

North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC

(860) 824-7232

Fax: (860) 824-5660

Office Location:

30 Granite Ave., North Canaan

Church Location:

172 Lower Rd., East Canaan

Email: nccongchurch@snet.net

Website:

northcanaancongregationalchurch.org

Worship: 10:15 AM

Interim Pastor:

Rev. Rosemary Dawson

(860) 824-1555 (P House office)

Email:

pastor.no.canaan@hotmail.com

Secretary:

Michele Bosworth

Tues., Weds. & Thurs: 9:00-2:00

Youth for Christ Coordinator:

Gert Anderson

Organist:

Marilyn Mullins

Sexton:

Sally Pollard

Boards and Committees:

Moderator – Ned Gow

Vice-Moderator – Ned Gow

Clerk – Carolyn O'Connor

Treasurer - Wendy Kennedy

Asst. Treasurer – Sally Pollard

Deacons:

Chair: Tammy MacDonald

Gert Anderson

Ned Gow

Ceil June

Leslie O'Connor

Sally Ford

Mabel Walker

Lynne Martin

Trustees:

Chair: Frank Ghi

Ruth Adotte

Sharon Milukas

Fred Ruggles

Glenn Rogers

Lois Carlson

Christian Education:

Chair: Stacey Curtis

Melissa Gandolfo



THE SPIRE

The North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC September 2010

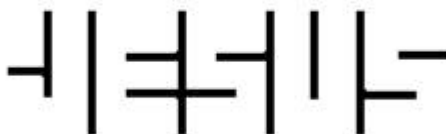
*God says,
"At the right time I heard your prayers.
On the day of salvation I helped you."
I tell you that the "right time" is now, and the "day of
salvation" is now.
2 Corinthians 6:2*

As I write this article I am just returning from my vacation. And although my intentions are always "I will rest this year" the truth is I need a vacation from my vacation! Having said this, it is now time for each of us to return to our usual and ordinary way of living. But 'ordinary' is not ho-hum. Over one half of the church year is called 'ordinary time' because it is not associated with the great seasons surrounding Christmas and Easter. Yet this time of year is also 'extraordinary' because this is also the 'season of Pentecost'; that is, the time of the Spirit, present and working among us. And there is nothing ho-hum about that!

I encourage you, in these ordinary days of school and work, community and church to attune your senses to the extraordinary presence and power of God.

Blessings

Pastor Rosemary



SEPTEMBER 2010 CALENDAR

Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry is open every Wednesday of the month 9:00am - 11:00am AND 4:00pm - 5:00pm at PH.

The Children's Clothing Exchange is open every Wednesday of the month 9am - 11:30am at PH.

Faith Without Bounds: Worship service, First Sunday of the month, 4pm, at PH.

Search Committee Meetings: Every Thursday, 6 pm at PH.

Labor Day: Monday, September 6.

Patriot Day (remembrance of Sept. 11): Saturday, September 11.

Sunday, September 12: Rally Sunday!!

Sunday, September 12: Our Summer schedule ends. Worship will begin at **10:15am**.

Ziti Dinner/Corey Bush & Friends Concert: Sunday, September 19, dinner will be served 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., concert starts at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Night & Potluck Supper: Monday, September 20, 6 pm at PH.

First Day of Autumn: Thursday, September 23.

Deadline for October 2010 Spire articles: Thursday, September 23.

CROP WALK: Sunday, September 26.

PLEASE HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!

****Beginning September 12, worship will be held at 10:15 AM.**

****New Deadline for Spire Articles: Spire articles will now be due on the third Thursday of every month.**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



4	Robert Jacquier	19	Jessica Segalla
5	Ceil June	21	Sally Greco
6	Kimberly Wheeler	23	Tate Begley
10	Emma Adam	24	Sherrie Marie Pollard
12	Christina Rogers	25	Matthew Bongiolatti
16	Bob Anderson	26	Patricia Stanton
17	Dawn Spadaccini	30	Rev. Rosemary Dawson
	Jeff Niedeck		

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING EXCHANGE

The Children's Clothing Exchange is in need of fall/winter clothes for men, women and children!! Also needed are blue jeans for all sizes, infant girl clothes size nb-2T. Please keep us in mind as you do your "fall cleaning"!

Looking ahead, we will be holding our annual "coat drive" in November.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

Michele Bosworth

PILGRIM HOUSE USAGE FOR SEPTEMBER

Pilgrim house is used every Monday at 6:30pm & 7pm-8pm; every Thursday, Search Committee, 6pm; the first Sunday of each month, Ecumenical Worship service, 4pm; third Monday of the month, Committee Night & Potluck Supper, 6pm; Monday, August 30th, Calico Fair Meeting, 6:30pm; Yo-Kids Dance, Friday, September 17th, 7-9:30pm.

CHURCH USAGE FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 19th, Ziti Dinner/Corey Bush Concert, 5pm; Painting For Fun, Wednesdays at noon.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees met on a regular schedule this summer. The front of the church has been painted and the door on the East side of the building has been replaced and painted. There are two windows on the same side that need storms and we have also noticed that the wood frames on most of the windows are beginning to deteriorate. The Board will be getting estimates on replacing the storms of the two windows and will address replacing the others in the future. We are also in the process of updating the appraisal of Pilgrim House since members of the church voted in July to sell the building. Once the updated appraisal is received we will proceed with the sale.

Ruth Adotte, Board member

REPORT FROM JULY 18 SPECIAL MEETING

A Special Meeting was called by the Board of Trustees and Church Council on July 18.

The purpose of the meeting was to approve the offering for sale of Pilgrim House.

With twenty-six members present, a motion was made by Sharon Milukas and seconded by Ceil June to put Pilgrim House up for sale.

A vote was taken by paper ballot. The results were 21 votes "Yes"; 5 votes "No", indicating that Pilgrim House be put up for sale.

All options will be explored.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn O'Connor
Church Clerk

PAINTING FOR FUN

Wednesdays at noon at the church; open to anyone that enjoys painting; bring your own painting supplies. NOTE: This is not a painting class.



DISCUSSION GROUP

A REVIEW OF VARIOUS *RELIGIONS*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 7:00 P.M.

141 GRANITE AVE. EXT.

IF YOU NEED A RIDE CALL

HOSTS: SALLY GRECO AT 860 824-0655

OR BARB AT 860 824-2404

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

***FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY
DONATIONS***

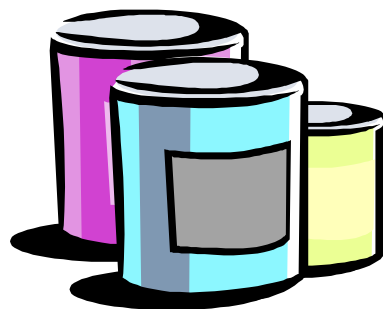
We will be collecting donations for Fishes and Loaves on Sunday, September 5th.

Donations for the food pantry are collected on the first Sunday of every month.

The Food Pantry is requesting donations of canned fruit, cereal, soup, canned tomatoes and juice. Single serve sizes are also needed. Smaller sizes are helpful for singles or elderly.

Donations to the food pantry have decreased dramatically. Please help to restock the shelves...winter is coming!

All donations of non-perishable foods are appreciated.



Deacon's Report

The Board of Deacons has been very busy. Besides the normal weekly duties of the "Deacon of the Month", it was the Board's responsibility to find replacement pulpit supply while Pastor Rosemary was on Sabbatical and vacation. It was a joy to welcome Don Westerberg and Bruce Anderson back to the pulpit. Deacons also helped in various ways at funerals during the unfortunate losses of some church family and friends this summer. Many thanks to Peter Dakers for his hard work, time and care during these times.

It was a joy to share services with Falls Village again this year and to host Michael Brown for a wonderful ecumenical worship service during Railroad Days.

Deacons addressed some thoughts, ideas and concerns of the Congregation. One topic was the moving forward to a "greener" church. It was noted that a few steps were being taken. A summer bulletin was provided and saved each week, and the candelabras are not being lit. We tried to have lights off but found that the pastor, organist and choir need the lights to remain on during worship. The bulbs in the chandelier have been replaced with energy savers and the other bulbs are only 40 watt. Trustees are looking into LED lights. We will continue striving to become a green church.

Another widely discussed topic has been Sunday school. Deacons met with Christian Ed members to discuss the present status of the Youth, and ideas and needs for the upcoming year. Both Deacons and C.E. agree that it is a challenge to provide quality lessons and activities to so few children and with inconsistent schedules. All agreed that Stacey has been doing a great job with the younger youth, and she shared many exciting ideas for this year. Gert will be leading the teens and also has great ideas. Deacons will support Stacey and C.E any way they can in our common goal to improve and expand our educational programs.

Lastly, Deacons want to thank all those responsible for the "awe-filled" music provided for us this summer. Marilyn and Gert picked wonderful anthems that touched so many of us, and how blessed were we to hear Gert and Sally sing like songbirds! It was also a treat to hear the glorious sound of a full choir when Ceil's brother joined in. Music truly is a gift from God and what a way to praise Him!

In Christ,
Tammy MacDonald



IN SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathies to the following families who lost loved ones during the month of July: Sandy Reineke, whose lost her daughter, Tamara; the family of Ed Emmons, long-time church member; and to Sally Ford, whose husband, George Ford, also passed away. Please keep these families in your prayers.



CALICO FAIR

At this writing, representatives from our community churches are planning to meet Monday, August 30, 2010, at 6:30 at Pilgrim House regarding this year's annual fairs. The purpose for this meeting will be to choose the actual date of the fair, decide on whether to offer the shuttle bus again, and to share ideas. The website will be updated with the information.

Fair time is fast approaching and its time for those famous words: It takes a whole church to do Calico Fair! There are many ways to support this mission. For starters, keep the White Elephant Sale in mind during your fall cleaning. I have word from Sally that there is room to store tag sale donations at Pilgrim House. Just call us!

As plans start moving forward, I will keep you informed with church announcements, the website, emails and the next Spire. All ideas and feedback are welcome.

Respectfully,
Tammy MacDonald

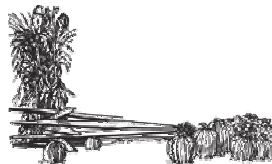
Craft Room at the Calico Fair

We are looking for donations of crafts for this year's Craft Room at the Calico Fair!

If you have any crafts you would like to donate, or if you would like to meet and share ideas, please speak with Michele Bosworth 860-459-9435, or Sally Pollard 860-824-0296. We are looking for ways to make the room more inviting and up-to-date.

Thank you in advance!

Michele Bosworth & Sally Pollard



SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Search Committee has been meeting consistently each week, moving forward on our quest for a settled pastor. We reviewed feedback regarding the presentation of the survey results to the Congregation, and members feel that our strengths as well as our needs have been identified.

It is the responsibility of this Committee to find the best match possible between Pastor and Congregation. In order for this to happen, this church family must figure out what it is we really want for the **future** of our church. What is our **vision**?... Our **hope**? ...Our **mission**? The Committee feels that this is a wonderful opportunity for church members to learn more about ourselves, as individuals and as a church. By participating in gatherings like the "Conversational Café" and answering questionnaires from the Committee, each one of us can have a part in this important process.

We are currently reviewing what information is needed for our church profile. Members feel that there is still some research to be done before some of the profile questions can be answered. You will be hearing more from the Committee soon.

I would like to conclude with some words taken from a UCC resource that sums up the importance of the Search Process:

By having a church profile that accurately reflects your church's strengths, identity, gifts, and vocation—even if we are discerning what God is calling us to become in the future—we may find a new pastor who is eager to utilize these strengths and gifts creating the future, the dream, the hope we have for our church.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tammy MacDonald

FROM THE OFFICE

The deadline for articles for *The Spire* has been changed to the third Thursday of the month. This is also the deadline for any items that you would like to submit to be included on our Church Website. If you would like an upcoming meeting or event to be included in a Sunday bulletin insert or announcement, please submit the information to the church office by the Tuesday prior to the event. Thank you!

A friendly reminder; please be sure to call the church office to schedule any meetings or gatherings at church or Pilgrim House.

****Deadline for the next edition of *The Spire* is Thursday, September 23rd.**

Michele Bosworth
Church Secretary

**CROP WALK
WHAT DOES C.R.O.P. MEAN?**

C.R.O.P. stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty.

What are CROP Hunger Walks?

CROP Hunger Walks are neighbors and friends from different faiths, cultures, ages and abilities, walking together to take a stand against hunger in our world. Together we raise money for local, national and international relief and development efforts.

What is the point of walking in a CROP Walk?

Hungry people in underdeveloped countries walk as much as six miles a day to get food, water, and fuel, and to take their products to market. We walk to remember and understand their struggle for existence. "We walk because they walk."

What makes CROP Hunger Walks so special to us?

They are community-based and Inter-faith. Each group of walkers is connected to the next through the common bond of Church World Service.

Did You know that:

- this is the 27th year of the Region One crop walk?
- in that time, we have raised over \$500,000 for hunger relief?
- approximately 20% of the money raised goes directly to local agencies, such as the food banks?
- \$72 can provide emergency food supplies for a family of five for a month?
- \$120 can send three women to attend a literacy class for a year?
- \$200 can provide a poor family with a water buffalo to increase their food production and help get their produce to market?
- \$350 can provide vocational training for the eldest child in a parent-less family of AIDS orphans so they can support their siblings and themselves?

What can You do?

Join me, young and old: in giving and/or getting pledges of support, baking cookies for the walkers, being available to sit at stations along the way, talking your friends and families to walk the long walk, or try walking around the high school oval pushing a less-abled friend in a wheelchair, sending out emails to friends near and far to draw attention to our efforts, giving rides, cheering us on, talking it up....there are so many ways each of us can help!

Let's put North Canaan Congregational Church back in the middle of the fight against hunger and poverty on Sunday, September 26th! Will you be there with me?

Gert Anderson

Youth For Christ

(860) 824-7022

(860) 671-0663

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

Well, can it be that fall is really just around the corner? The kids are headed back to school and it's time again to start Jr. Youth Group.

This year we will focus on meeting every other Sunday and I will meet with the kids one evening per month on a weeknight. While this schedule is certainly a change from the norm, I believe it allows more flexibility for the children. Children as well as their families are so active in a variety of things; this will offer a balance for our schedules. Please be certain that if the topic warrants more in depth discussion, we will meet more often.

In addition to the change of schedule, the children will be beginning an outline of "Pre-confirmation" topics.

We will continue to develop a basic foundation of Old Testament lessons but we will also integrate the New Testament and larger concepts. For example, in September and October, we will recap on Genesis and discuss Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden. We will also focus on God. The children will not only learn what the Bible contains, they will be able to express their vision of God, where they find God (whether it be in church, home, nature or somewhere else), where is God, when do we talk to God and what represents God. Please keep in mind; along with learning about God we are also giving them permission for self expression.

There will be a "summers end" pool party for the kids on Friday, August 27, 2010 at 6:30 pm at Melissa's house so the kids can meet back up again and get ready to get into the routine. We will start Sunday school classes on Sunday, September 12, 2010. We will begin by learning about God, where God is found, who talks to God, why do we talk to God, etc. We will also be moving back into Genesis with Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden. Throughout the year we will move through different topics which will include Cain and Abel, Abraham and Sarah, etc as well as God, Saints (who are saint), the Church, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and Worship and the Bible. There is a lot to cover, but the children always rise to the occasion. We will incorporate a few field trips (one being to Project Heifer) as the children are getting older and are looking forward to this.

Again, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I invite you to come downstairs during Sunday school and see what we are involved in.

Stacey Curtis



ZITI DINNER

A DATE TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th

**ZITI DINNER
AND
COREY BUSH AND FRIENDS
BAND CONCERT**

**At the North Canaan Congregational Church
172 Lower Road off of Rt. 44 in East Canaan**

***DINNER WILL BE SERVED
5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.***

THE CONCERT STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

***Dinner \$10.00
(Children ten and under free)
The Concert is free
Donations will benefit
Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry***





2010

**North Canaan Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 306
Canaan, CT 06018**

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