

# February 2012

First Congregational Church

Deep River, Connecticut

Established 1834



# The Messenger

## Bring a Friend to Church

Everyone is invited to Bring a Friend to Church on Sunday, February 5. Share our wonderful church with your friends, neighbors and relatives. Show them our beautiful Sanctuary and inspire them with Rev. Tim's wonderful sermons. The children can join the excitement in our Sunday School program. Let's challenge ourselves to lead at least one person into worship on February 5!



**The Annual Women's Valentine's Day Breakfast** will be held this year on Sunday, February 12 at 8:30 a.m. The breakfast, as in the past, is open to all women and girls of the church free of charge, and will be prepared and served by the men of the congregation. The breakfast includes eggs and ham, fresh fruit, muffins and juice. Entertainment will also be offered by a chorus of Kitchen Troubadours singing romantic and humorous songs for Valentine's Day. A special part of the breakfast will be our honoring of the Women of the Year.

Although no tickets are necessary, please sign up in advance by adding your signature to the list on the bulletin board near the kitchen, by calling the church office (860-526-5045), by emailing your response to [office.drcc@snet.net](mailto:office.drcc@snet.net), or by clicking the response box on our church web page ([www.deepriverchurch.org](http://www.deepriverchurch.org)).

## Worship: 8:30 & 10 am

**February 5, 2012**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany** (Green)

*Sacrament of Holy Communion*

*Rev. Timothy Haut Preaching*

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

**February 12, 2012** (10 a.m. service only)

**Women's Valentine Breakfast (8:30)**

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany** (Green)

*Scout Sunday*

*Rev. Timothy Haut Preaching*

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalms 30

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Mark 1:40-45

**February 19, 2012**

**Transfiguration Sunday** (White)

**Sacrament of Baptism** (10 a.m. service)

*Rev. Timothy Haut Preaching*

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalms 50:1-6

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9



**February 22, 2012**

**Ash Wednesday** (Violet)

**Sacrament of Holy Communion (6:30 a.m.)**

**Service of Healing and Peace (7 p.m.)**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

ASH  
WEDNESDAY



**February 26, 2012**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent** (Violet)

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15



## Reminder—

Anyone who wishes to receive a hard copy of the Messenger in the mail, please remember to submit their yearly \$8.00 payment to help with postage.



## Ash Wednesday Begins Season of Lent

Ash Wednesday is the day that marks the beginning of the annual 40-day season of Lent. This year Ash Wednesday is Feb. 22, and it will again be observed at the Deep River Congregational Church with two special services.

The first service will be our early morning Communion Service at 6:30 a.m. This half-hour service is set so that those who have to go to work or school may attend. The service also will offer the imposition of ashes, made from last year's Palm Sunday palms, to those who wish them. Also our Deacons will serve juice, coffee, and hot cross buns as a light breakfast at 7 a.m.

The second of our Ash Wednesday services will be held at 7 p.m. It will be service of Healing and Peace, with an opportunity to light candles for loved ones and friends in need. Those wishing prayers for healing with anointing may do so, and the imposition of ashes will also be available at the end of the service for those who wish. This quiet, meditative half-hour service is a time for personal reflection and prayer in the candlelit sanctuary.

Please plan to participate as we begin this holy season together.

## Lent

Our annual Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday and leads us through Holy Week to the glorious celebration of Easter on April 8. During this period we watch the days lengthen (that's where we get the word "Lent") and share a pilgrimage of faith and prayer. Our Sunday worship services will follow a series of Scripture readings carrying the theme of "God's Promises" as the pulpit hangings and minister's stoles change to the seasonal color of purple.

We will again resume our series of midweek Family Potluck Suppers each Wednesday of Lent beginning on Feb. 29, Leap Year Day. The Suppers are held from 6 to 7 p.m. and include a fellowship meal, some worship and singing, and a fun program for all ages. Everyone is invited to bring a main dish or salad for the buffet table as well as their own plates and silverware. Coffee and juice will be available.

Also during Lent, Rev. Haut will be leading a weekly spiritual growth experience on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. entitled "Do Not Be Anxious About Tomorrow." The group will use articles from the Christian spiritual journal "Weavings" as a focus for each week's discussion. Anyone is welcome to attend, but please sign up on the clipboard in the narthex or by emailing the church at [congregational.chrch@snet.net](mailto:congregational.chrch@snet.net).

And finally, don't forget our annual Lenten Puzzle! Each Sunday a set of clues will be available in the narthex. The clues will relate to our Lenten theme of "God's Promises." As you solve the clues using your Bible and knowledge of your church, you will be able to fill in the blanks on the Puzzle Answer Sheet. Those who successfully solve the puzzle and turn it in on Palm Sunday will be recognized on Easter Sunday and receive fabulous prizes! Work together as families or friends and enjoy looking forward to the great Promise of Easter!



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# The Epistle Of Timothy



Over the past year, our church has been striving to go “green”. We have recycling wastebaskets located around the church and we have a single stream recycling bin in our parking lot. We have tried to make responsible efforts to reduce energy consumption. We have used fair trade coffee for our Fellowship Hour and eliminated non-biodegradable coffee cups. Again this Lenten season our Sunday School children will be encouraging our church to observe “Meatless Mondays,” which enables us to eat healthier and lower on the food chain. All of these things acknowledge that we are stewards of a beautiful planet home that God has given us, and that our gratitude can lead us to doing a better job of taking care of the earth.

But recently I stumbled upon an idea which merits our attention, too. Perhaps we are being called not only to go green, but to go blue as well—not only to take care of the earth but ourselves! The idea is put forth by a national organization trying to create “blue zones” throughout our country. This is the result of research done by the National Geographic Society and the National Institute on Aging, along with the AARP. They have identified communities around the world where people live happier, healthier, and longer lives. And they have also observed that all of these places shared certain traits and characteristics. By extension, they believe that if we adopted some of these practices, the average American could live an extra 12 years and be 40% happier by improving their lifestyle and environment.

Now here’s the thing; many of these characteristics are things we do already - or can start to do - right in our own church. They are the qualities of life well lived. And now we know that they help us to live longer, happier, and healthier, too.

The “Power 9” characteristics of this lifestyle include:

1. Move a lot - engaging in regular low impact, physical activity. We could have regular opportunities for exercise classes or walking groups to encourage us to stay physically fit.
2. Have a purpose and reason to live. Get up each morning believing that there is some difference you can make in the world. This is one of the reasons why we do mission trips and help with the soup

kitchen and homeless shelter--why we have study groups and read our Bibles. We believe that there *is* a purpose for our lives!

3. Down shift. We need to slow down our pace, find times for quiet, relieve the stress of living in a stressful world.
4. The 80% rule. Eat only till you are almost full. Reducing what we take in at the table enables us to be more active, fit, and healthy. We should eat less on the run, more as families and communities.
5. Plant slant. Eating a more vegetarian diet with less meat is better for us and for the planet. ‘Meatless Mondays’ are just a way to practice this goal.
6. Drink a little wine each day. Stop and take time to relax and enjoy other people’s company each day, and also benefit from the good things in wine.
7. Family First. Healthy communities put a priority on family life and caring for each other, making time to talk, eat, and do activities together.
8. Belong to a faith community. People who show up in their faith community four times a month live an extra 4-14 years!
9. Right Tribe. Make intentional choices about your friends and decide who to have around you. Healthy supportive people are better than negative, critical, and dysfunctional ones.

This “Blue Zone” idea is all about creating active and healthy communities. Can you imagine with me a church of people who are committed to worship and play with each other on a regular basis. We could gather for exercise and meals (we are already pretty good at pot luck suppers) and plan activities for families to share together. We could develop small groups who share common interests. The people of Okinawa create “moais” – groups of five friends that committed to each other for life. These groups could be people who could get together for book discussions, gardening, making prayer shawls or quilts, riding bicycles, doing community service, painting, singing - there is no end to the ways we could build “moais” in our midst. Our weekly worship services help us to remember our purpose in life and to find ways to find our center, our peace, in the midst of all the stress around us.

Of course, living a long time is not necessarily the most important goal in life. But as we find ourselves living better, happier, more peaceful and loving lives, we also have a better chance to discover that God is also with us, working to offer us life. When Jesus called himself the Good Shepherd of his sheep, he added that “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). That’s what I wish for us, too. Let’s be green, and blue!

Faithfully yours,

## 2012 El Salvador Mission Team News

The thirteen members of the El Salvador Mission Team are gearing up for their July 2012 trip! We are pleased to have Dr. Ficke and his son Dylan joining the team this year. Many of us were shocked by the state of the pets in the village last summer so the ability to bring flea and tick treatments as well as immunizations for the dogs and cats will be an important aspect of our mission work in 2012. We are also pleased to welcome new team members Janet Klinck and Allegra Bargnesi. Unfortunately, the team received sad news that extreme rainstorms in October resulted in mudslides and significant damage to the village we serve. One villager was killed by the mudslides and numerous homes were lost. Our work will take on a special purpose this summer as we help to rebuild with the people we have come to care so deeply for.

The team was surprised to hear news that the video Luther Moen made to document the 2011 mission trip has made it all the way to Rome! Sister Gloria is taking the video to the Vatican to show the wonderful things that are being done to serve the village of Las Delicias. DRCC may be small but has a mighty impact indeed! If you would like a viewing of the video, just let any of us know!

The team (and a few extras) did a revival of their Silent Monks act by performing the Hallelujah Chorus for the Medieval Dinner in January. It was so much fun for the team and we thank everyone who came to the dinner to support DRCC's Youth Mission programs! If you missed the dinner stay tuned for a video coming out soon.

Mark your calendars to support our next Youth Missions Fundraiser - a Haircut-a-thon on Sunday March 25th at Salon 154 from 12-5 PM. Appointments will be taken at Church in mid-March. All proceeds benefit Youth Mission trips to El Salvador and Appalachia. Finally, if you find yourself shopping the winter sales, please consider picking up a pair of children's black school shoes (boy or girl - but not sneakers please), smaller size adult shoes or sandals, school supplies or baseball hats. New or gently used items will be collected in May to bring to El Salvador in July but feel free to start looking for bargains or cleaning your closets now.

Our team feels blessed to have the support of our congregation and proud to be representing DRCC in El Salvador this summer. Thank you, Thank you.

Jane Moen and Pam Visel ES Mission Team Leaders



### Scout Sunday at DRCC

Scout Sunday will be held on February 12. All current Scouts are welcome to attend worship in uniform! If you are an Eagle Scout or earned the highest rank for Girl Scouts (Gold Award, 1st Class, Eaglet), contact the church office with award earned and year so you can be recognized in the bulletin.



GIRL SCOUTS



*Note: We do have the list from last year, please call to confirm or to add if need be.*

### VIP Sunday

VIP Sunday is coming up on February 12! Who will be invited to be part of our Sunday School program?

Invitations will be handed out the week before with a special message to join the children in one of their Sunday School classrooms. You will also be encouraged to participate in the lesson and crafts with the children. You might even have to answer some Bible questions!!! I hope are one of the lucky ones to join our Sunday School for the day. Don't be discouraged if you don't get invited this time, for there will be more in the future!



### Stewardship Update

<b>Pledge Goal</b>	<b>\$229,817</b>
<b>Pledges as of 1/15/12</b>	<b>\$166,738</b>
<b>Pledges needed</b>	<b>\$63,080</b>

**Please consider making your pledge for the coming year soon.**

## Destiny Africa Children's Choir Returns

Please save the date, **Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** to welcome the **Destiny Africa Children's Choir from Uganda** to our Sanctuary. They will be presenting a concert at 7:00 p.m. that evening. They were here in 2009 and we had a standing room only crowd to enjoy their enthusiastic performance.

They will be arriving at 4:00 p.m. and we have been asked to provide supper for the choir and their chaperones, as well as a reception with light refreshments, following the concert. Anyone who is interested in helping, please contact Kris in the church office, 860-526-5045 or [office.drcc@snet.net](mailto:office.drcc@snet.net).

## Board of Christian Service

The Board of Christian Service would like to highlight two endeavors we have chosen to support.

The first is Phyllis Haut's trip to Haiti (details pertinent to this mission are included on a separate page) The second is Mount St. John's Culinary program, one part of their Vocational Enrichment Program:



The BoCS is continuing their effort to look for ways we can assist the boys at Mount St. John. The directors of the center approached the board several years ago to see if there were ways in which some of their students could participate in activities at our church. Groups from Mt. Saint John have come to help with our Christmas Faire and to sell greens during the holidays. Mount Saint John has vocational enrichment programs to give the youth employable skills. Currently they are looking to raise the money to purchase and install professional grade appliances and equipment for their Culinary program. This will provide the space and right equipment to teach about food preparation, safe food handling, cooking techniques and nutrition. So far they have raised \$10,650 toward their goal of \$14,250. The BoCS has made a \$100.00 donation to this cause more information about Mt. Saint John will be posted on the BoCS bulletin board.

We will be coordinating our efforts with the Homeless Sleep Out on Jan. 28 to remind the congregation through out February to bring donations for the food pantry especially things like cereal and peanut butter.



## Trustees Report

Our Treasurer has completed a preliminary report of our 2011 financial picture. This was presented at our meeting on January 4, 2012. As you are aware, we have been very concerned with the potential year-end results. At times a shortfall in excess of \$20,000 had been forecast. We are pleased to announce that the shortfall has been avoided. We ended the year with a surplus of about \$3,000.

### WOW.

This is due to the love and dedication you all have for our church. It is due to the hours of hard work put in by scores of members and friends on fund-raisers. It is due to the love we all have for our church. This is a church with real **HEART** and caring members

For 2011 we had 178 pledges for \$190,050. Actual pledges received were \$198,262. Fifty-three people gave more than they pledged. The Prayed For budget was \$35,000 and we received \$40,040. Our Fund raising budget was \$16,000. We received \$24,272. Church Street Child Care also provided additional funds. We did have some help with expenses, they were under budget by \$11,000.

We go into 2012 fully confident that the budget passed in November will be met. It will again take hard work and dedication by all of us. This will provide the resources to continue serving our members and the community.

Thank you one and all.  
The Trustees



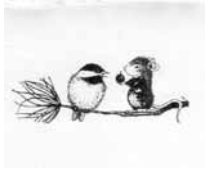
## Treasurer's Report

**The 2011 year-end Treasurer's report summary will be published in the March Messenger, and the 2011 year-end detailed Treasurer's report will be published in the Annual Report**

**Dayle F. Larson, Church Treasurer**

## Friend-to-Friend

New assignments have been made in the Friend-to-Friend Ministry. I have contacted all those who participated in 2011 and thank all those who will continue with a new "friend".



Several new persons also volunteered and I thank them as well.

This ministry involves sending a card or message regularly to a senior and/or shut-in who might enjoy receiving mail from someone in our church - something other than "junk" mail. While the sender may not get any feedback, they can rest assured their effort is appreciated.

If anyone knows of a person who might enjoy having a friend through this ministry, please contact me at 860-526-5215.

Evelyn Grohs, Coordinator

## Titanic The Musical

Enjoy an evening out and support many of our young people (and adults) who are participating in VRHS musical of the year!



Valley Regional High School  
*presents*

# TITANIC



## THE MUSICAL

Story and Book by Peter Stone  
Music and Lyrics by Maury Yeston

Friday, March 23, 2012	7 pm
Saturday, March 24, 2012	1 & 7 pm
Sunday, March 25, 2012	1 pm

Valley Regional High School Auditorium  
Kelsey Hill Road, Deep River, CT

All Seats \$10  
Tickets available at VRHS, Gather, Celebrations,  
The Wheatmarket & Toys Ahoy!  
For more information call 860-526-5328



*Valentines  
for Our  
Homebound  
Friends*

## Women's Fellowship

Cordially invites women 21+ to  
Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting.



# Sweetheart Night for Sisters

We'll be making Valentine's and care packages for our shut-in members as well as Gay Sherman-Weintz, an author and writer, will share journaling techniques.

Make your calendar for

Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Upper Room

Any questions: Deb Van Wyngaarden at 860-767-3285 or Emily Bjornberg at [yandfm.drcc@snet.net](mailto:yandfm.drcc@snet.net).

Bring a bag of candy for our care packages and any supplies you might have on hand to make Valentines. Don't forget to bring munchies to share and a journaling book and pen!

## 3rd GRADE CLASS ATTENDANCE

We are stressing the importance of regular attendance in Sunday School, especially the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade. They are studying the Bible and will have an opportunity to earn their own by attending classes on a regular basis from now until the end of the Sunday School year. These Bibles will be awarded to them on Children's Sunday in June. If you have any questions, see Sybil.



## SOUPER BOWL

Not a typo; just a great mission! The Sunday School Teen Issues class will be outside the Sanctuary on Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, for the annual collection of coins to benefit the Soup Kitchen. Please be sure to clean out those spare change areas to help fill our soup pot!



## YOUTH COMMUNION CLASSES

Youth Communion Classes for those in the 4th grade and older, will start on February 26. Our schedule will be out shortly, but please make sure your child will be present every Sunday during the six weeks of Lent. Each class will have a different theme to include an actual Seder Supper! We will also discuss Christian Symbols, Baptism, The Last Supper and will meet with the Deacons regarding their roles and how they prepare Communion. These are all very important lessons to learn as your child prepares to take the sacrament of Communion.



## COMMUNION SUNDAY ~ Grades 5 - 12

Youth Communion Services will take place at 10:00 am on the first Sunday of the month in the Upper Fellowship Hall. Music, readings and partaking of the elements are all part of this 15 minute service done largely in part by the youth of our Church. This service is for the 5th through 12th grades and the teachers of our Sunday School.



Youth Communion Service

## SPEND FAMILY TIME WITH YOUR CHILD!

Take a Sunday morning and attend Sunday School with your child. Have some fun and see what they learn in class. You might even be asked to participate in a lesson or make a craft.

Please sign up in advance so we don't have too many parents in class at the same time. Sign up sheets are located on the bulletin board in each Sunday School classroom.



*Take some time to spend with your child in Sunday School!*

## BRING A FRIEND TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!



Bring one or two of your friends to Sunday School on February 5th. Have them join you in class and show them how much fun you have. Surprise your teachers when you show up in class with some buddies. Lets see how many friends we can all bring!!

## YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM

Our Sunday School children are encouraged to take part in our Church music programs. Jr. Choir meets directly after church on Sunday in the Sanctuary for practice. Jr. Bell Choir meets on Sunday mornings before Sunday School. Stop by and check these programs out. Contact Annetta Sekula, Church organist, regarding Jr. Choir and Claudia Hardy regarding the Jr. Bells.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN REGISTRATION

We always have open registration at DRCC. If you still need to register your child or would like to be part of our Sunday School program, please stop in and see Sybil. Family registration forms are available in her office or on the Sunday School bulletin boards located near the Nellie Prann Room and in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to pick up children's offering envelopes and the Sunday School Hand-out sheet. All forms are available for downloading on the Sunday School page on our church web site at [www.deepriverchurch.org](http://www.deepriverchurch.org).

**Vacation Bible School**

**July 9 - 13**

**9:00 am - Noon**



All children 4 years old through entering 5th grade are welcome to attend. Bible stories, crafts, games and snacks are all part of this special week.

**Volunteers needed for the following positions:**

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>VBS teachers</b>      | <b>Guides</b>          |
| <b>Snack Coordinator</b> | <b>Decorating Team</b> |
| <b>Registration</b>      | <b>Safe Church</b>     |

Working families now have the option for childcare after our VBS program. Advance sign up is required and open donations are requested for care.

**Registration forms will be available on line at [www.deepriverchurch.org](http://www.deepriverchurch.org) starting in March!**



**All questions can be directed to Chelsea Chiappa at [vbs.drcc@yahoo.com](mailto:vbs.drcc@yahoo.com)**

**RECYCLE, RECYCLE, RECYCLE**

Just a reminder to continue the Sunday School church-wide recycling program.



If you use the kitchen for a dinner or



coffee hour, please **recycle!** Since we use single stream recycling, all items can go in the same bin. Acceptable items are listed on the bin label. Thank you!

BECOME A FAN OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL BY JOINING OUR FACEBOOK PAGE;



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DEEP RIVER SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**CWS Hygiene and School Kits**

The 7th/8th grade is taking on the mission of hygiene and school kits again this year. They are very excited to be involved with such a great project. Check the list below and see where you can help!

**School Kit Bags**

**\*\*\* HELP NEEDED \*\*\*** We need school bags made for the kits that we will be assembling. A total of 50 bags are needed this year, which are simple to make; a 12"x14" finished bag with two 10" handles. We can't assemble these kits without the bags, so please see Sybil if you can help! Material is available.

**School Kits**

After our fall collection of school kits, we are still in the need of the following items to complete them:

- 30 cm (12") rulers
- 2" pink pencil erasers (no pencil top or ink erasers)
- Blunt tip scissors
- Crayons ~ 24 count only
- Pencil sharpeners ~ hand held

**Hygiene Kits**

It's also time for the annual collection of hygiene kits for Church World Service. These kits are distributed throughout the United States and abroad to those in need. Please place all items in the Donation Station across from Sybil's office. A container has been labeled for these items listed below that you might be able to contribute.

- New hand towels
- Washcloths
- New wide tooth combs (with or without handle)
- New nail clippers (not emery boards or nail files)
- Toothbrushes (in original single packaging)
- Soap bar of bath size
- Band-Aids (1" x 3" only)

**CWS is specific in the items they include with the kits. Please purchase only items as noted above otherwise we can not use them.**

**Please have items in no later than February 12.**

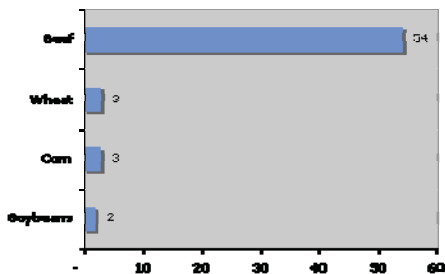
If you have questions or if you wish to donate money to help defray the cost of processing and shipping, please contact Sybil at [ChristianEd.drcc@snet.net](mailto:ChristianEd.drcc@snet.net).

*We thank you in advance for your continued support!*

# BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## “Help us care for God’s World!”

“Help us to care for God’s World! Last year our 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School Classes introduced a special way for our congregation to take another step towards becoming a “Green Church”, and to celebrate our Lenten season. The Meatless Monday Movement began as a way to help us all reduce our carbon footprint on God’s World. By going meatless for just one day a week, a significant amount of energy is saved! Did you know that 54 calories of fuel are needed to create ONE calorie of beef protein as opposed to 3 calories of fuel to produce one calorie of plant protein? It was a great idea, so we are announcing our 2<sup>ND</sup> Annual



Meatless Monday Movement for our approaching Lenten Season! Lent is our time to remember the sacrifices

that Jesus made during the 40 days He spent in the desert preparing Himself for His ministry. It is traditional for Christians to sacrifice something meaningful during Lent as a sign of solidarity with Jesus and to prepare ourselves for the Easter Season! The Sunday School is asking that the congregation consider joining the Meatless Monday Movement for Lent: and if it goes well, possibly continuing the Movement for the year! You can learn more about this national movement by clicking on the following link:

[www.meatlessmonday.com/spread-the-movement/](http://www.meatlessmonday.com/spread-the-movement/)

**January Green Tip:** Green Pets!! We often concentrate on making our homes and ourselves Green...but our fuzzy friends can be part of our commitment to take care of God’s creations! One of the best ways for us to help is to adopt a pet from a local shelter! Giving a home to one of the thousands of unwanted animals is a great way to show how much we care about all of the special creatures that share our world with us! Rescuing an

animal for your family to protect and care for is also an important way for our children to learn about helping something that is less fortunate than ourselves! Don’t forget to spay or neuter your new friend...be a responsible pet owner and don’t add to the overpopulation of pets! Feeding your pet with organic foods can help them to live healthier lives... just remember to check with your vet to make sure your animal is getting the correct nutrition! In the winter, be careful about spreading salt to “de-ice” your sidewalks and driveways...salt is dangerous for their paws... look for safe alternatives that are environmentally friendly! Of course, one of the best ways to enjoy your favorite four-legged friend is to curl up together and keep each other warm! Enjoy!

## Deep River Spread Your Light for Rice on [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com).

In November the 5th/6th Grade introduced a way you can fight hunger. Free Rice allows you to participate in computer generated quizzes to earn rice for the World Food Program. And, just like it’s name, it’s free! It only take a little bit of time to make a difference. It’s an excellent way to study up on geography, foreign language, math facts, vocabulary, literature, and chemistry. You work at your own level, and advance as your knowledge expands. It’s a win, win! It takes 2,000 grains of rice to feed one person, so we need your help. And by joining our **Deep River Spread Your Light for Rice** group, we can keep track of how much food we collectively raise for the world food program.



**Sign up today @ [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com) and join our group!** Please don't make your user name your real name and those under 18 need to sign up with their parents.

Contact one of our DRCC 5th/6th Graders on how to join our Sunday School group or Sybil @ [christianed.drcc@snet.net](mailto:christianed.drcc@snet.net).

### **UPDATED TOTALS:**

TOTAL RICE GRAINS: 40,630

PEOPLE FED: 21

TOP RICE EARNER: MA KETTLE

TOTAL GROUP MEMBERS: 16

## Joy Fellowship

We are so blessed to have Bess Ensinger, Liz Tracy and Heather Mudge taking charge of the Joy Fellowship this year. If you haven't yet signed up but are interested in joining Joy Fellowship you can see one of these talented ladies or email Emily at [yandfm.drcc@snet.net](mailto:yandfm.drcc@snet.net). Our February activity is detailed below.

February 5<sup>th</sup> – “Bring a Friend to Pizza and Movie Night” at 5:00pm in the Upper Room. All Joy Fellowship Participants are invited to bring a friend to our movie night. Friends do not need to be associated with the DRCC to come enjoy this activity.

## Junior PF

Many thanks for Kelly Frazier and Ally Glass for leading this year's Junior PF group. On December 11<sup>th</sup> the Junior PF had their second activity, which was a big success! They met during Sunday school hours to begin making Christmas cookies and then followed that with pizza and ornament making. It was a lot of fun for all who participated.

In 2012 the Junior PF is hoping to take a trip to “extreme bowling” in Old Saybrook. Our goal is to continue to build on the excitement of 2011 so that we have a big group by the end of the school year. So if you have not yet been a part of our activities but would like to join Junior PF, you are more than welcome to do so. Please speak to Ally or Kelley and they will be happy to provide you with the details of upcoming activities. Let's make 2012 a big success for Junior PF!!

## Thank you DRCC

The Junior and Senior PF groups would like to take this opportunity to thank the DRCC for supporting our Medieval Dinner and Homeless Sleep-out. The Medieval Dinner is one of our biggest youth mission fundraisers of the year. We appreciate your support and encouragement as our youth mission programs grow and change.

This was our third annual Homeless Sleep-out and was once again done in conjunction with UCC churches throughout Middlesex County. We have found this to be a rewarding and eye opening experience for all involved. Please watch for pictures and stories about the sleep-out and the Medieval Dinner in the March Messenger.

## Midnight Run

On February 18<sup>th</sup> the DRCC will do its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual

### Midnight Run.

Midnight Run is a volunteer organization located in New York City and many other cities throughout the world. It is dedicated to finding common ground between the housed and the homeless. In over 1,000 relief missions per year, Midnight Run volunteers distribute food, clothing, blankets and toiletries to the homeless poor on the streets of New York City. As it states on their website, Midnight Run is not a solution to homelessness. Their goal is to forge a bond between housed and homeless people by establishing a foundation of sharing and caring from which solutions may evolve. Through Midnight Run, volunteers come to see the homeless as real people, not a commodity. And homeless men and women learn that many mainstream adults and teenagers have commitments and concerns that go beyond their own lives and families.

Currently we are still collecting items for the Midnight Run. We can take and sort any food and toiletries, but below is a specific list of items we need:

Warm clothing: jackets, hats, mittens, gloves

Nice clothing: dress shirts, khakis, things you would wear to a job interview

Socks, underwear, belts

BAGS – anything that can help them carry their belongings

On the Midnight Run we see all kinds of men and women but we do not typically see children. If we get kids' clothing donated we will bring it to the Hallie House in Middletown. Any adult clothing we cannot take on the run will be donated to the Connection.

Along with clothing we hand out five gallons of hot coffee, three gallons of chili, 200 sandwiches and a hundred bags that contain fruit, chips and juice. If you would like to contribute to our food efforts here is a list of the non-perishable items we STILL need:

2 jars of Mayo, 2 jars mustard, 1 large can of ground coffee, creamer

100 juice boxes, 10 big bags of chips

100 brown paper lunch bags, 200 “fold over” sandwich bags,

200 Ziploc bags for chips and cookies, 200 Hot drink cups

For the 3 gallons of chili: Beans, Corn, Tomato Sauce

If you have any questions please email Emily at [yandfm.drcc@snet.net](mailto:yandfm.drcc@snet.net)

## 2012 Youth Mission Trip To Appalachia

One of the 2012 DRCC Youth Mission trips will head to Appalachia from July 15<sup>th</sup> until July 21<sup>st</sup>. We are all very excited to help with home rehabilitation projects around the Pipestem community. And we want to give a LARGE and HEARTFELT THANK YOU to the DRCC congregation whose support has made our trip possible. We intent to make you all proud through our efforts at “faith in action” and will be happy to share stories with you when we return.

Participants include Bobby and Neil Hamblett, Shelby and Dillon Eriksson, Hannah Brown, Amy, Melissa and Brian Winchell, Danielle and Ethan Thompson, Deb, Anthony and Nick VanWyngaarden, Andrea, Chris, Chelsea and Tori Chiappa, Leah Sopneski, Simone Nelson, Peter and Sam Jones, Emily Bjornberg, Emma Godi, Erin Scionti, Hunter and Jessi Wilcox and Jake and Jill Cayer. It is going to be a very exciting trip!

So far we have the first two round of payments from participants. The final payment of \$200 is due on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Please see Emily if you have any questions.

# JOIN US FOR A HAIRCUT-A-THON

at SALON 154 to benefit the  
Deep River Congregational Church  
2012 SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIPS  
to Appalachia & El Salvador

**MARCH 25TH, 2012 | 12:00-5:00pm**

Salon 154, 439 Main Street, Deep River, CT  
\$20 donation per appointment (Wash & Cut)

Make your appointment during Coffee Hour at DRCC  
March 4th, 11th & 18th. **ONLY 30 APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE!**



**Your support will help 40 DRCC teens touch lives from Appalachia to El Salvador:**

#### **APPALACHIA:**

- Work alongside experienced building professionals to restore dilapidated housing in the neighborhood
- Tutor and mentor in our K-12 programming, directed towards at-risk and low-income youth
- Prepare, serve, and deliver meals to the homeless and home bound in the area
- Help to sustain family violence prevention program in the area through housekeeping and repair projects
- Assist with successful East Wheeling urban agriculture program and its upcoming greenhouse project

#### **THE VILLAGE OF LAS DELICIAS, EL SALVADOR:**

- Work will focus on building roads, homes and community buildings
- Working with children at a local orphanage, providing prenatal and child well check medical visits
- Completing water supply checks, providing recreational activities for young children and delivering much needed supplies of food, clothing and hygiene items to families and the elderly
- Participate in various historical, cultural and recreational activities to gain a better understanding of the struggles of the people of El Salvador

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING OUR TEENS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD!**

Contact Jane Moen at [janemoen@comcast.net](mailto:janemoen@comcast.net)  
or Pam Visel [psvisel@hotmail.com](mailto:psvisel@hotmail.com)



Haircuts graciously donated by Salon 154

## *Can you, Will you HELP?*



I am returning to Port-Au-Prince Haiti this February. For the past two years I have gone down with a church group and assisted in medical clinics, providing food, medicine and clothing, and offering my love and support to some of the poorest of the poor. This has not been possible without the love and support of my family, friends and my church family. My cost for this trip is nearly \$2000.

The group this year is continuing a project started last year. . . . building a school and community center in Port-Au-Prince, supporting an orphanage in a neighboring area and providing medicine and food through the medical clinics that we hold.

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP?**

**PRAYERS:** for the people of Port-Au-Prince, prayers for the Dominican and Haitian architects as, together, they continue their work to create a sturdy, safe and practical school building. Please offer prayers for the Haitian workers we employ to do the building, and for the volunteers as we travel down to help.

**FINANCIAL:** Any financial contribution would be used for medicine, purchasing and distributing food aid during the week, payment for a local medical provider and translators to work with our team. Also, construction supplies for the school and assistance with my personal costs. (checks can be made out to DRCC (Deep River Congregational Church), with Haiti/Phyllis in the memo line.

Mailed to Phyllis Haut, PO Box 246, Deep River, CT 06417.

**MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES:** Children's and infant's clean, intact clothing, Children's chewable vitamins, adult vitamins, children and adult Tylenol and Advil.

**PLEASE NO GEL CAPS OR GUMMIE VITAMINS,** they will melt and be unusable and so are a waste of money.

**I would deeply appreciate any help you can give!!!!**


**Thank you!**

**Phyllis**



# MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT FAIR

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## SIXTH ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT FAIR DEEP RIVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2012

Crafters, Cooks, and Gardeners wanted for the 6th Annual Mother's Day Craft Fair!



*We're looking for your talents to make this year's Craft Fair a success. If you can't volunteer, please come and patronize the vendors. We're looking for a huge turn-out, so please pass this information along to friends and family.*

- ◇ If you are a *craftster* - there are spaces still available! Only \$25! A Bargain!
- ◇ If you love to *cook* - we will need muffins and other baked goods for the Fair!
- ◇ If you are a *gardener* - do you have plants started for your spring garden or some perennials to share?
- ◇ If your talent is *helping* - we especially need coordinator(s) for our bake sale and silent auction tables, as well as cashiers; we need help with the set-up during the week before the fair and take-down and clean up on Saturday.

**There will be sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall during the month of April or contact Claudia Hardy at 860-526-5045 or at [collector.drcc@snet.net](mailto:collector.drcc@snet.net) to volunteer!**

# February 2012



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>30</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Sr. Bell Choir	<b>31</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> CSCC Spaghetti Dinner <b>7:30 PM</b> A.A.	<b>1</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> NA	<b>2</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA <b>7:00 PM</b> Women's Chorale <b>7:30 PM</b> Sr. Choir	<b>3</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Sweet-heart Night for Sisters	<b>4</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's AA <b>7:00 PM</b> NA
ay	<b>6</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Webelos I <b>7:00 PM</b> Church Council <b>7:00 PM</b> Sr. Bell Choir	<b>7</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Stephen Ministers <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>8</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> NA	<b>9</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> AA <b>7:00 PM</b> Women's Chorale <b>7:30 PM</b> Sr. Choir	<b>10</b>	 <b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Breakfast <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's AA <b>7:00 PM</b> NA
	<b>13</b> <a href="#">Messenger Articles Due</a> <b>5:30 PM</b> CSCC Board <b>7:00 PM</b> Sr. Bell Choir	<b>14</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>15</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> NA	<b>16</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Church & Ministry Committee <b>7:00 PM</b> AA <b>7:00 PM</b> Women's Chorale <b>7:30 PM</b> Sr. Choir	<b>17</b>	 <b>MIDNIGHT RUN</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Guiding Eyes for the Blind Puppy Training <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's AA <b>7:00 PM</b> NA
	<b>20</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Webelos I <b>7:00 PM</b> Christian Education <b>7:00 PM</b> Christian Service <b>7:00 PM</b> Sr. Bell Choir	<b>21</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>22 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Ash Wednesday Communion Service <b>7:00 PM</b> NA <b>7:00 PM</b> Service of Healing and Peace	<b>23</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> WIC <b>12:00 PM</b> Middlesex Clergy <b>7:00 PM</b> AA <b>7:00 PM</b> Women's Chorale <b>7:30 PM</b> Sr. Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's AA <b>7:00 PM</b> NA
	<b>27</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Deacons <b>7:00 PM</b> Girl Scout Monthly Leader Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Sr. Bell Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Trustees	<b>28</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>29</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Lenten Supper <b>7:00 PM</b> NA	<b>1</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA <b>7:00 PM</b> Women's Chorale <b>7:30 PM</b> Sr. Choir	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's AA <b>7:00 PM</b> NA



## Birthdays

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Mackenzie Gill   | 16 Deb Campbell  |
| 2 John Kollmer, Jr.<br>Dillon Eriksson<br>Ray Hayes<br>Kiter Lawrie  | Gloria Copeland<br>Roy Jefferson<br>Dayle Larson<br>Jennifer McNeely<br>Samuel Michael Paulson<br>Kelly Lynn Schweitzer<br>Timothy Ressler |
| 3 Emmie Macgregor<br>Carly-Ann Thompson  | 17 Cathy Fremut<br>Evie Grohs<br>Arianna Smith   |
| 4 Patrick Boughton<br>Avery Moore<br>Hanna Moore<br>Leah Ann Sopneski<br>Tamara Tabor<br>Fern Tryon<br>Neil Hamblett                       | 18 Jean Brown<br>19 Colton Bailey<br>Robyn MacKenzie Lane<br>Chase Rozelle<br>Nancy Warner<br>Isaac Jeffrey Tucker                         |
| 6 Tanner Alsop   | 20 Erica Anderson<br>David Stein<br>Betty Tracy  |
| 7 Ed Judd<br>Simon Laplace<br>Jonathan Layton<br>Nancy Schmitt<br>Jon Ely<br>Ethan Powell  | 21 Chris Lawrie<br>Katie Munsell<br>Travis Olson   |
| 8 Sonja Stein<br>Dawn Powell<br>Peter Thomas   | 22 Chelsea Chiappa<br>Timothy McDonald   |
| 9 Hal Jones<br>Christopher Koritkoski<br>Donna Machold<br>Emma Rose Green<br>Jake Bloomquist<br>David White<br>Linda Zimmel<br>Art Robbins | 23 Cooper Graham Robbins<br>24 Joan Cole<br>Jack White<br>Mia Jacquelyn Cost<br>Ellie Jane Cost  |
| 12 Kelly Marie Layden  | 25 Sarah Bengston<br>Dominique Burrows<br>Cynthia Filacchione<br>Sammy Roy<br>Abby Saglimbeni  |
| 13 David Bugbee<br>Joan Burns<br>Donna Gesick<br>Angie Narducci<br>Amy Nelson<br>Elena Peterlik  | 26 Chris Ficke<br>Jeremy Groth<br>Eric Rannestad   |
| 15 Thomas Grant<br>Cindy Knudsen<br>Robert Lanouette   | 27 Mark Freudenstein<br>Jacob Andrew Taylor<br>28 Sally Carlson Crowell<br>Erin Hardy<br>Robert Ziobron                                    |

**In Memoriam** (\*) denotes church member

**Alice Bennett Seymour** of Haddam  
(April 11, 1919 – December 28, 2011)  
Mother of Tom Seymour  
Memorial Service at Deep River Congregational  
Church, January 12, 2012.

**Lillian Dagrosa Wetmore** of Chester  
(June 13, 1927 – January 12, 2012)  
Funeral at Robinson, Wright & Weymer Funeral  
Home and Committal Service at Fountain Hill  
Cemetery, January 16, 2012

**Michael P. D'Amato**, of Deep River  
(July 29, 1931 – January 15, 2012)  
Father of Andrea Bednarz  
Memorial Service in Wethersfield

**Miriam Chintall** of Deep River  
(January 27, 1927 – January 16, 2012)  
Mother of Susan Smith  
Memorial Service at Deep River Congregational  
Church, January 28, 2012

**Jean Goin** of Westbrook  
(September 1, 1926 – January 15, 2012)  
Sister of Ed Hemmann  
Private graveside service January 20, 2012

## Senior Birthdays

- 3 Emmie Macgregor
- 7 Ed Judd  
Nancy Schmitt
- 17 Cathy Fremut  
Evie Grohs
- 19 Nancy Warner
- 20 Betty Tracy



## Senior Anniversaries

- 12 Nancy & Bob Schmitt

On Sunday, February 5, 2012 photos will be taken in the Sanctuary at 9:15 am.

If you need to change “update” your photo or your information, please meet us there.

**Thought for the day** None of us is worthy to approach God, but each of us is welcome.



February 2012

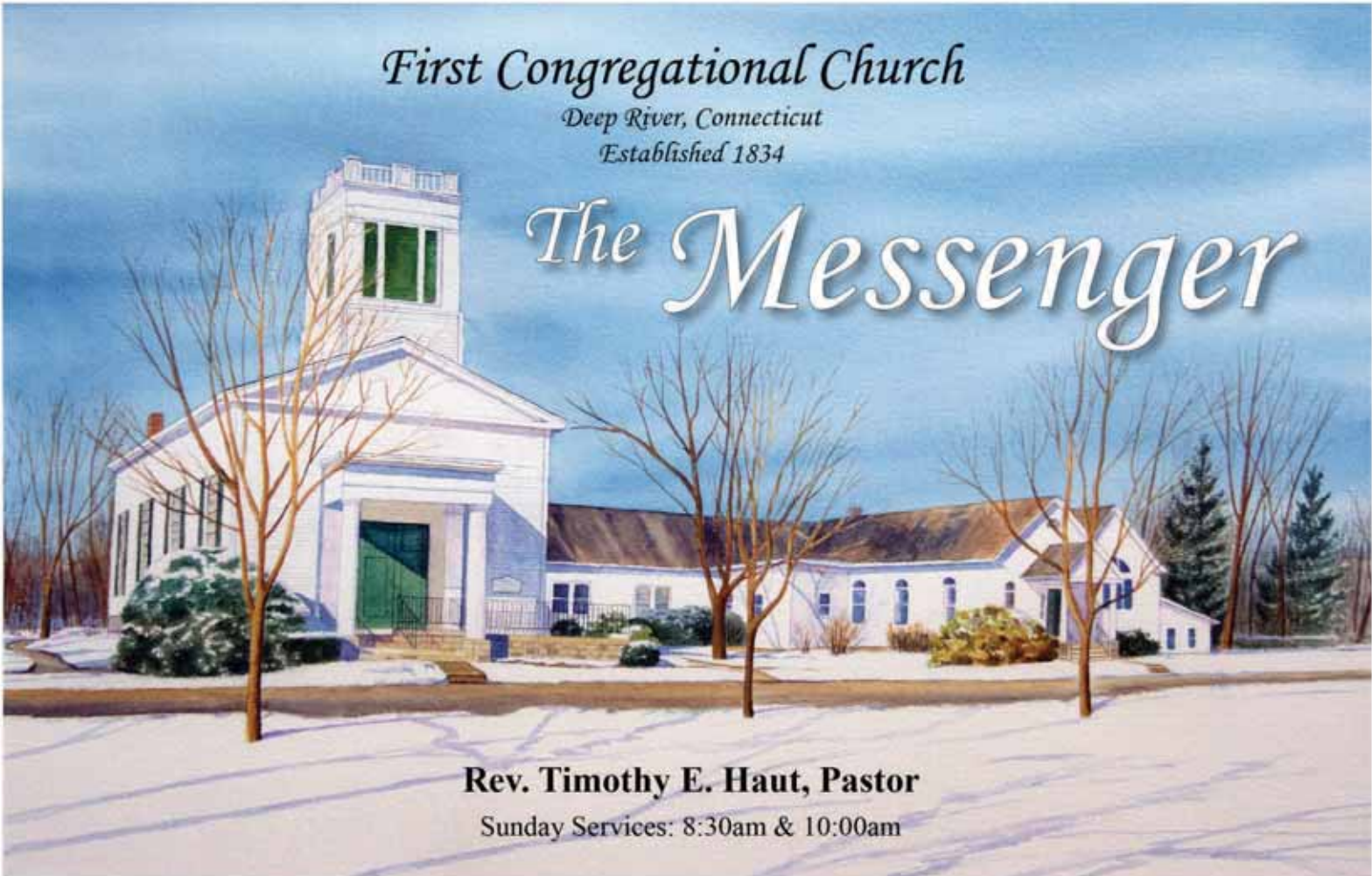
Handicapped Accessible  
First Congregational Church  
P.O. Box 246, Church Street  
Deep River, CT 06417

## *First Congregational Church*

*Deep River, Connecticut*

*Established 1834*

# *The Messenger*



**Rev. Timothy E. Haut, Pastor**

Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:00am