

# The Messenger

King Street United Church of Christ

September 2010

Issue 8 of 11

**King Street  
United Church of Christ**

201 South King Street  
Danbury, Connecticut 06811

**Worship on Sundays at 9:30 AM**

**Tel:** (203) 748-0719

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**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)

**Office Manager**

**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)

**Moderator**

**Mary Dunkle**

**Music Director**

**Paul Malyszka**

**Director of Senior Bells**

**Lisa Murray**

**Director of Junior Bells**

**Barbara Nobles**

**Sexton**

**Bob Cotton**

## Welcome Back!

As I write this article, I am finishing my first day back in the office following my sabbatical. As people have dropped in or called, invariably they have started the conversation with “Welcome back!” I gladly accept the welcome. But in my mind I’ve been translating their words. I am not simply “back.” I am “Home.”

This summer I spent a great deal of time exploring both my traditional roots and some non-traditional ways of encountering God. I found God in both. I found myself in both. I found comfort in the hymns of my childhood, and I found comfort in practices that the religion of my childhood would have condemned. I challenged myself to take risks, and having survived them, I risked again. I learned some important things for my well-being as a minister, and I tried to un-learn some habits that harm my well-being as a human. I am only beginning to realize what differences this sabbatical has made in me, and I look forward to discovering what differences will be realized in my ministry here with you.

You will be hearing more about my sabbatical in the coming weeks and months, either directly or indirectly as my studies influence my preaching and teaching. But for today what I most want you to know is this: I am so thankful to be home.

For those of you who also have taken some time away from church this summer:

*Welcome back.*

*Welcome home.*

Pastor Cindy



Carolyn Ruffles                      Blanche Masi  
 Harriet Mangels                      John Jennings

Arleen Cumisky's mother, currently hospitalized;  
 Mary Dunkle, in the recent death of her mother;  
 Harriet Mangels, in the recent death of her sister;  
 Parker Moreland, recovering from knee replacement surgery;  
 Cathi Brody, on the passing of her father;  
 The Thompson family, in the death of their grandmother/great-grandmother;  
 Keith Westby, about to undergo surgery in early September;  
 Herb Mahn, recovering from hip replacement;  
 Valerie Fuller, in the death of her father;  
 Warren Petzold, recently hospitalized;  
 Chris and Donna Ryan's granddaughter, Victoria;  
 Jane Sanger, on the passing of her father;  
 John Hundinger, husband of DaVida Foy Crabtree, undergoing treatment for stomach cancer;  
 Jim Loschiavo, undergoing treatment for brain tumors;  
 Michelle Chuisano, in the death of her father;  
 Sue Mills, in the death of her father;  
 Marcelle Corsi, Shari Lynn Niland's mother.

The families of the 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  
 September 11<sup>th</sup>

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

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- Fresh garden salad - Family style with assorted dressings
- Cheese lasagna with meat or vegetarian sauce -  
 Parmesan cheese on the side  
 Italian bread and butter
- Cold beverages: soda, iced tea, water
- Hot beverages: coffee and tea
- Home baked desserts: pies, cookies, cakes

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Cost will be \$10.00 for adults, \$9.00 for seniors  
 \$5.00 for children 5-10 yr. old,  
 4 and under free

SEPTEMBER LASAGNA DINNERS  
 HELPERS

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Eileen Anderson | Victor Jackson  |
| Cathi Brody     | Antoinette Lutz |
| Carl Brown      | Haile Lutz      |
| Arleen Cumisky  | David Makepeace |
| Randy Esposito  | Janet Valine    |
| Erica Fenton    | Kristine Vondle |

*Women's Society*

Reminder the September meeting will be on Tuesday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the library. ALL women of the church are welcome. See you then.



## Meditation Opportunities

Are you feeling stressed, scattered, or anxious? Does it feel like your mind is going 200 mph but never getting anywhere? Do you ever think that your body is trying to tell you something—or God is trying to tell you something—and you just can't seem to get the message? Would you like to do something about it but feel you are too busy to add anything else to your schedule?

Then can you spare just twenty minutes, once or twice a week?

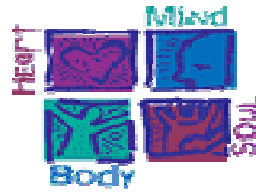
Starting in September, I will be offering two meditation opportunities each week: Tuesday mornings at 7:30 and Thursday mornings at 9:30. Each session will last no more than twenty minutes. We will be led together in a guided meditation using a variety of meditation techniques. Each Tuesday and Thursday session will be the same, but each week will be different. This way you can experience different styles of meditation to see what might work best for you. So drop by Tuesdays before work or Thursdays mid-morning, as your schedule permits. My plan is to start September 7 and continue through October, and then I will consider future plans based on response. And if you want to come before work but 7:30 is too late, let me know and I'll reconsider the time.

Hope to see you one morning soon.

Pastor Cindy



Please join us on Rally Day, September 12<sup>th</sup>, as we gather back together from our summer travels. The service is always one of celebration, followed by opportunities to get involved in the various ministries of the church. Hope to see you then!



## Spirituality

Hi Fellow Sojourner,

I hope you are well. Did any of you look up other passages in the New Testament in the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter: 8<sup>th</sup> verse? Did anyone see 1 John 4:8 – “Whoever does not love **does not know God**, because God is love.” The 4:8’s are full of wonderful messages from God.

The question is how do we get to know God? I personally feel God comes to us in moments of quiet meditation. In Psalm 46:10 God asks us to “Be still and know that I am God.” I decided a while ago to take about 20 minutes a day to be alone and in a quiet area. I become still, I empty my mind of the stress of my daily life and let God Comfort me. God “leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul.” (Psalm 23)

Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know that He is holy – take His sacred presence into yourselves and His temple (your body) will once again be holy.

Be still and know that He is faithful – in our rapidly changing world His love for us is the only constant.

Be still and know that He is our Father – He cares for us, he knows our name, He loves us unfailingly, He guards and protects our very core – our soul.

Be still! Stand in awe and amazement at what He reveals to you in those moments. Be still and know that God is love.

Be still and let your soul be restored,  
Your fellow Sojourner



*Break in your walking shoes!*

The annual Community United Against Domestic Violence walk to benefit the Women's Center of Greater Danbury will be Sunday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are again planning to set up a team of walkers to raise money and also need volunteers in the registration booth.

Please contact Liz Healy (elizabethhealy@comcast.net) if you are interested in participating. It's a great event and we have been one of the top fund-raising teams the past two years. We'd love to continue that tradition!

More to come as the event nears.



**Faith and Fellowship**

The kick off of our Lasagna Dinner is on September 11<sup>th</sup> and we would like to invite everyone to join us immediately following the dinner for a game night get together. There will be a number of games to choose from and, for those of you that like a little friendly competition, we will be trying to set up a "Corn in the Hole" (a.k.a. tailgate toss) tournament. Please bring any of your favorite group games as well.

Save the date October 16<sup>th</sup> for next month's fellowship night at Eddie and Charisa Hannan's for a potluck/recipe swap. We will be looking for everyone's quick and easy family favorites recipes to share!

**Sunday School**

Question - What is it that... costs you nothing, (but a little of your time), and its rewards...PRICELESS?

Answer – **It is teaching our KSUCC kids!**



A new school year is beginning, here at King Street. It will begin on Sunday **September 19<sup>th</sup>**. Wouldn't you love to be a part of it?

Get to know our kids and let them get to know you. Share your faith journey with them, or join them in theirs, and learn along with them. You don't have to have all the answers; we are all learning.

Our curriculum is great and it's "user friendly." It provides you with multiple choices for activities to help get the lesson across to the students. The lessons can be downloaded right at home, or I can print them out for you. We need two teachers each Sunday so the younger students can learn at their level and the older children can have a more challenging curriculum.

**Get to know our super kids!** We need 10 volunteers who can commit to 4 to 6 Sundays. I have 6 teachers already. Only 4 more needed. Will you be one of them? Please contact me at 203-792-3853 or [djr7804@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djr7804@sbcglobal.net)

Becky McKee  
Church School Superintendent

**Blessing of the Backpacks**

In honor of our children, youth, and teachers all heading back to school, we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks in worship on Sunday, September 5th. Students of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks; teachers and others involved in education are welcome to bring their bags or other symbols of the school year as well. We will say a prayer of blessing for the coming school year.

**News from the Outreach Team:**



The **2010 Neighbors In Need offering** will be collected starting Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>. The theme this year is *Imagining Another World Is Possible*. This offering benefits the Justice and Witness ministries of the UCC.

One of grant recipients from last year’s offering was the Workers Interfaith Network of Memphis, TN, which seeks to help workers protect themselves against wage theft. WIN has developed a reputation in Tennessee as the organization that can assist workers in recovering money when they have suffered wage theft by an unjust employer. WIN’s goal is to help workers learn their rights. Currently they are collecting hundreds of petition signatures to present to the County Sheriff, urging him to recognize wage theft as a criminal offense.

Look for Neighbors In Need envelopes in October.

The **Daily Bread Food Pantry** located at St. James Church on West Street provides food to the needy in the Danbury area – one bag of food per month to individuals and families. Each bag contains basic canned and packaged items to provide daily meals for three to four days. Please help the food pantry by donating cereal, canned fruit, soup, etc. Please leave your contribution in the basket in the narthex.



Please plan to attend the Congregational Meeting following Worship on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. All are invited, but members are especially needed for a quorum. This is your chance to get caught up on church activities and missions after a restful summer.

**KSUCC “One Book One Town”**

Here at King Street Church we're offering our own version of the "One Book One Town" idea. We're encouraging all members and friends of the church to read the book *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor in September or October. We will offer a class after worship on the book, but you don't have to like book groups to participate in reading. We will sponsor various events to coincide with the book's teachings, both in and out of worship. You can buy a copy for around \$14 at our local bookstore, or someone has offered to purchase a few copies for people to share. Borrow it one Sunday and return it the next.

Here's what a few people have to say about the book:

"In the spirit of the great mystics, Barbara Brown Taylor has looked beyond the walls of the church and found . . . God. We can confidently place ourselves in her hands; she is the most generous and gracious of spiritual guides."

"In Barbara Brown Taylor's hands, the old division between heaven and earth is healed and both come alive. Your mind, your body, and your soul will be fed by this wonderful book."

Please join us in reading this wonderful book on nourishing the spirit through simple, everyday acts.



**THANKS!**

We greatly appreciate the help given by Michelle Chuisano, Maureen, and our KSUCC friends by providing transportation for us during the rehab after Parker's knee replacement. KSUCC blessings, writ large.

Gratefully, Parker & Wini Moreland

**Wanted!**

If anyone has a dehumidifier that is no longer needed, please contact the church office. We are in need of one or two for the downstairs area.

## Historian's Corner

Bob Brundage

Last month our church received four ladder-back chairs belonging at one time to Aaron Pearce, one of the original 8 members our Church. They are a gift from Bob Brundage, who is a direct descendant of Aaron Pearce (at one time changed to Pierce). We originally received one chair from Aaron Pearce's collection in 1993. It is a privilege to have these chairs, which are estimated to be 200 years old. Aaron received them from his father, David Pearce, Jr. We will certainly treasure them.

Bob, who gave us these chairs, is an avid square dancer, which is one of the best ways of meeting people and having a great time. He has written a history of this pastime, which is in the Danbury Library, and I am going to share the preface of his book with you all.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 "This is My Square Dancing Life"

Looking back to the days of my childhood in the 1920s I can see that the Little Red Chapel was sort of a focal point in our lives. I lived on a two family farm near Danbury, CT with my brother Al, my parents Harold and Gene, and my grandparents, Ben and Fanny. We each had our own house but only the one farm.

The Little Red Chapel was the easternmost border of the King Street District. It was painted red with white trim and services were held there every Sunday when we were kids. It was a very small structure with only one room and would hold only 25 or 30 people. My Aunt Helen became interested in the history of the building so she went to the City Hall and found the original charter. She was amazed to find that this house of worship welcomed members of any denomination to worship with us – including Baptists.

My future wife lived two houses down toward town. It was about mid point for my brother Al and his future wife to meet and just behind the home of Mrs. Hawthorne, where we witnessed our first square dancing. Mrs. Hawthorne had a large basement where she sold a few canned goods, candy, and ice cream. It was a happy day when you could get fifteen cents together and buy a whole pint of that delicious Ryders Ice Cream.

Al and I just happened across a dance going on one Saturday night at Mrs. Hawthorne's. There was old Jack Craddock playing the concertina and Andy Golder

calling the figures. He didn't know very many different figures – but that did not matter as the dancing was only a means to an end. Dancing was used to just get together, socialize and relax for a few hours. I guess admission was about a quarter and the three of them split the money.

The figures were the old "visiting" couple type, where one couple "visits" with the couple to their right and performs some figures before moving on. And we did the good old Virginia Reel, a long ways dance where a line of men face their partner in a line of women. Jack played for round dancing between tips. Round dancing then was the free style ballroom dances like the waltz, fox trot, etc., not the choreographed routines as done in square dancing (also called modern western square dancing or MWSD ) today. I really enjoyed watching Bill and Mable Waterbury, neighbors of ours, dance. They were both short. He was thin, she was ....well, she was not thin. They looked like they were stuck together as they spun around the floor. Not so with Marian Scott, another neighbor. She was very animated, laughing all the way.

Life on our farm was tough in those days and folks needed a release from every day labors. The patriarch of our family was A. Benjamin Brundage, my grandfather. He handled the market garden operation of the farm, raising all kinds of produce for the local grocery stores. Ben was a very devout man and stern task master. He read the Bible aloud at every meal and woe be to the person who missed sitting down with the family no matter what the excuse. Dad told us one of his happiest days of his young life was when Ben allowed the Sunday New York Times into the house. Before that, the schedule for Sunday was to get up at the regular time (no sleeping here), do your chores, go to church and read the Bible.

One man came by on a Sunday to return \$5.00 that he had borrowed and wanted to pay him. Ben replied "Sorry, you have to come back another day. I do not do business on Sundays."

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 This is just the beginning of a most interesting book written by Bob Brundage. He has allowed me to share any part of it with you. To me it is fascinating glimpse of King Street's past, and I encourage anyone who is interested to seek out the book. Enjoy!

Barbara Westby – with many thanks to the writer and friend – Bob Brundage

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 2010			<b>1</b> 7:30 pm Sr Bell Choir Workshop	<b>2</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open  7:30 pm Sr Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open
<b>5</b> 9:30 am Worship/ Communion	<b>6</b> Labor Day	<b>7</b> 7:30 am Meditation  7 pm Women's Society	<b>8</b> 7:30 pm Sr Bell Choir Workshop	<b>9</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open  9:30 am Meditation  7:30 pm Sr Choir	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open  5-7 pm Lasagna Dinner/Thrift Shop  7 pm Faith/Fellowship Kickoff
<b>12</b> Rally Sunday  9:30 am Worship	<b>13</b> 7 pm Ministry Council	<b>14</b> 7:30 am Meditation	<b>15</b> 7:30 pm Sr Bell Choir	<b>16</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open  9:30 am Meditation  7:30 pm Sr Choir	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open
<b>19</b> 9:30 am Worship	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:30 am Meditation	<b>22</b> 7:30 pm Sr Bell Choir	<b>23</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open  9:30 am Meditation  7:30 pm Sr Choir  Messenger Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open  1-5 pm Dorothy Day
<b>26</b> 9:30 am Worship  10:30 am Congregational Meeting	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7:30 am Meditation	<b>29</b> 7:30 pm Sr Bell Choir	<b>30</b> 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open  9:30 am Meditation  7:30 pm Sr Choir		



A LAST MINUTE ADDITION:

Thank you so much for the wonderful “welcome home” I received on my first Sunday back in worship. I missed you all so much, and it felt great to be with you once again. Your cards, hugs, and the children’s banner meant so much to me. The gift of the beautiful clock put me over the edge—I never could have imagined such a fabulous homecoming. Thanks to each and every one of you. Thanks also to Maureen for her rich ministry among us, and to Tish for keeping track of all the details and making sure things ran smoothly. We are blessed.

Pastor Cindy



**October Messenger articles are due on  
Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please e-mail  
articles to: [office@kingstchurch.org](mailto:office@kingstchurch.org)**



***THE MESSENGER***

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