



The Reverend David W. Good  
April 21, 2024  
**The First Congregational Church  
of  
Old Lyme**



# A Service in Celebration of the Life of

The Rev. David W. Good  
APRIL 26, 1949 – APRIL 2, 2024

Prelude

Choir Introit: **“Sanctus”** by Franz Schubert

Processional Hymn: **#537 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand**

Muslim Call to Prayer: Dr. Reza Mansoor

Words of Welcome: The Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn: **#500 O For a World**

Readings of Scripture: The Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager

Remembrances:

Ghoufran Allababidi, President, Tree of Life Educational Fund  
Steve, Sabina, and Rachael Jungkeit: A Journey Into the Mystic  
The Rev. Dr. Dean C. Ahlberg

Hymn **#445 Be Thou My Vision**

Remembrances:

The Rev. Jack Madry  
The Rev. Cathy Zall  
The Rev. Rebecca Crosby

Pastoral Prayer: The Rev. Carleen Gerber

Special Music **“Till We Are Called to Rise”** poetry by Emily Dickinson by Carleen Gerber

Hymn **#515 This is My Song**

Benediction

Benediction Response **“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”** by Peter C. Lutkin

Postlude

Officiating  
*The Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jungkeit*  
*The Rev. Carleen R. Gerber*  
*The Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager*  
*The Rev. Rebecca T. Crosby*

*Violetta Chan Scott, Organist*  
*Kevin Kinsall, Trumpeter*

*All are invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall after the service.*

## David as Inspiring Mentor

One of David Good's Quiet Ministries was to encourage a number of people to attend Divinity School and pursue ministry. He rose to the calling of nurturing the prophets and preachers of the future. He also encouraged young people to take on the mantle of dedicated social justice work. Of these folks he was very proud.

The Rev. Ann W. Crites is now retired, having served the Haddam Congregational Church for many years.

The Rev. Rebecca Crosby served as Associate Minister at FCCOL for seven years. She and her husband Ted founded The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education in 2004, where she serves as the Executive Director.

The Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager served as Minister of the First Church of Christ, Congregational in East Haddam for four years, and since 2018 she has served at FCCOL as Senior Associate Minister.

The Rev. Virginia G. Army now serves as Rector of Saint-Andrew's-by-the-Sea in Little Compton, RI.

The Rev. Cynthia Willauer served the South Lyme Chapel as minister for many years and now works in the Care of Creation ministries of the United Church of Christ.

The Rev. Sue Latourette helped in our youth ministries and now serves as Minister of North Stonington Congregational Church.

The Rev. Carleen R. Gerber worked alongside David for thirty seven years, and now she continues to serve as Associate Minister at FCCOL.

Angel Vernon, MDiv. grew up attending FCCOL and returned to lead both Jr. and Sr. Pilgrim Fellowship for several years. She has served in various roles in five churches in MA. and VT.

The Rev. Catherine Zall served as Associate Minister at FCCOL for five years. In 2007 she began serving as the Minister at The First Church of Christ in New London and became the Executive Director of the Homeless Hospitality Center in New London, an outreach ministry to the homeless.

The Rev. Gretchen Stanland (now deceased) served as the youth director at FCCOL for many years and then served the Somersville Congregational Church as Senior Minister as well as in the South Lyme Chapel in Old Lyme.

The Rev. Charles Harper (deceased) served as seminarian at FCCOL, then as minister of the Naugatuck Congregational Church before moving to Arizona where he worked as counselor in a residential recovery program.



Cathy Zall



Angel Vernon



Becky Crosby



Sue Latourette

## Abigail Cipparone

David Good was a fearless advocate, who always led with compassion. In both of the Tree of Life journeys I attended when I was 14 and 16, David had this gift of connecting people, and sharing fellowship in a way that I know changed me to my core. I remember sharing a meal with a Bedouin family, and they treated David like another son. He put in the work to build trust, and then used that trust to advocate for people all over the world.

I remember when we travelled across Connecticut over the course of a few weeks to advocate for the UCC to pass a resolution in support of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction movement for Palestinians. At every congregation, he led with eye witness stories, and responded with empathy. We ended up helping pass that resolution at the UCC's General Synod the summer of 2015. It was a defining moment for me - as a 17 year-old, it felt so incredibly inspiring that by sharing our witness stories we were able to pass a denominational resolution in support of BDS. Now as an adult, I lead the Domestic Policy portfolio for the UCC. I use that resolution and many others to help me lobby Congress for a more just world. David feels integral to the work I do now, and I've tried to take David's lessons as I seek to advocate for the people David helped me build relationships with so many years ago. I think most of all, David taught me that staying true to your values may not be the easiest path, but it will always be worth it. He was an incredible mentor to me, and I miss him every day.

Abigail Cipparone, who attended church here at FCCOL for many years and was a part of several church mission journeys, has gone on to serve as a legislative assistant in Washington D.C. and now works in the advocacy wing of the United Church of Christ in D.C.

## Allison McCracken

I've known David since I was in first grade, and his guidance and mentorship set me on the trajectory of my entire life. David's interfaith efforts to dismantle Islamophobia and build bridges of fellowship with our Muslim neighbors motivated me to study political science and religion in college. He included me on several Tree of Life delegations to Palestine, and added me to the Board of Directors when I was only 21 years old, always making space for young voices. His relentless struggle for justice across borders inspired me to work for anti-war and human rights organizations in my adult life, particularly for the cause of the Palestinian people. David's loving embrace of both Christianity and Islam taught me, and continues to teach me, what it means to talk the talk and walk the walk to build a more peaceful interfaith world for us all.

Allison McCracken, who attended church here at FCCOL for many years and travelled on number of mission trips, has gone on to serve Code Pink, Amnesty International, and now serves as Vice President of the Tree of Life board of directors.



2012 Tree of Life Trip with Abigail and Allison behind David, Carleen and Laura to the right, Paul Verryn just above them.

# The Green Grass Partnership

Teresa Balough

## The Green Grass Partnership: The “Mother” of All FCCOL Partnerships

Almost exactly forty years ago, in the fall of 1984, the Missions Board of FCCOL under the guidance of Rev. David Good, met to discuss a new type of outreach, a partnership that would be “mutually beneficial” and put a human face on mission work. Ramona MacNamara, who had been raised in South Dakota, suggested an Indian reservation there and Ray Berry, head of the Dakota Association, recommended the small community of Green Grass on the Cheyenne River Lakota Sioux Indian Reservation. In March of 1985 Rev. Henry Good Bear, minister of Green Grass UCC, was invited to speak in the pulpit at FCCOL, sharing his vision for his church and welcoming a partnership with FCCOL. In creating what he envisioned as a “mutually-beneficial cross-cultural partnership,” David Good launched a new way of doing mission work that would become a model not only for the many FCCOL outreach partnerships that would follow it but also created a new missions standard for other UCC churches to follow. During the summer of 1985, twenty-two friends and parishioners would travel to Green Grass for the first partnership visit. In the thirty-nine years which have followed, well over four hundred have travelled from Old Lyme to Green Grass and there have been over a hundred visits from Green Grass to Old Lyme.

The visits to Green Grass became, in a sense, “travelling seminars,” in what David called the “theology of accompaniment,” a new covenant with an oppressed people in a “ministry of reconciliation,” representing a gospel of love and grace. He called this a “sacred dance” along the *Canku Wakan*, the “Holy Road.” He wrote that “we are all fellow participants in this dance ... if two very different races and cultures of people can learn to dance together, talk together and worship together, maybe there is hope for the human family and the possibility of Peace on Earth.” One of David’s favorite Lakota sayings was *Mitakuye oyas’in*, which means “all my relations.” We are all related: “If we all adopted this part of Indian religion, think of what the positive ramifications would be, not only for world peace, but also for ecology and the healing of the earth.” In his wisdom, David brought not only an opportunity for healing to our fellowship partners but a vast richness of experience to the members of FCCOL. In 2001 David was honored during the annual pilgrimage to Green Grass by being given a Lakota name, Zuy’a Ma’ni’ Wa’na’ki’ya, which means “Warrior Who Walks the Road Helping People.” This is an apt name for the man who instituted partnerships between his church and congregations as far flung as South Africa, Palestine, and Harlem. But as he wrote: “our cross cultural, mutually enriching, mutually beneficial partnership with the Green Grass community has been the Mother of all our other partnerships and friendships.”



## Manny Red Bear

"My condolences to Rev. David Good! The late Rev. Henry Good Bear and Rev. David Good made a partnership between the Green Grass UCC and the Old Lyme Connecticut First Congregational Church. The partnership lasted for 30 yrs. or more as Old Lyme comes to Green Grass UCC every year except during the Covid pandemic. I was a lifetime partner for this partnership and will miss my great friend who has taken me to South Africa to build homes with Jimmy Carter, I thank my friend for taking me to the Middle East Israel with the Tree of Life Organization. A great man will be missed by the Green Grass community and the artists who sell their arts and crafts to the Old Lyme Church! Toksa ake my great friend. I love you my friend! Kola Manny Red Bear"



## Koinonia

### Norris Harris

David and I met in the nineties at Koinonia while he was visiting Habitat for Humanity and came out for a visit to the birth place of Habitat and he wanted to know more about Clarence Jordan.

Next thing I knew I was on a plane to Old Lyme Connecticut to do a dialogue sermon with him at the First Congregational Church. From that point on our friendship continue to develop and he became a member of the Koinonia Board of Directors and then president.

We worked together faithfully together as two men in different geographical areas as servants of God's people. I was afforded many opportunities which I would never have accomplished without our friendship. I cherish those memories and upon his retirement from the church I was able to be there and say even though we weren't biological brother but we were brothers in Christ.

He was still trying to support me doing the course of his illness and when diagnosed earlier I told him that if he needed any type of transfusion I would be the donor. And in the weeks before he passed away I said the same thing to him and I would have done just that. When I read some of your sermons I hear that unique sounding voice. Every time he was in Americus, Ga. he visited with my family and went to church together. He wrote a sermon once about Tears of Gratitude of his witness in Southwest Georgia when visiting with me, tears which he shed, and now' I shed Tears of Gratitude at the loss of my friend. In the tradition of our church, we say well done thou good and faithful servant. If I had no other friend, I knew I had a friend in REV. DAVID WILLIAM GOOD!.



David with Norris



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## Madry Temple

### Jack Madry

The only word I can adequately describe to David is “GIANT”, because of his broad humanity and vision he blessed us with at the Madry Temple Church (MTC).

It was his foresight that developed the companionship of our two churches as we worked on Habitat for Humanity projects not only in East Lyme and New London but also the Jimmy Carter Work Project in Durban, South Africa.

Our two congregations (Madry Temple Church and the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme) became fellowship partners embracing each other's services and group activities. Our love for God and each other ran deep which led, under David's leadership, to the establishment of the PARJE (Public Art for Racial Justice and Education) project celebrating the lives of heroes known but unsung!

David's inspiration and deep spiritual wisdom, along with the FCCOL (First Congregational Church of Old Lyme) leaders remain a powerful influence not only to MTC but to Southeastern CT and abroad.

Everything David did was in a big way...he was a “Renaissance icon, a GIANT, as well as a persuasive motivator” whose motto was “Never quit”!



## South Africa Partnership

### South Africa



In the year 1988, David Good and Carleen Gerber were participants in a trip to Zimbabwe and South Africa with the Plowshares Institute of Simsbury Ct. The purpose of the trip was to learn about how the churches in Southern Africa were responding to the tragedy of apartheid. That trip opened the door to our understanding of mission work as “a theology of accompaniment,” and was the beginning of a 25 year long partnership with the Methodist Churches of Southern Africa. Central to that partnership was the deep and abiding friendship of The Rev. Paul Verryn, who in 1988 was serving a circuit of Methodist churches in Soweto, South Africa. Over the next 25 years that partnership, and our friendship with Paul, led to countless opportunities for fellowship between our community and the people of South Africa.



In 1989 FCCOL sponsored a conference entitled “Bind us Together” in which we encouraged people to take part in opposing apartheid through political action here in our own country. Very soon thereafter, it was our good fortune to witness Nelson Mandela’s release from prison and the formation of a democratic South Africa. There followed a trip, in 2002, of over 25 members and friends of our church to take part in a Habitat for Humanity build called “The Jimmy Carter International Africa Build” which took place in Durban, South Africa. Three visits from South African choirs followed, over the course of the next twenty years.



A two year residency of a visiting minister from South Africa, Derrick Maragele, was a highlight of this partnership. Together with his family, Derrick lived here and served as our associate minister for two years. We were visited by other church leaders from Soweto over time; once from a church school coordinator who lived among us and spent time with our Sunday School children over a period of two months.



Ultimately there were 10 trips organized over the years from 1989 to 2016 to enable people from our church to spend time in South Africa, learning about the aftermath of apartheid and to connect with churches and friends we had made over time. Our partnership with the people of South Africa became what David was fond of calling a “mutually enriching” friendship.

In the past few years FCCOL has continued to host The Rev. Paul Verryn. As a Visiting Theologian here in Old Lyme Paul stays in our community, leading Bible studies, preaching and enabling us to deepen our understanding of a shifting world. Paul Verryn and David Good enjoyed a deep friendship over the years since 1988. David’s courage and vision in the work with South Africa helped give birth to our friendships with the Storefront School in Harlem New York, and our commitment to work with Habitat for Humanity across the globe.

Paul Verryn tried very hard to travel here to be with us for this service of remembrance, but his work in South Africa prevented that journey. He is with us in spirit as we celebrate and honor David’s life.



Habitat for Humanity  
(The World House Build in South Africa)



## Tree of Life Education Fund

### Mazin Qumsiyah:

Jessie and I followed David's illness and death with profound sadness. The timing with the genocide on Gaza is unfortunate. David did not witness a "free Palestine" that he feverishly worked for since 2001 but his spirit will see it soon. I remember the first time I met David: I was invited to speak at Old Lime shortly after the horrific events of 11 September 2001. Like many US Citizens with a conscience, David did not accept the government's admonition to leave the matters to them. He sought knowledge. The meeting room was packed. After the meeting, David approached me and with a kind and open heart and mind we engaged in a conversation. He later invited me to his church to speak to congregants and this was followed by other talks. I invited him to come to Palestine and connected him with some people who helped organize a tour. I was pleasantly surprised at how a "Tree of Life Educational Fund" (TOLEF [www.tolef.org](http://www.tolef.org)) grew out of that. He asked me to stay involved as an advisor. And when I returned to Palestine in 2008, I was honored to host the delegations here. David and the team of Tree of Life hosted also delegations from here especially children from refugee camps. TOLEF also supported needy students to pay their university tuitions. Over these 23 years of friendship and working with David, I always admired his amazing giving spirit. He listened to young and old and always was thinking of "what else can we do." When he did speak and I listened to him, I was always struck by his humility, his gentle ways of delivering a message that is in many ways reminiscent of the Sermon on the Mount by Jesus. But most importantly by its "practice". Like Jesus, he did not just preach, he acted to help the oppressed. When engaged in interfaith dialogue he always stressed needing to work together (joint struggle) for the work for civil rights, indigenous people rights, against apartheid in South Africa and more (and he was active in all these). We could all use that. We could all learn from that. We could all work harder to help those in need. David is physically gone but his influence on so many thousands of people endures. Rest in peace and love my friend and my brother. Until we meet again, we will carry the torch you left us. Palestine will be free as you told me last time we talked: "Inshallah."



2022 Tree of Life Trip



Khalil Alamour



Amal Abu Alkom



Ghoufran Allababidi



## Mark Braverman

As is true for so many other people, David changed my life. We met in the Fall of 2006 when I was touring with three women from Palestine - an Israeli Jew, a Muslim from Gaza and a Christian from Bethlehem, all peace activists. FCCOL was one of our stops. David snatched me up and the rest, for me, is history. Within a month, David invited me to Old Lyme to preach from the pulpit -- First Sunday of Advent. This was to be repeated for years as part of the Tree of Life Conference. David reached in and opened the door to my spirit, my strength, my voice. David did this for people -- who among us today has not had that experience, been blessed by this power of his, this gift?

At the end of each worship, David allowed me to offer the "sending forth" benediction with the Priestly Blessing from the Book of Numbers, that begins "May the Lord Bless you and keep you" in Hebrew. David, of course, loved me for bringing the Jewish tradition into FCCOL. And I loved him for it.

David was the personification of a Mensch, of a Tzadik -- a righteous person. He was one, as the Hasidic lore has it, of the 36 in every generation for whose sake the world is preserved by the Almighty. David is a model of one who walks the talk.

There is a line in the Jewish liturgy of mourning: "May his soul be forever entwined with those of the living." The imagery in Hebrew is literally that of a strong rope or of a woven tapestry (David, the poet and the lover of words would have a wonderful time preaching on this). For me, this liturgy is less in the nature of a prayer than it is a simple statement of the way things are. He is not gone -- he is forever a part of us, part of the fabric of life as we carry on his work, do our best to love as he loved, live as he lived, give as he gave.

The liturgy continues: "May you be comforted in the midst of the community of all who mourn." Indeed, we are blessed to be part of the community of those who were infinitely graced by David's life. May we continue to honor and celebrate him as part of the Beloved Community to which he gave so generously and with such beauty, power and grace.

## **PUBLIC ART for RACIAL JUSTICE EDUCATION PARJE**

### **Nancy P Gladwell, Chair Public Art for Racial Justice Education**

In the Spring of 2020, after the horrific death of George Floyd, David W. Good was asked to speak at what he called “teach-ins” in Old Saybrook, organized by our friend Maryam Alahi. David arrived early. He stood under the canopy of trees and thought about our Nation’s monuments being torn down, and he wondered “why not erect monuments of those unsung men and women who have been and are heroes of Racial Justice”. This was the seed leading to the founding of **Public Art for Racial Justice Education**, or RARJE.

David gathered a group of people together. We met in the church garden, it was 2020, during Covid. He led the group, we shared our thoughts, and founded what he hoped was a journey toward, in Martin Luther King Jr.’s words, “the Beloved Community”. A long-time art enthusiast, Reverend Good felt that art was the right venue to foster education, truth, and awareness. We decided to call ourselves **Public Art for Racial Justice Education** and created a website. We hired BIPOC artists to paint murals throughout the region; there are 5 to date. Many were created with the input on content and the painting skills of children. These murals celebrate beacons of social justice, many who lived in our own back yards. They are learning devices, but, more so, they are testaments of what love and inclusion can bring to all. We call them Sister Murals.

In the almost 4 years of existence PARJE has shown up with educational enrichment and programs at museums, aquariums, houses of faith, schools, galleries, double and quadruple times, and many, many festivals. We’ve hosted movies and lectures, provided financial support to public and private organizations, supported inclusive curriculum, provided online professional art advice, and so much more. In short, we seek to be on that pathway towards the “Beloved Community”. This is all due to one man who refused to let injustice reign without pushing back.



**Mural at Lyme - Old Lyme Middle School painted by Jasmine Oyola-Blumenthal**





# The Reverend David W. Good

David William Good, 74, died peacefully in his home in Lyme, Connecticut on April 2, 2024, from complications of advanced leukemia. He was born on April 26, 1949 in Indianapolis, Indiana to Edward Albin Good and Gladys Mae Cissna Good. He received a bachelor's degree in literature and philosophy from Purdue University in 1971 and a M. Divinity from Yale Divinity School in 1975. He married Corinne Hogg on March 27, 1973, in Liverpool, England, in Corinne's home church.

In December of 1975, David began to serve as Senior Minister at The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, a position he would hold for 37 years. The breadth of his ministry is astonishing, both for its prescience and for its imaginative sweep. Prescient in that David anticipated many of the justice issues that we are still contending with today. Imaginative in that he used the symbols of the Christian tradition to connect with those of other peoples and cultures, demonstrating that as human beings, we all belong to the same common family

In 1985, David led the first visit to Green Grass, South Dakota, initiating a partnership with the Lakota people of the Cheyenne River Reservation that continues to exist some 40 years later. A few years after that, prompted by the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, David journeyed to that country to foster another set of relationships with those in the Township of Soweto, and with the Methodist Churches of Southern Africa. Later still, he forged a bond with the Koinonia community outside of Americus, Georgia, an anti-racist experiment in communal living that helped to birth Habitat for Humanity.

One of David's greatest contributions, however, emerged in the days and months following the 9/11 attacks. Almost immediately, he reached out to the Muslim community and the Jewish Federation of Southeastern Connecticut, doing whatever he could to counter the fear and paranoia generated by that event, while also helping everyone within his orbit to both appreciate and celebrate the vast wisdom of the three Abrahamic faith traditions. An interfaith journey to the Holy Land with Christian, Muslim and Jewish participants soon followed. That first trip led to the formation of the Tree of Life ministry, dedicated to the pursuit of human rights in Palestine and in Israel. For more than twenty years, groups of travelers from FCCOL, the Berlin Mosque, and many other places of origin have journeyed together to the Middle East to learn about the profound human rights challenges facing Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, in East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and in Israel proper, while also learning from many Israeli voices of conscience who are seeking to build just and humane alternatives in that region. Even as US based travelers journeyed to the Middle East, David organized groups of Palestinian and Israeli justice advocates to visit the United States every year, to educate US audiences on the realities faced by Palestinians every day. The importance of that work becomes more evident with each passing day. It is a legacy that will continue to grow, as we find new ways to support the work of that Tree, "whose branches shall be for the healing of the nations."

David's global outreach scarcely touches all the ways he gave of himself to individuals within the FCCOL community and to Old Lyme and the Connecticut Shoreline more broadly. Week after week, he delivered learned, impassioned, and inspiring sermons. He accompanied many people through their final days, and he helped family members to come to terms with their own losses. He steered committees and task forces. Through his leadership, the Fellowship Hall and Sunday School wing was added to FCCOL. A Food Pantry was housed at FCCOL because of David's vision, and in his later years, he organized PARJE (Public Art for Racial Justice and Equality). He married countless people, counseled countless people, and helped everyone, each in their own way, to trust that there was a gracious and loving Presence in the world on whom they could depend. He inspired and impacted many lives, and his memory will endure for many years to come.

David is survived by his wife Corinne Good in Lyme, CT, two sisters, Sharon Lyons of Tennessee and Linda Gettings of South Carolina, and his brother, Edward Good of Texas.

Memorial gifts in honor of David Good's life may be made to the Tree of Life Educational Fund (TOLEF) P.O. Box 968, Old Lyme, CT 06371, and The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, 2 Ferry Road, Old Lyme, for a David W. Good Memorial Fund that the church is establishing. Please mark on each check "David Good Memorial."

## In Memoriam



The Reverend David W. Good  
April 26, 1949—April 2, 2024