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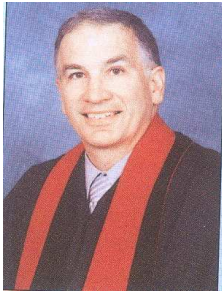
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

P.O. BOX 237, Main Street
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THOTS FROM TOM



The month of June is a time of transition, a time when school ends and students transition into a summer schedule, and family vacations begin. It is a month when our church wraps up its church school year with a children's day worship service June 8, and transitions into its own summer rhythm, which features an earlier worship time, and our Silent Auction July 10-12, and our annual golf tournament August 12.

This month, we face another transition. After thirty-five years faithfully serving as our music director, and twenty-five years working as our office administrative assistant, Carol Westcote is retiring. I selfishly hoped that the one person who for so many years smoothly and seamlessly planned our worship service music for the organ, bell, senior and junior choirs, and was both the glue and the lubricant that kept our church's administrative functions held together and flowing smoothly, would in her own graciously quiet way continue tirelessly working her magic in our church for many more years to come. However, to her credit, and to her just reward, Carol has wisely chosen to spend more time with her loving family, for as we all know, grandchildren are only little once!

Accordingly, Carol's last Sunday with us will be June 29. I for one will miss her terribly, because I depended heavily upon her for her deep knowledge of the church membership's history, and for her wisdom in guiding and assisting me with things like hymn selections for our worship services, and because she is such a dear, dear friend. But I am happy knowing that she will be free to fully pursue her other interests and passions.

We will have an opportunity to say goodbye to Carol on Sunday, June 1st as we celebrate her

time with us at a special luncheon in her and John's honor. Carol's husband John, who has devoted thousands of hours to developing, building and servicing our wonderful Austin organ, is planning to continue as our organ curator, as there is more work he wishes to complete on it. But we will no longer be seeing them regularly on Sunday mornings. I hope that you can attend this special Sunday on June 1, and join in offering our gratitude to them both, and celebrate the many selfless ways that Carol and John have shared their lives and gifts with us during their years of service at our church.

Faithfully,

Tom

Summer Worship Time

Beginning on July 6, our worship time will be held at nine o'clock in the morning. We are hopeful to once again share a joint worship service with Second Congregational Church in Middle Haddam on August 24, and if we can arrange that, on that date we will return to our regular time of worship at 10 o'clock. There will be more information on this in our summer issue of the *Chatter*. The pastor will be on vacation from July 1 to July 29. On July 30 he will begin his study leave, and will be in and out of the office, attending to administrative matters and preparing for the fall program season, until August 20. During the study leave time, he will be on call for emergencies. During his absence from morning worship, supply ministers will fill the pulpit. We will also have substitute organists during morning worship, beginning July 6, and continuing until our new permanent music director and organist begins, hopefully in late August or early September.



CONGRATULATIONS to our newest members—our Confirmands!

Eight young people were confirmed on Sunday, May 4, 2008. Best wishes to all! We are proud of you!

Nathan Abraham
Michelle Berkenstock
Michael Dolde
Brian & Colleen Ewing
Colin Parker
Tom Rinaldo
Ricky Wellman

BAPTISMS

Matthew Peter Correia, son of Carla and Peter Correia, was baptized on April 20.
Abbie Lynna Miller, daughter of Candace and Jonathan Miller, was baptized on April 27.
Macie Alexandra Brazal, daughter of Jodi and Dwight Brazal, was baptized on May 11.
Lauren Grace Savage, daughter of Erica and Kevin Savage, was baptized on May 25.

Congratulations!

Thank you to all the members of the Senior and Bell Choirs for their beautiful music on Choir Sunday, May 18, and throughout the year.

Congratulations to our Graduates!

Please notify the church office if you are graduating so that we can include your name in the next newsletter. Leave a message with your name & your school on the answering machine (267-4959), leave a note at the office, or email at cceh@juno.com.

BUILDING PROJECTS FUND UPDATE

I think that most of us are aware that we launched a campaign to solicit donations for three projects that the Building and Grounds Committee felt could not be put off.

Anyone who has driven by the church can see that one of these projects, the replacement of the front stairs, is well under way. Thanks to the generosity and quick response of the congregation, individuals from our community, and local organizations, we were able begin rebuilding those steps in a timely manner.

Our second need, the replacement of our ageing furnace looks like it could proceed as well, as we only lack about \$1,042 of the approximate \$27,500 of it's cost. Replacement of that old beast with a modern version should result in a 35% improvement in efficiency; welcome news with the continued rise in fuel costs.

Beyond that, we have to look at the peeling corner boards on our church. We have a bid of \$12,200 to replace these with Azek™, a material that would require no painting in the future. All told, the goal to complete all three projects is \$60,000. The good news is that we have raised \$46,558 to date. I would like to thank the following.

Aarrestads, Gephard/Evans, E.H. Womens Fellowship, Pettengills, Forsells, Balletos, DeCourseys, Barlows, Markhams, Charlie Nichols, Walkers, Robinsons, Ruth Rafus, Eugene & Janet Nichols, Mandigos, Lewis family, Stricklands, Berkenstocks, Carol Hope, E.H. Soccer Club, Chris Burt, Parkers, Bartels, McLellans, Gerkeys Evertsons, Hacketts, Standleys, Linda Defrancesco, Wormans, Jessie Hazen, Ann McLaughlin, Raymond & Ann Nichols, Christophers, David & Deborah Jackson, Anita Guerin, Gates, McDonalds, Troop 57, Dainiak, Barbara Evertson, Russos, Connors, Couto-Gezelemans, Nancy Cramer, Patti Burdick, Marsdens, Raads, Correias, Schlossers, Lynda Tinney, David Lincoln, David Purple, Krystyane Kirej and the Sperrys .

If you have donated and don't see your name it is due to the deadline date of the Chatter, and your contribution will be noted in the next issue. If you have been on the fence, please join us as we strive to keep this centerpiece of the East Hampton community in top shape. Thank you!!



Women's Fellowship Potluck
Monday June 2nd at the home of
Nancy Dolde 10 Bevin Blvd
Bring a dish to share and join us for
conversation before heading off for
the pursuits of summer! All women in-
vited!

Y2K
End of Year Picnic
Wednesday June 4th
5:30-6:45 pm
Hot Dogs, Chips, Beverages provided
Bring a favorite ice cream topping
Last meeting til Fall!

Youth Sunday
June 8th at 10:00 AM
Join us for worship
lead by our Church School Students
Ice Cream Social on the front lawn
following the service AND-

A Unique Photo opportunity:
We want to take a picture of everyone
standing on our newly completed
(we hope!) front stairs

Reminder: Church school students arrive at
8:45
Pre-school/kindergarten at 9:30

SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE!
Our **Fall Festival (formerly the Fall Fair)**
will be
SATURDAY OCTOBER 4th 9-2 PM

We are combining the Fall Fair with the Vendor
Fair and adding a Farmer's Market and Chocolate
Avenue section to this event. All committees will
continue to host an activity as in the past. Fall Fes-
tival Team Leaders are Deb McLellan, JoAnn Ew-
ing, Lisa Aarrestad, Rick Walker and Sue Binge.
One of the Team Leaders will attend a committee
meeting in June to provide more information.

Because the date is earlier in October it is important
to have committees prepare sooner than in the past.
In addition to committees there will be many op-
portunities for everyone to assist. For example:

Take a Trip Down Chocolate Avenue...
..... at our Fall Festival in October. Satisfy your
chocolate cravings by indulging in a decadent
chocolate dessert or frosty chocolate shake! Con-
tact Sue Binge at sue-binge@midhosp.org or call
267-1159 evenings if you would like to be a part of
this new venture.

Seeds of Hope Update

Thank you again to everyone that supported Seeds
of Hope during our year of fund raising for our up-
coming trip to Pine Ridge South Dakota. Please
keep us in your prayers during our week on the res-
ervation- July 19-25th.

We will continue to collect Shaw's receipts, recycle
bottles and cans and encourage everyone to use
Goodsearch.com for all web searches and online
shopping (tell all your friends to do the same!) so
we can keep earning free money for our next mis-
sion trip to Back Bay Biloxi, Mississippi from June
28 -July 4, 2009. We will be assisting the UCC
Mission Center with Hurricane Katrina relief pro-

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jects. This trip is open for High School and College students and Adults. More information will be available at an information meeting in September..

Helping Hands

Be sure to let the office or Jill Walker (267-7180) know if you or someone you know from our church family is in need of some helping hands. We can provide meals, rides, fellowship and assistance with simple household tasks should the need arise.

Old Home Day Updates

Strawberry Shortcake Booth- help is needed to bake shortcakes, prep the strawberries and of course host the booth. Hosting is a great way to be in the heart of the activity while serving our delicious shortcakes! Team Leader- Deb Robinson

Market on the Green- Saturday only. Team Leader- Rick Walker

Silent Auction- Team Leaders for this event are: Donna Marsden-Publicity, Cindy Abraham-Set Up, Art Marsden-Cataloging, Teri Schlosser-Close out, Rae Strickland-Follow up calls, Liz Whitty- Item pick up, Jerry Gerkey-Technical Support, Anita Guerin-Volunteer Sign ups.

It is now time to start soliciting for and bringing in your personal contributions of items for the auction to the storage room next to the furnace. Fill in a Donor Item form located on the door for each item. Place the item in the room with the form taped to it. Tape is located on the counter in the storage room.

Volunteers are needed to host these 2 events as well as assist with parking lot duties (Thursday and Friday only). Be sure to sign up for a shift or two that fits your schedule and helps make lighter work for all of us. Thanks!

Kudos Korner

Thanks to the following volunteers for cleaning out our flower gardens and preparing the front stairs for replacing: Brian McLellan, Pat Brogan, Bonnie Parkinson, Ann Nichols, Rick Walker, Mark Kohler, Roger Abraham, Whitney Fielding, John Hage, Bill and Karen Evertson, and Jed Dolde.

Thanks to Ben and Meredith Lewis for accepting position of Church Treasurer and Assistant Church Treasurer.

COSA News

Tools of Hope

The Church World Service Blankets 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 - 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 1st – Father's Day, June 17th, to honor or remember a special father in your lives.

Fall CROP Walk

We've set the date! Sunday October 19th will be our 23rd annual CROP walk. We look forward to this annual event!

Food Bank Needs

The current needs at the Food Bank are:

Laundry detergent	Toilet paper
Shampoo	Tooth brushes
Conditioner	Dish soap
Deodorant	Large fruit juices
Toothpaste	



Blankets of Love

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 the hearts of those in need. We collected \$405 to send to Church World Service this year. The following is a list of those who gave blankets and who they were dedicated to:

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In honor / memory</u>	<u>Of:</u>
Cindi Gezelman	in honor of	Jean Gezelman
Cindi Gezelman	in memory of	Steffy Coutu
Martin & Melissa Bartel	in honor of	Sigrid Bartel and Nancy Castro
Cindy Pasternak	in memory of	Evelyn Pasternak and Florence Wood
Curtis Cowan	in honor of	Monica Cowan
Kelly Chasse	in honor of	Joyce Chasse
Kelly Chasse	in honor of	Judy Adamowicz and Helen Blois
Kelly Chasse	in memory of	Mildred Chasse
The Berkenstock Family	in honor of	Helen Berkenstock and Marjorie Locke
Jeanette Knotek	in honor of	Terri Schlosser
Jeanette Knotek	in memory of	Clara H. Hubbard
The Raad Family	in memory of	Ruth Annino
Pam & Jim Magoon	in honor of	Lucy Magoon
Pam & Jim Magoon	in memory of	Jean Horsey
Kristen Warzecha	in honor of	Eleanor Johnson and Barbara Warzecha
Jackie Hooper-Hage & Family	in honor of	Gloria Hooper, Alice Barrett, Martha Hooper
Sue & Blair Binge	in memory of	Narma Biestek
Dave & Helen Curylo	in honor of	Ruth Berwick
Peter, Carla & Matthew Correia	in honor of	Nancy Mariano and Rita Correia
Adeline Pasternak	in memory of	Adeline Patterson
Roy Pettengill	in memory of	Catherine Pettengill
Dave & Joanne Kneeland	in memory of	Esther Giles and Jane Kneeland
Bill Evertson	in honor of	Barb Evertson
Bill Evertson	in memory of	Pearl Sager
Jerry & Pat Day	in memory of	Powell Day
Jerry & Pat Day	in honor of	Mary Reinhart
Lorraine & Mel Barlow	in memory of	Ruth Lawrence
Mavis Gee	in honor of	daughter, Jenny



<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In honor / memory</u>	<u>Of:</u>
Jennifer Suit	in memory	grandmother, Helen Visco
Sherrie Muncy	in honor of	mother, Vivian and stepmother, Ariadna
Julie Thomas	in honor of	mother, Barbara Wilkinson and mother-in-law, Marge
Carol & John Westcote	in honor of	Idelle McDaniel
Ann Nichols	in memory of	Mary Westcote
Ann Nichols	in honor of	Kristie Rittman and Emily Nichols
Ann Nichols	in honor of	Imelda Slayten
Ann Nichols	in memory of	Elizabeth Reedy and Regina Bushnell
Helen & Dave Curylo	in memory of	Shirley Curylo
Diana Evans & Steve Gephard	in honor of	Margery Gephard (2)
Diana Evans & Steve Gephard	in memory of	Elizabeth Evans (2)
Bob & Cyndi Shirshac	in honor of	Rose Briggs
Bob & Cyndi Shirshac	in memory of	Theresa Shirshac
Debbie McLellan	in memory of	Barbara McLellan & Brenda Pagan
Richard & Peg Bolles	in memory of	our mothers
Tim Quackenbush	in honor of	Joan Quackenbush
Judy & Kelly Wilson	in memory of	Elizabeth Wilson
Judy & Kelly Wilson	in honor of	Rosalie Isele
Teri & Rod Schlosser	in honor of	Jeanette Knotek and Helen Wells
Amy Hackett	in honor of	Kim Bryson
Jill Walker	in honor of	Carol Hofflich
Erin & Tyler Provost	in honor of	Nana Walberg
Kelsey Aarrestad	in honor of	Lisa Aarrestad
Stuart Winqvist	in honor of	Betsy Winqvist and Hanh Kuck
The Aarrestad Family	in honor of	Anita Ames
The Aarrestad Family	in memory of	Ina Aarrestad
Edgar & Emma Prince	in memory of	Mary Hale and Lucy Stockman
Edgar & Emma Prince	in memory of	Mary Prince and Mae Parsons
Edgar & Emma Prince	in honor of	Debbie Prince and Donna Prince