



## **THIS OCTOBER LET US RE IMAGINE CHURCH!**

A short survey is being sent to you all in the hope that we can hear the voice of all members past and present , to develop an open dialogue into our servant hood to God.

The bible portrays children as silent partners in life. I would suggest many of us are the children of the church who appear outwardly as those who are voiceless. We must practice what Jesus teaches us----- to welcome the child to the center of the community and wraps his arms around them. The voiceless one. And to suggest that if we want to be great, then we must practice welcoming the voiceless to the center of our community. Expand the community's center to include those people at the margins. Make the margins the new center of the community, this is where the welcoming presence of GOD DWELLS.

We must re-imagine and adopt new practices of what I call insignificant greatness. We begin with new programs such as GRACE GATHERING, that becomes a living portrait of the bible. We dig into our mind, body and soul to share our stories in a safe loving environment.

We will continue to listen to the voiceless as you consider the church survey and take to heart of a self evaluation and hopefully gain new re-imagined insight of our communal covenant.

Blessings on your journey.  
Rev. Dennis



## OCTOBER WISHES

***Happy Birthday to the following  
Church Members!***

Steven Sugrue 10/1  
Melissa Saliva 10/6  
Franca Grzybowski 10/7  
Madilyn Chalker 10/7  
Robin Griskus 10/10  
Juan Ortiz 10/10  
Karen Cotner 10/11  
Joanne Mason 10/11  
Sarah Cooley 10/11  
Karen Elwell 10/14  
Kimberly Walters 10/14

Krista Walters 10/16  
Joanna Rocco 10/17  
Daria Deaquiar 10/21  
Erin Hughes 10/20  
Catherine Crouse 10/20  
Matthew Reed 10/22  
George Walters, Jr. 10/23  
Marilyn St. George 10/29  
Linda Lindsay 10/30  
Matthew Elwell 10/30  
Richard Casey, Jr. 10/31



## ATTENTION MEMBERS

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Bible Study Schedule “Grace  
Gathering”**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month –  
October 15, 2024 11-12 noon  
in the Hearth Room.**

**October 16, 2024 Wednesday evening at 6:30  
pm in the Hearth Room!**



## GWIM FOOD BANK DONATIONS

### GWIM IS IN NEED OF THE

**FOLLOWING:** Mayonnaise, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Cold Cereal, Mac & Cheese, Juice, tuna, canned soups-stews-chili, canned fruits, canned vegetables, beans (canned or dried), rice pouches, etc. Other donations will be welcomed, but these will be the main focus. The food basket will be available each week in the Narthex.



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed



### TIME CHANGE

Daylight Savings time ends Sunday, November 3, 2024. at 2:00 a.m. Please set your clocks **back** one hour before going to sleep on Saturday evening, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.



**Christian  
Education**

### C. E. News

Starting October 1, 2024 the Pre -school baby room will be open from 10 to 11:15 am on Sunday mornings. It will take place in Clinton Hall for the month of October. The room is open for babies, Pre-schoolers and Kindergarteners.



# **WISH LIST FOR SAFE HAVEN SHELTER**

## **WISH LIST FOR SAFE HAVEN SHELTER**

- ◆ Shampoo
- ◆ Body Wash
- ◆ Paper Towels
- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Toilet Paper
- ◆ Women's socks (new)
- ◆ Women's Body lotion
- ◆ Women's Underwear (new)
- ◆ Hair Brushes/combs
- ◆ Diapers (large & ex-large)
- ◆ Sanitary Napkins/Tampons
- ◆ Children's Socks (new)
- ◆ Children's Underwear(new)
- ◆ Baby lotion/baby wash
- ◆ Wash Cloths/ loofah's
- ◆ Gift Certificates

Safe Haven currently provides the following bilingual (English/Spanish) services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault: up to 60 days of shelter for women and their children; individual and peer group counseling; 24 hour crisis hotlines for domestic violence and sexual assault; legal advocacy information and referral; community education for adults and children; and court based family violence victim advocacy.



**Please bring all your donations for Safe Haven on the third Sunday.**



## **Annual Fall Fair**

# **Our Annual Holiday Fair is November 9<sup>th</sup> (see poster insert)**



## **NOTES FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/YOUTH/ Maintenance Super**

With summer now behind us, we have begun ramping up for what will be a very busy couple of months. The Haunted House/Halloween party kicks off Fall on the weekend before Halloween; if you are interested in helping with set up, take down or operation over the two periods please let us know. As far as what we need; we have more than enough decorations but will need candy preferably in bulk and snacks.

**The Chosen & Kindness 101**, since adding two new programs by Rev. Dennis, I will coordinate new days and times for both the programs. Currently we are in season 4 of the Chosen and Kindness 101 has varied topics of which appropriate scriptures are chosen. While we realize most can view these two programs at home we however choose to view them together for fellowship and discussion. I will post new dates as soon as I have them.

**Choir**, we have already begun rehearsing music for Christmas and Hanging of the Greens. As always if you have a desire to sing, rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm and generally last an hour to an hour and a half. If Thursdays don't work for you I can work out a day and time that would. For more information, you can contact me through the church office or email [stewartcrouse@comcast.net](mailto:stewartcrouse@comcast.net).

**Bell Choir** has several pieces they are working on including one we hope to perform at Hanging of the Greens. This ensemble has come leaps and bounds since we first got together last year and continues to flourish. We encourage anyone who might like to play to at least attend a rehearsal or two; while the

ability to read music is not necessary it only takes a desire to learn and of course count. A wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship!

**American Guild of Organists Membership Recital** will be Sunday November 3rd at 3:00pm, more information will be forthcoming. I have been asked by Ronald Ebrecht to attend the Waterbury Chapters Board meetings. Many of our former organists here at First Church were members, served on the board or served as the Dean including Larry Jamison. The Chapter serves the entire valley and north of Waterbury including surrounding towns of Southington, Plantsville and several others. Years ago, this same chapter helped bring in internationally acclaimed organists, Dr. Joyce Jones, William Albright, blind organist Jean Langlais and many others. I am excited about this prospect once again.

**Fall Fair** will be Saturday, November 9th 10:00am-3:00pm, we are looking for vendors and applications are available through the office.

**Joy of Christmas** committee met several weeks ago and much of the leg work has begun for this year's Joy of Christmas Dinner. While you might have time to sit on the committee, we have other areas where you could help us. If you have an interest please contact us through the church office.

**Hanging of the Greens** information will be forthcoming, stay tuned!

**Building & Grounds** thank you to Stuart Post, Chairman of Building & Grounds several major projects were either completed or put into motion over the summer. The most noticeable would be the bluestone at Holmes Ave. entryway!

Wishing You All Peace!  
Stewart Crouse



# Dear members, we need your help!

October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Haunted House/Halloween Party and once again I am calling upon the generosity of the congregation to donate candy and decorations for the cause. We will begin collecting donations on October 14<sup>th</sup> and right up until the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Furthermore, if you are interested in volunteering for setup, operation, or take down, please contact me (Stewart Crouse at 706-9824). There



is a little something for everyone to do.



## **Haunted House Halloween Party SEE POSTER INSERT WITH DETAILS!**



**The Lion's Club** is the world's largest service club. We collect eyeglasses, repair and recycle them throughout the world. We help all people who have eye problems including Waterbury with a Low Vision Center here at our church.

### **Waterbury Lion's Club**

**Ziti Dinner Fundraiser**

**Wednesday, October 23, 2024**

**5:00 pm – 7:30 pm**

**First Congregational Church**

**222 West Main Street, Waterbury CT**

**Tickets: Gary Rosengrant, or any member!**



