

Congregational Church of New Fairfield, United Church of Christ  
20 Gillotti Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812  
203-746-2865 [office@ccnf-ucc.org](mailto:office@ccnf-ucc.org)  
**CANDLELIGHT – NOVEMBER 2021**

Hello Beloved Children!

We have enjoyed a wonderful summer in the garden. With the exception of a very wet July, we have been blessed with beautiful weather, flowers, birds and chipmunks. The new benches finally arrived and made for some drier and more sturdy seating. The outdoors afforded us the opportunity to be unmasked while we were seated in worship and that was wonderful.

As we move back into the sanctuary, the Worship and Ministry Team confirmed that we will continue with masking indoors with the exception of those speaking at the lectern and pulpit. We will close off the first couple rows to ensure some physical distancing. Our concern is for all of us, especially those who are the most vulnerable. Live Streaming is available as well for those who are not able or comfortable in an enclosed space for worship.

Our choir has gathered for practice again and we have begun recording anthems! I think you will be very happy to hear the choir singing together again. We welcome everyone to participate in our music and encourage you to contact Rev Carl Anderson to see how and when you can make a joyful noise!

Let's give thanks for all that our church has and the blessings we have been given.

Blessings and peace,  
Pastor Liz

### **Worship Services**

Worship services will move indoors as of Nov. 7. We will meet at 10 a.m. each Sunday. For those unable to join us in person, we continue to livestream Sunday services on our YouTube channel. If you need help connecting, virtually or otherwise, please let us know in the office and we will facilitate getting help for you. [office@ccnf-ucc.org](mailto:office@ccnf-ucc.org)



### **REMINDER: FALL CLEAN UP ON SATURDAY**

It's that time of year again! So on Saturday, Nov. 6, we will have the Outdoor Church Clean Up from 9 a.m. to noon. Please bring your rake, your leaf blower, your work gloves, etc., and pitch in to get our grounds ready for the next change of season. If you have a spare rake or blower, bring it to share with another volunteer who doesn't, and we'll see many hands make light work.



### **USHERS and WELCOMERS!**

Consider serving your fellow church members this season 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

If you are a parent and would like to volunteer, please sign up ASAP; sign-up sheets are at the welcome table before each service, or you can send me an email. If you could commit to one Sunday a month we would only need four-five volunteers. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Please note that volunteers should arrive by 9:35 a.m. to help with set up, and stay until 11 a.m. for clean up.

### EVERYTHING IS BETTER WITH ICE CREAM!

On Sunday, Nov 7, from 7 to 8 p.m., the Senior High Youth will be making fall centerpieces to sell at church. The money will help fund the ASP summer trip and other work projects they will have this year. Join us as we work on the center pieces together. And to sweeten the night, there will be ice cream! All are needed -- no matter your talents, you will be able to help. Contact Stephanie Shaughnessy via email to [jiaowah@charter.net](mailto:jiaowah@charter.net) with any questions.



### BUNDLES OF CARE: DONATIONS NEEDED



We will be distributing again on Tuesday, Dec .7th. We will be offering bundles on a monthly basis of the following items: **diapers and wipes, pet food, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items and snacks & juice for children**

Donations of items for our bundles may be dropped off at church during office hours, Tuesdays - Fridays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call the office at 203-746-2865 for help bringing your donations to the sorting area.

The deadline for requesting December bundles will be Tues, Nov. 30.

Distribution will be Tues, Dec. 7. **A volunteer is needed to help from 11am - 1pm.**

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

Items most urgently needed for Bundles of Care:

- |                          |                     |                                    |                                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Laundry Detergent</b> | <b>Dish Soap</b>    | <b>Sponges</b>                     | <b>Garbage Bags (small boxes)</b> |
| <b>Cleaning Sprays</b>   | <b>Paper Towels</b> | <b>Shampoo (10 oz. or smaller)</b> | <b>Disposable Razors</b>          |
| <b>Shaving Cream</b>     | <b>Toilet Paper</b> |                                    |                                   |

Call the office (203-746-2865) for assistance when dropping off donations.

The only food items to donate at the church are the following lunch snacks for kids:

- Crackers      Cookies      Granola Bars      Juice Boxes**

Any other food you wish to donate should be donated directly to the New Fairfield Food Pantry - call Cindy White at 203-312-5669.



### WORK AROUND THE CHURCH UPDATE

The Trustees and Brian Johannssen are continuing work on the project to have the asbestos tiles abated from the back stairway of the church and upstairs bathrooms. The abatement process has happened. The flooring has been replaced and the sinks and toilets reinstalled in the upstairs bathrooms. Next steps are painting and installing the molding when that comes in.

Many thanks to everyone who has been working on this project.



### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet Tuesday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m.

Please join us to knit, crochet or loom and for some fellowship in the conference room. All ages welcome! If you craft, or want to learn, we can help you. You can make a beautiful shawl for someone, imbued with prayers for healing and comfort.

All you need to bring is: to knit -- knitting needles size 13 either long straight ones or circular; to crochet -- a crochet hook size K or N; to loom -- a loom (long rectangular). These shawls are a loving gift for anyone in need.

We also are making Baptism Baby Blankets. We use white baby yarn for these. If you want to make one of these, please bring a Size G crochet hook or Size 8 knitting needles/circular needles to the meeting Tuesday night.

For more information, call Dot Bass at 203-746-2855 or email [dcbass@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dcbass@sbcglobal.net); or call Sue St. Hilaire at 203-778-1474 or cell 203-300-6220, or email [sshilaire@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sshilaire@sbcglobal.net).

If you would like to request a shawl, please contact Sue, Dot or Pastor Liz.

### INTERFAITH WORKDAY TO SUPPORT HOUSATONIC HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



CCNF has been invited to participate in an Interfaith Workday on Sunday, Nov. 21, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Housatonic Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, 51 Austin St. in Danbury. The mission is to clear the outdoor parking and storage area of leaves and debris, and prepare the garden beds for winter. HHH is welcoming all ages to participate, with minor-aged children accompanied by a responsible adult or guardian. Individuals or teams are asked

to RSVP by emailing [info@housatonichabitat.org](mailto:info@housatonichabitat.org) by Monday, Nov. 15th.

If needed, the rain date will be Sunday, Dec. 5th. For more information, contact Rev. Jim Wheeler, Volunteer Interfaith Coordinator, at [jrwheeler53@gmail.com](mailto:jrwheeler53@gmail.com) or 203-525-3918.



*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 **November 24**. 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)



### Come One Come All!!

We are grateful to those that have reached out and offered your gifts of singing. 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.

**CHOIR PRACTICE HAS RESUMED!!! We will gather in the sanctuary on Mondays, (except Nov. 15), at 7:30pm.**



**American Red Cross**

### CCNF MISSIONS TEAM: MISSIONS MOMENT

Last month, the Missions Moment highlighted the American Red Cross. This month, we can alert you to an upcoming blood drive that will be held at CCNF.

**If you would like to donate blood, mark your calendar for Monday, Dec. 13.** The Red Cross will hold a blood drive in Pilgrim Hall from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day. You can make an appointment online at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time> or call 1-800-RED CROSS (that's 1-800-733-2767).

When you donate, and download the ARC Blood Donor App, you can track your donation as it makes its way to a hospital! Scan here to download the App:



### FISH

Friends In Service Here (FISH) of New Fairfield is being revived. For those unfamiliar with FISH, it is a volunteer organization that provides transportation for the elderly or the sick who cannot arrange for their own rides and drivers. Rides are provided free of charge by volunteers, although clients may choose to make a donation to FISH of New Fairfield at their discretion.

Do you feel called to be a volunteer driver? You must be at least 25 years old and have a valid driver's license. Proof of vehicle insurance must be provided, and background checks will be conducted. Appointments are generally 1 to 3 hours. No need to wait around - you can run errands between drop-off and pick-up. You can set your schedule on a month-to-month basis. Interested? Email [fishofnf@gmail.com](mailto:fishofnf@gmail.com) to discuss becoming a volunteer driver. For more information, visit their Facebook page @FISHofNewFairfield.

### CHURCH BUDGET



Our annual church budget is ready for your review. It will be sent to everyone via email. For those without email, hard copies are available at the church office and in Pilgrim Hall. We will have an open Zoom meeting to discuss questions about the budget on Thurs, Nov 18 at 6pm. The link to that meeting is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82315363029?pwd=VFhUUTVFMmxybENMK2ZYTy9TNzZ1OT09>

Meeting ID: 823 1536 3029

Passcode: 783172

You may also direct your questions to [office@ccnf-ucc.org](mailto:office@ccnf-ucc.org) and they will be forwarded to the correct persons.

The budget will be voted on during our annual meeting to be held after worship on Sunday, Dec 5th, both in person and simultaneously online via Zoom.

### 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 for shopping on **Saturday, Nov. 6 and 20**, 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.





## DRUMMING CIRCLE

Join us on the first and third Mondays of each month for a time to create a beat in fellowship with others. Newcomers are always welcome. We typically have an extra drum you are welcome to use. For more information please contact Jerry Gay ([jerrygay78@aol.com](mailto:jerrygay78@aol.com)).



Dear Beloved friends of CCNF,

This year's Stewardship theme is "Rooted in Love." We invite you to read this thoughtful expression of faith provided by Katy Johannssen, one of the members of our Stewardship Team:

In the most recent Candlelight, we read the article "Why Church?" written by Rev Rachael Bauman, St John's UCC, Wisconsin Conference. She mentions "the needs we are seeking to meet through our actions creates greater understanding between us." Explained in the passage is the following – shared reality, self-expression & contribution, effectiveness and challenge. The list continues with compassion, celebration, belonging, beauty, inspiration and connection.

Let's reflect on a few of these from the list:

*Compassion*

*Beauty*

*Celebration*

**COMPASSION** is at the root of stability and growth of our church. Compassion for each other, not only in our congregation but our community, is contagious! Compassionate Connections is just one example of offering what we have to assist and love someone else.

**BEAUTY** - Church is where we find beauty. Sunday services in the garden signified praising God in the great outdoors. BEAUTY is observing the creche during advent and taking part in the candle lighting on Christmas Eve. The altar adorned with Easter blessings signifies beauty also. There is always beauty found in songs and sermons, conversations and celebrations.

**CELEBRATION**-- Church is where we CELEBRATE God's love. Attending baptisms at CCNF, we witness God's love and vow to teach by example and show God's love to all who worship with us. We CELEBRATE holidays in the church also – Christmas, "the birth of His son, Jesus Christ," and Easter, "He has risen." Weddings are also CELEBRATIONS witnessing the love between two people.

We find all these things and more at our church. So it makes sense to support these efforts with our treasure, as well as our time and talent. I invite you to join me and the other members of our church family in making a thoughtful pledge of financial support to CCNF this coming year.





## Help is needed!

Following is a list of tasks that need to be completed in our church. If you can work on one of them, please let us know. This task list is on the white board in Pilgrim Hall and is regularly updated as well. The Trustees have an enormous responsibility to take care of our facility. It is their task to oversee and manage these tasks, not to do them by themselves. Thank you for helping us! Details and information is available from any of the

Trustees, Todd Lovejoy, Jackie Hutchings, and Kathi Ellison.

- Sanitize the kitchen
- clean the inside of the refrigerators
- change the batteries in the hand sanitizers
- replace the storm windows in the sanctuary and Pilgrim Hall
- replace 2 high hat lights in the sanctuary
- replace light in the hallway upstairs and the conference room
- cover and put away the standing fans
- replace the assistance bars in the upstairs bathroom
- assist with returning items to upstairs storage closet after painting

**Thank you** to **Jeremy Hutchings** and **Greg Slomba** for putting away the air conditioners from the offices and the conference room. Many thanks to **Julie York** for her work on all things Christmas! She has been busy, sorting and organizing all of our decorations and Christmas trees. There is still work to be done, so reach out to Julie if you can offer some help.



## SILVER LAKE TO HOLD CHRISTMAS AT THE LAKE PROGRAMS

Come celebrate the Advent season at Silver Lake! There will be a Family Day on Saturday, Dec. 4th, and a Youth Overnight for 7th and 8th grades Dec. 10-12.

Family Day includes a day of fellowship by the fireside, games, crafts, hot cocoa, chili, and some Adventure games. Spend time outdoors with other families as we enter the season of Advent and prepare for Christmas.

Young people in grades 7 and 8 can join their friends and make new ones as they anticipate Christ's birth at Silver Lake, with or without snow! Participants will get busy and creative with Christmas crafts, outdoor play, baking, worship, and lots of singing of Christmas songs around the fire.

For more information on pricing and COVID-safety requirements, and to register, visit

[www.silverlakeect.org/campsessions](http://www.silverlakeect.org/campsessions)

## Upcoming meetings and Events

Sat, Nov. 6, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sat, Nov. 6, 9 a.m. - noon

**Sun, Nov. 7, 10 a.m.**

Sun, Nov. 7, 11 a.m.

Sun, Nov. 7, 7 p.m.

Mon, Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.

Tue, Nov. 9, 7 p.m.

Wed, Nov. 10, 7 p.m.

Thurs, Nov. 11, 6 p.m.

**Sun, Nov. 14, 10am**

Sun, Nov 14, 11am

Mon, Nov. 15, 7 p.m.

Wed, Nov. 17, 6 p.m.

Wed, Nov. 17, 7 p.m.

Thurs, Nov. 18, 6 p.m.

Thurs, Nov. 18, 7 p.m.

Sat, Nov. 20, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Sun, Nov. 21, 10 a.m.**

Mon, Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.

Wed, Nov. 24, 12:30 p.m.

**Sun, Nov. 28, 10 a.m.**

Mon, Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m.

Tue, Nov. 30, by 4 p.m.

**Sun, Dec 5, 10 a.m.**

Sun, Dec 5, after worship

Sun, Dec 5, 11 a.m.

Thrift Shop Open

Outdoor Church Clean Up

**Worship moves indoors - Communion Sunday**

Confirmation Gathering

ASP Ice Cream & Crafts

Choir Practice

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Trustees Meeting

Worship & Ministry Team Meeting

**Worship - Stewardship Sunday**

Prayer Group Gathering

Drumming Circle

Missions Team Meeting

Executive Council Meeting

Budget Discussion Meeting

Faith Formation Team Meeting

Thrift Shop Open

**Worship**

Choir Practice

Serving at Dorothy Day

**Worship - First Sunday of Advent**

Choir Practice

Bundle of Care requests due

**Worship - Second Sunday of Advent & Communion Sunday**

Annual Meeting and Budget vote

Confirmation Gathering

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