



The Messenger

King Street United Church of Christ

May 2008

Issue 5 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
Church website:
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
(203) 300-1736 Cell
Confidential E-mail:
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

Music Director
Paul Malyszka

Director of Senior Bells
Jan Gregory

Director of Junior Bells
Barbara Nobles

Sexton
Bob Cotton

*Dialogue. Discussion. Debate.
Conversation. Controversy. Conflict.*

These words make us nervous. Most of us don't like conflict. We don't want to debate. We want to avoid controversy at all costs. Especially in the church.

But we can't. Nor should we. What better place is there to discuss difficult issues than in a community of faith, where we already respect one another and recognize within one another the image of God? As one author states, "After all, if not here, then where? What better context is there than our churches, temples, and synagogues in which to struggle through the most difficult issues in our society? We believe of ourselves that, by the grace of God, we have access to important spiritual and cultural resources to bring to the task of engaging in difficult conversations."¹

Our ability to be in relationship with those who disagree is one of the hallmarks of our congregation. This does not mean, however, that we do so by ignoring our differences. Engaging in difficult conversations is part of our spiritual work together.

This spiritual work includes our meeting on May 4 to discuss the recent controversy over statements made by a prominent UCC minister, Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright. We will meet after worship to discuss the situation. It will not be a debate. It will not be an argument. It will be a dialogue, a conversation, an opportunity for us to speak and to listen, to express our thoughts and feelings and beliefs. We will not all agree. (Would any of us expect otherwise from a church that says, "Come as you are; bring your brain"?) But we will all agree to listen to one another and love one another. That is who we are. That is who we always will be.

With a grateful heart,
Pastor Cindy

¹ Day, Katie. *Difficult Conversations*. The Alban Institute, 2001. Page 15.



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

Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational meeting on May 18th, immediately following the service.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Esposito, Clerk

Lisa Petzold on the death of her grandfather; Cathi Brody's dad, *Pete Bartenstein*, recovering from leg amputation surgery;
George Englert, recovering from orthopedic surgery;
Mary Jane Stryker, recently diagnosed with cancer;
Marilyn Kelly, in the death of her husband, Kenneth;
Eva Tooker and her family, in the death of her father on New Year's Eve and her mother on January 25th;
 The family of *Mildred Wibling* who passed away in November 2007;
 The family of *Frank J. Thompson*, who passed away in October 2006;
Andrea Makepeace and her family on the passing of her father;
Harriet Mangels, whose husband, Bob, passed away in May 2007;
Ed D'Ettore undergoing treatments for lung cancer;
Thomas Morgan Varinec, nephew of J. T. Cooke, with neuroblastoma of the abdomen;
Kitty Field recovering from cancer surgery.

The families and friends of victims affected by recent tragedies, violence and natural disasters.

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
 May 10th

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

Fresh garden salad - Family style with assorted dressings
Cheese lasagna with meat or vegetarian sauce -
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

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**

This month we are remembering Jim Tibbetts, Ruth’s beloved husband. He was born in Mount Vernon, New York, February 16, 1910, the son of Fred and Avis Tibbetts.

Jim was a resident of Danbury for more than 30 years. He lived in New Fairfield until his marriage to Ruth Forbes on April 24, 1960. He was the original owner/operator of the New Fairfield Food Market.

Jim started his business career in 1928, with the Hartford Insurance Group. In the early 50s, he established a private investigating business covering all of New York State, with 49 employees. In 1975, he retired after 14 years of service as an examiner at the Danbury office of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Many of us remember Jim, but for those who don’t, he was a tall man, so tall that he had to stoop down at every doorway. Ted Knapp remembers he even ducked at the Masonic Lodge, where the doorways were 7 feet high. Not only did he have a problem with doorways, he also had to maneuver getting in and out of cars.

Jim was an avid stamp collector, and Art Roberts remembers the help Jim gave him with his own collection. Jim was also very interested in coins.

The Tibbetts home is surrounded by many acres of trees and flowers. Jim was most proud of this land and tended to it with pride. He could be seen riding around the yard in his tractor, leaving everything in top notch condition.

Jim and Ruth loved antiques, and always had a room at the Church Fair. Art Roberts and Don Cole would carefully help them transport the valuables to what is now known as the Tibbetts Room. Art recalls that they did this on the Thursday before the Fair, and Jim and Ruth would allow their regular customers to view the items before the rush on Saturday. The Antique Room was one of the most popular events at the Fair.

By the time Jim retired in 1975, Ruth and Jim had more time to themselves, having cared for various relatives, including Jim’s mother Avis. With more free time on their hands they opened “Mrs. McGillicuddy’s Antique Shop” on King Street in their one car garage, soon expanding it into their basement. Jim reserved one

corner for restoring furniture with another corner for Ruth, who loved to mount and frame pictures.

The two of them spent many hours traveling through the countryside procuring merchandise from various sources and buying at auctions, house sales, other shops in New England, New York and Pennsylvania areas, and in some cases buying from individuals who had things to sell. Ruth chuckles remembering boxes of “stuff” she had to have – much to Jim’s dismay. Actually she cared about none of it except for that one “special” item the box contained. One of their specialties was fine old clocks, guaranteed to be running perfectly, having been worked on by their friend, neighbor and former member, Bob Remele, the overseer of the church expansion in 1980. Mrs. McGillicuddy’s Shop was run solely for the benefit of the King Street Church.

Jim never served on boards at the church, although he was chairman of the Men’s Club in 1965, and Treasurer in 1966. Jim was very busy in Masonic activities, and was awarded the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze in 1986, for distinguished Masonic service in the Union Lodge and the Connecticut Grand Lodge. For many years he served as secretary and trustee of the King Street Volunteer Fire Department.

Jim passed away on May 15, 1993. Services were held at our church, including a Masonic Service, with the Rev. Dewey Fagerburg, officiating. Jim is buried in the King Street Church Cemetery.

We remember him with love.

-Barbara Westby



Youth Group Fundraiser

In May there are many opportunities to help the youth group and spend some time together.

The Cross Purpose concert has been rescheduled for Sunday June 1st at the First Congregational Church in Danbury. Come and enjoy an afternoon of contemporary Christian music.

On Saturday May 17th, the youth group will host a talent show and pasta dinner at the First Congregational Church in Danbury . Come see the talents of the youth of both churches and enjoy a good meal. If you have a talent you would like to show, please contact Pam Baker for details on how to participate.

The following day, May 18th, the youth group will be washing cars during the Congregational Meeting after services. Make sure to bring that dirty car to church so you can get it shiny and clean.

As always, the gift card program is available. We had a very successful month in April and we hope to continue that in the future. Remember, you pay the face value for gift cards and the youth group receives a percentage. It's the perfect way to help the youth group without having to spend any extra money. Think about those summer projects you want to get done around the house, or remember you can always get cards for the grocery store that you visit each week. The deadline for orders to be handed in is Sunday May 11th. If you have any questions contact Rebecca Manfredonia.

Get ready.....the flamingos are coming!!!

Watch out one morning you may wake up to a flock of flamingos in your yard. Don't fear, the youth group will be ready to come clean them up for a small fee and help send them to their next location, which you can choose. Afraid of those pesky pink birds? You will have the chance to get flamingo insurance to prevent them from ever landing on your lawn. Look for more details and information coming soon.

Women's Society...

Our April meeting was very brief and after the close the ladies "set-to" the task of creating jewelry from beads and supplies provided by our Pastor Cindy.

We offer our congratulations to our member, Jessie Patton, on being honored recently by the C.W.U.C.C. We wish her well and ask God's blessing for her.

Special note: We are offering our annual scholarship award to any young person who is on the way to college. Ask quickly for details and apply immediately. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, May 5 at 7:30. Hope to see you all then.

Peace and love to all – Harriet Mangels

MUSIC SUNDAY
MAY 18th



On May 18th the worship service will be a celebration of music in the church. **DON'T MISS IT!!**

All our different musical groups will be praising the Lord. There will be the Senior Bells - AND they will be up front so you can even get to see them. There will also be the Senior vocal choir and the children's choir... and Larry and Paul... a small group of the Jr Bells, and the middle school group singing and maybe even a solo by one or all of the "von" Tooker family. Also you, the congregation will get to be involved... So plan to be with us when we celebrate in song on Sunday May 18th. Look forward to seeing you.



There will be a **Mother's Day Breakfast** on **Sunday, May 11th**, following worship. Omelets to order, French toast, bacon, bagels and OJ. We hope you will attend and enjoy this tasty event.

An Invitation from First Congregational Church of Danbury

The First Congregational Church of Danbury invites you to attend a sacred conversation about equal marriage rights

for same-sex couples. Why is gay marriage important? What does our faith have to say about it?

Recognizing that people of faith are of multiple opinions about gay marriage, this forum welcomes questions and doubts as well as passionate support. The event will also suggest ways for those who support same-sex marriage to get involved with Love Makes A Family, the statewide organization co-sponsoring the forum. Please join the conversation on May 18th from 4pm to 6pm, at the First Congregational Church, 164 Deer Hill Ave. in Danbury. For more information, please contact Rev. Laura Westby at (203) 744-6177 or Obadiah Ballinger (Religious Organizer for Love Makes A Family) at (203) 464-3455. All members of faith communities in the Danbury area are welcome.



Fellowship Time Volunteers Needed

Please consider signing up for Sunday Fellowship Time (coffee hour). This is a very important time after the service where we come together as a church community and welcome visitors as well.

All that is required is for you to arrive a little early, start the coffee, set out the supplies and clean up afterwards; you also need to bring some milk or cream for the coffee. Refreshments are always welcome, but not necessary.

If you have never volunteered to help with the Fellowship time, please let me know and I would be happy to help you. Thank you for volunteering!

-Laura Thompson

"Growing Ties"

Makes Debut at Potluck Dinner

Remember the brainstorming session in March where we drew pictures? Those great ideas are now taking shape.

While we didn't yet know what we were striving for when so many of us promised to find funds through God to make our new adventure a reality, we now have a clear focus - growth in three key areas: Relationships, Service, and Numbers. On April 27, a group met to share a delicious meal, enjoy some fellowship, and learn about our "Growing Ties" initiative. "Growing Ties" (our new name for the Faith Promise project) weaves together our relationship, service, and numerical growth goals.

"Our growth is all related," says Carlo Marano, member of the Stewardship Committee. "When we grow our relationships with each other, we have more energy to serve others, and our numbers will grow out of that."

Kim Goodwin, Stewardship Chair, adds, "Now that our true goal has caught up with the focus on the money, we expect to make a lot of progress."

The team that met at the Potluck dinner further explored the two projects that will launch our growth.

- **Special Olympics** - Mary Dunkle and Elizabeth Day offered to lead our involvement in Special Olympics (with the guidance of Michelle and Dave Kimmel), as the regional games are coming to Danbury beginning in 2009. As you may know, the Special Olympics provides sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. See their web site for more information: www.soct.org.

- **Danbury Women's Center** - Liz Healy and Linda Spione volunteered to lead the charge in this key organization that strives to end the violence associated with sexual assault and abusive relationships. Specifically, we will be involved in the walk against domestic violence in October. Their website is www.womenscenterofgreaterdanbury.org.

Our Council will guide us as we explore these two initial adventures, and help us shape the path we lead to grow. We'll hear more on these initiatives shortly.

Faith Promise - Helping us find the funds to grow.... We are currently at 64% of our \$10,000 goal due to our promises to find the funds and a generous endowment. The Promise campaign runs through April 2009, so there is still time to make your promise to find the funds to help us grow.

Let's continue the conversation. Go to our Blog <http://www.blogger.com/i.g?inviteID=8934158616585625834&blogID=7167854824125587667>

Questions on the blog, contact Kim Goodwin (kim.goodwin@diageo.com). Or speak to any member of the team or our pastor to discuss the issues.

This is an exciting time, an exciting place. It is a new place, yet one that is grounded in the richness of our heritage. We are glad to be in this adventure together.

--The Stewardship Team - Kim Goodwin, Carlo Marano, Annie Kanzow

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
MAY 2008				1 9-12 pm Thrift Shop 7:30 pm Senior Choir	2	3 9-12 pm Thrift Shop
4 9:30 am Worship/Comm union 10:45 am Pastoral Conversation 4 pm Youth Groups (First Congregational)	5 7 pm Women's Society	6 6 pm Jr Bell Choir	7 8pm Sr Bell Choir	8 9-12 pm Thrift Shop 7:30 pm Senior Choir	9	10 9-12 pm Thrift Shop 5-7 pm Lasagna Dinner/Thrift Shop
11 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Mother's Day Breakfast	12	13 6 pm Jr Bell Choir	14 8 pm Sr Bell Choir	15 9-12 pm Thrift Shop 7:30 pm Senior Choir	16	17 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Talent Show & Pasta Dinner at First Cong.
18 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Congregational Meeting 4 pm Youth Groups (KSUCC)	19 7 pm Ministry Council	20 6 pm Jr Bell Choir	21 8 pm Sr Bell Choir	22 9-12 pm Thrift Shop 7:30 pm Senior Choir	23	24 9-12 pm Thrift Shop 1-5 pm Serving at Dorothy Day
25 9:30 am Worship 10:30am Bible 102	26	27 6 pm Jr Bell Choir	28 8 pm Sr Bell Choir	29 9-12 pm Thrift Shop 7:30 pm Senior Choir	30	31 9-12 pm Thrift Shop

Retaining a sense of wonder

A man who took a trip observed the majesty of the mountains, the colors of wildflowers and the magnetism of a stream where trout were swimming. He returned home saying, "I hope I never get used to the glory of nature."

None of us should "get used to" the goodness of God, the Good News of Christ, the inspiring music of a choir, the stories of great saints, the thoughtfulness of neighbors, the assistance of strangers and the uplifting laughter of children who haven't lost the gift of wonder.



JUNE Messenger articles due Monday, May 26th

E-mail articles to knisleys127@sbcglobal.net



THE MESSENGER

**King Street
United Church of Christ
201 South King Street
Danbury, Connecticut 06811**

**Reverend Cindy Maddox
Pastor**