

Congregational Church of New Fairfield, United Church of Christ
20 Gillotti Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812
203-746-2865 office@ccnf-ucc.org

CANDLELIGHT - OCTOBER 2023

Hello Beloved Children!

Wow! it is so hard to believe that summer is over, school has begun and now it is already October! The church has been busy with activity the past month. We are so excited to see our Garden Walls project come to life. The fence is being finished right now and the grass is beginning to grow in the new level area to place benches and hold worship. Timmy Masonry has done a fabulous job and we are thrilled. I hope you will be able to join us for worship on Sunday, Oct 22nd. After our worship service, we will go outside to dedicate this new space. We are so grateful for the gifts that made this project possible. Many thanks to the Eckert family, Riccardi family and the many gifts to the Book of Remembrance this past year. I hope you can find your way out to the garden to admire the beautiful space.

With the return of school, the Faith Formation Team is enjoying the return of so many church school families. Thank you for making church a priority in their lives. We love to have our young people participate in worship as well. We will be dedicating our children that light our candles and ring the bell at the beginning of worship on Sunday, Oct 15th. There will be a training session after church as well that Sunday.

We began a new worship service on Sunday, Oct 1st at 12p.m. This service will be a short communion service on the first Sunday of the month. Its focus will be on Hope and Healing, and will be part of a year long effort to support our individual spiritual journeys. In addition to communion, the service has familiar hymns, scripture and prayer. Please feel free to join us for a quiet and serene time together.

The Mission Team had a very successful food drive in September at the New Fairfield Stop & Shop. You would be amazed at all the food that was donated by our community. The youth gave out shopping lists to all willing shoppers and they purchased some extra items and donated them as they left the store. It is a simple and convenient way to make a gift to people in need. To give you an idea of how much was collected, let me share just a few items with you... cans of tuna - 195, boxes of macaroni and cheese - 146, jars of peanut butter - 56, dried beans 30 lbs, bars of soap - 39, cereal - 34, canned vegetables - 121 and so much more. Our Compassionate Kids in the church school sorted all the donations and did an inventory. The food is heading to 4 different organizations; our own Bundles of Care program that gives personal hygiene items, pet food, diapers and cleaning supplies to families in need; Dorothy Day Hospitality House that provides meals daily (we are in charge of the 4th Wednesday every month); NF Food Pantry run by our town social services; and ARC's Comida program which distributes food and personal hygiene needs every Friday in Danbury. Everyone has been extremely grateful for the effort and energy we shared in making this possible.

After a successful summer trip to Appalachia, our team is making plans to return again this summer. The Team is holding its annual Sundae Sunday Oct. 15th to share information about the trip, and of course eat ice cream. If you know a high school or college student that would be interested in participating in this mission trip, please contact Pastor Liz at pastor@ccnf-ucc.org.

Blessings and peace,
Pastor Liz

TREASURER'S REPORT
01/01/2023 through 06/30/2023

Checking Account Balance \$37,064.42

Income/Expense Comparison

Income	2023	2022	2023 vs 2022
Pledges	\$75,460.54	\$87,730.54	(\$12,270.00)
Income from other sources	\$26,160.62	\$22,741.17	\$3,419.45
Reversal of Bank Error	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total Income	\$102,121.16	\$110,471.71	(\$8,350.55)
Expenses	2023	2022	2023 vs 2022
Payroll	\$93,841.91	\$77,765.76	\$16,076.15
Teams (Faith Formation, Missions, Trustees, W&M)	\$50,668.05	\$33,823.50	\$16,844.55
Bank Fees	\$300.63	\$288.38	\$12.25
Bank Error	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total Expenses	\$145,310.59	\$111,877.64	\$33,432.95
Net Operating Profit / (Loss) for 2023	(\$43,189.43)	(\$1,405.93)	(\$41,783.50)

Respectfully submitted by Jacki Cooper, Treasurer

WORSHIP SERVICES



We continued to meet at 10 a.m. each Sunday in our Garden, weather permitting throughout the summer. As of Oct. 1, we are back inside the church building for most worship services. Along with in-person worship, we continued 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. office@ccnf-ucc.org

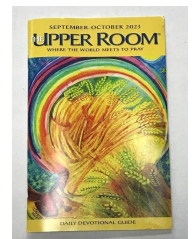
MEMORIAL SERVICE



A memorial service and interment for Mary Lou Wallace will take place at CCNF Saturday, Oct. 7, at 11 a.m.

THE UPPER ROOM

The September/October edition of The Upper Room is available now in the narthex and near the entrance to Pilgrim Hall. This publication is a conveniently small size, so you can use the daily devotionals anywhere you travel. Help yourself to a copy.



MISSIONS at CCFN



Ann's Place

Ann's Place is one of the local organizations supported by our congregation through donations to Missions. Last year we donated \$500 to their cause. Their mission is to provide support and resources to cancer patients and their caregivers with a broad range of services in Connecticut and Hudson Valley New York. They are a nonprofit that provides their care at no charge. Ann's Place offers an astonishing suite of programs like:

Financial Guidance

Yoga Classes

Support Groups

Tai Chi Classes

Zumba Classes

Book Study

Art Therapy

Men's and Women's Groups

Counseling

Individual Music Lessons
(guitar, piano or clarinet)

Horticulture Therapy

Kitten Therapy

Connections to critical support services like the American Cancer Society

Creative Writing Classes

Ann's Place provides an infrastructure where patients and caregivers can meet others who are on the same painful and frightening journey. It's a safe and welcoming space where you can enjoy community and share experiences. Ann's Place has a grant process for clients in financial distress to help pay for basic needs like gas, food, rent, utility or car repair bills. They have experts who run these classes and support groups and deliver support in English and Spanish. Ann's Place's website is annsplace.org and their phone number is (203) 790-6568. If they don't answer the phone right away please be patient as they are pretty swamped. You owe it to yourself or your loved ones to go to their website to see their astounding array of programs.



To continue providing its services free of charge, Ann's Place hosts fundraisers. You may be familiar with the Amber Room 5K Run/Walk (3.1 miles) and the Festival of Trees. The Missions Team participated in the Amber Room 5K on Thursday August 17th and enjoyed the legendary after-party and awards ceremony. If you would like to participate next year, keep an eye out for the announcement and join the CCFN team!

CCNF THRIFT SHOP



The church's clothing donation shed is open and receiving your usable donated clothes, shoes, belts and handbags. The Thrift Shop schedule changed to the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month for the summer, but in October is returning to the usual first and third Saturdays of the month. In October they will extend their hours to be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Extra help is always appreciated, so If you would like to lend us a hand in the Thrift Shop, please contact Maryann Gillotti at magillotti@yahoo.com



*Serving at
Dorothy Day*

DOROTHY DAY HOSPITALITY HOUSE

We usually serve at Dorothy Day on the fourth Wednesday of each month. We will meet at the kitchen at 1:30 and we are normally finished between 4 -4:30pm.

Our next day is **Wednesday, Oct. 25th**. Please sign up in Pilgrim Hall or call the church office at 203-746-2865 to volunteer.

Many thanks for July, August and September cooking volunteers - Will Anderson, Karen Engstrom, Barbara Kulp, Angela Kulp, Elissa Leone, Colleen McQuade, Judy Paniccia, Pam Schretzenmayer, Liz Yoho.

Thank you to Vince Bartolini who transported all the food and donations to Dorothy Day.

Also thanks to our volunteer servers and food preparers at the kitchen in July, August and September - Debbie Blackman, Angela Kulp, Bonnie Lees, Liz Yoho, Gretchen Skidmore and Stephanie Shaughnessy.

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

COOK NIGHT

We will meet at CCNF on **Tuesday, Oct. 24**, to prepare and cook an entree for our serving day on the 25th. If you are interested in coming to help cook on Tuesday night, please sign up on the sheet in Pilgrim Hall or contact the office 203-746-2865.

WISH LIST

Following is the current **Dorothy Day Wish List**. 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, Oct. 24, and let Pastor Liz or Carolyn know your donation is for Dorothy Day.

For the Grab & Go bags: individually wrapped snacks, granola bars, breakfast bars

To hand out: jersey work gloves, bottled water

For the Dorothy Day kitchen: zip lock bags - sandwich & snack, regular ground coffee, instant mashed potatoes

For the Shower: soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, bath towels

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

The new church school year was kicked off with a festive country fair on Sunday, Sept. 10th.

All ages enjoyed a variety of games and activities, with the pie-eating contest being a particular favorite.

If you would like more information about Faith Formation at CCNF, contact Colleen McQuade at

faithformation@ccnf-ucc.org or call 203-746-2865.



SUNDAE SUNDAY RETURNS!

If you know someone in high school or older who might be interested in participating in ASP next summer - maybe you, yourself? - encourage them to come to Sundae Sunday on October 15 at 7 p.m. You can make yourself a delicious sundae for your dessert and you can meet other people who have been on ASP before and ask questions about it.

Come find out more about the Appalachian Service Project!



USHERS and WELCOMERS! Consider serving your fellow church members this season as an usher/welcomer for our Sunday services. Contact Stephanie by email at jiaowah@charter.net to sign up for an upcoming Sunday. We will happily send you a reminder email during the week before your chosen Sunday(s).

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



CCNF Upcoming meetings and Events

Team meetings are held online.

Thurs, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Sat, Oct. 7, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sun, Oct 8, 10 a.m

Tues, Oct 10, 7 p.m.

Weds, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.

Thurs, Oct. 12, 6 p.m.

Sat, Oct. 14, noon - 5 p.m.

Sun, Oct. 15, 10 a.m

Sun, Oct 15, 7p.m.

Weds, Oct. 18, 7 p.m.

Thurs, Oct. 19, 6:30 p.m.

Thurs, Oct. 19, 7 p.m.

Sat, Oct. 21, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sun, Oct. 22, 10 a.m.

Sun, Oct. 22, 11:30 a.m.

Tues, Oct. 24, 5 p.m.

Weds, Oct. 25, 1 p.m.

Thurs, Oct. 26, 7 p.m.

Sun, Oct. 29, 10 a.m.

Tue, Oct. 31, 4 p.m.

Faith Formation Meeting

Thrift Shop Open

Worship - Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer Shawl Meeting

Trustees Team Meeting

Worship & Ministry Team Meeting

NF Fair Day on Memorial Field

Worship - Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Sundae Sunday - ASP Informational Meeting

Missions Team Meeting

"The Chosen" viewing & discussion

Choir Practice

Thrift Shop Open

Worship - Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Trip to Walktoberfest

Cooking for Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day Serving

Executive Council Meeting

Worship - 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Bundles of Care requests due