

The Inkling

Holy Week and Easter Rejoicing

Holy Week begins on April 1 and together we will journey to the cross and then on to resurrection. These past forty days have been a time to find our quiet center, offering our deepest prayers to God, listening for God's word to us, and responding in love and concern for one another and the world.



Artwork for Holy Week 2010 at Christ Church, New York City: Palm Sunday / Maundy Thursday / Good Friday / Easter

On Palm Sunday, April 1, the congregation will gather for a Palm Procession at 10:30 a.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall. Traditional palms and eco-palms will be available for all who wish to move from the Miller Hall into the sanctuary with arms raised, singing our Hosannas. We will process around the front of the church buildings, forming an archway for friends to travel under, until all are in the sanctuary ready to hear the Call to Worship. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Holy Week Worship continues with a Maundy Thursday service on April 5th at 7:30 p.m., in the Miller Gathering Hall. Sitting around tables, we will hear again the story of Jesus' final supper with his disciples, preparing our hearts and minds as we receive bread and cup together.

The Good Friday Tenebrae service will take place in the sanctuary on Friday, April 6th, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Come and hear the Passion narrative of Jesus' final hours in the quiet of the sanctuary. Mattie Long will conclude the service with her rendition of *Were You There*. The Youth Group will lead a Stations of the Cross beginning at 6:45 p.m. Please see the separate article in this Inkling describing this prayer service. All are welcome!

Easter Morning comes early on the summit of East Rock Park. Join friends from First Presbyterian Church, First and Summerfield United Methodist Church, Hamden Plains United Methodist Church, and neighbors of the East Rock community, in welcoming the glad news of Christ's resurrection. The service begins at 6:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall where tasty treats will be prepared. Strata, pastries, and juice, coffee, and tea are on the menu. What a perfect way to begin the morning's celebration. Worship begins at 10:45 a.m. Co-Pastor Bill Goettler will be the preacher for the morning. The service of Easter rejoicing concludes with Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" from *Messiah*.

An Easter Egg Hunt for children will follow the Easter morning worship service. There will be separate areas for toddlers, and for younger elementary school aged children. Plastic eggs and goodies are needed. Please bring them to the church on Sunday, April 1.

Let us rejoice in the good news of Easter joy!

Confirmation Class Members to be Confirmed on Sunday, April 15

After a year of preparation and study, the members of the Confirmation Class will be confirmed and received into membership during the worship service on Sunday, April 15th. Their studies included bi-weekly meetings throughout the year to learn about the Bible and Church History, Christian faith, the Presbyterian Church, Interfaith and Ecumenical dialogue, and what it means to live as a Christian in the 21st century. Beginning in January, each member of the class prepared and delivered a reflection based on one of the Lectionary Texts for the Sunday morning services. Each reflection provided the congregation with a chance to hear what is on the minds of young people today, and to examine our own faith more deeply. Please keep the members of the Confirmation class and their families in your prayers. They are: Anni Yun, Sophie Latham, Rowyn Davis, Jake Blackwell, Charlotte Gordon, Cameron Owens, Alex Rupp-Coppi, Nathanael Matos, Kirsten Duncan, Leah Miller, and Daniel McCloskey.

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering to be received on Palm Sunday

One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday, April 1. When violent windstorms tore across America's heartland earlier this month, bringing death, homelessness, and destruction to communities in the Ohio and Tennessee River valleys, we were there to help. Response teams from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, relying on funds raised in last year's One Great Hour of Sharing, were promptly on the scene, providing emergency food and shelter, and coordinating the work of volunteers beginning the work of recovery and rebuilding.



Where will the coming year's emergencies arise? Will Presbyterian Disaster Assistance have the resources to respond? One Great Hour of Sharing enables our denomination, alongside many other communities of faith, to serve God's people when their needs are most desperate. On Palm Sunday we will receive our annual contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing. Please use the special offering envelopes, or write "OGHS" on the memo line of your checks. Thank you for your generous support!

Youth Group – Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross, or Way of the Cross, is a traditional Christian devotional practice involving a series of stations, usually fourteen, that represent the Passion of Jesus Christ, from his condemnation to his body being laid in the tomb. Each station is typically depicted by a work of art, which are often permanently installed in some Roman Catholic churches. During Lent, usually on Good Friday, congregations will walk the Stations of the Cross together with an accompanying litany of prayers and responses.

Given our Presbyterian heritage of rejecting icons, we historically have not had these stations installed in our sanctuaries or walked the Stations during Lent. This year, youth group advisors Sharon and Anthony wanted to involve the youth in the devotional life of this worshipping community at this holy time. Artistic renderings of a the station were designed by youth group members. This Good Friday, the youth will help lead the litany of prayers as we walk the Stations of the Cross. We will meet at 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary to walk the path with Jesus from trial to tomb. We hope you will join the youth and many other members of the congregation in this powerful Lenten devotional practice, uniting ourselves in prayer and action with Christians around the globe. The Tenebrae service will follow at 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday's Foot Washing on the New Haven Green

Chapel on the Green, sponsored by Trinity Church, is hosting a foot care clinic on Maundy Thursday, April 5th, from 1-3 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help provide a caring attentive presence to the homeless and others in need of foot care. Set up for the 1 PM service and the foot care clinic begins at 11:00 AM. Tents, ground coverings, tables, chairs and alter will need to be moved outdoors, arranged and set up. There's water to boil and set in large multi-gallon thermoses; and foot care supplies to be made ready and accessible for health care volunteers. Ushers and greeters are needed to direct any and all Chapel on the Green parishioners and foot care clinic guests to the appropriate stations. New white "extra durable cushioning" crew or tube socks are especially needed; clean, dry feet clothed in fresh, warm socks along with this caring ministry of presence help feed souls and are a clear morale booster for those whose average day begins with little to no access to hygiene, may be diabetic and/or walking in poor (and maybe wet) shoes an average of 8 miles a day.

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. Please note that there will be no Bible Study on Thursday, April 5th.

The texts for April are:

April 1: *Liturgy of the Palms* Mark 11:1–11 or John 12:12–16; Ps. 118:1–2, 19–29;

April 8: Acts 10:34–43 or Isa. 25:6–9; Ps. 118:1–2, 14–24; 1 Cor. 15:1–11 or Acts 10:34–43; John 20:1–18 or Mark 16:1–8

April 15: Acts 4:32–35; Ps. 133; 1 John 1:1–2:2; John 20:19–31

April 22: Acts 3:12–19; Ps. 4; 1 John 3:1–7; Luke 24:36b–48

April 29: Acts 4:5–12; Ps. 23; 1 John 3:16–24; John 10:11–18



Women at the Well returns this month – April 18

All women of the congregation are invited to the well for a simple meal and a time for prayer and reflection on what it means to live as women of the Resurrection. Listening again to the Easter good news, and the role women played in spreading that good news, we will take time to share our own understandings of where we see resurrection hope. We will gather on Wednesday, April 18, at 5:30 p.m. Please sign up at the Welcome Table, and indicate if you are able to make a pot of soup or bring a loaf of bread or dessert.

Eve’s Daughters – April 30

All women are welcome to the April gathering of Eve’s Daughters, the interfaith Bible Study with women from Congregation Mishkan Israel in Hamden. This month, we will continue our study of Tamar and Amnon as we reflect on ways to stop violence against women. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and will take place at Congregation Mishkan Israel on Ridge Road in Hamden. A light supper will be served. Please sign up at the Welcome Table.

ICM Board Meeting at FPC

The annual meeting of the Interfaith Cooperative Ministries (ICM) will take place at First Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, April 24th beginning at 7 p.m. This meeting will bring together the congregations from the New Haven region who work to form interfaith dialogue, address injustices in the city of New Haven, and foster friendships among the different religious traditions represented in the group. Church member Ralph Jones sits on the Board. Please talk with him if you would like to attend or have questions or suggestions about new areas of study and action.

Super Fun Youth Group Activity on Sunday, April 22 – Details will follow!

Come and learn to Contra dance on Saturday, April 14, from 4 to 6 p.m. with Bill Fisher, professional caller, and a live band with fiddle and guitar music. All ages, all welcome!



Join us on Friday, April 13, for a folk music concert with Trina Hamlin.

First Presbyterian Church receives 10 complimentary tickets. Email or call the church office to reserve yours! For more information, visit www.ctfolk.org.

Join us at the Yale Repertory Theatre!

Join us for a performance of Will Eno’s *The Realistic Joneses*, at Yale Repertory Theatre on Monday, April 23rd, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each. Sign up at the Welcome Table.

“Meet Bob and Jennifer, and their new neighbors John and Pony, two suburban couples who have more in common than their identical homes and the same last name on their mailboxes.”
– Yale Rep



March

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May

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April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 1 Palm Sunday 9:30 AM Choir 9:30 AM Intergener... 10:30 AM Palm Processional 10:45 AM Worship - Communion 12 PM Friendship Hour	2 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Iraq/Afghanistan Memorial 6 PM Tai Chi	3 7 PM CE Committee 7 PM CE Committee 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLOC Meeting	4 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 Maundy Thursday 9 AM Yoga 1 PM Maundy Thursday Foot Washing - New Haven Green 7:30 PM Service - Communion	6 Good Friday 6:45 PM Youth Group Stations of the Cross 7:30 PM Tenebrae	7 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
8 Easter Sunday 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise Service 9:30 AM Choir 9:30 AM Easter Breakfast 10:45 AM Worship 12:30 PM Easter Egg Hunt	9 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	10	11 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	13 7:30 PM CT Folk Concert	14 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA 4 PM Contra Dance
15 9:30 AM Session Meeting 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship - Confirmation Class ... 12 PM Friendship Hour 6:30 PM "Billboard from Bethlehem"	16 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Worship Committee 6 PM Tai Chi	17 7:15 PM Session	18 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 5:30 PM Women at the Well 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	20	21 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
22 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	23 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi 8 PM Yale Repertory Theater	24 7 PM ICM Boarding Meeting at FPC	25 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 Presbyterian Peace Fellowship 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 6 PM Paul Farmer at YDS	27	28 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
29 Presbyterian Pea... 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	30 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters	May 1 7 PM CE Committee 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLOC Meeting	2 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	4	5 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM PSNE at YDS 9:30 AM Women's AA

April

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May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 29 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	30 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters	May 1 7 PM CE Committee 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLOC Meeting	2 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	4	5 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM PSNE at YDS 9:30 AM Women's AA
6 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Art Show 12:30 PM Walk Against Hunger	7 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	8	9 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	11	12 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
13 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Youth Led Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	14 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	15 7:15 PM Session	16 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	18	19 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
20 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 4 PM YDS Baccalaureate	21 12:30 PM YDS Commencement 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	22	23 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	25	26 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
27 Pentecost 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	28 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	29	30 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	June 1	2 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA

Feinstein Anti-Hunger Challenge



For the 10th year in a row, Christian Community Action (CCA) will be participating in the nationwide \$1-million Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation Anti-Hunger Challenge. This means that the Foundation will make a financial donation for each food item/cash donation made to the CCA Food Pantry during March and April. The more food items collected during these two months, the bigger the matching donation. CCA's Food Pantry currently provides groceries to an average of 650 persons a month, 50% of whom are children - and the number keeps growing. Please consider making an extra effort to fill the green wheelbarrow during this time.

Paul Farmer to Visit Yale Divinity School on Thursday, April 26

Please join Yale Divinity School for a lecture by Dr. Paul Farmer entitled, "The Corporal Works of Mercy and the 21st-century Struggle Against Poverty," on April 26 at 6:00pm. His talk will address concepts of holistic health, Liberation Theology, and his work on infectious disease as a vehicle for social change. A reception will follow.

Iraq/Afghanistan Memorial, March stone – Monday, April 2

Remember that the war in Iraq is not over for the Iraqi people. Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice will again be marking the cost of the continuing violence in Iraq and Afghanistan by placing the March stone on the Memorial Cairn at the intersection of Broadway, Elm and Park streets in New Haven on Monday evening, 6 p.m., April 2. This stone will be inscribed with the March death total of US military personnel and the approximate documented numbers of Iraqi and Afghani civilians killed during that same period of time. Members of the St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Chapel at Yale will lead the service.

The Billboard from Bethlehem: The Story of the Combatants For Peace – April 15

On Sunday evening, April 15th, at 6:30 p.m., join us at the Miller Gathering Hall for an award-winning one-hour documentary film, 'The Billboard from Bethlehem', followed by a talk by the film's director, Bruce Barrett, also Founder of the non-profit organization, 'I Wage Peace'.

The film tells a deeply moving and inspiring tale of the formation of the Combatants For Peace, a coalition of former Israeli soldiers and former Palestinian militants in the Holy Land who have decided to renounce violence and to jointly seek a peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It offers glimpses of peace and hope among some of the most unlikely people in one of the most unlikely parts of the world.

Bruce Barrett, the event speaker, is a Connecticut billboard company owner turned-peacemaker. In 2006, he created www.IWagePeace.org as a primer on active non-violence peace-making. He received the Living Waters Award from the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ for working with youth and promoting peace and diversity. I Wage Peace's work includes organizing The Combatants for Peace Tours, I Wage Peace Walks and the painting of peace billboard signs which it then posts on the interstate highways of Connecticut.

Feel free to also spread the word and invite your family and friends. For more information, pick up a flyer at the Welcome Table, or go to the event website: <http://fpcnh.org/missionnews/2012/03/the-billboard-from-bethlehem-the-story-of-the-combatants-for-peace/>. Child care will be provided for children 10 and under.

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship – Waging Peace in a Time of Empire

This April 26-29 at Stony Point Center, join peacemakers from across the country to discuss issues of peace and justice. Scholarships will be available. This is a working meeting for peacemakers, organizers and activists from across the church to plan together for effective advocacy and action. For more information visit presbypeacefellowship.org, or talk with Jane Hindenlang.

A Bylaws Revision Task Force has been appointed by the session. Led by Clerk of Session Dick Hasbany, the group will review the FPC Bylaws, make revisions as needed, and present new Bylaws for congregational action.

Looking ahead to May!

Saturday, May 5 – Presbytery of Southern New England Meets at Yale Divinity School

Church members Shannon Craigo-Snell and Khelen Kuzmovich will come before the Presbytery to be examined and received as Candidates. Shannon is a professor of theology at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Khelen is a second year student in the M.Div. program at Wake Forest Divinity School in Wake Forest North Carolina.

Sunday, May 6 – Art Show and Finger Foods and “Walk Against Hunger”

The New Haven Connecticut Food Bank’s 36th Annual “Walk Against Hunger” will be held on Sunday, May 6th. Sign up to walk the 2.5 to 3 mile walk at the Welcome Table in the Copeland Room. Join the walkers (all ages are welcome) and/or support our walkers with a generous donation (tax deductible). Rain or shine, we start from East Rock Park (corner of Cold Spring and Orange Streets). Registration is at 1pm and the procession steps off at 2pm. During the Friendship Hour on May 6th, starting at 12:15pm, grab a little bite to eat then join with your fellow FPCNH walkers in the junior high class to receive information before we head out. The walk should take approximately 1 ½ hours (depending on your MPH!), with refreshments, activities and the Awards Ceremony back at East Rock park at 3:00pm. Have any questions? See Lynn Autry and/or Candice Gray.

All walkers will be fed! The Congregational Art Show with delicious finger foods will take place following worship that morning. Please bring a finger food to share.

Sunday, May 13 – Youth Group will lead worship

Come and Join the Presbyterian Knitters!

We would like to encourage all who would like to help us with knitting projects to join our group. If you are a beginner, we can help you get started and provide the patterns, even needles and yarn. We meet occasionally during the Friendship Hour. Our projects have been donated to the Red Scarf Project, Seafarer’s International Ministry, Abraham’s Tent, Waterbury Hospital, World Vision and Whitney Center. We hope you will come and join us. If you have any questions, please ask Betsy Mussmann, Liz Copeland, Jean McCloskey, Lynn Autry, Trudv Bollier, Muriel Bodenweber, or Anita Shaffer.

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 ...

The family of Jim Tenney, who died on Monday, March 12.

Karla Koll, mission co-worker in Guatemala, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

Judith Kistler, as she continues to heal following surgery.

Alan Hogle, struggling with illness.

Melissa and Frank Socolow as they move to Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

Al Hollingsworth as he recovers from a stroke.

Blanca Thiebaut and her colleague Montserrat Serra, who were abducted in Kenya. Blanca and Montserrat work for the Spanish division of Doctors Without Borders.

Bryan McCloskey, nephew of Tim and Jean McCloskey, who has been deployed to Afghanistan with the U.S. Army.

Jordan Matos, who is stationed in Vilsek, Germany with the U.S. Army.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis, including Ken Jetter.

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

Easter Flowers!

Orders for Easter flowers are now being accepted by the church office. The cost is \$15 each. Flowers may be taken home after worship on Easter morning, or given to the church to be planted outside or given to homebound members. Please leave this form and a check at the Welcome Table by April 1.

Donated by: _____

___ In memory of _____

___ In thanksgiving for _____

___ I would like to take the plant home



CO-PASTORS: BILL GOETTLER & MARIA LASALA

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: PATRICK McCRELESS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR: BRYCE WIEBE

CAMPUS CHAPLAIN TO YALE: JENNIFER DAVIS

PARISH ASSOCIATE: SUE ASHER

YDS INTERN: SUNGDUK YUN

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: HANNAH ROH

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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**

Please find your e-copy on the church website at fpcnh.org! We hope to stop printing most copies of the Inkling, moving to an entirely digital format. So take a moment today to check out the newsletter online.