

ANNOUNCEMENTS & FEEDBACK

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!!
Elizabeth House 2nd; Sandy Peterson 3rd; George House 13th; Gretchen Gaughran 18th; and Jesus of Nazareth 25th.

Communion will be the first Sunday of the month: (Jan 4; Feb. 1; Mar.1, April 5). See Len or Shirley if you would like to help.

Many thanks to Tina Santiago who will organize the Pageant again this year. Parts will be handed out today. Practice is next Sunday the 14th and the Pageant is on Dec. 21. ALL are encouraged to participate!

The 2014 Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 8th following worship. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Please remember loved ones by donating a poinsettia for the altar at Christmas. Dedications are listed in the Christmas Eve bulletins. You may drop off your plant the morning of Sat. Dec. 20th between 9 AM to noon (or see Shirley for other times 434-1439.) You may pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas eve service. (Any poinsettia of any size or color is fine. You can also donate any other seasonal plant of your choice. All are welcome and will be displayed.)

Please help with coffee hour, altar flowers and ushering!!! It doesn't take much time and we have fun doing it! We especially need a hand during clean up. Please use the sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks for your help!

Many thanks to Shirley and Fred Latham for decorating the tree outside the church. It is decorated each year in memory of their daughter, Joan Marie Latham.

IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW:

TODAY	10 AM***	Worship, Guest pastor: Rev. Susan Olson
Sun. Dec. 14	10 AM	Worship, Guest pastor: Miriam Samuelson
Sun. Dec. 14	4 PM	New London Community Meal Service (see Rich)
Sun. Dec. 17	7 PM	Church Council Meeting
Sun. Dec. 21	10 AM	Worship & Pageant , Guest pastor: Rev. Susan Olson
Sun. Dec. 24	5 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight service: Erin Grayson
Sun. Dec. 27	10 AM	Worship, Guest pastor: Emily Bjornberg
Sun. Jan. 4	10 AM***	Worship, Guest pastor: Rev. Susan Olson
Sun. Jan 11	10 AM	Worship, Guest pastor: Mary Barnett
Sun. Jan. 18	10 AM	Worship, Guest pastor: Ashley Makar
Sun. Jan. 25	10 AM	Worship, Guest pastor: Victoria Larsen
Sun. Feb. 1	10 AM***	Worship, Guest pastor: Rev. David Johnson
Sun. Feb 8	10 AM	Worship, Guest pastor: Chauncey Harrison

**If there is an emergency, please contact Connie Hurtt at
Cell: 860-917-7102 or Home: 860-434-8445**

First Congregational Church of Lyme

1 Sterling City Road, Lyme, CT 06371
860-434-0220

www.lymechurch.net

December 7, 2014



Welcome!

We, the members of the First Congregational Church of Lyme, CT, interpreting the Bible in the context of its times and our time and following the teachings and example of Jesus, declare our church to be an Open and Affirming church, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people. We acknowledge God's acceptance of every individual and Jesus' commandment to love one another. Therefore, this church welcomes heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals to worship and enter into the full life and ministry of our church. In our community of faith, all people are encouraged to participate and share their talents and energy in worship and sacraments, leadership positions, ordained ministry, lay ministry, learning, service, mission, and fellowship. Further, persons of every gender, mental and physical ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing, and family structure are welcome in our church community; and the First Congregational Church of Lyme invites all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our congregation.

The First Congregational Church of Lyme
United Church of Christ
Rev. Susan K. Olson, Guest pastor
Garrett Artman, Organist

Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 10 AM
**Asterisk means please stand if you are able.*

Second Week of Advent

Prelude

Welcome, Time of Greeting, Announcements

Call to Worship:

Leader: In this season of crowded stores and unpacked stress,

People: we will welcome one another as God has welcomed us.

Leader: In this time of hurried hellos and curt replies,

People: we will greet one another with words of hope and peace.

Leader: In a culture of increasing isolation,

**People: we will embrace our sisters and brothers
as God has enfolded us in grace.**

*Hymn: "With Joy Draw Water" NCH BLACK # 109

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" NCH BLACK #116

Advent Lighting: The Candle of Preparation

Offering Invitation: O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

*Doxology Chalice RED #46

Offering Prayer

Scripture: Isaiah 11: 1-10

Sermon: "The Things that Make for Peace" Rev. Susan K. Olson

Communion ~ Absolutely All are Welcome to Receive

*Hymn: "Come, O Long Expected Jesus" NCH BLACK #122

*Benediction

*Response: "My Hope is Built on Nothing Else" NCH BLACK #403

"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and
righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on
Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is
sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand."

Postlude

Please welcome to the pulpit, our guest pastor:

Rev. Susan Olson is Assistant Dean of Students at Yale Divinity School. Her previous calls include serving as chaplain to Wilson, Wesley, Connecticut College and Yale University. She is ordained to the Presbyterian Church and lives in New Haven with her 8 year old daughter, Selam.

Prayers: Family and friends of Cindy Harding Fogle; Francis Rand; Jack Leonardo; Michael Sutton (recurrence of cancer); and Dr. Bill.