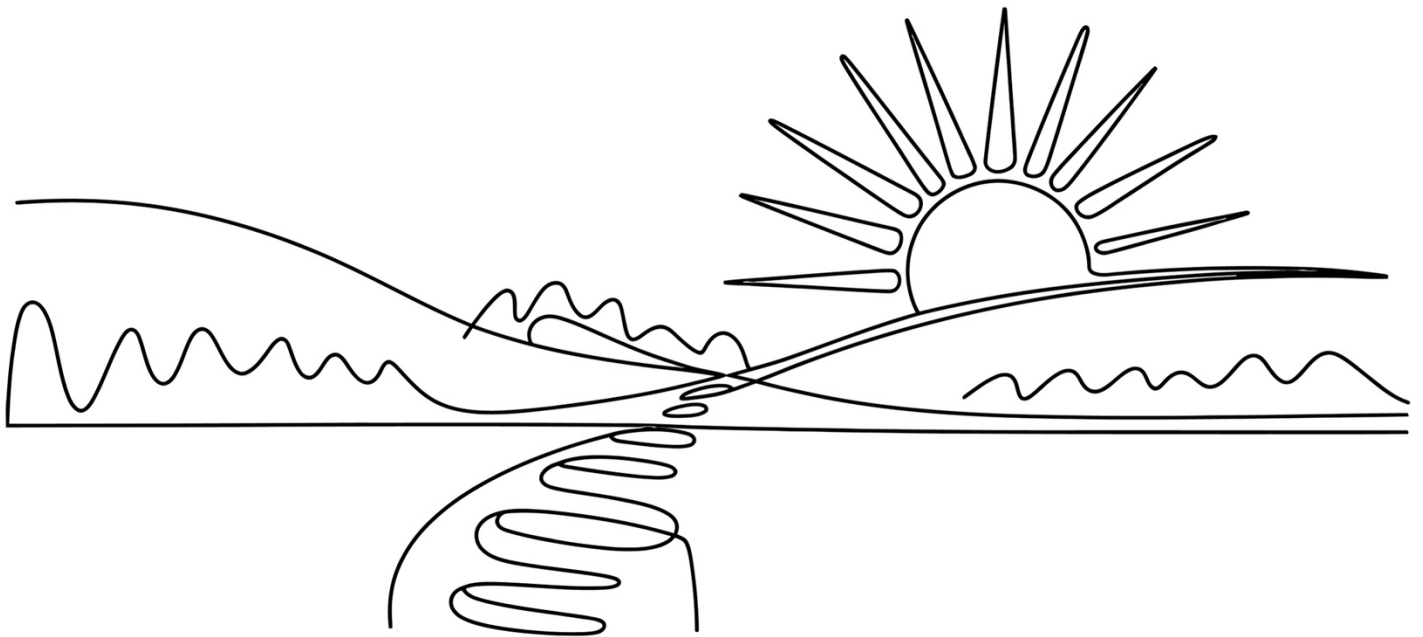




SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

declares itself to be Open and Affirming (ONA); open to all for participation, membership, leadership and employment and affirming of all who wish to join us as children of God.

We continue to give thanks for God's guidance in our journey of faith.

We welcome you this day and are glad you made the choice to join us for this worship service.

May it be a blessing to you.

Welcome to Worship!

We welcome you this day and are glad you are here! May worship be a blessing to you.



First Church Welcomes *You.*

With Worship. A casual tone, stirring music, moving prayers, & a faith-invoking message. **Prayer Book requests** (in Narthex) are uplifted during the Prayers of the People.

With Inclusion. Open & Affirming (ONA). We make a point of meeting all and name tags are worn.

With Communion. The first Sunday of each month, all ages share in the sacred meal together. We use juice & gluten-free bread!

With Care. We pass the Peace of Christ to one another. We are a mask-friendly, come-as-you-are, leave-as-a-friend community.

First Church Welcomes *Children.*

The PrayGround. In the Chapel space, guiding kids in worship.

Cherub Choir, Celebration Singers, & Genesis Choir. Children of all ages are welcome to offer music in worship!

Children's Message. A moment for kids & the child in each of us.

Church School. Faith learnings for the day continue in the Undercroft classrooms after the Children's Message.

Children's Take Home Library. Located by the PrayGround. Check out what interests you & bring it back next week!



First Church Welcomes *All.*

Sensory Sanctuary & Rocking Chairs. Focusing resources located in the back of the Meetinghouse.

Visual Worship Aids & Live captioning. Found on the monitors.

Audio Hearing Aids. Ask Ushers for help with bluetooth enabling or use of physical devices.

Spaces in Meetinghouse for Wheelchair Users

Exterior Ramp. In the back of the Meetinghouse, driveway side.

Liftavators. Located inside, from Narthex to Auditorium Level & Outside in the Memory Garden.

Enjoy a cup of coffee, food, & fellowship at

Community Hour

after the service!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Church is a mask-friendly community of faith. Anyone who prefers to wear a mask should feel comfortable doing so.

Please know our worshipping community gathers in-person and online via livestream

with multiple camera angles of the Meetinghouse and congregation.

Audio Hearing Aids are available for your use during the service. See an usher to request a device.

Please silence all electronic devices.

PRELUDE

Minuet

C. Armstrong Gibbs (1899-1960)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Lynn Hawxhurst

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Pivot Ministries, Bridgeport, CT

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Pivot Ministries Men's Gospel Choir

†HYMN

Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

475 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

God of new beginnings, you call us toward life, yet fear often keeps us in what is familiar. Forgive us when we believe we are too old, too tired, or too late to begin again. Meet us where we have stopped. Give us courage to take the next faithful step, trusting that our stories are not yet finished. Amen.

Moment of silence for personal reflection

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

One: May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

†RESPONSE (remain standing)

Halle, Hallelujah



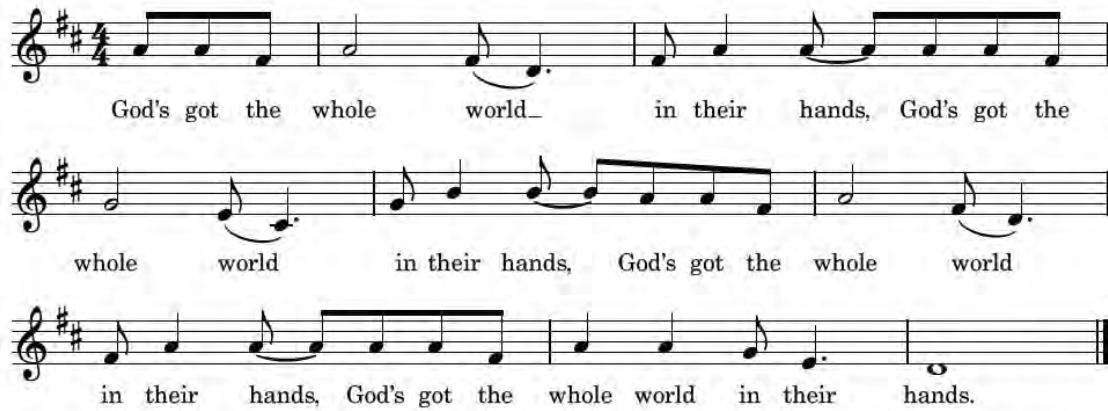
†Please rise in body or in spirit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will depart for Church School or return to their seats.)

RESPONSE

God's Got The Whole World In Their Hands



FIRST LESSON

Genesis 11:26-32

New Revised Standard Version

Betsy Kreuter

When Terah had lived seventy years, he became the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

Now these are the descendants of Terah. Terah was the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran, and Haran was the father of Lot. Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans. Abram and Nahor took wives; the name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah. She was the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.

Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot son of Haran and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. The days of Terah were two hundred five years, and Terah died in Haran.

ANTHEM

Lauda Anima

Mark Andrews (1875-1939)

The Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 12: 1-9

New Revised Standard Version

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan.

†Please rise in body or in spirit

When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

MESSAGE

Where The Road Begins Again
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus
630 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Lynn Hawxhurst

*Using your smartphone messaging app,
text FCCOG Donate to 73256 or scan the QR code to donate.*



ORGAN OFFERTORY

I Call To Thee, Lord Jesus Christ
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
65 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Pivot Ministries Men's Gospel Choir

†Please rise in body or in spirit

All music used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726454. All rights reserved.

Join us for Community Hour in the Auditorium where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack. You'll be able to enjoy more music from the Pivot Choir and find out about their work.

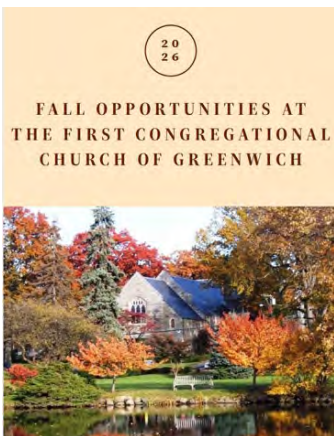
COMMUNITY HOUR

BULLETIN NOTE

As we continue to be good stewards of our resources and the planet, we are reducing the number of bulletins being printed. Since virtually everything is on our monitors in the Meetinghouse, particularly announcements, we are asking that families take just one (1) bulletin per family to help us keep printing costs down. Thank you.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Your Parish Nurse, Sue Asselin, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service in the Auditorium. During the week, Sue is available by appointment. Email susana@fccog.org or call 203-637-1791 extension 821.



FALL BROCHURE

Be sure to grab your fall brochure from an usher or at the back of the Meetinghouse. There are many opportunities to take part in the life of First Church. Where do you see yourself this fall?

**CHANCEL CHOIR HAS BEGUN –
YOUTH CHOIRS BEGIN TODAY –
HANDBELLS WILL BEGIN SOON!**

**NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME IN
EVERY ENSEMBLE.**

JOIN A CHOIR!

SUNDAYS FOLLOWING WORSHIP

The Cherub Choir is for children in kindergarten through 2nd grade.
11:15 - 11:45 a.m.

The Celebration Singers is for youth in grades 3 to 6.
11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Genesis Choir is for youth in grades 7 through 12.
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

THURSDAY EVENINGS

The Palmer Handbells &
The Silverthorn Handchimes for 9th grade and up.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The Chancel Choir, ages 18 and older.
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME

first church
of greenwich
founded 1855

CALL TO SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

CALL TO A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY SEPT. 27 - FOLLOWING WORSHIP AT 11:15 A.M.

A Special Congregation Meeting of the members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT is hereby called for Sunday, September 27, 2026 in the Meetinghouse immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service for the following purposes:

- To hear the report of the Budget Committee on the Fiscal Year 2026 financials.
- To hear and act upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee to elect Gordon Assing as a Community Ministry Representative to the Church Council and
- To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting

The meeting may be recorded for the purpose of taking of minutes. We encourage you to attend in the Meetinghouse if possible and comfortable. However, if you join remotely via Zoom.us, the instructions are printed in the Friday email blast.

Lynn Hawxhurst, Church Clerk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP IN COMMUNITY HOUR AFTER WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY

COMMUNITY HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please join us in making community hour a warm and welcoming gathering after 10 am worship each Sunday. Scan the QR code below to sign up and bring a snack or to help with simple clean up.

You can drop off your food to the upstairs kitchen before the service and the sextons will take it from there. You may also drop off your food during the week - just label it for community hour.



first church
congregational
of greenwich
founded 1805

All are Welcome to Join the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Come join us to knit, affix fringe
or labels, and visit with friends.

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, September 23
7-8:30 pm, in Rick's Room.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH
2026-2027 Church School Calendar

Children of ALL ages are welcome & celebrated at every event!

September

13, 20, 27

Open House, First Day of Class,
and Stay In Place/Fire Drill

October

11, 18, 25

The Books of Exodus,
Joshua & 2 Samuel

November

1, 15, 29

The Books of 1 Kings,
Micah & Isaiah

December

13, 20

The Books of Isaiah
and The Gospel Matthew

January

10, 17, 24, 31

The Gospel of Matthew

February

14, 21, 28

The Gospel of Matthew and
Stay In Place/Fire Drill

March

14, 21

The Gospel of Matthew

April

4, 11, 18

FCCOG's Communion
Curriculum

May

9, 23, 30

FCCOG's Bible Curriculum

Check the back for All Ages Worship Sundays!

FAQ:

WHAT TIME IS CHURCH SCHOOL EVERY SUNDAY? **10 AM**
DO YOU NEED TO BE A MEMBER TO ATTEND? **NO!**
WHAT AGES IS CHURCH SCHOOL FOR? **3 Y/O - 5TH GR.**
CAN MY YOUTH COME HELP & EARN SERVICE HOURS? **YES!**
ARE ADULT VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF TRAINED? **YES!**
CAN I COME TO CHURCH SCHOOL WITH MY CHILD? **YES!**
Other ?'s: KhaleighL@fccog.org | www.FCCOG.org

June

13

Celebration Sunday: Church
School Celebration, All Class
Communion, 3rd Grade Bibles &
Graduate Recognition

Regional Youth Ministry youth group dates

• elementary: 3rd-5th middle: 6th-8th high: 9th-12th •

September

2026

12 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
RYM Press Start
All Grades @ 2CCG
26 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
Pie in The Sky
All Grades @ FCCOG

October

9 - Friday, 6-8 pm
That Growin' Is a Glowin'
Elementary @ FCCOG
17 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
(Pumpkin) Smash Your Stress
Middle School @ UCCN
25 - Sunday, 6-8 pm
Pumpkin "Drive"
High School @ 2CCG

November

2 - Monday, 6-8 pm
Ask a Pastor Anything
All Grades @ Stamford Diner
15 - Sunday, 6-8 pm
Campfire Fire Night
All Grades @ 2CCG Labyrinth
28 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
Coats for a Cause
All Grades @ 2CCG

December

11 - Friday, 6-8 pm
Cocoa & Cinema
Elementary @ FCCOG
13 - Sunday, 6-8 pm
Deck the Kids in Crisis Halls
High School @ UCCN
19 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
Christmas "Drive"
Middle @ 2CCG

January

2027

8, 9 & 10 - Friday to Sunday
"Time to Lock In" Lock-In
Middle & High @ FCCOG
(start & end time tbd)
24 - Sunday, 6-8 pm
Wanna RPM All Night
All Grades @ RPM Raceway

February

12 - Friday, 6-8 pm
Freeze-Dance Tournament
Elementary @ 2CCG
20 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
Floor is Lava Tournament
Middle School @ FCCOG
28 - Sunday, 6-8 pm
Musical Chair Tournament
High School @ 2CCG

March

1 - Monday, 6-8 pm
Ask a Pastor Anything
All Grades @ Stamford Diner
14 - Sunday, 6-8 pm
Flashlight Egg Hunt
All Grades @ FCCOG

April

9 - Friday, 6-8 pm
Giant Game Night
Elementary @ FCCOG
17 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
Giant Hide & Seek
Middle School @ 2CCG
25 - Sunday, 6-8 pm
Giant Volleyball
High School @ FCCOG

May

3 - Monday, 6-8 pm
Ask a Pastor Anything
All Grades @ Stamford Diner
16 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
Kindness Kits for SLT
All Grades @ 2CCG
21, 22 & 23 - Friday to Sunday
Middle & High - Service Trip
Philly, PA with Incredible Days

SPRING
SERVICE TRIP
FUNDRAISER
TBA!

June

4 - Friday, 6-8 PM
Hike it Up
All Grades @ FCCOG
12 - Saturday, 6-8 pm
RYM Final Round: '26-'27
All Grades @ 2CCG

Parents & Alumni

Aug 15, Sat. (Alumni)
S'mories & Stories
2CC Greenwich, 8-10 pm
Sep 20, Sun. (Parents)
Let's Hit 'Em Up
Sterling Farms, 2-4 pm
Dec 20, Sun. (Parents)
End of Year Wrap Party
2CC Greenwich, 6-8 pm

Key

UCC Norwalk
275 Richards Ave, Norwalk
2CC Greenwich
139 East Putnam Ave, Greenwich
FCCOG (Greenwich)
108 Sound Beach Ave, Greenwich
Stamford Diner
135 Harvard Ave, Stamford
Sterling Farms Course
1349 Newfield Ave, Stamford

First Congregational Church of Greenwich

We Need Volunteers!

Be a leader in worship as a reader, usher, or greeter

Worship Reading

read scripture on
Sunday mornings

Call to Offering

share your inspiration
to introduce the offering

Ushering

pass out bulletins
and help pass offering plates

Greeters

be a welcoming presence
as people arrive for worship



scan to sign up

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



Sip on coffee. Make meaningful connections.
Explore life-changing truths.

Every Sunday 9:00 AM

FCCOG Lounge

**GET TO KNOW GOD
THROUGH GOD'S WORD**

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY DISCUSSION GROUP



Thursdays • Noon–1:00 p.m.

The Lounge at First Church

Join us as we explore and discuss
the upcoming passage for Sunday.



6 REPS NEEDED FOR FCCOG

The Ties That Bind

A threefold cord is not quickly broken. ~ Ecclesiastes 4:12

7th Annual Meeting

Sept. 25 - 27, 2026

Worcester, MA & Online

Full Meeting Registration & Info:

www.sneucc.org/2026AM

MAJOR VOTE ON:

**CORPORATE MERGER OF THE
3 HISTORIC CONFERENCES
(MA, CT, RI) INTO
1 CONFERENCE (SNEUCC)
& FUTURE OF SILVER LAKE
CAMP.**

Keynote and Preaching:
Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock,
US Senator, Pastor, Author



**register by Sept 14 (in-person)
or Sept 22 (online)**

Questions/more info:

Talk to Pastor Cydney (cydneyv@fccog.org)



Southern New England Conference
United Church of Christ
Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

**For ANYONE- Tickets for
Keynote Only:
Sept. 26, 4:00 PM
warnock.sneucc.org**

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org

Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Minister of Music
Director of Church School/Regional Youth Ministry
Parish Nurse
Director of Operations
Director of Finance & Administration
Livestream Director
Audio Technician
Database Administrative Assistant
Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
Facility Supervisor and Sunday Sexton
Sexton
Sexton
First Church Preschool Director
First Church Preschool Assistant Director
Pastor Emerita

Reverend Patrick Collins
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke
Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Khaleigh Laicher
Susan Asselin, RN
Wendy Spezzano
Greg Girolamo
Daniel Lepoutre
Bob Small
Sue Wilder
Johnny Ramos
Julio Yika
Joe Vartuli
Curtis Gay
Beth Genovese
Melanie Garnett
Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

See more about the stories of our
Stained Glass Windows



See the Tour of our Main Cemetery -
People of Note

