

The Inkling

The Season of Lent Begins, Finally!

This year the length of days between Christmas and Lent was sufficient for us to read and reflect upon the entire Sermon on the Mount from the Gospel of Matthew, and to hear again Jesus' teachings on love of God and neighbor. From Jesus' birth to the day when he turns his face toward Jerusalem prepared to die, the church community had the chance to see Jesus grow in wisdom, and to learn more about how to live faithfully into the reign of God.

But now, the time for Lenten reflection has come. And with it comes 40 days to consider the life of Jesus, and the good news and challenging news that he offers all those who will follow.

This year's Lenten preaching theme invites us to consider the sayings of some Christian mystics, poets and writers whose words offer us another way into the Christian story of hope and promise. Each Sunday the preacher will be guided and led by the words of these mystics as together we reflect on the life Jesus is inviting us to lead. The weekly gmail and each bulletin will include the chosen writing or poem for that Sunday, so that you can take time each week to meditate on its words and meaning.

As has become our practice during liturgical seasons, The Sacrament of Holy Communion will again be offered following worship on the Sundays of Lent. Clergy from our congregation will lead a brief service around the Table. Come to one or come to all.

Pancake Supper and Ash Wednesday Service



It wouldn't be Lent without first sharing a meal of pancakes. Join your friends from First Presbyterian Church of New Haven on Shrove Tuesday, March 8th for a supper of pancakes and sausage (vegetarian and meat will be available.) The dinner will cost \$5 per person or \$16 for a family of four or more. Come and join in the fun and the feasting!

The Ash Wednesday service begins at 6:45 p.m. in the sanctuary on Wednesday, March 9th. Join us for a time of prayer, song, scripture readings and reflections, and the imposition of ashes.

Christian Education for Adults

On March 6th, and for the next three Sundays, Yale Theology Professor and church member Shannon Craigo-Snell will lead a series of classes on "Church and Theater in Conversation," exploring the connections between church and theater, in conversation with four influential modern directors. For lovers of theater and theology! Join us at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Miller Gathering Hall. Coffee will be provided.

A New Member Class on March 13

A luncheon for those interested in becoming members of the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven will be offered following the Friendship Hour on Sunday, March 13th. The lunch will take place at the church manse, directly next door to the church. This lunch conversation will provide an opportunity to meet with others who have been worshipping in our midst, and to learn a bit more about the mission and ministry of this congregation. If you would like more information, or plan to attend, please talk with Co-Pastor Bill Goettler or Maria LaSala, or email the church office at firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com to indicate you would like to attend.

Women at the Well

The next gathering of Women at the Well will take place on Wednesday, March 16th. The evening will begin with a supper of soups and breads and will include a time to explore feminist understandings of sin and forgiveness. If you would like to make a pot of soup or bring a loaf of bread or dessert, please talk with Co-Pastor Maria LaSala, or sign up at the Welcome Table. All women of the congregation are welcome.



Eve's Daughters

In February, women from Congregation Mishkan Israel and First Presbyterian Church met to explore the wonder of *The Song of Songs*, the most romantic poetry in the Bible. This month we will look at "Disobedience and Redemption: The Women of the Exodus Story." At the beginning of the Book of Exodus a conspiracy of women sparks the redemption of the Israelites from Egypt: The midwives, Moses' mother, Yoheved, Miriam, Pharaoh's daughter (named "Batya" - daughter of God - by the Jewish sages), and all of the women who continue to give birth despite Pharaoh's genocidal decrees perform acts of civil disobedience. We will explore their stories over another delicious meal. We may also ask, where are the acts of disobedience in our lives? How have they, or how might they, give birth to or nurture new things?

Join us on Monday, March 28th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall at First Presbyterian Church for another exciting interfaith conversation and Bible study. Sign up at the Welcome Table.

Don't forget to spring forward! Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 13. Turn your clocks forward by one hour!

Join us for Bible Study!

The Lectionary Bible Study meets on Thursday Mornings at 11:30 a.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall. Each week we read and reflect on the texts for the upcoming Sunday. Co-Pastor Maria LaSala leads the study.



"Jesus is Tempted" (Mt 4:1-11) by JESUS MAFA, Cameroon (1973).

The texts for March are:

March 6: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2:1-12 or Psalm 99:1-9; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

March 13: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32:1-11; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

March 20: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121:1-8; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

March 27: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95:1-11; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Welcome Spring with a Potluck Lunch!

On March 20 we will be officially welcoming Spring. Come join the celebration with a Potluck Lunch in the Miller Gathering Hall following worship. Bring your favorite dish that makes you think green, warm and/or no shoveling.



Youth Group Gatherings in March

The Middle School Group will have our next gathering on March 13th, following the Friendship Hour. Please plan to meet in the Middle School Sunday School room for lunch and a time of fellowship until 2:30 p.m.

The Senior High Youth Group will gather for lunch on March 27th following the Friendship Hour. Senior High-ers should meet Nancy and Micah in the Senior High Sunday School room following the Friendship Hour. Our afternoon together will conclude by 2:30 p.m.

Christian Community Action's Anti-Hunger Challenge

This March and April, Christian Community Action will again be participating in the nationwide Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation Anti-Hunger Challenge. As part of this effort, the Foundation has pledged to make a financial donation to CCA for every item of nonperishable food collected. The more food donated during these two months, the larger the match CCA will receive. Might you consider remembering those who are hungry, the next time you drop by the grocery store? The food items can be dropped off in the wheel barrow outside of the sanctuary. Thank you!

Meal-a-Month GROCERIES

- Bags of rice
- Bags of beans (red or black)
- Pasta / pasta sauce
- Canned tuna
- Canned fruits (low sugar preferred)
- Canned meats
- Canned vegetables (low-sodium)
- Boxes of mashed potatoes
- Pasta sauce
- Peanut butter
- Low-sugar breakfast cereals (Cheerios, etc.)
- Low-sodium soups
- Dessert items – Jello, pudding mixes, etc.
- Canned juices: tomato, V8, grape, orange
- Instant milk
- Coffee and/or tea
- Flour
- Sugar

Meal-a-Month

Your generous donations go to the Christian Community Action food pantry.

- CCA's clients select the items they need and want for families ranging from one or two to seven or eight.
- A variety of sizes are appropriate.
- Use this list as a guide. Check the specials aisle for similar items on sale.
- The CT health department prohibits distribution of fresh foods.
- Census data show Connecticut had the largest percentage increase for all people and for children living in poverty in the country, despite our goal of cutting the child poverty rate in half by 2014. That's almost 315,000 Connecticut residents living under the Federal poverty level.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, "Sharing Resources, Changing Lives," will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 17. Learn more about the offering in the April Inkling.



2011 Lenten Carbon Fast

Back due to popular demand – a new version of the Lenten Carbon Fast! 40 days of tips to care for God's creation and reduce your carbon footprint. As in past years, our Carbon Fast is based on one developed by Tearfund, an international aid organization based in the U.K.. Their daily tips have been "Americanized" in our version and adapted to address Connecticut and local concerns. This year the tips are organized in six weekly groups, loosely focusing on: Simplicity, Sacrifice, Community, Justice, Creativity, and Generosity. For Carbon Fast veterans who've hopefully progressed beyond changing their light bulbs, you'll see many new tips. For novices, don't worry; the daily tips still range widely from simple actions to more difficult lifestyle changes. Try a few or all, as a way to provide contemplative actions during this Lenten season. Copies are available on the Welcome Table in the Copeland Room and in this Inkling.

Ecumenical Conference at Yale Divinity School, March 25-26

All are welcome to join the Yale Divinity School community for a conference entitled "Gathering Together: A Celebration of Full Communion." The conference will include panel discussions featuring representatives from the Presbyterian, UCC, Lutheran (ELCA), United Methodist, and Episcopal denominations, discussing ecumenism in the 21st century. Rev. Gradye Parsons, the stated clerk of the PC(USA), will be participating. The conference will also feature worship in celebration of Christian unity.

Friday, March 25:

3:00 PM - Panel Discussion: Full Communion & Ecumenical Relationships Today

4:45 PM - Panel Discussion: Impact of Ecumenism on Mission and Ministry

6:00 PM - Vespers

6:30 PM - Reception

Saturday, March 26:

8:30 AM - Morning Prayer

9:00 AM - Panel Discussion: Future Directions

10:45 AM - Closing Eucharist

For more information, please visit our website at yalegatheringtogether.blogspot.com.

Spring Grounds and Gardens Spruce Up Day – April 16

Wow, what a winter we have had. Who knows what we will find when the snow and ice finally melt. We are hoping that the snow melt will be finished by Saturday, April 16 so that we can spruce up the grounds and gardens for spring in time for Easter.

Please bring your work gloves and favorite gardening tools, gardening ideas, energy and enthusiasm. We will have drinks and treats to keep your energy level up. See you on April 16! We will get started around 9 a.m. and plan to work until noon.

Calling All Knitters!

Maybe you have noticed us, sitting around a table during Friendship Hour or heard our needles clicking during the adult Sunday School class. We are an informal group, gathered by our interest in knitting (we've been known to quilt as well) and given the opportunity to share our work with those in need. We meet after worship a couple of times a month to share our knitting experience. We have made sweaters, scarves, hats and prayer shawls for different mission organizations while enjoying a time of fellowship. We were happy to be able to share some warm hats with our guests from Abraham's Tent. If this is something that would interest you, please join us!

Calvin's Brothers – March 24

Calvin's Brothers, a theological discussion group for the men of the church, will take place on Thursday, March 24, beginning with dinner at 6 p.m. Sign up at the Welcome Table or RSVP to firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com. Any further questions, please speak with YDS Intern Bryce Wiebe.

February

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March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 27 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 7:30 PM Gavin Black - Harpsichord	28 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters @ CMI	March 1 3 PM Homework@First 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLOC Meeting	2 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First	4	5 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
6 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 2 PM Linda Lader's Ordination	7	8 3 PM Homework@First 5:30 PM Pancake Supper	9 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:45 PM Ash Wednesday Service	10 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First	11	12 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
13 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 1 PM Middle School Gathering 1 PM New Member Class	14 8 PM Yale Rep Theatre	15 3 PM Homework@First 7:15 PM Session	16 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Women at the Well 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First	18	19 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA 11 AM Kay Jetter's Memorial Service
20 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Church Potluck	21	22 3 PM Homework@First	23 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First 6 PM Calvin's Brothers	25	26 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA 5 PM Bingo
27 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 1 PM Senior High Gathering	28 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters @ FPC	29 3 PM Homework@First	30 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First	April 1	2 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA

March

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April 2011

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March 27 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 1 PM Senior High Gathering	28 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters @ FPC	29 3 PM Homework@First	30 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First	April 1	2 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
3 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	4	5 3 PM Homework@First 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	6 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First	8	9 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
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17 Palm Sunday 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	18 8 PM Yale Rep Theater	19 3 PM Homework@First 7:15 PM Session	20 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First 6 PM Calvin's Brothers	22	23 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
24 Easter 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	25	26 3 PM Homework@First	27 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	28 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 3 PM Homework@First	29	30 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA

Linda Lader to be Ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament – March 6

Linda LeSourd Lader, who has been under care of this church, will be ordained as Minister of the Word and Sacrament on Sunday, March 6 at 2pm at Marquand Chapel, Yale Divinity School. Any interested members of the congregation are cordially invited to attend the service and the reception afterwards. Linda wishes to express her gratitude for the love, prayers and encouragement she has received from the pastors, the session and others at First Presbyterian Church throughout her journey.

Memorial Service for Kay Jetter

A memorial service for Kay Jetter will be held on Saturday, March 19th at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Kay was a longtime church member, whose beautiful gardens offered us lovely flower arrangements Sunday after Sunday. Join Kay's husband Ken and son Scott and daughter Kathy as they come to give thanks to God for a life well lived.

Bingo and Movie Night – Saturday, March 26

The CLOC committee invites you to spend an evening together for a Bingo and Movie Night. We will gather at the Miller Hall on Saturday, March 26, at 5 p.m. After a few rounds of BINGO, all who want to are invited to stay for a movie geared to the entire family. Five movie choices will be offered. The one with the most votes will be shown on the big screen. Pizza and popcorn will be provided. Come and enjoy a night out with friends of all ages. A small donation will be taken to support this event.



Prayers for Our Community

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 ...

Mary, mother of Fiona Scott Morton, as she bravely struggles with the late stages of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (A.L.S.).

Debbie Tenney's mother, who is receiving hospice care.

Jim Owens' sister, Virginia Campbell, who is struggling with cancer.

Lee Shaffer and Alan Hogle, who continue to face issues with their health.

Irving Spielman, who is rehabilitating at Whitney Manor.

Christopher Asher, Sue Asher's nephew, who has begun service with the Tenth Mountain Division of the Army.

Jordan Matos, son of Karina Woltke, who has begun service in the army at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis: Jim Tenney; Jan Forman; Ken Jetter. Other people and situations in need of our supplications.

Join us at the Yale Repertory Theatre!

Join us for a performance of *Autumn Sonata*, at Yale Repertory Theatre on Monday, April 18, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each. Please sign up and pay for your ticket no later than Sunday, April 1. A sign up sheet and envelope for your check (made payable to First Presbyterian Church) or cash will be found on the Welcome Table. It is important that you pay for your ticket at the time of signing up. Thank you!



Director Robert Woodruff, whose Yale Rep productions include *Notes from Underground* (2009) and *Battle of Black and Dogs* (2010), returns with the U.S. premiere stage adaptation of Ingmar Bergman's *Autumn Sonata*.

Charlotte, a celebrated classical pianist who has forged a successful career at the expense of her family, attempts to reconcile with her daughter Eva, whom she has not seen in seven years. Over the course of one evening, they confront their darkest feelings and resentments. A tightly-wound psychological study of the complicated relationship between mothers and daughters, *Autumn Sonata* reveals that living and loving—like mastering notes on a piano—are skills that must be practiced every day.

Widely considered one of the greatest filmmakers of all time, Ingmar Bergman wrote and directed such landmark films as *The Seventh Seal*, *Wild Strawberries*, and *Scenes from a Marriage*.

- Yale Rep

CONNECTICUT FOLK CONCERTS



For more information, check out the CT Folk website at ctfolk.org.

Join us on Friday, April 1, for a folk music concert with Buskin & Batteau and John Flynn. First Presbyterian Church receives 10 complimentary tickets. Email or call the church office to reserve yours!

"Buskin & Batteau are the most musically sophisticated act in folk." (The New York Times). The Washington Post calls them "irresistible...an amalgam of melodic sensual pop, folkie grit and killer wit."

Kris Kristofferson says that John Flynn's album "America's Waiting" is "an important album by an important artist..." who has "committed himself to a life of service and songs for and about 'the lost and the lonely, the shackled and scarred.'"

Save the Date: May 6 – Danny Schmidt

CO-PASTORS: BILL GOETTLER & MARIA LASALA

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: PATRICK McCRELESS

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTER: NANCY McLAREN

CAMPUS CHAPLAIN TO YALE: JENNIFER DAVIS

PARISH ASSOCIATE: SUE ASHER

YDS INTERNS: ASHLEY HURST & BRYCE WIEBE

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: HANNAH ROH

First Presbyterian Church

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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.

Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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

Afraid that you might lose this Inkling? Find your e-copy on the church website at fpcnh.org! Please note that for privacy reasons, the e-copy may be slightly different than the hard copy.