



# The Messenger

King Street United Church of Christ

February 2008

Issue 2 of 12

**King Street  
United Church of Christ**  
201 South King Street  
Danbury, Connecticut 06811  
**Worship on Sundays at 9:30 AM**

**Tel:** (203) 748-0719  
**FAX:** (203) 748-0719 (call first)

**Church E-mail:**  
[office@kingstchurch.org](mailto:office@kingstchurch.org)  
**Church website:**  
[www.kingstchurch.org](http://www.kingstchurch.org)

**Pastor**  
**Rev. Cindy Maddox**  
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Other hours by appointment  
(203) 748-0719  
(203) 791-1862 Home  
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**Confidential E-mail:**  
[Pastor@kingstchurch.org](mailto:Pastor@kingstchurch.org)

**Secretary**  
**Tish McCarthy**  
Office Hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
**E-mail:** [office@kingstchurch.org](mailto:office@kingstchurch.org)

**Music Director**  
**Paul Malyszka**

**Director of Senior Bells**  
**Jan Gregory**

**Director of Junior Bells**  
**Barbara Nobles**

**Sexton**  
**Bob Cotton**

Most of the Seasons of the Christian Church Year are organized around the two major festivals, Christmas and Easter. The Church year begins with Advent, then Christmas, and then Epiphany (January 6). Then we honor the *season* of Epiphany which runs until the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. The Easter Season encompasses the time of preparation during the 40 weekdays of Lent and Holy Week, and is linked with Pentecost Sunday 50 days later.

Because the date of Easter changes, the period between Epiphany and Lent also changes. This year Easter is on the earliest possible date, March 22. (Easter will not occur on this date again until 2285.) So this year the Epiphany Season is only four weeks long; it can be as many as nine.

You may be asking: So? What difference does it make?

It makes a difference because we have had little time to adjust our spirits. We moved so quickly from Christmas to Lent that our hearts are not prepared. Lent and Holy Week are the most somber times of the church year. During Lent we reflect on our own mortality and consider the things that keep us from full communion with God. It is the time when we follow Jesus and that means, ultimately, following Jesus to the cross. This year's early date for Easter means that we experience the shortest distance between the cradle and the cross.

I want more time. I want more time to revel in the light of the world; but it is time to examine the darkness within my own soul. I want more time to rejoice in Christ's coming; but it is time to ponder the coming cries.

It is not an easy time. It is not a happy time. There are no "Alleluias" during Lent. It is, instead, a very *real* time, an honest time, a time for reflection and repentance and discipleship. That is not to say there is no joy. There is always joy and always hope. But our joy and hope contain the shadow of the cross.

That's how life is, isn't it? Our hopes and joys always contain within them the lost dreams, broken promises, and failures of will within our very souls. We prefer the wonder of Christmas Eve and the celebration of Easter morning to the somberness of Lent. But between birth and resurrection, there is always some struggle, pain, even death. These are necessary parts of the journey. This is life, in all its fullness and complexity. This is life. And life is beautiful.

*Pastor Cindy*



**Carolyn Ruffles**      **Steve Gilson**  
**Ruth Tibbetts**      **MaryEllen Sanzeni**  
**Scott Merrell**      **Roger Nelson, Jr.**  
**Blanche Masi**      **Marie Benicewicz**  
**Ann Salamone**  
**Marcelle Corsi, Shari Lynn Niland's mother**

*Altar Flowers are needed. A sign up chart is on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes. You may bring your own flowers or have the church order them for you by leaving a check (\$25) in the office cubby.*

**Eva Tooker** and her family, in the death of her father on New Year's Eve and her mother on January 25<sup>th</sup>;  
 The family of **Mldred Wibling** who passed away November 26<sup>th</sup>;  
 The family of **Frank J. Thompson**, who passed away in October 2006;  
 Barbara Westby's nephew, **Andrew Rowan**, diagnosed with B-cell lymphoma;  
**Denis Ahrens**, recovering from surgery;  
**Joy Schulz's great niece**, recovering from a serious car accident;  
 Cathi Brody's dad, **Pete Bartenstein**, suffering with advanced diabetes;  
**Andrea Makepeace** and her family on the passing of her father;  
**Harriet Mangels**, whose husband, Bob, passed away on May 26<sup>th</sup>;  
**Ed D'Ettore**, undergoing treatments for lung cancer;  
 The family of **Ray Nobles**, who passed in 2006;  
**Thomas Morgan Varinec**, nephew of J. T. Cooke, with neuroblastoma of the abdomen;  
**Kitty Field**, recovering from cancer surgery.

Those who are serving in the armed forces and their families and all who are victims of war.

## LASAGNA BUFFET



The lasagna supper will be  
**February 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Open to the community, it will be continuous seating from 5:00-7:00p.m. We'll serve:**

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*Fresh garden salad - Family style with assorted dressings*

*Cheese lasagna with meat or vegetarian sauce*

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*Parmesan cheese on the side  
 Italian bread, butter and olive oil  
 Cold beverages: soda, iced tea, water*

*Hot beverages: coffee and tea  
 Home baked desserts: pies, cookies, cakes*

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**Cost will be \$9.00 for adults, \$8.00 for seniors  
 \$5.00 for children 5-10 yr. old,  
 4 and under free**

## **HISTORIAN'S CORNER - Barbara Westby**

### ***Our Thrift Shop***

For many years we have run a Thrift Shop. How it all began is the subject of this month's look back in time at the King Street United Church of Christ.

In the early 60's the Women's Society often held rummage sales and were so pleased with the quality of goods donated that they decided to hold these sales often. Earlier Messengers tell of a Thrift Sale of good and used clothing to be held in the Parish House on July 1, 1965, from 10 to 4 and then in the evening from 7 to 9. Also included were home-made bread, rolls and coffee cake. It proved to be a great success. Encouraged by their profits, they continued to hold a Thrift Sale with Attic Treasures every Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 10 to 12. At that time it was run mainly by Agnes Bohne, Lillian Knapp and Juanita Bickford.

Having these sales in the Martin Room prompted them to look for a place where they could leave things without having to put them away after every sale. The old kitchen, now quickly becoming a catch-all, was taken over by the Women's Society, and soon it became the King Street Thrift Shop. Earnings were applied to the principal of the mortgage taken on the education building. Agnes Bohne was manager until her death in 1975.

Fortunately, Lucy Speer offered to take over, assisted by Kathy Cole, and the shop continued to be orderly and successful. They were able to give \$1500 toward painting the church that year. Many boxes of clothing were sent to the New York State Indians, Church Women United Clothing Drives, and Fairfield Hills Hospital.

In 1988 Karen Weiss took over the supervision of the Thrift Shop, due to Lucy's illness. Lucy's dedication will long be remembered. Then in the fall of 1988, Jessie Patton took charge. The annual report for that year stated the shop continued to grow, and though the task seemed overwhelming at times, Jessie did a fantastic job. In 1990, they sent clothing and money to the hurricane victims in South Carolina. The Thrift Shop continued to operate under the care of Jessie Patton until the summer of 1993, after which she took a well deserved retirement, and Marilyn Kelly took over as manager.

The Thrift Shop quickly became the main source of income for the Women's Society, allowing them to make many purchases for the church, including doors for the kitchen and dining room and folding tables for the many events held in the dining room. It also yielded hundreds of pounds of clothing for the Salvation Army and Goodwill stores. A special request for men's clothing was filled for Vickie Beattie, a missionary we continue to sponsor in Africa. The Thrift Shop has also donated clothing to those in need in Appalachia.

Marilyn Kelly continued as manager until retiring in December, 2006. During her tenure, money earned by the Thrift Shop provided many contributions to the church, as well as funding the restoration of the Little Red Chapel.

Once again we were fortunate to find a new manager, Joy Shultz, assisted by Jessie Patton, a former Thrift Shop manager. Thanks to our continued success, we were able to increase our pledge to the church this year. We are blessed with bag after bag of usable clothing given by church members and other people in the area. Volunteers are always welcome, as we strive to keep this valuable treasure in operation – The King Street Thrift Shop.





On Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, we will gather at 7pm for our annual Ash Wednesday service. This is a quiet, reflective service which gives us time to examine our lives, consider our frailty, and reflect on what might be keeping us from a fuller relationship with God. Please join us for this special service.

**Bell Choir**  
  
**New Director!**

We are pleased to announce that Jan Gregory has accepted the position of Senior Bell Choir Director. Jan comes to us with over 35 years experience leading music in churches, including 22 years directing bell choirs. She has served four different UCC churches during those years, including twenty years at the same congregation where she directed three different handbell choirs (adult and youth). Jan is also a composer and arranger. She has three bell choir pieces published, plus three pieces for mixed choir and bells. Jan has both a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Music Education, plus a Certificate in Church Music and a Master's in Religion and Spirituality.

Jan is currently the Director of Music Ministry for another congregation, so she will not be available on Sunday mornings. She will prepare the choir during weekly rehearsals, and others will lead them when they play in worship.

Welcome, Jan! We are so pleased to have you with us in this new capacity.

**OPPORTUNITY  
 for  
 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

First Church/King Street Church are planning a senior high mission trip to Pennsylvania.

Minimum age: 9<sup>th</sup> grade

Urban service learning experience

July 13, 2008 – July 19, 2008

Transportation to be provided

Accommodations:

First Presbyterian Church  
 Germantown PA

Cost: \$275.00 per person

Contact Information:

Jeff Falk 203-791-1570

Pam Baker 203-746-0360



**Soup 'N' Services**

**Soup 'N'**, a program held during Lent will begin on **Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**. Each Wednesday we gather at a different church at **6:30pm** for a simple meal of soup, salad, bread, and dessert; then we have a discussion around an assigned theme; and we close with a prayer service in the tradition of the host church. We adjourn promptly at 8pm. Please join us for these interesting sessions. We will post the list of participating churches on the Bulletin Board as soon as it is finalized.



Notes from the **OUTREACH TEAM**

**Church World**

**Service** helps vulnerable people and communities in the aftermath of natural and human-caused disasters to achieve long-term physical,

psychological and spiritual recovery. When disaster strikes, CWS encourages the faith community to join together to give assistance where it is most needed.

In February we will be holding our **Tools and Blanket Drive** for Church World Service. We have been on the Blanket "Honor Roll" for the last 5 or more years and hope to continue that record this year. On Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> the youth of the church will be demonstrating the many ways a \$5 blanket can serve as a source of warmth, shelter and comfort to people around the world. Come and see!

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Keith Goodwin had a work day at the new Habitat Home in Brookfield. His team consisted of Eileen Anderson, Randy Esposito, Maureen Frescott, Dave Makepeace and Carolyn and Lee Moore. They did finishing work on doors and window molding, and were served hot chili by the woman who will own the home. Thank you Keith and Crew!

**GIFTS TO GOD** - We collected \$100 in our Christmas Cards this year. We gave this money to Johnson State College towards their "Break-Away Trip" to New Orleans. Our own Courtney Landheer will be taking this trip as an alternative to "Spring Break." Instead of lounging on the beach in Daytona, she will be traveling with 5 or 6 others to work in the hurricane ravaged area of New Orleans. *Kudos to you, Courtney!* If you don't know Courtney, she is the lovely young soprano in the choir, who sang a beautiful solo on Christmas Eve. She is the daughter of Jan (Landheer) and Randy Esposito.

**CHRISTMAS FUND** Our Christmas Fund Offering on Christmas Eve took in \$366. This money is to help retired pastors who do not have pensions or retirement income substantial enough to live on.

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Our church office is always in need of Office Max or Staples coupons to help defray the cost of supplies. Should you have any that you are not using, please leave them in the Office mailbox. Thank you!

**Labyrinth Update**

The physical work on our labyrinth has been put on hold until spring. Once warmer weather arrives, we will need help spreading top soil, planting grass or laying sod, building the retaining wall, and landscaping. But in the meantime, it is not too late to make a donation. You may donate in memory of a loved one for as little as \$25.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>FEBRUARY</b>					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop
<b>3</b> 9:30am Worship  Fat Sunday Blanket Sunday Scout Sunday  10:30am Bible 102  4pm Youth Groups (First Congreg.)	<b>4</b> 7pm Women's Society	<b>5</b> 6pm Jr Bell Choir	<b>6</b> 7pm Ash Wednesday Service  8pm Sr Bell Choir	<b>7</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop  7:30pm Senior Choir	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop  5-7pm Lasagna Dinner/Thrift Shop
<b>10</b> 9:30am Worship/ Communion  10:30am Bible 102	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6pm Jr Bell Choir	<b>13</b> 6:30pm Soup'N' (TBD)  8pm Sr Bell Choir	<b>14</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop  7:30pm Senior Choir	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop
<b>17</b> 9:30am Worship  10:30am Bible 102  4pm Youth Groups (KSUCC)	<b>18</b> 7pm Ministry Council	<b>19</b> 6pm Jr Bell Choir	<b>20</b> 6:30pm Soup'N' (TBD)	<b>21</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop  7:30pm Senior Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop  1-5pm Serving at Dorothy Day
<b>24</b> 9:30am Worship	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6pm Jr Bell Choir	<b>27</b> 8pm Sr Bell Choir  6:30pm Soup'N' (TBD)	<b>28</b> 9-12pm Thrift Shop  7:30pm Senior Choir	<b>29</b>	<b>2008</b>

### Giving is healthy for us

Abraham Brunk, a professor and researcher in the Netherlands, found that people oriented toward giving and sharing are more physically and emotionally fit than their self-focused and less generous peers.

Brunk's study showed that givers use 50 percent fewer sick days. They also have lower blood pressure and higher self-esteem.

The anonymous poet who wrote the following words was right on target:

Give strength, give thought, give deeds, give of your wealth,  
Give love, give tears, and give thyself.  
Give, give, always giving. Who gives not is not living;  
The more you give, the more you live.



**MARCH Messenger articles due WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>**

E-mail articles to [Knisleys@prodigy.net](mailto:Knisleys@prodigy.net)



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201 South King Street  
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**Reverend Cindy Maddox  
Pastor**