Some More Scenes of the Fccol Africa Trip









Some Scenes of Our Travelers in Africa









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

January 21, 2024 10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*Johnannes Eccard

*Processional Hymn: #372 "Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race"

*Call to Worship (from an African Prayer):

All you *big* things, **Bless the Lord.**

Mount Kilimanjaro and the River Nile, The Rift Valley and the Serengeti Plain, Fat baobabs and shady mango trees, All eucalyptus and tamarind trees,

You hippos and giraffes and elephants, **Bless the Lord.**

Praise and extol Her forever and ever.

All you *tiny* things, **Bless the Lord.**

Busy black ants and hopping fleas, Wriggling tadpoles and mosquito larvae,

Flying locusts and water drops, Dust from the road and tsetse flies,

Millet seeds and dried dagaa,

Bless the Lord.

Praise and extol Him forever and ever.

Let us worship God.

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #382 "The House of Faith"

Children's Message Jolene Brant

Special Music will be played as children proceed downstairs *O' My Home* by Ebenezer, African tour guide

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: *While by our sleeping flock we lay* German 17th Century melody arranged by Hugo Jungst

*Doxology: 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. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

ANNUAL MEETING

On Sunday, January 28, at 11:15 am, the church will hold its annual meeting, during which, among other things, we will elect officers and board members, and approve the church budget for the coming year.

The "2023 Annual Report" available later in the month contains the agenda for the meeting and other informative materials. All Board and Committee chairs, if you have not yet submitted your annual report, please DO SO NOW. Thank you.

The purpose of the annual meeting is to:

- receive the reports of the ministers, boards and committees, and church officers for the year 2024;
- receive and approve the report of the nominating committee;
- elect officers and board members for the coming year;
- approve the church budget for the year 2024; and
- conduct such other old or new business as shall properly come before the meeting.

Calendar of Events and Meetings

LWS Monday, January 22nd at 10:00 am in Sheffield Auditorium.

Senior Center Luncheon Tuesday, January 23rd at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Board of Deacons Tuesday, January 23rd at 7:00 pm in the Library.

Senior Center Luncheon Wednesday, January 24th at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Grief Group Wednesday, January 24th at 5:00-6:00 in Hoag Parlor Bell Ringers Wednesday, January 24th at 6:30 pm in Sheffield.

Senior Choir Wednesday, January 24th at 7:30 pm in Sheffield.

Bible Study Thursday, January 25th at 11:00 am in the Library.

Senior Center Luncheon Thursday, January 25th at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Food Pantry Saturday, January 27th, 8:30-10:30 am in Fellowship Hall.

^{*}Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

The hosts for the Fellowship Hour are the Coppola Family.

The Nursery is open today with Miss Miriame.

Senior Center Luncheons: The Lymes' Senior center will be holding their luncheons in the Church's Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week for the foreseeable future while their facility on Town Woods Road undergoes a major renovation. Any questions about attending the luncheons should be directed to the Senior Center's executive Director, Stephanie Gould, 860-514-5425.

Home to Rent Desperately Needed: A family of four who are good friends of the church need a home to rent in the immediate future. While we sponsored and settled this family of former refugees a few years ago, they now need to move from their present home. Any location on the shoreline would be acceptable. Please call the church office (860-434-8686) if you can help or know someone who can. Thanks!

Interested in Confirmation? Confirmation classes for 1st, 2nd or 3rd year high school students will begin on Sunday, January 28th from 4-5:30 pm. Classes will meet January-May and include field trips, films and a service project. Confirmation is offered every other year. For more information contact Laura at 860-304-9096 or lfitz.nager@gmail.com.

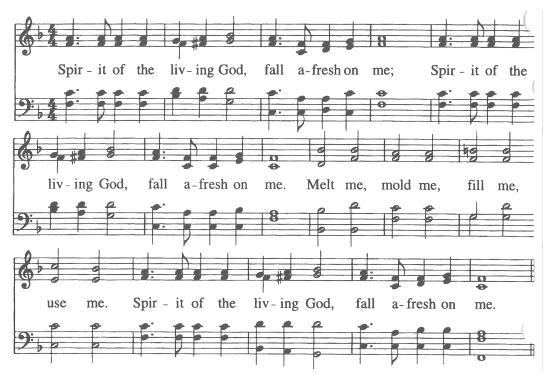
Save the Date: Walking in their Footsteps: A Civil Rights Learning Trip for Teens during April vacation from April 6th - 11th. This is a 5-day journey. We will fly round trip to Atlanta, Georgia and visit sights there and drive to Birmingham, Alabama among other places. There will be an informational session in the Library on January 21st at 11:30 am following the service. Come learn about our itinerary as we walk in the footsteps of Civil Rights leaders. For more information or to reserve a spot, email Jolene Brant at imbrant2023@gmail.com.

Bible Study: On Thursday, Jan. 25, at 11:00 am in the library. All are welcome.

Chili Cookoff: <u>Calling all chefs</u> for the Ground Hog Day Chili Cookoff tentatively scheduled for Friday, February 2nd, at 5:30-7:00 pm. Chefs please email the office.

Board of Missions: The Board of Missions recently made a gift of \$3,000 to the Middle East Children's Alliance and \$2,000 to Doctors Without Borders. Both gifts are dedicated to help the crisis in Gaza.

Pastoral Prayer Response: Spirit of the Living God



Scripture: John 9: 1-12

Sermon: African Eyes: What We Saw and How We're Seeing Differently Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit, Miriame Kazadi, Kevin Booker, Cathy Mathis

*Hymn: #517 "God of Every Nation"

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

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.

^{*}Congregation Standing

Choir Anthems Today

Introit:

Presentation of Christ in the Temple by Johannes Eccard (1553-1611)

When to the Temple Mary went, and brought the Holy Child, Him did the aged Simeon see, as it had been revealed. He took up Jesus in his arms and blessing God, he said; In peace I now depart, my Savior having seen the Hope of Israel, the Light of men. Help now thy servants, gracious Lord, that we may ever be, as once the faithful Simeon was, rejoicing but in Thee. And when we must from earth departure take may gently fall asleep and with thee wake.

Offertory Anthem:

While by our sleeping flock we lay,

German 17th Century melody arranged by Hugo Jungst (1853-1923)

While by our sleeping flock we lay, there came an angel, bright as day; awake with joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise ye the Lord on high with joy!

Spake then the angel, "News I bring of Israel's long expected king!" Great be your joy!

Joy, joy, joy! Praise ye the Lord on high with joy!

Grace, truth and right his rule attend; His kingdom knows no earthly end. Great be your joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise ye the Lord on high with joy!

Scripture Reading

John 9: 1-12

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." 10 But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." 12 They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."