



The Messenger

King Street United Church of Christ

December 2008

Issue 11 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

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

Pastors experience unique and extraordinary blessings. We are invited to share both the best and worst times of people's lives. We are usually among the first church members to see the newborns, and often among the last to see the dying. We preside over the weddings and the funerals. We get hugs from the youngest and the oldest. We baptize and we bury. And sometimes, when we are very blessed, we get to meet people who can change the world.

The past four months I have had the pleasure of leading ten such people. Our confirmation class this year had ten phenomenal Confirmands: Elise Chuisano, Carolyn Forstrom, Courtney Jackson, Zachary Jackson, Haile Lutz, Kara Orr, Matthew Patton, Shannon Sullivan, Leandra Thompson, and Leigh Tooker. Each week my co-leaders (Bob Cotton and Linda Hannan) and I had the privilege of hearing their ideas, opinions, questions, and proclamations. We watched them learn and grow. We saw their questions deepen. We witnessed their faith development as they tried to figure out for themselves what they believe. Watching them, I believe the future is in good hands.

At the time I'm writing this, I don't know if all of them will choose to be confirmed. I do know that each of them has unique gifts to bring to the church and to the world – gifts that are to be honored and nurtured and welcomed.

Please join me in worship on December 7 for Confirmation Sunday. The Confirmands have written the liturgies and prayers. They have chosen the hymns. They will speak to us about what they have learned and what the church means to them. Come, and you will see what I mean.

With hope for our future,

Cindy



Carolyn Ruffles Ruth Tibbetts
MaryEllen Sanzeni
Scott Merrell Roger Nelson, Jr.
Blanche Masi Marie Benicewicz

The family of *Caroline Dealy*, who passed away on November 23rd

Bob Sanger, recovering from orthopedic surgery

John Jennings, recovering from a stroke

Harriet Mangels, whose husband, Bob, passed away on May 2007

Ed D'Ettore, undergoing treatments for lung cancer

Marcelle Corsi, Shari Lynn Niland's mother

Ann Salamone, Christines' mother-in-law

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
December 13th

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**



DECEMBER LASAGNA DINNERS HELPERS

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Baker, Matt | Knisley, Bev |
| Baker, Pam | Loschiavo, Sue |
| Edgar, Chelsea | Patton, David |
| Edgar, Scott | Schultz, Joy |
| Edgar, Sherri | Spione, Linda |
| Fuller, Steve | Westby, Barb |
| Kimmel, Michelle | Zacotinsky, Cathy |



.... **Historian's Corner**

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A Lincoln Head Penny

It seems impossible that time is going so fast. Twelve years ago I received a letter from Bill Montgomery, who while replacing some plants around our church sign, had found a Lincoln Head Penny dated 1913. He thought I might be able to find something of interest around this time – so long ago. I wondered what this penny would tell, so I began to search and listen.

In those days homes were far apart and consisted mainly of farms; as a result, the church was the main outlet for gatherings and friendship. We had just lost our pastor, the Rev. Charles W. Cook, who had preached from April 6, 1910 to April 13, 1913. On April 20, the Rev. A. H. Fielder, from Calais, Vermont, became our pastor. He had been engaged in missionary work in Utah. His wife, Edna, was also an ordained minister. This couple brought with them a faith and love which endeared them to all. The Fielders were especially fond of the young people and loved to sit with them telling Bible stories. Their home was always open to any who wished to drop in.

Times were hard, and our pastor received a very modest salary. However, food was never a problem as neighbors and friends supplied his family with a bounty from their farms. Money for paying salary and church expenses was raised by donation - a gathering held in the winter when the moon was right for traveling.

Mrs. Fielder enjoyed taking the pulpit occasionally, much to the congregation's delight. She and Fannie Brundage, a direct descendant of one of the first settlers in Danbury and mother of Ruth Brundage (Comstock), are credited with starting the Dorcas Circle on May 31, 1916,

which operated until November, 2002. This group served each other and their neighbors near and far. Marie Benicewicz, former member and Historian, wrote of them - "well done good and faithful servants."

Picnics were held at Adam's Grove near the head of Ball Pond, usually around the middle of August. It would be announced that Mr. Charles Comstock (not related to Ruth) would be at the church at 9 o'clock with his big hay wagon and rigging to drive the children to Adam's Grove. The Sunday school would gather at the church for the ride to the picnic grounds, while those who lived along the route would be picked up as the wagon passed their house to join the group. It was a long, slow ride as the horses walked most of the way, but a ride the children thoroughly enjoyed.

The older people rode their own horses and were at the picnic grounds before the children arrived. The grove contained a wooden bandstand, and food was kept there until time to eat. Each family contributed food. Ruth's mother always took a big potato salad and pickles.

Ball Pond was across the road from the Adam's house, a wonderful spot for a swim, and Mr. George Henry Knapp often rented a row boat and took the children for a ride around the pond. All in all it was a great day, and everyone went home tired but happy.

The years around 1913 hold dear memories of a time when life was hard but good, a time when faith held us together, as we went on our journey of life.

Many thanks to Bill Montgomery for sending the penny and prompting my journey into the past. Of interest, our own Elizabeth Healy is a great-great granddaughter to Mr. George Henry Knapp.

Barbara Westby



From Our Moderator

King Street United Church of Christ has sponsored Boy Scout Troop 52 for forty-four years. Building on the work initiated by Bob James and carried on for many years by John Cooke, other church members have continued to be involved with troop leadership. Bob Cotton is our current liaison to the troop. King Street Church council members had a productive meeting with the leadership group from the Boy Scout troop and Cub Scout pack earlier this month. We reviewed the items outlined in the annual charter signed onto by each group and easily reached agreement on a few issues. I was impressed by the desire of the scout leadership to support our church. The large turnout from the scouts for our fall clean-up is one example. Older scouts are volunteering to serve with church members at the Dorothy Day Hospitality House. We can look forward to a rejuvenated Scout Sunday program in February.

Although I'm still wondering how many pastors it takes to end a sermon and am still not sure of the difference between a violin and a fiddle, King Street's time and talent auction was a success. Many thanks to the group who volunteered many hours and some worry for this fund raising event. The bazaar organized by the Women's Society the morning of the auction completed a full day of activity.

December 14, 5:00. Please bring your friends and neighbors to King Street's Christmas concert. The Senior Choir and Bell Choir will be joined by the children's choir and instrumental performances. Taking advantage of new-found strength in the back row, Choir Director Paul Malyszka has also formed a Men's Choir to sing some fine pieces. A free-will offering will be taken during the program. Light refreshments will follow. This is a busy season for our music directors and support for their efforts will be appreciated.

Because of a deficit in pledge amounts for this year and no spring fair income (we didn't have one) we are projecting that our current budget will end with

about a \$10,000 deficit. If you are behind on your pledge and are able to catch up, we would appreciate your efforts. Regardless, we will be facing some hard choices in planning next year's budget. This is not hyperbole. We already know we're losing \$7,000 in income going into next year as the Danbury Hospital group will no longer be renting space from us. If you are planning to pledge for next year, please follow through now. If everyone who has already pledged added another \$10 each week, our prospects would change dramatically. The budget committee will be meeting in December to prepare a budget to bring to the January council meeting and finally to the Congregational meeting on January 25th.

Steve Fuller
Moderator





Coming soon, a great new fundraising opportunity for the church. Shop online, through our fundraising page, at over 1,800 merchants and a rebate of up to 20% will be given back to the church. This is a great way to help the general operating fund gain some much needed revenue while you are doing your regular online shopping. Some examples of available merchants include: Ebay, Target, Best Buy, Hotels.com, Kodak Gallery, 1-800-Contacts, and many more. An e-mail will be sent out to the mail list, and an announcement made in church, when this becomes available.



Youth Group Fundraiser

The deadline for December gift cards will be Sunday, December 7th. This is your last chance to get the gift cards you need for your holiday shopping or gift giving. Gift cards make great stocking stuffers as well as gifts for those hard to buy for. Planning a big Christmas or New Year's dinner? Buy gift cards for your favorite grocery store. Order forms are available on the church website

<http://www.kingstchurch.org/PWI%20Order%20Form.pdf> or in the Martin Room.

Please contact Rebecca Manfredonia for more information.

Women's Society...

A big "Thank You!" to all who donated, baked, worked at our "mini-bazaar. Please take note of the following information and make a special effort to participate with us.

MONDAY, Dec 1st We will have our annual Christmas Party at Chuck's Steakhouse. Cost will be \$25.00 each. All are welcome, bring a friend and enjoy!

SUNDAY, Dec 7th Following church services we will have our annual "KIDS ONLY ROOM" gifts for parents, grandparents, etc. You may contribute articles for them before hand.

MONDAY, Jan 5th First meeting of 2009! Thank you to our present officers. They have offered to serve for another year.

Our Thrift Shop attendant, Joy Schultz, will be taking an extended vacation from the end of November to March 2009. If anyone would care to work on Saturdays during this time please contact Melody Montgomery. Hours are from 9 a.m. to noon. Try it - you might like it. Happy Holidays and God bless us, one and all!

Peace and love, Harriet Mangels





ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



- November 30** First Sunday of Advent
- December 7** Second Sunday of Advent
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY!
- December 14** Third Sunday of Advent
Special music by the bell choir and vocal choir
- December 21** Fourth Sunday of Advent
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT involving children and youth
- December 24** Christmas Eve
5:00 Family Worship Service
11:00 Candlelight Worship Service



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to provide a poinsettia for the sanctuary during the Advent & Christmas season, please complete this form and return it to the church office no later than Tuesday, December 16th.

_____ Please order the following poinsettias for me. Price per plant is

_____ (#) Red

_____ (#) White

_____ I will provide my own plant and deliver it to the church by noon, December 17th.

Given in **honor** or **memory** of

(please circle)

From _____

DECEMBER 2008

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 6 pm Women's Society Christmas Dinner	2 6 pm Jr. Bells	3 8 pm Sr Bell Choir	4 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open 7:30 pm Sr Choir	5	6 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open
7 9:30am Confirmation/ Communion Sunday 11-12 Kids Only Room	8	9 6 pm Jr. Bells	10 8 pm Sr Bell Choir  Bell Choir	11 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open 7:30 pm Sr Choir	12	13 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open 5-7 pm Lasagna Dinner/Thrift Shop Open
14 9:30am Worship 5 pm Christmas Concert	15 7 pm Ministry Council	16 6 pm Jr. Bells	17 8 pm Sr Bell Choir	18 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open 7:30 pm Sr Choir	19	20 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open
21 9:30am Worship	22	23 6 pm Jr. Bells	24 5pm Family Worship Service 11pm Candlelight Worship Service	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26	27 9-12 pm Thrift Shop Open 1 - 5 pm Dorothy Day
28 9:30am Worship	29	30	31			

Holiday Concert

“Bells will be ringing . . . Choirs will be singing”

*Please join us as we enjoy the Christmas season through music
December 14, 2008 -- 5:00 pm*



*King Street United Church of Christ
201 South King Street -- Danbury, CT
Information: (203)748-0719*



*Free will offering
Refreshments to follow the concert*



**JANUARY Messenger articles due
Sunday, DECEMBER 21ST**

E-mail articles to Knisleys127@sbcglobal.net



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

**Reverend Cindy Maddox
Pastor**