

## 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. Practice is today and the Pageant is next Sunday. 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: Miriam Samuelson
Sun. Dec. 14	4 PM	New London Community Meal Service (see Rich)
Wed. Dec. 17	7 PM	Church Council Meeting
Sun. Dec. 21	10 AM	Worship & <b>Pageant</b> , Guest pastor: Rev. Susan Olson
Wed. Dec. 24	5 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight service: Erin Grayson
Sun. Dec. 28	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
	11 AM	Annual Meeting
Sun. Feb. 15	10 AM	Worship, Guest pastor: Rev. David Johnson

**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](http://www.lymechurch.net)**

**December 14, 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**  
**Miriam Samuelson, Guest pastor**  
**Garrett Artman, Organist**

**Sunday, December 14, 2014 at 10 AM**

*\*Asterisk means please stand if you are able.*

*Third Week of Advent*

Prelude

Welcome, Time of Greeting, Announcements

Call to Worship:

Leader: We gather to worship with expectations;  
God revealed in new and astonishing ways.

**People: God comes to us here and now.**

Leader: Sometimes God's presence is hard to take in, difficult to believe.

**People: Oh God, help us to be present to your Word.**

Leader: God is working in our midst.

**People: Let us shout out with joy!**

\*Hymn: " NCH BLACK #

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: "" NCH BLACK #

Advent Lighting: The Candle of Joy

Offering Invitation:

\*Doxology

Chalice RED #46

Offering Prayer

Scripture: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 and John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Sermon: "Waiting for Jesus"

Miriam Samuelson

\*Hymn: "NCH BLACK #

\*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 this earthly 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

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Please welcome Miriam Samuelson to the pulpit. Miriam is in her third year at Yale Divinity School, where she is preparing to become an ordained Lutheran pastor. She hails from Minnesota, where she will return after completing her studies.

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