

**WEEK OF 7.12.09 AT FIRST CHURCH**

Sun. 7.12.09	10 am – Worship in the Chapel
Mon. 7.13.09	9 am – Pirate Camp Begins (for the week)
Tues. 7.14.09	7 pm – Carillon Concert
Fri. 7.17.09	9 am – The Last Day of Pirate Camp

**WEEK OF 7.19.09 AT FIRST CHURCH**

Sun. 7.19.09	10 am – Worship in the Chapel
Tues. 7.21.09	7:00 pm – Carillon Concert

**WEEK OF 7.26.09 AT FIRST CHURCH**

Sun. 7.26.09	10 am – Worship in the Chapel Guest Minister, Rev. B. Suzy Rivera
Tues. 7.21.09	7:00 pm – Carillon Concert

**WEEK OF 8.2.09 AT FIRST CHURCH**

Sun. 8.2.09	Communion Sunday 10 am – Worship in the <b>Sanctuary</b> Guest, Rev. Sirirat Pusurinkham 5 pm – Dinner and Presentation by Rev. Sirirat Pusurinkham
Mon. 8.3.09	10 am – August Newsletter Deadline



**DO YOU NEED NEW SHOES?**

You may qualify to receive a new pair, **covered by your insurance!**

**FREE** foot and shoe evaluation  
**52 Main St.** New Britain, CT  
**Friday July 10th from 10-12**

by: StepRite, LLC -- participates with Medicare, Medicaid, SAGA, Community Health Network and HealthNet.

**Please come by to see if you qualify!**

**MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE**

Thank you for continuing to support the Osgood Food Pantry with your donations to *Soup* month! We will combine July and August to be "*Summer Staples*" months. Anything from bottled water, sunscreen, lotions, personal care items, diapers, and handy wipes to canned goods would be appreciated. With kids home for the summer, the need is great for kid friendly items! Thank you, Joyce A. & Amy B.

**IN OUR FIRST CHURCH FAMILY**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bernie Whitaker and her family on the death of the Rev. Orin Whitaker on Tuesday, June 12, 2009. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date in the Orleans Federated Church, in Massachusetts. Bernie may be reached at 135 Vesper Pond Dr., East Brewster, MA 02631; phone 508-255-0721.

**FCCFF (Financial Facts)**

Budget cuts to date have been quite troubling. Troubling not only in the dollar amount, but troubling in their meaning. Have you been tracking our Missions giving? Two years ago, missions giving from pledged monies was \$40,000. One year ago, missions giving from pledged monies was \$20,000. In 2009, mission donations from pledges will be \$10,000-just 25% of what it was two short years ago. What will 2010 hold? Doesn't this begin to deny the very essence of who we are?  
~Lynn A., Council Chairperson

**ALLOCATION OF PHASE 3 CAPITAL FUNDS:**

Per Church Council vote, there has been a re-prioritization of remaining/expected capital monies to fund a full refurbishment of the sanctuary. Original capital campaign documents provided only for painting, but a full assessment revealed the need for considerably more attention to include:

- cleaning of the white bricks and the stone walls
- re-caulking of some windows
- painting
- replacement of 40 floor vents
- carpet installation (tears are a fall risk and cracked asbestos tiles need to be covered)
- new pew cushions
- refinishing of water damage to the communion table and pulpit stairs

The Council felt strongly that the sanctuary should take top priority of Phase 3 funds.

If you have any questions, reservations or objections to this re-prioritization, please contact any member of the Executive Committee, while the Council is in summer recess.

Lynn A., Don R., Judy R. and Joyce P.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS REMINDER**

We have begun summer office hours; they will be from 9:00 – 12:00, Monday – Friday.

**FIRST CHURCH SOFTBALL**

First Church lost to Saint Ann's 1 by a slim 2 – 0 margin in our first game of the week, but came back Wednesday evening to defeat El Shaddai by a comfortable margin. Our record is 5 wins and 8 losses. We should be entering the playoffs next week, teams and fields to be determined.

**A NOTE FROM THE DIACONATE AND WORSHIP WORKING GROUP...**

Do you ever wonder if there is something you can do to help or reach out to a fellow First Church member? Or perhaps you would like someone to reach out to you! We're speaking here of the simple and heartfelt gestures like a phone call, a meal, or a card; things that mean so very much to our neighbors struggling with life's challenges.

If you'd like to be a part of the growing visitation ministry of the Diaconate and Worship Working Group, we'd love to include you in a list that will be shared with Jack, the Deacons and the Visitation Team. To participate, you only need e-mail Joni A. @ [jonimanderson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jonimanderson@sbcglobal.net) and let us know how you would like to help. (e.g. I'd like to make a meal for someone who recently had surgery, I can be available to phone a person who is shut in or convalescing, I know someone who could use a note or card now and then, I can run an errand if someone needs that etc). I'm sure you have some ideas, too. In any case, we'd love to hear from you! May God Bless You!

**DON'T MISS THIS EXPERIENCE!**

The Rev. Sirirat Pusurinkham will be visiting First Church on Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Not only will she be participating in the worship service with Rev. Jack at 10 a.m., but later that day she will be preparing Thai food and presenting a program on the orphanages in her village in Huai Krai, Thailand. The craft items made by the women in Sirirat's village will also be for sale. **Supper will begin at 5 p.m. and the program at 6 p.m. Admission will be \$10 per person AND reservations are required!** Please call the church office at 229-3709 or email Sharon Chamberlain at [Sharon830@snet.net](mailto:Sharon830@snet.net), to reserve your seat. First Church has been very supportive of Sirirat's mission work for the last 8 years. We hope that you'll come and meet this truly amazing woman!  
~ Sarah J.G., Mike D. and Sharon C.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS PASTA NIGHT**

First Lutheran Church Of the Reformation WELCOMES YOU on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:45 P.M. Join us for a **FREE** Pasta Dinner served with Salad, Bread, Coffee, Soft Drinks and Dessert at First Lutheran Church's Fellowship Hall, 77 Franklin Sq., New Britain, CT.

## The Bells of First Church

We hope you'll join us for our annual concert series on the Philip B. Stanley Carillon each Tuesday in July, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket, a picnic, and your friends for a delightful evening of music on the lawn.

**July 14 ~ Vera Wünsche & Katherine Zhou**  
Yale University, New Haven

**July 21 ~ Mariah Klaneski**  
Carillonneur, Wesleyan University, Middletown

**July 28 ~ Marietta Douglas**  
Carillonneur, First Presbyterian Church, Stamford

Concerts are free and open to the public.  
Complimentary ice cream & bottled water will be provided.  
Covered seating will be provided in the event of rain.



### SUMMERTIME!

Blue skies, hot days,  
Beach vacations, big waves!  
Friends sleep over, stay up late,  
Lemonade stands – it tastes great!  
Outdoor concerts, a mountainside climb,  
Thank you **God** for summertime!  
Hope you are giving thanks for yours!

Mrs. C

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

JULY 8, 2009

NEW BRITAIN, CT

Dear Friends,

In the words of the poet Samuel Longfellow, “The Summer Days Are Come Again:”

“The summer days are come again;  
Once more the glad earth yields  
Her golden wealth of ripening grain,  
And breath of clover fields,  
And deepening shade of summer woods,  
And glow of summer air,  
And winging thoughts, and happy moods  
Of love and joy and prayer.”

Although we enter our summer “respite” from the full schedule of program-year activities, still there is much going on at First Church to encourage “winging thoughts and happy moods of love and joy and prayer.” Let me remind you of a few and invite your participation—

We move to the (air-conditioned) Chapel for worship on July 12 and thereafter for the summer.

Our Carillon Concerts continue Tuesday evenings in July.

Captain Cook’s (who might that be?) Pirate Camp is July 13-17.

I’ll be on vacation July 21-28, and the Rev. B. Suzy Rivera, Outreach Programs Director, Friendship Service Center, will lead worship on July 26.

Rev. Sirirat from Thailand will be visiting with us on August 2. She will preach that morning (we’ll return to the Sanctuary that day) and will share a meal and program with us in the evening.

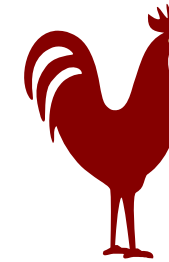
So, a busy beginning to our “restful” summer days! Share some of yours with us!

See you in church! Blessings always!

Jack

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#### OFFICE AND GALLERY HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

#### PROGRAM STAFF

The Rev. Jack Cook, Senior Minister  
Sharon Chamberlain, Coordinator of Christian Education  
James Gower, Director of Music Ministries  
Sarah Flythe, Coordinator of Youth Programming

Please go to our website, [www.firstnewbritain.org](http://www.firstnewbritain.org) for staff contact information

Copies of sermons and additional newsletters are available in the information rack outside the church office.