



Sunday Worship, July 3, 2022, 10am

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

**As you know, we are now gathering
both in-person and online.**

**If you are worshipping at home, you may access
the livestream of the service in one of two ways.**

**If you prefer to watch on youtube, the link and Bulletin will be
in an email that will go out Sunday at 6am.**

**The service will also be live on the church's Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalBranford/>**

**Each Sunday, BCTV Cable 18 airs the worship service
from the previous Sunday at 5:30pm.**



From the Moderator

The FCCB Church Board meeting was held June 15, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the APR.

The Scholarship Committee has announced its winners for this year: Ali Dorsi, Mareyna McCaughtry, Lauren Dombrowski, and Jack Gatta. Congratulations and Best Wishes as you enter college this fall.

Betsy Hyde, chair of the Killam's Point Management Team, said they are off to a great start this year. Their expenses are close to their incoming rentals. If you have been to KP recently you are aware the road needs some repair just as you turn in. This may take place with strong financial support from the residents. The water issues have not been resolved but all reservations can continue as solutions are investigated.

The Worship Team has recommended four new members which we met as they were received by the church on June 25, 2022. The Team has started reviewing the possibility of new hymnals for the congregation. Wayne Jacobson has resigned from the Team.

The Discipleship Team is focusing on its fall activities which include Rally Sunday on September 11th, adult faith formation classes, supporting the Confirmation class, Youth Mission Week this summer and even planning for Stewardship in the fall and the return of Sunday School classes.

The Church Board will begin working on a Conflict of Interest Policy for our church. Many of us are working on outlining some of the tasks we've done in the past: serving at Coffee Hour, chairing the Christmas Fair, or events like Sisters of the Spirit, Stewardship Breakfast.

In the Minister's report Rev. Joe Perdue reports three additional churches will join us at KP to have a Sunday service and celebrate Father's Day. Parking is a nightmare on that Sunday at the Green.

Enjoy the summer and all its joys.

Deanna O'Connell
203-483-8039
doconnell28@comcast.net

July 3, 2022

Prelude: *Jesus I Have Promised*, Diemer - Phil Rinehart

Liturgist: Paola Villanueva

Hymn of Praise: *This is My Song*

Scripture Reading:

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 <https://bible.oremus.org/?ql=523458537>

Sermon: *What Kind of Peace* - Rev. Joseph Perdue

Hymn of Reflection *We Shall Overcome*

Communion Hymn *We Gather Here in Jesus' Name*

Hymn of Dedication: *Bread of the World in Mercy Broken*

Postlude: *Ricercare*, Froberger - Phil Rinehart

Your Offering

We are so very grateful for your generosity. It makes a real difference. Every little bit of your generosity counts and we thank you so much! FCCB, 1009 Main St., Branford, CT 06405
Thank you for being the Church!

Effective Immediately

Masks will now optional inside the Meetinghouse (but required in the balcony).

CAMP TOTOKETT August 1-5, 2022



First Congregational Church of Branford founded Camp Totokett in 1996. Since its founding the camp has been held annually at Killam's Point, the Church's waterfront property in Branford. Camp Totokett is a free one-week summer camp for children from the Greater New Haven area. Camp offers a respite from stress, trauma and responsibilities which these children face

daily. Recognizing the impact of trauma and stress on children, Camp has begun to offer camp to a small number of refugee children, relocated to New Haven through Integrated Refugee Immigration Services (IRIS).

The camp staff is comprised mainly of community volunteers, including high school and college students, teachers, nurses, physicians and clergy. Volunteers are always welcome and are needed to make camp possible each summer. High school students who have completed Grade 9 are eligible to serve as Mentors and adults who either like to work with children in a specific age group setting or have other skills in areas of waterfront, fishing, arts and crafts, or music are encouraged to become a part of camp. We especially need help for the fishing program and, of course, always welcome monetary donations.

Please consider volunteering for this year's camp. You can find information about the camp and registration forms on the church website or you can contact Tim Dinneen (timothy.dinneen@gmail.com) or Hailey Nelson (henelson97@gmail.com), our directors.

Thank-you,

Barbara Colley
(barbaracolley225@gmail.com)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BRANFORD

YOUTH LOCAL MISSION PROJECT

8/22-8/24

**BEING THE CHURCH IN OUR
LOCAL COMMUNITY:
CREATION CARE**

\$100* DAY PROGRAM
8:30AM-4PM DAILY

\$200* DAY + OVERNIGHT

*REQUESTED FEE PER PERSON.
NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY
FOR FINANCIAL REASONS

ALL MEALS + SNACKS
PROVIDED!

**OPEN TO YOUTH
ENTERING
GRADES 5 AND
UP- ALL ARE
WELCOME!!**

*let all you do
be done in love*

WHERE:
KILLAM'S POINT CONFERENCE CENTER
131 KILLAM'S POINT ROAD
BRANFORD, CT

WHEN: 8/22/22 8:30AM- 8/24/22 4:30PM

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TO SIGN UP OR GET MORE INFO
REACH OUT TO KERRY STEWART



KERRY@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALBRANFORD.ORG

203 488 7201 EXT. 106 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE



Knit, Purl and Pray

Anyone is welcome whether you can knit or crochet or neither. We can teach you. We make prayer shawls, baby hats, and work on our own craft projects.

We meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 10:00 – 11:30 in the Russel Room. Our next sessions will be July 14th & July 28th.

Please join us!



Book Group

The book for our summer reading is Lincoln Highway, by Amor Towles.

We will meet on Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00 pm in the Russel Room.

Barbara Colley



GROCERY CARDS WILL BE SOLD AFTER WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS

Big Y Stop and Shop

Did You Know... FCC Branford makes 5% of every dollar on the grocery cards we sell?

If you buy a \$100 grocery card, you get \$100 in groceries, and FCC gets \$5! It's that easy. This currently adds up to about \$2000 income annually for FCC and could easily be more. We offer both \$50 and \$100 Stop and Shop cards and \$50 and \$100 Big Y cards. Cards are sold after worship every Sunday. Why not try it out and help support FCC?

THANK YOU



Kids Weekend Meal Pick Up

Weekend food for Branford children will be distributed at:

Feed Branford Kids Warehouse - 29 Business Park Dr.

Every Thursday, 5-6 PM

Free for all Branford Children

We are also distributing weekend nutrition through the elementary schools and the Branford Early Learning Center, and working on permission to do so at the High School and Middle School.

For further information, please go to www.feedbranfordkids.org, or find @feedbranfordkids on Facebook.



The Branford Microfund, Inc.

The Branford Microfund, Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit whose mission is to help members of the Branford community, in need of assistance to see them through a financial emergency. Something a bank can't or won't do.

The Microfund offers loans of up to \$3,000, interest free, with up to 30 months to repay. The loans are for unexpected, non-recurring expenses such as the purchase of a car needed to get to and from work, a major car repair, dental work, etc. The application process is confidential. All you need to show is the ability to repay the loan without interest in up to 30 months.

The FCCB Mission Board, the Branford Rotary Club, the Branford Community Foundation and others have made generous donations to the Microfund to fund its mission.

For additional information on how to apply for a loan or make a donation, go to www.branfordmicrofund.org . Brochures are also available in the Church office. Remember, all inquiries are completely confidential.

*Betsy Gay
Norb Church
Chip Marsh*



Sunday Flower Chart

If you are able to contribute \$35 for flowers, please consider signing up on the flower chart located on the bulletin board outside the Russel Room. You can also call or send an e-mail and Missy will sign up for you. Include who/what you would like the flowers to be in honor/memory/celebration of.

Thank you so much for keeping our altar adorned, and our flower fund supported!

*The flowers in our sanctuary were given in memory of
Jay Fox, by Kathy & Parker Fox.*



For Our Prayers This Week

We give thanks for...

The return to normalcy - step by step

Happy Birthday...

Donald Potter – July 6th

We are so happy to have you in our lives!

Ongoing prayers for...

Wilbur Wogahn (Paula Pedbereznak's/Tommy's grandfather), Helen Jasinka, Carol Rutt, Reg Vetrano, Jean Andros, David Reynolds, Ethel Marchesseault (Linda's mother) and Linda's Brother-in-law Charlie, Barbara O'Keefe, Tom Spivey (Linda Mitchell's father), Marissa, Betsy Boynton, Ruth Greco (Mae Genovese's sister), Zak and EmmaRae Carroll, Alberto Tirry (friend of Deb Laudano), David Lendler, Jeff Buggee, Philip Rinehart, Bianca Dorsi (Aunt of Betsy Dorsi), Janice Roberts (FCCB CDC), Rick Barker, Don Potter, William Chisholm (Teresa Sander's Grandfather), George Spear, Janet Young, Colin & Justin Williams (Linda Mitchell's cousins), Grace Chaplin (Paul's mother), Nancy Dougherty, Joseph Arnson (Take-A-Vet Fishing Volunteer Care Member), Marge Nalewajek (Meghan St. Pierre's mother), Ella Furjes, and her mom, Gwen (Jennifer and Mareyna McCaughtry's friends), Cory Martens (Kelly Marten's brother), Jim Bolan, Rose & Tom Moore (Sharon Reynold's Mom & brother), Edward DeFrancesco, Dormer Family, Robert & Margaret Gehm (parents of Nancy Gehm), Martha Hickman (Lil Sakai's mom), Alison Hobbie (Betsy Gay's daughter), Sylvia O'Brien, Lou Wells

Life Among the Believers

Sunday, June 3

10:00 am Worship Service - Meetinghouse

Monday, July 4

Tuesday, July 5

Wednesday, July 6

Thursday, July 7

Friday, July 8

Saturday, July 9

Sunday, July 10

10:00 am Worship Service - Meetinghouse

GLOBAL MINISTRIES - WEEKLY PRAYERS

Each week Global Ministries highlights the work our mission partners do in countries around the world. We're able to pray together for our partners and the people they serve, and learn a little about the ways they're bringing God's realm to earth today. This week we are invited to pray with the people of Costa Rica.



Pray with Costa Rica, July 3, 2022

Lectionary Selection: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Prayers for Costa Rica

- Costa Rica recently elected a new president for the country of Costa Rica along with several members of the governing legislature. Please pray that God directs and gives wisdom to these new government officials in how they govern the Central American country of Costa Rica.
- Costa Rica has done an excellent job of managing Covid-19. Costa Rica's economy has been greatly affected by Covid and I ask that God guide the people of Costa Rica, now that Covid is under control and things are returning to normal.

Prayers for Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana (UBL):

The following is an update from Elisabeth Cook, the Rector of UBL:

"We will be celebrating the graduation of 9 students in the month of June, five with a Bachelor's in Theological Studies or Biblical Studies, two with a Licentiate degree, and one Master's degree. They are from Costa Rica, Peru, and El Salvador. Many are continuing on to upper-level degrees and most are already involved in pastoral ministries or educational roles in their countries. Almost all benefited from the scholarship fund that UBL is able to provide thanks to partner churches and organizations including Global Ministries. We pray for them as they take on their roles in pastoral ministries and continue with higher degrees.

Violence against women is a critical issue in the contexts in which our students work and serve. Pray for women who are facing situations of violence, and for our graduates who are seeking to address this issue. In June, UBL will be offering a special training workshop offering students and graduates tools to prevent and address violence against women."

Mission Stewardship Moment from Costa Rica

As a Global Ministries Mission Co-Worker, I serve with the Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana (UBL) that is located in San Jose Costa Rica. The Latin American Biblical University (UBL) is a biblical-theological and socio-pastoral higher education institution that continues the ministry of the Latin American Biblical Seminary (SBL), founded in 1923. The work of the UBL is inserted in an experience of almost one hundred years of Christian service in Latin America and the Caribbean.

With the one hundred years of service milestone approaching, UBL will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2023, with festivities beginning in October of 2022. UBL's mission is to train people committed to the transformation of churches and society, with a university biblical-theological and socio-pastoral education. UBL's vision is to be an ecumenical and intercultural university with continental scope, pertinent to the needs and challenges of churches and society.

As part of the celebration of the 100 years of service, we at UBL decided to make the hard-bound copies of graduated students' theses

available in digital form. When I began serving as a library volunteer in 2021, the work began to scan, edit, and make these theses available on the internet.

The purpose of this project is to make these theses available to current students for their studies along with the graduates, professors, or anyone else who would be interested in reading these excellent documents. To date, several hundred theses have been scanned and the editing and uploading process continues. Our hope is to have many of them uploaded for the one-hundred-year celebration that begins in the fall of 2022. My main project has been the scanning of these documents. It is tedious work, but the rewards will last long into the future as the school prepares for the next one hundred years.

From the lectionary text of 2 Kings 5:1-14, we learn that Naaman was the commander of the army of the King of Syria. That he was a great man and in high favor and because by him the Lord had given victory to Syria. Naaman was a mighty man of valor and he also suffered from leprosy. Yes, Naaman accomplished all of these things while being a leper. Lepers were normally despised and marginalized from society. In spite of his skin disease, Naaman accomplished many things.

Coincidentally(?), Naaman learned that he could be cured of his disease should he present himself to the king of Israel. So, Naaman, with the help of others, traveled to Israel with treasures and gifts for the king so that he could be healed of his leprosy. Along with these gifts, Naaman brought his pride and arrogance, not realizing that he needed to be healed of those too.

We learn in verse 9 of 2 Kings chapter 5, that Naaman was eventually healed of his leprosy by following the king of Israel's advice when: 9 The king told Naaman to go find Elisha, so Naaman showed up at Elisha's door with his horses and chariots. 10 Elisha did not show his face to Naaman, but instead sent instructions: "Wash yourself in the Jordan River seven times.

Naaman's pride and arrogance surfaced, he pitched a fit, and we learn in verse 12 of 2 Kings chapter 5, that Naaman was eventually healed of his leprosy by following the advice of his when they said to him: "My father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather, then, when he says to you, 'Wash and be clean?'"

In verse 14 we learn that Naaman swallowed his pride, possibly along with some water from the Jordan River, and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

In our present day, what do we need to be healed from as: a person, a people group, a religion, a denomination, and nation? It is fine to take pride in our accomplishments, but when it leads to arrogance like Naaman's we are in over our heads. Naaman was healed by following suggestions from a kidnapped lowly servant girl. Her advice was part of instructions from God which led to Naaman's healing.

His healing followed a simple recipe. 1. Follow instructions, 2. Work with others, 3. Swallow pride, 4. Discard pride and arrogance, 5. Add river water. Yield: One healed army commander.

Who do we have in our lives who is possibly lowly in status and who has answers for our healing on the personal, local, state, national, and world levels? Is that person an immigrant, a refugee, a laborer, or a person whose social location is less dominant than our own?

Please pray that God reveals to us the areas of our lives that hinder our serving and helping others. The United States is in the midst of turbulent times where our democracy is being threatened which results in ever-deepening division. We need God to cure us of our fear-based diseases of racism, violence, and prejudices that continue to plague our people and nation. These diseases are not a skin disease like skin leprosy. These diseases affect our hearts, minds, souls, words, and actions. Let our actions be actions that heal our lives from the inside out and will affect us, our families, churches, and our nation for generations to come. Amen

Prayer and Mission Moment by Wally Burman

Mission Partners in Costa Rica

- Mi Tía Childcare Center
- Presbyterian Evangelical Church of Costa Rica (IEPC)
- Latin American Biblical University (UBL)

[More about Costa Rica](#)

Global Ministries Mission Co-worker in Costa Rica

Wally Burman serves with Latin American Biblical University, Costa

*Rica. His appointment is made possible by your gifts to Disciples Mission Fund, Our Church's Wider Mission, and **your special gifts.***

BCTV

This Sunday's service will be shown on BCTV next Sunday. BCTV Channel 18, 1070 for Comcast customers and Channel 6004 for Frontier customers at 5:30 pm on Sundays.

Notifications

Information Regarding The E-Spire

- **The deadline for an article to be published in the weekly e-spire is 12pm on Tuesdays.**
- Email articles to office@firstcongregationalbranford.org
- Those who have requested a paper copy now receive a copy of the weekly e-spire in the mail.
- The e-spire is only mailed out weekly if it can be done in a timely fashion.

If you have not received recent e-Spires, or would like to subscribe to our weekly newsletters, please let the office know and we'd be happy to help!



Check out the church Facebook page! This is a public page for everyone to be able to see everything going on at OUR church.

Please be reminded that this page is open to the public and therefore no pictures should be shared of children unless the parents are asked specifically. The FCCB Youth Ministries CLOSED GROUP is where pictures including children can be posted.

Click the link below to be brought right to the page and like it!

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalBranford/>



AMAZON SMILE DONATIONS

PLEASE shop at smile.amazon.com, and First Congregational Church can receive donations from AmazonSmile.

StartWithaSmile at smile.amazon.com/ch/06-6042800 for your purchases and Amazon donates to First Congregational Church.



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