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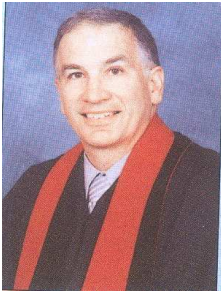
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

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THOTS FROM TOM



Three of the most mournful words I can hear right now are *summer is over*. I have enjoyed the warmth of the summer, which went all too fast. I accomplished all of the tasks that I needed to do around the house, which was quite a feat, but the list was so long that I didn't have as much "down time" as I wanted, or perhaps, even needed. But the work is done!

During my study leave I planned to focus on experimenting with worship, which I enjoyed. Comments from those who attended the three Sundays when I altered either worship or the manner in which I shared my sermon were positive. Comments about the change to holding worship one hour earlier were mostly favorable. Comments were favorable enough that we may try the earlier worship time again next summer, because even though it was challenging for most who attended to arrive an hour earlier, they appreciated the cooler temperatures in the sanctuary at the earlier time, and the opportunity to have the rest of the morning to themselves after worship was over at ten o'clock.

As has been the pattern during my study leave time, I was on call for crises and emergencies, hoping that there would not be any so that I could delve into some overdue reading, and attend to the updating of some record-keeping that I do not have the opportunity to do the rest of the year. There were numerous parish health crises among people of the church, including the unexpected death of a thirty-five year old woman who was struggling with cancer. Attending to these necessary parish needs sharply curtailed my ability to focus on extra reading or the updating of records. Since I was out of the state for part of my vacation, I was grateful that I was not on vacation at the time

that these pastoral emergencies arose. Needless to say, my study leave time was filled and busy!

We now look ahead! While summer is ending, our new program year is just about to begin. Homecoming Sunday is September 9, with the beginning of Church school. We will have our traditional hot dog and chips lunch after worship that day (to be held outside, weather permitting) to celebrate the beginning of our new church program year. Many other things are in the works for the weeks and months to come! Of particular note, we will have a special Moment for Mission on Sunday, September 16 to briefly update you on the life of the church and some changes the church leadership is hopeful to initiate to better facilitate the oversight and stewardship of our properties and finances. Also, please place Saturday, September 29 on your calendar. That is the evening of our Pot Roast Dinner. Those who went on the Seeds of Hope trip to South Dakota in July will be on hand to discuss the trip and show a PowerPoint presentation on their experience for our evening program. Please plan to attend!

Welcome back, all of you who have been away for the summer, and have a blessed month!

Peace,

Tom



UNIQUE BOUTIQUE

Items are needed for the fall fair Unique Boutique. We are looking for your "no longer needed" treasures, such as: dishes, china, glassware, linens, figurines, wall accessories, pictures & frames, jewelry, baskets, corning ware, Pyrex, etc. **WE ARE NOT COLLECTING: TOYS / SPORTS EQUIPMENT / GAMES / COFFEE MAKERS OR SMALL, SIMILAR APPLIANCES.** Please place your items in a box or bag, marked "UNIQUE BOUTIQUE" and leave them to the left of the church office door. Thank you.

PARISH NEWS

Deaths

Our prayers, love and sympathy are extended to those who recently lost family and friends:

To the **Fielding family** on the death of Susan's mother who lived in Florida.

To the family of **Phoebe Wiekrykas Foster** on her death on August 7.

To **Jeanette Knotek, Teri Schlosser and family** on the death of Jeanette's brother, **Zeke Hubbard**, on Aug. 18.

THANK YOU

The Gates family want to sincerely thank the church family members who said prayers and sent cards during the loss of Betsy's mother. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated during this most difficult time.

BEST WISHES

Best Wishes to Justine, Thom, Beth and Mike Lavoie as they begin the next part of their life in a new home!
Their new address is: 83 Sill Lane, Old Lyme, CT 06371
Phone number: 860-434-0534

FALL POT ROAST DINNER

Saturday September 29th

5-7pm - continuous seatings / take-out available
Featuring: Slow-cooked Pot Roast with gravy, mashed potatoes, glazed baby carrots, green beans almandine, homemade rolls and pies.
\$8/adults, \$7/seniors, \$5/ages 5-12, free/under 5
Mini Silent Auction & door prizes !!!
"Kit & Caboodle" clowns from 5-6pm
(balloon art and funny business!!!)

**Note: this dinner is taking the place of the tradition fall "fair" dinner that has been held a week or two after the church fair. Please contact Karen Evertson if you have an item that you are willing to donate for the Silent Auction. Please watch for sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall to donate pies and help with peeling!!!



FALL FAIR

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 20 which will be the one day Fall Fair event. To be held 9—3 pm (The Fair will not be held Friday as in the past, but just Saturday). Many hands will be needed to make this church fair a success.
More information will follow or contact Deb McLellan at 267-4544 for more information.



YOUTH2GETHERKLUB

Y2K

Middle School Youth Group

Kick off Picnic

Wednesday September 19th

5:30-6:45 pm

All 6-8 graders and friends are invited!

Hot Dogs, Chips and Beverages provided

Come find out what it's all about!

Y2K meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday each month

HOMECOMING SUNDAY!

September 9th

First day of Church School

Hot Dog picnic for all after worship

Lunch provided

If you'd like- bring a dessert to share

WELCOME HOME!

Confirmation Class

Information Meeting Sunday September 30 after worship All 9th grade students and parents are encouraged to attend. We will meet in the lounge.

Kudos Corner

Thanks to Colin Parker who served up hot dogs, and to all the other helpers that made the golf tournament into a first rate event.

Hats off to co-chair's Lance Crouch, John Tuttle and there able crew for a fantastic tournament.

Thanks to Jill Walker and the dedicated teachers for a fantastic children's Sunday.

Church School Information

Church School for Pre-K thru High School will begin on Sunday September 9. Children will worship with their church family for the first part of the service and then attend class. Please complete the enclosed registration form and return it by/on September 9th. Registration helps update our mailing list, plan for our class sizes, and gives parents to chance to choose which Church School workshop to volunteer for. Dates for these all group learning activities are listed on the registration form. Please choose one. Jill will contact you with more info later in the fall.

We are currently in need of 1 co-teacher for our 1st/2nd grade class. Call Jill at church or at home (267-7180) for more information. Team teachers teach 1 or 2 Sundays each month, all learning materials are provided. Come get to know some really great children while enhancing your own faith journey!

FALL POT ROAST DINNER

featuring the

Seeds of Hope Mission Trip Presentation

Saturday September 29

The mission trip program, including a Power Point photo show and personal stories from the participants will follow the dinner.

Bring your family and friends for a delicious meal and to hear about

the week spent on the Pine Ridge Reservation .



WELCOME BACK

Stewards Report

There is a long to do list when it comes to the Board of Stewards, most importantly is to up date you on the status of the financials of the church. It has been a busy summer of many fund raising activities: **The Golf Tournament. Silent Auction, Parking Lot, Strawberry Booth and Market on the Green**

Specifics-

Golf Tournament – to be determined

Silent Auction - \$9,312 * some expenses may still be to be paid

Strawberry Booth – over \$1,122

Market on the Green - \$1,233

All of these events did better than our budget and a big thank you to all of the folks involved.

If you were around, that week end in July, you would have seen many church mice running round during **OLD HOME DAY**. It was an amazing sight to see.

On the other side of our income, the news is to be expected. Our intentional pledges are down as many folks took the summer off. However, this year we are over \$10,000 off from what was pledged a year ago, Additionally our loose plate projection is off by nearly \$2,500. This means that all of us need to look carefully towards what we said we would give a little over a year ago and where each of us stands now. Rick Berkenstock, our Treasurer, thinks that it will be pretty difficult to make up this short fall. Our effort to address our deficit with the Share of Faith initiative has been slow. If you recall, we asked each **member**, if possible to purchase a share for \$50.00. This effort would more than make up the annual budget deficit of over \$11,000.

Finally, Bill and I are already working on our next **Pony Express Intentional Giving Campaign**. We plan to kick off our intentional giving campaign on October 28th. We will wrap up this years

Pony Express on November 18th with a traditional **COWBOY LUNCHEON**- mark your calendars now.

I hope your summer was wonderful.

All my best

Karen Evertson,

Chair Board of Stewards

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE BOOTH

Thanks to all who helped with the Strawberry Shortcake Booth at Old Home Day. We had our best year ever! We sold out of shortcakes on Saturday night just after 8:30pm. Thanks to near perfect weather, fresh baked biscuits, smiling faces at the booth and some awesome berries (Thanks Rick Walker) we sold just over 300 shortcakes! We cleared \$1050 from three days of sales. Nice work everyone!!

Deb Robinson

HELPING HANDS THANKS

Helping Hands is our church family caring for and helping each other. If you or someone you know of in our church family could use some Helping Hands please call the church office or Jill Walker at 267-7180.

Thanks to the following people for providing meals or rides during July and August: Sue Carr, Marianne Kelsey, Marsha Hubbard, Nancy Dolde, Rae Strickland, the Abrahams, the Crouchs, Joanne Morariu, Sherry McCabe, Joanne Kneeland, and Lorraine Barlow.



MUSIC NOTES

On **Homecoming Sunday**, Sept. 9, everyone who likes to sing is invited to sing in the choir for the worship service. The anthem, based on a well-known hymn, will be easy to learn during the short rehearsal at **9:15 a.m.** that morning prior to the service. Hope you will join us to make the start of our new season a festive occasion!

Choir Season Begins! Join Us!

Senior Choir rehearsals begin Thursday, September 13, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. (*Note: We will sing Sept. 9—see above.*) Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome throughout the choir year. Any questions, please see or call Carol at 267-2654 (home) or church, 267-4959. Hope to see you there!

Junior Choir begins on Wednesday, September 19 at 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall. All kids in grades 2-8 are welcome!

Bell Choir begins Thursday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in ringing this year, please see Carol.

If you have any questions about the music program of the church, please call Carol Westcote, Choir Director, at 267-2654 (home) or 267-4959 (church).

Make this a Singing Year!

DONORS FOR ALTAR FLOWERS NEEDED

If you are interested in donating the altar flowers for a worship service, please sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall (clock wall bulletin board) or call the Flower Chairperson, Jeanette Knotek, at 267-9159. Rosebuds Flower Shop provides the flower arrangements each Sunday for a \$30 charge; but if you prefer to bring in your own arrangement from flowers from your garden, that can be accom-

modated. When there is an opening, Jeanette will call you to for the details, about wording for the bulletin, etc. If you have a preference for a date, please let her know.

1st Annual Silver Lake Golf Tournament & 50th Anniversary Banquet

To benefit Silver Lake Conference Center

Monday, September 24, 2007, 1 p.m.
at Lyman Orchards Golf Club Middlefield, Connecticut

\$150 per player

(includes Greens Fees, Cart, Driving Range, Lunch and Banquet)

\$50 for Banquet only

Entry forms & more info on
bulletin board, FH.
Deadline September 14.

SILENT AUCTION THANKS!

Thanks to everyone that donated items for our wonderful Old Home Day Silent Auction!! There were over 300 items! Thanks to all that visited the auction and bid on the great assortment of treasures to enjoy once claimed! Our Auction raised \$7,000. Thanks to the Team Leaders that coordinated this event: Art and Donna Marsden, Cindy and Roger Abraham, Anita Guerin, Rae Strickland, Teri Schlosser, Nancy Crouch, Bill Evertson, Brian McLellan, Bill and Leslie Dinunzio, Helen and Dave Curylo, Jerry Gerkey and Tom Morariu. Thanks also to everyone that volunteered for set up, hosting and clean up.



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!

The Church Council has begun to re-design the format of the Board of Stewards so that there can be a Financial Board, and 2 subcommittees- Building/Grounds and Annual Intentional Giving (currently our Pony Express). You are invited to prayerfully consider being part of this new formation.

The intent of this restructuring is to assure that while one board is overseeing our financial budget development and implementation the 2 sub committees can focus on the caretaking of our facilities or developing our annual giving campaign. We, the church, can remain vital and committed to our mission.

Listed below is the general format for each group. You need not be a member of the church to serve on the 2 sub committees. The Building/Grounds and the Annual Giving subcommittees require one year of commitment

The Financial Committee

4 members (must be church members, 3 year commitment)

Treasurer liaisons with this board

Meets quarterly and as needed for annual budget development in the Fall

Monitor/report to the congregation the state of the budget/income

Communicate as needed with the 2 sub-committees and congregation

Develop Endowment giving strategy

Building/Grounds Subcommittee

7 members to meet monthly for "hands on" facility improving, -some skilled

some general projects

Develop a prioritized list of projects/upkeep to be addressed, as well as a major

upcoming needs assessment for future planning

Complete special projects/tasks as they become necessary

Report to the congregation via the Chatter/Sunday bulletins any projects completed, upcoming work,

recruit volunteers to assist with special projects as needed.

Liaison with Custodian

Intentional Giving Subcommittee

3 members, meets monthly August- November and as needed during fall campaign

Meet bi monthly or as needed the rest of the year

Choose, design and implement our annual giving campaign with other key volunteers

Study and design future Capital Campaigns, develop a time line strategy, help establish a

Special Capitol Campaign committee

We will have a Moment for Mission in September to address this new and important format. If you have questions or want to become part of a committee please contact Jerry Gerkey (Moderator 267-9513), Karen Evertson (Stewards and Pony Express Chair 267-6840) or Jill Walker (Director of Parish Life (267-7180))

2007 EVERYTHING APPLES ...FEST

Saturday, October 20, 2007

9:00am to 3:00pm

Mark your calendars for the BEST ever...church fair! It may look and feel a little different this year, but it will be guaranteed to have fellowship, fun, and something for everyone!

Look for our apples... everywhere!

Apples in our Bake Sale...in our hallways...in our lunch! Look for them at the Tea Cup Auction, at the Country Store and of course, the Pie eating contest! You may even find them in the Unique Boutique, the crafters domain and the bake sale!

Come on down

and enjoy a very fun day

with something for everyone!

Questions on how you can help? Please contact: Debbie Mc Lellan 267-4544 or JoAnn Ewing 267-4821. Look for sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall as well!



BELLTOWN OPEN

The 2nd Annual Belltown Open was a huge success and great fun! 92 golfers teed-off at Blackledge Golf Club on 8/21 for a great cause.

While this is a town wide event, its committee and foundation is from within our congregation. Through the efforts of the golf committee and the support of players, sponsors and volunteers, we anticipate making a donation to the East Hampton Food and Fuel Bank of over \$3000.00

The committee wishes to thank the following sponsors. If you have the opportunity to visit one of these businesses or bump into one of these individuals, please be sure to offer them a big Thank You!

Platinum Sponsors:

Angelico's Lakehouse Restaurant
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 May, Bonee & Walsh
 The Daylar Group
 The Stone Agency

Tee Sponsors:

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Gift Sponsors:

Tim Quakenbush
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 Dave Kelsey
 Rick's Sugar House
 Jerry Gerkey
 G & S Service Station
 Art Marsden
 Kyle Muncy
 Silent Auction

Special thanks to all our helpers, Mitzi Tuttle, Sherri McCabe, Marsha Hubbard, Deb Robinson, Colleen Quakenbush, Tom Kennedy, Mark and Sandra Edwards, Colin Parker, Billie Gerkey, Tanya Provost also Jill Miller for organizing our lunch, Jerry Gerkey for organizing and running the raffle, Tim Quakenbush and Mark Edwards for their great raffle prizes, John Tuttle for all his work and a successful poker rally, Tom McCabe for his work on designing our golf brochure, Red McKinney for being our Master of Ceremonies for our 2nd year and to the rest of the committee that worked hard to make this another successful year.

Tournament Committee:

Lance Crouch	Co-Chairs	John Tuttle
Jerry Day		Bill Denunzio
Jerry Gerkey		Scott Jackson
Dave Kelsey		Ed Loveland
Tom McCabe		Tim Quakenbush