

# The Inkling

The News of First Presbyterian Church

May 2012

## Easter Gladness Leads to Pentecost's Creative Spirit

The early weeks of May find us in the season of Eastertide, when we hear anew the teaching of doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with the God made known in Jesus. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, the youth of the congregation will lead us, as we see and hear how God continues to do amazing things -- from the mouths of our middle and senior high school students. The youth are working with CE Director Bryce Wiebe and Youth Group Advisors, Sharon and Anthony Damelio, to write and lead the liturgy for the morning. On May 20<sup>th</sup>, we will take time during our worship service to congratulate the graduates of our congregation. This will also be the last Sunday before Co-Pastors Bill Goettler and Maria LaSala leave for their summer sabbatical. More on their sabbatical plans can be found in this Inkling.



On Pentecost, May 27<sup>th</sup>, The Rev. Dr. Nora Tubbs Tisdale, Clement-Muehl Professor of Homiletics at Yale Divinity School, will be the guest preacher. Nora will have just returned from her Spring sabbatical and months spent in South Africa. She plans to share stories of how the winds of the Spirit are at work in that country. The Pentecost Special Offering will be received that morning. This special offering will go to support programs that work with children at risk here in New Haven and around the country.

### Co-Pastors Maria LaSala and Bill Goettler Begin Sabbatical

Co-Pastors Bill Goettler and Maria LaSala will begin a sabbatical later this month. A part of the terms of call for our pastors is a three month sabbatical after seven years of service. Bill and Maria had their last sabbatical during the summer of 2005, after completing seven years at First Presbyterian Church. This summer marks fourteen and a half years as our pastors, and this coming sabbatical has been in the works for the last year.

Sunday, May 20 will be Bill and Maria's last Sunday with us until the middle of August. For the twelve weeks that follow, our pastors will be free from all worship, administrative and pastoral care duties; A sabbatical is intended to be a time of rest and renewal. Seven years ago, our pastors spent their sabbatical in Italy and then in Scotland. This sabbatical they will be closer to home, doing a bit of traveling within the country, and then spending an extended time on Cape Cod. They both expect to do quite a bit of reading and a bit of writing, some hiking and some yoga. We will look forward to welcoming them back on Sunday, August 19, in plenty of time to prepare for the beginning of the fall worship and program schedule. If you have any questions about Maria and Bill's sabbatical plans, please talk with Bruce Peabody.

### Youth Group to Lead Worship on May 13

The youth of our congregation will lead us in worship on Sunday, May 13. The God who creates is also the God who gives the gift of creativity. Through music, visual art, and drama, the youth of First Presbyterian Church will ask the congregation to explore the many ways God inspires us, as well as the many ways we respond. Growing from the liturgy used by this community and touching on elements our community does not often use, we hope that worship on May 13 will provoke and inspire.

## The Rev. Dr. Steve Jungkeit is Sabbatical Pastor

While Bill and Maria are on Sabbatical, the Session has asked The Rev. Steve Jungkeit to serve as our Sabbatical Pastor. Steve and his wife Rachael have been known to this church community for nearly 15 years. Rachael is a musician, with a Masters degree from Westminster Choir College and is a well respected piano teacher on the faculty of the Neighborhood Music School. Steve completed his Master of Divinity degree at Yale Divinity School, then spent two years in a full time Lilly Endowment Pastoral Ministry fellowship at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church outside of Philadelphia.

Steve then returned to New Haven, and entered a PhD program in Theology; he received his PhD from Yale. Steve was ordained to ministry in the Presbyterian Church, and spent a year in full time chaplaincy as a CPE resident at Bridgeport Hospital. For the last year he has been teaching at Harvard Divinity School, a post to which he will return next fall.

Steve has been a regular and very well received guest preacher at First Presbyterian Church over the years. He is also a well experienced pastor; in addition to his two years of pastoral ministry at Bryn Mawr, he also served as a sabbatical pastor in a UCC Congregation in northern Vermont last summer. Steve and Rachael have three children, Sabina, Elsa, and August, all well known and loved by this congregation.

Steve will work half time in this position at First Presbyterian Church this summer, leading worship and preaching, offering pastoral care as needed, and holding together the administrative work of the church. He will moderate the Session meeting in June, and attend some committee meetings. His contact information will be published in the church bulletin and in our email communications. He will be part of worship leadership team on several Sundays before Bill and Maria leave, so that you will have a better sense of both his style and so that he has a chance to begin to know us in this new role.

So, let us look forward to Steve's ministry among us at First Presbyterian Church in the months to come, even as together we hold our co-pastors in prayer during their summer sabbatical.

## May 6<sup>th</sup> – Celebration of Friendship Potluck

Join new friends and old friends around tables as we celebrate Friendship at this month's potluck. Please bring a family-seized main dish, side dish or salad. A cake for dessert is being provided.



## Walk Against Hunger

Sunday May 6 is the annual Walk Against Hunger to benefit the Connecticut Food Bank. I've tried to remember what year I started doing the walk. I think it was about 1990. And I don't really remember why I decided that it was a good idea. I do know that one of those first years the walk was 9 miles, not the three that it is now. That was a long way, but worth every step. As I continued to participate year after year my passion for this cause grew from a fun activity to do with my aerobics class to an effort to support a much needed cause. As Allison Cunningham of Columbus House says, nothing would please us more than to be put out of business by the lack of need. So year after year we walk hoping that by the next year we won't be needed.



Presently the Connecticut Food bank supplies food and other resources to more than 600 food assistance programs such as soup kitchens, shelters, food pantries, and low income adult and child daycare centers. These include Columbus House, Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen, and CCA.. It distributes more than 33 tons of food every business day providing almost 14 million meals to Ct residents. One in seven households is food insecure, and 52% of these make too much money to receive food stamps, WIC or reduced or free school lunches. One third of those who receive assistance are children.

It isn't necessary to donate a lot of money to make a real difference here. \$1 will feed a hungry person for a day. \$7 will feed him for a week. So give \$1 or \$7 or whatever you can, or better yet walk with us from East Rock Park at 2PM on Sunday and support the CT Food Bank. By Lynn Autry

**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. Bryce Wiebe will lead the study on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>.

**The texts for May are:**

**May 6:** Acts 8:26–40; Ps. 22:25–31; 1 John 4:7–21; John 15:1–8

**May 13:** Acts 10:44–48; Ps. 98; 1 John 5:1–6; John 15:9–17

**May 20:** Acts 1:15–17, 21–26; Ps. 1; 1 John 5:9–13; John 17:6–19

**May 27:** Acts 2:1–21 *or* Ezek. 37:1–14; Ps. 104:24–34, 35b; Rom. 8:22–27 *or* Acts 2:1–21; John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15



## Memorial Service for Alan Hogle

A memorial service, celebrating the life of Alan Hogle, will take place on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. following the church “Celebration of Friendship” potluck. Alan’s former pastors from Wilmington, Delaware will be taking part in the service.

### A Note from Teddy Hogle

*Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,*

*How very blessed Alan and I have been to have found such a compassionate and nurturing church family. Alan enjoyed more than you know the visits from not only Maria and Bill but the members of the congregation who visited, sent cards and e-mails and reminded us daily of the presence of God in our midst. Alan ended his journey in the full knowledge that he had been where he belonged and that I had a place to find comfort and joy. On behalf of the entire Hogle family, thank you, thank you.*

*Teddy, Mark, Jeanine, Thomas, Heather, Robin, Chris, Patric, Kim and Alexis*



## Annual First Presbyterian Arts and Craft Show – May 13

Calling all artists and crafters! Come and display your work for all to see. The annual arts and crafts show will take place during the Friendship Hour on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to set up a display, please talk with Beth Aura Miller. A special Children’s Art Corner will be set up this year. Bring your favorite drawings and sculptures!

## May 12<sup>th</sup> Buildings and Grounds Clean Up Day

Spring has sprung, everything is sprouting and growing—including the weeds! On Saturday morning, May 12<sup>th</sup> there will be another “In and Out” Property Clean Up day at the church. Weeding, pruning, and spreading mulch in the children’s play area are planned, in addition to some inside cleaning of windows, classrooms, and the kitchen. Please plan on coming to help with this spruce up, even if you only have an hour. We will have tools available at the church, but if possible, bring your own garden tools, rakes, wheel barrows, rags, vacuum cleaners, etc. to speed the work along. We will work, rain or shine—9:00 - noon, Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Sparkling and Bright

Even though the sun is higher and our daylight hours are longer, you may notice things are a little brighter inside our church buildings. A lift was recently rented, allowing access to the highest parts of our buildings. Light fixtures were repaired, bulbs replaced, windows washed and other “high” maintenance tasks performed. Please give thanks to David Miller for many hours of hard work in this effort.

## Greening FPC with a Children’s Garden

A fun new activity is planned at First Presbyterian Church—a children’s garden! Caty Poole will lead the project to create the garden near the Miller Hall. We are looking for a few materials and volunteers to get started. If you are willing to help or to donate items such as garden tools in good condition, 2X6 cedar planks, or extra plants and seeds, please let Caty Poole or Martha Smith know.

April

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# May 2012

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>April 29</b> 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship	<b>30</b> 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters	<b>May 1</b> 7 PM CE Committee 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	<b>2</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	<b>3</b> 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM PSNE at YDS 9:30 AM Women's AA
<b>6</b> 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12:30 PM Walk Against Hunger 12:30 PM Celebration of Friendship Potluck 1:30 PM Alan Hogle Memorial Service	<b>7</b> 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Iraq/Afghanistan Memorial Stone 6 PM Tai Chi	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	<b>10</b> 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 6 PM Abraham's Tent Celebration @ CMI	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9 AM Buildings and Grounds Clean-Up 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
<b>13</b> 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Youth Led Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour & Art Show	<b>14</b> 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	<b>15</b> 7:15 PM Session	<b>16</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	<b>17</b> 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
<b>20</b> 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 4 PM YDS Baccalaureate	<b>21</b> 12:30 PM YDS Commencement 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	<b>24</b> 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
<b>27</b> Pentecost 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship - Nora Tubbs Tisdale Preaching	<b>28</b> 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	<b>31</b> 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	<b>June 1</b>	<b>2</b> Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA

May

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July

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# June 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 27 Pentecost 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship - Nora Tubbs Tisdale Preaching	28 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	29	30 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	31 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	June 1	2 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
3 9:30 AM Church School Celebration 10 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship	4 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	5 7 PM CE Committee 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLOC Meeting	6 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	7 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	8	9 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
10 10 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Church Picnic	11 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	12	13 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	14 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	15	16 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
17 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Friendship Hour	18 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	19 7:15 PM Session	20 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	21 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	22	23 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
24 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Friendship Hour	25 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	26	27 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Musical Folk	28 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	29	30 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA

## Graduates, Graduates, and More Graduates

May is the season for college and university graduations! We celebrate all who have worked hard to complete their degrees, and who now move on to new and exciting challenges.

### Graduating from College:

Patrick Cline from Wesleyan University  
Susannah Frew from Quinnipiac University  
Sammy Hughes from St. Lawrence University  
Zachariah Hughes from Harvard University  
Taylor Purvis from Yale University

### From Graduate School:

Sharon Anderson Damelio from Yale Divinity School  
Anthony Damelio from Yale Divinity School  
Hannah Roh from Yale Divinity School  
Mumbi Ngugi from Quinnipiac University  
Katharine Arnold from Yale Divinity School  
Sungduk Yun from Yale Divinity School

## Ecumenical Advocacy Days Conference in Washington, DC

Six members and friends from First Presbyterian - Ralph Jones, Bonnie Sherman, Jane Hindenlang, Art Hunt, Mary Hunt and Marta Bennett - attended the PC(USA)'s Compassion, Peace and Justice Training Day on Friday, March 23 followed on Saturday and Sunday by the Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) conference – "Is This the Fast I Seek? Economy, Livelihood and Our National Priorities." The message from the conference to our Senators and Representative was:

*"As people of faith, we urge you to defend people struggling to live in dignity by funding programs that protect vulnerable populations here and abroad. Enact a faithful federal budget that serves the common good, provides robust funding for people struggling to overcome poverty, and exercises proper care of the earth.*

**Restoring economic opportunity:** invest in programs that promote economic mobility and security, like high-quality, affordable education, sustainable jobs with living wages, policies that help families to build assets, and international aid programs that build economic security in the world's most vulnerable places.

**Ensuring adequate resources** for shared priorities: reinstate a just tax system that calls for shared responsibility, among individuals and corporations, to ensure sufficient revenues to meet our needs and priorities.

**Meeting immediate need:** protect the funding and structure of core safety-net programs while ensuring investments in critical human needs, social service, environmental protection, and humanitarian and poverty-focused international assistance programs.

**Recognizing a robust role for government:** we need the government's continued partnership to combat poverty, reduce extreme inequality, restore economic opportunity for all, and rebuild a robust middle class. The faith community cannot meet the need alone.

**Caring for God's Creation sustainably and responsibly:** make budget choices that protect air, water, and land – the entirety of Creation – that they might be preserved for future generations."

If you'd like to hear more about this event, join us in the Miller Gathering Hall on Sunday, May 13, at 9:30 a.m. Coffee and tea will be provided.

## Iraq/Afghanistan Memorial, April stone, Monday, May 7

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 April stone on the Memorial Cairn at the intersection of Broadway, Elm and Park streets in New Haven on Monday evening, 6 p.m., May 7. This stone will be inscribed with the April death total of US military personnel and the approximate documented numbers of Iraqi and Afghani civilians killed during that same period of time.

## Presbytery of Southern New England News

At the May meeting of the Presbytery of Southern New England, The Rev. Dr. Edward (Ned) Castner will be installed as Moderator of the Presbytery. Ned and his wife Wanda are active members of First Presbyterian Church. Ned served most recently at a congregation in Old Lyme and before that, he served as Presbytery Executive in Washington, DC. Ned's term is for one year and comes at a challenging time in the life of the Presbytery. His warmth and love for the church will be most welcome.

Also at the May meeting, Khelen Kuzmovich and Shannon Craigo-Snell will come before the Presbytery to be received as Candidates for Ordination. Khelen is completing her second year at Wake Forest Divinity School. Shannon is now living in Louisville, Kentucky, where she is a professor of theology at Louisville Seminary. Congratulations Khelen and Shannon.

Please keep Ned, Khelen and Shannon, as well as the Presbytery of Southern New England in your prayers.

## Looking ahead to June!

June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the day of the Church School Celebration and the last day of Church School for children and youth. The celebration will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall. Children will receive certificates, teachers will be honored and thanked, and the children will perform their annual spring play. We will also give thanks to Bryce Wiebe who has served as our Christian Educator this year. We are grateful to Bryce for his leadership and creativity, his love for all the children, and his fun and inspiring ways to teach the love of God to all.

**June 10<sup>th</sup> is the Church Picnic!** The grills will be hot and filled with burgers, both meat and meatless. Bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. We'll hope for sun, but if it rains, we will move to the Owens Community Building.

**9:30 a.m. worship in the Miller Gathering Hall begins on June 17<sup>th</sup>.** The hymnals will be ready, the bulletins out, and with a little help from friends, the chairs will be set as we begin our summer worship in the air-conditioned Owens Community Building. Members of the choir will take turns leading us in song, and the children will continue with their special Children in Worship programs. A light Friendship Hour will follow at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. If you would like to be a part of the set up on Sunday mornings, please talk with Rona Johnston Gordon, chair of the Worship Committee, or Bruce Peabody, member of the Worship Committee.

**Vacation Bible School Returns in August!** Once again, First Presbyterian Church will join with Church of the Redeemer, Bethesda Lutheran Church, and First and Summerfield United Methodist Church for a four day Vacation Bible School program. The dates are August 20-23 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Activities will take place in the Owens Community Building at FPC with some field trips to Edgerton Park, East Rock Park, and the Eli Whitney Museum scheduled. VBS is open to children age 4 through 10. There will also be spots for Junior Counselors for those in grades 6-10. If you'd like to be a part of this great summer program, please speak with Bryce Wiebe.

**Patrick Cline to be summer administrative assistant** Patrick Cline, son of Gary and Becky Cline, and recent graduate of Wesleyan University, will serve as First Presbyterian Church's summer administrative assistant. Patrick will work closely with Sabbatical Pastor Steve Jungkeit and Music Director Patrick McCreless to plan Sunday's summer worship, prepare the summer Inkling, and be at the ready for building use by our many community groups. We welcome Patrick back to First Presbyterian Church even as we say thanks and goodbye to Hannah Roh, who has graciously served in this position for the past two years.

**The University of Zurich, Switzerland, has awarded Bruce Gordon,** church member and Titus Street Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Yale Divinity School, an honorary doctorate. Bruce received the degree on April 28, 2012, at the university's annual celebration, the Dies Academicus. The official commendation recorded Bruce's status as a leading scholar of the Reformation in Switzerland and noted that two of his books in particular, *The Swiss Reformation* (2002) and *Calvin* (2009), have significantly shaped modern understandings of this field of research. How grateful we are to be blessed by such faithful and widely respected scholars in our midst at First Presbyterian Church.

**Abraham's Tent Celebration on May 10** Come join us in celebrating another season of Abraham's Tent on May 10th at Congregation Miskan Israel from 6 to 8 p.m. We'll have a light meal provided and hope that you can bring a small dessert or some beverage (soda, lemonade, etc.) to share. We'll review the season and discuss how we can improve for next year. RSVP to Melanie at Columbus house: [mswiensi@columbushouse.org](mailto:mswiensi@columbushouse.org) or telephone 203-401-4400, ext. 106.

## 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 ...

Ned Castner, as he begins his year as the moderator of the Presbytery.

Anna Balakrishnan, who will spend the summer as a mission worker in the Dominican Republic.

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

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 was 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.

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

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

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.

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

*Please find your e-copy on the church website at [fpcnh.org](http://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.*