

The Meeting House Times

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, United Church of Christ

September 2010



30 Main Street, P.O. Box 392, Salisbury, Connecticut 06068 ~ 860.435.2442 ~ www.salisburycongregational.org

Pamela Wyeth, Editor

Our Church School Year Begins

Please join us for breakfast! Families with children are invited to a light breakfast on Sunday, September 12th, at 9:15 in the parish hall. This annual gathering, which is sponsored by the Board of Deacons, is a wonderful opportunity to greet old friends and to welcome newcomers to our church school family. Barbara Collins will register the children for the coming church school year. Bring a friend! Bring a family!

Classes for children in Pre-kindergarten (age 4) through Grade 7 will begin on the 12th. 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.

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FALL FESTIVAL 2010

The **Annual Fall Festival** has been a special event in our community for nearly 60 years. So mark your calendars for this year's dates — October 8th, 9th, and 10th.

What began as an all-church event has grown into a wide variety of activities sponsored by many organizations in Salisbury and Lakeville over the three-day weekend. Every year more groups join the list of the Salisbury Congregational Church, St. John's, St. Mary's, United Methodist, All Saints, Friends of Scoville Memorial Library, Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service, Noble Horizons, Salisbury Association Historical Society, Sweethaven Farm, and Best & Cavallaro. This year Hotchkiss is sponsoring a new "Bearcat 5K" race, along with a fun run and walk. The Salisbury Winter Sports Association is holding a new fund-raising event at the ski jumps on Sunday afternoon.

This tremendous growth in the Fall Festival means that it attracts more visitors from near and far. It provides a wonderful opportunity to showcase both our community and our church. So plan to share in the fun of a hometown celebration on a gorgeous autumn weekend (we hope) with family and friends.

...more on the Fall Festival on page 4

NEW & IMPROVED
www.SALISBURYCONGREGATIONAL.ORG

If you haven't already done so, please check out the church's new website – familiar content, just a new look. Should delivery of your printed copy of *The Meeting House Times* be delayed, you can always find it on time on the website. Also, to keep the on-line calendar useful and up-to-date, please keep me apprised of events and dates of interest to the congregation & friends. You can phone me (860 824 9956) or send me an email at (pamela@salisburycongregational.org).

Pamela Wyeth, Webmaster





"...Study to show yourself as one approved by God..." (II Tim. 2:15)

Over the course of the last several months, many of you have come asking for more opportunities for adult study. For a pastor, such enthusiasm is a welcome interruption of routine, and one we are enthusiastically interested in accommodating. The admonition by Paul to his protégé Timothy (as quoted above) to apply himself diligently to study as one way to "present [ourselves] to God as approved" is a stalwart one, presented in the context of the charge to both know what he believes and to avoid superfluous "Christian chatter" that did little more than detract his attention from doing the work he was called to do. It's important to note, however, that Paul's warning to steer away from this was *not* an attempt to dissuade Timothy from theological dialogue, which could assist both him and his church in working out their own faith. Indeed, the practice of discourse over the Scriptural texts (which were only the Hebrew [Old] Testament writings at this point) was encouraged within the synagogues and church worship gatherings of the day.

The classes we have been offering up until this point have garnered significant inquiry. The value of studies such as these are what I refer to as the "three I's": Information, Interaction, and Interest. They have the potential of *informing* us on topics we are less than savvy regarding, but which hold our *interest* in one or more ways, and give us the opportunity to *interact* with others on what is being studied, benefitting from their perspectives even as they are benefitting from our own. A fourth possible "I" could be included here, and that is that all of our class offerings will be offered on the Internet, as an option for those who cannot attend in person but hold an interest in the study, as well as assisting those attendees who miss a class and want to keep up on the discussion elicited by them.

I am delighted, therefore, that as a result of our surveys recently dispensed on Adult Study, nearly 40 people have not only identified themselves as being interested, but *when* they are able to be involved. Attendance at these offerings up to this point has been difficult for many who, for one reason or another, have been unable to commit to the times offered. This is understandable, especially with the gamut of schedules and residential locations represented by our congregation. We will therefore be offering our upcoming studies in multiple days and times, in order to bring in as many as possible. The following classes will be slated for the next two months here at S.C.C.:

Meeting Jesus Again For the First Time by Marcus Borg. (September)

Dr. Borg is Professor of Religion and Culture at Oregon State Univ., and has led the movement of progressive Christianity for the last two decades. This book takes the reader momentarily away from conventional understandings of the person of Jesus, and challenges him/her to consider fresh perspectives of who he was historically and what his mission was here on earth. Borg's objective is less to deconstruct current doctrine, though, and is much more focused on helping the historical person of Jesus come alive as a focal point for relationship with God – particularly for those who may struggle with a strictly doctrinal understanding of who and what Jesus was during his life.

Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis. (October)

C. S. Lewis is no stranger to those familiar with both sacred and secular literature. While his *Narnia* series brought him worldwide fame for the last two generations in both religious and non-religious circles, his works on faith and the Christian life have assisted countless followers of Christ in understanding and committing to their faith, even in the most difficult of times. This book is perhaps the most well-known among his religious writings, and captures pragmatically the essence of many aspects of our faith, challenging his readers to live them out in practical ways in their spiritual journeys.

For the month of September, we will be offering our Adult Class beginning with the week of Labor Day, on the following days and times:

Monday Evenings @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Afternoons @ 3:00 p.m.

Thursday Mornings @ 9:00 a.m.

Since each class will cover the same chapters and aspects of the study for any given week, participants who miss their originally selected day/time can attend an alternate class. For the month of October, we will assess the viability of September's offerings and set the schedule accordingly, adding or removing options as appropriate based on attendance, which will be announced in plenty of time for those interested in participating.

For the September study (*Meeting Jesus Again...*) we are encouraging all participants to read the entire book prior to the first class. It can be acquired several different ways:

- Alban Institute (www.alban.org)
- Borders books (borders.com or amazon.com)
- Oblong Bookstore in Millerton
- Scoville Library

I look forward to studying with you as we open a new chapter of adult education at S.C.C. See you there!



Search Committee News

The Search Committee has been hard at work this summer, meeting at least once a week to review candidate profiles. We have received 40 profiles thus far and are receiving more profiles on a regular basis.

As we have mentioned previously, the discernment process is challenging and has a variety of steps we need to follow to get to know each candidate. We have received profiles from excellent candidates as we join together to discuss and try to understand how their strengths, experience, and goals match what you, members of our congregation, are seeking. This is detailed, time-consuming, but very rewarding work.

As much as we all would like to have reached a decision to call our settled pastor, finding that person is a process that cannot be rushed or streamlined. All candidates have contributed to our growing understanding of God's will, both for us as a committee and for our congregation.

We on the search committee are grateful for your continued support and prayers. It is an honor and privilege to be charged with this task.

Sarah Zarbock for the Search Committee

Next Free Community Supper - Coming Up

It won't be until shortly after the *Meeting House Times* has been printed that our committee will have met to establish the date and menu for our fall community supper. We are not yet certain of all the details, but we can tell you that it will be similar to our successful June event. And we will be able to seat 100 people. We will let you know all the details soon, so you can talk this up to your friends and neighbors. Stay tuned. Information will be in the church bulletin, and in newspaper announcements. Get your taste buds ready!

Sara, Jane, Carol, Janet, Sheryl, and Peg

For a description and pictures of the June 11th Community Supper, visit the website:

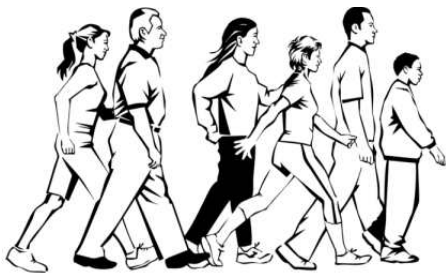
www.salisburycongregational.org/life_of_church.htm

Do you like to sing?

If so, why not join like-minded people in the adult choir?

We rehearse every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall and before the worship service on Sundays. We would welcome you in any voice part.

Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 8th.



CROP Walk

The **CROP Walk** date is fast approaching. **Sunday, September 26th**, the Northwest Corner CROP Walk, sponsored by Church World Service, will be held once again starting at the Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village at 1:00 pm.

CROP walks are held in hundreds of communities around our country every year, and the money raised goes to Church World Service. It is then allocated to people in need of food, both abroad and here at home.

Both the 5 and 10 mile routes start from the high school and go along a quiet, low-trafficked road that goes along the Housatonic River. It is a pleasant and scenic walk. To encourage those of us who do not wish to walk very far, there is also the much shorter oval walk in front of the high school.

We hope to encourage as many walkers as possible to take registration packets, and, using the material provided, ask others to sponsor their walk or run.

Shirley Rogers and I are the CROP Walk recruiters for our church, and starting on Sunday, September 5th, we will be at the recruiters' table at Sunday Fellowship Hour signing up walkers and handing out registration packets. Sponsors can be our neighbors, our friends and of course, the few church members who cannot participate as walkers. So everyone from young folks to senior folks, come and join in the CROP WALK.

Sue Ritchie, Christian Action Committee

Our Church's Activities

A small but hard-working committee has been busy planning our church's activities for the Fall Festival weekend.

- **Treasure Trove** – Last year our Treasure Trove received many compliments from visitors about the quality and display of our many tag sale items! This year Barbara Collins plans to chair another successful event, with lots of assistance from Shirley Rogers and Edith Blodgett. Call Barbara (860-435-0051) if you can help sort, price, display, or sell. See separate article in this issue about the many types of “treasures” to donate.
- **Country Kitchen** – The many homemade foods are a great attraction for festival-goers. Crowds gather around the display of pies, tarts, cakes, cookies, breads, brownies, cupcakes, muffins, quiches, coffee cakes, fudge, jams, jellies, pickles, and other assorted goodies throughout the day. Please call Linda Estabrook (860-824-5896) to volunteer to donate and sell on both Friday and Saturday. This is one activity our church shares with other churches, so please note that your items are from the Congregational Church.
- **Café** – Back by popular demand! This year, we'll be hosting a small café for guests on Saturday. In the morning, stop by for a cup of coffee, along with a muffin or piece of coffee cake from the Country Kitchen. At lunchtime, enjoy a delicious cup of homemade butternut squash soup and slice of crusty bread to eat-in or take-out. Quench your thirst with a cold glass of cider or a hot cup of coffee or tea. To top it off, try a slice of freshly baked apple pie served throughout the afternoon.
- **Bread and Pie Baking** – Irene Light will demonstrate her bread-baking techniques, offer samples of her homemade grape jam on slices of freshly baked bread, and hand out her recipes on Saturday. Karin Noyes will also be there with her freshly-baked apple pies.
- **Hot Dog Tent** – Roseanne Lamson (860-435-0053) and her merry crew will serve old-fashioned hot dogs and other good stuff to the hungry sidewalk crowd. Notice their new green aprons and hats....and the two large “live hot dogs” drumming up business around the tent!

- **Children's Fair** – On Saturday, look for the colorful balloons on Library Street. This will again be the site of fun activities for children of all ages: a free Magic Show by Peter James at 11 am and 2 pm, old-fashioned hay rides, face painting, and games organized by the Youth Fellowship. Parents and others are welcome to help our young people.
- **Global Crafts** – The Board of Christian Action organizes and runs this valuable addition to our Fall Festival. As in years past, their attractive items will be on display through early December. The Fall Festival is a good time to start thinking of unique gifts for those on your Christmas list.

You may have noticed there's no mention of a Silent Auction in our list of activities. Due to the unavailability of a chairperson, this event will not be held. Last year's silent auction raised over \$9,000.00, so we have a big financial gap to fill. Perhaps the auction will return in 2011.

We Need Your Support – Now More Than Ever

A large event such as the Fall Festival doesn't simply happen. The committee has been working hard to plan the activities, write publicity, and handle the many behind-the-scenes details. But to make the event a true success, we need everyone's help. Please plan to contribute in at least one of three ways:

PLEASE DONATE

- Items for the Treasure Trove.
- Baked goods and other homemade items for the Country Kitchen

PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Many hands make light work...and many people make a successful Fall Festival. To volunteer, call the chairperson or sign up in the Parish Hall after Sunday services.

- **Set-Up** – Help set up tables and chairs on Sunday afternoon, Oct 3. Partial takedown is needed on Saturday, Oct 9, and final cleanup will be on Sunday, Oct 10. Call Mike Fitting (413-229-2917).

Fall Festival (continued)

- **Treasure Trove** – Help Barbara Collins (860-435-0051) sort, price, and display items before the Festival, then sell on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (when everything is half-price).
- **Country Kitchen** – Help Linda Estabrook (860-824-5896) sell items on Friday and Saturday.
- **Café** – Help prepare butternut squash soup prior to the Festival. Then help serve soup, pie, coffee, tea, and cider on Saturday (no dishwashing required.)
- **Greeters** – Help Jane Capecelatro (860-435-2359) welcome visitors to our church and explain the various events on Friday and Saturday.
- **Children's Fair** – Assist the young people with their various games and other activities for children.
- **Extra Hands** – Just want to help where needed? We need volunteers who are willing to do all sorts of things. Volunteer Recruiter Lee Collins (860-435-0051) is eager to hear from you and will suggest how you can help.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE

If you plan to be out of town for the weekend or are unable to donate or volunteer, please make a financial contribution. Send your check to the church (PO Box 392, Salisbury, CT 06068) and note that it's for the Fall Festival. Underwriters can help defray the many costs of the Festival, such as advertising, printing, food, decorations, band, and magician. We are proposing that the majority of proceeds from the Fall Festival 2010 be used for outreach programs. Your financial contributions will be gratefully appreciated.

The Fall Festival is a joyous celebration of our community, our church, and the autumn season. Please join us!

Chair: Jeanette Weber (860-435-4804)
Coordinator: Mike Fitting (413-229-2917)
Recruitment: Lee Collins (860-435-0051)
Treasurer: John Estabrook (860-824-5896)



Treasure Trove

Do you still have unopened packing boxes left from when you moved 15 years ago? Do you remember your New Year's resolution from 2007 to "declutter?" Do you really need four waffle irons? We have the answer for you. Donate your gently-used, all-parts-present, still-working items to the Fall Festival Treasure Trove.



Got antiques? Small appliances? Art? Baby items? Cameras and photo equipment? China, pottery, glassware? Collectibles and giftware? Craft supplies? Small furniture items? Gardening items? Holiday items? Housewares? Jewelry? Lamps? Linens? Pet supplies? Tools? Toys? We would be delighted to recycle them for you. Please, no computers or TVs, no exercise equipment, no books, no clothing.

Treasures can be left in the church basement or call Barbara Collins (860-435-0051) with questions or to arrange for pick-up.

Cooks Wanted!

We're looking for people who'd like to chop, measure, and mix ingredients in our kitchen the week before the Fall Festival.



They should also want to talk and laugh as they work together! The group will be preparing delicious butternut squash soup to sell in our Café and mouth-watering fudge to sell at our Country Kitchen.


Sign up in the Parish Hall after Sunday services or call Jeanette Weber (860-435-4804) or Lee Collins (860-435-0051) to volunteer.



SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 – October 15, 2010			1	2	3	4
5 10:00 - Worship - Crib/Nursery care available 11:15 - Board of Trustees	6 7:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again <i>Labor Day</i>	7 3:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	8 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	9 9:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	10	11 <i>Patriot Day</i>
12 Homecoming Sunday 9:15 - Church School Breakfast & Meeting 10:00 - Worship & Communion Church School 11:15 - Christian Action <i>National Grandparents Day</i>	13 7:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	14 3:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	15 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	16 9:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	17 5:30 - Pot Luck	18
19 10:00 - Worship & Church School 11:15 - Church Council	20 7:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	21 3:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	22 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	23 9:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again <i>1st Day of Autumn</i>	24	25
26 10:00 - Worship & Church School 11:15 - Board of Deacons	27 7:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	28 3:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again	29 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	30 9:00 - Book Study Meeting Jesus Again		

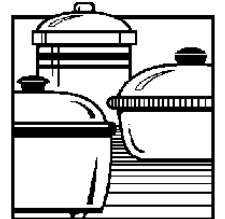
Deadline for October's Newsletter: Monday, September 20th

- 
- 2nd Dianna Colpitts
3rd Dan Heck
6th Alvord Beardslee
7th Darby Craig
7th Diane Mayland
8th Joanne Taber
13th 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

September Birthdays

Potluck Supper

Join Us for Supper: Friday, September 17th at 5:30. It's the first potluck supper of the season 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. Bread, dessert and beverage will be provided. Bring the family! Bring a friend! Cartoons for the kids.



There is no need to RSVP. Do you need a ride? Give one of us a call: Barbara Collins (435-0051) or Sarah Rydingsword (435-9479).

GEORGE DWIGHT KELLOGG, JR.
MARCH 9, 1917 ~ AUGUST 19, 2010

It was a pleasure and privilege for me to sing in our church choir with George for almost 40 years and to direct the Housatonics Barbershop Chorus with him as a stalwart in the bass section. It was fun to watch him react to a funny story or joke, particularly when he was telling it. His eyes would light up, he would grin and laugh and so enjoy it. We miss him.

Lee Collins

The Beginnings of Sunday School

Englishman Robert Raikes, born in 1735, was a Christian layman who was pained to see unschooled children working six days a week in factories or mines. On Sundays, children roamed the streets, often getting into trouble. Most didn't know how to read or write and knew nothing about Christ or the church.

As Raikes labored to reform England's prison system, he noticed that many children were imprisoned, stirring him to action on their behalf. He arranged for halls and homes to be used for educational purposes on Sundays, the one day children didn't have to work. He found volunteers to teach reading, writing and math, as well as the Bible and Christian beliefs.

The first Sunday school class was held in July 1780. Amazingly, by 1788 some 250,000 children were attending such schools. This occurred despite some people's opposition to the education of lower-class children.

Countless boys and girls have attended Sunday school classes since then, thanks to Raikes, who brought Christ's light and love to children around the world.


"Anything you do from the soulful self will help lighten the burdens of the world... anything. You have no idea what the smallest word, the tiniest generosity, can cause to be set in motion... Mend the part of the world that is within your reach." *Clarissa Pinkola Estes*

Art Class

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."



Just for KIDS

GOD'S INSTRUCTION

The Bible is a guide for how we should live. In Sunday school and at home, we learn how God loves and saves us. Solve this puzzle to find Proverbs 4:13 (NIV), which tells about the importance of God's Word.

First, write the word that means the opposite of the one given. Then write the correct letters on the number-coded lines below.

young death cold come

sweet can't no later


"H

6 15 10 5 12 11 13 5 6 1 15 ' 3 1

15 1 5 2 8 5 6 5 9 1 ;

9 11 14 12 3 6 5 17 8 2 2 ' 7 1 12

6 5 6 10 16 1 11 12 2 6 7 8 "



"Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life." (Proverbs 4:13, NIV)

Answers: old, life, hot, go, sour, can, yes, now

