



WELCOME ~ AUGUST 18, 2024

We are glad you've joined us for worship today. If you are visiting with us today may you discover a friendly church, a safe haven where you will be loved and accepted; where you will be challenged to reflect on your beliefs, acknowledge your doubts, ask questions, and grow in your faith. May The First Congregational Church, Canton Center help you find God's compassion, healing, reconciliation, justice and joy in our worship service and where you are given the opportunity to put your faith into action through effective outreach ministries. We hope to get to know you as a new friend and invite you to fill out a visitor card. No matter who you are, or where you are in your journey, you are welcome here.

*The flowers this morning are given by Casey Levine
in celebration of a wonderful Summer.*

*We welcome the congregation of the Canton Community Baptist Church,
joining us for services in until September 1st and their pastor, the Rev. Amy Johnson.*

Livestream Operators- We are looking for a few more volunteers for our Sunday Service livestreaming. Training is not difficult with a step by step instruction booklet. See Beth Lingenheld.

Looking for Greeters- Church greeters are often the first people visitors see when they arrive at our Church. Greeters arrive at 9:30 am, greeting people as they enter, making them feel welcomed and safe, providing information, creating a welcoming environment and inviting visitors to coffee hour. Call Deacon Paul Stansel (cell phone 203-592-1961) for more information.

Save the Dates

Gathering Sunday- Sept. 15 & Matsiko World Orphan Choir - Sept. 14 & 15

Have you ever heard a choir that's performed at the White House, the Rose Bowl, and even been called "Our World's Treasure" by Disneyland? Meet the Matsiko World Orphan Choir, a group of talented singers and dancers from Liberia. They are orphans and at-risk children who have found hope and a future through music and education. **They are scheduled to be here from Sept. 14th - Sept. 16th.** Not only will you be entertained by their incredible talent, but you'll also learn about their inspiring stories and the mission to empower millions of orphaned and vulnerable children around the world. **Please let Pastor Kurt know if you are able to help with this event,** with advertising, marketing, someone in charge of the bagged lunch & dinner; and hosting families.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*We gather as a welcoming community in worship, learning, service and fellowship to embody Christ's message of love, compassion and justice.
Joining faith with action, both within and beyond our church,
we strive to build a community that serves all.*

An Open and Affirming Church

Prayers for:

*Gina Magennis' grandson, Joseph,
who is being diagnosed after having seizures in his sleep.
and continued prayers for my niece, Rachel
as she gets an experimental drug for cancer.*

Joys for:

*The blessings of the Olympics that went so smoothly and safe travels for the athletes.
Joys and praise that the world was united by sports for 2 weeks.
(Kathleen Lundgren)*

Bridge the Gap Update

Our Mission is two-fold: Raise money to reduce what we use each year from the endowment and in doing so, hopefully attract new members. Our next scheduled event is an Artisan Fair, Sat., Nov. 23rd. Hopefully this will include a bake sale or serving hotdogs & hamburgers. **Our Team needs your help. We are hoping to grow the number from 5 volunteers to at least 10 or more volunteers.** If you can afford to help out our Bridge the Gap Team, even periodically or on special events or even simply joining our meetings to brainstorm with us, or with simple jobs like phone calls, emails, or sharing your ideas, etc...please let Pastor Kurt know if you are able to help.

Interim Minister: Rev. Kurt Satherlie

Ministers: Every Member

Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe

Dir. of Faith Formation: Hollace Bristol

Asst. of Faith Formation: Karen Needham

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Duty Deacons: Kristin Oswald & Tim Lundgren **Trustees:** Phil LeGeyt

Sunday 18	Monday 19	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23	Saturday 24
Worship 10am	A/Anon 7 pm	AA 7 pm				AA 11:00 pm