His coffin, together with the coffin of his son Willie who had died from typhoid some years earlier, made its way by train from Washington, D.C. to Springfield Illinois, where father and son were laid to rest. The journey took nearly five weeks. Crowds stood by in tribute all along the way.

"When lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd, And the great star early droop'd in the western sky in the night, I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning Spring...

In the dooryard fronting an old farmhouse near the white-wash'd palings, Stands the lilac-bush tall-growing with heart-shaped leaves of rich green, With many a pointed blossom rising delicate, with the perfume strong I love, With every leaf a miracle-and from this bush in the dooryard, With delicate-color'd blossoms and heart-shaped leaves of bright green A sprig with its flower I break...

The coffin passes through lanes and streets, Through day and night with the great cloud darkening the land, With the pomp of the inloop'd flags with the cities draped in black, With the slow of the States themselves as of crape-veil'd women standing, With processions long and winding and the flambeaus of the night, With the countless torches lit, with the silent sea of faces and the unbared heads, With the dirges through the night, with the thousand voices rising strong and solemn, With all the mournful voices of the dirges pour'd around the coffin, The dim-lit churches and the shuddering organs – where amid these you journey, With the tolling tolling bells' perpetual clang, Here, the coffin that slowly passes, I give you my sprig of lilac..."

Walt Whitman

The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Lee Whitaker.

The Nursery is open today with Miss Tiffany.

Congratulations to our 2024 High School Graduates!

Elliott Bjornberg, Will Coppola, Leland Hine, Sabina Jungkeit, and Mulanga Kazadi.

Witness Stones Ceremony:

There will be a new installation of Witness Stones on Friday, May 31st at 10:00 am at The Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library (located on the front lawn) at 2 Library Lane in Old Lyme. Please join us as we bear witness together to remember the enslaved and indentured African Americans and Native Americans in the historic town of Lyme.

Adult Forum:

Sunday, June 2nd, Church member Bob Potter will share his expertise on contemporary Black artists: Power and Remembrance: Reclaiming Black Lives Through Art.

Hymn Sing: Friday, June 14, 6:00pm. The hymn sing we did during a recent service received such a positive response, we thought we'd try it again as part of a social evening. And so, on JUNE 14, FRIDAY evening at 6 pm, we will gather at Cynthia McFadden's home on the Connecticut River in Old Saybrook to eat and sing together. Rachael Jungkeit and/or Carleen Gerber will be at the piano, and we'll have food and beverages along with hymn books for the group. Call the church office at 860-434-8686 to RSVP.

Green Grass Partnership:

The Green Grass Partnership is planning for a trip this June 22nd-29th and is interested in hearing from anyone who would consider joining us. The trip this year will be small – we are looking for a chance to reboot and reimagine what the partnership might become moving forward into our 40^{th} year. We are looking for folks who have made the journey in the past, who are looking to reconnect with our friends, as well as a few new members to be part of the rebuilding experience. For more information contact Dan Renn at drenn@slamcoll.com.

Crosby Fund For Haitian Education Dinner:

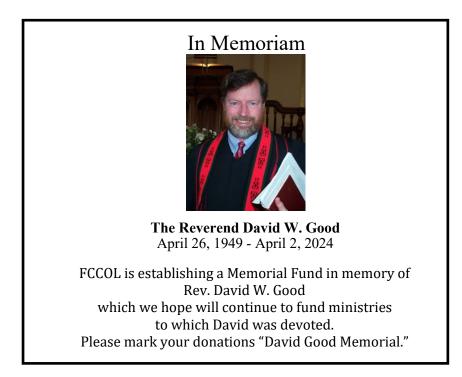
Thank you to everyone who supported the Haitian Fund by attending the dinner, it was a great evening. About 105 people attended and shared a Haitian Dinner prepared by "Mommy's Delicious Food" Restaurant in Norwich. Dessert was prepared by members of LBS. The presentation followed the dinner. Ted presented me with flowers to celebrate our 20th anniversary of the founding of The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education in 2004. We had a raffle for a Haitian painting. The winner was Judy Hurlbert, a first-time visitor to our church! It was a big success and many thanks to LBS for sponsoring the event!

Help with Sunday Flowers:

We're scheduling members and friends who would like to provide pulpit flowers for a week. If desired, flowers can be given in memory of a loved one, with the loved one(s) mentioned in the bulletin. Flowers or greenery can be fresh from your garden or ordered from florist. A house plant from home displayed for the morning would be lovely, as well. To sign up for a future week, please call Jill Harned, 603-398-9004. Thank you!

Calendar of Events and Meetings

FCCOL Office is closed Monday May 27th for Memorial Day.
Senior Center Luncheon Tuesday, May 28th at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.
Ladies Benevolent Society Tuesday, May 28th at 10:00 am in the Library.
Board of Deacons Tuesday, May 28th at 7:00 pm in the Library.
Senior Center Luncheon Wednesday, May 29th at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.
Senior Choir Wednesday, May 29th at 7:30 pm in Sheffield Auditorium.
Senior Center Luncheon Thursday, May 30th at 12:00 pm in Sheffield Auditorium.
Witness Stones Ceremony Friday, May 31st at 10:00 am at the Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library.
Senior Center Exercise Class Friday, May 31st at 10:15 am in Sheffield Auditorium.
Food Pantry and Diaper Bank Saturday, June 1st at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall.
Sidney S. Whelan, Jr. Memorial Service Saturday, June 1st, at 12:00 pm.
Adult Forum with Bob Potter Sunday, June 2nd at 11:15am in the Fellowship Hall.
Youth Trip to the Major Edwin Good House for Homeless Veterans Sunday, June 2nd .



White Elephant Sale

White Elephant Sale -- Get out your calendars out and mark these dates. Friday, July 12th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm and Saturday, July 13th from 8:00 am - Noon. This is a good time of the year to sort through the cellar and attic and to put aside some of those treasures for this years sale. Hold those goodies until the first intake day, Thursday June 27th.

Daily sorting and intake 6/27 to 7/3 from 9:00 -2:00 pm (closed 6/30). NO evening intake. For those who can, please stop in and help unload cars or sort inside -- All are welcome for as long as you can stay. Great way to meet folks and see what the WES is all about - "people helping people." Thank you in advance.

Help Wanted !!!!!!

Inside setup - Sat 6/22 - unload the parsonage barn and set up tables, shelves, etc. in church buildings. **Large Furniture** - co-chair.

Workers in Toys - to organize, price and box toys during intake. Baked Goods - co-chair.

To get more inf	formation or vol	unteer call FC	COL : 860-43	<mark>4-8</mark> 6	86 and select t	ne WES line.
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Thursday		Friday	Saturday
June 20 Pre Set –Up Inside hang signs move tables, etc.	June 21 Pre Set –Up Inside milk crates, tubs, etc.	June 22 Set –Up Inside 9am -12pm	June 27 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00		June 28 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00 Workers Lunch	June 29 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		Friday	Saturday
July 1 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00	July 2 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00	July 3 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00 Workers Lunch	July 4 HOLIDAY	7	July 5 CLOSED Sort & Price	July 6 CLOSED Sort & Price
8 CLOSED Sort & Price For Sale. Move Art to Narthex Clean up and Finalize inside setup	9 During Day Big Tents & Sport Goods 5-7 pm Outside tables, Plants, Baked Goods, Coffee Tents Go up	10 CLOSED Sort & Price Finalize any remaining outside Set-up	11 SET-UP OUTSIDE 8:00 AM -> Workers Lunch		12 SALE 9-2pm	13 SALE 8-12pm CLEAN UP AND SNACKS after 12