



A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Thanks to all who made the All Church Meeting on May 24 such an important and joyous occasion! We received with great thanks the Reports on the past year – and what a year it was! - from the Elected Leaders of First Church and members of the Pastoral Team, previously known as “the staff.”

We elected, again with thanks, the Leaders who will serve us in the coming year. Please take a look at the “slate” included in this Herald (page 4). Note the strength of this diverse, committed, resourceful, and faithful group!

We approved the plan to replace the flat roof over the Jones Wing and update the HVAC for the Store! We also received the interim report from the Facilities Board on steps to be taken to provide adequate ventilation that will make the Sanctuary, Webb, and Eunoia Rooms safe and usable 12 months a year.

We voted unanimously to create a Co-Pastorate for The Reverend Vanessa Rose and myself, starting in September. I am thrilled personally by this decision and on behalf of the church I welcome this step that recognizes and honors Vanessa’s significant vocational gifts and experience, and opens the door for her to exercise leadership in the full range of our congregation’s life. I have complete confidence in Vanessa as a colleague, knowing that her wisdom, abilities, and faithfulness will be a boon to us all.

We are getting closer to “normal” for our worship life this summer, too!

Starting on June 20

8:15 Worship will be IN PERSON (with mask or social distancing) at Sasco Beach

10:15 Worship will be IN PERSON (with both masks and social distancing) in Wakeman Hall and ONLINE

Let’s have a great summer together!

Courage and peace,



SUMMER WORSHIP

*Welcome to summer! A time for some rest,
reflection, renewal, and regeneration of our energy.*

While it is true that the Coronavirus pandemic is not over – especially in many American communities, as well as in the majority of nations where the vaccination rate is very low infection and death rates continue to soar– here in Connecticut the vaccination rate is high and rates of infection, hospitalization, and death rates are declining.

This means that will be able to gather for worship In Person and Online beginning on June 20. When gathering Outdoors, please either wear a mask or practice social distancing. When gathering Indoors, please wear a mask and practice social distancing. These simple steps help us all!

At Sasco Beach at 8:15 am we will gather In Person for Worship with our siblings from Southport Congregational. Beach Stickers are not required!

In Wakeman Hall at 10:15 we will gather In Person for the Worship of God. This service will also be available Online on Sundays and throughout the week.

Let's get together for best reason possible: to worship the God of Love! We look forward to seeing and being with you this summer! Here's the schedule:

	Sasco Beach at 8:15	Wakeman Hall at 10:15 and On Line
June 20	The Reverend Vanessa Rose	Vanessa Rose
June 27	The Reverend David W. Spollett	David W. Spollett
July 4	Student Pastor Heidi Butler	Heidi Butler
July 11	Clergy from Southport	The Reverend Suzanne Wagner
July 18	Suzanne Wagner	Suzanne Wagner
July 25	Clergy from Southport	Suzanne Wagner
August 1	David Spollett	David Spollett
August 8	Clergy from Southport	David Spollett
August 15	David Spollett	David Spollett
August 22	Clergy from Southport	Vanessa Rose
August 29	Vanessa Rose	Vanessa Rose
September 5	David Spollett	David Spollett

CONNECT

A Joining Sunday you won't want to miss!

Blest be the tie that binds!

Join us as we welcome new members and Confirmands at an in-person worship on June 13th!

The Confirmands will share their creative projects and excerpts from their statements of faith.

Then we will all read our Covenant together and become a new expression of the Body of Christ with beautiful new gifts for ministry. Praise God!



Pastoral Leadership and Care

Summer 2021

We are very pleased that our good friend and former Associate Pastor of First Church, The Reverend Suzanne Wagner will be with us again this July during David's vacation.

Suzanne will lead worship and preach on Sundays July 11, 18 and 25 (Student Pastor Heidi Butler will preach on July 4) and will provide leadership and care for the entire month. The best way to reach Suzanne is email swagner5@yahoo.com or call/text 203-545-6562.

David Spollett and Vanessa Rose (one or the other) will be on hand during August:

From August 1 – 17, call/text David at 203-414-0496.

From August 18 – 31, call/text Vanessa at 617-921-8648.

Both David & Vanessa will be on hand after September 1.

SUMMER

CHOIR



All are welcome to join us as we resume choir at First Church!

Rehearsal:

Thursday, June 10, at 7:30 PM in Wakeman Hall

This is an exciting time after over a year of hiatus. Whether you've been a part of the Chancel Choir in the past, or not, please use this short-term commitment as a chance to try it out, see what it's like to work with me, and just be in community and make music together!

Even if you don't have time or the inclination to sing each Sunday of the program year, there's a place for you here. Rehearsal will make productive and enjoyable use of your precious time, that we will grow, and have fun doing it!

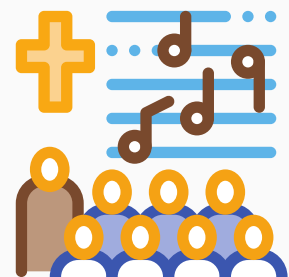
As of this writing, we plan to sing for 10:15 worship in Wakeman Hall:

June 20

July 11

August 18 or 25

Please contact Frank with questions - fmartignetti@firstchurchfairfield.org.





FIRST CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL, UCC
 Fairfield, Connecticut
 Elected by Vote of the All Church Meeting on May 24, 2021

Officers

Moderator	Jim Muschett	Assistant Moderator	Patty Bilotto		
Clerk	Carrie Curtin	Treasurer	Jacque Paige	“Auditor”	Tim Clark

Council Stewards

Worship	Wendy Williams-Brown	Outreach	Rita Skog
Inreach	To Be Elected	Faith Formation	Julie Zuleta
Resource Development	Joy Nazzaro & Elisabeth Pavlofsky	Resource Management	Craig Way

Diaconate

Pertrinea Cash	Fernando Destruge	Todd Gregory
Clara Harmon	Greg Jefremow	David McKinnis
Andrew McKinnis	Michelle Nolan	Rita Skog
Mike Szwejkowski	Elise Wakeman-D’Andrea	Wendy Williams-Brown (Chair)

Facilities Board

Maria Ferrante	Neil Hauck (Co-Chair)	Bill Kenney
Davis Miller	Tom Salvesen	Jeff Dean
Craig Way	Joe Strickland (Co-Chair)	

Finance Board

Maria Ferrante	John Harmon	Jim Meisner
Joy Nazzaro	Jacque Paige	Eric Treschuk (Chair)

Music Board

Tim Clark	Peggy Gettig	To Be Elected
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Personnel Board

Patty Bilotto (Chair)	Sally Chandler	Mark Engstrom
Jim Muschett	Sue O’Donovan	Jacque Paige

Delegates

Connecticut Conference UCC: LaNeil Brown, Sr. and Wendy Williams-Brown
 Fairfield East Association UCC: Two To Be Elected
 Council of Churches Greater Bridgeport: Lynn Kelly, Jim Meisner, Rita Skog
 Parish Court Elderly Housing: Gloria Evans, David Spollett, and To Be Elected



Women's Spirituality Group - will meet for our final session this year on Wednesday June 23rd at 6:30. We hope to be able to meet outside at church, but will advise closer to the date. We will continue to discuss readings from Howard Thurman's Meditations of the Heart. Next year's readings will be determined at the June meeting and we look forward to in-person and zoom sessions next church year - beginning in September.



CONNECT

Congregations Organized for a New Connecticut
Congregaciones Organizadas para un Nuevo Connecticut

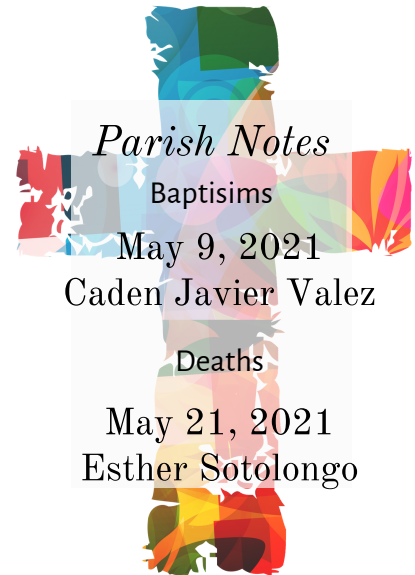
The Legislative session ends on June 9th between now and then we may be asked to email Legislators and the Governor to support Clean Slate.

We may also be asked to lobby, in person, at the Capital.

Healthcare/Mental health team meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Criminal Justice Reform team meets the 4th Tuesday of the month.

weCONNECT.org



Parish Notes

Baptisms

May 9, 2021

Caden Javier Valez

Deaths

May 21, 2021

Esther Sotolongo



The Greater Bridgeport Council of Churches will offer a summer reading program under their Becoming an Anti Racist program. More details to follow once the book is selected.

BEGINNING
June 20

In-Person and Online Worship
Sasco Beach at 8:15 am
Wakeman Hall 10:15 am

Outdoors, please either wear a mask or practice social distancing.
Indoors, please wear a mask and practice social distancing.
These simple steps help us all!

More information on page 3

*Summer
Together*



First Church Congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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