

ANNOUNCEMENTS & FEEDBACK

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

IMPORTANT!!!!The next New London Community Meal Center service is TODAY! Please let Rich know if you will be available to serve or to participate.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS: Please join Church School on Dec. 1 and 8 to practice for the Christmas Pageant. On December 15, we will perform the pageant and share an all church brunch.

Please check the bulletin board for a note from the Petit family to all members.

Holiday Adopt A Family: Please take a tag from our "Angel Tree" in the Fellowship Hall to support our annual Adopt a Family mission. **Unwrapped** items are due back by Dec. 8th. See Laura Beth if you have questions.

Child #1 is a 3 year old female
 Clothes size 4 toddler or Shoes size 9 toddler
 Leap Frog Leap Reader book
 Baby Alive Real Surprises doll
 Lego Duplo Set size Med. Or Mega Blocks
 Play dough sets Prettiest Princess or Rapunzel Hair

Child #2 is a 12 year old female
 GameStop gift cards
 Movie passes
 Costume Jewelry
 Kindle Fire
 Dress Boots size 8.5
 Clothes size women's Med.

Mother:
 Grocery/Gas/Department Store Cards

IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW:

TODAY	10 AM	Worship, Church School (pageant practice) Emily Bjornberg, guest preacher
Sun. Dec. 15	10 AM	Worship, Pageant, Brunch
Wed. Dec. 18	7 PM	Church Council Meeting
Sun. Dec. 22	10 AM	Christmas "Lessons & Carols" Service
Tues. Dec. 24	5 PM	Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship
Wed. Dec. 25		Christmas Day
Sun. Dec. 29	10 AM	Worship

Reverend Carolyn Johns
Emergencies & Home Office Phone: 203-453-3325
Carolyn's email: carolyn.f.johns-emp@snet.net
Rev. Johns' church office hours: Thursday's 10 AM to 3 PM
Regular Office Hours Tues & Thurs. 11:30 to 2:00 PM
Wed & Fri.: 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

First Congregational Church of Lyme

1 Sterling City Road, Lyme, CT 06371

860-434-0220 FAX: 860-434-8858

www.lymechurch.com

Reverend Carolyn Johns, Acting Pastor
December 8, 2013



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. Carolyn Johns, Acting pastor
Rebecca M. Blomgren, Organist**

Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 10:00 AM

**Please stand if you are able*

The First Sunday of Advent

Prelude: Sleepers Awake Robert Lau

Welcome, Time of Greeting, Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 80 NCH BLACK page 672

*Hymn: "Love Came Down at Christmas" NCH BLACK #265

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: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" NCH BLACK #131

Advent Lighting: The candle of Preparation

Offering: The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy West Indian Carol

*Doxology Chalice RED #46

Offering Prayer

Scripture: Isaiah 64: 1-9, Mark 13: 24-37

Sermon: "The World in Solemn Stillness Lay:
Tending the Fire for Me" Emily Bjornberg

*Hymn: "O Come All Ye Faithful" NCH BLACK # 135

*Benediction

*Response: "When God is a Child" vs 2 Chalice RED #132
"Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth. When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid."

Postlude: Savior of the Nations Come Wayne Bisbee

Please welcome our guest preacher today, Emily Bjornberg. Emily is the Youth & Family Ministries Director at the Deep River Congregational Church where she has worked for 7 years. She lives with her family in Hadlyme.

PRAYERS: Doad Jewett; Family and friends of Carroll Johnston; F & f of Jeffrey Peloquin; Lorrie King; Frank Sutton (stroke); Helen Younger; Jack Leonardo; Michael Sutton (recurrence of cancer); Francis Rand (fall); Dr. Bill; Phyllis Keel; Cindy Fogle and Cindy's mom (Harrington Court, Colchester).