



SPRINGBOARD

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

The World Begins

*The world begins, and it is good.
And God is love.*

*The world discovers
it is an experiment in goodness
(water and land, dark and light;
the growing, the swimming, the flying, the creeping;
he, she, they).
And God is love.*

*The world soon discovers the ways
to risk its goodness, and tries them all
(apples and snakes, bows and arrows, guns and bombs,
fear to fly across the planet,
hate that finds the other side --
every way there is to betray, divide, despair).
But that does not stop the experiment from going on.
For God is love.*

*And eventually,
because the experiment tries everything,
that love has to become everything:
The world grows parched, and God is water.
The world grows hungry, and God is bread.
The world grows dark, and God is light.
The world grows weary, and God is strength.
The world feels empty, and God is presence.
The world says 'death' and God says...
No.*

*Through the eons, the world shows promise,
then it backslides, then it tries again
the work of its growing up.
It disappoints, it blesses,
it blesses, it disappoints.
It forgets, it remembers,
it remembers, it forgets.
It learns, it grows up,
it goes backwards,
it grows up more.
And sometimes it is the pain*

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*that moves it forward the most.
But it goes on,
an experiment in love
that wants one thing alone,
to beget love,
even when it cannot say so.
And only in the greatest of blindness
could it fail to see
that love,
where it started,
is what it lives on,
what it has always lived on.*

*And so the world, once begun,
forever begins again,
another time
and another time,
that is its story.
And it is good.
And it will be good.
For God is love.*

--BPF

Worship in June

Thurs., June 3 6:45 p.m.	Taize Worship
June 6	Second Sunday after Pentecost Worship with Communion <i>The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka preaching.</i>
June 13	Third Sunday after Pentecost <i>The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka preaching.</i>
June 20	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Teacher Appreciation <i>The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka preaching.</i>
June 27	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost <i>The Rev. Nancy W. Strickland preaching.</i>

Dear Friends,

Several weeks ago Rev. Charlotte White, the Chaplain at Whitney Center asked me if Spring Glen Church might begin a prayer shawl ministry. She has found in the last year that the ability to offer prayer shawls to those who are ill at Whitney Center to be very important. She is in need of shawls and wondered if we might be able to help. I consulted with our most avid knitters who already have a monthly group, and the feeling was that some might contribute to this effort. It also seems like widening the opportunity to anyone in the congregation who knits is a good idea as well.

The basic instructions for knitting a prayer shawl come from a book written by Rev Susan Izard and Susan Jorgensen, Knitting into the Mystery. The pattern they suggest is to knit three, pearl three, after you cast on either 57 or 63 stitches using either size 11 or 13 needles. Lion Brand wool works well for this. Approximate finished sizes are 26” by 60.” The significance of the K3 P3 pattern is not a random choice. Izard and Jorgensen note in their book, “the pattern of knitting in threes was a deliberate choice realizing that human existence has three stages: birth, life, and death. Time has three divisions: past, present, and future. The panorama of colors is based on three primary colors. Human beings have three parts: body, mind, and spirit. The virtues frequently mentioned are faith, hope, and love. The ability to compromise—to take two seemingly different (and often hotly disputed) points of view and create a third possibility—is another way the pattern of threes plays out in our world: not this or that, but the wholly other thing.” Of course three also could represent the Trinity: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

If you would like to join in knitting a prayer shawl for someone at Whitney Center, please let me know and choose your own colors and begin knitting. It does take a few months to complete one prayer shawl. We are hoping to have at least five shawls to be blessed in October and given to Whitney Center during their Spiritual Care Week in October.

In Faith,

Pastor Nancy

**Lay Care Giver Check in on Sunday June 27
at 11:30 in the Fellowship Room**

**Fall Retreat at Weston Priory, Weston Vermont
for Adults in our Congregation
September 24-26, 2010**

Rev. Kurt Shaffert and Rev Nancy Strickland will lead a fall retreat to Weston Priory the weekend of September 24-26. The group will stay at a chalet near the Priory. (This is the same place the group stayed last time there was a retreat there), which has accommodations for 15 or so people. There will be time for group discussion, silence, exploring scripture, quiet walks, and joining with the monks in their rhythm of times of prayer through out each day. The basic cost for the weekend is \$100 plus food, which will be provided by our group. There is a sign up sheet in the entry.



FARMERS' MARKET VOLUNTEER MEETING

On Sunday, June 6th there will be a meeting of all volunteers for the Farmers' Market at 11:30 a.m. following worship in the Infant Room.

FARMERS' MARKET OPENING JUNE 22

Now entering its fourth year, the Spring Glen Farmers' Market is set to open Tuesday, June 22nd, from 3-6 pm. We are looking forward to a successful season. Please tell your relatives and friends. We have many vendors returning and some new ones as well. Help support your local farmers and businesses.

BOOK DISCUSSION JUNE 13 FROM 4-5:30 P.M. FELLOWSHIP ROOM

The Christian Education Committee is offering a book discussion in June for those who would like to discuss Greg Mortenson's book Three Cups of Tea, about *one man's mission to promote peace one school at a time*. Arnie and Carolyn Cary will facilitate the discussion. Books can be ordered online, purchased through local book dealers, or taken out from the local library.



Office Summer Hours

The church office hours starting the week of **June 28th** and ending on **August 27th** will be **9-12** from Monday through Friday.

TWIN SHEETS NEEDED COVENANT TO CARE

Dear Members of Spring Glen Church,

Covenant to Care for Children recently received a grant to purchase a truckload of new beds. While great news, they need your help! As the beds are delivered, it would be nice to include a set of twin sheets so that the child has everything they need for a good nights rest. As they have no sheets in the closet, would you like to consider donating a set of twin sheets? It would bring such a smile to a child's face when they get their bed to have the sheets as well. The Christian Action committee is setting up a donation bin in the front entrance of the church. Simply drop off your donation.

Bernadette Welsh can be reached at 203 927-3659 if you have any questions.

KIDSONG
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST
5 MEETINGHOUSE LANE
WOODBIDGE, CT 06525



KIDSONG 2010-COME SING WITH US!

A quality interfaith MUSIC program now in its 31st season

- WHO:** **Children Entering Grades 1-8**
- WHERE:** **First Church Of Christ, Woodbridge**
- WHEN:** **9:00 am - 2:00 pm (with extended day option available)**
August 9 - 13, 2010
Concert at 7:00 PM on Friday
- COST:** **\$150 per child (10% off if Registered by June 1, 2010)**
\$ 60 Extra - Extended Day, 2 - 5 pm, Monday - Thursday

KidSong offers quality music instruction, group singing, arts & crafts, supervised recreation, snacks and a lot of FUN!

For Information: email **kidsong.uccw@yahoo.com** or phone a Director:
Moirra Malone at (203) 439-7775
Heather Reba at (203) 287-0058



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL GRADUATES

Future Plans of High School Graduates:

Christian Andrewsen will be attending the University of Toronto in Toronto, Canada.

Alex Ball will be attending Saint Lawrence University.

Thomas Barker Jr. will attend Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island, to major in architecture.

J. P. Harris will be attending Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Alex Kim will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute to major in Interactive Media and Game Design.

Kenny Kregling will be attending Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Amy Lynn will be studying in Germany for a year as an exchange student, and then after that will attend Tufts University.

Bradley McRoberts will be attending George Washington University in Washington, D.C. majoring in government/politics and international relations.

Greg Tozzi will be going to Springfield College as an Athletic Training major.

Ian Uyeki is going to Drew University in Madison, New Jersey.

Also congratulations to all graduates not listed here.



SPRING GLEN CHURCH WOMEN

The Spring Glen Church Women will hold their Annual Picnic on June 15th at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. Please sign up in the entryway to designate your choice of “dish to bring”. The menu includes casseroles, salad, dessert or hors d’oeuvres. The theme will be “Where Are We Going From Here?” This will be the last meeting of the season. All women of the church are cordially invited to attend. Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun.



CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS

Thanks to all who saved labels to benefit Elon Home towards the purchase of much needed vans and housing, etc. Spring Glen sent 275 labels to the state in addition to all the other churches statewide. The box for collection will remain in the office. Please see the bulletin board for more information or call Jane Whipple at 203-281-3260.



FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS

The following families are scheduled to cover Fellowship Hour during **June**. Contact Debra Tangarone at 815-0579 or friend7434@yahoo.com with any questions. **June 6** – John and Deborah Carpenter, Paul Kregling, Bess Chosak, Barbara Hobbs and Nancy Elliott – **June 13** – Carl Butler, Amanda Quillen Boston and Belinda Legere– **June 20** – Jeff and Janet Morrison, Lee Laster and members of the CE Committee – **June 27** – Mary Colwell, Marc and Kristen Hebert and Cathie Marrandino.



ECO-CHALLENGE

1. Wear organic cotton clothes because the production methods for organic cotton employ fewer pesticides and generate a fifth as much greenhouse gas as standard cotton.
 2. Register to get your name off junk mail lists because this wastes 100 million trees a year. You can sign up at proquo.com or at dmachoice.org.
 3. Stash a pitcher of water in your refrigerator because your kitchen faucet releases a gallon a minute, and if you let the tap run for cool water, this wastes resources.
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SUMMER SUNDAY MUSIC

A reminder that our summer music season is fast approaching. The formal music groups-adult and children's choirs and bell and chime choirs will be recharging and not providing music for the Sundays in July and August. This gives you our talented congregation-individuals and groups-a chance to lift up the spirit with music. Please contact me or the Music Committee, or sign up in the in the entryway if you are interested in singing, playing (or both). We will find a summer Sunday for you.

Arnie Cary
Chair, Music Committee

APRIL 2010 TREASURER'S REPORT

April was not a particularly good month for operations - expenses exceeded income by nearly \$13,000 which lowers our YTD operations balance to \$11347.90. On the expense side, everything seems to be on target; pledge income is less than it was at this point in 2009, although prior year and overpaid pledges are ahead of where they were at this point last year, as is unpledged. But with summer coming, traditionally our "slow income" period, we may continue to see monthly losses which hopefully will turn around in the fall.



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.

Apr-2010	
Income	
Pledges	\$ 20,922.29
All other income	\$ 4,671.82
Total Income	\$ 25,594.11
Expenses	
Ministry/Staff	\$ 28,927.34
Christian Education	\$ 537.40
Music	\$ 651.90
Office	\$ 704.29
Building Maintenance	\$ 3,586.30
Deacons	\$ 49.88
Church Organizations	\$ 3,432.29
Other Expenses	\$ 499.75
Total Expenses	\$ 38,389.15
Net Profit or (Loss)	\$ (12,795.04)

SUMMER PLEDGE REMINDER



Like the households of our members, the Church has bills to pay year-round, whether we are all here or not – our bills never take a vacation! As we move towards summer vacations, the Trustees would appreciate it if you would keep your pledges current. Our financial needs continue year round, in particularly during these difficult economic times, and the steady financial support of our members and friends through pledges and plate offerings is needed to keep our church in sound financial health. Thank you for remembering the financial needs of Spring Glen Church as you all enjoy a restful and relaxing summer.

PARISH JOYS AND CONCERNS

A message from Bess Chosak, lay caregiver:

Being a Lay Caregiver, representing our congregation to one of us who is no longer able to come very often to church and who is mostly confined to home, is a true privilege. We lay visitors know that we receive more than we can give during our monthly visits to our assigned church member. I have the good fortune to be visiting with Hugh Parkhurst, who many of you will remember is a long-time member of SGC. On one of my recent visits, he expressed a desire to tell the rest of the congregation how much the church means to him. He dictated the following letter, which I promised to share with all of you

To All Members of Spring Glen Church,

I joined this church in 1979 and for many years was happy to be able to attend weekly services and to be active on the House Committee. I was also Head Usher for some years, greeting you as you arrived for services. Pastor Bill Hobbs will always be an especially fond recollection for me, and I still love to see Barbara Hobbs on the rare occasions when I can get to church. My daughter Margie also has a keen sense of appreciation for this church and always attends when she is in town. We hope that my own funeral can take place at Spring Glen when the time comes.

Now residing at Whitney Center, I still feel a part of SGC. I want to thank you for the flowers that come to me on holidays and for your prayers that help to sustain me. I hope and pray for success for the search for a new pastor.

Forever with you all, Hugh Parkhurst

Thank you to Meals to Heal for providing a sublime dessert and beautiful flowers. Grateful thanks for your thoughts and prayers.

Ralph and Sue Voos

Parkinson's Fight – Many Thanks

On Sunday, May 2nd, I cycled 60 miles through the five boroughs of New York City. I reminded myself often to think of Gay Noyce during the ride and his fight with Parkinson's disease. I also thought of the generous and supportive family and friends in my life who donated \$3,025 to the Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Foundation in support of my dedicated ride in Gay's honor.

With my sincere gratitude,

Ron Offutt

Our sympathy to the family of Fredrick Rooks who passed away recently. Mr. Rooks was a longtime friend of Spring Glen Church.

Our sympathy to Amy Estabrook and family. Amy's father, Henry Wilde Estabrook, passed away on May 15th. A service was held at Trinity Church on the Green in New Haven on May 21st.

Also our sympathy to the family of Ralph Voos. Ralph passed away on May 23rd. His memorial service will be on June 10th at Spring Glen Church.

A NOTE FROM NEW HAVEN HOME RECOVERY

On behalf of New Haven Home Recovery and The Furniture Co-op, thank you to the parishioners of Spring Glen Church for your continued help and support for our valuable programs.

We ask that you continue your generosity. The Furniture Co-op is in need of Pots and Pans, Bed Linens, Beds, Dressers, and Kitchen Tables and Chairs. The Furniture Co-op assists families with making their house a home. TFC is the only program that provides furniture and household goods to families transitioning out of homelessness, women fleeing domestic violence, disabled people, people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, and senior citizens in the Greater New Haven area. More than half of the people served by The Furniture Co-op are children! With a pick-up service, The Furniture Co-op makes it easy to “recycle” used but usable furniture.

Your donations can be made directly to New Haven Home Recovery, Inc. at 153 East Street in New Haven, The Furniture Co-op at 30 Morris Avenue in West Haven (from 9:00 am-2:00pm Tuesdays and 9:00 am-1:00pm Saturdays), or you can call our office at 203-492-4866 to arrange for pick-up of larger items. Please visit our website at www.nhhr.org for more information or directions.



NEEDED: DONORS AND VOLUNTEER WORKERS for BLOOD DRIVE **To be held on Wed., June 9, 2010 at Temple Beth Sholom from 1:45 - 7:15 p.m.**

Give someone hope. Give blood. Hope. A simple word yet it means so much to someone in need. Donating blood is a simple act. The need is constant - the gratification is instant.

If you are able to donate, please make an appointment by calling 1-800-GIVE – LIFE and committing yourself to this cause. Then sign the Donor Sheet in the entry way so that we can expect you. If you are unable to donate blood but can help, there is a sign up sheet for you, too. We welcome and need your help. Either way, I hope to see you at TBS on June 9th. Thank you.

Barbara Hobbs

FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

As members of the Search Committee, we want to again express our gratitude for the trust you have placed in us and to share with you an update of our progress. We are currently engaged in the first step of our process, which is to write a “Local Church Profile”. The "Local Church Profile" is multi-page document discussing various elements of our church's life and engagement with both the internal and external community. It will be provided to prospective candidates so that they may better understand our congregation, and what our combined hopes and goals are for the future. Additionally, the profile will identify the qualities we seek in our next minister.

Two surveys are included with this Springboard, either by mail or email. If you have not yet filled out one of each, we hope that you will take a moment to fill them out and return them to the church by Sunday, June 6.

We are in the process of seeking all of your perspectives about this church through these documents and various other means, so as to incorporate your ideas about new pastoral leadership into our final profile. Please know how deeply we appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts with us. Together we can all express the truly awesomeness of this community.

Blessings to you all,

Tom Dembinski and Sarah Libby, Search Committee Co-Chairs

**A MESSAGE TO ABRAHAM'S TENT COMMUNITY
FROM ALLISON CUNNINGHAM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COLUMBUS HOUSE**

There was a meeting on May 17th at Columbus House to discuss the funding status for the Overflow Shelter clients.

Recent developments were as follows:

1. Board of Aldermen likely to cut all funding for Overflow Shelter. Mayor's office has asked Columbus House and ICM/the faith communities to develop a plan to support the overflow needs for the next year (options: shift summer months funds to winter, increase number cared for by Abraham's Tent, etc.)
2. United Way and Community Foundation of Greater New Haven are not able to be a resource for funds this next year - not only because of their own funding limitations but also both feeling their focus needs to be on supporting long term solutions and not the funding/service gap that will exist during the 2010-2011 time frame.

We ask Spring Glen Community to do the following:

1. Personally sign a letter to the mayor (copies will be in the entryway) and send to various decision makers listed below **and/or**
2. Contact your local Outreach/social Action chairs to pursue doing the same on behalf of your various congregations.

For those of you who have email addresses a copy of the letter will be sent to you. The letter can also be addressed to the Homeless Commission, whose contact information is below.

	Chisara, Dr. Asomugha	Community Services
Dem.	Joseph Breen	PO Box 202603, Yale Station
Dem.	Hon. Gena Calder	182 Dwight Street
Unaff.	Noel A. Hogan III	70 Fairmont Avenue
Dem.	John Huettner	36 Birch Drive
Dem.	Hon. Katrina Jones Board of Aldermen Representative	185 County Street
	Board of Aldermen Representative	

It could also be sent to the Chair of the Finance Committee: Yusuf Shah, ward23@newhavenct.net 59 Gilbert Ave, NH 06511.

Chair of the Human Services Committee: Sergio Rodriguez, 142 Judwin Ave, NH , 06515 ward26Wnewhavenct.net.

Chair of the Board of Aldermen: Carl Goldrield, ward29@newhavenct.net, 25 Roydon Rd, NH 06511.

Finally, for those who would like to look up contact information for their own aldermen, they can be found on the city's web site.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: “ALL GOD’S CHILDREN”

Families, dust off your suitcases, make sure your seat backs and tray tables are in their full upright position and that your seat belt is securely fastened, and get prepared for some exotic travel... right here at Spring Glen Church! This summer, the Summer Sunday School will be traveling around the world, visiting foreign lands and learning how God lives among all people. On June 27th, we will start our journey by making passports, learning about the world’s diversity by reading the Tower of Babel story, and playing theater games that will help bridge the “language barrier”. Throughout the summer, the children of Spring Glen will travel to Australia, Italy, Turkey, and Malawi, to name just a few exciting locations. On the final Sunday of the summer session, the children will make a video documentary of their travels and be interviewed by a “television personality” about their experiences.

Children entering pre-K through 6th grade are welcome to join the summer program. Toddler care will be provided throughout the summer in the nursery school room. Please note that there is no childcare or Summer Sunday School on July 4th or September 5th. Also, on August 1st, children stay in the pews with their families for Communion Sunday.

Of course, we need help to make Summer Sunday School a success! Please look for sign-up posters in the entryway if you would like to help. We are still looking for a couple of countries to “visit”; if you have a special place you would like to share with the children, please contact Jennifer McCleery.

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
Jennifer McCleery, 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 1st Sunday of the month.
Telephone (203) 288-3381 – Fax (203) 248-2070
Spring Glen Church Web Site:
www.springglenchurch.org