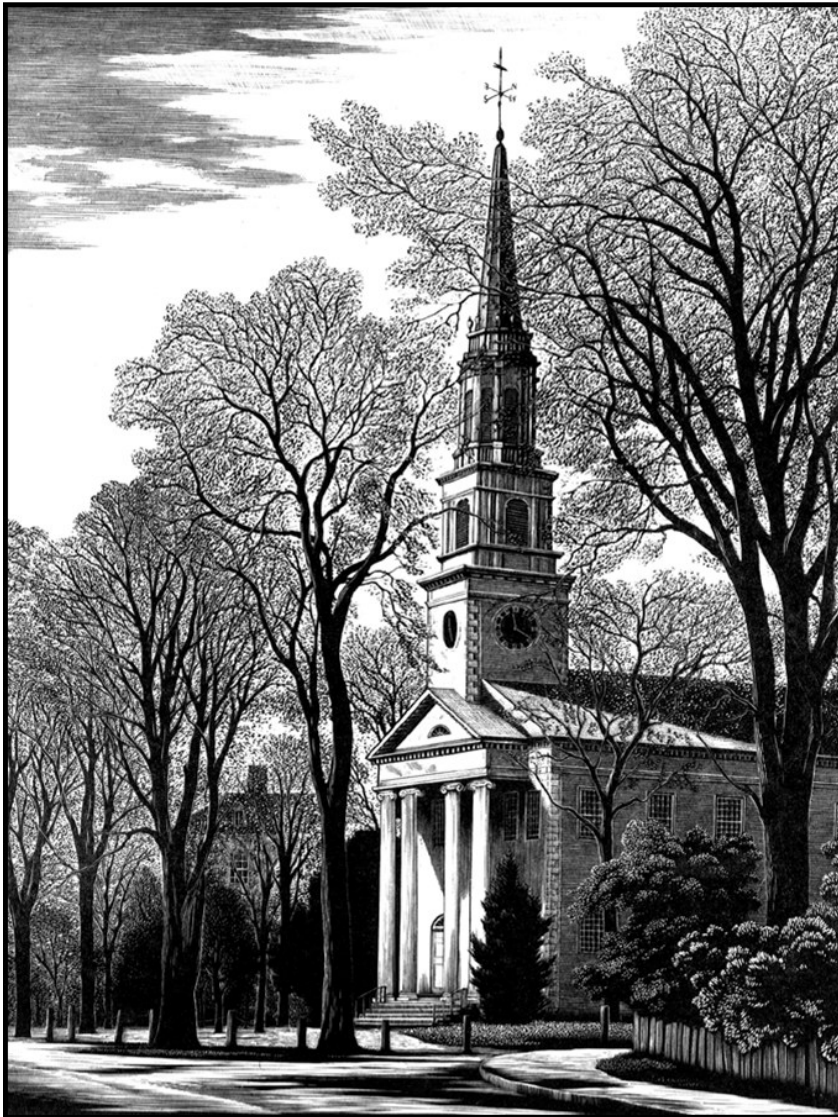




The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme

**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 Holt, Director of Music

August 16, 2026

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

Prelude : **“Fantasy Piece #1, opus 73”** by Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
played by Christine Harrington, cello

*Processional Hymn: #520 “Restless Weaver”

Call to Worship:

Lord, make us an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

Let us worship God whom we love and who loves us.

(adapted from *Prayer for Peace of St. Francis of Assisi*)

Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #517 “O God of Every Nation”

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Music: **“Great is Thy Faithfulness”** by William M. Runyan (1870-1957)
sung by Lisa Feltes, Marcy Conway, Sean McCarty and John Delmhorst

*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. Carleen Gerber

Pastoral Prayer Response: "Spirit of the Living God"



Scriptures: Luke 19:41,42; Matthew 5:43-48; Revelation 21:1-7

Sermon: "The Things That Make for Peace"

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Hayes

*Closing Hymn: #512 "Let There Be Peace"

Benediction

Postlude: "Hallelujah"

by Leonard Cohen (1934-2016)

arranged by Simon Parkin played by Christine Harrington, cello

**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

Luke 19:41,42

As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

Matthew 5:43-48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

Music

Prelude: Fantasy Piece #1, opus 73 by Robert Schumann (1810-1856) played by Christine Harrington, cello

Offertory Music: *Great is thy faithfulness* by William M. Runyan (1870-1957) sung by Lisa Feltes, Marcy Conway, Sean McCarty and John Delmhorst

Text: Great is the faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me! Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness, to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Postlude: Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen (1934-2016), arranged by Simon Parkin played by Christine Harrington, cello.

Please welcome The Rev. Dr. Paul C. Hayes. We are grateful to have him here with us this morning!

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Hayes pastored American Baptist churches in Connecticut and New York for over four decades, retiring in 2022 from Noank Baptist Church. He has served the ABCUSA (both regionally and nationally) in a variety of capacities, as well as the Alliance of Baptists, Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America~Bautistas por la Paz, Baptist World Alliance, and the Global Baptist Peace Conferences in Rome (2009) and Cali, Colombia (2019). He currently is the chairperson for the international Steering Committee for the Peace Project in Tbilisi, Georgia, as well as Canon for Peace Cathedral. Throughout his career, he has participated in a variety of interfaith organizations and multifaith settings. In 2011, he received the Edwin T. Dahlberg Peace Award for his longtime work in peace and social justice. He has written numerous articles and book chapters and co-edited *Engaging the Jubilee*. He resides in Madison CT with his spouse, Wendy, who retired in 2025 as Managing Director of Musical Masterworks.

For more information on the Peace Project Tbilisi, stream the documentary, “I Will Build This World from Love” by Emmy Award director, John Block, currently on PBS Passport.

The flowers this morning are given in thanks to Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock and Rev. Becky Crosby for all their time and support throughout the summer serving the congregation.

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*The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Stephanie Webster*

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The Nursery is open today with Miss Clair Mbele.
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### **Today at FCCOL**

**Adult Education Meeting** after the 10:00 am service in the Library.

### **This Week at FCCOL**

**Endowment Committee Meeting** *Tuesday, August 18th at 6:30 pm* in the Library.

**September Newsletter Deadline** *Wednesday, August 19th!*

**DINE: New London** *Sunday, August 26th at 3:30 pm* departing for New London.

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"No Other Land" Film Free Screening

The North Stonington Social Justice Study Group has invited us to a screening of the film "No Other Land," a documentary produced in cooperation between Jewish and Palestinian leaders, describing the current living conditions in the West Bank. The film will be shown at the North Stonington Senior Center (391 Norwich-Westerly Road, North Stonington) on Monday, August 24th at 5:30pm. The doors will open at 5:00 and the film screening is free, donations accepted. If you'd like to go, and would be interested in car-pooling, please let Anne know in the office and she'll keep a list of those wanting to make the trip.

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.

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. Please leave donations on the Sheffield Auditorium stage in the blue bin, marked "IRIS." (<https://irisct.org>). With ongoing heartfelt gratitude for your continued generosity and kindness to our neighbors.

September Newsletter Deadline is Wednesday, August 19th!

We look forward to getting back to a full schedule of meetings and activities after the summer has ended. Please get your articles, pictures and announcements in by August 19th for the publication. Thank you!

Flowers for Sunday Worship Services



Would you like to donate flowers for the Sunday worship services? It can be flowers that you have grown and arranged yourself, or you could order flowers and have them delivered, or a plant that you have and 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. Thank you!

Grief Group and TransFamilies and Friends Support Group

During August, when the grief support group and the transgender parents and friends 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 sale days in the Sheffield Auditorium will be:

Saturday, September 12th from 10 - 2 pm
Sunday, September 13th from 12 - 3 pm
Monday, September 14th from 10 - 2 pm
Saturday, September 19th from 12 - 3 pm

New Additions to the Church Library:

There are some new additions to the FCCOL library: Julia Angwin and Ami Fields-Weber's *On Courage: How to be a Dissident in an Age of Fear* and Elizabeth Winthrop's new novel, *Conviction*, about the women and children stranded in the Middle East after the defeat of ISIS.

Common Good Gardens Volunteer Opportunity

Common Goods Gardens is an independent, all volunteer non-profit vegetable garden in Old Saybrook, and is looking to recruit additional volunteers for its Saturday morning gardening sessions from 8:30 - 11:30 am.

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) offers more information.

Contact Jim Matschulat at: 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.

You've built with Habitat for Humanity, now you're invited to golf with Habitat!

The Habitat Classic – Fore the 65 is happening at Mohegan Sun Golf Club on Monday, September 28th. Registration opens at 8am, shotgun start at 10am. Golfers welcome. Win a car for a hole-in-one!

Details are available at habitatect.org, scroll to golf.
Support the Habitat mission by bringing your foursome or consider sponsoring a hole.

Contact Habitat Director of Development Melissa Kibler at development@habitatect.org or call (860)442-7890 ext. 204.

Thanks for building a better future, one swing at a time.....

register here

