



# FIRST AND SUMMERFIELD CHURCH NEWS

APRIL 2010

## First and Summerfield United Methodist Church

425 College Street New Haven, CT 06511

Phone: 203-624-2521

Pastor: Rev. Sara Lamar-Sterling

Editor: Mary Ann Fuentes

Website: [www.fsunc.org](http://www.fsunc.org)

## Consecration Sunday is Coming April 25th

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

*New Consecration Sunday* is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a

social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal

embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participations in Consecration Sunday events.

Church Council  
Chairperson,  
Van Selden

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Apr 13 - M&E, 7pm, Parlor
- April 14 - Interns Committee, 6:30pm, Parlor
- Apr 21 - Social Justice Team, 6:30pm, Parlor

Please RSVP to chairperson if you are unable to attend meeting.

The Downtown Evening  
Soup Kitchen

### 14th Annual Soup Night

Volunteer Recognition Night

Hosted by

THE GRADUATE CLUB

155 Elm Street, New Haven

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2010**

**4:00pm - 7:00pm**

Food, music, friends, raffles, and of course, awards! Cash bar.

**\$30 at the door**

Reserve tickets now,  
seating is limited.

Contact DESK at 203-624-6426 or  
[www.DowntownEveningSoupKitchen.com](http://www.DowntownEveningSoupKitchen.com)

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who worked together to make our Abraham's Tent week of hospitality at FSUMC such a great success. A special word of thanks and appreciation goes to Ad Tucker and to John Helmiere for their excellent work getting us all organized. We are also deeply grateful to our brothers and sisters at Nichols UMC, Trumbull, and Clinton UMC, Yale Chaplain's Office, and University Church in Yale for their help providing meals or bag lunches for our guests. Together, we can do marvelous things. ~ Pastor Sara

2010 FSUMC Church Directory is available to church members electronically. If you haven't received your copy or need to request a printed version, please contact the church office. If you find that there are any changes necessary, please let us know.

## Memorial Service for Bob Hamilton - with thanks.

Dear FSUMC family,

Thanks to all of you from all of us in Bob Hamilton's family -- Marion, Bob & Georgianna and the kids -- for your love and prayers and sympathy. Your friendship and care for our "Daddy Bob" in his last phase of life was a blessing to him and to me. Special thanks also to John & Maggie Carr and Pastor Sara for taking him communion in his various health care locations. He expressed to me often his appreciation for the warm welcome and friendship in our church and his care and respect for you all. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to join in the celebration of his life at the North Haven UMC (81 Clintonville Rd. North Haven, CT) on April 11th at 3:00pm.

With love from Marion Sachdeva.

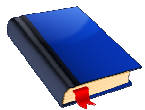
*Note: Bob helped to found that congregation and requested that his memorial service be held there. If you'd like to make a memorial donation in lieu of flowers, Bob's family asks that you please consider Heifer International or Faith UMC ([www.faithumcct.org](http://www.faithumcct.org)). Online donations are accepted by Heifer and by Faith UMC.*

## An Invitation...

*...to recognize and support the loyal youth of our church by providing scholarship money to graduating high school students who are going on to education beyond high school: i.e. College, Technical School, etc.*



The Scholarship Fund was established by gifts given to FSUMC in celebration of Faye and Mike Clarke's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (married August 1956) and it is called **Faye and Mike Clarke Scholarship Fund**. More information on how you can help to follow.



## RUMMAGE SALE

### APRIL 17TH

FSUMC's Women's Forum and the women's fellowship of First Church Woodbridge are collaborating for a clothing Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 17th from 10am to 2pm.

Come check out great bargains on clothes for men, women, and children in good condition at very low prices at FSUMC Trinity Hall.



If you have gently used and laundered clothes to donate, please drop them off on Friday, April 16th, 9am to 2pm. All unsold items will be donated to Salvation Army after the sale on April 17th.

## Summer Camps: A Family Matter ~ Scott McLean

I hope that you consider attending one of the many summer camps in our area as a family. Last summer, my wife Lisa and I decided to go with our 5 year old son Charlie to summer camp. There are a lot of great Methodist-affiliated summer camps in our area, but we chose Camp Aldersgate, located in North Scituate, Rhode Island. It seemed to offer a lot for families, it had a reasonable fee and most important, it held its family camp week at a time in the summer that worked best for Lisa and me.

I was a little anxious about going to Camp Aldersgate for a week. My past experience with summer camp was limited to basketball camp, where there were hundreds of other rowdy kids, and the particular basketball camp I attended had nightly mass meetings where we heard inspirational speakers (all of whom packaged their talks in a fundamentalist/evangelical theology).

I was very happy to find that Camp Aldersgate was not like those camps. Camp Aldersgate had about 50 campers across several age groups. Everyone was very calm and relaxed. We had, along with three other families, our own counselor (her last name was also McLean, though she hailed from Jamaica). We had a choice of whether we could stay in the dormitory-style building, or stay in an actual cabin. We chose the cabin because it was on the shore of a beautiful lake, in view of a lonely wooden cross by the shore. Because other families preferred the dormitory, we had our cabin all to ourselves, and Charlie had fun sleeping in different bunks (he liked the top bunks best). We did have to use the outdoor

wash house for our bathroom and sink, which was a 150-foot walk from our door.

There were lots of activities at the camp, but we were never "programmed" or "over-scheduled." It was slow paced. There were crafts and games on the days where it rained. Charlie really enjoyed playing with the other children and it was great to interact with the adults in conversation and in card games. We taught Charlie more about swimming and canoeing on the nice days. There was an all-camp meeting every evening for sing-alongs and brief devotionals. At the end of the week, the staff put on a play for us and on another night we play-acted as early Christians trying to find a way of worshipping without being persecuted by the Roman centurions.

There was plenty of good wholesome food for lunch and dinner. We enjoyed the inventive way the camp counselors would sing the prayers before dinner (usually in a fun way, to the tune of superman or the Adams family songs). By state regulations we were required after lunch to have "F.O.B" time - a nap with "feet on bunks." It was absolutely wonderful to take a little nap every day, especially to Lisa, who loves napping.

One of the nicest things we agreed to do as a family is to not use any cell phones, emails, video games or any other electronic device for the entire week. What a wonderful break from the demands of the world, where we could be in a lovely natural environment as a family! We want to go again as soon as we are able.

**First & Summerfield United Methodist Church  
Ninth Annual Sengbe Pieh Awards**

New Haven, CT: The First & Summerfield United Methodist Church is proud to announce that the 2010 Sengbe Awards will be presented during a ceremony at the church on Sunday, May 16, from 3:00 – 4:30pm. The event is a collaboration between the First & Summerfield United Methodist Church and AMISTAD America, Inc.

The Sengbe Pieh Awards were created in 2002 to honor Sengbe Pieh, the charismatic leader of the Africans aboard the Portuguese transport Amistad. Sengbe and his comrades seized control of the ship in 1839 and subsequently secured their court – ordered freedom. Much of their fascinating story took place in New Haven, CT. The Sengbe Pieh Awards are given to individuals who have made a major contribution to the general welfare of the community through their generous public service acts. The 2010 Sengbe Pieh awardees are: Maureen M. Murphy, Attorney, Murphy, Murphy & Nugent, LLC, for her leadership in family and civil rights matters and her work as cooperating attorney with GLAD in Kerrigan v. State of Connecticut, the Connecticut same sex marriage equality case, which resulted in Connecticut being the second state in the country to afford full equality to same sex couples; and Alfred L. Marder, Peace Advocate, Vice President and Founder of International Association of Peace Messenger Cities, for his peace advocacy efforts.

The events involving the coastal trader La Amistad grew out of the Transatlantic Slave Trade and became a local southern New England event, evolving into an international affair. The Amistad Incident is considered by scholars to be the only instance in American history in which a diverse group of citizens worked within the U.S. court system on behalf of kidnapped Africans to ultimately win their freedom and repatriation. This 19th century story still has worldwide importance today. AMISTAD America, Inc. is a national, nonprofit educational organization. Its mission is to promote reconciliation and harmony among races through ownership and operation of Amistad. Freedom Schooner Amistad visits ports nationally and internationally as an ambassador for friendship and good will - it serves as an icon and catalyst for teaching the historic lessons of perseverance, cooperation, leadership, and justice inherent in the Amistad Incident of 1839 - and it is a floating classroom and monument to the millions of souls that were broken or lost as a result of the insidious Transatlantic slave Trade. (For more information: [www.amistadamerica.org](http://www.amistadamerica.org).)

**Plant a Row for the Hungry**

The Connecticut Food Bank invites you to participate in their program PLANT A ROW FOR THE HUNGRY, which urges all gardeners to plant an extra row of produce earmarked specifically for local hunger-relief efforts. Every tomato, squash or watermelon can go a long way to help feed those who don't have enough to eat every day.

To help gardeners get started, the Connecticut Food Bank is offering a free packet of tomato seeds (donated by H.J. Heinz Company). For more information and details on how to obtain a free packet of tomato seeds, please contact Sade Heard at 203-469-5000 ext. 332 or email [sheard@ctfoodbank.org](mailto:sheard@ctfoodbank.org).

**HOLY WEEK**

**HOLY WEEK**, the week leading from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, begins March 28<sup>th</sup>.



Our District Superintendent, Rev. Ken Kieffer, will preach at our 10am worship.

Holy Thursday worship will be April 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7pm.

Good Friday worship will be April 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 12pm.

Easter Sunday is April 4<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to the ecumenical Easter sunrise service at East Rock Park, at 6:30am, followed by the United Methodist Men's Easter breakfast, and culminating in our joyful Easter worship at 10am. A children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held during Fellowship Hour, too!

First Sunday in Easter, our special guest preacher, a prophet for justice and peace, will be Rev. Dr. Traci West from Drew University.

**In Sympathy**

Our sympathies to Bob and Betty Hancock on the sudden death of Betty's brother, Nathaniel Canteen. A funeral service was held March 29th in South Carolina. We also offer condolences to Hesung Koh on the death of Kwang Sook Koh of Andover, Mass. A funeral was held on March 26th.

**Larry Anderson Camp & Conference Scholarship:** Applications are now available for youth interested in attending summer camp or youth conference. Please contact the church office to receive an application. Applications are due April 15<sup>th</sup>.



**Happy Easter**



**April 18<sup>th</sup>** – Special musical guests will be with us for worship this day. You don't want to miss it—it'll be a first ever for this ensemble to join us in worship. Many thanks to Crew Smith for making this surprise possible. But be forewarned: dancing and clapping may occur! Curious? Here's another hint: the special musical guests are a percussion group...



The Sengbe Pieh Awards were created in 2002 to honor Sengbe Pieh, the charismatic leader of the Africans aboard the Portuguese transport Amistad. Sengbe and his comrades seized control of the ship in 1839 and subsequently secured their court-ordered freedom. Much of their fascinating story took place in New Haven, CT. The Sengbe Pieh Awards are given to individuals who have made a major contribution to the general welfare of the community through their generous public service acts. Please consider placing an ad (order form below) to celebrate justice and peace, honor a friend/relative, or remember Sengbe Pieh. Ads are due for the book on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Support Advertisements for the Program Brochure  
For Sengbe Pieh Awards Ceremony 2010  
May 16, 2010**

Sponsored by  
First & Summerfield United Methodist Church  
New Haven, CT

Please make checks payable to: "First & Summerfield UMC"  
with "Sengbe Pieh Ads" or "Sengbe Pieh Patron" in the memo.

For questions or to authenticate request for advertising, contact  
Rev. Sara Lamar-Sterling, [203.624.2521/revsara@sbcglobal.net](mailto:203.624.2521/revsara@sbcglobal.net).

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Organization/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of Ad: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Order received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Whole Page Ad (8.5"x11"): \$100**  
*payable to FSUMC "Sengbe Pieh Ads"*

**Half Page Ad: \$50**  
*payable to FSUMC "Sengbe Pieh Ads"*

**Business card Ad: \$25**  
*payable to FSUMC "Sengbe Pieh Ads"*

**Patron (for individuals/memorials) \$10**  
*payable to FSUMC "Sengbe Pieh Patron"*

**Preparation of Ads:**

Camera-ready copy, if possible;

Supply any logo or artwork

Prices are for different size spaces, as indicated above

Name of donor(s):

Given in memory of:

Phone:

Amount given:

Please return this ad form to church by **April 15**.

For Sengbe Pieh Awards Ceremony 2010 payable to FSUMC "Sengbe Pieh Ads"  
Patron (for individuals/memorials) \$10 payable to FSUMC with "Sengbe Pieh Ads" or "Sengbe Pieh Patron" in the memo.



Dear Abraham's Tent Participants, It's time to celebrate and process our efforts as an interfaith community to which each of you have been (or will be) an integral part.

In appreciation of all each of you have done-lets gather and discuss

- Reflections On Purpose, Advocacy and Next Steps
- Share what worked, what didn't work, and what suggestions you may have for next year.

**Wednesday April 7**  
**Time: 6-8 p.m.- Pizza**

Location: Temple Mishkan Israel 785 Ridge Rd. Hamden, CT  
Please RSVP BY: April 1 to Meri at 401-4400, ext. 106 or to

[mross@columbushouse.org](mailto:mross@columbushouse.org).

Indicate for what event you are registering-  
and if you would like to

bring a salad or dessert to share- all are appreciated!!

**CONNECTICUT DISTRICT UNITED  
METHODIST WOMEN**

**SPRING DAY APART &  
LUNCHEON**

APRIL 10, 2010  
SIMSBURY UMC  
9:30AM-2:00PM



**SPEAKER: RUTHANN LOBO**

(Author of "The Home Team; of Mothers, Daughters and American Champions")

Theme:

**"SURVIVING BY FAITH"**

For Registration Contact:

Simsbury UMC  
799 Hopmeadow Street  
Simsbury CT 06070  
1-860-651-3356  
Cost \$8.50



**NYAC SUMMER CAMPS**

NYAC Summer Camp Program information is available at the church office for the following:

**Camp Altersgate - North Scituate, Rhode Island**  
<http://www.campaldersgate.com>

**Epworth Center - High Falls, NY**  
<http://www.epworthcenter.com/>

**Camp Quinipet—Shelter Island, New York**  
[www.quinipet.org](http://www.quinipet.org)

**Kingswood Campsite—Hancock, New York**

**Summer Camp Jobs Available:**

Camp Quinipet is looking for staff to fill positions such as Counselors, Program Directors, Kitchen Assistants, Sailing Instructors, Arts & Crafts Specialist, Lifeguards, and others.

For info, see [www.quinipet.org](http://www.quinipet.org);  
Call 631-749-0430, or email [joe@quinipet.org](mailto:joe@quinipet.org).



**WALK AGAINST HUNGER**

**Sunday May 2nd**

East Rock Park, New Haven

For more information on how to participate, contact 203-469-5000 Xt 302

Email [walk@ctfoodbank.org](mailto:walk@ctfoodbank.org)

Visit [www.ctfoodbank.org/walkagainsthunger](http://www.ctfoodbank.org/walkagainsthunger)

**Welcome to our Newest Members**

On March 21st and 28th, we welcomed seven new members into our congregation. Please welcome Rosalie Aboud, Ken Borst, Melissa Bryan, Tamba En-sah, Amber Moren, Antoine Niamke, and Rosalie Touba to FSUMC.

This class includes people of many different ages, from different parts of the US and Africa. We're so glad to have these new folks and look forward to growing in faith and love together.

~ Membership & Evangelism (M&E) Committee

**Health Kits for Haiti - Here's what needs to be in a health kit.**

Place these items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag and leave in the donation basket at the door to the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings.

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", no kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth      1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)
- 1 tube of toothpaste      6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

**From Rev. Ken Kieffer: Saturday, June 12th at 10 a.m. at Hofstra University**

there will be a special celebration during Annual Conference to honor all those who have joined the United Methodist Church since 2004. **Each church** is being asked to send as many members as possible that meet this criteria (joined since 2004) as well as any other members of their congregation that want to participate in this joyous celebration. The Bishop is expecting to fill every seat in that arena (5,000!). To best prepare for their arrival, we need to have a count by April 30th. So please call the District Office (203-288-0286) or e-mail us with your numbers by that date ([ccnyac@aol.com](mailto:ccnyac@aol.com)). Details in a flyer from Ann Pearson, will soon follow. All churches are being encouraged to bring a banner for the Parade of Banners. Thanks for your help in making this event a grand success.

## 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

**TUESDAYS,** 5:30pm Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen, 311 Temple St., 1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
7pm Lectio Divina, Parlor 7-8pm (April 20, 27, May 4 and 11)

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

### Dates to Remember

**Thurs Apr 1:** Holy Thursday service, 7pm

**Fri Apr 2:** Good Friday service, 12pm

**Sat Apr 3:** Prepare sanctuary for Easter, 10am

**Sun Apr 4:** Sunrise service at East Rock is at sunrise, 6:30am; Easter Breakfast 7:30am,  
Worship 10am. Easter Egg Hunt, after Worship

**Wed Apr 7:** Columbus House Pizza "Thank You" for participants of Abraham's Tent, 6-  
8pm, Temple Mishkan Israel, Hamden

**Sat Apr 10:** Spring Day Apart & Luncheon, CT District UM Women, 9:30am, Simsbury  
UMC, Simsbury

**Sun Apr 11:** Rev. Dr. Traci West, guest preaching, 10am; Memorial Service for Bob  
Hamilton, Faith UMC, North Haven, 3pm; DESK 14th Annual Soup Night,  
4-7pm, the Graduate Club, 155 Elm St., New Haven

**Tues Apr 13:** Membership & Evangelism Committee Meeting, 7pm, parlor

**Wed Apr 14:** Interns Committee Meeting, 6:30pm, parlor

**Thurs Apr 15:** Due date for Sengbe Pieh Ads and Larry Anderson Camp & Conference  
Scholarship Applications

**Sat Apr 17:** MIND Meeting, Memorial UMC, White Plains, NY, 9am;  
Clothing Rummage Sale, 10am-2pm, Trinity Hall

**Sun Apr 18:** Sunday Worship with special musical guests, 10am

**Tues Apr 20:** Lectio Divina, 7pm, Parlor

**Wed Apr 21:** Social Justice Team Meeting, 6:30pm, parlor

**Sun Apr 25:** Consecration Sunday, 10am

**Tues Apr 27:** Lectio Divina, 7pm, Parlor

**Sun May 2:** Walk Against Hunger, 1pm, East Rock Park

**Tues May 4:** Lectio Divina, 7pm, Parlor

**Tues May 11:** Lectio Divina, 7pm, Parlor

**Sun May 16:** Sengbe Pieh Awards Ceremony 3pm

*God has sent me to proclaim  
release to the captives....  
Today this scripture has been  
fulfilled in your hearing.  
- Luke 4: 18, 21*

Methodists in New Directions

# MIND

Saturday,  
April 17, 2010

Memorial UMC  
250 Bryant Ave.,  
White Plains, NY

*Join us!*

*9am choir rehearsal – all  
singers welcome!*

*10am worship and celebra-  
tion*

*11am general meeting –  
planning our annual  
conference witness*

For directions, see  
[http://memorial4all.org/aboutus/  
contactus](http://memorial4all.org/aboutus/contactus)

**It's Coming - April 25th!!!**



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

**First & Summerfield United Methodist Church**

**425 College Street**

**New Haven, CT 06511**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday through Friday**

**2:00pm - 5:00pm**

The FSUMC Monthly Newsletter is now delivered via e-mail. The May 2010 newsletter deadline is April 19th. 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.