

The Meeting House Times

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, United Church of Christ
September, 2008

New Season of Church Activities Begins

Prayer Group - Wednesday, Sept. 3rd - 10:15

Choir - first rehearsal, Wednesday, Sept. 10th - 7:30
with pizza supper at 6:30

Bible Study - Friday, Sept. 12th
Men's Bible Breakfast - 7:15
Afternoon (coed) Bible Study - 1:00

Homecoming Sunday - Sept. 14th - Church school
year begins with a family breakfast at 9:15

Youth Fellowship - Sunday, Sept. 14th - 5:00
Parents meeting - 7:15

Potluck Supper - Friday, Sept. 19th - 5:30

Crop Walk - Sunday, Sept. 28th - HVRHS - 1:30

For more information, see articles in this issue.

Our Church School Year Begins

Please join us for breakfast! Families with children are invited to a light breakfast on Sunday, September 14th, at 9:15 in the parish hall. This annual gathering, which is provided by the Board of Deacons, is a wonderful opportunity to greet old friends and to welcome newcomers to our church family. Barbara Collins will register the children for the coming church school year. Bring a friend! Bring a family!



Classes for children in Prekindergarten through Grade 8 will begin on the 14th. The children attend the first part of the 10:00 worship service with their families and then are dismissed to their classrooms. Crib/toddler care is also available on Sunday mornings for the littlest ones, birth through age four.

Dismissal time in the Church School is 11:10. It is most helpful if parents (particularly parents of children in the nursery) refrain from coming upstairs until dismissal time.

Youth Fellowship Begins Sunday, September 14th

All boys and girls in grades 7 through 9 are invited to participate in our Youth Fellowship Group which begins Sunday, September 14th, from 5:00-7:30 in the parish hall. We will get acquainted, check out the work on the new Youth Room, play some games and talk about plans for the year. Young people who do not attend this church are very welcome to participate.



Parents: please join us at 7:15 so we can fill you in on what lies ahead for us this year.

Join Us for Supper

It's the first potluck supper of the season - Friday, September 19th at 5:30 for anyone and everyone who would like a casual evening out. Bring a large main dish or salad (either homemade or take-out) to share. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Bring the family! Bring a friend!



Folks usually sit around and talk after supper - lots of good conversation. Want to bring a board game? Feel free.

You don't have to RSVP but you can if you want to: Barbara Collins (435-0051) or Sarah Rydingsword (435-9479). Need a ride? Give us a call.

Fall Festival - Columbus Day Weekend

Mark the dates on your calendar now - Friday, October 10th, Saturday, October 11th, and Sunday, October 12th.

Yes, for the first time there we will have limited activities after church on Sunday - see below. And the big news is that the Treasure Trove has returned with Barbara Collins as its head.

The Fall Festival Committee has been meeting and planning for several months, and now is the time for everyone to get involved. Let's make the 2008 Festival a joyful celebration of our community and the autumn season. Here are some ways to share your talents:

* **Treasure Trove** - Still have that cut-glass pickle dish you received as a wedding gift? How about that handsome set of carbide drill bits your husband gave you for your birthday? If you don't want it and it's in good condition, why not donate it to the Treasure Trove? No clothing, books, records, or large furniture items, please. Treasures can be left in the church basement or call **Barbara Collins (435-0051)** to arrange for pick-up.

* **Silent Auction** - This year the silent auction will be a mini-auction - 10 or 12 fabulous items to complement our returning Treasure Trove. Carol Magowan and I are planning to offer a few high-quality and unusual auction gifts and services to entice everyone. Stay tuned! **Sara Wardell (435-4902)**.

* **Country Kitchen** - Jams, jellies, cakes, pies, pickles, cookies, breads, and other assorted goodies - it's a great display and sale of delicious food and an irresistible destination for festival-goers. We need your homemade foods! This is one activity our church shares with other churches in town, so please note that yours is from the Congregational Church. Please call **Linda Estabrook (824-5896)** to volunteer to help and to bring foods - Saturday only.

* For lunch, the ever-popular eatery is our **Dining Room**, both Friday and Saturday, noon to 2:00. Won't you try your serving skills? Call co-chairs **Ann Cuddy (435-0070)** or **Sarah Polhemus (435-2158)** to volunteer. And **Janet Kaufman (435-1350)** will need help in the **Kitchen**

* **Hot Dog Tent** - **Roseanne Lamson (435-0053)** and her crew serve old fashioned hot dogs and other good stuff to the hungry sidewalk crowd. If you'd like to help, call her.

* Smiling faces are needed to be **Greeters** to welcome visitors to our Fall Festival and to offer directions to departments and events. **Sue Morrill (435-0052)** organizes them - two hour shifts, 10 to 4, Friday and Saturday.

* **The Children's' Activities** on Saturday are organized by **Dick Taber (435-2442)** and the Youth Fellowship. Parents are welcome to help, too.

* **Strong backs wanted** - Festival Coordinator **Mike Fitting (435-2039)** needs lots of help before and after the Festival with setup early Sunday afternoon, Oct.

5th, a partial takedown late Saturday afternoon, Oct. 11th, and final cleanup late afternoon, Sunday, the 12th.

* **Extra hands** - Just want to help where needed? We need volunteers who are willing to do all sorts of things. Volunteer Recruiter **Jenn Good (435-4710)** is eager to hear from you and will suggest a job.

* **Cash Contributions** - Underwriters are special workers, too. You can help defray the costs of the Festival - entertainment like the very popular magician and the Salisbury Band Senior Quickstep HotShots - and other expenses and supplies - printing, banners, decorations, food, etc., etc. If you cannot be involved in the actual running of the Festival, your financial contribution will really help. **Please send your check to the church (PO Box 392, Salisbury, CT 06068) and note that it's for the Fall Festival.**

The Fall Festival is an extraordinary annual event, eagerly awaited by visitors from near and far. Other activities in Salisbury and Lakeville continue to be added every year. We hope everyone will share in the fun of our church's hometown, homegrown celebration. If you have ideas, suggestions, or questions, please contact any committee member.

For the Fall Festival Committee

Chair - Lee Collins (435-0051)

Coordinator - Mike Fitting (435-2039)

Secretary - Janet Kaufman (435-1350)

Recruitment - Jennifer Good (435-4710)

Publicity - Debbie Pastore (596-4090)

Treasurer - John Estabrook (824-5896)



Associate Pastor Search Committee Update

All church members and friends recently received a letter from our committee with a summary of our recent activity. The number of candidate profiles we have received is now up to 19, and we will continue to receive profiles as long as we want to. These candidates have each responded to our short announcement that appears on the national UCC web site. For those interested, you may see it at:

<http://www.ucc.org/classifieds/pdfs/ucem.pdf>

Click or scroll down to page 5, Connecticut Conference Valley Northwest Region, and you'll see Salisbury. The "608" refers to when we put the ad there - June of this year.



It's interesting to see the number of other Connecticut churches seeking to fill pastors' positions, many part time.

As Betsy said in her letter, we will be reading profiles, selecting ones we want to know more about, and interviewing potential associate pastors until we find the one that we feel is exactly right for our church at this time. We continue to ask for your prayers and good wishes.

For the Committee, Lee Collins, Chair

Betsy Beck, Lee Collins, Jane Elwood,
John Estabrook, Mike Fitting, Kathy Mera,
David Rich, Sarah Rydingsword, Sara Wardell

Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Falls Village

The Northwest Corner CROP Walk is celebrating its 25th year in 2008. This year the humanitarian crisis of hunger world-wide is probably greater than ever before. People who are struggling to find and buy food both abroad and here at home need our help.



One way the Congregational Church of Salisbury can help is to participate in this 25th anniversary CROP Walk. Every one of us can either take a registration form or sign on as a sponsor for those who plan to walk. In our congregation there are those who will walk the entire route of five miles, while others can walk the oval in front of the high school. But ALL of us can be sponsors of those who walk.

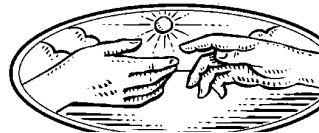
A portion of the funds raised by the NW CROP Walk will be returned to our community to help those who are facing problems in meeting higher food prices. OWL's Kitchen food bank in Lakeville is reporting an increased demand for food, with four and five more families registering each week.

So walkers, please sign up with us in the parish hall after church on Sundays through September 28th. I will be the CROP recruiter for our church again this year.

Sue Ritchie (435-2524)

Consider Joining our Prayer Group

A small group gathers on alternate Wednesdays to pray for individuals in our congregation and in the wider community. We have a list of individuals who are facing



medical and other challenges for whom we pray. We also offer prayers of thanksgiving for individuals who have occasions for celebration. We have heard many expressions of appreciation from people for whom we pray.

Jesus calls upon us to uphold one another in prayer. Please consider joining with us in this vital Christian practice, even if you can't come on a regular basis. **September meetings are 10:15 on the 3rd and 17th in the Parish Hall.**

CROP Walk - 1:30 on Sunday, September 28th -

After former New York City Mayor Ed Koch had a stroke, he told God that he'd lived a full life and wouldn't mind dying. But he wanted to be taken immediately and not be cut off a bit at a time, like a piece of salami.

When Koch (who is Jewish) was in the hospital, a visiting rabbi prayed in both English and Hebrew. The words were: "Heal me and I shall be healed; save me and I shall be saved."

Later, New York City's Roman Catholic cardinal entered the mayor's room and offered to pray in Hebrew. But the ailing mayor, who never lost his sense of humor, said, "Your Eminence, I already took care of the Hebrew and English. Could you just do the Latin?"



in September

- 1st Julie Aller
- 3rd Dan Heck
- 6th Alvord Beardslee
- 7th Darby Craig, Diane Mayland
- 8th Joanne Taber
- 9th Bill Genito
- 12th Sara Deprodcini
- 13th Judy Percy, Susan Belcher
- 14th Rachel Child
- 15th Catherine O'Connor
- 17th Robin Dee
- 20th Bill Morrill
- 21st Bill Binzen
- 22nd Heather Schaufele
- 23rd Donald Allyn
- 25th Tom Stewart
- 26th Ronald O'Connor
- 27th Louise Robinson

World War II Veterans Honored

Be sure to stop in at the Academy Building to view the Salisbury Association Historical Society's World War II Exhibit, Part 2. It is a beautifully presented tribute to our local veterans and includes the stories of several members of our extended church family, past and present:

Jack Anderson, Bill Binzen, Don Buckley, George Bushnell, Sally Ellsworth, Bill Fox, Nort Miner, Bill Schaufele, Norm Sills, Al Sly, and Walter Ullram.

The exhibit will run until October 19th. Hours are: Monday-Friday, 9-1; Saturdays and Sundays, 10-2.

Special dates

- Labor Day - Monday, the 1st
- National Grandparents Day - Sunday, the 7th
- First Day of Autumn - Friday, the 22nd

Our September Calendar

Wednesday, the 3rd: Prayer Group - 10:15

Sunday, the 7th:

- Worship with Communion 10:00
- Board of Trustees - 11:15

Wednesday, the 10th - Choir rehearsals begin - 7:30

Friday, the 12th: Men's Bible Breakfast - 7:15

- Bible Study - 1:00

Sunday, the 14th:

- Church School breakfast and meeting - 9:15
- Worship and Church School - 10:00
- Board of Christian Action - 11:15
- Youth Fellowship - 5:00, Parents meet - 7:15

Wednesday, the 17th - Prayer Group - 10:15

Friday, the 19th: Men's Bible Breakfast - 7:15

- Bible Study - 1:00
- Potluck supper - 5:30

Sunday, the 21st:

- Worship and Church School - 10:00
- Church Council - 11:15

Friday, the 26th: Men's Bible Breakfast - 7:15

- Bible Study - 1:00

Sunday, the 28th:

- Worship and Church School - 10:00
- CROP Walk - 1:30 - HVRHS

Monday, the 29th: Board of Deacons - 4:30

An elderly farmer was finishing his haymaking one Sunday afternoon when his pastor drove by. "I noticed you weren't in church this morning," said the pastor. "Don't you know that the Creator made the world in six days and then rested on the seventh?"

"Yes," replied the farmer, as he looked uneasily at the rain clouds gathering in the sky. "I know all about that. But he got done and I didn't."

Taber Talk

Building up the Body

In the 14th chapter of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians he responds to a question about the appropriateness of speaking in tongues, also known as glossolalia. The practice of this gift of the spirit was quite common in the early church. Paul even boasts, "I speak in tongues more than any of you." But he then goes on to say, "Nevertheless, in church (worship) I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue." Why? Because, Paul argues, speaking in tongues does not "build up" the newcomer who has come to worship. When it comes to determining what is appropriate in the worship service Paul puts forth this principal: "Let all things be done for building up." It is our responsibility - all of us - to seek to build up the body of Christ here in Salisbury.

God has given each of us gifts "for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

You may say, "But I thought that was the job of the minister and the Deacons," and the answer to that is, "Yes." BUT it is also an important aspect of the ministry of the all believers. God has given each of us gifts "for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

You may wonder, "What can I do?" Here are some suggestions:

- Invite someone to come to Homecoming Sunday on September 14th. Church School begins again, the choir will end their summer recess and once again bless us with their contribution to our worship, and it's the time many of us return from summer haunts.

- If you know of families in the community who might be interested in Church School, let them know about our open house on that Sunday - September 14th at 9:15. A light breakfast is served by the Deacons, children have a chance to renew friendships, and church school teachers are introduced. Parents can visit classrooms with no obligation.

- If you encounter folks at worship who appear to be new, greet them, offer to answer questions they may have and communicate the UCC message in your own way: "Whoever you are, wherever you are in life's journey, you are welcome here."

- Talk with friends and neighbors about what this church means to you. Let them know about our Bible studies, youth program, prayer group, etc.

And once again I share the message of a little card I saw on a table at a restaurant:

"If you don't like what we do tell us.
If you do like what we do tell others."

And who would want to visit a church or recommend a church to others if you hear members speaking disparagingly about the worship or the programs and activities? The Deacons and I are anxious to hear about any concerns and disappointments.

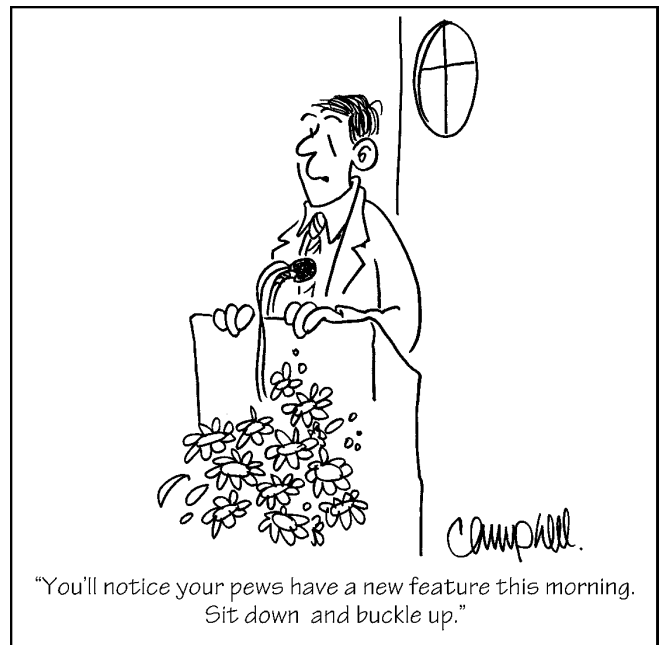
We all look forward to beginning our new program year.

Peace, Dick

Nancy Sills Day



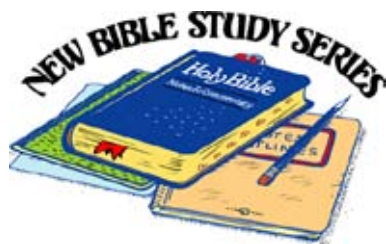
We will celebrate Nancy Sills' many contributions to our church life at the **Fellowship hour on Sunday, Sept 21st**. Nancy sang in our choir for many years and participated in the Upkeep Society. As kitchen chairman, she faithfully kept our kitchen clean, well stocked and organized, and ready for inspection! We hope you can be a part of the celebration.



Bible Study Groups Meet

The Friday Afternoon Bible Study Group will begin on Friday, September 12th, at 1:00. Everyone is welcome to attend this lively discussion of the Bible, its content, its history, and how it affects our lives

The Men's Bible Breakfast will also begin on Friday, September 12th, at 7:15. All men in the community are welcome to a hearty breakfast and far-ranging Bible discussions.



Both Bible groups meet weekly, and Dick Taber leads them with expertise and skill. We will begin our year with an overview of prophecy in the Bible, focusing especially on the words and

ministry of Elijah and Elisha and then moving on to sample the writings of the major and minor prophets. We will ask the question, "What would the prophets say if they were addressing us today?"

No prior experience necessary. All questions welcome. If you've been thinking about joining either group, September is a great time to do it.

Ten Commandments for right living:

I Thou shall not worry, for by doing so thou shall suffer the same disaster many times.

II. Thou shall not try to dominate or possess others, for each person is responsible to God.

III. Thou shall not desire after fame, for the burdens of greatness are an affliction unto the spirit.

IV Thou shall not desire after great wealth, for great wealth of itself does not bring peace.

V Thou shall relax, for great tension is an abomination unto the flesh.

VI Thou shall have a sense of humor or thy years will seem much longer and more painful.

VII Thou shall love the beautiful and serve the good, for this is according to the will of heaven.

VIII Thou shall harm no other person by word, thought or deed, regardless of cause; for to do so is to perpetuate the sorrows of this world.

IX Thou shall not be angry at any person for any reason, for anger injures most the one who is angry.

X Thou shall remember that God is Creator and that you are a unique and important part of his created order, unlike any person who has ever lived.

New Singers Welcome

The Senior Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 10th, at 7:30 in the parish hall. Come at 6:30 for a pizza supper and good post-vacation talk.

All voice parts are welcome, but we would be especially happy to welcome new sopranos and basses. If you know of friends, neighbors, or relatives who enjoy singing, bring them along!



My Church

My church is composed of people like me. We make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

My church will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with those things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be!

