

FISHERS ISLAND UNION CHAPEL

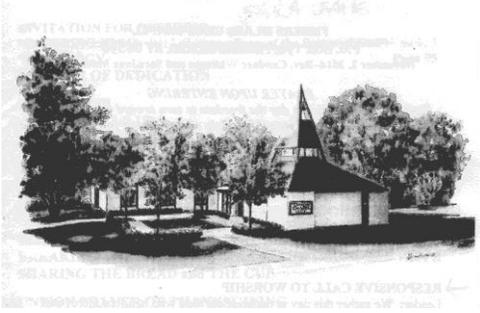
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.fiunionchapel.org



*"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here."*

CHAPEL HAPPENINGS

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2015

Dear Friends,

What is your dream for Fishers Island? I want to know, and moreover, would you go so far as to form your dream into a prayer?

For me the summer (please tell me it's not completely over!) has been a time of becoming more deeply acquainted with Fishers Island and enjoying getting to know our summer folks. I see all over again how beloved the island is, and how all of us desire that the island remain beautiful and sustainable.

For me, seeing that hungry people are fed and that islanders do not have to worry about heat and electricity is a dream that is being answered. I am so grateful we now have funds through the "Islanders" drive to support individuals and families with temporary needs. My deepest thanks to all who have contributed to this effort, and thanks also on behalf of Islanders.

This autumn, I would like us to continue give shape to some of our dreams. Please share your dream for Fishers with me. My email is below, or drop me a line. You can also reach out to the church community on Facebook.

I am encouraged because I sense our dreams for our community are very much like God's dream for his beloved humanity: that all men, women and children would flourish, loving God and loving their neighbor as themselves. God's dream is becoming a reality in the world because he sent Jesus to show us how to achieve these things. As people of faith on Fishers, our call is to press forward into making God's dream the living truth between our shores. Please join me in asking God to send his life-giving Spirit to our island, a prayer I believe He longs to answer.

In Christ,

Candy

candy@fiunionchapel.org



The Reverend Candace Whitman’s Installation, August 9, 2015

(From left to right: Rev. Candace Whitman [Union Chapel Minister], Rev. Sue Latourette [Council Chair, New London Association, Connecticut Conferences, United Church of Christ]; Susan Renna, [Union Chapel Moderator] and Rev. Thomas Clough [Eastern Regional Minister, Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ].)



STRONG START FOR ISLANDERS FOR ISLANDERS



The “Islanders” Fund is a Union Chapel initiative in collaboration with the churches of Fishers Island intended to help islanders have access to good food over the lean, winter months. It also may be tapped for assistance with utility bills if needed. Since our start in June, the Fund has exceeded its \$10,000 goal. Thank you to all who have “lent a hand” and given so generously – in many ways. Clearly many of us see the need for such a reserve to help families and individuals through the lean winter months.

The Islanders committee, composed faithful people of UC and St. John’s, have also assisted with publicity, mailings, and the placing of bins around the island to collect unused, unopened food as people leave the island. Our deacons have been very graciously and industriously setting up shelving for these items at the church so that we have an emergency supply of actual food for those in need. This food supply is amplified by the food drives we have at UC throughout the year. Thank you to all!

Islanders for Islanders is the name of our initiative, but in order to keep overhead low, we are not formally organized. We are just Islanders for Islanders! And our aim is to continue to support islanders in more long-term ways once this life-line is established. People in need of help may call Candy confidentially at the parsonage. If you wish to donate to the Islanders Fund, please send your tax-deductible check to the church with “Islanders” in the memo line.

BIBLE QUESTIONS YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK



Why are the readings on a given Sunday in church often identical to those read in an Episcopal church, for example?

This question was posed from an Islander at the summer Dock Beach service.

Throughout the history of Judaism and Christianity, leaders have selected texts to read during worship services to ensure that the congregation hears as much of the scriptures as possible throughout the year. Today, many Protestant churches still draw from a schedule of Sunday readings called "The Revised Common Lectionary" (from "lection" which means reading.) There are generally four readings for each Sunday: one from the Hebrew Scriptures, a psalm, a reading from an epistle (letter) and a reading from a gospel. The current lectionary is on a three-year cycle. Within that time frame, a congregation hears all the books of the Bible, although not every book is covered in its entirety.

The Revised Common Lectionary is ecumenical, and was derived from the lectionary written for the Roman Catholic Church after Vatican II. Using the lectionary in Protestant churches (Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Episcopalians, others) is optional, and so depending on your church's practice, on a given Sunday you might indeed be hearing the same passages as your friends at other churches!

At Union Chapel, I have opted to preach from the lectionary because it does indeed expose us to different expressions and explanations of the Christian faith. I also like how it presents us with themes of the church seasons and holidays, and observing the calendar helps our discipleship to grow in its many dimensions. We are now in the second lectionary year (Year B); Year C will begin in advent. - - -Candy

Please send your questions about the Bible (any kind of question!) to Candy at candy@fiunionchapel.org.

REFLECTIONS ON BEACH CHURCH THIS SUMMER

"Beach Church" was held at Dock Beach at 8:00 on Sunday mornings for all of July through mid-August. The Lord blessed us with good weather, and up to 25 people of all ages were to be found sitting on beach chairs or the sand (or even playing in the sand!) for the short, informal service.

As someone said, "the combination of Biblical and nature observations was special" and "the times of silence allowed for real spirituality". In fact, over the weeks we considered various Beatitudes along with stars, ospreys, and sand.



We certainly gained new appreciation for God's creation as the early morning sun sparkled on the water at the entrance to West Harbor, and each time we departed it was with a sense of gratitude and fortitude to walk through the week until we met again. - Anita Fritze

UNION CHAPEL CONTACTS

Church office phone #: (631) 788-7898

New email: fichapel1@gmail.com

www.fiunionchapel.org

Minister: Rev. Candace Whitman

Moderator: Susan Renna

Trustee Chairperson: Louisa Evans

Deacon Chairperson: Laura Edwards

Administrative Assistant: Diane Dexter



CHURCH BUSINESS HOURS

Monday, Thursday, Friday

10:00am – 1 pm

Tuesday – 10:00am – noon

Closed all other days



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

SOCIAL HOUR:

Diane Dexter

Sharon Patterson

Susie Renna

Maxine Arnold

Laura Edwards

Anita Fritze

Ellen Parker

FLOWERS:

Laura Edwards

Ellen Parker

Susie Renna

The Derderian family

CHAPEL HAPPENINGS MAILINGS:

A special thank you to Mary Pankiewicz

UNION CHAPEL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2015

Sunday, Sept. 6

10 am - Communion Sunday

Monday, Sept. 7

Noon – Ladies' Potluck Luncheon

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Thursday, Sept. 10

7 pm – Book Club at the Library

Friday, Sept. 11

12:30 pm - Deacons' meeting

*Sunday, Sept. 13

10 am - Sunday Worship and guest organist

Glenn Orkney and Blessing of Backpacks

Monday, Sept. 14

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Sunday, Sept. 20

10 am - Sunday Worship

Monday, Sept. 21

1:00 pm – Trustees' Meeting

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Sunday, Sept. 20

10 am – Sunday worship

Monday, Sept. 21

4 pm – Bible Study at the parsonage

*Wednesday, Sept. 23

3 pm – Wednesday School begins

*Sunday, Sept. 27

10 am – Sunday worship

Monday, Sept. 28

4 pm – Bible Study at the parsonage

Wednesday, Sept. 30

3 pm – Wednesday School

OCTOBER 2015

Sunday, Oct. 4

10 am – Communion Sunday and guest minister

Monday, Oct. 5

Noon – Ladies' Potluck Luncheon

4 pm – No Bible Study (Candy away)

Wednesday, Oct. 7

3 pm Wednesday School

Thursday, Oct. 8

7 pm – Book Club at the Library

Friday, Oct. 9

12:30 pm - Deacons' Meeting,

*Saturday, Oct. 10

10-1 pm – Columbus Day Fall Fair and Lunch

*Sunday, Oct 11

10 am – Worship Service

Organ Concert – Glenn Orkney

Monday, Oct. 12

4 pm – No Bible Study (holiday)

Wednesday, Oct. 14

3 pm - Wednesday School

Sunday, Oct. 18

10 am - Sunday Worship

Monday, Oct. 19

1 pm – Trustees' meeting

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Wednesday, Oct. 21

3 pm - Wednesday School

Sunday, Oct. 25

10 am - Sunday Worship

Monday, Oct. 26

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Wednesday, Oct. 28

3 pm - Wednesday School

LIGHT THE STEEPLE MINISTRY

A soft light has been installed inside our “steeple” to be lit from sunset to midnight. The Trustees invite you to “Light the Steeple” in honor of or in memory of a loved one by donating \$25 to Union Chapel. Just submit the form below, and we will light the steeple on the appropriate week and print this remembrance in our newsletter.

LIGHT THE STEEPLE FORM

In Honor of or In Memory of (circle one)

Name _____

Given by _____

For the week of _____

Make check payable to and mail this form to: Fishers Island Union Chapel, P.O. Box 192, Fishers Island, NY 06390

THE STEEPLE WAS LIT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

JULY

- In Memory of Melanie Petti – given by Peggy Petti Elliott

AUGUST

- In Memory of Charlotte and William Hubbard
Given by the Renna Family
- In Memory of Jerry Riegel
given by Sandy Riegel
- In Memory of Garner Carney
given by James and Laurie Carney
- In Memory of Scott Lamb
given by Lew and Jane Lamb

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THRIFT SHOP NEWS
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.

Save the date! 15th Annual FALL FAIR SATURDAY, OCT 10TH 10 am - 1 pm

The Diaconate has already started planning for the Columbus Day Weekend Fair at Union Chapel – an event featuring favorite foods, crafts, baked goods, and more!

We need volunteers to make this Fair its usual success, especially

A grill and a chef or two for hot dogs

A couple of bowls of potato salad

One bowl of coleslaw

We will also need a couple of kitchen workers and folks to staff the Food Sale and Raffle table.

Don't forget – we also need **BAKERS** for our Food Sale table. Get out those favorite recipes and WOW us!



We encourage crafters to sign up for a table as soon as possible. The table fee is \$15 for UC members and \$20 for non-members. Please let Mary or Diane know by Monday, October 5th if you plan to have a table so we can save space for you.

If you cannot help or attend, please consider donating supplies. We could use two bottles of mustard, two bottles of catsup, and plastic forks. There is a signup sheet outside the business office door.

Our raffle this year is a beautiful Charlie Ferguson painting. Tickets are available at the church office; \$5 each or 5 for \$20 with checks made out to Union Chapel.

Do not hesitate to contact Mary (788-7250) or Diane in the church office (788-7898) if you have any questions.



Calling kids of all ages!



Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, September 13
11:15 am

Bring your backpack to the courtyard of Union Chapel on Sunday, September 13th at 11:15 and receive a blessing for the coming school year! Refreshments to follow.



UNION CHAPEL 2015 APPEAL

We would like to thank our parishioners, friends and neighbors for their generous past participation in our church's Annual Appeal, making it possible for the church to continue its many services and programs. We are fortunate to enjoy such a positive relationship with the community, coupled with the enthusiasm and dedication of our minister, the Reverend Candace Whitman. Union Chapel anticipates an optimistic and positive future.

Come visit Union Chapel. *"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."*

Please don't forget to send in your 2015 Appeal donation to Union Chapel. Your donation goes to help the Chapel operate 24-7.

- Harry Hurlburt, Trustee

Sharing a Joyful Song – and recordings!

Thanks to magic choir and our other musicians who enriched our worship this summer with their gifts, including the father-daughter duet Charlie Ferguson and Julia Hulslander who blessed us with tunes on harmonica and guitar.



Please be in touch with Diane if you would like to share your musical gifts with us during worship. Your participation is warmly welcomed!



Also, please let Diane or Candy know about any special recordings of music you think the congregation might like to hear. Thank you!



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS INFO

ENDS Sunday November 1, 2015

And for those who really like to plan ahead:

Starts Sunday, March 13, 2016

Ends Sunday, November 5, 2016

Don't miss it!
ORGAN RECITAL
By
Glenn Orkney

Sunday, October 11
3:30 pm
Union Chapel
Admission is free



**ARE YOU ON
OUR EMAIL
LIST?**

Our transition from paper to email for Chapel Happenings is working – but please let us hear from you if you would like to receive our bi-monthly newsletter electronically.

Kindly send Diane your email address. It is a well-spent minute since it saves the church both time and money. If you still prefer to receive a paper copy, no problem – but please just let Diane know your preference.

We won't use your email for anything else. Plus, you'll see it in color on your computer, as well as a beauty shot of the church when you open it in your inbox. (If it doesn't appear, click on "View this email in your browser"). To reach Diane: (631)788-7898 or fichapel1@gmail.com. Thank you.



Friendly Reminder

Donate your old eyeglasses in the basket in the Fellowship Room

**LOOKING FOR A BOOK
YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN?**

I asked Louisa Evans who coordinates the library book group to share some of the excellent books we have read and will read this fall. Please consider joining us since our discussions are a wonderful way to fire up the mind and heart on cold, dark evenings! And you will see some familiar UC faces!
- Candy

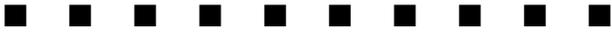
The Fishers Island Library hosts a book group discussion every month. The group most recently read *The Lady in Gold: The Extraordinary Tale of Gustav Klimt's Masterpiece Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer* by Marie O'Connor and are planning to watch together the movie, *The Woman in Gold*, that was based on the book. Some of the other books the group has read are *Leaving Time* by Jodi Picoult, *All The Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Duerr, *Lila* by Marilynne Robinson and *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin. On September 3rd the group will discuss both *The Lady in Gold* (the group was unable to meet in August) and Kristen Hannah's most recent book, *The Nightingale*.

On October 1st the group will be discussing *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson, a work of nonfiction that reads like a John Grisham courtroom drama. In November the group will return to its schedule of meeting the second Thursday of each month. Harper Lee's *Go Set A Watchman*, the book she wrote before *To Kill A Mockingbird*, but just recently published, will be the subject of discussion on November 12th. Future book selections will be announced on the Library and Island websites.

The group meets at the Library at 7 pm generally the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome to attend, and book suggestions are greatly appreciated.

-Louisa Evans





SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS



Union Chapel was pleased to host many excellent events this summer on Sunday afternoons. Two highlights were the lecture by the visionary Nate Malinowski, who updated an enthusiastic audience on his Billion Oyster Project to restore oysters to New York Harbor. The audience’s support for this innovative, important work could not have been stronger!

Another high point was the performance of the brilliant violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen, sponsored by Island Concerts.



Waley-Cohen played a range of classical and modern pieces in her stunning performance.



CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd

Laura Edwards announced that Wednesday School for the elementary children will begin at 3 pm on September 23rd. The focus will be on Favorite Bible Stories. Contact Laura Edwards (788-7616) or the church office for more information (788 - 7898).

AND FOR FISHERS ISLAND YOUTH:

A pre-confirmation class is forming for grades 7 and up – please contact Candy at the church for more information (788-7898).



FROM THE UCC

WIDENING THE WELCOME

A special conference will be held in Hartford, Sept. 24-6 to help churches become more understanding of and welcoming for people with disabilities and mental health issues. For more information, visit www.wideningthewelcome.com or call Jacky Schofield at (203)622-9038.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

There will be a special offering taken Sunday, October 4th for the United Church of Christ mission work for Neighbors in Need.