



**The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme**

**2 Ferry Road,  
Old Lyme, Connecticut  
(860) 434-8686  
Website: [www.fccol.org](http://www.fccol.org)**

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister

Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager, Senior Associate Minister

Carleen R. Gerber, Associate Minister

Simon Holt, Director of Music

**August 2, 2026**

**Sunday Worship Service**

**10:00 AM**

Prelude

\*Processional Hymn: #378

“God, We Thank You for Our People”

Call to Worship:

I look at the world  
And this is what I see:

**This fenced-off narrow space  
Assigned to me.**

I look then at the silly walls  
And this is what I know:

**That all these walls oppression builds  
Will have to go!**

I look at my own body  
With eyes no longer blind—

**And I see that my own hands can make  
The world that's in my mind.**

Then let us hurry, comrades,  
The road to find.

**Let us worship God  
and find the road together.**

(adapted from “I look at the world,” by Langston Hughes)

\*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

\*Hymn: #442 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

\*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.

\*Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock

Pastoral Prayer Response: "Hear Our Prayer"

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The score ends with a double bar line.

Scriptures: Matthew 6: 25-27, Philippians 4: 6, II Corinthians 5: 7

Sermon: "Faith That Will Not Fail"

Dr. Kevin L. Booker Jr.

\*Closing Hymn: #500 "O For a World"

Benediction

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.*

## Scripture Readings

### **Matthew 6:25-27**

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?

### **Philippians 4: 6**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

### **II Corinthians 5: 7**

for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Please join in welcoming Dr. Kevin L. Booker, Jr. to our pulpit this morning.

Dr. Kevin L. Booker, Jr. is the founder and CEO of Booker Empowerment, LLC, where he trains others on the art of leadership and building positive culture and climate. As an educator for over 20 years, he has taught in settings ranging from high schools and colleges to prisons and adult education programs. He is currently an assistant college professor and deeply involved in civic life through various boards and community initiatives. Dr. Booker holds multiple advanced degrees and is the co-author of the book *Emerging Men*, as well as the founder of Men of Color Hike CT, promoting brotherhood through nature. The motto he lives by is "Get comfortable being uncomfortable."

*The flowers this morning are given in celebration of all “Anniversaries!”*

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*The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Cathy Mathis*

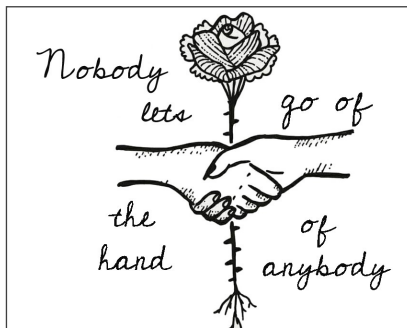
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*The Nursery is open today with Miss Kristin Kennedy.*

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If you are visiting us for worship this morning, we welcome you, and invite you to join us on the front lawn under the shade of the trees for fellowship and refreshments. We invite you to pick up a “Welcome” packet, which can be found in the vestibule. We hope this information will be helpful in acquainting you with our church and its activities and programs.

Quiet Activity Bags for young children are in the vestibule. They are colorful bags with quiet projects for our youngest members. Please feel free to offer these bags to your children.



*(On the cover: painting by Carl Wuerner “Early Spring”)*

## American Red Cross Blood Drive

There will be two blood drives at FCCOL this month, on Thursday, August 5th from 1:00 pm till 6:00 pm and Thursday, August 13th from 1:00 pm till 6:00 pm.



The American Red Cross has declared an emergency blood shortage as the blood supply fell nearly 25% in June. Blood donors are urgently needed to give now to help ensure patients receive lifesaving medical care without delay. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter Old Lyme to schedule an appointment. Come give blood in August for a \$20 Amazon gift card by email. Terms: [rcblood.org/August](http://rcblood.org/August).

## Essex Meadows Summer Bible Study - Friday, August 28th at 11 am

This summer bible study at Essex Meadows will be led by Gary Comstock. The next session will be on August 28th. All are welcome.

Essex Meadows is located at 30 Bokum Road in Essex. Park in the circle at building's entrance or in adjacent visitors' parking area; check in at front desk.

## Summer Sing Date to Save on your Calendar: August 9th

This summer the choir will be holding one more Summer Sing, or better known as "Turn up to FCCOL at 9:15 am and rehearse for the 10:00 am service, yes, it feels like the seat of your pants singing, oh, what fun we'll have" Sunday! The next Summer sing will take place on Sunday, August 9th. Please mark your calendars! We hope many of you will join us!

He who sings



scares away his woes.  
Miguel de Cervantes (1547-1616)



## Flowers for Sunday Worship Services

Would like to donate flowers for the Sunday worship services. It can be flowers that you have arranged yourself, or you could order flowers and have them delivered, or a plant that you could take home after the service. Please call Jill Harned (603) 398-9004 to reserve a date and reach out to the office (860-434-8686) or email at [fccol@fccol.org](mailto:fccol@fccol.org) to let us know the dedication you would like to be printed in the bulletin on the date you picked. Thank you!

## IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services)

IRIS is helping the homeless and is especially in need of twin-sized bedding, personal care items, kitchen items (including dishes, glassware, baking pans, cookware) and diapers. Gift cards (e.g. to Walmart) are also welcome. A FCCOL volunteer regularly travels to New Haven to deliver collected items. Ladies Who Stitch (LWS) will help by accepting new and gently-



used donations for IRIS and for the New London Homeless Hospitality Center. With on going heartfelt gratitude for your continued generosity and kindness to our neighbors. Please leave donations on the 2nd floor in the office clearly marked “IRIS” during the WES.

### **Grief Group and TransParent Group**

During August, when the grief support group and the transgender parents support group will not hold regular meetings, the Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock has offered to be on call to offer support if folks would need that. Please call Anne in the church office and give her your contact information and Gary will get in touch with you!

### **SAVE THE DATE: The 4th Annual Women’s Jeans and Sweaters Sale!**



During the White Elephant Sale intake, women’s jeans and wool sweaters are set aside because there is no room to sell them. The *Ladies Who Stitch* will again be offering these jeans and sweaters for \$5 and \$10 in September. We have an even greater selection this year. Mark your calendars! The first 3 sale days will be Saturday, September 12th from 10 till 2 pm and Sunday, and 13th from 12 till 2 pm and Monday, September 4th from 10 - 2 pm, in the Sheffield Aud. Also on Saturday, September 19th from 10- 3 pm during the Christ The King tag sale.

### **September Newsletter**

The September Newsletter deadline will be on Wednesday, August 19th. We look forward to get back to a full schedule of meetings and activities after the summer has ended. Please get your articles, pictures and announcements in before August 19th for the publication. Thank you!

**Common Good Gardens**, an independent, all volunteer non-profit vegetable garden in Old Saybrook, wants to recruit additional volunteers for its Saturday morning (8:30 - 11:30 am) gardening sessions.

Volunteers join teams of experienced gardeners and work as their schedules allow.

The Garden and its farm stand partners grow and deliver about 10 tons of fresh produce to three Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries during a season. The pantries are in Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Niantic. The Garden's site ([commongoodgardens.org](http://commongoodgardens.org)) offers more information.

Contact [jmatschulat@gmail.com](mailto:jmatschulat@gmail.com) if you may be interested in contributing to our mission. He will answer any questions and offer to introduce the Garden. Fresh air, exercise and new friends are guaranteed! Thank you!

### **Announcement About Summer Staffing**

As we reach mid-summer, we wish to let you know about our pastoral coverage for the month of August. As many of you know, Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager has taken a leave of absence that will continue through the end of the summer, as her husband Paul recovers from a major surgical procedure. To get us through this period, Rev. Becky Crosby and Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock have joined our staff, helping with pastoral care as well as providing leadership on Sunday mornings. Becky is well known to most of the congregation, having served as an associate minister at FCCOL for many years, prior to stepping down to run the Crosby Center for Haitian Education in 2014. Gary has been worshipping with us for the past several years, having recently retired from Wesleyan University, where he was the campus chaplain for seventeen years. He is an experienced preacher, liturgist, and pastoral counselor, and we can be grateful for his presence among us. Indeed, we can be grateful to both Becky and to Gary for their willingness to help during these summer months. Please help them to feel welcome on Sunday mornings, or whenever you see them.

Both Steve and Carleen will be around for much of the summer. If there are any immediate needs, don't hesitate to get in touch. And please keep Laura, Paul, and Anna in your prayers throughout the coming months, as they all come through a challenging season together.