



# SPRINGBOARD

Monthly Newsletter of Spring Glen Church – United Church of Christ  
January 2010

**From the Interim Senior Pastor**

## *The Blessing of Not Knowing*

Some clergy write sermons weeks, or even months, ahead of time – or at least provide weeks' worth of titles ahead of time. Some churches expect it. I guess it suggests to them a particular form of . . . . competence? organization? certitude? I've never been one of these determine-it-ahead-of-time preachers, for the simple reason that since life doesn't work that way, I don't see how real preaching can work that way either. For me, preaching is contextual. It unfolds fully in the week when it happens, not in some other week. This week's preaching, to be alive, takes shape in the midst of this week's lived experience, this week's headlines, this week's push and pull of the Spirit, which it will not know how to listen to if it's already been long finished up in the preacher's mind. Not that I don't ever give thought, of course, to what's coming up beyond this week. I just don't feel the need to nail it down, since I know I can't. One great gift, to preacher and congregation alike, is how text and life will meet each other every seven days, precisely in the absence of any advance certainty about what they will say to each other. This is one way the Spirit gets at us.

I think of this when I see the clean, blank pages of a new year's calendar in January. Who knows all that will have filled those days and weeks and months when we get to the end of them?? If we did our very best to fill in all the blanks now, it would, of course, be a futile exercise. We might get the broad brush-strokes somewhat right, but not the particulars, wherein the texture and quality of our lives really are. We can't possibly know those ahead of time, we couldn't possibly title them all now. There is an unfolding to be lived, a way to be entered, a process to be trusted, a time to be fulfilled, decisions to be made as they arise and not today.

This is also not a bad way to think of the interim time in a church. Do we know the broad patterns of what the church's life will be like in the next year? Of course. But do we know the particulars, the new insights that will come to us as we live into new time, the new relationships that will take shape and the new life that will come from them, the growing edges that will be pushed a bit here and there as this church prepares to seek a new pastor? No. All we know is that the Spirit will meet us in the new year and will have something to say to us. We'll have to be attentive. We'll have to be listening. And for that, we will have to have minds not already made up, truths not already closed.

There really is a blessing in not knowing. . . . Happy New Year!!

Faithfully,

Rev. Brenda

**CALL TO ANNUAL JANUARY MEETING OF THE SPRING GLEN CHURCH**  
**Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> immediately after the close of worship. Childcare provided by Confirmation class.**  
**Snow date: Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**

**The agenda will include:**

- **Reports from the Clerk and Treasurer,**
- **Update on Capital Campaign funds and initiatives**
- **A vote on the proposed 2010 budget.**

## Rev. Brenda's Schedule

Rev. Brenda, our Interim Senior Pastor, is generally at the church on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Wednesday is her day off, and she will usually be working at home on Fridays on sermon writing and worship preparation. In light of her family's dual-residence situation (Connecticut and Washington, DC), her arrangement with the church during this interim period is that she will be away approximately every fifth Sunday. Should you need to contact her at a time when she is not at the church office, particularly on a Friday, you may call her at home (860-683-1016) or on her cell phone (860-214-4287), or use e-mail ([brendapf@snet.net](mailto:brendapf@snet.net)).

### WORSHIP IN JANUARY

Sun., Jan. 3	<i>Second Sunday after Christmas/Epiphany Sunday</i> Worship with Communion No Sunday School; children remain in worship The Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka preaching
Thurs., Jan 7 6:45 p.m.	Taizé Service The Rev. Nancy W. Strickland leading
Sun., Jan 10	<i>First Sunday after Epiphany</i> Sacrament of Baptism Guest preacher: Patricia Bjorling, Associate Conference Minister for Generosity Ministries, Connecticut Conference, UCC
Sun., Jan 17	<i>Second Sunday after Epiphany</i> The Rev. Nancy W. Strickland preaching
Sun., Jan 24	<i>Third Sunday after Epiphany</i> The Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka preaching
Sun., Jan 31	<i>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</i> The Rev. Mark Strickland preaching

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### **PARISH JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Our sympathy to the family of Frederick Fay who died on December 1<sup>st</sup>. A memorial service was held at Spring Glen Church on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Sympathy to Debby Jagielow and family on the death of Debby's grandfather.

Also sympathy to Maureen Munzner and family on the death of her aunt Helen, and to Christine McRoberts and family on the death of her mother MaryLou Olson.

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### **SPRING GLEN CHURCH WOMEN**

The January meeting of the Spring Glen Church Women will be held at noon on January 15<sup>th</sup>. This month the meeting will be held at Elim Park in Cheshire. Carol Shank will host. Following a light lunch there will be a program.

Dear Spring Glen Church Family and Friends,

It is not over,  
this birthing.  
There are always newer skies  
into which  
God can throw stars.  
When we begin to think  
that we can predict the Advent of God,  
that we can box the Christ  
in a stable in Bethlehem  
that is just the time  
that God will be born  
in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.  
Those who wait for God  
watch with their hearts and not their eyes,  
listening  
always listening  
for angel words.

Ann Weems

We watch, then listen for God's coming; and give thanks that light shines light in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it. In this season of Epiphany, may we be transformed by God's presence among us.

In Faith,

Pastor Nancy

### CONFIRMATION CLASS NEWS

January 3 No Class  
January 10 Guided by the Holy Spirit  
January 17 Provide childcare for Annual Meeting, No Class  
January 24 The Church: The Body of Christ **MENTORS TO CLASS**  
January 31 The Church: Followers of Christ

### Taize Worship January 7<sup>th</sup> 6:45 p.m.

Celebrate Epiphany this year by attending the Taize worship in our sanctuary on January 7 at 6:45 p.m. Our Taize Worship is patterned after the Taize Community in France. After World War II, this community was founded to bring peace, hope, and reconciliation between young people of all countries. This community still stands today as a witness to finding our common life in God despite differences in race and language. Come on the first Thursday of each month to our sanctuary and participate in worship that includes chant, silence, scripture, intercessory prayer, and candlelight as we seek to be open to God's loving presence. Allow the beauty of worship renew and refresh your spirit.

## **Adult Education Offerings 2010**

### **Life Passages: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam**

#### **An Interfaith Sharing of Our Traditions and Challenges As seen through the Abrahamic Religions:**

**January 10, 17, and 24, 2010**

**4-5:30 p.m.**

January 10 Birth and the Coming of Age,  
Spring Glen Church, UCC, 1825 Whitney Ave, Hamden

January 17 Marriage and Family life,  
Temple Beth Sholom, 1809 Whitney Ave., Hamden

January 24 Death and Bereavement  
Muhammad Islamic Center, 870 Dixwell Ave., Hamden

Each week there will be a panel discussion with Rabbi Ben Scolnic, Reverend Nancy W. Strickland, and Dr. Abdul Hasan followed by refreshments and small group discussion. All are welcome.

### **WOMENS RETREAT MARCH 12-14, 2010**

**"Body, Mind, Spirit: A Holistic View of Women in the Bible"**

Each year the women of Spring Glen Church take time apart to go on retreat together. This year the retreat will focus on the integration of body, mind, and spirit as seen through the lives of several women in the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. We will explore the stories of biblical women and our stories through creative storytelling, movement, music, reflection, and contemplative prayer.

The retreat will be at the Incarnation Center in Ivoryton from Friday night through Sunday lunch, where we will enjoy great meals, the beauty of being in a pine forest, and the warmth of a fire in the large stone fireplace in our meeting room in Brooks Cottage. The retreat includes two nights stay, two dinners, two breakfasts, and two lunches at a cost of \$170 per person. The accommodations are two to a room, with comfortable beds. Confidential financial aid is available by speaking with Pastor Nancy. You may reserve your place by signing up on the sheet in the entry. The leadership team this year includes Carmen Silva-Baker, Shelia Brantley, Belinda Legere, and Pastor Nancy. Sign up in the entry at church or call the church office.

### **MONDAY BIBLE STUDY TO RESUME IN JANUARY**

The Bible study group which meets on Mondays at 1 p.m. at the home of Dotey Noyce will resume on January 4<sup>th</sup> with Reverend Brenda. All are welcome. Need more information? Please call the church office or contact Rev. Brenda.

## INFORMATION ON TARSUS SCHOOL

If one does not already know, one may wonder how Spring Glen Church became involved with this school in Turkey. A previous Springboard article told the story this way:

"The story of how this congregation developed its own partnership with a small school in a small town in Turkey is, in the words of Dotey Noyce, somewhat 'Byzantine.'

"Gaylord Noyce taught at Roberts College in Istanbul from 1947-49, and Dotey taught at the Istanbul YWCA from 1948-49. Upon returning to the states, Gay enrolled at Yale Divinity School where he and Dotey met James and Fran Dittes. The friendship grew and Jim and Fran ended up also going to Turkey and reaching in the Talas School for three years.

"Subsequently, Ann Walko taught at The American Girls' College, the counterpart of Robert College. While there Ann traveled around Turkey with her sister, a professor of botany who was completing a book on the trees and shrubs of the mountains near Tarsus. They happened to spend time at the Tarsus American College, which at that time was struggling financially.

"When Ann returned to Hamden she began sharing stories about the people of Turkey and their needs and that prompted the congregation to help fund the TAC school library by raising \$300. As George Heston recalled it was decided 'Let's take it over there!' So in 1988 a trip was put together to visit the school, and our delegation included Fran Dittes, George Heston, Gay and Dotey Noyce, Ruth Lindensfelter and her late husband, Richard, and Ann Walko and her late husband, George.

"But there's more to the story. During the presentation of the check, they met Alan Bartholomew, who was the librarian, and his wife, Mary, a teacher at TAC. The SGC folks spent time getting to know them and the students and toured the facilities. The bond became even stronger.

"Then when the Bartholomews returned to the states they, along with children Rob, Daniel and Lydia, joined Spring Glen Church. Sadly, Alan died in 1996 and since that time our support to TAC has been given in the form of the \$2,000 Alan Bartholomew Scholarship presented annually in his honor. It is awarded to a student in recognition of scholarship, community service, and citizenship. The school has produced outstanding Turkish leaders in medicine, science, and government and continues to educate and mold many young people in this pivotal Middle Eastern nation.

"And still the story continues. Ann has traveled to Turkey 20 times, as recently as 2001. Thanks to her and your pledge dollars, Spring Glen Church/Tarsus American College partnership is stronger than ever."

In 2005, another SGC group visited the school, this time including church members Fran Dittes, Bob Greiner, Barbara Hobbs, Marcia Hoffmann, Fred and Vickie Jackson, Donna Planeta, Jo Rondsestvedt, Muriel Smith, Mark and Nancy Strickland, and AnnWalko. Friends of the church on the trip included Mini Avery, Betty Mettler, Linda Miller, Pam Rendeiro, and Matthew Strickland. 20+ years after the initial visit, the Spring Glen Church-Tarsus American College partnership continues.

For more information about the history and mission of the Tarsus American College visit the following websites: [www.fabsit.org](http://www.fabsit.org) , [www.tac.k12.tr/tr/default.aspx](http://www.tac.k12.tr/tr/default.aspx) (in Turkish!) and [www.tac.k12.tr/en/](http://www.tac.k12.tr/en/) (in English) – or ask me for a copy of Alan Bartholomew's book, *A History of Tarsus American School, 1888-1988*.

Kurt Shaffert

Benevolence Committee

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## LAY CAREGIVERS CHECK IN

Lay Caregivers will meet with Rev. Brenda at 11:30 in the Fellowship Room on January 24, 2010.



## **A REVISION TO THE SPRING GLEN WINTER CONCERT SERIES**

The Hillhouse Opera Company concert date has been changed from February 20<sup>th</sup> to February 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. The Annual Rock and Blues Night will be on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall and the Wheeler School Handbell Ringers Concert will be on March 11<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow.

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## **NEEDLEARTS GROUP**

The Needlearts Group will meet be on January 7th at the home of Diane Hirsch, 37 Ardmore St., Hamden. For more information, please contact Connie Rogers at 248-2629 or [crogers403@yahoo.com](mailto:crogers403@yahoo.com). This group is open to all who do any needlework or craft or want to learn. Come for fellowship and fun.

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## **ACTORS NEEDED**

The Theater Arts Ministry will hold auditions on Sunday afternoons at 1 PM, January 24 and 31, for parts in “My Sister Eileen”. The show will be performed on April 15th, 16th and 17th and includes a large cast. Newcomers are especially welcome. Scripts are available for sign-out in the church office.

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## **COLUMBUS HOUSE GIFT CERTIFICATES**

The Benevolence Committee is pleased to announce that they raised \$1,035.00 in Columbus House gift certificates. In a year when homeless shelters need help more than ever, the generosity of our congregation is greatly appreciated.

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## **SAVE THE DATE FOR BLOOD DRIVE**

The next blood drive will be held on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Spring Glen Church. Details will soon follow. Please mark your calendars.

# BIOGRAPHIES OF NEW MEMBERS

## Diane Demetriades

Diane Demetriades joined the Spring Glen Church family this fall. Born in Nicosia, Cyprus, Diane lived in Stratford, CT, before moving to Hamden sixteen years ago. Though she was baptized in the Greek Orthodox Church, Diane did not worship with that community. She discovered Spring Glen Church because of her friend Amanda's positive experience. Diane is a high school art teacher in Stratford, and enjoys all things art-related, particularly creating pottery. In addition to bike riding and kayaking, she loves hiking, especially in Sleeping Giant. Welcome Diane!

## Dorothy LeBar

“The LeBar family joined Spring Glen Church in the early 50's before the sanctuary was built. Our four children grew up in the Sunday school until we moved in 1979 to work and live at Camphill Village in Copake, New York. Camphill Village is a community of adults with special needs who are given every opportunity to contribute to their maximum potential. The community has their own farm where they grow crops, and have a variety of animals. Everyone works either on the farm, in the craft workshops, in the bakery or in the houses. The Village is a model for sustainable living and social renewal. I am a nurse, my husband Frank was an anthropologist who died 2 years ago. Now I'm glad to be back in this area, near to my daughter Beth, my daughter Ruth, her husband Charles Bates, and my old church in Spring Glen.”

## Lois Sills

Lois Sills, who hails from Wallingford, is presently a resident of North Haven. She expresses her talents through arts and crafts. She is trained as a hairdresser, and enjoys art and nature. She spends her leisure time reading, gardening, shopping for bargains, as well as taking long walks through the woods with her cats on leashes.

## Marge Valentine

Did you know that Hamden residents once could ice skate on Whitney Avenue and on Lake Whitney? One of our new members, Marge Valentine, remembers doing just that when she was a young girl growing up in Hamden. Marge is now 91 years old and has been a lifelong resident of Hamden. Marge had a dressmaking business starting when she was a student at Hamden High School. Later, she became a gemologist and owned a jewelry store, Valentine and Kolb, on the corner of Whitney and Putnam Avenues. For 42 years Marge designed and crafted jewelry. She and her husband, George, raised two children while they lived in the Dunbar Hill section. Marge went to the Dunbar Hill UCC church for 50 years until she moved to The Commons on Washington Avenue where she met many Spring Glen Church members. Marge has been coming to SGC for 10 years and has been active in the Women's Fellowship. Please welcome Marge Valentine.

Good news!! For the first time in several months, income actually exceeded expenses by over \$18,000, reducing our YTD deficit to about \$7800 as of November 30, 2009. Overpaid and unpledged line items are still significantly under where they should be, and the plate offering is also below where it should be at this time in the year.



On the expense side, committee over-all budgets are on target, although some line items have already gone over their yearly budget figure (such as postage). The Every Member Canvass line item is close to 200% of its budgeted amount. We have been using the income generated by the Building Designated Fund for the various "capital" projects around the church, such as tree removal, sanctuary insulation, the new carpeting in the walkway and balcony, painting, etc.

Unfortunately, our endowment funds didn't do as well as they have been; our statements for these funds are always on month behind, so this is really October's information. Our third quarter Capital Campaign contributions of about \$8100 have been added, but the funds lost about \$8200 which includes the monthly distributions to the Operations Fund and the Building Designated Fund.

Please remember that a copy of the detailed Treasurer's Report is always available in the church office for anyone to review; copies can also be emailed by contacting Sue Wilber. If there are specific questions regarding the church's financial health, please contact Sue Wilber, Treasurer or Chuck Paul, Senior Trustee.

Nov-2009	
<b>Income</b>	
Pledges	\$ 34,901.42
All other income	\$ 8,155.05
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 43,056.47</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Ministry/Staff	\$ 17,705.47
Christian Education	\$ 241.19
Music	\$ 650.00
Office	\$ 1,652.81
Building Maintenance	\$ 3,723.38
Deacons	\$ 25.00
Church Organizations	\$ 544.82
Other Expenses	\$ 48.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 24,590.67</b>
<b>Net Profit or (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 18,465.80</b>

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR UPDATE

A churchwide letter was sent last month announcing my leaving the position of Christian Education Coordinator. In order to allow the church the time needed to fill the position, I am continuing on as CEC until February 12th at reduced hours. It is the intention of the Christian Education Committee and the trustees to have someone in place at that time in order to provide full coverage for Lent and the remainder of the program year.

The Christian Education Committee will be meeting with the pastors and myself on January 5th to discuss how best to fill the needs of our Christian Education Ministry at this interim time. Following this meeting, the pastors, head trustee, moderator and CE chair will come together and build a job description and begin a search.

*Barbara Butler*  
*Christian Education Coordinator*



## FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS

The following families are scheduled to cover Fellowship Hour during **January**. Contact Debra Tangarone at 815-0579 or [friend7434@yahoo.com](mailto:friend7434@yahoo.com) with any questions. **Jan. 3**– Al and Marianne Fontana, Liz Wooton and Nancy Elliott – **Jan. 10** – Ginny Engelhard, Jack and June Fisher and Belinda Legere– **Jan. 24** – Jay and Diane Hirsch, Doug and Sue Rollins and Lee Laster– **Jan. 31** –Miriam Battista, Connie Rogers and Cathie Marrandino.

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## RECYCLING TIPS

The **W's** of recycling:

**W**heelchairs. There is an organization uniting wheelchairs with those who need them. Go to [www.lifenets.org/wheelchair](http://www.lifenets.org/wheelchair).

**W**ine corks. If you send them to Wine Cork Recycling, Yemm & Hart Ltd., 610 South Chamber Drive, Fredericktown MO 63645 they will turn them into flooring or wall tiles. They are also biodegradable so you can put them in a compost bin.

**W**ipes and sponges can't be recycled. Sea sponges and natural sponges can be put into a compost heap.

**W**riting implements. You can't recycle pens, pencils or markers but you can donate usable ones to schools.

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## THANK YOU FROM COVENANT TO CARE

Our Covenant to Care social worker Bonita Robinson would like to thank our congregation for the gifts we purchased for the needy children in our community. Christian Community Action also received 5 gifts for the family staying in our "Adopt-An-Apartment" program. This is what our Lord asks of us...to help those in need. The following members of the congregation participated in the program this season: Harriet Applewhite, Sharon & Bruce Shields, Gayle Logan, Christine Olson McRoberts, The Brownell Family, Liz Wooton, Ellen Schowalter, Bethany Appleby, Michelle Backus and Lucy Lucker, Cynthia Licata, Barbara Hobbs, Alison Uyeki, Lisa Brooks, Edwin & Thurza Fletcher, Marcia Hoffmann, Sue Rollins, Marilyn Hauck, Mark Adesso, Ginny Engelhard, Nancy Thursby, The Paul Family, Jennifer McCleery & Family, Diane Hirsch, Connie Rogers, Debra Tangarone, Jack Fisher, Stefanie & Eric Summerer, Sharon Medak, The Izzo Family, Ruth Resnick, Chris Andrewsen, Amy & Julia Lynn, Laurel Laster, Dick Smith, Nancy Whitney, Laurie Bleickardt and Emily Lynn.

A special Thank you to Zachary Munzner and other wonderful members of the family who did up most of our "Angels" for the tree! The members of the Christian Action Committee are so very happy with all that Spring Glen Church does for this important ministry. One gift was given "Anonymously". To Alice White, Amy Baker, Jean Davis, Ginny Engelhard, Gayle Logan, Diane Hirsch, Maureen Munzner, Sharon Medak and Susan Spight many thanks for a job well done in 2009.

Praise the Lord  
Bernadette Welsh

## **AS 2009 COMES TO AN END, WHAT DOES 2010 BRING FOR COLUMBUS HOUSE?**

As I think back over the years, I am remembering the reason for my interest in helping the homeless and why it has become such a passion for me. My first experience was in the fifth grade. A fellow classmate named Dawn was the person who made me take notice. While the other children were poking fun at her appearance, I was wondering about why at the end of the day she was getting off the bus at an unusual stop, with no houses in the area. I remember asking my parents about it. They spent a great deal of time explaining the reason she got off at that location was that there was a homeless shelter there where she and her family lived. As you can imagine, I was filled with questions. But my final question was, "What can we do to help them?" I am blessed with parents who were quick to respond with some ideas, and who helped me take action. Since that moment, my family and I have continued to volunteer to help the homeless. During my years at Fairfield University and as a young adult, I spent many hours volunteering at the Thomas Merton House Soup Kitchen in Bridgeport. When Steven and I became members of Spring Glen Church, I was thrilled to be able to continue to follow my passion by volunteering at Columbus House. It is hard to believe I have been volunteering at Columbus House for almost 15 years now. I have had the pleasure of meeting some wonderful people including staff members, volunteers and clients. Some of my most valued memories are of the people who have moved back into homes and have gotten back into the workforce. I am glad to have had the opportunity to be part of that. I am also glad that I have been able to share this with my children. As many of you know, Zachary has been coming with me to Columbus House since he was a baby. He has grown to be quite the helper, and he continues to amaze me with his concern about people in need.

As I take a moment to reflect on the past year at Columbus House, I am once again so thankful for many of you who were able to help throughout the year with serving the evening meal. The groups continue to hit the 100 mark, and have been hungry as always. Thanks to the many angels from Spring Glen Church who have helped. They all had plenty to eat. So again, thank you to all of you for your help.

As we enter 2010, it is important for you to know that there were many months during this past year when it was difficult to get both food and kitchen helpers. Many months required last minute emails, phone calls, and making last minute trips to the store when there was a shortage. As I reflect on the past year, I have come to realize how much my life has changed since I first started volunteering to help the homeless many years ago. I now know with a family of my own to raise, I can no longer do the last minute coordinating of the evening meal service on my own. So here is what I am asking of all of you: first, I need a back-up person for myself and second, I need each of you to seriously consider volunteering at least one time during the year, either for food preparation or serving or both. With enough volunteers, last minute efforts should not be necessary. My fear is that if we continue to fall short of volunteers each month, we will no longer be able to do the evening meal service.

**Our next time to serve will be January 28<sup>th</sup> (the fourth Thursday).** I am pleased to say that the Christian Education Committee has agreed to take this meal on, so we are off to a wonderful start. The dates for the rest of the year are: February 26<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, May 28<sup>th</sup>, June 24<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, August 26<sup>th</sup>, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 28<sup>th</sup> and December 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you have a month that works and would like to volunteer in advance, please let me know. Otherwise, please look for the sign-up poster in the entryway each month. It is put out two Sundays prior to the date we serve. I hope you will join me in continuing to support the clients at Columbus House. I wish all of you a Happy New Year!

Thank you,  
*Maureen Munzner*

***Introducing Utku Gökberk ŞEN,***  
***the 2009-10 SGC Alan Bartholomew Scholarship Recipient at***  
***Tarsus American College, Turkey***

Since 1996, Spring Glen Church has supported a scholarship at the Tarsus American College (TAC) in Tarsus, Turkey in honor of Alan Bartholomew, a long-time librarian at TAC and then a beloved member of this church community. This year's scholarship recipient is Utku Gökberk ŞEN. His picture and message to us is below. The director of TAC describes him as "*a fine young man, modest and unassuming, and determined to make the most of what he has. Attending TAC will continue to be a life-changing experience for him, and will undoubtedly shape his future in positive ways that would be impossible without it.*"



As I learn more and more about the rich history of this congregation's relationship with TAC, I feel increasingly honored to serve as the SGC Benevolence Committee liaison to this important school for critical thinking in Turkey. If you have any questions about TAC or the SGC Alan Bartholomew Scholarship, please ask. I would be happy to share what I have learned!

~ Kurt Shaffert

**My name is Utku Gökberk ŞEN and I am 15 years old. I was at SEV Elementary School for nine years. Now, I'm a student at Tarsus American College. I enjoy learning English at my school. I lost my father when I was 2 years old. I live with my mother in Mersin, Turkey. I have many hobbies, and I especially enjoy playing table tennis. I have many goals for my life. I always try my best in academics. I do every-thing I can to improve myself. My mother and my teachers always support me when I have problems. For example when I do not understand something I come for after school help with my teachers. After I graduate from high school, I want to be a computer engineer. Your scholarship will help me to reach my goals.**

Thanks to the Spring Glen Scholarship!

***Utku Gökberk ŞEN***

**SPRING GLEN CHURCH, UCC**  
**1825 Whitney Avenue**  
**Hamden, CT 06517**

**Spring Glen Church**  
**United Church of Christ**  
An Open and Affirming Congregation

*Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka, Interim Pastor*  
*Rev. Nancy W. Strickland, Associate Pastor*  
*Barbara Butler, Christian Education Coordinator*  
*Dr. Terese Gemme, Organist and Choir Director*  
*Rev. Kurt Shaffert, Chaplain, Veterans Affairs*  
*West Haven Medical Center*  
*Jeff Owens, Sexton*  
*Gayle Logan, Office Manager*

*Worship and Sunday School 10 a.m.*  
*Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.*  
Telephone (203) 288-3381 – Fax (203) 248-2070  
**Spring Glen Church Web Site:**  
[www.springglenchurch.org](http://www.springglenchurch.org)