

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Debbie Lyon, Lay Reader**

August 27, 2023

Worship 9:30 AM

PRELUDE *O, Master Let Me Walk With Thee* Gordon Young

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing  
your praise;

**People: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your  
steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and  
your word above everything.**

Leader: On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**People: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the  
words of your mouth.**

Leader: They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

**People: For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he  
perceives from far away.**

Leader: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my  
enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

**People: The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures  
forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

\*HYMN # 48 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

\*INVOCATION

**O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer, guide our thoughts and our words in our  
discussions today. Let our hearts be filled with your praise. Let us never forget the  
good things you do for us. You have forgiven our sins. You have rescued us from  
death. You have crowned us with love and tender mercies. Renew our strength and  
refresh our souls. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.**

\*LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth  
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those  
who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the  
kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI # 734

SPECIAL MUSIC *I Am the Vine* arr. John Michael Talbot  
Lynne Peffley, Soloist

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Isaiah 51:1-6* Pg # 643

\*HYMN # 502 *Be Thou My Vision*

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 16:13-20* Pg # 16

SERMON *Choices* Rev. Karl Bawel

OFFERTORY *Come With Us O Blessed Jesus* arr. Dale Wood

\*DOXOLOGY # 34

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Our offerings are an expression of our faith, O God. They tell of our thankfulness;  
they speak of blessings received and cheerfully shared. What a privilege is ours, what  
riches we possess, to be able to give with joy for the work of your church! We  
worship you with these tokens and the rededication of our lives and work to your  
will. Amen.**

\*HYMN # 544 *The Church's One Foundation*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune on "Ash Grove"* arr. David Lasky

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

*Call to Worship from Psalm 138; Invocation supplied by Karl Bawel;  
Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2 by Lavon Bayler*

**We welcome Rev. Karl Bawel to our Pulpit!**

*Greeters This Morning: Carla DeMeco, Jackie Lowe  
Ushers This Morning: Jean Landes, Nancy Ward, Kay Michelinie, Lynne Peffley  
Live Stream This Morning: Mike Ryan  
Coffee Hour Host: Pastor Parish/Public Image*



**If you are visiting with us, welcome!**

**Please fill out a green card and place it in the offering plate.**

If you would like to use our hearing assistance system please see an usher.

## Happy Birthday

28 Cathy Moore ~ Amy McFadden ~ Avery Casella  
29 Tim Schneider  
30 Connie Fredericks-Malone ~ Carol Peters  
2 Skip Uhlen

## Prayer List

**Allie and Seamus, friends & family of Josh A.** friends of Fred Henry; **Carol Birx** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Marjorie Case; Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Judy Clark** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Abby Coons** (Carl & JoAnn Reed's friend); **Carol & Kent** (Karen's friends); **Cathy Coots; Betsy Cox; Glenn & Karen DeHond; Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Max Grossman** (George Herren's friend); **Carin Herren; Barb Iglewski; Anne Jensen** (friend of Jim & Connie Fredericks-Malone); **John** (Lin's nephew); **Sue Kotalik; Ron & Lu Krahl; Michelle List;** (friend of Joann Reed); **Dennis Maxfield; Paul** (Dennis Maxfield's brother); **Frank McAlpin** (Patrick McAlpin's father); **Okke Postma; Chris Pritchard** (Rick & Cindy Mullen and George Herren's friend); **Don Raw, Sr.; Alexander Saxby** (Son-in-law of Phil and Kathi Nevin); **Pat Smith; Dr. Steven Smith & Family** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' friends); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Jim Ziegler; those who struggle with poverty and homelessness, especially those who receive food and gas card support**

## Calendar

Sun Aug 27		<i>We Welcome Rev. Karl Bawel</i>
Mon Aug 28	3:00	Literacy Volunteers
	6:30	Bridge
Tue Aug 29	8:00	Men's Group
	10:00	Rug Hookers/Social Rooms
	10:00	Literacy Volunteers/Hayes Room
Wed Aug 30	10:00	TOPS
	PM	Organ Tuning
Thu Aug 31	10:00	Literacy Volunteers/Hayes Room
	12:00	Bridge
	3:00	Literacy Volunteers
Sun Sep 3	9:30	Worship In-Person & Live Stream
Mon Sep 4		<i>Labor Day ~ Office Closed</i>

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

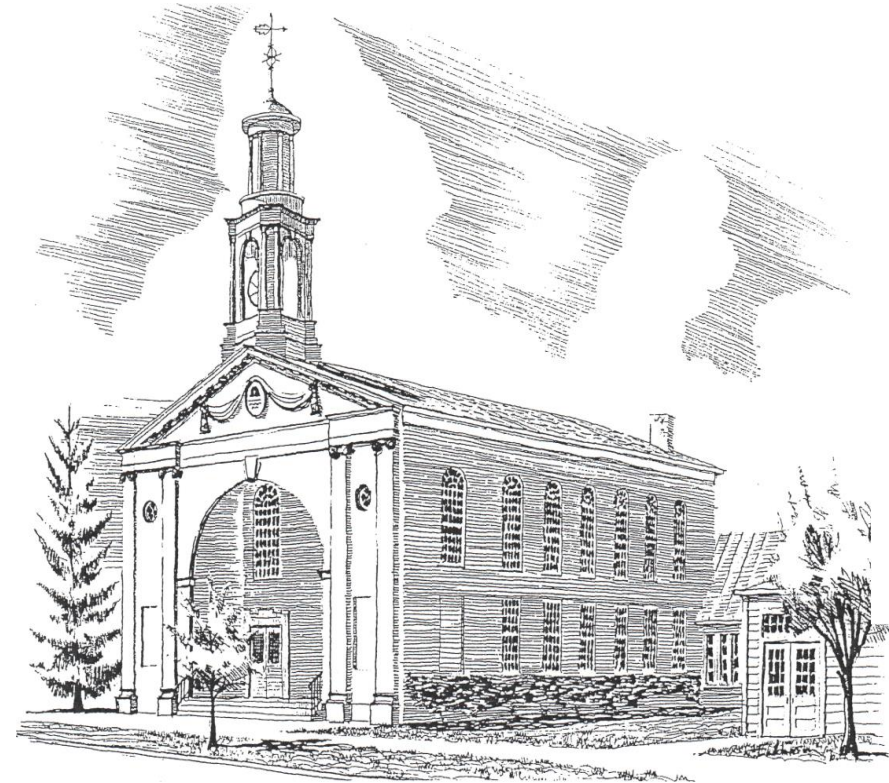
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## We're a Different Kind of Church

- ❖ We value and respect diversity in the ways we express our faith.
- ❖ We enjoy thoughtful dialogue about faith issues.
- ❖ We encourage each other to work for justice and to care for people in need in our community and in our world.