



The Gargoyle



The Pastor's Musings

By Reverend Lee Ireland

I imagine you, too, have had your moments of dancing in the rain recently, but hopefully not too many of you have had to mop up your basements after a flooding episode. What a wet few weeks we've had! I must admit, though, I'm really thankful that we have moved past those muggy hot days and have enjoyed some days of crystal-clear blue sky and September beauty. It's been sweet to see folks returning in comfort on Sunday mornings and participating in the life of the church.

On Sunday, 9/17, I offered a sermon in which I drew a circle of the spiritual journey and was delighted as I watched you all drawing it with me and learning about the different stages through which we travel. After the service, I was grateful to hear many say they'd like me to offer it again at a slower pace. If so, I'll be glad to offer it again, on **Sunday 10/15** after coffee hour. I'll have a copy of the diagram upon which you can take notes. As I hear from you, I'd like to discuss offering a spiritual formation class somehow.

For this fall season, we have much to explore together as well as continuing our daily ministries. As you heard this past Sunday, I was focusing for the day on the gift of music and I'm grateful for our dynamic music program led by Sue Stottlemeyer. I love being a part of the Handbell Choir, and, every week, I so appreciate the Adult Choir's offertory anthems that deepen the message of the sermon. I so appreciate the conversations Sue and I have each week to prepare the services. How timely it was - for Paul Tavernier to visit from CA last Sunday and offer his beautiful solo, "Shall Gather at the River." It was beautiful to experience how the different pieces wove together to deepen our message of the week: how music can lead us to open our hearts and minds to God's light, love and grace and empower us to go forth and be instruments of God's peace and love as we serve.

This week is **World Communion Sunday** and we will consider how God's calling us to be awakened to the revelations coming through people in so many different parts of the world and through different languages and experiences; each calling us to listen and move beyond our comfort zones to learn and see and grow. May we come with open hearts and minds and curiosity to deepen our love to share. I also know - that the Women's Fellowship will be offering a Bake Sale after church at Coffee Hour to delight our palates and to try new things. They are also working behind the scenes on all the crafts that will be presented at the Holiday Bazaar. Stay tuned... But for this coming Sunday, what will you discover this day to expand your understanding of God and how Jesus is inviting you deeper into your own journey of faith? (Continued pg.2)



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Groton
Congregational
Church



SIERRA BRYTE

MADELINE
CAMPBELL

LOIS DEMPSEY

NATHAN THOMAS
DETMER

ELIZABETH
FORSTMANN

COOPER JOHNSON

The Pastor's Musings-continued

By Reverend Lee Ireland

I'll also include a service this fall on our Mission Committee after talking with the team. I know they've started announcing and receiving items for the Christmas collections as described further in this newsletter. But during that service, I will also include the joy of hearing how the Community Meals Team is now serving 30+ people each week. What a ministry! What a gift it is for all of you to prepare the meals and provide such a joy for those receiving. Thank you one and all!

I'll work with the Trustees for one of the services – and highlight their endless tasks of maintaining the property and our financial resources. I give thanks to Doris Pulaski heading the Stewardship Committee that reminds us of the role we each play in supporting all of the ministries. I'll then plan a service to highlight the work of the Deacons in helping to care for the members and visitors and the behind the scenes work of the ministry here.

One week – I'd like to work with Rachel Candee and consider how to highlight her youth ministry and the challenge she is facing in these changing times and the support we can offer her. Plus, the tireless work that Rev. Janice Kimball has offered to try to sustain the Christian Education ministry of our congregation, despite the changing times of today and the hard choices families have right now with so many sports teams scheduling practices and games at 10 AM on Sunday mornings. What can we offer as alternative times for Sunday School or activities? THAT is a "whole church" question.

For this day, may you find a moment to pause and enjoy a scene outside – by a flower, or hearing a birdsong, or a chance to walk in the beauty of nature somewhere. Breathe in the wonder of life....and give thanks. I also invite you to offer a prayer for our community and our nation, that we can move through and beyond this time of divisiveness and return to a time of greater trust of each other and working together *for the larger good*. Jesus came asking us to "love your neighbor as yourself." He showed us – that it is not always easy, but may we choose this day, to not let our fears stop us from trying and nurture the seeds of love whenever we can.

Peace and love to you all this day,

Rev. Lee A. Ireland

Transitional Pastor

revlee4@gmail.com

Women's Fellowship

By Sally Turner



Women's Fellowship met on September 13th for a delightful Brunch to start off our Fall meeting.

Most of our meeting was spent discussing the future for the **November 4th Holiday Bazaar**.

We welcome donations of items for this event. Please bring your items —holiday themed or not—to Dutton Hall between **9am and Noon** on **Oct. 30th - Nov. 3rd**. See our **Wish List** for the Silent Auction and Themed Gift Basket ideas on page 5.

Please, no clothing or electronics.

There will be sandwiches, baked goods, and beverages for sale at the Holiday Bazaar. Hope to see you all there.

Our bake sales will resume on the first Sunday of the month beginning **Oct. 1st**.

Craft meetings are from 9-11 a.m. every Tuesday & Friday and at Noon on Sundays so that working people can join in the fun.

Our next Women's Fellowship meeting will be **October 11th at 10 a.m.** All women of the church are welcome to attend. We hope you will. Women's Fellowship works very hard to support our church financially. Our organization is smaller in number than in years past, with several having been actively participating for a great many years. We truly need more help.

Sally Turner



Groton
Congregational
Church

Sanctuary
Flowers



Honor that special person or occasion with a floral donation to the Sanctuary. Contact the church office 860-445-7409 .

Deacons

October!



The air is crisp. The summer harvest is over. Pumpkins are on display everywhere and brilliant colors are showing on the trees. It is Fall in New England. Many people flock to see the changing colors. New Englanders call them “leaf peepers.”

I believe God set this annual spectacle for all to enjoy before winter settles in. He wants to present to those who come to nature the true joy of living in this world.

We develop more as Jesus leads us into His plan of growth in serving Him. I am getting these thoughts from Simon Peter’s early exposé to Jesus. In Luke

5:11, Simon was in his boat all night and caught nothing. Then he encountered Jesus who filled the two boats with fish. Simon fell down onto his knees and confessed to Jesus that he was a sinful man. Knowing this Jesus accepted Simon into his flock. This was a new beginning to Simon’s life.

Mary M. Alapa

Community Meals



We’re under way! Our in-house Saturday noon meals in Dutton Hall have become more and more popular as the weeks progress, **well over 30 meals** in mid-September to members needing transport and local community people. You are welcome to come in person any **Saturdays between noon and 1 PM** for a hot, nourishing meal and time of rejuvenation (out of fairness to other church groups and functions, our permission from the Trustees is

to use Dutton Hall for serving and clean-up until 1:30 PM). Should you have special needs for food assistance, or would like to help, please do not hesitate to call me at 860-235-0494. Envelopes are also available in the church sanctuary for monetary donations, which continue to support this worthwhile outreach ministry.

Janice Kimball, for the volunteers

Crafters



Theme Gift Basket Items Needed

We are asking for your help with items for the silent auction. For the November 4th Holiday Bazaar.

Wish List Items:

For Children: bike for older child, video games for preteen/ teen

For Adults: gift certificates to area businesses and attractions, artwork/paintings

Basket Theme Suggestions:

Beverages: Coffee/tea/hot chocolate

Food: Wine and cheese, cooking, snacks, chocolate, movie night

Hobbies: Golf/sports, arts 'n' crafts, handyman

Other: Bath, pets, car

Truly, the "the sky's the limit" so use your imagination. We just ask that other than antique/vintage all items are new. Questions: ask Penny Sullivan 860-333-6039

Our Crafty Cohorts gather every Tuesdays and Fridays from 9am to 11am and on Sundays after worship in the Crafting Room. Everyone is welcome to come join us.

Missions

This Month Missions is Supporting



NEW LONDON **Homeless Hospitality Center**

Items Most in Need:

Men's & Women's underwear

(XL preferred)

Toiletries/personal care items

Belts

Umbrellas

Prepared snacks & cereals

Please drop off your donations in the Red Wagon in Dutton Hall.



What Does God Look Like?

By Reverend Carol Steinbrecher

Scripture: Exodus 33:11 (NRSV)

Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp; but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.

Reflection: What Does God Look Like?

When my son was three, he asked me, "What does God look like?"

I said, "God is like the wind. We can't see the wind, but we can see the wind going by when the trees sway or when the autumn leaves go skipping across the lawn. We can feel the wind when it blows across our skin. God is like the wind. We can't see God, but we can know that God is there." My son was quiet for a moment and then he said, "But what does God LOOK like?"

Stumped, I googled "Christian images of God." I was inundated with endless variations on that all too familiar depiction of God as an elderly white man, with flowing white hair and beard. Many of the images were of Jesus. Jesus is God's face for many of us, and yet, our depictions of Jesus and of God, are often influenced by our own bias and limited frames of reference. Scripture teaches us that God created humankind in God's own image, male and female God created humankind in God's own likeness. So, what might an all-inclusive image of God look like?

Do you remember Arthur Ashe? In the 60's and 70's, Arthur Ashe was one of the best tennis players in the world, winning three Grand Slams and other world titles. In his autobiography, "Days of Grace," he told a story about when he was a young school boy. Arthur was one of three or four African-American children going to a school where the overwhelming majority of the children were white.

The other children were cruel to him because of the color of skin. One day he came home from school and asked his mom, "What color is God?" And his mom said, "God is the color of water." Think about that for a moment. God as the color of water.

What color is water? Hopefully, when it comes out of our faucet, water is clear. It doesn't have any color of its own. Whatever is around it is the color that water becomes. In nature, water reflects back colors of the blue sky; the gold, red, and orange of Autumn trees; the greens of plants; the pink, blue, and purple of flowers; and every shade and hue of human face.

Think about it for another moment. God as the color of water. When we look into a body of still water, each of us can see ourselves reflected on the surface. If we look harder, we can see beneath the water's surface into the depths within.

Jesus says, "We are in God and God is in us," inviting us to look into our own inner depths to discover that connection to God in us, and God in all that surrounds us. So how do I answer my son's question, "What does God look like?"

Now that he is older, I can tell him that each one of us looks like God. That the diversity of shapes, forms, functions, and colors of all God's creatures are beautiful illuminations of God's artistic and exuberant heart.

What Does God Look Like?

By Reverend Carol Steinbrecher

Ultimately, it is not in our physical natures that we resemble God, but in our spiritual nature. In Jesus last prayer he says, "I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them."

So, maybe the better question is, "What does love look like?"

When we love and value our neighbor, not as we love our "self", but love our neighbor who is our self, then we begin to see God's face more clearly. To imagine what God looks like, we don't have to look any further than the faces of all those we encounter on life's road.

When we can all see the world with loving hearts, and speak face to face as beloved friends, we will see that each and every one of us, together with all creation, are God's face and God's love. All of us. Together.

PRAYER

Creator God, open our hearts that we might truly resemble you in spirit, reflecting your love and light into the lives of all around us.

Carol Warren Steinbrecher



Rev. Carol Steinbrecher supports and resources clergy, congregations, and associations of the North Central region in their efforts to live the love and justice of Jesus in their locale. Rev. Carol Steinbrecher is the Area Conference Minister for the North Central Region. For fun, she writes, quilts, plays Scrabble, and, of course, ends each day with Wordle!



Stewardship

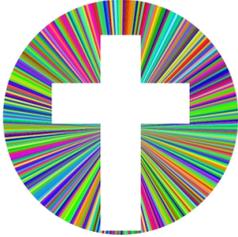


Fall Stewardship campaign "Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives."

Through your generous donations, we can continue being the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus through our weekly services with the joy of music. Help us carry on Jesus' mission by reaching out to those around us with Community Meals, Grammys Jammies, and so many other programs that assist our own neighbors in need. If you can help with the campaign, please contact Sue Stottlemeyer or Doris Pulaski.

Christian Education

By Janice Kimball



Rejoicing in the resumption of Youth Group and of the Prayer Group and Bible Study on Mondays (see this issue's calendar), I would like to share a prayerful wish that together we provide for spiritual education and peer support in Jesus Christ that will help ALL of us meet the challenges of life today and prepare our spirits for eternity. If you have a similar interest or yearning, please read on!

It seems that the time and space for offering this support to many of our members and friends does not seem to happen at 10 AM on Sunday mornings for a variety of reasons, often beyond individual control. If you are experiencing frustration because of this reality, I urge you to text me, leave voicemail, or phone me at 860-235-0494. I would very much like to speak with you about what you would like to see happen in the spring term of 2024, and when you would be available.

We now offer worship and education programs through Zoom as well as in person, but we could offer more. Please give us a chance to do so. Thank you.

For Christian Education concerns in the Church Council,

Janice Kimball, superintendent pro tem



Historian's Notes

By Chuck Barnum

10/12/55 - 4

THE GARGOYLE SPOUS

LAYMEN'S SUNDAY - This Sunday, nationwide, laymen demonstrate that fundamentally, they are the Church. Under the Gargoyles, our services will be led by Milo Williams; Nelson Brown, preacher; and Verne Reynolds, leader in prayer.

THE NEW LONDON ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES meets at Greenville at 4:30 Tuesday, October 18. We will be represented by our delegates at the afternoon business meeting. All are invited to the \$1.00 supper at 6:30 (just let us know) and the evening session is public. There will be a memorial service for the Reverends Alexander H. Abbott and Gurdon F. Bailey; followed by an address on the Church and the American Indian, by Dr. Samuel W. Keck, former Superintendent of the Congregational Christian Churches of South Dakota.

COUPLES CLUB, the following evening, will frolic on a Treasure Hunt and Halloween Party. This promises all who would get more widely acquainted a rollicking chance.

THE FALL ALLY OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT of the Women's Fellowship is an open invitation to all women of Eastern Connecticut to come to Mystic at 10:00 am, October 20 to hear Miss Theresa Ruck, the Connecticut Women's Missionary representative to South Africa. Box Lunch; dessert and coffee served for 25-cents.

THE YOUTH RALLY at Dushnell Hall, Hartford, Oct 23-3:30-7:30. 3500 High School people from Connecticut expected. Any High School youth who wants to attend should tell Mr. Orkney, or one of the Grooms, this Sunday, so that we can be sure to have enough transportation ready. See Bulletin Board.

GUEST MINISTER, October 30. The Missions Committee presents a long-awaited feature, the Reverend Craig G. Whitsitt, minister of Men and Missions to the State of Connecticut, who will preach at both morning services. The Gargoyle can scarcely restrain himself in anticipation.

The Sunday following Mr. Whitsitt's visit is Loyalty Sunday, but you won't need the Gargoyle to tell you about that!

FLOOD RECONSTRUCTION OFFERING - - \$144.00

OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSIONS is the theme of an evening at the Church, planned by the Missions Committee. All of our Church family is invited to see a motion picture in color entitled "A People Without Fear", a poster display featuring our home and foreign missions, and to learn how our benevolence offering is put to work. The date is Oct. 24, and the hour is 8:00. Light refreshments will be served affording an opportunity to tarry and discuss our Christian World Missions. A.C. MCCLURE, Chairman

PLANS are under way to complete a combination stairway-fire-exit on the north-east corner of the Church this fall. Then as funds become available, to insulate the ceiling of the Church Parlors and to develop another room in the basement. A Church Finance Committee has been established to work with the Ecclesiastical Society Committee next spring to plan the 1957's budget.

LAYMEN - Last year, the outstanding speaker of the year was Clyde Flannery, so you asked him back this year. Nov. 8 is your date with him. Topic: "The Southland's Tomorrow". And always you eat before you listen. "What luxury!" says the Gargoyle.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING says the Gargoyle. I'm high enough to see it just over the horizon. December 18, a Christmas Carol Service is planned. Please tell us by phone, letter, or directly, the carols you would like to sing, so they can be worked into the service, that this Advent's climax can have both your personal touch, and at the same time be a well-prepared worship at Bethlehem's Manger side.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP. All desiring to join the Church the first Sunday in November should call the Church Office this week.

INFANT BAPTISM - October 23. If you want your child included, please call the office.

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Office Coverage May Be Needed

By Lisa B. Darling-Gorman



I will be on vacation from
October 30th thru November 3rd

with a return date of November 6th.

I will also be on vacation from
December 26th thru January 2nd

with a return date of January 3rd.

During these times some office coverage may be needed.

This would consist of very light office work including phones, email, and drafting/printing the weekly Church Bulletins if I am unable to get them done before I leave. Neither of these vacation weeks coincides with work on “The Gargoyle” which will go out on October 24th and again on December 19th (a week earlier than usual). You will not be responsible for uploading the weekly Worship Service video to YouTube or sending out the This Week at GCC newsletter.

If you would like to volunteer during either of these time periods, please call or email the Church Office 860-445-7409 office@grotoncongregational.org



**Kids & Adolescents
Grades 6-12**

Join in the fun and fellowship every Monday from 6pm to 8pm in the Youth Group room with our Youth Group Director Rachel Candee.

Never Too Late

By Vince Amlin

“When you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your sibling has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your sibling, and then come and offer your gift.” – Matthew 5:23-24 (NRSV, adapted)

In 793, Vikings raided the monastery at Lindisfarne in England. Also known as Holy Island, it was the most sacred site in the Kingdom of Northumbria. Desecrated. Its altars dug up, its valuables stolen, its inhabitants killed or led away in chains.

In 1993, on the 1200th anniversary of the attack, a delegation of two arrived from Norway at St. Mary’s Church on Lindisfarne, bearing gifts. A bust of St. Olaf, the country’s patron, and a letter of reconciliation.

A sign at the front of the sanctuary tells how the community welcomed the visitors, worshiped with them, and shared the eucharist. It concludes: “So, although we had not previously realized that we were still at war with Norway, peace was definitely declared.”

Jesus doesn’t outline any statute of limitations on our offenses. (Nor, thankfully, any expiration date on his forgiveness.) He only says that the moment we remember we’ve hurt a sibling, we should stop whatever we’re doing and seek to be reconciled.

Whether it’s been 1200 years or 12 minutes. Whether they realize the war is still raging or they believe the armistice was declared generations ago. It’s never too late to repent of the pain we’ve caused. And it’s never been so long that we should neglect the work of repair.

Prayer

For your prayer, go listen to [this song](#) by Lyndsey Scott. As the lyrics say, “It doesn’t matter how long you have forgotten, only how soon you remember.” Amen.



About the Author

Vince Amlin is co-pastor of Bethany UCC, Chicago, and co-planter of Gilead Church Chicago, forming now.

Ready, Set, Go!

By Deborah Ringen

HOW TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FLU, RSV, COVID-19, AND THE COMMON COLD

Common symptoms may include cough, headaches, sneezing, runny nose, and congestion. Different symptoms may include:

	COLD	FLU	COVID-19	RSV
ACHES	●●	×××	●●	●
DIFFICULTY BREATHING	●	●	×××	●●
FATIGUE	●●	×××	×××	●
FEVER	●	×××	●●	●●
LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL	●	●	●●	●
SORE THROAT	×××	●●	×××	●
WHEEZING	●	●	●	×××

Legend: ● Rarely, Sometimes; ●● Often; ××× Rarely, Sometimes; ×××× Often

September is here bringing new changes to our lives. The weather is starting to change, hurricane season has begun, and the new school, church and sports calendars are filling up. There is a lot going on! People are beginning to gather more often indoors. While this activity grows relationships, builds connection, and promotes well-being, it also increases the opportunity for virus transmission. School-aged children often get sick with respiratory and stomach viruses resulting in missed school days. It is possible to reduce the likelihood of becoming ill by getting vaccinated, maintaining good hygiene, and following infection control measures.

The [Center for Disease Control](#) notes a slight uptick in reported incidence of COVID-19. Epidemiologists are tracking new emerging variants. Most of us are tired of paying attention to COVID-19 precautions and vaccinations, and yet we need to stay vigilant to protect ourselves, and others so we can do the things we enjoy!

Staying up to date with the flu, RSV and Covid-19 vaccines strengthens immunity and reduces the chance of hospitalization due to severe illness. The [CDC](#) recommends that **all people aged 6 months and older** stay up to date on **COVID-19 vaccines** and receive a **seasonal flu vaccine**. *If you are 60 years and older, talk to your healthcare provider to see if RSV vaccination is right for you. CDC also recommends nirsevimab, a monoclonal antibody product, for all infants younger than 8 months who are born during - or entering - their first RSV season, as well as some older babies. ([CDC.gov, 9/14/23](#))* Talk with your healthcare provider about what vaccines are right for you.

[Infection Protection: Wash your hands · Make Handwashing a Habit in 2023](#) – fun activities to teach kids.

Author



Debbie Ringen supports the Conference vision to make God’s love and justice real through wellness ministry at the Conference and local church level. In addition to providing resources, educational workshops, blogs and networking opportunities, she is available to speak with churches about health and wellness programs to support healthy individuals, congregations and communities. Resources on various health related topics can be found on the SNEUCC [Health Ministry](#) webpage.

Community Events

 **NEW LONDON Homeless Hospitality Center**

VOLUNTEERS ★ NEEDED ★

We are looking for volunteers to share their life skills with adults who are experiencing homelessness. One shift of 4 hours one day per week or more. Join this great team who put the hospitality into New London Homeless Hospitality Center.



We Need Help :

- greeter, check-in support
- technical support/problem solver
- meal or snack provider



 New London Homeless Hospitality Center
730 State Pier Road
New London, CT 06320

 Call for information
860-439-1573 x321

 www.nlhcc.org



You are invited to attend

UNITED WAY OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT

United For Gemma Benefit Gala

Tickets available online
<https://www.uwsect.org/united-gemma-benefit-gala>

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023
5:30 PM TO 8:30 PM

Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center
110 PEQUOT TRAIL
MASHANTUCKET, CT 06338

An evening celebrating the 35th Anniversary of the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center and honoring the life and legacy of founder Gemma Moran

Scott's Yankee Farmer
291 North Bride Brook Rd, East Lyme



Weekend & Holidays 10 am - 5 pm
Weekdays 11 am - 5 pm
Pick Your Own Apples, Weekend Wagon Rides,
Corn Maze (last entry 4pm)
*children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult



2nd ANNUAL MYSTIC APPLE FESTIVAL

All Things Fall...

Join us for the Mystic Apple Festival, celebrating everything Fall.

Apples, Maple Syrup, Pumpkins and much more...

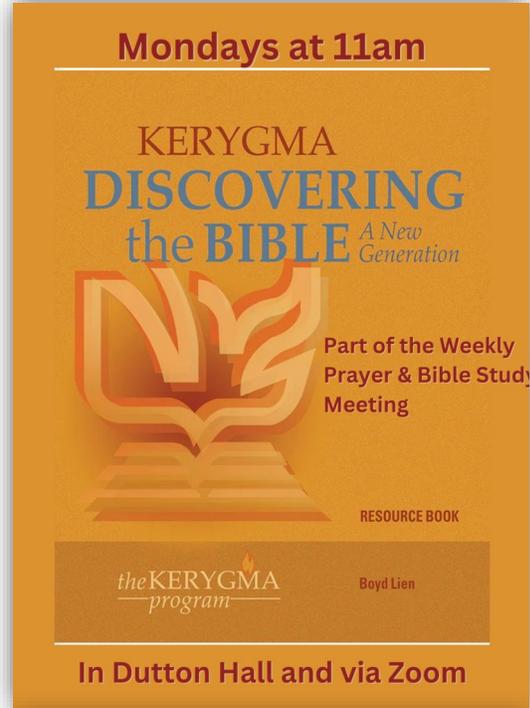
 **SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
OCTOBER 21-22**

ATTENTION VENDORS: If you're interested in participating in this event, please contact Bethany Perkins at mysticapplefestival@gmail.com
27 Coogan BLVD, Mystic, CT | oldermistickvillage.com

Church Activities & Events



Choir & Handbells
Thursday Evening Rehearsal Times
Handbells- 6:30pm
Choir- 7:30pm
Everyone is Welcome to Join



Mondays at 11am
KERYGMA
DISCOVERING
the BIBLE *A New Generation*
Part of the Weekly Prayer & Bible Study Meeting
RESOURCE BOOK
the KERYGMA program Boyd Lien
In Dutton Hall and via Zoom



THE FALL FAIR IS COMING
CRAFTERS WANTED
Calling all Crafty People!
Our Fall Fair is just around the corner.
Bring your talents to the Crafting Room.
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS 9AM-11AM
SUNDAYS 11AM-12PM



Holiday Bazaar
Unique Handcrafted Items, Baked Goods, Food,
Silent Auction & More!
November 4th
9am-2pm
Groton Congregational Church
162 Monument St., Groton, CT

Volunteers needed! Please contact Penny Sullivan or more information.

Volunteers needed! Please contact Sally Turner for more information.

Church Activities & Events



NEW LONDON Homeless Hospitality Center

Help us help them

Make a contribution to the Red Wagon for people experiencing homelessness.

Most in Need Of:

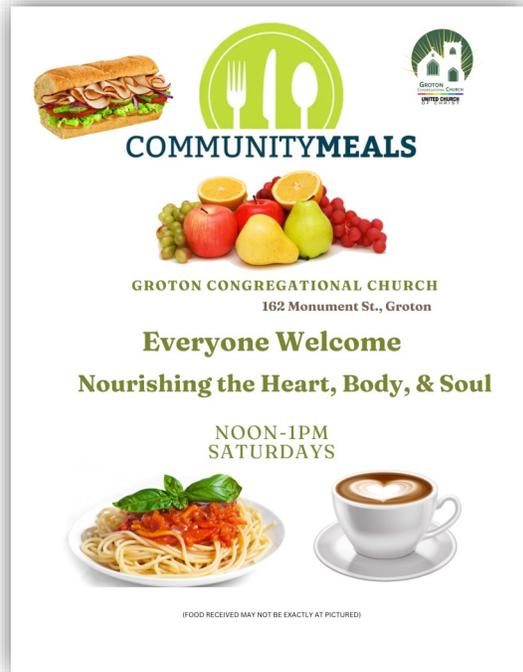
- Mens & Womens underwear (XL preferred)
- Toiletries: toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.
- Belts
- Prepared snacks & cereals

3,000+ homeless in CT

600 are under 18

YOU Can help

Drop Off Your Items All Month Long in The Red Wagon



COMMUNITY MEALS

GROTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
162 Monument St., Groton

Everyone Welcome
Nourishing the Heart, Body, & Soul

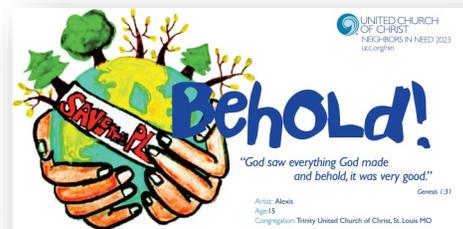
NOON-1PM
SATURDAYS

(FOOD RECEIVED MAY NOT BE EXACTLY AS PICTURED)



YOUTH GROUP

Monday evenings 6pm-8pm



Behold!

"God saw everything God made and behold, it was very good."

Artist: Abbas
Age: 15
Congregation: Trinity United Church of Christ, St. Louis MO

Neighbors in Need
Special Offering on October 1, 2023.
Please help keep our environment clean.



**Friday-Sunday
October 13-15**

\$270 per person - includes lodging, meals, and facilitation.

A weekend of exploration and restoration, focusing on using our bodies and voices as meditation in order to arrive at deeper peace and understanding.



Saturday, October 28

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$130 per person - includes instruction and lunch.

We'll nourish our minds, bodies, and spirits as we share new skills and tools for use throughout our lives.



Saturday, December 9

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$130 per person - includes instruction and lunch.

Join a phenomenal group of women as we reconnect with the sacred in ourselves and each other.

For more information on these programs and others please visit www.silverlakect.org



October Fun



WCNXHBTUCOSTUMESYNFD
 OOTDLBBLACKCATUTEWEQ
 RNBRIRHALLOWEENFTJLC
 SGTPLVQZKSNPLAGAPELH
 HRTFTPIUSCARECROWPOO
 IERPOOANFFDCSKSDEDWI
 PGIMURTSEOCHRISTZPSR
 CACASMTMTLEPUPWBTTTK
 OTKTUIIPGOOREDWAGONIL
 MIONHTNKRNRRODVKGHSPO
 MORHJAUGIUCROSSAEBF
 UNTYHYMMTNSMBQFZRJSA
 NARMMASENGSWEFGGVEPI
 ILENICNHSARCONMOESIT
 TTAKBCNDARUOTLTDSURH
 YTTLIHTRBRIITRDCTSIJ
 GWIOBUVBJEVXONGASTQ
 KNJVLRFCACLI ECNPANJF
 RHCEECLGYJLHRHPMEDJ
 CUDUCHHXNDXWSGGZISYY

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|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| congregational | fort griswold | trick or treat | faith |
| thames river | fellowship | handbells | love |
| scarecrow | halloween | red wagon | sing |
| pumpkins | harvest | costumes | bible |
| divine | church | community | god |
| black cat | monument | pastor | |
| groton | share | worship | |
| cross | autumn | christ | |
| jesus | candy | agape | |
| spirit | choir | hymn | |



Worship Watch

October Worship Services

Proper 21 (26)

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

Proper 22 (27)

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 8, 2023

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46

Canadian Thanksgiving Day

October 9, 2023

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 Psalm 65 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 Luke 17:11-19

Proper 23 (28)

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 Isaiah 25:1-9 Psalm 23

Philippians 4:19 -Matthew 22:1-14

Proper 24 (29)

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 2023

Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99 Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22

Proper 25 (30)

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 29, 2023

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalm 1 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46

October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10am Crafters 12pm	2 Prayer & Bible Study 11am Youth Group 6p-8p	3 Crafters 9am-11am	4	5 Handbells 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	6 Crafters 9am-11am	7 Community Meals Noon to 1pm
8 Worship 10am Crafters 12pm	9 <i>Office Closed</i> Deacons 5:30pm	10 Crafters 9am-11am Trustees 6p Council 7p	11 Women's Fellowship 10am	12 Handbells 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	13 Crafters 9am-11am	14 Community Meals Noon to 1pm
15 Worship 10am Crafters 12pm	16 Prayer & Bible Study 11am Youth Group 6p-8p	17 Crafters 9am-11am	18	19 Handbells 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	20 Crafters 9am-11am	21 Community Meals Noon to 1pm
22 Laity Sunday Worship 10am Crafters 12pm	23 Prayer & Bible Study 11am Youth Group 6p-8p	24 Crafters 9am-11am	25	26 Handbells 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	27 Crafters 9am-11am	28 Community Meals Noon to 1pm
29 Worship 10am Rev. Marilyn Kendrix guest speaker Crafters 12pm	30 Prayer & Bible Study 11am Youth Group 6p-8p	31 Crafters 9am-11am 				

Our Vision

To continue our three-hundred year tradition of spiritual presence and service to the community

To live and grow in the spirit of Jesus Christ

To share our time, talents and resources in support of community and other missions, through which Jesus Christ might be made known to others

To welcome into the Groton Congregational Church family all those who share our love of Jesus Christ and our mission of community service.

To continue a tradition of caring, comfort and support for all those within the Groton Congregational Church family.



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Bring Your Family to Our Family. We are Here to Celebrate Jesus Christ with You.

Located near historic Fort Griswold, by the banks of the Thames River, Groton Congregational Church, an Open & Affirming Church, welcomes you with open hearts, minds, and arms. We offer a warm and progressive environment for worshippers from all walks of life. Our motto is; *No matter who you are or where you are Life's Journey you are always welcome here.*

If you want to know the love of God and the wonderful plans God has in store for you, come and celebrate the love of Jesus with us through the spoken word and the joy of music.

**Sunday Worship begins at 10am.
Stay for After Worship Coffee Hour**

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5