



## WELCOME ~ SEPTEMBER 1, 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 Skip & Nancy Alford in celebration of a wonderful summer and new surprises coming in the fall.*

*We welcome the congregation of the Canton Community Baptist Church, joining us for services this morning.*

**REMINDER:** "Gathering Sunday" will be held September 15 with a church school theme of "We Are the World" as we include the Matsiko World Orphan Choir.

**Meet & Greet Potluck** -On Saturday, September 14 at 5:00pm, Wider Church will sponsor a "Meet and Greet" potluck dinner to welcome the Matsiko World Orphan Choir. We will be providing chicken and ask that you bring a side dish or dessert to share. The choir and their chaperones (33 people) will be our guests, so we ask that you bring a large dish to help feed them, as well as ourselves. There is a sign up sheet on the kitchen door. After the meal the choir will change into their costumes and perform in the sanctuary at 7:00. The concert is open to the public and we hope to have a full house to welcome them to Canton! If you have any questions, please see Craig or Linda McAllister.

**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.

**Are you or someone you know thinking about joining our church?** If so, please attend one of the New Member Information sessions after church service on Sunday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> or Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> in the lower level corner room. These meetings will last no more than one hour. You will have a chance to hear from various church leaders the history, beliefs organizational structure and missions of Canton Center Church. We plan to have a New Member ceremony on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> during service. Please contact Senior Deacon Kristin Oswald if interested in joining our church family at 860-690-7129 or [oswaldfamily90@comcast.net](mailto:oswaldfamily90@comcast.net).

## 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:

*The family and friends of the Magennis' nephew, Grant Marcuccio, 32 years old who passed away from a fall in Glacier National Park and found after a week long search.*

*Cary LeGeyt's mom, Giny Ayer, who broke bones in her foot and ankle and is in rehab.*

*John Sharp's friend, Sandy, having recurrence of cancer, prayers for healing, support and comfort.*

*And for his nephew, Ryan, prayers for a positive test outcome for lump in his chest.*

**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.

### **SECOND HOUR ~ SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE - Sunday, September 29th**

Our settled pastor search committee has been busy this summer, collecting all your feedback and using it as valuable input as we complete our church profile. We received about 50 responses so thanks to everyone for sharing your perspectives. We're happy to hear from all who have thoughts so if you haven't responded yet, please feel free to do so. We will hold a second hour session after church on September 29th to share where we are and what's next heading into the next phase of our search. We hope to see you all there.

Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4	Thursday 5	Friday 6	Saturday 7
<b>Worship &amp; Communion 10am</b>	AA&ACA 7 pm	AA 7 pm	<b>Diaconate Meeting 7pm</b>			AA 11:00 pm