

**IMPORTANT  
NOTICE**

**Summer Church service hours  
will be 9 am to 10 am, starting  
the 24th of June thru  
September 2ed.**



**CHURCH STAFF**

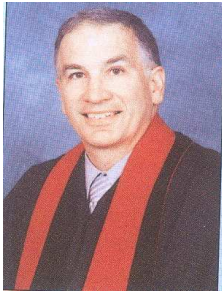
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**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
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East Hampton, Connecticut 06424

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## THOTS FROM TOM



Synod is coming! Synod is coming! Now what, you may ask, is a *Synod*???

General Synod is a national convention of the United Church of Christ, which meets once every two years, in odd-numbered years, to elect officers, pass social action

pronouncements and resolutions, pass a budget for the national setting of our denomination, establish and vote on denominational policies and procedures, have exciting and spiritually moving worship, have inspirational speakers and lectures, and simply be the church gathered in one place as the United Church of Christ. There are work projects and field trips for youth and other interested persons, and educational and cultural opportunities to learn about the host city the and state in which the convention is being held.

This year General Synod is meeting in Hartford, Connecticut at the Civic Center, from June 22 until June 26. People from all over the world will be there. A special highlight at this Synod is the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the United Church of Christ. Part of this celebration will include a program called "Synod in the City", to be held on Saturday, June 23. Events all over the city will be held to inform, educate and entertain visitors and delegates to General Synod 26.

This year, Barak Obama, a long-time member of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, and United States Senator, will be speaking on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Obama agreed to come to General Synod last year, way before he declared himself as a presidential candidate. Bill Moyers, an

ordained Baptist minister and long-time journalist and political commentator who has a nationally syndicated show on PBS, will address the Synod Saturday morning. Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Children's Defense Fund and best-selling author, will present a keynote address on Monday afternoon, and Lynn Redgrave, an accomplished actress, and a member of First Congregational Church of Kent, in Kent, Connecticut, will address the Synod on Tuesday, talking about her faith journey.

You can register to attend the Synod online at <http://www.ucc.org>, and click on the "See you in Harford" line on the right hand side of the website at the bottom. The cost is \$170.00 for the whole Synod. Don't want to pay all of that? **Then volunteer!** Synod volunteers can attend the whole event for \$40.00, by volunteering to serve for eight hours at the Synod. Volunteers are still needed! The website to register to do this is: <http://www.ctucc.org/synod2007/>.

At 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 24 General Synod will be holding a massive worship service, with attendance expected to be around 10,000 people. The public is invited. The Rev. John Thomas, the UCC General Minister and President, will be preaching. A massed choir made up of local Connecticut churches and General Synod attendees will sing, and communion will be served. We are reserving a bus for our church and Second Congregational Church, Middle Haddam, to take us to the Civic Center. Stay tuned for details and costs!

If you cannot attend the whole Synod, and cannot volunteer, please nevertheless come join us for the Synod worship service on Sunday afternoon. I attended the Synod worship service held in Providence, Rhode Island in 1999 when General

*(Continued on page 2)*



(Continued from page 1)

Synod 22 met there, and it was an awesome and spirit-filled experience! Please, don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity.

See you in church, and hopefully, *on the bus!*

Peace,

Tom

## PARISH NEWS

### New Members

**Congratulations** to our 2007 Confirmation Class who joined our church on May 6, through the Rite of Confirmation.

**Ansel Aarrestad**  
**Kelly Chasse**  
**Allison Cowan**  
**Claire Crouch**  
**Drew Gates**  
**Andrew Hill**  
**Benjamin Hill**  
**Charlie Schaub**

**Mavis Gee** was also received into our membership on May 6.

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

### Baptism

**Leah Catherine Kohler**, daughter of Nancy and Mark Kohler, was baptized on May 20 by Pastor Tom. Congratulations!

**To all 2007 graduates:** Please notify the church office if you are graduating so that we may include you on the list for the next Chatter. Leave your name, school, degree, etc.  
 Church phone: 267-4959.  
 Email: cceh@juno.com

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Scholarship application forms for the Jennifer Rittman Scholarship and the C. Estelle Dickson Scholarship are available in the Church Office. Interested individuals can stop by the Church Office to pick up a form or call the office and have forms mailed. Applications **MUST** be returned to the Church Office no later than June 10, 2007.

## COUNCIL

At our last Council meeting we discussed all the great projects we have going on. Here is a partial list Church Fair, Golf Tournament, Silent Auction, Strawberry Shortcake Booth and Seeds of Hope. We have wonderful folks who have stepped forward to lead these projects, which are crucial to the life of our church.

They provide a way to make new friends and to work side by side across all generations and genders. If you are saying I haven't been asked to help then consider yourself personally asked by me. This invitation goes out to all our members, non-members, and guest, who read the Chatter.

### (The meaning of Church Family)

When we were on vacation in the White Mountains in April, there was terrible raining and floods. My nephew received a call that his basement had 3 feet of water in it. He went home to start clearing everything out the basement. The next day their church members started showing up with trucks and food to help them out. Not because they had to, but because they could.

With God's help all things are possible.  
 Church Moderator Jerry Gerkey  
 j.gerkey@sbcglobal.net



## Women's Potluck

Monday, June 4th at 6:30 pm  
at the home of  
Lynn Hastings 255 East High St  
Bring a dish to share and join us!

## Last Chance to Order Scrip

Sunday, June 4th will be the last chance to order pre paid gift cards until next fall. Stop by the table in Fellowship Hall to fill in an order form. Thanks to everyone that supported Seeds of Hope by purchasing cards this year.

## Dance-a-thon to benefit Seeds of Hope

Saturday, June 3 from 5:30-10:30 pm  
Dance, games, door prizes, snacks!  
\$5 registration (\$10 max per family)  
Doors open at 5:00, latest entry is 9:00  
Dance as long as you want, then pay  
a small opt out fee when you want to quit!  
Bring your friends and family!

## Youth Sunday, June 10

Our traditionally youth led worship service will be on Sunday, June 10 this year. Each class will have the chance to create and lead part of our worship service. All children participating should be at church at 8:45 for a rehearsal (pre school- kindergarten can arrive at 9:30). Dress casually and plan to bring a picnic lunch for on the front lawn after

worship.

The CE committee will provide ice tea, lemonade and make your own ice cream sundaes. Lawn games will be available for all those interested in playing! This Sunday is the last day of church school for this year. Church School will begin again on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

## UCC General Synod Sunday Worship June 24

We have reserved a bus to travel to the Hartford Civic Center for the all UCC (United Church of Christ) worship service at 3:00 pm. Imagine worshipping, singing, praying and celebrating our denomination with thousands of fellow believers from all over the country!

All those interested in riding the bus must sign up in Fellowship Hall. The cost of renting the bus is app. \$175, which will be divided by the number of riders. Meet at church at 1:30 and we should be back before 6:00. See Jill or Tom with questions.

ALSO, the coming general synod. The organizers are still looking for 400 volunteers. People are needed to be in Hartford sometime during June 22nd thru 26th as guides and there are 6,000 tote bags to be "stuffed" June 15 & 16 at the Congregational church in New Britain.

For guide info contact Peggy Wright @ [pwchoir@aol.com](mailto:pwchoir@aol.com) to get e-mail of Diane Ciba, the chair organizing guides.

For tote bags filling contact Peg Giles @ [pggiles@aol.com](mailto:pggiles@aol.com).

This is a massive operation, is expected to fill Hartford and environs' hospitality capacity as well as the Civic Center for meetings.

The synod info all comes from Joanne Kneeland who is at [joda625@aol.com](mailto:joda625@aol.com).

*(Continued on page 4)*



(Continued from page 3)

## Helping Hands

Thanks to Lorraine Barlow and Jean Raad for providing medical appointment rides in May. Please let the church office or Jill Walker know if you or someone you know would benefit from some Helping Hands. Meals can be prepared and delivered, rides provided, help with simple household tasks that you currently can not complete are just some of the ways Helping Hands are available.

## Got a Little Time to Bake Cookies?

This ministry of hospitality to everyone attending Synod is an easy way to be connected to Synod whether you attend any of the wonderful events or not. Sign up soon so we know how close to our goal we are!

## Silent Auction How To's

\*\*\*Take the enclosed Auction letter to a business or individual you know that might consider donating. Have them complete the form and give you the item if possible. As the letter says we can also call to arrange a drop off/pick up at a later date. Once you have an item or more to donate to the Silent Auction please do one of the following:

\*\*\*Bring it to church on Sunday when a designated item collector will be present in Fellowship Hall. If you haven't done so, the collector will have donor forms to be completed. (A donor form is included in this Chatter on yellow paper)

\*\*\*Bring the items to church Tuesday-Friday between 9-1. Take the items to the 1st floor storage room located next to the furnace room. Take a donor form from the envelope on the door, complete it, place the item in the room and scotch tape (provided) the form to your item.

\*\*\*Call one of the following drop points to arrange a time to drop off your item at their home: Art and Donna Marsden 267-2853, Bill and Leslie Dinunzio 267-6122, Dave and Helen Curylo 267-8066. If the item is big, call Brian McLellan to arrange a pick up at 267-4544.

Items should have a value of minimally \$15 up to \$1,000,000!. If an item seems like a tag sale item to you, it probably is- so save it for next year's tag sale! And just one more thing-

\*\*\*Sign up to volunteer for a shift at the Auction July 12-14th! It's fun and easy! The sign up poster is in Fellowship Hall.

## Strawberry Shortcake Booth Volunteers Needed!

If you want to be on the Center School field checking out all the Old Home Day action, why not sign up to work a shift at the Strawberry Shortcake booth? Shifts are available on Thursday thru Saturday. Bakers and strawberry preparers are also needed for the one day mega set up. See the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall to sign up or call Deb Robinson at 267-4316 for more information.

## Summer Help Needed

By the time this Chatter is delivered, we will have turned the calendar page to June and Summer is not far behind! Please remember to keep your Intentional Giving commitment up to date while out and about enjoying the season. Our financial responsibilities don't take summer vacation, and with everyone's help we will be able to honor our commitments. Shares of Faith can also be sent to the church in the enclosed envelope over the summer months. Thank you and have a safe and Re-Creating summer.

(Continued on page 5)



(Continued from page 4)

## COSA

### Prayer Concerns

We have received a special request from New Mexico for the St. John's United Methodist Church in Hatch, NM. A small church, it is no longer being supported by the UMC, has no pastor now and has lost its fellowship hall and parsonage to flood waters. This is a true "faithful remnant" who carries on with lay speakers and one retired pastor once a month. We have been requested to make a point of asking God to help them survive, grow and thrive again.

This unusual request comes from the Rev. Ramon Reno - who is the retired pastor who preaches there once a month. Ramon was Dave Kneeland's college roommate and remains a good friend.

Ra says that the church has requested that we keep them in prayer for six months and he wanted a copy of either our bulletin or the chatter (or both) showing our publication of their request as encouragement for them.

### Belltown Golf Tournament

Reserve the date **August 21**. This is our second annual tournament. The majority of the proceeds go to the East Hampton Fuel Bank. For all those that played and that were helpers last year, remember how much fun it was and invite your family and friends to get involved.

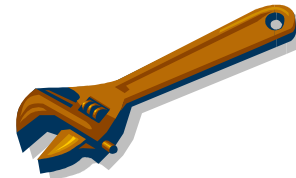
Any questions call Lance Crouch 267-6333 or John Tuttle 267-1293.

### A LITTLE HUMOR

A little boy was overheard praying:  
 "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it, I'm having a real good time like I am."

### New Britain Street Ministry

Thank you to all who donated items for the New Britain Street Ministry. We assembled 10 care packages that were delivered to the ministry!



### Tools of Hope

The Church World Service Blanket of Love and Tools of Hope programs create a rainbow of help and hope each time the right tool is placed in the hands of people in need. Ordinary things that we often take for granted like blankets, clean water, education, tents, garden tools, seeds – can make a world of difference for people devastated by tragedy, as well as those working to build a better life for themselves and their communities. Be a part of this beautiful rainbow of caring. COSA will be taking donations for the Tools of Hope program June 3<sup>rd</sup> - June 17<sup>th</sup> to honor or remember a special father in your lives

### NURSERY CARE

Once again, thank you to all our wee ones for a fun year. Carol and I love seeing your smiling faces each Sunday morning. We will be taking a break for the summer, so beginning the first week of July there will be no nursery care. We will be back in the nursery starting September 9th. Hope to see you all then. Have a fun filled and safe summer.

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Thank you to all who dedicated “blankets of love” in honor or memory of that special woman who warmed your heart in her own special way. The “blanket of love” program warms hearts of those in need. We collected \$270 to send to Church World Service this year. The following is a list of those who gave and who the blankets were dedicated to:

In Honor of	Given by	In Memory of	Given By
Dorothy Walker	Rick Walker	Ruth Annino	The Raad Family
Gloria Hooper	Jackie Hooper Hage & John Hage	REC	Vassie Hazen
Jackie Hooper Hage	Nathan Hage	Elizabeth Evans	Diana Evans
Alma Balletto	The Balletto Family	Adeline Patterson	Adeline Pasternak
Ruth Berwick Jean Gezelman	Helen and Dave Curylo Cindi Gezelman	Steffa Coutu Ina Aarrestad	Cindi Gezelman The Aarrestad Family
Anita Ames	The Aarrestad Family	Brenda Pagan	The McLellan Family
Anna Marie Stratton	Mavis R. Gee	Barbara McLellan	The McLellan Family
Jennifer R. Gee	Mavis R. Gee	My Son Ray	Mavis Gee
Kristie Rittman	Ann Nichols	Elizabeth Reedy	Ann Nichols
Emily Nichols	Ann Nichols	Florence Wood	Evelyn Pasternak
Imelda Slayton	Ann Nichols	Mary Westcote	Carol and John Wescote
Evelyn Pasternak	Cynthia Pasternak	Mary Hale	Emma Prince
Idelle McDaniel	Carol and John Wescote	Debra Price	Emma Prince
Carrol Dorey	Karen Gallman	Donna Prince	Emma Prince
Donna Johnson	Karen Gallman	Esther Giles	Joanne & Dave Kneeland
Regan Gallman Tenniell Morrill	Karen Gallman Karen Gallmon	Jane Kneeland Catherine Pettengill	Joanne & Dave Kneeland Roy Pettengill
Mary Prince	Emma Prince	Powell Day Ramin	Pat & Jerry Day
Mae Parsons	Emma Prince	Mary Baran	Cyndi & Bob Shirshac
Mrs. Laci Stockman	Emma Prince	Jean Horsey	Pam and Jim Magoon
Sigrid Bartel	Martin Bartel		
Nancy Castro	Martin Bartel		
Clara H. Hubbard	Jeanette Knotek		
Mary Reinhart	Pat and Jerry Day		
Rose Briggs	Cyndi and Bob Shirshac		
Vivian Jasenski	Joyce Jasenski		
Ruth Lawrence	Lorraine and Mel Barlow		
Joan Quackenbush	Colleen Mellen & Tim Quackenbush		
Lois Mellen	Colleen Mellen & Tim Quackenbush		
Betsy Winqvist	Stuart Winqvist		
Daphne	Cayla and Dorislee		