

The ORDER of WORSHIP

April 29, 2018 - 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Welcome! We're glad you're here today! For more information about our church, please see our brochure in your pew. You are invited to return the enclosed information card to share your contact information and/or your pastoral needs; and you are welcome to sign our guestbook at the rear of the sanctuary. Infant/toddler care is in the Nursery/Room 1 from 9:45 to 11:15 a.m.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

MEDITATION: The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention.... A loving silence often has far more power to heal and to connect than the most well-intentioned words. ~ Rachel Naomi Remen

PRELUDE *Variations on "Foundation" (A. Giamanco)*

GREETINGS and CHURCH LIFE Rev. Jamie Harrison

One: This is the day our God has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #263(Blue Hymnal, 10:00 am)

Surely the Presence of the Lord

CALL to WORSHIP

One: We gather with joy, for Easter continues.

All: Like crocuses breaking through the thawing earth, resurrection power breaks into our world in surprising ways.

One: Like the vine that upholds the blossoms and fruit, God's word upholds the church.

All: Like a gardener, God tends all creation.

One: Let us worship God who makes all things new.

***HYMN #275** (Blue Hymnal) *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*
(Sunday School children & Confirmation Class are dismissed.)

***OPENING PRAYER**

Risen Lord, you are the vine and we are the branches.

We dwell in you and you dwell in us.

Through your love we are nourished and are made to bear fruit.

We gather today to lift our praises to you.

Your love is our strength.

Your energy is our joy.

Your faithfulness is our security.

Your attentiveness is our hope.

Your presence is the source of our contentment.

Your power is able to redeem and transform our lives in all times and places.

As we lift our praises, hear us as together pray as Jesus taught, saying...

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI #35** (Blue Hymnal)

Glory be to the Father (Creator) and to the Son (Christ) and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the Beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Prayer cards are provided in your pew if you would like to make a prayer request. They will be collected during the silent portion of the prayer. Please

pass your card toward the center aisle for collection. If unable to pass your prayer card, you may raise it to ensure visibility and the pastor or a deacon will collect it.

***HYMN #526** (Blue Hymnal, 10:00 am) *The Gift of Love*

PROCLAIMING the GOOD NEWS

SCRIPTURE John 15:1-8 (Pew Bible, N.T. page 109)

INTERLUDE (8:00 am)

ANTHEM (10:00 am) *Christ hath a garden (G. Near)* Senior Choir

SCRIPTURE Acts 8:26-40 (Pew Bible, N.T. page 127) Rev. Jamie Harrison

SERMON "The Good News About Jesus" Rev. Jamie Harrison

MOMENT of SILENT REFLECTION

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

CALL to GIVE OUR TITHES and OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #46** (Blue Hymnal)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him (God) all creatures here below; Praise Him (God) above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father (Creator), Son (Christ), and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER of DEDICATION**

***HYMN #665** (Blue Hymnal) *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

***OUR COMMON COMMISSION**

Let us go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast to that which is good, rendering to no one evil for evil, strengthening the faint-hearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all persons, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL AMEN #320** (Blue Hymnal)

***POSTLUDE** *Variations on "Foundation" (A. Giamanco)*

**All who are able, please stand.*



REV. DR. JAMES S. HARRISON

The Reverend Dr. James (Jamie) Harrison, Pastor Emeritus of the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, CT, UCC, a congregation he served for 35 years, has a life-long interest in interfaith relations. Since retiring he has traveled back and forth to California to see his sons and granddaughters, read a lot of mystery novels, and served as sabbatical supply pastor in Glastonbury, Columbia, and here in Mystic. He is particularly interested in how we can be faithful followers of Jesus in a religiously plural world, making room in our own faith experience for the faiths of others. He lives in Woodstock with his wife, Martha. They are parents of two grown sons, and grandparents of two granddaughters.

Flowers

In loving memory of Pamela Stein Barstow, from Diane & Frank Davis, Becky, Nathan & Matthew Wagner, and Chris & Jonathan Barstow



Please join us immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service for refreshments and fellowship in our Parish Hall. All are welcome!

YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

What is the "100 Envelopes Campaign"?

Our Senior High School Youth Group's "100 Envelopes Campaign" will help support the mission trip to Washington, DC in June. How does it work? Look for the Youth Mission bulletin board display in the Parish Hall. On it you'll find information about our upcoming trip along with 100 envelopes.

Each envelope will be numbered 1-100. Choose an envelope and make a donation to our youth in the amount equal to the number on the envelope. It's that simple. If you choose #1, you donate \$1.00. If you choose envelope \$100, you donate \$100. We are grateful for every dollar given!

We have 12 wonderful youth going on our mission trip this summer! Stop by, choose an envelope, and help our youth make a difference in the world!

REMINDERS

NEXT SUNDAY IS WALK/BIKE/CARPOOL to CHURCH SUNDAY!

So lace up your sneakers! Don your helmet! Call your neighbor! Save energy and save the planet!

NAME TAG SUNDAY

Getting to know you!

You are encouraged to wear your name tag on the first Sunday of each month which is now designated as *Name Tag Sunday*. Call the office if yours is lost or the dog has chewed it!

NOTES of PARISH LIFE



HEARING ASSISTANCE

Those with hearing aids so equipped may switch to the "T" setting on their aids to use our Hearing Loop system. Individual units are also available. Please ask an usher.

AED



**AUTOMATED
EXTERNAL
DEFIBRILLATOR**

DEFIBRILLATOR

A cabinet has been installed in the hallway toward the Parish Hall by the elevator. It is well marked and contains an Automated External Defibrillator, which is for emergency use only. Should it be required, phone 911, then open the cabinet (an alarm will sound), unzip the pouch, and the unit will start talking and instructing in its use. It is fully self-explanatory and training is not necessary. There is a telephone in the parish hall kitchen.

REV. DR. JAMES S. HARRISON is serving as our Bridge Pastor beginning April 16 thru September 3. He will lead worship and be available for visitation and consultations during this transitional period at Mystic Congregational Church.

LECTIO DIVINA The group will resume its sessions on Tuesday, May 15 at 5:00 pm in the Library. All are welcome. Questions? Please contact Tatia McClintock at XXX-XXX-XXXX or XXXXX@XXX.XXX.

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SALE to SUPPORT BARNES SCHOLARSHIPS Beautiful long-stem roses, and potted flowers will be available for purchase at the *Mother's Day Flower Sale* to be held at the Church on

Sunday, May 13 to benefit the Barnes Scholarship Fund. Shop the sale set near the Library after either service and bring a smile to Mom's face while supporting a worthy cause.

ATTENTION: STUDENTS – APPLY NOW for the BARNES SCHOLARSHIPS Scholarships from the Barnes Library Memorial Fund will again be awarded in 2018; *application forms are available through the Church Office and are due May 15.* To be eligible to apply, the student must be a church member at the time of the award presentation and pursuing an undergraduate degree. The scholarship is only available to those who have not previously received funds from the Barnes Scholarship Fund.

WEED OUT YOUR POTS & PANS & GARDEN Spring is the time to put new shelf paper on your kitchen and pantry cupboards (an inexpensive makeover) and get rid of cookware, crockery, dishes, and glassware that you are not using regularly. Canning jars save almost \$1.00 per jar for our Bazaar jam and chutney makers. Also, get rid of excess vases, garden tools, baskets, and decorative pots. Chair, Laura Ross, needs help with setting up the Tag Sale tables on Tues. May 8th at 8:00 a.m. **Tag Sale Items** may be brought to the Parish Hall (window end) Sunday, May 6 through Thursday noon. The Tag Sale runs Friday (May 11 at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.) and Saturday (May 12 at 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.). Please let Laura Ross know if you can help set up tables on Tuesday (May 8 at 8:00 a.m.) or help with cleanup on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. (XXX-XXX-XXXX)

SUNDAY, MAY 6th The Mystic River Chorale will present "Visions: Songs of Love & Hope" at 4:00 pm in our Sanctuary. You will hear favorites and jazzy new arrangements with four hands on our piano! Tickets are available from Cal Beggs and Kathleen O'Beirne or at the door. Adults: \$25, Seniors: \$20, Students: \$15. The singers are your friends and neighbors who have been honing our skills and sharing our passion for music for 34 years!

PRAYER CHAIN is active! 15 of our fellow parishioners have gathered around this important ministry. If you have a concern which you feel could be helped by the prayers of this group, call Lynda Hewitt at (XXX)XXX-XXXX, or the Pastor at (860)536-4259 Ext.112. All prayer requests are held in the strictest confidence.

CONTACTING PASTOR JAMIE HARRISON

Confidential Voice Mail at any time: (860)536-4259 Extension 112

Email: jamie@mysticucc.org

Pastoral Emergency: (XXX)XXX-XXXX

QUESTIONS ABOUT MCC SUNDAY SCHOOL, YOUTH or MUSIC PROGRAMS:

respectively, Genviève Spitale (Director-Children's Ministries) at genviève.mysticucc@gmail.com or 860-536-4259 Ext. 119, Pastor Christa Swenson at christa.mysticucc@gmail.com or 860-536-4259 Ext. 120 or Andrew Howell (Director-Music) at andrew@chorusofwesterly.org or 401-864-8066.

OTHER CHURCH CONTACTS

For any other issue, question or concern, in addition to contacting the Pastor, you may also contact Church Moderator Katie Korpi at XXXXXX@XXX.XXX and XXX-XXX-XXXX or Personnel Committee Member Laurie Alfieri at XXXXXX@XXX.XXX and XXX-XXX-XXXX.



SAVE the DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 19th, 8:30 am to Noon

Columbine, Charlie Hebdo, Newtown, San Bernadino, Parkland, the Station fire – these names are all now associated with horrific loss of life. What would you do if you were caught up in one of these? On Saturday May 19, 8:30 to Noon, Officer Ed Cullen of the Stonington Police Department will give a presentation in the MCC Parish Hall on these kinds of events, which the police call "Active Violence". This will be about what happens, what you can do to enhance your chances of survival, and what you can expect from our local police. It is *not* about arming churchgoers, or gun control, or the second amendment. Instead, it is intended to provide you with knowledge of what happens and give you suggestions as to how you could react. For additional information you may call Hugh McGee at 860-558-8752. To reserve a space, call that number or email hughpmcgee@yahoo.com.

MORNING MINISTRY

Ministers:All Members of the Church
 Bridge Pastor:Rev. Dr. James S. Harrison
 Associate Pastor:Rev. Christa D. Swenson
 Director of Music:Andrew P. Howell
 Director of Children's Ministries:Genviève Ashley Spitale
 Parish Care Coordinators:Jane Donnel & Karin Stuart
 Hospitality:Joe St. Martin
 Flowers:Joanne Lukaszewicz
 Deacon:Suzanne Talbot
 Scripture Reader 8:00 am:Suzanne Talbot
 Scripture Reader 10:00 am:Greg Stone
 Ushers 8:00 am:Walter Keach, Laszlo Pozsonyi
 Ushers 10:00 am:Kelsey Conahan, Sue Johnson, Suzanne & David Talbot
 Trustees:Ted Abbott, Jack Leary

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday, 4/29 8:00 & 10:00 am - **Worship Services**
 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 9:45 am - Nursery Care (Room 1)
 10:15 am - Sunday School
 10:15 am - Confirmation Class (Youth Space)
 11:00 am - Youth Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Monday, 4/30 Meals on Wheels
 6:30-9:00 pm - AA (Parish Hall)

Tuesday, 5/01 9:30 am - Women's Fellowship Board (Library)

Wednesday, 5/02 10:00 am - Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)
 1:00 pm - WF Crochet Mission (Library)
 6:00 pm - Mystic River Chorale Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 7:00 pm - Council (Library)
 7:00 pm - Tutoring (Church of the City, New London)

Thursday, 5/03 6:00 pm - Bell Choir (Music Room)
 7:00 pm - Senior Choir (Music Room)
 7:00-9:30 pm - AA (Youth Space)

Friday, 5/04 Meals on Wheels
 6:00 pm - Mystic River Chorale Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Saturday, 5/05 11:00 am - L. Edwin Sproul Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

Sunday, 5/06 8:00 am - **Worship & Communion Service**
 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 9:45 am - Nursery Care (Room 1)
 10:00 am - **Children's Worship**
 4:00 pm - Mystic River Chorale Concert (Sanctuary)

Mystic Congregational Church
 United Church of Christ

43 East Main Street
 Mystic, CT 06355
 Tel. 860-536-4259
 Email: office@mysticucc.org
 Website: www.mysticucc.org
www.youtube.com/mysticcongregational

**MYSTIC
 CONGREGATIONAL
 CHURCH**
 United Church of Christ

Organized in 1852 at Mystic, Connecticut



*"I was glad when they said unto me,
 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"
 ~Psalm 122:1*

April 29, 2018
Fifth Sunday of Easter
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Our Mission Statement: To joyfully bring the Christian principles of faith, hope and love to all through quality worship, education, fellowship and outreach.

ALL ARE WELCOME
An Open and Affirming Church