



FIRST AND SUMMERFIELD CHURCH NEWS

OCTOBER 2010

First and Summerfield United Methodist Church

425 College Street New Haven, CT 06511

Phone: 203-624-2521

Pastor: Rev. Sara Lamar-Sterling

Editor: Mary Ann Fuentes

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Sunday School Updates - Katie Salisbury

Sunday School is off and rolling! We have a fabulous group of teachers this year, including returning teachers **Gabby Pianka, Scott McLean, Lisa Brandes, Sarah Burns, and Modestine Vaughn**, and new teachers **Van Selden, Amber Moren, and Edna Echevarria**. We also have a great group of kids whose numbers are growing. Our newly carpeted and re-vamped education wing houses the Sunday School room and nursery—feel free to peek in after church to see what the kids are working on! For our first four lessons of the year, we will be following Luke's gospel and decorating a large foam cross with crafts that illustrate our power to make choices, including the choice to "carry our cross"

and follow Jesus. We're also starting off each week by singing songs together—we are excited to share both our crafts and our music with the congregation on this year's Children's Sabbath, coming up on October 24.

Other exciting changes for this year include special Sundays with Pastor Sara; for our first one, the kids will be learning more about the significance of taking communion. We have also planned a few family fun days for the fall: a trip to Bishop's Orchard on October 16 (meeting at the church at 1 pm) and a game night and dinner at the church on November 13 (starting at 4). All in all, it's

shaping up to be a great year! For more information about any of these activities, please contact Katie Salisbury, Sunday School Coordinator, at 509-954-9170. Also, your donations of snacks and juice boxes for our Sunday School time are always welcome—these can be left (labeled!) in the sanctuary or brought down to the Sunday School room. Thank you for your continued support in caring for the education and spiritual (and physical) nourishment of our kids!

—Katie Salisbury,
Sunday School
Coordinator

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SAVE THE DATE:

Tues Nov. 30 7:00pm
Charge Conference

with the District Superintendent
Rev. Ken Kieffer



*All members of
FSUMC are
invited to attend.*

Time Away

Pastor Sara will be away Oct. 8 & 9, and Oct. 12-21. In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Sandra Olsen, Center Church UCC, at 203-787-0121. Maggie Carr, Certified Lay Speaker, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, October 17th, and Crew Smith will be our guest organist that same day. Thank you - Maggie and Crew!

WELCOME RACHEL!



I'm Rachel Duncan, and I am delighted to be helping out at F&S this year! While I won't be able to serve as a full-time intern, I will be here to help with youngish adult fun and fellowship and to learn more about church administration from you all. I grew up in a United Methodist Church in South Florida but have travelled around to many different denominations in North Carolina and Chicago, including a few years as a Quaker and then in an Emergent Church in Chicago. Don't know what that is? Ask me! I worked in public health for five years before coming to New Haven. I'll graduate from seminary this year with a Masters of Divinity, and am considering ordi-

nation. We'll see where the spirit leads!

Our next activity will be joining the kids and their parents for apple picking in the coming weeks. Please join us! Or help us make apple pie with our pickins! ~ Rachel



OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS...

Greetings from John & Freddie Helmiere Seattle, WA.

They are doing well and the new church start is underway. The new congregation is called Valley & Mountain Fellowship. You can find them on Facebook. John has also been selected as a finalist in a sermon contest with the environmental theology organization, Earth Ministry. His sermon "I worship the author of the horrendous space kablooy" is a revision of an eco-justice sermon he once preached at FSUMC as our Intern.

THANK YOU

Our Disability Collaborative Convention held on August 28 was well-received by the more-than-700 in attendance. It was an interesting, interactive, learning, and inspiring event. I wish to thank the church for the publicity you gave to the event and special thanks to Jean Ahern and Christopher Kuth for volunteering on the day of the event.

In Appreciation, John Carr, President
Connecticut Disability Advocacy Collaborative

ABRAHAM'S TENT

**Kick Off Meeting- Companion Training
Oct. 19 (6:00-8:30)**

Location: Congregation Mishkan Israel
785 Ridge Road, Hamden

Talk to Ad Tucker for more information about
Abraham's Tent plans for 2011.

A Request From the Finance Committee

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I am writing to encourage all of us to please pay the pledges we made on our "Estimate of Giving" cards on Consecration Sunday last Spring. At that time, we were examining our hearts to answer the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" It is important to each of us spiritually to give as we are called to give. It is also important to our faith community to have the financial resources to carry out the ministries where we are called and to meet our fiscal obligations.

We are grateful that Bob LaCamera is organizing our wrapping paper sale this Fall and that the men of the church are planning the annual Christmas dinner, and we are grateful to each of you who will lend your support to these. We are not planning to ask members of the congregation to pour time, energy, and money into an additional fundraiser. Rather, we are trusting that if we all pay our pledges and lend our support to the wrapping paper sale and Christmas dinner, we will have the funds we need to meet our obligations and continue a vibrant ministry in our community.

My deepest thanks to each of you who
contribute to the work of our church.

~ Maggie Carr

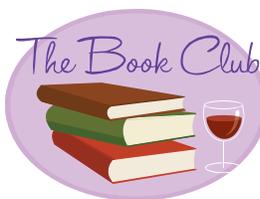


Stitch and Pray

First and Summerfield Church's "Stitch and Pray" Prayer Shawl ministry has committed to participate, along with several other local congregations, in a prayer shawl ministry to residents of Whitney Center in Hamden. Their chaplain will coordinate this program, starting with a kick-off event on October 27th at 7:30pm at Whitney Center. So stitchers, keep knitting, crocheting and stitching! FSUMC committed to offering 2 shawls, accompanied by a greeting and prayer each year, to the residents at Whitney Center.



"Though our church's prayer shawl group has not met for the past year, our ministry still lives, providing shawls of comfort as needed. We hope to resume meeting this fall, and encourage anyone who likes to knit or crochet to join in this activity - all who do have found it is a gift to the giver as well as the recipient. For more information, please contact Marion Sachdeva or Ad Tucker.



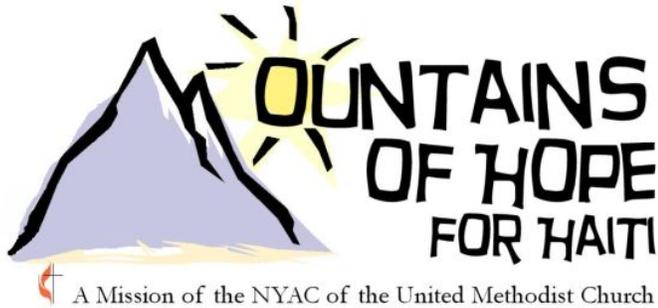
FSUMC Book Club will meet Mondays in October, 6:00pm, at Wall Street Pizza. Starting October 4th, we will be discussing a book on World Religions by Steve Prothero. If interested, please see Katie Salisbury after worship service.

World Communion Sunday October 3rd

World Communion Sunday is October 3rd. Our generous gifts provide: [World Communion Scholarships](#) (through the General Board of Global Ministries), with at least one-half of the annual amount for ministries beyond the United States; [Ethnic Scholarship Program](#) (through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry); and [Ethnic In-Service Training Program](#) funding (through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry). Please give generously in support of education. A giving envelope will be provided in worship on Sunday, October 3rd. Make your check payable to FSUMC with "World Communion" in the memo. Thank you for your generosity!

SPR UPDATE

During the month of October, we will have limited coverage at the Church office due to the change in hours and availability of our Business Manager, Mary Ann. Mary Ann will be taking care of finance business for up to 6 hours/week during this transition, but the Church Office hours, Monday to Friday, 2pm-5pm, are postponed until further notice. Thank you for your attention and cooperation. If you'd like to volunteer to help with small administrative needs in October, such as answering the phone, sending visitor letters, please contact Pastor Sara.



Presents
HAITI: NEW CHALLENGES...A NEW VISION
 Saturday, Oct 30th 9am-2pm
 Pleasantville United Methodist Church
 70 Bedford Rd, Pleasantville, NY 10570
 914-769-3263

*In just a matter of seconds, a people were
 changed for a lifetime.*

Our small group workshops will focus on more general topics relating to mission work:
 “Team Member...Team Leader—Planning for Effective Mission Trips”
 “Balancing Mission and Spirituality”
 “Mission and the Church - It is Not Something We Do, But What We Are”

Participants will have an opportunity to attend each workshop. While our day’s focus is primarily on Haiti and the work of the Mountains of Hope for Haiti in Furcy, this gathering is recommended for all persons who have been part of a mission team to Haiti or other places, for persons who would like to develop or grow a mission ministry in their church, and for all who want more information about what it means to be on a mission team and to be a people in mission.

So we can properly plan for lunch and space requirements, please register by emailing your name, email address and phone number to Terry Temple at : hoopster2@optonline.net, or by calling 845-206-3662 by October 26th.

The Overseas Ministries Study Center cordially invites you to a mission luncheon and seminar Monday, October 4th, from 10:00am to 3:30pm. Ellen Svea Swanson will present

The Mary and William Scranton Saga: A Mother, Her Son, and Their Remarkable Legacy

*Space is limited. Call for availability. Contact Rev. Jin Bong Kim, OMSC, kim@OSMC.org. (203) 821-1453
 490 Prospect St. New Haven, CT 06511
 www.omsc.org/korean.html*

WOMEN’S FORUM RETREAT

**“SPIRITUAL TOOLS FOR
 DAILY LIVING”**
Lead by Joy Carol

Retreat will be held at
Killam’s Point Conference Center
 131 Killam’s Point, Branford.
SATURDAY OCTOBER 2nd
 8:30am—5:00pm

\$15 per person

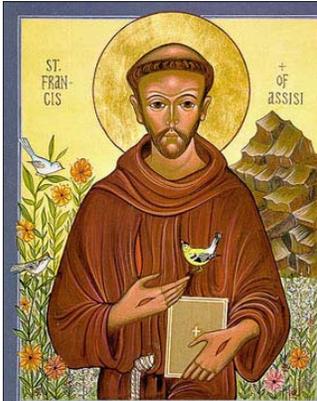
Light breakfast provided
 Bring a dish to share for lunch
 Dessert will be provided.

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

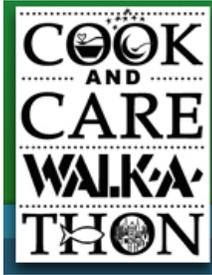
For more information or directions, contact the Women’s Forum or the church office.

Progress Update From the Trustees:

Thanks to all of your volunteering, we have converted the Elm Street Ramp into a beautiful space! We have a new bathroom downstairs in the basement, too. The Nursery room and Sunday School room are beautiful and functional. Stop by and take a look during coffee hour sometime. We are working with our attorney to craft an excellent lease for our friends and current space users (Unions 34 & 35) and the hope is to have them moving into the space by November. As usual, we are also communicating with other nonprofit groups in hopes of generating much-needed revenue for the church. Remember, if you want to know more, or have a project in mind to improve our church, please talk to Chris Lamar-Sterling, or another Trustee and let us know what you think. Onward & Upward!
 ~ Chris Lamar-Sterling, Trustee President



*Blessing of the Animals
 in honor of the Feast of
 St. Francis of Assisi*
Saturday, October 2
 on the New Haven Green
 beginning at 11:00 a.m.
 Clergy will bless all
 creatures great and small:
 pets, farm animals,
 stuffed animals,
 (we’ll bless people too!)



Cook & Care Walk-A-Thon

Sunday October 17, 2010

For more information or to find out how YOU can help

www.cookandcare.org or call 203-624-4594

A program of Interfaith Cooperative Ministries

The Walk will begin at Edgerton Park. Each year, the Cook and Care Walk-A-Thon takes place in New Haven to raise money to benefit four community service organizations, two of which we actively support as a congregation.

Community Soup Kitchen: Founded in 1977, Community Soup Kitchen serves hot lunch five days a week. CSK is operated by a paid staff of three, as well as state food stamp clients, court ordered workers and dedicated volunteers. CSK is funded by grants and donations, and receives food from state and federal programs and the CT Food Bank.

Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen: Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen celebrates 20 years of serving the community. DESK serves evening meals six nights a week, operates a food pantry once weekly and provides daily bag lunches to the working poor. Founded 1987, DESK is operated by a paid staff of three, and by many dedicated volunteers. DESK is funded by grants and donations and obtains food from the CT Food Bank and private donations. DESK provided over 72,000 daily evening meals, 24,000 weekly food pantry bags and 6,800 bag lunches in 2007.

FISH of Greater New Haven: Founded 1968, FISH delivers non-perishable food to the homes of those who are not able to go to a food pantry. FISH is operated by one paid staff person and countless volunteers. FISH is funded by grants and by donations from individuals and area congregations. Some food is donated and some is obtained at the CT Food Bank. In 2007 FISH served 3160 families, delivered 5462 bags that provided food for 114,702 meals. We helped 8864 individuals requesting food assistance. In May FISH celebrated 40 years of helping our neighbors in the greater New Haven community.

Interfaith Volunteer Care Givers: Founded 1984, Interfaith Volunteer Care Givers provides services for elderly and disabled persons. IVCG services foster independence and include visits, errands, transportation to medical appointments, telephone support and respite for family caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's. A small paid staff coordinates the activities of 300 volunteers from area congregations, colleges and the community. IVCG is funded by grants and donations. IVCG volunteers gave 15,636 hours assisting over 448 people in 2007. In addition, IVCG coordinated the delivery of Thanksgiving Day dinners for over 500 older recipients.

As this year's coordinator for our congregation, I plan to join friends from FSUMC and other neighboring congregations in this lovely event, as I have every year since the Cook-and-Care walk began. In the coming weeks, I'll be soliciting donations during coffee time, and will have walking-paper sign-up sheets available for others who want to collect donations and walk in support of these much-needed community services.

Submitted by Marion Sachdeva

HAITI Early Response Team Trip

Jerry Rowley is going on an Early Response team to Haiti Oct. 18-26. He and his teammates have been asked to bring some medical items. Please donate what you can on Sundays, Oct. 3 & 10. Thanks for your help. We'll be offering a blessing of Jerry and his team in worship on October 10th. Medical items: Over the counter meds such as tums, vitamins for adults and children, band aid plaster, sterile bandages, cold meds, cotton swabs.

In case you didn't know, or want to tell your friends...



See link on website www.fsumc.org or look up
First and Summerfield UMC at www.facebook.com.
See you there!!!

It's Innisbrook Time! Our annual sale of Innisbrook holiday and special occasion, high quality wrapping paper (and some interesting holiday gifts) will begin in early September and continue until mid-October. This is one of the largest fund raisers of the church year. We invite all of you to participate by being a salesperson (to your family, friends and co-workers). When we receive sale catalogs in late August or very early September they will be available at the church for you to review. Bob La Camera is coordinator and easy instructions will be given to you who volunteer to be a seller. It is painless and the church benefits.
~ Bob LaCamera





**Saturday
October 9**
Bushnell Park, Hart-
ford , 8:00am

Choose from Marathon (26.2 miles), Half Marathon (13.1 miles), 5 K (3.1 miles), Relay (26.2 miles divided by 4 or 5 runners) and Kids Run (up to 1 K) Go to: www.hartfordmarathon.com for registration information and forms.

Not a Runner?

Support Bishop Park in his run by sending your check made payable to "New York Annual Conference" to 20 Soundview Ave., White Plains, NY 10606. (Memo line "Race for Mission")

As a sponsoring organization, we are looking for **25 adult and youth volunteers** for the day of the event.

Youth groups and adult chaperones are invited to stay overnight Friday at Wethersfield UMC for fun and fellowship.

For information, please contact Maggie Carr at 203-284-8278 or jcarr01@snet.net

Pre-Race Carbo-Load Pasta Dinner & Fellowship

Friday, October 8th at 5:30—7:00 pm

United Methodist Church of Hartford
571 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06105
RSVP: Rev. Bryan Hooper (860.523.5132, bryan@umcofhartford.org)

SAVE THE DATES: Sengbe Pieh

Sengbe Pieh – Next meeting is Nov. 4 at 6:30pm; and Jan. 6, 2011 at 6:30pm. The 10th Anniversary Sengbe Pieh Community Service Award Ceremony will be held on Sunday, March 27, 2011. This year, we'd like to honor a younger awardee, perhaps someone in their 20s to 40s for their community service work. Save the date, and start thinking of possible nominees for the community service award.

HAITI 2010 Early Response Teams: Schedule

Total cost \$1,100

Application form available at www.nyac.com

Travel Dates for 2010

October 18-26

Travel Dates for 2011

March 8 - 15

April 5 - 12

May 6-13

June 17-24

July 18-25

August 19-26

September 16-23

October 21 - 28

2010 FSUMC Church Directory

The 2010 FSUMC Church Directory is available to church members electronically. If you haven't received your copy or need to request a printed version, please contact the church office. If you find that there are any changes necessary, please let us know.



New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church

Faithful in Ministry Award

*First and Summerfield United Methodist Church
New Haven*

is recognized for Faithfulness in Ministry for

*Full Support of All 2009
Shared Ministry Apportionments*

World Service and Conference Benevolences
Black College Fund Missional Priority Fund Ministerial Education Fund
Africa University Clergy Support Administration

[Signature]
Bishop, New York Area

[Signature]
Conference Treasurer

[Signature]
District Superintendent

For Such a Time As This: We Are Building Up a Healthy Body of Christ

What's Happening at First and Summerfield UMC

SUNDAYS: Join us every Sunday at 10:00 am for our Weekly Worship Service, with Child Care; Food pantry donations are received for DESK.

MONDAYS: Pray for Peace at our Peace Vigil held at Noon

1st TUESDAY, 5:30pm Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen, 311 Temple St., 1st Tuesday of month, Oct 5th.

THURSDAYS: 7:15pm Choir rehearsal. Ring College Street buzzer to enter.

Dates to Remember

Sat Oct 2: Women's Forum Retreat at Killam's Point, 8:30am-5:00pm; Blessing of the Animals, New Haven Green, 11:00am.

Sun Oct 3: World Communion Sunday, Guest preacher Joy Carol

Mon Oct 4: Ellen Swanson presents "The Mary & William Scranton Saga" - Overseas Ministries Study Center, 10am-3:30pm, RSVP required, 203-821-1453; Book Group, 6pm, Wall Street Pizza

Fri Oct 8: Pre-Race "Race for Mission" Carbo-Load Pasta Dinner & Fellowship, 5:30-7pm, UMC of Hartford

Sat Oct 9: Race for Mission, Bushnell Park, Hartford, 8am.

Sat Oct 16: Sunday School Family Trip to Bishop's Orchard - meet at church at 1pm

Sun Oct 17: Guest preacher Maggie Carr, Guest Organist Crew Smith; Cook & Care Walk-A-Thon - see Marion Sachdeva

Tues Oct 19: ABRAHAM'S TENT, Companion Training, 6:00-8:30pm, Congregation Mishkan Israel, Hamden.

Wed Oct 27: Stitch & Pray Kick-off event, Whitney Center, 7:30pm

Sat Oct 30: Mountains of Hope for Haiti presentation HAITI: NEW CHALLENGES...A NEW VISION, 9am-2pm, Pleasantville United Methodist Church, Pleasantville, NY

SAVE THE DATES:

Wed Nov 3: Trustees meeting 6:30pm

Thur Nov 4: Sengbe Pieh Meeting, 6:30pm

Wed Nov 8: Finance Meeting, 7pm

Mon Nov 15: SPR Meeting, 7pm - **Charge Conference reports also due** for Conference Booklet. All Committees and Teams need to submit a concise and accurate account of the work of your group for the year 2010. Thanks! Please email your report to the Church Office.

Tues Nov. 16: Church Council meeting, 7pm

Sat Nov. 20: Hate Crimes Symposium, sponsored by Methodists In New Directions, Board of Church & Society—an Annual Conference-wide event. Place, Grace UMC, 125 West 104 Street, NYC

Thur Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Day; Church office will be closed.

Sun Nov. 28: First Sunday of Advent

Tues Nov. 30: Charge Conference with the District Superintendent. All members of FSUMC are invited to attend.

Sat Dec 4: Labyrinth retreat day, FSUMC

Sat Dec 11: Blue Christmas Service, FSUMC

Fri Dec 24: Christmas Eve, 5pm Worship

Sun Dec 26: First Sunday of Christmas

Fri Dec 31: Watch Night Service

Thur Jan 6: Sengbe Pieh Meeting, 6:30pm

Are you planning a special day and need a special place?

Consider FSUMC for your event.

FSUMC has been home to many weddings, concerts, and family gatherings. Let us help you coordinate the celebrations & blessings in your life.

Contact

fsmethodist@sbcglobal.net, call 203-624-2521, or visit our website www.fsunc.org.



FSUMC: An inclusive, diverse, and reconciling congregation.

First & Summerfield United Methodist Church

425 College Street

New Haven, CT 06511

OFFICE HOURS:

By appointment only in October 2010

The FSUMC Monthly Newsletter is now delivered via e-mail. The November 2010 Newsletter deadline is Oct 19th. Send all submissions or requests to be put on our E-letter to fsmethodist@sbcglobal.net, or contact our office at 203-624-2521.