

The Inkling

The News of First Presbyterian Church

October 2017

Pastor's Message

Last night, I didn't sleep very much. Typically, when this happens, my brain gets stuck on one idea or thought and loops around it over and over again. Last night was different, however. Last night, my mind wandered from topic to topic, almost as frequently as I tossed and turned to get comfortable. Finally, I couldn't deny it any longer that I was awake and flat on my back, I snapped open my eyes with words of my mind exasperating "What is the deal?! God, why?! You had ears to hear the cries of the Israelites – can you not hear the cries of this generation? What are we supposed to do with all this darkness?! Are you among us or not?" I sat up. Heather rolled over. The dog lifted his head to look at me. Another car whizzed by on the street. The fan oscillated in the other direction. And, I laid back down – eventually falling back asleep.



Is God among us or not? The Israelites asked this question as they wandered in the wilderness just as we ask it today. And, just as God was among the Israelites, God is among us. It's just that God does not react as we do.

Church, the world feels heavy right now. We are convicted by racism and white supremacy in this country. We are scrambling to protect healthcare and basic rights for all – including our transgender family. We are touched by and worried for our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico and in Flint, MI and those fleeing from war-torn places in our world. For too many reasons – both global and personal - the world feels heavy right now.

But, let us consider some perspective. Each generation has experienced the weight of darkness in their midst - the Israelites, the disciples of Christ, and we do today. It is important that we face the reality that there is brokenness among us that and the pieces weigh heavy upon our shoulders. But the good news is that God is, indeed, with us - just as God was with the Israelites and with the disciples. Time and time again, across the generations, God faithfully tends to God's children as God ushers in peace and justice for all of God's children.

As Christians, we must look to Jesus who not only commands us to love God and love our neighbor but also tells us, "Come to me all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In such a time as this - when the world feels heavy, when our minds whirl with worry - we must seek to live into Christ's love and mercy, practice it among each other, AND, we are to take refuge in the steadfast love God has for the world. We must take care of ourselves, and each other, so that together we might be strengthened to go back out into the world, co-creating with God a more peaceful and fair world.

The weight of the world is great. The problems are real. But rest assured– God is among us. May we be vigilant for the lights of hope and promise in our midst.

Peace, JC

SCRIPTURE TEXTS FOR OCTOBER

Below are the lectionary texts for the month of October.

Date	Scripture Texts
October 1	Exodus 17: 1-7; Philippians 2: 1-13
October 8	Exodus 20: 1-14; Philippians 3: 4b-14
October 15	Exodus 32: 1-14; Philippians 4: 1-9
October 22	Exodus 33: 12-23; 1Thessalonians 1: 1-10
October 29	Reformation Sunday, Bruce Gordon preaching-scripture readings TBA

Memorial Cairn Prayer Service on Monday, October 2nd

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, October 2nd at 6 p.m.

CT FOLK Concert on October 6th



CT Folk's October 6th concert (@7:30 p.m.) kicks off this year's First Friday concert season at First Presbyterian Church with [Ryanhood](#); the duo of Cameron Hood's rich and folksy lead vocals matched with Ryan Green's explosive guitar and mandolin riffs. Come hear their signature two-part vocal harmonies, decorated with flares of guitar, ukulele, and mandolin. The church receives ten complimentary tickets. E-mail or call the church office to reserve yours.

Report on Session 9/19/2017 Meeting

The evening's devotion highlighted hospitality as the Session welcomed our new pastor. We spent the majority of the meeting talking about our hopes for the church and congregation.

Committee Reports:

Community Life and Outreach Committee (CLOC) - In addition to monthly potlucks, working with Scott Funston to schedule another curling outing in October.

Christian Education – Ongoing need for teachers and coverage for Kimberley when she's teaching.

Finance – Audit has been completed and will be disseminated to Session members for review.

Mission – Session endorsed a No Guns in God's House policy and posting of signage. This is a project of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship which is enlisting 100 churches to post signs by December 14, 2017, the fifth anniversary of the Sandy Hook school shooting. The *Gun Violence Prevention Congregational Toolkit*, which includes educational, pastoral and action resources, is on the Welcome Table. The Session, along with the Mission Committee, will continue to study the resources and develop policy for the church.

Property- Sent the congregation an update on manse renovations. Will be scheduling another work day in the fall.

Stewardship – Preparing for new stewardship season.

Next meeting October 17, 2017

-Submitted by Elder Jane Hindenlang

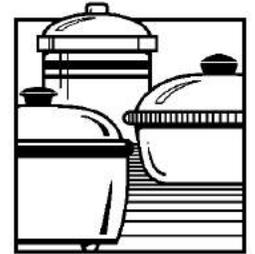
3rd Thursday at the Manse – Oct 19th

On the 3rd Thursday of the month (October 19), 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.

Sunday, October 22nd—FALL POTLUCK LUNCH

Please plan to stay after service on Sunday, October 22nd for our Fall Harvest Potluck. Please bring a family size main dish, side dish or dessert to share. There will be good food and fellowship for all!



FPCNH Choir News



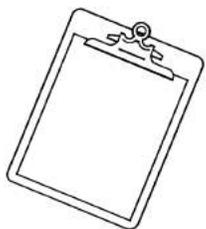
October will be a busy month for the FPCNH choir. On Sunday, October 1, we'll be singing global songs about communion and about caring for and preserving the earth. Our introit will be the Guatemalan "The Peace of the Lord," and for a choral benediction we'll sing the South African "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises!" The anthem is by John Bell, of the Iona Community in Scotland. It's in a Latino musical style, and it sets a text entitled "The Lord of the Earth," by Archbishop Romero, the Catholic Bishop from El Salvador who preached liberation theology for years, before being assassinated in 1980.

Then, on the last two weeks of the month, we'll sing choral works by Mendelssohn. October 22 will feature a chorus from his oratorio *Elijah*, "Be not Afraid." Our choir will collaborate with the choirs of Bethesda Lutheran and the United Church on the Green in May to present the whole oratorio with full orchestra. And in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation on October 29, we'll sing one composition commemorating the Lutheran tradition, and one commemorating the Calvinist tradition. For the Lutheran tradition will be "I Waited for the Lord," which will feature Rory Latham and Ramsay Scott, another boy soprano from the Trinity Episcopal Men and Boy's Choir, with the choir. And for the Calvinist, we'll do a setting of Psalm 42 ("As the Hart Longs") by the 16th-century Huguenot composer Claude Goudimel.

Lots of music coming your way!

-Patrick McCreless, Music Director

Your Input Is Needed for our Presbytery



At the September Presbytery meeting, it was announced that till Oct 12th, the Presbytery will be engaged in the Landscape Survey so that our Presbytery leaders can learn about the trends, needs, and engagement that is driving the life of our Presbytery and how to harness that for future ministry. The survey will take about 30 minutes and it must be done in one sitting - there is no 'save' function for a partially completed survey. Here's the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PresbyterySNE>

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., Oct. 1	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
Sun., Oct. 1	10:45 a.m.	Children in Worship: Blessing of Pets & Toy Animals
Sat., Oct. 7	3:30-7 p.m.	Youth Serve Columbus House
Sun., Oct. 8	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
Sun., Oct. 15	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
Sun., Oct. 22	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
Sun., Oct. 22	1-5 p.m.	Children & Youth Apple-Picking at Bishop's Orchards
Sun., Oct. 22	5:30-7:30 p.m.	Confirmation Dinner Church
Sun., Oct. 29	12-3 p.m.	Youth "Escape New Haven"
Sun., Nov. 5	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (This Week Ages 10+ Only)
Sun., Nov. 12	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (Ages 3-18)
Sun., Nov. 19	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Intensive Worship Prep (Ages 3-18)
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

Blessing of the Animals

This Sunday, October 1st, children are invited to bring their favorite toy animals (plushies, figurines) or pictures of their pets if they would like to participate in a "Blessing of the Animals" liturgy during the Children in Worship program. Meet in the sanctuary until the children's invitation following the announcements.

Children who do not have pets or toys to bless are welcome to bring something else that celebrates the animals of the world, or simply share with us in word and spirit. This will be a time to pray in gratitude for our companions as well as for the creatures of the earth.

Youth Group Serves Columbus House (Ages 10-18)

On Saturday, October 7th, the Youth Group will cook and serve dinner at Columbus House! All youth ages 10 and up are invited to help out. Friends and guardians are welcome as always. Our Outreach Coordinator Brian Gray will organize and supervise.

Cooks should wear appropriate clothing that you don't mind possibly getting dirty. Brian will pick up the ingredients earlier in the afternoon and then around 3:30 p.m. we will begin cooking as a group in the Columbus House kitchen. We plan to begin serving at 5:30 p.m. sharp.

We ask that cooks arrive to the Columbus House (586 Ella T Grasso Blvd, New Haven, CT 06519) around 3:30 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. The entrance to the kitchen is around the back. If anyone needs a ride, please let us know so we can arrange one for you. We'll finish up at Columbus House by 7 p.m.

The more we have involved in the cooking and serving, the better! Please RSVP to brian_gry@yahoo.com so we can plan accordingly.

Sunday School & Children in Worship (Ages 3-18)

Sunday School meets weekly from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Block 1 will end on October 29th.

Beginning on November 5th, youth and children are invited to participate in intensive worship-planning during this time slot. We will prepare to lead the entirety of worship for the morning of December 17th. Those who would like to be involved should email Kimberley at firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com by October 29th.

The Children in Worship program takes place during the 10:45 a.m. worship services. Participants are invited to leave (or remain in) the sanctuary shortly after the morning's announcements to share in a time of music and prayer wherever they feel most affirmed that day.

Bible Stories Class **with Cassy Gulden, Sandra Malan-Bowles**

Would you like to learn Bible stories through crafts and song? Are you still a little new to Sunday school, the Presbyterian Church, or the Bible? Our Bible Stories class has you covered!

We'll follow the Growing in Grace and Gratitude curriculum.

Recommended Ages: 3+

Prayer & Preaching Class **with Rev. Theo Gill, Kimberley Fais**

Designed for students who have had several years of experience reading the Bible, this class aims to apply what you've learned so far to praying, preaching, and knowing what kinds of things to listen for when other people pray and preach. If you wish, you'll have some opportunities to preach what you have practiced!

We'll draw from A Sermon Workbook: Exercises in the Art and Craft of Preaching written by our friends, Leonora Tubbs Tisdale and Thomas H. Troeger.

Recommended Ages: 9+

Confirmation Dinner Church (Ages 14-18)

You're invited to a begin a process of discernment – a confirmation class designed to help you understand what it means, historically and contemporarily, personally and communally, to be a Christian, a part of the global Church, and a Presbyterian in the PCUSA. Completion is optional and in no way a graduation. Confirmands who complete their confirmation will be acknowledged as full, self-identifying members of the church in June.

If you were baptized, maybe even before you were old enough to remember it, that was your church and family's opportunity to commit to your care in God's name. Confirmation is *your* opportunity to commit to God's call and the care of your community, and all else that it will mean to you in particular.

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 October 22nd.

Youth Escape New Haven (Ages 10-18)

Located at 103 Whitney Ave in New Haven, Connecticut, Escape New Haven is a cooperative, real-life "escape room" – an adventure space where nothing is as it seems. You and your team are trapped; you have 60 minutes to escape the room by solving a series of puzzles that will challenge your mind and confound your senses. Explore, adapt, work together, think creatively... and you just might succeed.

The Youth Group will try our hand at this challenge on Sunday, October 29th sometime between 12:30-3:30 p.m., depending on our choice of puzzle.

Cost is \$20 per youth/student with ID (\$2 off per ticket for coming with our group). RSVP to firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com by Sunday, October 15th. Lunch will also be provided for participants.

Peace and Justice Action Group will Meet on Thursday, Oct 5th

The Mission Committee's Peace and Justice Action Group (PJAG) plans First Pres Adult Education sessions and participates in a variety of local and state peace and justice activities throughout the year. PJAG invites and welcomes your participation.

Our first fall PJAG meeting is Thursday, October 5. We will gather at Art and Mary Hunt's at 86 Edgemere Road, Hamden at 6 pm for a pot luck supper and social hour and then at 7 pm for the PJAG planning meeting. Please join us to learn more about PJAG activities and to tell us about your peace and justice interests and activities. We are looking forward to seeing you on the 6th.



OCTOBER ADULT ED TOPIC IS RACISM

The Peace and Justice Action Group is leading discussions from the PC(USA) Anti-Racism Study Guide

In 2016, the 222 General Assembly approved the Churchwide Antiracism Policy: Facing Racism, A Vision of the Intercultural Community. Also in 2016, Presbyterian Mission created a related six-part study guide.

"Racism is the opposite of what God intends for humanity. It is the rejection of the other, which is entirely contrary to the Word of God incarnate in Jesus Christ. Racism is a lie about our fellow human beings, for it says that some are less than others. Because of our biblical understanding of who God is and what God intends for humanity, the PC(USA) must stand against, speak against and work against racism." —From Facing Racism, A Vision of the Intercultural Community.

The Mission Committee's Peace and Justice Action Group (PJAG) is leading a discussion during the Sunday 9:30 a.m. adult ed class of the of the first three parts of the Study Guide on October 8, 15 and 22 and the final three parts on January 7, 14 and 21.

Each session references specific Bible verses and encourages discussion among the attendees.

The six sessions are:

October 8	Biblical Imperatives to Antiracism with Bryce Weibe
October 15	Envisioning a New Way of Life Together
October 22	PC(USA) and Racial Reconciliation
January 7	Racism 101
January 14	Enduring Legacy of Racism in the U.S. with Rick Ufford Chase
January 21	Responding as a Community of Faith with Shannon Craigo-Snell via Skype

We hope you are able to attend all six but invite you to attend all that you can even if you can only attend one.

Immigrant Bail Fund—a Fun Fundraiser on Oct 12th

What happens when our U. S. Immigration police arrest someone suspected of being without documents? Depending on the situation, they can be held in detention, a reality that often disrupts a whole family. Too frequently, it is the breadwinner who is held. Children may come home from school to find one or both parents missing. We've all read and heard about this.

Often, for those immigrants who are detained, a lack of bail money is what keeps them separated from their families. Immigrants who are detained while facing possible deportation are five times less likely to secure legal counsel than non-detained immigrants; and those without counsel are twice as likely to end up deported.

The Immigrant Bail Fund is a brand-new organization (perhaps the first of its kind in the entire nation) that helps Connecticut residents who would otherwise remain in federal immigration detention. This helps keep our families and communities whole, allowing our neighbors to fight deportation from a position of freedom.

What can we do to help? Maybe it's time for a bit of relief! Maybe it's time for COMIC RELIEF? Find out October 12th at 7 PM at Congregation Mishkan Israel in Hamden. That's when an imam, a rabbi and a minister will actually walk into a common room for a bit of stand up COMIC RELIEF! COMIC RELIEF that will benefit the Immigrant Bail Fund.

Please plan to come! And please invite your friends! Sign up for tickets at the Welcome Table (or at the door the night of the event). If you cannot make the event, please consider making a tax deductible donation at: www.immigrantbailfund.org/take-action. This event is a joint effort of a long list of Greater New Haven faith communities and organizations.

This Spring, FPC adopted the New Sanctuary Movement pledge, welcoming immigrants. Participation in raising funds for the Immigrant Bail Fund is one fun way we may make that gesture real. So do plan to join me, Ralph Jones (organizing committee member), Rabbi Herb Brockman, Congregation Mishkan Israel and Rev. Paul Fleck, Hamden Plains United Methodist Church on October 12th for COMIC RELIEF!

CURLING, COCKTAILS & CHILI

We're going to try this again!

When: Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017 from 6-10 p.m.

Where: Nutmeg Curling Club, [213 Glenwood Ave, Bridgeport, CT](http://www.nutmegcurlingclub.com)

Cost: \$10 per person



Ever watched curling during the Olympics and thought you would like to give it a try? Here is your chance. The evening will include on-ice instruction from experienced curlers, time to play a short game and will end with a shared meal in the club's Warm Room (cash bar). No experience or equipment is required. There is room for 24 curlers (age 15 & up), so get your deposit in soon.

Just want to watch? No problem, as the Warm Room has comfy chairs and large windows looking onto the ice. Children in the Warm Room must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. Let us know if you want to curl or to come watch. Sign up sheet will be on the Welcome table or you can contact Scott Funston.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER

Hopes and Dreams for 2018 - Stewarding our Time, Talents and Treasures

It's that time again when the Stewardship Campaign kicks off - but, we're doing things a little differently this year! On Sunday, November 5, we will kick off the annual stewardship campaign with a catered luncheon following worship. During the meal, we will have focused table conversations wherein all are invited to share hopes and dreams for the life of this congregation for the upcoming year. Whether you are a member, friend, or visitor, your voice is needed in this conversation as the Spirit guides us. May we listen intently to one another and dream of what may be.



All Saints' Sunday – November 5

Naming the Saints of God on All Saints Sunday invites us to remember those from our congregation as well as others we have loved who have died in the year past. It is a time to celebrate their homecoming with God. During worship on Sunday, November 5, we will take time to read the names of those who have died since last year. If you would like to submit a name to be included in the litany of remembrance, please email or call the church office with the name to be included in the list and their relationship to you.

Save the Date for Pastor JC's Installation – Saturday, November 11, 3pm

As she mentioned in worship on September 24th, Pastor JC has received final approval and welcome into the Presbytery of Southern New England. Therefore, we are ready to formally install her as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church! The Service of Installation will be on Saturday, November 11 at 3:00pm in the sanctuary. The preachers for the service will be Rev. Jan Edmiston (current co-moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA)) and Rev. Shawna Bowman (pastor of Friendship Presbyterian Church in Chicago, IL).

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, for a speedy recovery from knee replacement surgery.

Prayers of thanksgiving for Becky Cline's brother, who had successful surgery this week.

Prayers of celebration for the wedding of Gary and Becky Cline's daughter, Emily, to Ronald Bastura.

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

For Stewart Fritts, who is recovering at home.

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.



October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship & Communion, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Friendship Hour	2 6:00 p.m. Memorial Cairn	3 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk 6:30 pm Worship Comm 7:30 p.m. CLOC Committee	4 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:00 p.m. Property Committee 5:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 p.m. Choir	5 9:00 a.m. Yoga 7:00 pm GNHCC	6 9:30 am Musical Folk 7:30 p.m. Folk Concert	7 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA 3:30 pm Youth serve Columbus House Dinner
8 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship & Communion, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Friendship Hour	9	10 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk 7:15 p.m. Mission Committee	11 5:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 p.m. Choir	12 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC	13 9:30 am Musical Folk	14 9:00am Yoga 9:30am Women's AA
15 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Friendship Hour	16	17 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk 7:15 p.m. Session	18 5:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. Homicide Survivors	19 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Potluck at Manse 7:00 pm GNHCC	20 9:30 am Musical Folk	21 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA
22 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship, JC Cadwallader preaching 12:00 pm Potluck Lunch 1:00 pm Youth apple picking 5:30 pm Confirmation	23 6:00 pm Abraham's Tent Mtg	24 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk	25 5:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 p.m. Choir	26 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC	27 9:30 am Musical Folk	28 9:00 am Yoga 9:30 am Women's AA 6:00 p.m. Curling in Bridgeport
29 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 10:45 a.m. Worship, Bruce Gordon preaching 12:00 pm Friendship Hour 12:00 p.m. Youth "Escape"	30	31 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk				

November 2017

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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 5:30 pm Confirmation	27	28 9:30 am Musical Folk 4:30 pm Musical Folk	29 5:30 pm Musical Folk 7:00 p.m. Choir	30 9:00 a.m. Yoga 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm GNHCC		

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

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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**