



## Welcome New Members

We welcomed new members into our congregation in worship on Sunday, February 27th.

Parris Lee, of Meriden, has been worshipping with us for a few years. He got to know us through Hazel Pappas (Thanks, Hazel!). Parris enjoys public speaking and did a great job introducing the Human Relations Day special offering back in January. We raised \$350 for that offering, too!

Edna Echeverria began worshipping with us last Easter, along with her wonderful twins Kassandra and Tyjour. She recently began volunteering with Sunday school, too.

Thanks, Edna!

Rachel Duncan is a third year student at Yale Divinity School. She's been volunteering with our college student outreach this past academic year. Rachel hopes to remain in the New Haven area after graduation and is discerning her vocational call.

Don't forget to welcome them personally into the life of our community.

## MARCH SPECIAL OFFERING: March 13th

I am remembering watching very young children in my church long ago as a collection bank was passed: "Hear the pennies dropping? Listen as they fall. Every one for Jesus. He shall have them all," the children sang. A few were reluctant to open their tiny purses and release THEIR pennies. As their years in church school passed they came to understand that the collection was an important part of the service. They learned how the money was used and soon learned to feel pleasure in being a part of what the church could accomplish.

There are levels of giving for us as adults too. We understand it costs money to heat a building, to pay to have it cleaned and the snow shoveled. We want our pastor and other staff members to be properly compensated for the work that they do. The passing of the weekly offering plate is part of our understanding that we are indeed a community of faith.

Moving to another level, we give out of extravagant love, knowing what can be accomplished, what God can do with our additional gifts. Our special offering March 13 permits us to share in the work of Reconciling Ministries and Methodists in New Directions. We desire a fully inclusive United Methodist Church for all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Give because you care.

Make your check payable to FSUMC with "RMN/MIND" in memo. Thank you for your generosity.

-Margery Dodge

## St Patrick's Day Parade—New Haven

The St. Patrick's Day Parade will be on Sunday, March 13th. Please be advised that parking restrictions will be in effect in downtown New Haven starting at 1pm. No parking will be available on Church Street that day. The City promises every effort to avoid interfering with worship services.

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR HELP NEEDED

Sign up for a Sunday to help set up, serve, and clean up for Fellowship Hour. A sign up list is posted on the Kitchen door in Trinity Hall. Supplies are available in the storage closets and the kitchen, all you need to

do is start the coffee and tea water, and get the snacks and paper goods out on the serving tables. Instructions are posted in the Kitchen to guide your efforts. It's a simple way to

help FSUMC provide a warm and hospitable welcome to guests and members every Sunday. Come be a part of the hospitality ministry today! Sign up on the sign up List on the kitchen door.



## Usher Teams Come to FSUMC!

We now have usher teams! Thanks so much to everyone who stepped up to this new initiative. Our usher teams will make for a more reliable way to plan and it will be less burdensome for our Usher Chair to coordinate. Thank you all!

Ushers for March are:

- March 6: Kate Tinghitella, Dru Cherry
- March 13: Betty Anderson, Eloise Rentz
- March 20: Paulina Korankye, Nancy Davis
- March 27: Sandra & Kirk Baird
- April 3: Deb & Van Selden
- April 10: Jerry Rowley, Ad Tucker
- April 17: John & Maggie Carr
- April 24: Crew Smith, Dennis Jones

## News from MIND

Methodists in New Directions

### MIND

Saturday, April 30th, 12pm-3pm  
Memorial UMC, White Plains, NY

*Join us!*

General Meeting for all who are interested in working for a fully inclusive UMC. Come for fellowship, worship, and organizing!  
[www.mindny.org](http://www.mindny.org)

## ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT



March brings the season of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday worship on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Lent is a 40-day period for reflection to revitalize spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, and daily scripture study. Let us join together for a meaningful worship service to begin our Lenten

journeys. Maggie and John Carr will lead our worship on March 9th at 7pm.

Holy Week begins April 17th with our Palm Sunday procession. Our Holy Thursday worship will be on April 21st, at 7pm at Center Church UCC. Our choir will sing at this ecumenical service.

### Honoring Hazel Pappas

On Friday eve Feb. 18, Pastor Sara and a table-full of FSUMC congregants (and would have been more had not some members been serving at Abe's Tent that evening) joined Hazel Pappas' school colleagues, friends, and family in a joyous celebration honoring her many years of help and support to children in New Haven's school system. Poems, songs, and testimonials from many, including Supt. of Schools Dr. Reginald Mayo, crowned an evening filled with good food and good fellowship. When at the end she was presented with the microphone, Hazel herself sang a song in joy and thanks.

Folks from Celentano School produced a booklet of interviews with Hazel's friends and family about her life and work, which was handed out at the party – extra copies are available in the Church office. - M. Sachdeva

### **SENGBE PIEH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY**

The 10th Annual Sengbe Pieh Awards Ceremony will be held on Sunday, March 27th, at 3pm, with a reception to follow.

The awards are in recognition of individuals who have made a significant contribution to the general welfare of the community through their generous public service acts. This year's awardees are Olga Felix-Rodriguez and Ruth and Sam Teitleman.

Olga is a counselor at Hill Central High School, known for her good listening skills and her compassion for teens, children, and adults. Ruth and Sam Teitleman have long been advocates for the mentally retarded and physically challenged people in our area and in our state.

The Pan Jam and Lime Steel Band will be our guest musicians at the Awards Ceremony.

Come celebrate these generous, community-minded, caring individuals on March 27, at 3pm. Help with refreshments for the reception immediately after the ceremony, and donate to be a sponsor of this important community-minded work. Your support is greatly appreciated! Talk to Wanda Harris, Chairperson, for more information.

## **ABRAHAM'S TENT FEB. 14-20, 2011**

Many thanks to all of our volunteers who made Abraham's Tent a success, Feb. 14 to 20, 2011:

Rachel Duncan, John Carr, Maggie Carr, Marion Sachdeva, Jerry Rowley, Bob Hancock, Margery Dodge, Carl Puleo, Dennis Jones, Katie Salisbury, James Haltunnen, Jean Link, Joan Burns and family, Denny Burke, Wanda Harris, Dru Cherry, Chris Lamar-Sterling, Parris Lee, Kyungwon Cho, Kathy Krebsler, David Firestone, Modestine Vaughn, Scott & Charlie McLean, Bob Girard, and our neighbors, New Haven Friends Meeting, First Church-Woodbridge, University Church in Yale, and Clinton UMC were instrumental in making it a successful week. Did we miss anyone? Sorry! Everyone's participation was so important!

We offer a very special thank you to Ad Tucker and to Nancy Davis for coordinating all of our volunteers and overseeing an excellent week of ministry to our neighbors. We wouldn't be able to host without capable volunteer coordinators to organize us!

We also offer our blessings to all the men who are part of Abraham's Tent as they continue with the program and as they take the next important steps in their lives and well-being. God bless you all!



Lastly many thanks to Interfaith Cooperative Ministries and Columbus House for making this week of outreach a possibility!

### **SENGBE PIEH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS: How to get involved!**

Can you assist with this important program? Your assistance is vital to a successful event of this type.

1. This year we are not soliciting ads. Instead, become a "sponsor" for this event, to help us meet our budget goal of \$500 to cover expenses. A suggested donation is \$25.00. If you can give more, wonderful. If you cannot give \$25.00, can you give \$5.00 or more? Your name will be listed on the program but not disclosing the amount. Makes checks payable to FSUMC with "Sengbe Pieh" in the memo. 2. Can you solicit donations from the greater community? 3. Can you help with the reception? 4. Can you help with publicity? 5. Can you help with printing the program? 6. Can you help the committee with other tasks?

Please let the committee/church know of your availability or which tasks you can help the committee accomplish.

## What's Happening at First and Summerfield UMC

**SUNDAYS:** Join us every Sunday at 10:00 am for our Weekly Worship Service, with Child Care;  
Food pantry donations are received for DESK

**MONDAYS:** Pray for Peace at our Peace Vigil held at Noon

**1st TUESDAYS, Mar 1st, Apr 5th** 5:30pm Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen, 311 Temple St., 1st Tuesdays

**EVERY TUESDAY, Disciple 2 Bible Study, 7:05pm, Parlor**

**THURSDAYS:** 7:15pm Choir rehearsal. Ring College Street Church Office buzzer to enter

### Dates to Remember

Mar 1 7:05pm Disciple II  
Mar 5 Black College Luncheon, White Plains, NY  
Mar 7-14 Haiti Volunteers in Mission Earthquake Relief trip  
Mar 8 7:05pm Disciple II  
Mar 9 7pm Ash Wednesday worship  
Mar 15 7:05pm Disciple II  
Mar 22 7:05pm Disciple II  
Mar 27 Sengbe Pieh Community Service Awards, 3pm  
Mar 29 7:05pm Disciple II

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
**Tuesdays & Wednesdays**  
**10am-3pm**  
**Thursdays, 3:15pm-5:15pm**

I am the Church, YOU are the Church WE are the Church together!

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is requesting your help. We would like to know what areas of Sunday morning worship you would be willing, able, and available to participate in if called on. We know that the congregation of First and Summerfield United Methodist Church is full of talents that can be used to help our Sunday morning worship services run smoothly, encourage fellowship, and most importantly welcome the Holy Spirit into the lives of all who attend worship. There are several tasks that must be done on Sunday mornings that help to maintain an attitude of worship for not only the congregation but also the pastor. We would like to encourage you to sign up for one or more of these tasks below and return your responses in the offering plate. THANK YOU!

\_\_\_\_ Worship Leader      \_\_\_\_ Usher      \_\_\_\_ Children's Time      \_\_\_\_ Fellowship Hour  
\_\_\_\_ Special Sunday Offering Announcement

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact you: Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



*FSUMC: An inclusive,  
diverse, and reconciling  
congregation.*

**First & Summerfield United Methodist Church**

**425 College Street**

**New Haven, CT 06511**

The FSUMC Monthly Newsletter is now delivered via e-mail. The newsletter is also available at [www.fsumc.org](http://www.fsumc.org) under the NEWS link. The April 2011 newsletter deadline is March 18th. Send all submissions or requests to be put on our E-letter to [fsmethodist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fsmethodist@sbcglobal.net), or contact our office at 203-624-2521.