

VENDOR FAIR

Saturday November 3
9:00 – 2:00

20 Home based vendors of
household goods, crafts, jewelry
gifts, gourmet foods and more!
Food served all day!

Call Emily Wilson 267-5744 to
schedule a sitting with
silhouette artist Carol Lebeaux



CHURCH STAFF

Thomas L. Kennedy, Pastor	267-6540
Jill Walker, Director of Parish Life, Development and Education	267-7180
Carol Westcote, Director of Music & Church Secretary	267-2654
Jerry Gerkey, Chatter Editor	267-9513
Church Office	860-267-4959
Fax Number	860-267-7424
E-Mail Address	cceh@juno.com
Website	http://www.cc-eh.org

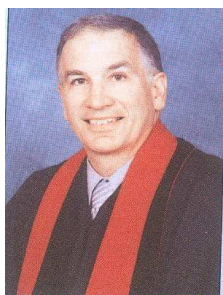
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

P.O. BOX 237, Main Street
East Hampton, Connecticut 06424

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THOTS FROM TOM



As I write this, I am thinking tropical. We are having the warmest October since people began maintaining weather records. I hope that as you read this, we are not in the midst of a snowstorm! With weather in Connecticut, one never knows. I can recall times when we had snow at Thanksgiving!

Because of the warmth we have experienced, I find it hard to realize that Thanksgiving is only a few weeks away, and a short month after that, Christmas.

A few weeks ago I was with Lois at a craft store shopping for picture frames for some of her illustrations that she was going to display in an art show, and I heard Christmas music coming from a newly set-up Christmas display. The countdown read, "77 days until Christmas"!

This Thanksgiving, I hope you can set aside some time to ponder the blessings that you have received, and truly celebrate with loved ones the thankfulness that you have for all that you have received at the hands of a gracious God.

As you read this, the Congregational Church of East Hampton is in the midst of our annual Pony Express Intentional Giving/Pledge and Tithing program. For those of you who live in East Hampton, please cooperate with the program, by in a timely fashion, reading the materials enclosed in the saddlebag that is handed to you by one of your church neighbors, prayerfully consider the ways in which you have been blessed by God, and then as you are able, step up and embrace the endeavor by making an intentional promise or pledge to financially support the work of the Congregational Church of East Hampton, by filling out the enclosed pledge promise card, put it in your envelope and seal it. Then, if you would, please write down

a prayer or blessing that you wish to share on the enclosed paper that is in the saddlebag. The plan is that we will later display the accumulated blessings and prayers in the sanctuary. Please return the paper with your blessing or prayer on it to the saddlebag, put your sealed envelope in the proper part of the saddlebag, and deliver the saddlebag to the next neighbor on your route list. Then please call the trail boss, whose name and telephone number are printed on the saddlebag, letting them know that you have delivered the saddlebag to the next family or person on the route list.

Unfortunately, because of the distances involved, we have no Pony Express trails for those of you who are not living in East Hampton. Those living out of town will have received a letter describing the life and programs of our church. Please read the letter, and all enclosed materials, and then prayerfully review the blessings that you have received from God, and how you might respond to those blessings, by considering how you can step up in your tithe or pledge promise. Please put your intentional pledge promise card in the provided envelope and either deliver it to the church at your convenience, or put it in the mail. We will dedicate all received pledge promises during a special celebration in our worship service November 18, finishing the morning with a western-flavor chili lunch. For those of you who cannot eat spicy chili, join with me in imbibing in some of the more "bland" chili that will be available for those with sensitive stomachs!

Have a blessed, fulfilling, and fun-filled Thanksgiving!

Peace,

Tom



Middlesex Hospital Needs Volunteers

Middlesex Hospice and Palliative Care is dedicated to helping terminally ill patients remain at home with the aid of family, hospice staff and volunteers. Volunteers also assist staff on the Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at Middlesex Hospital, and provide bereavement support to families for one year. All candidates must complete approximately 40 hours of training, and be available to attend classes that start in late January and run through April. For further information call Karen Hubbard, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, at 860.358.6955 or e-mail Karen Hubbard midhosp.org. Candidates are encouraged to call soon to start the application process.

MUSIC COMMITTEE PLUM PUDDING

Enjoy an evening of Christmas carols and plum pudding. The annual Plum Pudding / Potluck Supper will be held on Sunday, December 2nd at 5:30 pm.

HEARTBEAT DIXIELAND JAZZ BAND

The Music Committee welcomes back the popular Heartbeat Dixieland Jazz Band. On January 13th they will provide the music for our morning worship service.

LINEN, CLOTHING, BOOK SALE

The annual Linen, Clothing and Book Sale will be held on February 23rd.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Kristen Meadors and Eric Gallmon who were married in our church on October 13 by Pastor Tom. Eric is the son of Karen and Woody Gallmon.



United Church News

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

UCC 50th Anniversary Year-End Celebration Web-Streaming Event

All Saints Sunday, November 4

www.ucc.org/50

7 p.m. (ET), 6 p.m. (CT), 5:00 p.m. (MT), 4 p.m. (PT), 2 p.m. (Hawaii)

You're Invited!

Join us as the UCC's 50th anniversary year draws to a close.

This 20-minute webcast features a retrospective look at our 50th anniversary year. Hosted by John Thomas, UCC general minister and president, we'll take a look back at our gala celebration year, with in-depth highlights from General Synod 26, including cameos by Bill Moyers, Sen. Barak Obama, Marian Wright Edelman, Lynn Redgrave, Peter Gomes and many other participants from Synod in the City.

The best part? You can view it on your own computer and share your reflections of the 50th anniversary in real time.

Gather at Conference or Association events, in your local church or around a computer with friends and family.

Visit www.ucc.org/50 to learn more about the All Saints Sunday webcast and access worship resources for your congregation.

What a great year it's been. Now it's time to step into the future and Let it Shine!

DEATHS

Our parish family extends our love and sympathy to Lorraine and Mel Barlow upon the death of Lorraine's mother, Ruth Lawrence, on October 21, in Vermont.



Y2K Calendar

Wednesday November 7
5:30-6:45 p.m.

Bring \$3 for pizza Friends welcome!

Wednesday November 21
NO Y2K- Happy Thanksgiving

Wednesday November 28
5:30-6:45 p.m.

Make your own Grinder Sandwich!
Bring \$3 Friends welcome!

Women's Potluck and Conversation

Monday November 5th
at the home of Nancy Dolde
10 Bevin Blvd 267-6195

Bring a dish to share (maybe something new you want to practice before including it with your Thanksgiving feast!)

All women are encouraged to attend! Looking ahead: we will be reading the non-fiction book "Walk in A Relaxed Manner" by Joyce Rupp to discuss at our December 3rd Potluck. Talk to Jill Walker for more info

Church School News

Thanks to everyone that collected or donated for UNICEF this year. Please return your box as soon as possible so we can tally up our donations and send them on their way to help kids receive what they need the most to improve their lives.

Remember to bring in your Project Thanksgiving Baskets food item by November 11th. The baskets are put together by the East Hampton Food Bank and distributed to local families. Thanks for helping provide a yummy Turkey dinner to our neighbors in need:

PreK/K: canned apple pie filling, 1st/2nd grade: cake, muffin or quick bread mixes, 3rd/4th grade: pie crust mix, 5th/6th grade: boxed stuffing, 7th/8th grade: canned turkey gravy, High School: canned evaporated milk and canned yams

REMINDER: Confirmation Mini Retreat at the church November 17 from 10-1:00. Bring a bag lunch, beverages provided.

Kudos Korner

A special thanks to our Church Fair Chairs Debbie McLellan and JoAnn Ewing for all the time, creativity and enthusiasm they put into orchestrating our Everything Apple Fest! Thanks to everyone that helped make the event fun and successful.

Kudos also go out to:

Brian McLellan and Rick Walker for repairing the downspout that was dumping water into Fellowship Hall.

Austin Wellman for being the #1 waiter at our Fall Pot Roast Supper. Austin set and bused tables the entire evening.

Karen Gallmon for co-ordinating the Fall Dinner event and to all the helper bees on the committee. Shelby Zaborowski, Craig and Taryn McCabe for helping out in our nursery on Sunday morning. Emily Wilson for setting up our revised church website. Check it out: www.cc-eh.org

Everyone that completed and Opportunities to Serve survey. Our updated list is being utilized for Helping Hands as well as all aspects of church family life. Pick one up in the office if you missed completing one on a Sunday morning in October.



Helping Hands

Sometimes life requires some Helping Hands to provide meals, a ride to an appointment, some friendly conversation or help completing some simple household tasks. And- we happen to have plenty of hands available to help! Call the church office (267-4959) or Jill Walker (267-7180) if you or someone you know of in our church family is in need of some extra hands. –

Seeds of Hope News

Our informational meeting was held on October 21 but there is still the chance to be part of this year's mission trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. The trip is from July 19-25. Talk to Jill Walker ASAP if you want more information.

The trip is open to all High School age students (finished freshman year by next summer) and adults of our church family. A \$75 deposit is due by November 15th (pay to EH Congregational Church) to reserve your spot. A maximum of 20 people can participate. The trip costs app \$975 per person (plus personal spending money) before fundraising that reduces the out of pocket cost. Current ways to support our mission trip are listed below.

Christmas Greens Sale

Orders for Christmas wreaths and greens will be taken during coffee Hour the first 3 Sundays in November. Items available will be on display and will be available for pick up on Sunday December 9. Proceeds from this event support our Seeds of Hope 2008 mission trip to South Dakota.

Ongoing ways to support Seeds of Hope that have no direct out of pocket expense are: bring your empty bottles and cans to the furnace room on the first floor to be recycled.

Purchase Scrip pre paid/gift cards to use where you shop, eat, recreate or to give as gifts. You purchase these cards on Sunday in Fellowship Hall and pick them up the next week. You pay the regular face value of the card and the retailer gives Seeds of Hope a percentage of the value. SHAWS and SUBWAY are 2 new businesses located right here in town that participate in the Scrip program. Pick up the whole list and start your Christmas shopping! Also- bring your SHAWS receipts to church for additional donations from SHAWS. Leave the receipts in the box on the Seeds of Hope table in Fellowship Hall.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Needed

New Committee Members

The nominating committee will soon begin making phone calls looking for new committee members for 2008. Now is the time for you to start thinking about what committee you would like to join. Maybe you're on a committee now and your term is going to be up soon. Maybe you've never been on a committee or board and have decided that now is the time to join. Is there an area of the church life that you've always been interested in? What do you have to offer to the church? How can you most benefit our church and church family? When your phone rings and the person on the other end says they are from the nominating committee, be ready to respond with a resounding, "YES ". It takes many hands to run our church and if we all do our share, no one will be left carrying the full load. If you don't want to wait for the phone to ring, give me a call and I'll be happy to add your name to the list of committee and board members.

Lisa Aarrestad
267-6498



PONY EXPRESS DRIVE IS UNDERWAY!

This year's Pony Express Drive is underway as of October 28th. Some of you are on trails and some on a mail route. If you receive mail and want to be on a trail please let Karen or I know (267-6840). If you have any complaints; we'll hear them.

The drive runs through Sunday, November 18th when we will celebrate as a congregation with a congratulatory lunch.

We invite the congregation to a chili lunch after service. The menu is still in debate between my wife and myself, but will probably include chili, cornbread and salad.

We are including the prayer scrolls again this year. Please if you have a thanks or blessing to pass on write it on the scroll before the saddlebag is passed on.

We salute all those who maintain our sanctuary and pay our staff with their generous gifts. These gifts are the ones that comfort fifth grade Alex Balletto who feels we provide a "place where I can feel safe and happy". Peg Bolles says the church provided a place where "I learned the meaning of friendships and working together". Josh Wilson and his wife Emily have decided to raise their children in this congregation. Josh was very articulate in his reasons for joining this church. Their children have a home here, and that is what we are pledging to. A better future.

God bless all the friends and supporters of this very special congregation.

Bill and Karen Evertson

EVERYTHING APPLE FEST

On behalf of myself and JoAnn we would like to thank everyone for all of their hard work and efforts for the "Everything Apple Fest". We worked really hard to make it a successful event and we

could not of pulled it off, with out all of you. So, with that being said we leave you with this quote from Jimmy Carter:

I have one life and one chance to make it count for something...I'm free to choose what that something is and that something, I've chosen, is my faith. Now, my faith goes beyond theology and religion and requires considerable work and effort. My faith demands-this is not optional- my faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference.

Thank You,
Deb McLellan & JoAnn Ewing
Co-Chair for Church Fair

COUNCIL

As we get ready for the Holiday season let's all step back and give praise.

All we have to do is read the paper or watch the news to see those who can only dream of the things we take for granted.

FROM EDITOR

The council has discussed ways to cut cost for the chatter, one way is to e-mail a copy to all who have e-mail. This would save a considerable amount as bulk mailing rates keep going up.

The chatter is already being posted on the church web site //www.cc-eh.org.

If you don't mind receiving your chatter this way please let me know.

Jerry Gerkey

Chatter Editor

j.gerkey@sbcglobal.net



COSA

CROP WALK

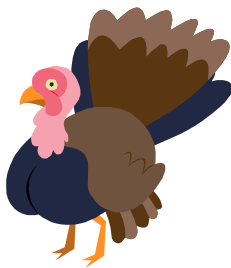
Thank you to everyone that participated in the CROP walk. We had a beautiful crisp fall day for the walk and a great turn out this year. Six area churches participated and we had about 50 walkers (and 4 dogs too!) So far we have collected a little over \$5000; 25% of that amount will go to the East Hampton Food Bank. Thank you again to each and every one of you that helped to make the walk such a success! A special thank you to the Church School children who made wonderful motivation signs and posted them on our route to encourage the walkers!

SHAW'S TURKEY POINTS

Did you know that you can donate your unused Shaw's points to the East Hampton Food Bank? You can drop them off at the Food Bank (Mon and Thurs 9-12), drop them off at the Shaw's courtesy desk and indicate that you would like to give them to the food bank, or you can put them in the COSA box and we will deliver them for you.

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

We will be having our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive on November 11th. Each year the Sunday School collects food for Thanksgiving Baskets that the East Hampton Food Bank distributes each year. The following is a list of what each class should bring in on November 11th. We will be dedicating the food donations during service that morning.



Pre K & Kindergarten	Canned Apple Pie Filling
1 st & 2 nd Grades	Cake, Muffin, and Quick Bread Mixes
3 rd & 4 th Grades	Pie Crust Mix
5 th and 6 th Grades	Boxed Stuffing
7 th & 8 th Grades	Canned Turkey Gravy
High School	Canned Evaporated Milk and Canned Yams

COAT DRIVE

We will be once again be collecting used coats to give to the New Britain Street ministry, which helps the homeless in New Britain. While you are cleaning out this fall, please put aside any coats that you or your family has outgrown and cannot use anymore. A rack or box will be in the hall leading from the sanctuary to the upstairs classrooms. Coats can be left from now until the end of November.

PROJECT CHRISTMAS / CHRISTMAS WISHES

Information will be coming soon about Project Christmas and Christmas Wishes so keep your ears and eyes open. We will get the lists to you as soon as possible so you can start your holiday shopping.