

The Carillon

January 2008

Storrs Congregational Church

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Transitional Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jay M. Terbush

Associate Minister: Rev. Hilary M. H. Dahlberg



January Calendar

1 **New Year's Day – Office Closed**

2 **Annual Reports Due**

5 & 6 **SPF Rock-a-Thon**

10 **12:30 pm Women's Fellowship Luncheon**

13 **Call to Care Gathering
• 5:00 pm Taizé Service**

15 **Carillon Deadline – 4 pm**

21 **Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed**

22 **UConn Classes Begin
• 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry**

27 **11:30 am Annual Congregational Meeting**

Complete calendar is located on the back page

CALL

The Annual Meeting of the Storrs Congregational Church will be held on Sunday, January 27, 2008 in the Parish House Lounge, at 11:30 a.m. The business agenda will include receiving yearly reports, filling elective offices, transacting business, and discussing plans for the ensuing year. In the event that the scheduled meeting must be postponed, it will be held on the following Sunday.

WAIM Grinder Sale

WAIM will be having their annual Grinder Sale in January. Grinders need to be pre-ordered and will be delivered to church on January 27. To order yours, speak with either of the WAIM representatives – Paula Dixon (429-9380) or Curtis Hoffman (429-9172).

Rock-A-Thon January 5-6

The Senior High Pilgrim Fellowship will be holding a fundraiser for a mission trip and an end of the year retreat. The youth will be at fellowship hour asking for your pledges of support for an all night (12 hour) rock-a-thon. Yes, we will be rocking (in chairs) all night. Your support will assist the group to spend February school break in NYC feeding hungry and homeless people in Jesus' name.



From the

Transitional Senior Pastor

So, we begin a new year. As some of you know, I have for much of my adult life, taken stock of my life as we come to the end of a calendar year and the beginning of a new year. I spend several hours on or around New Year's Day writing in a journal and reflecting on the state of my life. I will

do that again this year—while in Tucson visiting my Mom.

I am certain that I will record this year that I am happier than I have been, more at peace within myself, happily enjoying my ministry at this great church, and treasuring my relationships with people. I will write about being more deeply centered in God.

But whenever I do this year-end and year-beginning assessment, I always realize that there are aspects of my living that I would like to change, to re-focus, to be better and healthier.

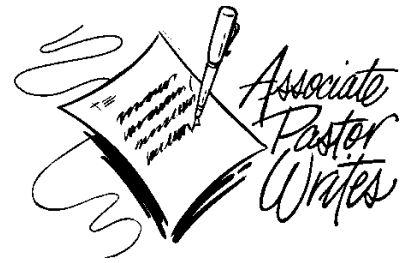
I recently looked back at a list I did 5 years ago to improve my quality of life:

- Read more books for the sheer pleasure of reading---starting with the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy (which I received from my kids that Christmas!)
- Continue my routine of swimming several days a week (I have recently begun getting back into this routine since joining the Recreation Center)
- Tell people more frequently that I love and appreciate them.
- Smile more often.
- Read scripture every day, because I want to grow closer to God's grace and love.
- Eat fewer sweets and chocolate, and more vegetables and fruit (This one was VERY difficult to practice—actually, I probably need to make this commitment again this coming year!! Hahah)
- Focus each day on reasons that my life is a joyous gift from God.

I share these reflections from my journal to encourage you, as well as me, to do some self-evaluation and prayerful reflection on your life, giving thanks to God for all that you have and setting some goals for making your life even better. I am eager to share the new year journeying with all of you.

Dr. Jay

Late this summer, David Bull approached Dr. Jay and myself and mentioned the Windham Chamber of Commerce's STRETCH Program. He suggested that Dr. Jay nominate me to this Community Leadership Class, which is in partnership with Leadership Greater Hartford. Dr. Jay was familiar with the program, having done Leadership Greater Hartford while he was a pastor at South Church. So, together we filled out the application, and I joined 15 other individuals in this intentional journey toward becoming a more effective citizen leader.



The theme of this year's STRETCH Program is "Creating a Safe, Nurturing Community for the Children of Northeast Connecticut." We began the end of September at a retreat at the Channel 3 Kids Camp in Andover, learning about collaborative community leadership. We explored five practices of good leadership, as developed by Kouzes and Posner: 1) Modeling the Way 2) Inspiring a Shared Vision 3) Challenging the Process 4) Enabling/Empowering Others to Act and 5) Encouraging the Heart. We identified personal best leadership experiences of the past, and looked to the future as to how we could improve. The Leadership Practices Inventory also gave us some data for self-reflection. We also looked at the Enneagram Types, and gained insight into personality characteristics that affect our interaction with others. It was a great start to the STRETCH Program, which will continue until May.

The Program meets once a month on a Friday for a day of learning about the community and developing our leadership skills. In October we took a tour of the Willimantic and Storrs region and learned about different resources and programs for children. In November we met with public officials and spoke about public policy to help children. In the afternoon we focused on "Modeling the Way" and engaged in a values auction game to identify what were most important qualities in a leader. In December we met at Natchaug Hospital and learned about mental health resources for children, as well as focusing more deeply on the Enneagram types. The rest of the year promises to be fruitful!

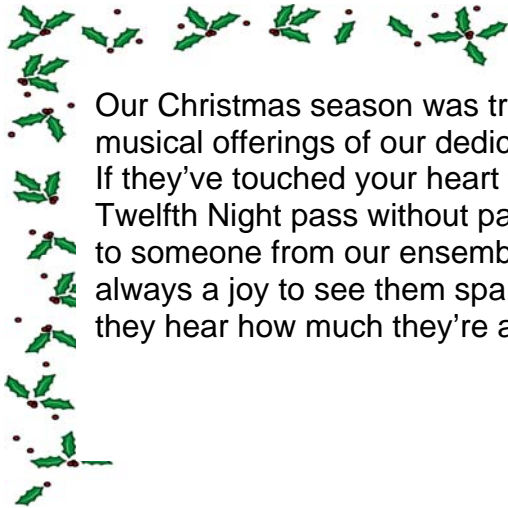
Another aspect of the STRETCH program is putting what we learn into action. Our class has split into two teams. One team is focusing on helping get students to attend college who will be the first in their family to do so. My team is focusing on nutrition and wellness for children and families, as one of our team members alerted us to the fact that parents at the daycare center where she works often identify "French fries" as a vegetable. Our team meets regularly to work on our "Windham Family Nutrition Exposition" which will occur in the spring.

The STRETCH Program is helping me become a better leader, which in turn helps us as a faith community. And the STRETCH Program is allowing me, as a leader of Storrs Congregational Church, to represent us in the wider community doing outreach and caring about ALL of God's children. Thank you to the Bulls for bringing this program to my attention and supporting my participation, and to the entire church community for being willing to allow my ministry to be shared beyond the walls of our Meeting House.

God's Peace,

Hilary

The Rev. Hilary M. H. Dahlberg



Our Christmas season was truly blessed by the many musical offerings of our dedicated singers and ringers. If they've touched your heart this season, don't let Twelfth Night pass without passing on a big Thank You to someone from our ensembles, child or adult. It's always a joy to see them sparkle right back at you when they hear how much they're appreciated.

From the
Director
of Music
Ministry



VESPER SERVICE

Sunday, January 13 at 5:00 pm TAIZÉ worship

The Taizé Community in France is known world wide for their ecumenical worship style as observed through services of scripture, prayer, meditative singing and silence. These tend to be quieter services, providing time for individual reflection and contemplation as well as participation in common prayers and song. Many of the songs celebrate the light of Christ, an apt theme particularly during this season of Epiphany.

The music of Taizé is very accessible and easy to sing. Much of its beauty lies in the familiarity of repetitive refrains that are easily memorized. Some of the songs have verses that can be sung by a leader, and there are instrumental parts available to embellish the accompaniment if one wishes. This is music that is intended to be a spontaneous outpouring of prayer through song following the inclination of those participating. It can be almost quasi improvisational in character.

Many of the songs written for use by the Taizé Community are by the French composer Jacques Berthier (1923-1994). They utilize a variety of languages that reflect the international character of the young people who are drawn annually to participate in retreats. Most of these are translated into English or are sung in Latin, a seemingly natural international language.

Please join us in worship and invite a guest.

HANDBELLS RING
11th Annual Handbell Festival
Sunday, February 24, 2008
7:00 pm
St. Joseph Church, Willimantic

Cheers,

Trisha

Dr. Patricia Snyder

UCC UConn Needs Your Help!

Even though we're away on vacation for most of this month, we're still looking ahead to February's Valentine's Themed Fundraising Dinner & Silent Auction. This year it will be held on Saturday, February 16th, 2008, with 4:30 and 7:00 pm seating times. Ticket prices will be \$20 per person (\$18 for seniors), and will go on sale beginning January 27 when we all return from winter break. There will be two delicious main courses for you to decide between: Stuffed Portabella Mushroom or Roasted Tornadoes of Beef. This is a must-attend event! We hope to have some live entertainment once again. Last year we had an acappella group perform.



In order for this event to be successful as possible, we could use some help. We are looking for anyone who would be willing to donate an item, a service, or a gift basket for the silent auction. We are also approaching local businesses. If you have some connections, please let us know by emailing uccuconn@yahoo.com.

We also will be in need of card tables once again this year. We won't need these until the week before the dinner, but we wanted to get the word out now. Thanks for all of your support for this year's Alternative Spring Break to Slidell, LA!

From the Ministerial Relations Committee

Our Ministerial Relations Committee has been meeting regularly to discuss issues and ideas relative to the lives and work of our ministers and our church. We have been paying particular attention to the evolving teamwork of Pastors Jay and Hilary, and their efforts, as well as the work of other boards and committees, with regard to the transition tasks at hand for our church. We have celebrated many recent successes and recognize the need for



Ministerial Relations Committee

certain changes that these successes have pointed up—like the needs for improved computers, networking and communications, and the need for improved accessibility in our activity buildings. We have been considering changes to the governance and structure of our Ministerial Relations Committee in light of the widely attended Ministerial Relations Workshop conducted here last April by Connecticut Conference lay member, Esther Shoup, and will soon have proposals prepared for presentation to the Church Council.

One of the functions of our Ministerial Relations Committee is to serve as a liaison between the congregation and the ministers. If there are ideas that you would like the committee to consider at future meetings please share them with any of the committee members: Dudley Hamlin, Jamie Lang-Rodean, Larry Mickel, Rev. Dr. Jay Terbush or Rev. Hilary Dahlberg.



Happy New Year! We hope you had a blessed Christmas season and enjoyed the many programs and activities here at Storrs Congregational Church. We tried some new and different things and we hope that everyone found enjoyment in them along with some traditional favorites.

We'd like to extend our thanks to Holly Armstrong for undertaking the role of "producer" of the Christmas pageant. Her organizing and multi-tasking expertise helped things run smoothly. Thank you also to Daniel Sheridan and Jenny

Stodd for the many hours spent getting to know our children and for directing the event. Bravo! We were blessed with some wonderful seasonal music presented by our young instrumentalists during the potluck luncheon that put everyone in the holiday spirit. Our children are the true "stars" and thanks to all of them, their parents and the volunteers that helped make the pageant & potluck luncheon such a success!

Looking ahead, the CE Board has many exciting activities planned for the New Year. We'll start off with an Intergenerational Worship Service for Epiphany entitled "*Together as One*" on January 6. We are looking for participants of all ages to help us celebrate the Season of Light. Anyone interested in being involved please contact Rev Hilary.

Nursery News: While our UConn student helpers Jennifer and Natalie are away on winter break we need volunteers to fill in during worship in the Nursery. Please consider helping out and check the sign up sheet located on the bulletin board next to the nursery. You may also contact Nancy Gifford at 487-6810 or at nfgifford@hotmail.com.

Acolytes needed: If your child would like to be placed on the schedule to light the candles prior to the services, please contact our new Acolyte Coordinator, Suzanne Hathaway. Suzanne can be reached at 429-1891 or at skhathaway@charter.net. We will provide training! Our goal is to have a rotating schedule to give all interested children a chance to participate.

Sunday School Teachers Needed: We have a terrific team but are in need of a few more volunteers to fill some openings. Please consider helping starting in January. Anyone interested should contact Barbara Chilinski, Sunday School Coordinator.

Christian Ed Board (in alphabetical order):

Susan Dione, Sally Doyen, Nancy Gifford, Eileen Metzgar, Mike Spottiswoode & Sunday School Coordinator, Barbara Chilinski

Confirmation Class



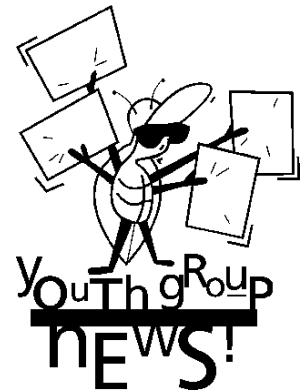
Confirmation

Confirmation meets: Monday, January 14, from 5:30 – 8 pm. Nate Holmy will be providing dinner. Monday, January 28, 5:30 – 8 pm. Dinner TBA. Keep working on your Home Journals and meet with your mentors. Thanks!

Junior Pilgrim Fellowship (JPF) at Storrs Congregational Church

Epiphany Party! Jan. 6, 12:30 pm-3 pm. Celebrate Epiphany by gathering together to watch the movie *The Nativity Story*, engage in a Yankee Swap (please bring a gift of \$5 or under), and just have fun! We'll order pizza for lunch, but please bring a treat to share if you can. RSVP for pizza preferences. We'll meet in the Youth Room. Questions? Contact Rev. Hilary.

JPF will also meet on Jan. 20, 12:30 – 1:45 pm.



New Year – New Books

New books are arriving at the library so please be sure to stop by the library. We hope you will continue to borrow books from the library in 2008. What could be easier than – worship – book selection – fellowship hour – all for one stop on a Sunday morning? Give it a try!



Reminder – several new titles have been added to the collection regarding transitional periods at a church. There are books regarding the clergy and parishioner roles and committee organization. Be aware of your church's strengths and weaknesses and how they can be worked and molded to success.

These books are certainly food for thought.

Peg Winzler thanks all who sent prayers and cards her way as she recuperated from her fall in October. She is now back at home.



News of the Parish

ANNIVERSARIES:

Chauncy & Nancy Rucker Jan. 27

BAPTISMS:

Lillianna Dawn McGhie – November 26

BIRTHDAYS:

Jason Gould	Jan. 2	James Bobbitt	Jan. 18
Kenneth Fitts	Jan. 2	Madeline Malloy	Jan. 21
Gwen Duff	Jan. 5	Mark Brand	Jan. 22
Keith Johnson	Jan. 5	Carol Toomey Reichel	Jan. 22
Lillian Mason	Jan. 9	Mark Roy	Jan. 22
Nicole Martin	Jan. 9	Paula Enderle	Jan. 22
Douglas Lambert	Jan. 10	Katie Hare	Jan. 24
Barbara Larson	Jan. 12	Mike DellaFera	Jan. 27
Joan Webster	Jan. 13	Edmund DeMattia	Jan. 29
Tom Morrison	Jan. 15	William Aho	Jan. 29
Charlie Demurjian	Jan. 16	Sylvia Aho	Jan. 30
Christopher Rucker	Jan. 16		

BIRTHS:

Elaine Chague is the proud grandmother of grandson Mathew James Jonathon Milici, son of her daughter Meagan. Mathew was born on November 26 at 6:31 pm weighing in at 6lbs 1.2oz and 20 inches long.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR UPDATE:

The Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar was a wonderful time for everyone. It wouldn't have been possible without the contributions of many people. Thank you to:

- Gail Kapinos and Don Castle and all the people who helped in the kitchen. The lunch was four-star.
- Carol Jordan for setting up the dining area and recruiting the waitresses.
- Marjorie Brown for heading up the greens including plants, wreaths and gathering the talented people who created the pieces – they are always a big seller.
- The Quilters and sewers who donate such beautiful items.
- Eileen Metzgar who led the bake sale pricing crew.
- Peggy Davis who priced all the tag sale items.
- All the new faces who have begun taking over the SERRV room.
- All who floated and filled in here and there as needed.
- Tish Ignatowicz and Antonio Aguilera who help unseen and with last minute needs.
- All who donated food, tag sale items and greens.

And, especially THANK YOU to all who came and enjoyed the day!

Paulla Dixon, Chair

January 2008

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

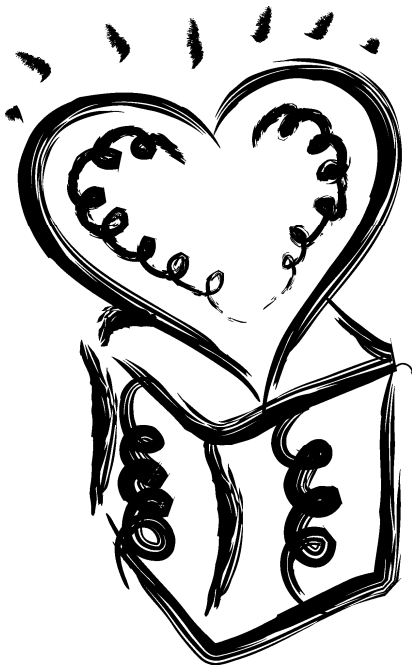
WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		<p>1 New Year's Day - Office Closed</p>	<p>2 Annual Reports Due 9:00am -2:00 pm Quilters 10:30am Cafe Storrs Bible Study (Lib.)</p>	<p>3 1:00pm Nominating Committee (Library) 6:30pm Adult Hand Bell Choir 7:30pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 SPF Rock-a-...</p>
<p>6 10:00am Worship (Communion) 10:20am Church School 11:00am Library Open & Fellowship Hour 11:15am Youth Bell Choir 12:30pm JPF</p> <p>SPF Rock-a-...</p>	<p>7 9:00am -12pm Service Sewing</p>	<p>8 9:30am -11:00 am Library Open 6:30pm Properties Board (Thompson Home) 7:00pm Deacons (Lounge) 7:12pm Finance Board (Lib.)</p>	<p>9 9:00am -2:00 pm Quilters 10:30am Cafe Storrs Bible Study (Lib.) 6:30pm Church Growth (Lounge)</p>	<p>10 12:30pm Women's Fellowship Luncheon 6:30pm Adult Hand Bell Choir 7:30pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 Call to Care Gathering 8:30am Board of Christian Education (CE Office) 10:00am Worship 10:20am Church School 11:00am Library Open & Fellowship Hour 11:15am Youth Bell Choir 11:30am Fellowship Board (Sewing Room) 5:00pm Taize Vesper Service</p>	<p>14 9:00am -12pm Service Sewing 5:30pm Confirmation Class (Lounge)</p>	<p>15 Carillon Deadline - 4pm 9:30am -11:00 am Library Open 7:00pm Church Council (Lounge)</p>	<p>16 9:00am -2:00 pm Quilters 10:30am Cafe Storrs Bible Study (Lib.)</p>	<p>17 6:30pm Adult Hand Bell Choir 7:30pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 10:00am Worship 10:20am Church School 11:00am Library Open & Fellowship Hour 11:15am Youth Bell Choir 12:30pm JPF</p>	<p>21 Martin Luther King, Jr. - Office Closed</p> 	<p>22 UConn Classes begin 9:00am Carillon Mailed Out 9:30am -11:00 am Library Open 11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library) 7:00pm Christian Outreach</p>	<p>23 9:00am -2:00 pm Quilters 10:30am Cafe Storrs Bible Study (Lib.) 7:00pm Music Board (Library)</p>	<p>24 6:30pm Adult Hand Bell Choir 7:30pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 10:00am Worship 10:20am Church School 11:00am Library Open & Fellowship Hour 11:15am Youth Bell Choir 11:30am Annual Congregational Meeting</p>	<p>28 9:00am -12pm Service Sewing 5:30pm Confirmation Class (Lounge)</p>	<p>29 9:30am -11:00 am Library Open</p>	<p>30 9:00am -2:00 pm Quilters 10:30am Cafe Storrs Bible Study (Lib.)</p>	<p>31 6:30pm Adult Hand Bell Choir 7:30pm Adult Choir</p>		



This Busy Day

Today is a gift
From God above
With time for our work
And time for love.

When work pushes hard
And haste wants to shove,
That's just when we need
To share more Love.

—Peggy Ferrell