

*Congregational Church of New Fairfield, United Church of Christ  
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## ***CANDLELIGHT – AUGUST 2021***

Hello Beloved Children!

As I sit here writing this article, the washer is running and I am packing for vacation! Oh how I am looking forward to getting away. Now don't take that personally, but what a year and a half it has been! Last year's vacation did not happen but so much did happen. The changes brought on by this pandemic have been overwhelming and yet one thing never, ever changed... God. God has been with us through all of the challenges. Thanks be to God! It is hard to believe all the change we have been through together. I am so grateful for this congregation and the ways that we have been flexible, patient and resilient. While it seems we can not assume this crisis is over, we have learned so much from it. We are learning and discerning where we need to be and move forward as the church. Thank you to everyone for your spirit of adventure.

August will continue to be a time of renewal and rest for many but we are also still working on our Team development and are still seeking interested people to serve God by working on one of our Teams; Worship & Ministry, Trustees, Faith Formation and Missions. There are a variety of tasks and responsibilities for each of the Teams. We have members continuing in their roles on the Teams but have not had many new people willing to join them at this time. It is clear that the Covid pandemic has affected all of us and we may be hesitant about making a commitment to serve God in this way. It is certainly understandable! I think many of us got a bit overwhelmed in the spring when events, sports and activities came roaring back. Our calendars filled quickly. It was very difficult to keep a balance between the different aspects of our lives. Hopefully we are finding our way and can consider how we will serve God in the coming year. Hopefully the ministry of this church continues to be important to you. Hopefully we continue to find ways to come together and support each other, especially those currently on our Teams doing a wonderful job.

As much as I am excited about vacation time, I'm more excited about our church and the way we are growing as a community and congregation. I will be back mid August and together we will be setting calendars for the program year, planning Mission projects, starting a new confirmation class, reaching out to gather ASP volunteers, coordinate worship services, set up calendars for the Scouts using our building, deep cleaning the downstairs rooms, begin the Bundles of Care program, and so much more. We will be looking at the results of our many imagination meetings to help guide us in the process. It will be wonderful to start a new year.

But in the meantime, enjoy worship (hopefully outside!). You will be in my prayers over my vacation and I hope I will be in yours. See you soon!

Blessings and peace,  
Pastor Liz

### **Worship Services**

In-person services are taking place outside in our Garden Sanctuary at 10 a.m. each Sunday, weather permitting. For those unable to join us in person, we continue to livestream Sunday services on our YouTube channel.

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS



### CCNF has hired a Faith Formation Director.

We welcome Marcía Kendall as our director of Faith Formation. Miss Kendall was introduced at the service on July 25.



You can reach her at 203-746-2865 or at [DirectorFF@ccnf-ucc.org](mailto:DirectorFF@ccnf-ucc.org)

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

The turnout to meet our new Faith Formation director was so good, the team has decided to hold Summer Sunday School for the rest of the summer!! Children will be able to enjoy making a craft tied to each week's church lesson while parents attend the full worship service.



### WORK AROUND THE CHURCH

There are two projects that will be going on in August that you should be aware of if you are in the building or garden. Outdoor Ministries is updating the Garden beds in the Memorial Wall section. This space may not be accessible during the week from August 2nd to August 13th. It is planned that there will be safe access on Sunday, Aug 8th but that could change.

The Trustees and Brian Johannssen are working on a project to have the asbestos tiles abated from the back stairway of the church and upstairs bathrooms. On Friday, Aug 6th the toilets and sinks etc will be removed from the bathrooms. Then on Monday, Aug 9th - Thursday, Aug 12th the abatement process will be happening and the area will be sealed off and inaccessible.

Many thanks to everyone who is working to accomplish these two projects.



### The Benches are here and in place

Our new benches for the outdoor Garden have been put into use, at least during Folk Fest! Several Sundays have seen worship services held indoors because of the weather. Dedication of the benches will be done soon, during an outdoor service.



### USHERS and WELCOMERS!

Consider serving your fellow church members this summer as an usher/welcomer for our Sunday services. Contact Pastor Liz to sign up for an upcoming Sunday.

Remember to sign up as far in advance as possible. We will happily send you a reminder email during the week before your chosen Sunday(s).





### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

The registration form for the upcoming year of Church School is included with this issue of Candlelight.

Registration forms can be returned to the church office.

### BUNDLES OF CARE



We will continue to serve our neighbors in need by providing items that are not covered by SNAP and the Food Pantry. We will be offering bundles on a monthly basis of the following items: **diapers and wipes, pet food, cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene items**

Donations of items for our bundles may be dropped off at church during office hours, Tuesdays - Fridays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The bagging **Service Opportunity** will change. Instead of weekly bagging, we will need volunteers to come and **Bundle** items monthly, one afternoon before each distribution.

If you are interested, want to sign up or have questions, please email [missions@ccnf-ucc.org](mailto:missions@ccnf-ucc.org).



*Serving at  
Dorothy Day*

### DOROTHY DAY HOSPITALITY HOUSE

We are serving at Dorothy Day on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Our next day will be August 25. We will meet at the kitchen at 1:30 to start bagging the meals. We will also be serving a hot meal to go. We have a limited number of volunteers who can work so please let us know if you would like to help. We are normally finished between 4 -4:30pm.

Serving at Dorothy Day is a wonderful way to be the hands and feet of Christ, serving those in need. If you have any questions or would like some more information, please contact Pastor Liz. [pastor@ccnf-ucc.org](mailto:pastor@ccnf-ucc.org)

### WHY VOLUNTEER TO SERVE AT DOROTHY DAY?

**Here are some thoughts on the volunteer experience from Cille Grabert:**

I look forward to volunteering once a month at Dorothy Day with the church's team.

Each visit is so special because we see the generosity of the community to support this valuable place with handmade sandwiches, food, clothing, and toiletries. We have a chance to get to know our church friends on a deeper level. We are able to serve bag lunches and hot food to many community members and families that rely on Dorothy Day. It is wonderful to be able to give back and treat each person with the respect that they deserve.

One day, we were able to give a birthday cake to a young man who was celebrating his birthday. He was so excited to take home his special surprise. Another day, we had a gentleman that only had the clothes that he was wearing. We were able to give him a change of clothes, food, and give him information to find a shelter. I am very thankful for the chance to make a difference.

## FOLK FEST IN THE GARDEN

Folk Fest was held in the Garden space from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 18th. Those who attended this free event enjoyed performances from Midnight Maizy and The Barr Family Band. Both groups treated attendees to many familiar favorites, and everyone enjoyed a lovely afternoon of music. Sales of refreshments benefitted the ASP.



## Upcoming meetings and Events

Sun, Aug. 1, 10 a.m.	Rev. Carl Anderson preaches, communion
Sat, Aug. 7, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Thrift Shop Open
Sun, Aug. 8, 10 a.m.	Rev. Martha Bays preaches
Thur, Aug. 12, 6 p.m.	Worship & Ministry Team
Weds, Aug. 18, 6 p.m.	Mission Team
Weds, Aug. 18, 7 p.m.	Trustee Team
Thurs, Aug. 19, 6 p.m.	Faith Formation Team
Sat, Aug. 21, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Thrift Shop Open
Weds, Aug. 25, 1:30 p.m.	Dorothy Day serving
Weds, Aug. 25, 6:30 p.m.	Executive Council



## Come One Come All!!

We are grateful to those that have reached out and offered your gifts of singing and playing. We hope everyone will consider offering their musical talent in our worship. Please contact Rev. Carl Anderson at [carl4music@gmail.com](mailto:carl4music@gmail.com) or call him at 203-654-1142.

## CCNF THRIFT SHOP

The church's clothing donation shed is open and receiving your donated clothes, shoes, and bags. The Thrift Shop will be open on **Saturday, Aug. 7 and Aug. 21**, between 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. The volunteers have sorted and hung many great deals so check it out. Masks, physical distancing, and a limit of people in each room are required to be open.



*Thank you for supporting the missions of the Congregational Church of New Fairfield, UCC!*



**Congregational Church of New Fairfield**

for Office use: C \_\_\_\_\_  
E \_\_\_\_\_

**Children & Youth Ministry Registration**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)  
 Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phones (h)/(c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emails \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in Sept \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_  
 Allergies or concerns \_\_\_\_\_

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 Allergies or concerns \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorization for Media Release**

On occasion we like to use the photos or videos of our children to enhance the communication and ministry of our congregation. They might be used in Sunday School or youth group activities, bulletin boards, or Church services. In addition, they may also be used on the church's website or Facebook page.

I give my permission for my child(ren) to be photographed or videotaped.

I do not give my permission for my child(ren) to be photographed or videotaped.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Legal guardian (please print)      Parent/Legal guardian Signature      Date

**Comments and Questions**

I have questions about the Children & Youth programs, please call \_\_\_\_\_

I have questions about the church, please have the pastor call \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in helping with the Children & Youth programs \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Questions: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_