CANDLELIGHT - MAY 20, 2022

Hello Beloved Children!

Blessings to you all! What a wonderful time of the year as the weather is certainly turning warmer, the flowers are blooming and we begin to worship outside in God's amazing creation. I hope you have a chance to attend or tune in to our outdoor worship service and experience the inner joy that comes while worshiping and hearing the birds, watching the chipmunks scurry and the occasional butterfly dancing by. We are so blessed to have the beautiful space outside.

There is a small group of people who work hard to maintain the gardens. They are always looking for more hands to help with the project. Lately they have been gathering on Wednesday mornings to do a little weeding and work around the space. Speak to Jackie Hutchings or Marie Moore to confirm their workday and consider joining them. Fresh air does wonders for the soul.

May is Mental Health Awareness month. I hope you take some time to consider the many ways that you practice self care to strengthen your resilience and wellness. In this time of Covid, violence around the world, political battles, and economic challenges we all need to be aware and work to take care of ourselves. If you have a need that I can be helpful with, please do not hesitate to call or reach out. Our support network of caring people is vital for each of us.

Blessings and peace, Pastor Liz

WORSHIP SERVICES MOVE TO GARDEN

We will meet at 10 a.m. each Sunday in the Garden Sanctuary, weather permitting, beginning May 22. Along with in-person worship, we continue to offer the livestream of the service 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. <u>office@ccnf-ucc.org</u>

USHERS and WELCOMERS!

Consider serving your fellow church members this season as an usher/welcomer for our Sunday services. Contact Stephanie by email to <u>jiaowah@charter.net</u> 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).



LV VE MY NEIGHBOR



How is your family doing with the Love My Neighbor calendar? The Faith Formation Team is leading the church school with a focus on serving our neighbors for the month of May. Church school families have calendars (pictured on the left) to work on throughout the month. Have you done something nice for someone who has made you angry, without letting the person know? Learned how to say hello in different languages? The learnings and lessons from this will culminate in the children's leading

Silver Lake is our conference's camp located in Sharon, CT. We have had many youth attend Silver Lake over the years. There are camp conferences open to youth entering 4th grade through High School. Check out all they

have to offer at www.silverlakect.org/ or call 860-364-5526.

worship on June 12th, Children's Sunday. Bring your children to church so

they can be a part of these important lessons.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

... the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth."



JEREMIAH 1:9, NRSV

CALL TO SHARE

Everyone is encouraged to take a turn to share very briefly one of the things that is important to them about CCNF and why they give during the 'Call to Share.' This is part of our worship each week where we have an opportunity to hear from each other. **This share can be done in person or in writing.** Please consider sharing your thoughts with us. Speak to Katy Johannssen, Will Anderson or Pastor Liz to schedule your turn. Everyone can share and we look forward to hearing from you.

TAKE A HIKE TUESDAY

Several people answered the invitation to take a hike on Tuesday, May 17, with Colleen McQuade. The group was challenged by the aftermath of a Monday night storm, which felled trees along their planned route, but they managed to have a good hike anyway. At one point, some of them gathered for a selfie, at right. If you enjoy hiking, speak to Colleen during fellowship time after service, or keep an eye out for future hike announcements in our bulletin, Midweek Memo, or keep an ear out during announcements at church.





NEW COLUMBARIA

The columbaria have been installed in the Memorial Garden. This project will expand the capacity of the Memorial Garden to offer final resting places to those who wish to inter cremains here. The Memorial Garden group is finalizing the updated contracts to sell these niches and will share information with the congregation as soon as they are available. Thank you to Marie Moore, Katie Williams and Jackie Hutchings for working tirelessly on this important project.



HOMEFRONT WORK DAY - SATURDAY, JUNE 11th

The Mission Team and the ASP Team are planning a workday with Homefront. We will be working at the home of a elderly couple in Bethel on repair projects and much needed outdoor work. This is an opportunity for our whole church to come together and put discipleship into action. We need many hands to accomplish the work needed. Please consider working with us for a few hours, half a day or the whole day. Sign up in

Pilgrim Hall. Speak to Steve Rodier, Tracy Yoho or Pastor Liz for more information.



BUNDLES OF CARE: DONATIONS NEEDED

We have distribution day on the first Tuesday of each month. We offer bundles on a monthly basis of the following items: **diapers and wipes**, **pet food**, **cleaning supplies**, **personal hygiene items and snacks & juice for children** Thanks to Gretchen Skidmore for organizing Bundles of Care every month and to Barb Coelho and Marcia Semchysen who have been helping during distribution days.

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. If you are interested, want to sign up or have questions, please email <u>missions@ccnf-ucc.org</u>.

Items most urgently needed for Bundles of Care:

Dish SoapFeminine Hygiene ProductsJuice BoxesRazors & Shaving CreamCleaning Sprays or WipesShampoo & Conditioner (10 oz. or smaller)Toilet Paper

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.



CAR WASH FUNDRAISER FOR THE ASP TRIP

The Senior High Youth had a car wash on the church grounds Saturday, May 14, from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Proceeds go to the Senior High Youth Work Trip to Appalachia this summer.



ASP STOCK SALES

Don't forget to purchase your stock in the summer mission trip to Appalachia. Check in with us at the table in Pilgrim Hall. Shares are just \$10, you can buy one or more.



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Committee- Pam Dohan, Sue Newton and Janice Zackeo - is now reviewing applications for this year's Scholarship. The Scholarship will be awarded during worship on June 12th.



REGISTER TO PAINT A TREE FOR ASP

Well, really, it's your canvas, your tree - but the funds raised at this paint party will support the work trip to Appalachia this summer. For a \$20 donation, artists of any (or unknown) ability can register to attend the party by signing up after Sunday service or contacting the church office. The party will be **Friday**, **June 10**, **at 7 p.m**. Colleen McQuade will provide supplies and encourage your creativity as you create your colorful tree on canvas. Couples: this event makes for a fun date night! Uncoupled: this event makes for a fun evening out

with friends! Register soon for this fun night out for a good cause. (Image at left, not the specific tree that will be the focus of the paint party.)

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet next on Tuesday, June 14th. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room at the church. All ages are welcome, whether you are an experienced crafter, or would like to learn.

This ministry makes shawls which are prayed over and given to those in need of healing and comfort. If you would like to knit, bring 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.

The group also makes Baptism Baby Blankets using white baby yarn. If you want to make one of these, please bring a Size G crochet hook or Size 8 knitting needles/circular needles to the next meeting. For more information, call Dot Bass at 203-746-2855 or email dcbass@sbcglobal.net; or call Sue St. Hilaire at 203-778-1474 or cell 203-300-6220, or email sshilaire@sbcglobal.net. *If you would like to request a shawl, please contact Sue, Dot or Pastor Liz.*



DOROTHY DAY HOSPITALITY HOUSE

We are serving at Dorothy Day on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Our next day will be **May 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

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. <u>pastor@ccnf-ucc.org</u>

COOK NIGHT

We will meet at CCNF at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24, to prep and cook an entree for our serving day on the 25th. This month we will make Shepherd's Pie. If you are interested in coming to help cook on Tuesday night, please let Pastor Liz know.

CLOTHING

In addition to serving meals, the Dorothy Day volunteers distribute free clothing in the shelter behind the kitchen every Wednesday and Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. Many day laborers send their earnings home to support families in Central America and can't afford clothing for themselves. There is a big need for gently used clothing for men - particularly jeans, hoodies, fleeces, jackets and boots. Please check the Wish List for sizes that are in demand (listed in the 'For the Shower' category).

WISH LIST

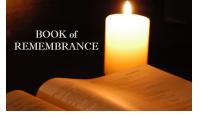
Following is the **Dorothy Day Wish List for May**. If you would like to bring donations of these items to the church for volunteers to bring to Dorothy Day on our scheduled service day, please bring them to Pilgrim Hall by Tuesday, May 24, and let Pastor Liz or Carolyn know your donation is for Dorothy Day.

For the Grab & Go bags: chips, granola bars, homemade cookies To hand out: Mens' jersey work gloves, bar soap deodorant, tooth paste For the Dorothy Day kitchen: Canned vegetables, instant mashed potatoes or scalloped potatoes For the Shower: men's jeans with 32, 34, or 36 waist, hoodies, sweatpants, boxer briefs, white socks, gently used jackets, shoes and boots



CCNF THRIFT SHOP

The church's clothing donation shed is open and receiving your usable donated clothes, shoes, belts and handbags. The Thrift Shop will be open May 21st and June 4th for shopping from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Masks, physical distancing, and a limit of people in each room will be required to be open.



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - Sunday, June 26th

Sunday, June 26th will be "Remembrance Sunday." During our worship service, we will read the names of loved ones who have been honored during the past year by gifts given in their memory, which are recorded in the Book of Remembrance. If you would like to give a gift to the Book of

Remembrance, please use the form at the end of this publication (or give the same information) and return it to the office **by Sunday, June 19**th.

Meeting DATES

Upcoming meetings and Events

As usual these days, all Team meetings are held online.

Wed, May 18, 7 p.m. **Mission Team Meeting** Thur, May 19, 7 p.m. Faith Formation Team Meeting Sat, May 21, 1 - 5 p.m. Auditions for "Peter Pan" Sun, May 22, 10 a.m. Worship - Sixth Sunday of Easter Sun, May 22, 11 a.m. Confirmation Gathering Sun, May 22, 5 - 7 p.m. ASP Parents' Meeting and ASP Training Tues, May 24, 6 p.m. Dorothy Day Cook Night - Shepherd's Pie Wed, May 25, 12:30 - 5 p.m. **Dorothy Day Serving** Thurs, May 26, 7 p.m. **Executive Council Meeting** Sun, May 29, 10 a.m. Worship - Remembrance Sunday Tues, May 31, 4 p.m. Bundles of Care Requests due Sat, June 4, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Thrift Shop open for shopping Sun, June 5, 10 a.m. Worship - Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday Sun, June 5 SHY Work Trip - All Paperwork Due

Tues, June 7, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Bundles of Care distribution Tues, June 7, all day Anniversary of becoming an ONA Congregation Wed, June 8, 7 p.m. Trustee Team Meeting Thurs, June 9, 6:15 p.m. Play Rehearsal: Junior Cast Thurs, June 9, 6:30 p.m. Worship & Ministry Team Meeting Thurs, June 9, 7 p.m. Play Rehearsal: Senior Cast Fri, June 10, 7 p.m. Paint Party to benefit ASP Sat, June 11, 9 a.m. HomeFront Workday Mon, June 13, 6 p.m. Play Rehearsal: Solo Rehearsals Tue, June 14, 7 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

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Given by:
Address:
Phone or Email:
In Memory of:
Amount Enclosed:
Send Acknowledgement to: