

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

CANDLELIGHT - MAY 2024

Hello Beloved Children!

We are embarking on a journey, a sabbatical journey of rest and renewal for me and a journey of coming together in ministry for all of you. I am so excited to see where we are all lead in this time apart and together.

Honestly it is very hard for me to imagine the changes that are about to take place. I will be home for a week, catching up on chores, appointments, rest and responsibilities. And then i will be heading out to a conference in Pittsburgh. From there I will be doing quite a bit of traveling through PA, KY, AL, NC, and WV. The change of pace will be strange at first but I look forward to the new opportunities to grow spiritually, to learn, to explore, and to be in a greater connection with God.

While I am away, Rev Moran will be here to care for your pastoral needs as well as our Worship and Ministry Team that includes Pam Schretzenmayer, Doris Zegley, Julie York, Bart Carey, and Michael Iadarola. Together you will all be able to ministry and share with each other. I know you will be busy all working together on the summer play, preparing for our outdoor worship and continuing in our regular ministries of Compassionate Connections. I look forward to see all the ways that this congregation will come together and support one another.

I pray that you remember your belovedness, trust in God's directions, follow our Savior, and are open to the movement of the Holy Spirit. Please pray for me as well.

I will return on August 6th and lead worship on August 11th. I will still be taking time for our Yoho family vacation from August 17 - 27 in NC. Please be ready to share with me the ways you have felt the Spirit alive in our congregation during this sabbatical time. I can't wait to hear and work with you all to plan our next program year. May God be with you.

Blessings and peace,
Pastor Liz



Introducing Rev Moran!

The Rev. Jane E. Moran is from Newtown, CT. She received her BA in history and classics from the University of Connecticut and her MDiv from Harvard Divinity School. Jane was ordained at the Congregational Church of Brookfield in 2018 and spent five years as the Associate Minister at First Church of Christ, Congregational in Redding. Since 2022, Jane has served as a chaplain in the Army Reserve.



WORSHIP SERVICES

Along with our in-person worship, we continued to offer the livestream of the 10 a.m. Sunday 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

We plan to move worship services to the outdoor Garden Sanctuary on **May 26th**, weather permitting.

THE UPPER ROOM

The May/June issue of The Upper Room is available 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.



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! We enjoyed several delicious and warming soups this winter during the monthly Soup Sundays. Thank you to our Soup Sunday providers: Nov. 19- Elissa Leone and Stephanie Shaughnessy; Dec. 17- Adele Carey; Jan. 21- Priscilla Rocco and Stephanie Shaughnessy; Feb. 18 - Adele Carey.

LENTEN LOVE NOTES

We had 31 children participate in our Lenten Loves Notes! We would like to thank all the adults who spent time writing notes, letters and being creative in connecting with the children of our church. There was much excitement around this program and new friendships were made. Children even got to practice writing notes themselves!

We prayed that these partnerships would encourage our children and remind them that they are loved, cared for and supported through our church. This is a promise we make to all who are baptized. And it is so important to share it with the children of our church.

Thank you to: Natalie Anderson, Nora Anderson, Adele Carey, Bart Carey, Tori Cooke, Joyce Czudak, Teri Czudak, Nan Delohery, Maryann Gillotti, Michael Iadarola, Brian Johannssen, Katy Johannssen, Lindsey Mapes, Cristina Martinez-Keena, Kris Martinez-Keena, Colleen McQuade, Stephanie O'Connell, Monica Rocco, Priscilla Rocco, Stephanie Shaughnessy, Liz Sibio, Greg Slomba, Sue Webb, Katie Williams, Meredith Yoho, Tracy Yoho, Julie York, and Doris Zegley.



Mac & Cheese and Chili Fest Competition

The ASP Team had its first competition for the best Mac & Cheese and the best Chili in town. The event was held at CCFN on **Saturday, April 6th at 6pm.** We had a wonderful and delicious time and everyone tasted the entries and voted for the best Mac & Cheese and the best Chili!

The winners for best chili/1st place - Stephanie Shaughnessy, 2nd place - Will Anderson, and 3rd place - Bonnie Lees. For Mac & Cheese our own Joe Fostano came in first place. Several local restaurants donated Mac & cheese to us including Bruno's Pizza, Biscotti's, Johnnie Food Center, Zegarelli's Pizza.

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS

Lay Ministry Opportunities

The dedication of the volunteers of our Compassionate Connections Ministries took place on Sunday, Feb 25th during worship.

If you would like to get involved with any of the ministries (Prayer Shawls, Flower Arranging & Delivery, Calls, Meals, Prayer List, Cards), speak to someone in the group you're interested in or call the church office.



MISSIONS at CCFN

CCNF THRIFT SHOP



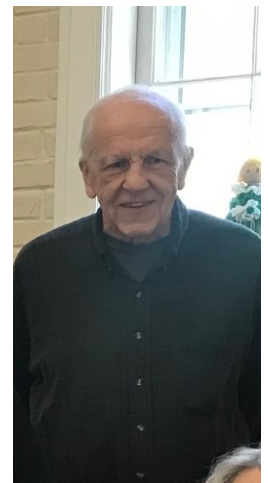
The church's clothing donation shed is open and receiving your usable donated clothes, shoes, belts and handbags.

The Thrift Shop is open on the first and third Saturdays of the month, 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

At left, Thrift Shop volunteers Carole Godfrey, Meg Hillman and Robin Casey pause for a picture.

We would like to give a special acknowledgement to Frankie, the tireless muscle of the Thrift Shop, who carts donations in and out as needed. He has reliably shown up to volunteer at the Thrift Shop in all kinds of weather, going above and beyond to help the ladies





*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 cook night is **Tuesday, May 21st** and our next serving day is **Wednesday, May 22nd**. Please sign up in Pilgrim Hall or call the church office at 203-746-2865 to volunteer.

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

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 Sunday, May 19, and let Carolyn Mueller or Stephanie Shaughnessy know your donation is for Dorothy Day.

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

Clothing needs: sweatpants and sweatshirts/hoodies; men's jeans sizes 32, 34, 36; men's shirts and footwear, especially work boots; men's winter and non-winter jackets; new men's and women's underwear.

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



Care & Comfort Bags

The Mission Team and Compassionate Kids worked together to launch the Care & Comfort Bags project. These bags can be stored in your car and used when you come upon someone in need looking for help or a donation.

The Compassionate Kids put together 50 bags on Feb. 18th, and some were already distributed in the first week of the program. Care & Comfort Bags can be kept in your car, available to distribute whenever you encounter someone in need.

We have more bags available if you would like to have one to carry in your car in case you see a need. Please speak with Stephanie Shaughnessy if you have any questions or would like a bag.



CAR WASH THIS SATURDAY!

Come get your car washed and support our youth at the same time! Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., we will have a car wash on the church grounds. Proceeds go to the Senior High Youth Work Trip to Appalachia this summer. Bring your dirty car and let us make it shine!

BRING ME BACK HOME PROGRAM

FACT: 6 in 10 people living with dementia will wander.

People can lose their ability to recognize familiar places and faces at any stage of the disease.

What is the Bring Me Back Home program?

Families and care partners enter information about loved ones with cognitive challenges into the **Bring Me Back Home (BMBH) registry**. That information is made available to law enforcement across Connecticut for quick access in case of a missing or wandering incident. *Always call 911 immediately when someone wanders.*

How can we register?

To sign your loved one up for Bring Me Back Home, visit ct.gov/BMBH or scan the QR code.



ct.gov/BMBH



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



CCNF Upcoming meetings and Events

Some team meetings are held online.

Sun, May 5, 10 a.m

Sun, May 5, noon

Tues, May 7, 10 a.m.

Tues, May 7, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tues, May 7, 1:30 p.m.

Tues, May 7, 6:30 p.m.

Weds, May 8, 7 p.m.

Thurs, May 9, 10 a.m.

Sat, May 11, 8:30 a.m.

Worship - Sixth Sunday of Easter

ASP Construction & Safety Training

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Bundles of Care Distribution

Flower Arranging

Worship & Ministry Meeting

Trustees Team Meeting

Thrift Shop Volunteering

ASP Car Wash

Sun, May 12, 10 a.m.

Tues, May 14, 10 a.m.

Tues, May 14, 1:30 p.m.

Tues, May 14, 7 p.m.

Weds, May 15, 7 p.m.

Thurs, May 16, 6:30 p.m.

Sat, May 18, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sat, May 18, 1-3 and 3-5 p.m.

Sun, May 19, 10 a.m.

Sun, May 19, 1-3 p.m.

Tues, May 21, 10 a.m.

Tues, May 21, 1:30 p.m.

Tues, May 21, 5 p.m.

Wed, May 22, 12:30 p.m.

Thurs, May 23, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 26, 10 a.m.

Mon, May 27

Tues, May 28, 10 a.m.

Tues, May 28, 1:30 p.m.

Tues, May 28, 4 p.m.

Thurs, May 30, 10 a.m.

Sat, June 1, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sun, June 2, 10 a.m.

Sun, June 2, 4 p.m.

Sun, June 2, 5 p.m.

Tues, June 4, 10 a.m.

Tues, June 4, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tues, June 4, 1:30 p.m.

Thurs, June 6, 7:30 p.m.

Sun, June 9, 10 a.m.

Tues, June 11, 10 a.m.

Tues, June 11, 1:30 p.m.

Tues, June 11, 7 p.m.

Weds, June 12, 7 p.m.

Thurs, June 13, 10 a.m.

Thurs, June 13, 6 p.m.

Sat, June 15, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sun, June 16, 10 a.m.

Worship -Seventh Sunday of Easter

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Flower Arranging

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Missions Team Meeting

“The Chosen” viewing & discussion

Thrift Shop Open

Auditions for “Seussical”

Worship - Pentecost

Auditions for “Seussical”

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Flower Arranging

Dorothy Day Cooking

Serving AT Dorothy Day

Executive Council

Worship - First Sunday after Pentecost

Memorial Day

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Flower Arranging

Bundles of Care Requests due

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Thrift Shop Open

Worship - Second Sunday after Pentecost

Ellis Paul in Concert at First Congregational in Danbury (FEA-SNEUCC concert)

ASP Training

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Bundles of Care Distribution

Flower Arranging

Faith Formation Team Meeting

Worship - Children’s Sunday

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Flower Arranging

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Trustees Meeting

Thrift Shop Volunteering

Worship & Ministry Meeting

Thrift Shop Open

Worship - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost