



**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 23, 2026**

**Sunday Worship Service**

**10:00 AM**

Prelude

\*Processional Hymn: #439      “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

\*Call to Worship:

Jesus said, This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

**No one has greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.**

I do not call you servants any longer, I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

**We did not choose you, you chose us.**

And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

**You gave this commandment so that we may love one another.**

Let us worship God together as friends who love one another.

*(Adapted from the Gospel according to John 15:12-17)*

\*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

\*Hymn: #445      “Be Thou My Vision”

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Selection

\*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

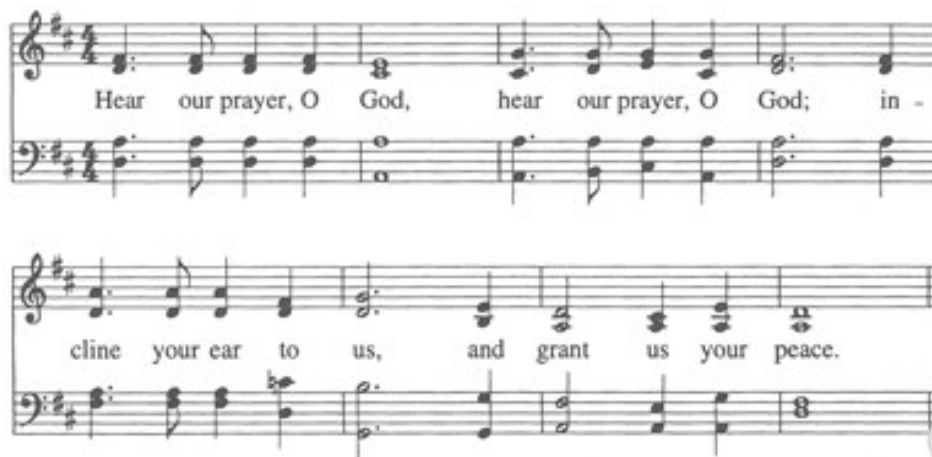
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

\*Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Rebecca Crosby

Pastoral Prayer Response: “Hear Our Prayer”



Scriptures: I Corinthians 12:14-26

Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock

Sermon: “Let America Be America Again”

Rev. Dr. Terrlyn Curry Avery

\*Closing Hymn: #463 “Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed”

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

### **I Corinthians 12:14-26**

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

This morning we are pleased to welcome **Rev. Dr. Terrlyn Curry Avery** back to our pulpit. Dr. TLC is the pastor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Presbyterian Church in Springfield, MA. In addition, she is a well known author, speaker, and seminar leader. She is the author of *Dismantling Racism: Healing Separation From the Inside Out*. She also hosts the podcast *Dismantle Racism*, which airs on [talkradio.nyc](http://talkradio.nyc). Known to many of us, it is a privilege to have her back with us at FCCOL this morning.

*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 hosts for the Fellowship Hour this morning are Susan and Wayne Mountz.*

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

**Welcome back to our travelers returning from Brazil.  
We look forward to hearing their stories in the weeks to come.**

### **Today at FCCOL**

**DINE: New London Sunday, August 23rd at 3:30 pm** departing for New London.

### **This Coming Week at FCCOL**

**No Other Land Screening Monday, August 24th at 5:00 pm** at the N. Stonington Sr Center.

**The Benevolent Society Meeting Tuesday, August 25th at 10:00 am** in the Library.

**Board of Deacons Meeting Tuesday, August 25th at 7:00 pm** in the Library.

**Newsletter Folding Tuesday, August 25th.**

**Essex Bible Study Friday, August 28th at 11:00 am** at Essex Meadows.

**Shoreline Food Pantry Saturday, August 29th at 8:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall.

### **"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.

### **God's Neighborhood is Returning on September 13th SAVE THE DATE!**

We will be welcoming back all our families and friends in God's Neighborhood!

Our Sunday School program for classes K-8 begins on Sunday, September 13th at 10:00 am.

We'll host an Open House for families during the service. An Ice Cream Social will be held on the front lawn afterwards.

We're thrilled to announce that parent Gavin Lodge is our new Director of Youth Education this year! Our theme for the year is **Hi, Neighbor! Making Friends and Loving the World.**

Registration forms will be available for your child/children on our opening day or from the church office as soon as you can. If you're interested in joining our classroom volunteers or to be available as an occasional substitute when needed, please contact Laura at [fccol@fccol.org](mailto:fccol@fccol.org).

**The "All Church" Picnic** will also be on September 13th from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, at Camp Clair. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

### **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, "with a discussion of chapter 1 of the Book of Esther." 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.

### **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!

### **The Benevolent Society September Luncheon**

Put Tuesday, September 8th on your calendar - TBS luncheon time has returned for the fall season. Join us in the FCCOL Fellowship Hall at noon for a delicious lunch of pork chops, braised Alsatian style sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and dessert. All for a minimum donation of \$5.00 and a non-perishable item for our food pantry. In celebration of our country's 250th anniversary, highlights of the Florence Griswold Museum's juried art show by CT artists will be presented by Gary Comstock and Nancy Mol. Come and learn how the Museum is showcasing works by CT artists reflecting on their current perspectives of this country. Please call the office to RSVP so we know how many people to cook for at 860-434-8686. Thank 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:

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| <p><b>Saturday, September 12th from 10 - 2 pm</b><br/><b>Sunday, September 13th from 12 - 3 pm</b><br/><b>Monday, September 14th from 10 - 2 pm</b><br/><b>Saturday, September 19th from 12 - 3 pm</b></p> |
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### **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](http://commongoodgardens.org)) offers more information.

Contact Jim Matschulat at: [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.

## **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.

## **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](mailto:fccol@fccol.org). 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](http://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](mailto:development@habitatect.org) or call (860)442-7890 ext. 204.

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

**register here**

