



North Haven Congregational Church, UCC
The Window

November 2008



What's Good for the Goose . . .

This is a pretty amazing moment in history! We are in the midst of an historic Presidential election. There are issues of great urgency and importance involved – the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, crime and violence, immigration policy, and environmental stewardship. This choice, which we will all make together, will have far-reaching consequences.

At the same time as we are looking ahead to Election Day, we are also in the midst of a broad and complicated financial crisis. Banks and investment firms have been rescued and taken over, others have gone bankrupt. The crisis has affected the housing market and people's savings. Many have called this the most serious economic crisis of a lifetime, and it has called to mind the experiences of the Great Depression.

There is a lot of anxiety floating around!

These circumstances make me particularly thankful for the North Haven Congregational Church. It is a comfort and an inspiration to be a part of a community that looks out for each other, and gives thanks to God for the abundant blessings bestowed upon us.

Observers have noted how a migrating flock of Canadian Geese works together. They fly in a V-shape, taking turns in the position at the point of the V, where the wind resistance is greatest. This keeps any one of them from getting too tired out. You've heard them honking as they offer encouragement to the leaders. You may also know that if any one of the geese has to drop out of the formation, two others will stop as well and stay with the straggler for support and encouragement.

Toni Smith reminded us that Election Day and Stewardship Sunday are two occasions in the coming weeks when we should resolve to make decisions on the basis of our Christian faith and in the love of Christ we are called to share. I think our celebration of Thanksgiving is another such occasion -- an opportunity

to be grateful and compassionate. We can take a hint from the geese!

In the coming weeks and months, even as some of the uncertainty of our world fades and new questions and uncertainty take its place, we will be called upon to be particularly attentive and caring for our neighbors -- both in the pews and in our neighborhoods. Gratitude, trust in God's guidance and blessing, and a willingness to share will strengthen our community and share our hope.

Peace, Scott Morrow



Birthdays

Eric Calafiore, Nikki Mecca, Robert Crowther, Cheryl Solecki, Annette Grant, Lauren Bogaert, Audrey Tilley, Gladys Borkowski, Jackson Mirmina, Bruce Burdge, Eleanor Norback, Michelle McBride, Peter Struk, Vivie Chapman, Rose Stockman, Joan Bennett, Scott Morrow, Isabelle Timothy, Anna Woodruff and Charles Woodruff.

Anniversaries

Mitch and Annette Grant, Jim and Joan Bennett, George and Flo Coulston



***Adult Mission Trip
 In Planning For March 2009***

We are invited enthusiastically to join a group from Spring Glen UCC to travel to Long Beach, Mississippi to work on hurricane recovery projects along the Gulf Coast. The trip will tentatively be March 1-7, and we will fly round-trip to Mississippi. We will be hosted once again by Camp Coast Care, which is operated by Lutheran Episcopal Services in Mississippi, and funded through Episcopal Recovery and Development. We can expect to work on clean-up and building projects. Any previous experience in building skills is greatly appreciated, but none is required.

An Informational Meeting will be scheduled soon -- watch for details!

New to the Church? Hold these dates!

A series of three gatherings for newcomers to our church will be held on Thursdays in November on the 6th, 13th and the 20th of November from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Library. These occasions, hosted by the Board of Deacons, will offer an opportunity to learn about ways to get connected in the church, as well as to meet some of the members. All who are interested in joining, or simply in learning more about the church, are invited. If you have any questions, please speak with Scott Morrow or Barbara Marks. Mark the dates on the calendar; more information will be forthcoming.

Joining the Church

If you are interested in becoming a member of North Haven Congregational Church, we would like to invite you to do so on Sunday, Dec. 4. We welcome new members during our regular worship service, and then receive Communion together. If you would like to join the church, or have any questions, please speak with Scott Morrow or Barbara Marks.

Special Thanks

The shrubs around the church are looking neat, thanks to the wonderful pruning done by Bernie Hummel. Tom Woodruff and a crew from Glen Terrace Nursery did a wonderful trimming and clean-up job around the grounds. Don Geissler has been working hard to replace emergency lighting fixtures, and he has once again gotten our heating system up and running for the fall and winter months.

It is a joy to have the benefit of such generosity and hard work!



The 141st Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ was held on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 17-18.

The theme for the Meeting was “Nurturing Generosity.” The keynote speaker, the Rev. Stephen Gray, Conference Minister in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference, gave a powerful presentation entitled “From the Myth of Scarcity to the Reality of Abundance.” He spoke about the infectious joy that comes from celebrating God’s abundance.

The address by the Rev. Dr. Davida Foy Crabtree, Conference Minister, was truly inspiring. She shared her

experience of chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer in recent months, and described it as an experience of being in the wilderness. She drew parallels with the general uncertainty connected with the uncertain economy and the election, and urged all of us to prayerfully care for each other, and ourselves. Davida also thanked everyone for their prayers and good wishes.

The capital campaign to raise \$8-12 million to redesign and refurbish Silver Lake Conference Center is continuing, with several building projects to begin soon.



All Saints Observance

We will observe All Saints’ Day during our worship service on November 2, when we will read the names of church members, and church members’ family, who have died in the past year. If you would like someone’s name included on All Saints Sunday, please call the church office.

NEW ENGLAND HARVEST FAIR

Come join us on Saturday November 15th and make this fundraising event a big success! Without your support the Women’s Fellowship Fair will not be able to realize a big enough profit to keep church, community and world service projects ongoing. So come and spend a few hours, start your Christmas shopping, or just come and have lunch. This Fair’s success depends on the support from our Church community. Why not bring a friend and spend the day! Hope to see you there!

THANKSGIVING CORNUCOPIA

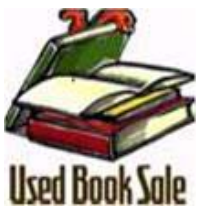
On Thanksgiving Sunday, November 23rd, please bring donations of fresh vegetables and fruits to add to the cornucopia on the Communion Table for Morning Worship.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service Planned

The community Thanksgiving service is a wonderful opportunity to gather in town-wide worship for the holiday. This year’s town-wide ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 7:00 p.m. The location is still to be decided. There will be an offering of non-perishable food items to benefit the Holiday Food Drive, and a cash offering that will be directed to the North Haven Fuel Bank.

Loss and Bereavement Service Planned

The holiday season is a time of tradition, expectation, and preparation. This often contributes to a rather hectic pace. Experiences of bereavement and loss may cast a shadow over the holidays and bring additional strain to the season. While feelings surrounding loss may feel at odds with the season, they need not be held inside, alone. If the experience of loss or bereavement is a part of your holiday season, we invite you to a worship service of acknowledgement and remembrance. We will gather on Sunday, Nov. 30th at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



Used Book Sale

SPRINGBOOK 2009 UNDER WAY!

A group of five "book people" met recently to review suggestions made by committee members on ways to update and modernize our sale for next year.

Many ideas as to specific organization were adopted that will take place during the sort and pre-sale activities but the highlight of our think session is to hold an informal supper on the Wednesday of book week at NHCC for all workers and their families. We will provide supervision for small ones and the opportunity to sort--tutors provided--either before or after mealtime for older children and their parents. It'll be fun to get to know one another without concern for running home to prepare the evening meal.

During the next six months, those of you who enjoy going to tag-sales are invited to take some of our business cards (located in the office and the narthex) to give to those sellers who have a good selection of books on hand. Tell them that we will be pleased to pick up books upon the conclusion of their sale and will give them a receipt for tax purposes at that time. If they prefer, they can get in touch with the church secretary to make plans for delivery of their donations. Call Betsy Gumbart at 239-5532 or Betsey Reid at 239-1830 with questions.

Holiday Food Drive Begins

The Holiday Food Drive for 2008 is underway. A collection barrel has been placed in Town Hall, and other collection boxes have been set up in several businesses around town. Volunteers are needed to receive large contributions of food, to sort food donations, or to pick up boxes for use in sorting. Please call the church office if you would like to help! Put these dates on your calendar:

Thanksgiving Boxes pack on Friday, Nov. 21st at 7 p.m.; deliver on Saturday, Nov. 22nd 9-11 a.m.

Christmas Boxes pack on Friday, Dec. 19th at 7 p.m.; deliver on Saturday, Dec. 20th 9-11 a.m.



It's time to stock up for the Holiday Food Drive for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please open your hearts and help us provide a holiday meal to North Haven area families in need. Below is a list of the items we will need to fill the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Thanks for your generosity!

- TURKEYS
- Boxed cake mixes/frosting mixes
- Pie fillings/pie crust mixes
- Baking needs (flour, salt, granulated sugar, etc.)
- Muffin/corn bread mixes
- Jell-O/puddings
- Cans of beans (baked, kidney, etc.)
- Cans of assorted soups/broth
- Cans of fruit
- Boxed rice
- Pasta entrées
- Boxes of macaroni and cheese
- Boxed/canned potatoes
- Canned gravy
- Cans of assorted vegetables
- Olives and pickles
- Cranberry sauce
- Boxes of cereal (hot & cold)
- Canned tuna/other canned fish
- Jars of mayonnaise
- Jars of jelly, jars of peanut butter
- Boxes/bags of pasta
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Cans of tomato sauce
- Coffee and tea
- Canned juices
- Powdered/canned milk
- Canned meals (chili, Spaghettios, etc.)
- Canned meat (ham, Spam, Treet, sliced meat in gravy, etc.)
- Canned tomatoes
- Canned sweet potatoes
- Bags and boxes of stuffing



Music Notes!

Pierpont Concert Series Opens Well!

Our first Pierpont Concert was a great success! Many thanks to all of the wonderful audience members who

came out to support Mountain Road, as well as Carol Amico, Caroline Murphy, and Laura Ouimette in a celebration of bluegrass and Irish music. We hope you're looking forward to the Christmas concert with talented guitarist Daniel Hartington from the Hartt School of Music on Saturday December 13th!

The Music Sermon: Review!!

On September 28th, Laura gave a lovely little sermon about why everyone should sing in church. Here is a short recap for anyone who missed it or has already forgotten and is not singing quite as heartily as they might: According to the laws of quantum physics (namely that everything we do affects everything around us), the findings of Maturu Emoto (positive energy creates aesthetically pleasing ice crystals), the laws of acoustics (the sounds we make holistically affect our neighbor), and the bible (love your neighbor, embrace your community), it is essential that everyone sing to offer their positive energy and healing to their fellow congregants. In addition the bible says sing a new song in many places. If someone has told you that you can't sing, you should consider the sources of opinions: God says sing a new song, other person says don't. Who will you listen to? If you'd like a longer write up, please, see Laura!



Praise Music Services Singers Welcome!

Come join in our Praise Music Service on October 26th! We would love to have you participate in the planning and singing process for the next service as well, taking place on Sunday November 30th! We will rehearse on Sunday, November 23rd from 11:15-11:45am, as well as Sunday, November 30th from 8:30-9:30am. All voices welcome, no experience necessary!

Spiritual Music CD of the Month!

If you liked Mountain Road, if you enjoy folk music or spirituals, or if you just enjoy music in general, check out the new CD, *Beatitudes*, produced by the Amidon family and choir. Full of fun and lively as well as calm and soulful tunes, listening to this album is a great way to celebrate your spirituality and the season with music.

Sacred Harp Singing!

On Sunday November 9th from 2:30-5, join Laura for an exploration of shapenote singing. Sacred Harp is a unique American tradition from the Appalachian region that brings individuals together to sing four part hymns and

anthems. The singing will take place at Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT and carpools will leave at 1:50 pm from the church parking lot. For more information on the tradition, please go to fasola.org or talk to Laura!

Outreach

On November 18, 2008 we will be hosting a Blood Drive for the American Red Cross. Our goal is for 50 pints of whole blood and 5 pints of 2RBC. The drive will take place here in Carroll Hall from 1:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. You may call 1-800-Give Life (800-448-5433) to set up an appointment at any time.

We will also be needing volunteers to help out on that day. Please contact Linda Kirk (lkirk@ehmchm.org) or by calling 203-804-1707. You may also call the office if you have questions or to offer your services. Thank you.

Finance



What do you like to read in the WINDOW? We are asking everyone who reads the Finance Report to respond by going to the NHCC webpage and letting us know what you want to read about in this space.

As of September 1, 2008 we have received 63% of pledges compared with 70% last year and 66% being the necessary status for Oct 1. We keep checking and hoping that Members are keeping their commitments up to date. Do you know if your weekly or monthly payments are current? You can call the Office and someone will get back to you if you have a question.

As a UCC church we are very quiet about the financial commitments of our Members. The information stays between you and God mostly. But we are heading into the heating season and we will need to turn up the heat in more ways than one. We will shortly be sending out new pledge cards for 2009, asking you to commit to support this church with an increase of at least 12%. The Boards and Committees have looked at the costs of continuing and expanding the ministries they run and they are all saying we need more support, especially Music and Building and Grounds. You want to sit warmly in church and listen to enthusiastic music, be proud of the way the church looks and feel surrounded by the friends in the congregation and their faithfulness. It is going to take more next year to do the same things we expect. It can be discouraging to give your time loyally on a committee and then hear from the Finance Board that you cannot have

the funds for an important program, because not enough pledges have been received to support the programs. We are the church and its only support. There is nowhere else to look for support. These are tough choices, but YOU can make it easy by making a generous pledge and keeping up to date. THANK YOU.

CALL FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS

What does the Church need to do to bring in new members? Do you have an idea? Special Projects were conceived to help increase the membership. A grant of up to \$5000 to be used over one year for a project is available if the project's primary purpose is to grow the Church's membership. Applications are available in the Church office.

Here is the process: You, alone or with fellow members, can design a project and fill out an application. Then you take the project to the Church Board or Committee that is most appropriate for support. (For example: a hired soloist would need support of the Music Board or a new Church sign would need Building & Grounds.) With a member of the Board or Committee the project needs to be brought to Finance for review at their November 11 meeting to bring to Annual Meeting in January.

GET BUSY. NOW IS THE TIME TO FOLLOW YOUR INSPIRATION!!

A NOTE TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS FROM THE DEACONS

If you are unable to receive Communion on the first Sunday of the month in church, we would be happy to bring this Sacrament to you, whether you are at home or in the hospital. Please call Deacon Betty Vento at 239-3639 to set a time that would be convenient for you.

Some of our church members who are homebound are unable to be present for worship on Sunday mornings. We keep in touch with them through visitation such as home Communion and gifts of holiday flowers. Tapes of worship services have been shared with those who desire them. We also include names and addresses for three of these members in each copy of the *Window*. We invite you to send them a card and include them in your prayers.

Vivie Chapman

17 Pool Rd.
North Haven, Ct. 06473

Martha Everding

15 Temple St.
North Haven, Ct. 06473

Doris Cronk

Fowler Nursing Home
East River Wing #38
Guilford, Ct. 06437

In this month's *Window* we continue to list the names of persons for whom we pray in our worship each Sunday. Please add these special people to your prayers at home. Watch the *Window* each month for changes in this list.



Cindy James, Leslie Dockendorff, Peter Fredericks, Carol Munson, Rev. Paul Munson, Billie Wood, Foster Little, David

Bellonio, David Harple, Dennis Molen, Edward Bogaert, Sr., Lynn Lafleur, Richard Ellithorpe, Brian Harple (Warren's nephew), Virginia Berniere, Wilmer Taylor, Mark Allen, Doris Cronk, Donna Smith, Bill Nado, Jackson Pierce, Sandy Carter, Elaine Burr, Ira Munson, Ethel Marks, Dottie Pierce, Patrick McNamara, Jean Bennett and LaVala Rossi.

Christian Education` News & Notes

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Wed. Oct. 29 – Class 6pm
Wed. Nov. 5 – Class 6pm
Monday, Nov. 10 – Mystery Dinner with Mentors 6pm! Stay tuned for clues!
Wed. Nov. 12 – Class 6pm
Wed. Nov. 19– Class 6pm
Wed. Nov. 26 –No Class – Happy Thanksgiving

Remember -- you need 10 hours of volunteer service for confirmation! Opportunities coming up include the Church Fair on Saturday, Nov. 15, and the Holiday Food Drive on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21 and 22. Talk to Scott to sign up!

Remember -- All confirmands working in Sunday School classes must complete a Safe Church form. Get it from Scott, or from Nancie in the church office.

Church School Calendar

Sunday, November 2nd - Communion

Chapel for ages 4 thru 4th grades

7th & 8th in Worship

Daylight Saving Time Ends!!

Sunday, November 9th

Regular Church School

Monday, November 10 - Confirmation

Retreat Mystery Dinner

Tuesday, November 11th

CE BOARD MEETING 7:30

Saturday, November 15th - Church Fair

Youth Volunteers needed for lunch servers

Sunday, November 16th - Stewardship Sunday

Regular Church School

Thursday, November 20th

JR & SR High to D.E.S.K.

leave the church at 5:00

Tuesday, November 18th - Blood Drive

Volunteers Needed to help!!!

Sunday, November 23rd

Thanksgiving Sunday, Harvest Table

Regular Church School

Thursday, November 27th - **Happy Thanksgiving**

Sunday, November 30th - Family Sunday

No Church School

Sunday, December 7th - Communion

1st Sunday in Advent

Chapel for ages 4 thru 4th grades

7th and 8th in Worship

ADVENT NIGHT 6:00-7:30 for all ages

Saturday, December 13th

Pageant Rehearsal, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 14th - Pageant Sunday

2nd Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 21st

3rd Sunday in Advent

Regular Church School

Wednesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

5:00 - Family Service

11:00 p.m.-Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 25th - **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

Sunday, December 28th - Family Sunday



Youth Group News

Wednesdays

6:00-7:15 Confirmation

7:15-8:30 Senior High Youth

Thursdays

3:00-4:15 Junior High Youth

Note: Thursday Nov 20th early dismissal program and DESK)

November 6th - 3:00-4:15 Jr. High Youth Group

November 12th - Sr Highs

November 15th - 9:00 - 3:00 **Harvest Fair**

(Youth Volunteers needed for lunch servers)

November 20th - Early dismissal program - 12:30-4:00

5:00 Jr & Sr High Youth Group **DESK**

leave from the church, drivers needed. Come Serve!

November 21st & 22nd - **Food Drive**

December 4th - 3:00-4:15 Jr High Youth Group

December 10th - 7:15-8:30-Sr High Youth Group

December 18th - 3:00-4:15 Jr High Youth Group

Christmas Party/Grab Bag

December 18th - 7:15-8:30 Sr High Youth Group

Christmas Party/Grab Bag

November, 2008

Please check website (www.NorthHavenUCC.org) for the most current information!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Party, Mothers Of Twins (CH) 6:00 Tres Dias (Whole Church)
All Saints Day 2 9:30 Worship 9:30 Church School 10:45 Cherub Choir 10:45 Adult Ed. (L) 7:00 Cub Scout (L)	3 12:15 NAIF (CH) 5:30 Pampered Chef (CH) 7:00 Step Work Grp. (K)	4 9:30 Alanon (CH) 7:30 NHOAH (L) 7:30 Deacons (K)	5 6:00 Confirmation	6 3:00 Jr. High 4:15 Youth Choir 5:00 DESK 5:00 Music Bd. 6:00 Chimes 6:30 Mothers of Twins 7:00 New Member 7:30 Sr. Choir 8:00 AA (K)	7 5:30 Girl Scout Sing	8 9:00 Scout Food Drive Drop Off
9 9:30 Worship 9:30 Church School 10:45 Cherub Choir 10:45 Adult Ed (L) 1:00 Brownies (K)	10 7:00 B & G (H) 7:00 Step Grp. (K)	11 9:30 Alanon (CH) 6:00 Finance Bd. (H) 7:30 CE Bd. (L) 7:30 Nutmeg Treas. Hunters (CH)	12 11:15 Women's Cir. 6:00 Confirmation 7:15 Sr. High	13 3:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Outreach (L) 6:00 Chimes 7:00 New Member (L) 7:30 Sr. Choir 8:00 AA (K)	14	15 7:30 Men's Breakfast NEW ENGLAND HARVEST FAIR
16 9:30 Worship 9:30 Church School 10:45 Cherub Choir 10:45 Adult Ed. (L)	17 7:00 Step Grp. (K)	18 9:30 Alanon (CH) 11:30 BLOOD DRIVE 7:30 Council (K)	19 6:00 Confirmation	20 1:15 Jr. High/Choir Fun Day 5:00 DESK 6:00 Chimes 7:00 Knitting 7:00 New Members 7:30 Sr. Choir 8:00 AA (K)	21 PACK HOLIDAY FOOD BOXES	22 DELIVER HOLIDAY FOOD BOXES
23 9:30 Worship 9:30 Church School 10:45 Cherub Choir 10:45 Adult Ed. (L) 2:00 Girl Scouts (K)	24 7:00 Step Grp. (K)	25 9:30 Alanon (CH) 7:30 Danish Sisterhood (K)	26	Thanksgiving 27 OFFICE CLOSED 8:00 AA (K) 	28 OFFICE CLOSED Animal Haven Set Up	29 Animal Haven Fair
30 9:30 Worship 9:30 Church School 10:45 Cherub Choir 10:45 Adult Ed. (L)						

The Window

**North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**
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Office Hours
8:30am -3:00pm
Monday - Friday

Pastor
The Rev. Scott Morrow
Director of Music
Laura Ouimette
Dir. of Shepherding Ministries
Barbara Marks
**Administrative Secretary
And Window Editor**
Nancie Estep
Sexton
Stuart Lane

LECTIONARY READINGS

November 2, 2008

Joshua 3:7-17
Micah 3:5-12
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37 or
Psalms 43

November 9, 2008

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or
Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 or
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Psalms 78:1-07 or
Amos 5:18-24
Psalms 70

November 16, 2008

Judges 4:1-7
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

Psalms 123 or
Psalms 90:1-8 (9-11), 12

November 23, 2008

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Ephensians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Psalms 100 or
Psalms 95:1-7a

November 30, 2008

Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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