

The Inkling

The News of First Presbyterian Church

November 2017

Pastor's Message

There's a common way of telling stories – perhaps you've heard one like it. Stories that go: *"They* said that we can't do that anymore, so we don't." "I can't believe *they* haven't done that yet!" "What does it matter if I vote? *They* are just going to elect the one with the most money." From dealings with places of work to musings of the politics of our time, "they" often plays a starring role in any story told.

But, in church, stories are told differently. In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul describes the church, which is known to be the body of Christ, as being made up of many parts – each with their own gifts and skills, passions and prayers – and each part is needed for the body to function. There is no "they" or "them". Rather, as Paul says *"If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as God chose."*



And, so it is with First Presbyterian Church of New Haven. Each one of us is needed and has a gift to share with the whole community. The church's mission is not just up to "them". It is not just up to "them" to worship God, to teach the children, to be stewards of the gifts that first were given by God. Rather, each one of us has a God-given gift to contribute, a passion to share, a hope for the future.

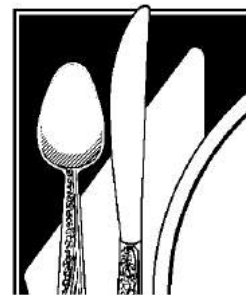
This month, the church is kicking off the stewardship campaign as the Session seeks to form a budget for the year of 2018. Like an NPR Pledge Drive, every gift counts – there is no pledge too small, no gift is insignificant. But, unlike NPR, there will be no guilt applied to this ask. Giving to the church is not transactional – you won't hear "if you use the service, you should contribute." Rather, giving to the church is a joyful act, a commitment of faith, an act of love. Some may not be in the position to give financially but you still have time and talent to share. Some may not have much time to share but can give talents and treasure. Truly, all gifts are sacred and the Session and I hope each and every one of you will feel called to participate.

Join us for lunch following worship this Sunday. We will spend some time dreaming together and sharing our hopes for our life as a community of faith in the coming year. Your input is needed. Your hope is important. The Session and I look forward to seeing you there.

Peace, JC

Sunday, November 5th—All are Invited to the Stewardship Luncheon

This year we're kicking off our Stewardship Campaign with a lunch. Plan to stay after worship on November 3rd to share a meal, but more importantly, your vision for what 2018 might hold in store for First Presbyterian Church of New Haven.



-Bruce Peabody, Stewardship Committee Chair



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS – NOVEMBER 5th

Time to “fall back!” Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour on Saturday night!

SCRIPTURE TEXTS FOR NOVEMBER

Below are the lectionary texts for the month of November and the first week of December.

Date	Scripture Texts
November 5	Ephesians 4: 1-8; Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17; Deuteronomy 34: 1-12
November 12	1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13; Psalm 107: 1-7, 33-37; Joshua 3: 7-17
November 19	1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18; Psalm 78: 1-7; Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25
November 26 (Advent I)	Isaiah 64: 1-9; Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; Mark 13: 24-37
December 3 (Advent II)	Isaiah 40: 1-11; Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13; Mark 1: 1-8

Memorial Cairn Prayer Service on Monday, November 6th

Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice will mark the cost of the continuing violence in Iraq and Afghanistan and elsewhere in the Mid-East with a 15 minute prayer service at the intersection of Broadway, Elm and Park streets in New Haven on Monday evening, November 6th at 6 p.m.



CT FOLK Concert on November 3rd

CT Folk's November 3rd concert (@7:30 p.m.) will feature Brooks Williams, “Ranked in the Top 100 Acoustic Guitarists, Brooks is a mean finger-picker and a stunning slide guitarist. His massive repertoire spans classic roots and blues.” The church receives ten complimentary tickets and there are just a few left. E-mail or call the church office to reserve yours.

3rd Thursday at the Manse – November 16th

On the 3rd Thursday of the month (November 16), Pastor JC and Heather invite you to come to the manse for fellowship and food. They'll provide the main dish – depending on the weather it will either be grilled burgers and hotdogs or pasta – and you provide a side or dessert. Even if you don't/can't bring anything to share, come on along – there will be plenty. Come anytime after 6pm. BYOB. ALL ARE WELCOME!!

The manse is the yellow brick house next door to the church (724 Whitney). Please park in the manse driveway or wherever you can find street parking. The church parking lots are reserved for the Greater New Haven Community Chorus, which practices at the church on Thursday evenings.

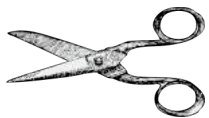
University and College Students

Are you staying local for Thanksgiving and feeling sad that you will not be with your family? Your FPC family would love to have you join them for the holiday. Many of your church family members are here to welcome into their homes for food, friendship and community. Please let Pastor J.C. know if you will be available to join one of us for dinner!



You Can Help IRIS' Women's Sewing Group

Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS) is New Haven's refugee resettlement and support agency. First Pres has partnered with IRIS to provide music classes for families and for the women's sewing group craft fair we held over the summer.



The women's sewing group is an important program for IRIS because it gives women with very little education a motive to be with others for a social time that comes with some assimilation. The Mission Committee is supporting this group in two ways. We have scheduled a pre-Christmas fair for Saturday December 2 (mark your calendars!). In the meanwhile, the sewing group is looking for donations of thread, material and scissors. If you have any of these items at home that you would like to donate, please bring them to church and place them in a labeled box in the Copeland Room. Thank you!

-Fiona Scott Morton, Mission Committee Chair

THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING



Sometime in the late 1990s, First Pres folks became aware that Christian Community Action was providing Thanksgiving food baskets – a turkey and all the trimmings – to families in need in the Hill area of New Haven. That awareness became our annual Thanksgiving Special Offering. Over the years, we learned that the Connecticut Food Bank was an essential source of the produce needed for the baskets, and essential to the well being of many people in Connecticut, so we added it to the offering. More recently, we included Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen, often referred to as DESK, because they serve hundreds of thanksgiving dinners to individuals in this community. Generally, the offering is divided 40-40-20 between CCA, CFB and DESK.

The need is as real this year as it has ever been. Last year, CCA distributed some 2,200 baskets to carefully qualified families. The families are required to sign up well in advance.

This year, as in the past, our offering will be in four forms.

- Your cash donations will go to buy food wholesale. This is the most efficient response. CCA tries to provide each family with a “standard” basket of food. It's easier to do this when the things people most want are available in bulk quantities. The Connecticut Food Bank uses monetary donations to make food available to people all across the state. DESK feeds people each weeknight, in addition to the thanksgiving special dinner. We'll receive this offering Sunday, November 19th.
- Donations of frozen turkeys are especially helpful. They need to arrive at Christian Community Action (CCA) by Saturday, November 18th. CCA is at 168 Davenport Avenue. If possible, call 777-7848 beforehand to let them know you are coming.
- Food donations need to be brought to the church by November 17th. All nonperishable food items are gratefully accepted, but bags of rice, canned vegetables (low-salt preferred), canned fruit (low-sugar preferred), juices, peanut butter, boxes of cereal (again, low sugar) pasta and stuffing, and desserts such as Jell-O and pudding are particularly needed. No glass containers, please.
- Volunteer to help with the sorting and bagging anytime on Saturday, November 18th from 10:30 to 3 p.m. Please let Ralph Jones know if you plan to help so we can coordinate schedules with CCA.

For more information, contact Ralph Jones – (203) 248-7386.

THANK YOU!

List of Upcoming Events for Christian Education



Check out our upcoming events at [meetup.com/FPCNewHaven](https://www.meetup.com/FPCNewHaven) or download the Meetup app.

Sun., Nov. 5	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (This Week Ages 9+ Only)
	10:45 -12 noon	Children in Worship: Liturgy of Remembrance
Sun., Nov. 12	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (Ages 3-18)
	10:45 -12 noon	CIW: "Stewardship of the Earth" with Brian Gray
Sun., Nov. 19	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (Ages 3-18)
	12:30-3 p.m.	Play & Pray Movie Day: Pixar's <i>Inside Out</i>
Sun., Nov. 26	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Annual Advent Event: Crafts & Fun for All Ages
Sun., Nov. 26	5:30-7:30 p.m.	Confirmation Dinner Church
Sun., Dec 3	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (Ages 3-18)
Sun., Dec 10	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (Ages 3-18)
	12-1 p.m.	Youth Table @All-Church Christmas
Sun., Dec. 17	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Worship Rehearsal (Ages 3-18)

Children's Liturgy of Remembrance

This Sunday, November 5th, children are invited to bring with them pictures, heirlooms, mementos, or a memory of someone who has moved or passed away. This might be a person or animal they have known or wish they'd had the chance to know.

In honor of these friends and family members, we will share in a liturgy of remembrance during the Children in Worship program. Meet in the sanctuary for worship until the children's invitation following the announcements.

And of course, children who do not have someone they would like to remember are welcome to join us in word and spirit. This will be a time to pray for closure, comfort, and community, to soothe anxieties about life and death, and to look for signs of God's grace.

Intensive Worship Prep for Children's Advent Service

Children and youth ages 3-18 may choose to lead the congregation in **this year's Children's Advent service on December 17th**, held at 10:45 a.m. as usual. Please write to Kimberley at firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com or speak to her in person after church **no later than November 5th** if you'd like to join in.

First, ages 9+ will meet at 9:30 a.m. on November 5th to kick off our preparations. Then ages 3-8 may join them each week beginning on November 12th. These gatherings take the place of our typical Sunday school program for children, which will resume in January for Block 2, but the adult class will continue to meet and nursery care is still available.

On 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10, and 12/17, we will rehearse the children's play from 9:30-10 a.m. and music and readings from 10-10:30 a.m.

Children are encouraged to sing, read, light candles, or participate in whatever ways are most accessible or meaningful to them.

Play & Pray Movie Day: Inside Out

Let's watch Disney Pixar's *Inside Out*! Children, youth, and adults of all ages are welcome. Nursery support may be provided upon request.

Bring your own bag lunch, a blanket or pillow if you wish, a human friend or a stuffed animal if they'd like to come along, and settle in for a beautiful story. According to time and interest, a child-friendly theological conversation and games will follow the film.

Guardians are welcome to consider this event a throwback to our "parents' day out" events and use this time elsewhere to rest or prepare for the holidays, but please give us advance notice (more than 24 hours) that you intend to leave your children with us for the afternoon.

We'll gather on Sunday, November 19th at 12:30, eat lunch, begin the movie by 1, and finish our event by 3 p.m. Find us in the Gathering Hall or in one of the meeting rooms adjacent to it.



Annual Advent Event: Crafts & Fun for All Ages

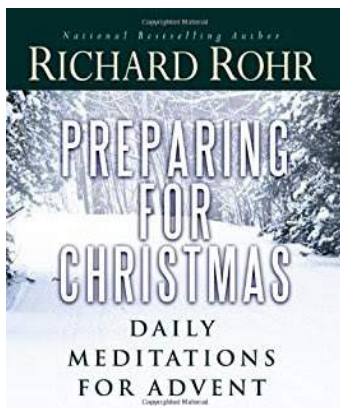
Children, youth, and adults of all ages are welcome to our Annual Advent Event, this year on Sunday, November 26th from 9:30-10:30 a.m. This takes place during our usual Christian Education hour. We will have creativity stations throughout the Gathering Hall to help us usher in the Advent season. Join us for candle-making, candy-making, and more!

Confirmation Dinner Church (Ages 14-18)

Pastor JC meets with confirmands on the fourth Sunday of each month (excluding December for Christmas Eve). The atmosphere of the class is relaxed and warm, in the format of Dinner Church.

Meet from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Gathering Hall for food, friendship, and intentional space for sacred conversation. Our next meeting is November 26th.

PREPARING FOR ADVENT



It's hard to believe, but Advent is just around the corner. FPCNH will be celebrating the First Sunday of Advent on November 26 - just after Thanksgiving. To get ready for Christmas, you are invited to read through daily devotionals from the Richard Rohr's *Preparing for Christmas*. Daily, on our own, we will read the scripture and reflections provided. Then, on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of Advent, we will gather during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School hour to share our thoughts, discoveries, and prayers for the season, guided by Pastor JC. If you are interested in participating, please [email JC](mailto:PastorJC@fpcnh.org) (PastorJC@fpcnh.org) and place your order for a book. The cost for the book is \$5.

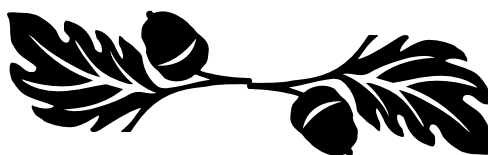
COMIC RELIEF REVISITED

So, on a warm Thursday night a couple of weeks ago, some three hundred people, including at least seventeen from First Presbyterian, gathered at Congregation Mishkan Israel for some Comic Relief. Things didn't go as planned. They went better than planned!

First, as show time arrived, the talented comedians were still stuck on a MetroNorth train with a dead engine. So the program ran backwards. We started with some fine a cappella by "What's On Tap." Then we heard about the work of the Immigrant Bail Fund and the powerful testimony of one of the people the Bail Fund has freed from immigration detention. The reality is that it is extremely difficult for immigrants behind bars to find representation. Those who bond out are five times more likely to secure a lawyer and those with legal counsel are twice as likely to win their cases. Supporting this effort to make just representation available to more immigrants was the purpose of the evening.

Then came the stand up. Rev. Paul Fleck, of Hamden Plains UMC, stood in for the minister in our comedic line up (Rev. Susan Sparks had laryngitis). Gibran Saleem shared the outrageous aspects of his experiences in our midst. Rabbi Bob Alper brought down the house with his practiced detours through the absurd.

First Pres was both a sponsor and a donor, along with many of our members. Amazingly, it all came together – community, fun, justice, and the Immigrant Bail Fund. And now, what you all have been waiting for....we made \$25,422.00! Truly incredible, we have no words. Thank you to all who made this happen.



LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER

Abraham's Tent Signups will begin December 3rd

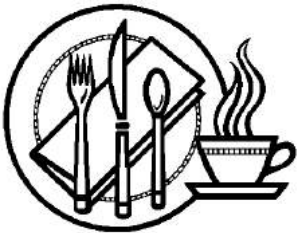
Abe's Tent is coming! Abe's Tent is coming! Our church will be hosting 12 men from Columbus House starting Monday, January 15th (Martin Luther King Jr. observance day) until Monday, January 22nd. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the white boards in the Miller Gathering Hall on Sunday, December 3rd. We seek people to host, provide dinner, stay overnight and /or greet the men. Your participation is encouraged and greatly appreciated! Any questions, please contact Brian Gray at brian_gry@yahoo.com.

December 3th is Goody Bag/Goodie Box Sunday!

You are invited to bring 54 home-baked or store-bought treats for the students who worship with us and students from our congregation who are away at school. Herbal tea, mints, gum, hard candies, popcorn, energy bars and home baked treats are all good options to consider. It's like a Friendship Hour in a bag!



The Christmas Dinner is Sunday, December 10th



Plan to stay following the Christmas music program as we will gather together as the First Presbyterian Church community for our annual Christmas Feast! We will need food of every kind on the table: turkey, ham and vegetarian main dishes, and potatoes and green beans and salad too! Sides of cranberry relish, of course. And lots of dessert! We'll sing carols and delight in one another's company. Please sign up by December 3rd to let us what you will bring! Sign up sheets will be on the Welcome Table.

NEWS FROM FARAWAY FRIENDS

Jackie Spycher, our Yale Divinity School intern in 2014-15 and then our Campus Chaplain at Yale the following year, has written with good news! She has accepted and already started a new position as the pastoral assistant at Northbrook Presbyterian Church in Beverly Hills, Michigan, (near Detroit.) If the way be clear, she hopes to be ordained early in 2018.

Katie Hastings, daughter of Tom and Carol Hastings, who worship with us, is currently serving as a PC USA Young Adult Volunteer (YAV.) The YAV program is a faith-based year of service for people between the ages of 18-30. Katie is in Peru, serving with Casa Del Buen Trato Hovde, the only shelter in all of Peru for children, adolescents, and women affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse. You can follow Katie through her blog, as she describes her experiences and impressions of life as a YAV in Peru: yavinperu.wordpress.com



In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Our country and its leaders.

Church members and friends who seek God's healing grace, including Ken Haynam, at Benchmark Senior Living in Hamden.

Prayers for Stephen, Mattie Long's son, as he continues knee replacement rehab.

For Jeff Miller, brother of David, who will be continuing cancer treatments.

For Stewart Fritts, who is struggling with health issues.

Prayers for those who live in the midst of conflict.

Prayers for those who do not have enough to eat.

Prayers for the people suffering losses from natural disaster.

Andrew McCloskey, serving with the Peace Corps in Mozambique.

James Smit and Patrick Copeland, who are serving in the armed forces.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Prayers for other people and situations in need of our supplications.

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:30 pm Musical Folk 6:00 p.m. Property Committee 7:00 p.m. Choir	2 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC	3 9:30 am Musical Folk 7:30 p.m. Folk Concert	4 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA 3:30 pm Columbus House Dinner
5 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship & Communion, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Stewardship Lunch	6 6:00 p.m. Memorial Cairn	7 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk	8 5:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 p.m. Choir	9 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC	10 9:30 am Musical Folk	11 9:00am Yoga 9:30am Women's AA 3:00 pm JC's Installation Service
12 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Friendship Hour	13	14 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk 6:30 pm Worship Comm 7:15 p.m. Mission Committee 7:30 p.m. CLOC	15 5:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. Homicide Survivors	16 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm 3rd Thursday Potluck 7:00 pm GNHCC	17 9:30 am Musical Folk 7:30 p.m. Piano Recital	18 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA
19 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship 12:00 pm Friendship Hour	20	21 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 pm GNHCC 7:15 p.m. Session	22 5:30 pm Musical Folk	23 THANKS- GIVING	24	25 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA
26 9:30 a.m. Advent crafts for all ages 10:45 a.m. Worship, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Friendship Hour 12:30 pm Play&Pray- Movie 5:30 pm Confirmation	27	28	29 7:00 p.m. Choir 10	30 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC		

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30 am Musical Folk 7:30 p.m. Folk Concert	2 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA 1:00 pm IRIS Women's Craft Sale 3:30 pm Columbus House Dinner
3 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship & Communion, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Friendship Hour	4 6:00 p.m. Memorial Cairn	5 6:30 pm Worship Comm 7:30 p.m. CLOC Committee	6 7:00 p.m. Choir	7 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC	8 7:30 p.m. 2nd Movement Concert	9 9:00am Yoga 9:30am Women's AA
10 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship, Christmas Music 12:00 pm Christmas Potluck	11	12 7:15 p.m. Mission Committee	13 9:00 am Presbytery Comm Mtg 7:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. Homicide Survivors	14 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC	15	16 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA
17 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship 12:00 pm Friendship Hour	18	19 7:15 p.m. Session	20	21 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting	22	23 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA
24 10:45 a.m. Worship Service 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship	25 Christmas	26	27	29 9:00 a.m. Yoga	30	31 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA

PASTOR: J.C. CADWALLADER

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: PATRICK McCRELESS

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: MARTHA SMITH

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUTH: KIMBERLEY FAIS

NURSERY CARE PROVIDER: EMILY LANDINO

First Presbyterian Church

704 Whitney Avenue

New Haven, Connecticut 06511

Phone: (203) 562-5664

Email: firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com

Web site: www.fpcnh.org

Christian Education for All Ages

9:30 a.m.

Worship

10:45 a.m.

**First Presbyterian Church
704 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut
06511**