

# Main Street Musing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR



September 2024

With fall just around the corner, it is time to put away the beach equipment and prepare for the season of harvest. The efforts of farmers can be seen as one looks over the fields of corn. Everything points to the fact that the efforts of farmers has come to fruition and the harvest is nearly ready to bring in the fruits of labor. Throughout the cold months, the harvest gifts will support us with food and bounty.

This image is significant to our community of faith. We have had summer; our season of vacations and breaks; trips and recreation give us the needed break in order to enter the fall and winter months having been refreshed. Now it is time to set our eyes once again toward the harvest of faith... to regather in our church home and begin again the work of shared ministry. It is time to live out the vows we made when we joined this community of faith and to support it with our time, talents, and tithes. That time is now. Regather. Bring the harvest in and reap the benefits our community of faith offers. Now we come to engage in the activities of the new season before us and our church.

We have worship to inspire us.

We have programs to interest us.

And we have festivals and celebrations to sustain us in the months ahead.

Fall... harvest... ingathering. These are all terms that remind us to once again place our efforts and sights on the church and its work and future. Without planning and planting, there is no harvest. Without planning and community together, there can be little harvest for our church. I invite all of you to come in and regather as we welcome fall and bid summer farewell. Please join us for regular worship... ongoing conversation regarding our... your church and its vision for days and years ahead. Join us for programs, such as

coffee hour and second hour activities. Join us for church chat and share freely your questions on faith issues and more. Help us as we prepare for dinners... fairs... holidays.... and times of celebrations. Keep an eye on the calendar for what's ahead. But most importantly, join us on Sunday mornings for worship. The harvest is ready... it is time for its ingathering. You are the fruit of God's planting. See you in church and more...

*Pastor Dean*



**Pastor Dean's Fall Hours & Office Schedule:  
Tuesday - Friday 8am - 1:30pm; Monday: Off**

### *Trustees News*

Jean Trotman

Our tag sale was a tremendous success! We made in excess of \$6,000. Kudos to all who made this possible. Although at the beginning of the week it looked like we would be rained out, we ended up with a sunny day. Signage provided by our wonderful Admin made it clear to all why we were having the sale and many responded very generously. A huge thank you goes to all who supported it by delivering donations to the church, protecting furniture from the rain, sorting, pricing and arranging donations. Thank you also to the bakers and hot dog hawker, as well as to all who helped clean up after.

Personally, during the tag sale, I was blessed to experience one of those random acts of kindness we hear about. A young family wanted to purchase an electric guitar for their child but felt even the tag sale price was beyond their means, but they would talk it over and let us know if they could pay it. Once they stepped away from the cashier station, a man who had overheard the conversation stepped forward and paid anonymously for the guitar and I had the pleasure of informing the family. Such joy! It was that kind of day, in spite of all the work. We were blessed with good weather, a big turnout and generous customers.

Along with various other fund-raising efforts, we now have now collected over \$7,000 towards our goal of \$110,000 to fix our floor. We aren't there yet, but we have made good progress. You will be hearing about more fund-raising events shortly and the search for grants continues.

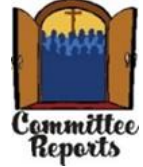
On a different note, we will again offer power and access to water to the Hartford Marathon organization when the race is run in October.

## *Church Committee*

Jean Jackson, Clerk

Clerk's highlights from the Church Committee meeting held August 13, 2024 -

- Treasurer's report - July income was \$15,898.35. Income includes \$10,000 received from the brokerage account to cover expenses. Expenses were \$17,328.17. Deficit for July was \$1,429.82; year-to-date deficit is \$6,708.78
- Investments - The brokerage account saw an increase of \$57,863.61 in July. \$10,000 was withdrawn to cover expenses, resulting in a net gain of \$47,863.61. The ending balance for July is \$2,134,457.83. No changes were made to the portfolio.
- The next Church Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm. It will be held in the kitchen area of Fellowship Hall and on Zoom. All are welcome to attend whether or not you serve on a committee.



## *Music Committee*

Jean Jackson and Lisa Horsfield



The organ was tuned August 11 after the morning service. Kamilla took a vacation day August 11, with Jean Jackson filling in for her. Kamilla will be sending an email in August to choir members about regrouping in September. Participation in the choir is open to everyone. Jean Jackson and Jean

Trotman spoke with Chris Walton about the impact the floor project might have on the organ. The Diaconate was asked to begin conversations about Christmas Eve, specifically whether they/Pastor Dean would like to have Deb Vinick, harpist, return this year. The choir is looking at regathering in September. All in the congregation are welcome to join in. Rehearsals, when they begin, are at 9:00 am Sunday mornings. Participation in services will be on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Reading music is not a requirement...we learn by rote. If you're interested, see organist/music director Kamilla Mammedova or music committee chair Jean Jackson after any Sunday service.

## *Sharing Our Talents*

Linda Dalpe

"We all have talent...this new fundraising strategy is to showcase a talent that you never really thought about..."

- Does everyone love a certain cake you make?
- Are you a great cook?
- Would you pull weeds for two hours in someone's garden?
- What about babysitting or "grandma" sitting?
- Would you be willing to run errands or do grocery shopping?
- What about doing computer lessons, or teach other skills that you have?
- Do you like to clean house, organize things, wash windows, iron?
- Paint outside or inside?
- Are you good at repairing things?
- Do you like to repot plants? Grow cuttings?
- Will you take all of the bottles /cans back that have been accumulating for someone?
- Do you have a large garden and are willing to sell your extra vegetables or flowers?
- Would you be willing to work for several hours to help someone on a task that they need help with?
- Are you a woodworker who loves to build birdhouses or loves to paint?
- Other talent?????

### **Here's how it works**

You reserve a "ticket" for the item or work. Contact the person and arrange for the work/product. You decide if the product is to be picked up or delivered. Once the item is delivered/ talent received, the money earned is your donation into this project.

Here are some examples:

1) With 48 hours' notice, xxxx will make an agreed upon dinner for one/two at the cost of \$25? or \$39? (to be determined). The cook can take out the cost of the ingredients and then the remainder is deposited into the capital fund.

2) With advance notice, xxxx will come and work in your garden or ...for two (or 3) hours @ say \$16-18 an hour...or whatever fee you set.

Payment is then issued and turned over to Sue Larsen to be earmarked for the capital fundraising project.

## Publicity

Ticket/Talents will be hung on the bulletin board in fellowship hall for members to access.

A “thermometer” will be created/displayed with the indicator rising as we reach each goal line.

Fill out the form on the next page, and give the information to:

Linda Dalpe

[Lindald001@aol.com](mailto:Lindald001@aol.com) or

call Linda at 860-528-1936

It can also be left in the UCW mailbox.

We will make your tickets!



**Indicate how many of the same tickets you want to post. Also, please let us know if this talent is ‘renewable’ after all of the tickets have been used.**

Example: I am willing to do 6 cakes.

Or ... I am willing to do (4) two-hour weeding sessions.

Or ... I will do 2 dinners ...

Or whatever your talent / share is...etc.

If you have more than one idea, we will create separate tickets.

We will then print them up and hang them on the board in the lower hall. They will be green tickets. \$\$\$

If you need someone to do something, then we can move on to “I need help with...” Post hours, when, etc., and how much you will pay for the job. These will be pink tickets.

Finally, turn in the money to Sue Larsen.

**Sharing Our Talents**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Talent: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost for my Talent: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of what it is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hours /days needed in advance notice:

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional parameters...i.e. has to be on a weekend, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Information:

Will Deliver \_\_\_\_\_ Must Pickup \_\_\_\_\_

Renewable: \_\_\_\_\_ # of times: \_\_\_\_\_



*Historian's Column*

Mary Crittenden

I want to step back to a time before Englishmen settled on land at Windsor to give a brief account of the history of the settlement of Windsor and an account of the history of the settlers who moved to the eastside of the Connecticut River leading to the beginning of our church.



A delegation of sachems from the lower Connecticut River Valley area went to the English settlements in Plymouth Colony and Massachusetts Bay Colony. They were seeking protection from the Mohawks west of the Hudson Valley on their west and the Pequots near Long Island Sound in exchange for land. This 1631 offer did not interest the English until the Dutch established a trading post called House of Good Hope in the South Meadows area of present day Hartford.

Only then was Governor Winslow of Plymouth Colony enticed by the River Indians' description of the Windsor land and fearful that the Dutch might claim the entire area, decide to establish an English settlement. In 1633, traders from Plymouth Colony bought land on the west side of the Connecticut River near the confluence of the Farmington River into the Connecticut from the local Indians. William Holmes and men set up the pre-cut trading post frame house/post that they had brought with them on their ship. They had sailed up the Connecticut River past the Dutch Fort and Trading Post.

The commissioner of the House of Good Hope, Jacob Van Carler was ordered to lodge a formal complaint against William Holmes and demand his departure along with a written reply. Didn't happen! So then the Dutch sent 70 men to force Holmes men out. Didn't happen! Next, the Dutch sent forces to work with the natives to establish a new trading post north of the Plymouth post. Didn't happen! This failed due to an outbreak of small pox that decimated the natives. The Plymouth traders farmed and assisted Native Americans suffering from epidemics. They offered sustenance, canoes, and guides to Massachusetts men who eventually settled in all three river towns. These first Englishmen of the Connecticut River valley

occupied this trading post continuously for four years before being bought out by settlers from Dorchester, Massachusetts in May of 1637.

In 1635, the Dorchester congregation led by Reverends John Maverick and John Warham had trekked overland to settle at Windsor. They probably traveled along the Old Connecticut Path. Most of this Native American path is known today. Some of it coincides with I 84 and other sections are recognized and mapped. This trail extends from near present day Boston to the Connecticut River. Jason Newton has lead hikes along sections of the trail and given talks and picture presentations over recent years. You can find information about the trail and links to videos on a facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/oldconnecticutpath>

The Dorchester people first thought that they would locate on the East side of the Connecticut River. However, upon finding that the flat land near the river was prone to flooding, the decision was made to build on the west side.

Next month, I will talk about the settlement of Matianuck that was later re-named Windsor.



*Capital Fundraising, continued.  
Cans and bottles recycling drive*



Redemption of soda cans and bottles has now increased to \$.10 each. Also, juice bottles have been added to the list. Look for the **CTRV** designation. Cans containing alcohol such as hard ciders are not accepted at the redemption center. Glass bottles must be placed in their original container (e.g. beer) or a box. Cans and plastic must be separated. There are boxes just outside the kitchen for the soda cans and plastic bottles.

Check the roadsides, walking trails etc. for discarded bottles and cans. We can not only raise money to repair the floor in Fellowship Hall, but help the environment.

Redemption fees of \$.10 here, \$.10 there, soon adds up to significant money. See Judy Borré if you have any questions.



Right: In August during worship, FCCSW collected non-perishable food items to benefit the Squire Village Food Pantry. Our donations were greatly needed and deeply appreciated.



Left: Administrative Assistant, Carrie Morse celebrated 5 years with First Church on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Jean Trotman presented a beautiful bouquet of flowers to her from the church family. She is very grateful and looks forward to more time together.

### *Diaconate Ditties*

Barbara Wright

Sunday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour program following worship at noon. We are hosting an Edwards speaker in honor of our 330<sup>th</sup> church anniversary. Elise Feeley is an archival librarian from Forbes Library in Northampton, MA. She's been studying Jonathan Edwards for forty years. She'll be speaking mainly on his time in Northampton. We are very excited to have her. All are welcome!



Pastor Dean engages the congregation with his animated and exciting sermon deliveries on Sunday mornings. Join us in person or on zoom at 10AM.

*Church Family News*

Howard Haviland, Jr. 09/03  
 Marty Zaugg 09/06  
 Stefan Klein 09/13  
 Silvia Mikkola 09/19  
 Olivia Pelton 09/19  
 Landon Soares 09/20  
 Chipper Woolam 09/21  
 Lauren Litwin 09/23  
 Allison Hastings 09/27  
 Jenifer Gossett 09/30  
 Kamilla Mammedova 09/30



Lisa & Scott Horsfield 09/15  
 Caitlin & Roger Cote 09/18  
 Lauren & Steven Clarke 09/30

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

Doris Burgdorf  
 Della Mitchell  
 Cliff McClellan  
 Edie & Bob Starr  
 The Cox Family  
 The Zaugg Family

Joyce Coon  
 Lisa Horsfield  
 Bob Woodward  
 Rod Johnson  
 Carol Mattera



*Thoughts and prayers are with our dear friend, Carol Mattera, and her family for the recent passing of her husband, Jack Dupee.*

*With Sincere Sympathy*

## *Newsletter Deadline*

The next newsletter issue will be published in **October 2024**. Please send your submissions and photos to the church office by **September 13<sup>th</sup>** for inclusion: [firstchurchsw@gmail.com](mailto:firstchurchsw@gmail.com) Thank you.



## *Church Office Hours*

Hours are Tuesday – Friday 9 am – 2 pm, unless otherwise noted.



Recently, First Church of South Windsor hosted a group of travelers visiting from a Christian church from Korea. They were interested in learning more about Jonathan Edwards and Timothy Edwards. We were happy to arrange that! It was truly a wonderful time of learning and laughter with our new friends from The First Church of Samsong.

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TO: