

Thrift Shop Renovation Update

The Thrift Shop renovations are proceeding! There has been ceiling work, tons of painting and pretty blue tiles for the floor. The project is taking a bit longer than anticipated, therefore, the Shop will reopen a week later than expected - on September 2nd. There have been many people working so hard to make the results really great. We thank everyone for their help. Please come visit when the Shop reopens.

Prayer Shawl Meeting

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Thursday, September 24th at 7:30 PM at Ruthe Boiczuk's home in Plainville. All are welcome to this fellowship of knitters and crocheters, or just come and enjoy our fellowship. For a ride, call Carol during the day at 747-5174. If you'd like to learn how to knit or crochet, please join us on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Reading Corner: A number of books have been purchased to share with interested folks. Just sign them out from the office! They are:

- 1) God for Beginners: "(A) delightful introduction to" Christianity. Covers the basics for those who are new to church and religion.
- 2) So You Are A Church Member: "(A) helpful membership resource for members of United Church of Christ congregations."
- 3) Thank You, God, For Me: Based on Psalm 8, this colorful book encourages children to celebrate their own uniqueness.
- 4) More to follow.....



MUSIC NOTES...

The Music Search Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Matthew Bartlett as our Church Organist, Director of the Chancel Choir, youth and bell choirs, beginning September 13, 2009. Matthew holds a degree in music (organ) performance from Western Connecticut State University and has held various church music positions over the past few years.

He currently resides in Meriden.

Please join us on **Sunday, September 13**, for a reception in Kelsey Hall immediately following worship to welcome Matthew to our congregation.

Anyone wishing to join the chancel or bell choirs or interested in learning more about our musical groups is encouraged to attend the first rehearsal on

Wednesday evening, September 16 (6:45 P.M. bell choir, 7:30 P.M. Chancel Choir).

How Are We Doing?

	Income	Expenses
January	\$ 22,034.24	\$ 20,391.20
February	\$ 17,978.25	\$ 20,188.39
March	\$ 20,913.57	\$ 19,438.88
April	\$ 35,027.37	\$ 28,247.28
May	\$ 17,658.98	\$ 16,271.87
June	\$ 15,386.35	\$ 17,229.06
July	\$ 13,682.19	\$ 12,094.34
	\$ 142,680.95	\$ 133,861.02

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

CT Women of the UCC Announce Fall Meeting



SAVE THIS DATE
Saturday, October 3, 2009!

That is when UCC women across the state are **invited to gather for our Fall meeting: "Healthy Women; Healthy Environment"** at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford. This is a follow up to the CT Conference Annual Meeting: **"Body & Soul~The Church and Healthcare."**

We'll have the opportunity to choose **one of two workshops**: learn and ask questions concerning women's health issues, led by area physicians; or, become informed about the environment and the impact of the chemicals in items we use everyday, led by informed activists.

A catered luncheon will be served. There will be all sorts of interesting displays, including books, SERRV items, prayer shawl and chemo cap instructions, cosmetics, Church World Service items, and more. Don't forget to bring your saved Kellogg's Boxtops for Education and Campbell's Labels for Education for Elon Homes & Schools!

Registration will be **\$14.00** and the Call Letter will go out to church representatives late Summer - watch for it, and plan **now** who to invite to come with you to Hartford on October 3rd. You'll be glad you did!

~Your SERVICE Committee



Mowing Mowing Mowing Mowing Mowing Mowing

Thanks to those who have already signed up to cut the grass around the church!
Most weeks in September and October are still in need of mowers.

Please see the sign-up sheet in Kelsey Hall to help out. 😊 Thanks!



“Backpack Sunday” Thank You

Thank you for making August 23rd a *very* successful “Backpack Sunday”. And a really BIG thanks to those who financially contributed \$89 on August 23rd. At that time, we still needed to purchase 4 more backpacks, but later that week when our DCF social worker called frantically scrambling to settle two more families with 6 children, the remaining \$89 enabled us to purchase 6 more backpacks, some shoes, and a few school uniforms for several of the children. This year, members and friends of our congregation donated and filled backpacks with an abundance of school supplies for **39** boys and girls who are in the care of DCF. Rev. Claire blessed the backpacks, and Lynn Ludwin, our Covenant to Care for Children DCF social worker, took them to her young clients before the beginning of the school year. Bless you all for making this a very, very successful “Backpack Sunday”.

Your Mission-Social Action Committee - Audrey, Carol, Joni, Mary, Pauline, Rinette, Robin, and Ruthe

UnitedScrip – Ongoing Fundraiser

A BIG thanks for shopping with UnitedScrip! This is our church’s ongoing fundraiser. This fundraiser is successful because our congregation faithfully purchases scrip shopping/gift cards week after week. **As you need gifts for weddings, baby and bridal showers, and birthdays, please consider giving gift cards or purchase your gifts with gift cards.** Simply pick up a UnitedScrip order form in the narthex or in Kelsey Hall, check which national stores, restaurants, and gas stations that you frequent, then make a check out to our church and give the order form with a check to Carol after church in Kelsey Hall. Be sure to purchase your store/gift cards for all your normal shopping needs. You will receive the full face value of the gift card, and our church will keep a percentage of the face value. It’s win-win for all!

<i>Our Scrip Profits for 2009:</i>	\$\$ <i>(Annual Budget Target: \$2,000)</i>	<i>% of Annual Budget Achieved</i>
Month of Jan:	\$48.80	
Month of Feb:	\$107.90	
Month of March	\$143.70	
Month of April	\$84.55	
Month of May	\$99.95	
Month of June	\$133.75	
Month of July	\$43.90	
<i>Total Scrip Profit for 2009:</i>	<i>\$662.55</i>	<i>Through July 33% (target 50%)</i>

For June 21st through Aug. 16th, we thank the following church families who participated: Astolfi, Blanchard, Boiczuk, Drachenberg, Edge, Fuller, Hoerle, Karabin, Kordes, Letendre, Bonnie Mazurek, Michaud, D. Pelletier, Peterson, Seeds and Plainville Daycare and Thrift Shop.

For any questions regarding our scrip fundraiser, please call Carol Peterson during the day at 747-5174. Thanks.

Need COMMUNITY SERVICE Hours?????

Please see/talk to Rev. Claire (747-1901 #1), the Trustees, and/or Mrs. Cone and Mrs. Colley. We have plenty of opportunities for those looking for Community Service hours! And we are glad to help.

Mission Moment by Pauline Mowry given August 9, 2009

There are several things that I respect our very own Thrift Shop for:

- 1. Is the generous donation it gives to this church every year. This year, the Thrift Shop has pledged \$14,000 – that is \$1,200 per month. With the average item costing \$1.00, that is a lot of items coming in and going out.*
- 2. It is “green”, which is the recycling/reusing concept that this store is based on. It provides an avenue for all of us to recycle items we no longer use, giving other the ability to reuse them at a very low cost. I always see the Thrift Shop as a dignified helping hand to many in times of need.*
- 3. This is a wonderful model of what volunteerism can do. There is a camaraderie between workers and the customers...many have known each other for years.*

The Thrift Shop could use a few more volunteers. No permanent commitment is needed, only a few hours once in a while. Please call Shirley Brown if you are interested at 793-9619.

This is your mission and mine!

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PLAINVILLE MUM SALE ORDER FORM

9-Inch Pots \$6.00 each OR 4 for \$22.00 *** \$2.75 of the cost of each plant is a tax-deductible contribution to the church.

COLORS AVAILABLE:

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE NUMBER _____

Red/Burgundy Pink/Purple
Bronze/Orange Yellow White

Quantity	Color Choice		Price per Item	Total Cost	Payment Method (Cash or Check) (Please note check number)
	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice			
TOTAL					

SOLD BY: _____ **TEL #** _____

Make Checks Payable to Congregational Church of Plainville

Pre-orders to be submitted to the Church Office no later than Wed., Sept. 16, 2009. Pre-orders to be picked up on Fri., Sept. 18, 2009 from 5:00PM-7:00PM at the Congregational Church of Plainville, 130 W. Main Street, Plainville, Connecticut. An open sale will take place on Sat. Sept. 19, 2009 from 9:00AM-1:00PM on the Church's front lawn.



---Imagine Another World Is Possible ---
Coming October 4th: Neighbors in Need Offering

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ (UCC) that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. The NIN Offering will be received on October 4th.

Two-thirds of the NIN offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through *UCCTakeAction.org*, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC.

One-third of the NIN offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the United States.

Neighbors in Need helps make another world possible. It needs your support. Along with other UCC congregations, we will receive the NIN offering on Sunday, October 4th as part of our World Communion Sunday observance. Please give generously to this year's Neighbor's in Need Offering. This is your mission and mine.

Your Mission-Social Action Committee --- Audrey, Carol, Mary, Pauline, Rinette, Robin, Ruthe



Rev. Geoffrey Black – New General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ

Just in case you have not read online at *UCC.org* about the recently held UCC elections during the 27th General Synod which was held in Grand Rapids, MI (remember the 26th Synod in Hartford?), the Rev. Geoffrey Black, who has served for nearly a decade as minister of the UCC's New York Conference, was called by election Tuesday evening June 30, 2009 to succeed the Rev. John Thomas as General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. Rev. Thomas was ineligible for an additional term. The announcement of Rev. Black's election was greeted with a standing ovation. In brief remarks, the new general minister and president thanked the delegates and spoke of his high expectations of working with other members of the UCC's five-person Collegium of Officers. Echoing his remarks at the time of his nomination, Rev. Black affirmed, "We are in this together." Rev. Black begins his new position on October 1st.

Your Mission-Social Action Committee - Audrey, Carol, Joni, Mary, Pauline, Rinette, Robin, and Ruthe

MUMS, USED BOOKS, AND BAKE SALE!

A fund-raiser sponsored by our Church Family will take place on Saturday, September 19, 2009 from 9:00am until 1:00pm. The Mums, used books and baked goods sale will take place on the Church Lawn. In case of rain, the full sale will be moved indoors to Kelsey Hall. All proceeds from this sale will benefit the Church's general fund. Used book donations may be placed on the stage in Kelsey Hall. Bakers needed! Sign up sheet is located in Kelsey Hall. If you have any questions regarding baked goods contact Marianne Wright. The delivery of baked goods is requested Friday evening between 6:00pm and 7:00pm OR Saturday morning between 8:00am and 9:00am. Be sure to stop in the newly renovated Thrift Shop where you will find bargains galore! Please use the Mum Sale order form to obtain advance orders from family and friends. Order forms can be found on the table in the Narthex. These hardy mums are planted in 9-inch pots (1 inch larger than last year) and will be sold for \$6.00 each or 4 for \$22.00. We request any pre-orders be dropped off in the Church Office along with the monies (checks payable to the Congregational Church of Plainville) no later than Wednesday, September 16, 2009. Pre-order pick-up will take place on Friday, September 17, 2009 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm in the front of the church. Lots of hands and hearts are needed to make this sale a success. Everyone is invited to be a part of this fund-raiser by signing up on the sheet located in Kelsey Hall. If you have any questions regarding our sale please contact Donna Zapatka at 747-1990 or any member of the Diaconate, Christian Education, or Evangelism and Church Growth. Please encourage your co-workers, family and friends to attend!

Thank-You Note from a Covenant to Care for Children Recipient

Back in late May, it was announced before worship that our Covenant to Care DCF Social Worker had some urgent needs as she tried to settle two different households. The request was for a juvenile bed, several sets of sheets for twin and queen size beds, a vacuum cleaner, and some grocery and WalMart gift cards. Ten people stepped forward to fulfill Lynn's request. In June, we received the following thank-you note from one of the recipients:

I just wanted to take some time and let you all know how much I truly appreciate the gift card and donations you have blessed me with. I am grateful for everything you all have done for me.

Truly our congregation is generous in providing for others. Thank you for enabling our DCF Social Worker to assist her clients as they establish new residences and try to get on with their lives.

Your Mission-Social Action Committee - Audrey, Carol, Joni, Mary, Pauline, Rinette, Robin, and Ruthe

Our heartfelt sympathies to those who have lost family members in July and August:

To the friends and families of: Christopher Dziura, Alan Fish (son of Joanne and Harold Fish), Jane MacMillan (mother-in-law of Connie MacMillan), Hedwig Mazurek (mother of Dave Mazurek), Stephie Raymond (sister-in-law of Bev & Bob Raymond), and Marcelyn King.



In our Prayers this month, we remember: Teresa Townsend, Nichols/Parker Families, Estelle MacEwen, Dave Mazurek, Patricia Johnson, Phil Walfield, Harold Fish, Bunny Colter, Dani, Rochelle, Lucy, Timmy, David Crabtree, Ron Harke, Nelly Carillo, Wyona Frasier, Frank Geissler, John, Judy Beausoleil, Marcel Tardif, Shirley Brown, Michael Fraychak, Craig Mackenzie, Eleanor Kordes, Ruth Pater, Jessie Flanders, Pam Collins, Luke Santhouse, Dick and Joan Dante, Jim Fielder, Marcia and Woody Winslow, Gary Hubbell, Don Barrows, Dorothy "Dot" Haley, Maria Schatz, Davida Foy Crabtree, Jeff Schaefer, Peg Hoerle, Peg Young, Mary Devine, Gordon McCann, Helen McKernan, Jeane Pierson, Walter Smykla, ***and the families of*** Marcelyn King, Christopher Dziura, Alan Fish, Jane MacMillan, Hedwig Mazurek, Paul Dube, Paul Raisides, Marjorie Wilbur, Sharon Warren, as well as members and friends serving in the military: Spencer Pelletier, James Palmer, Gabriel Smykla, and Mark Terrill.

We received a ***"Thank you"*** note from Bob and Bev Raymond in July....

Dear Church Family,

This note has been long coming! Bob and I send our Heartfelt "Thanks" for the prayers said in church, and also for the lovely sympathy card set to us in memory of our sister-in-law passing on. It's nice to belong to a caring church. We really appreciated it! As Ever, Bob & Bev Raymond

We received a note from Joanne Fish in July....

Dear Church Members,

I would like to ask that you add Harold's name, and our son, Alan Fish, to your list for prayers. Alan is dying of prostate cancer at the age of 57, and Harold has vascular leg problems and is confined to a wheel chair. Harold and I were married in the church on October 27, 1945 and joined the church in 1947. Both our children were baptized and married in the church. Prayers would be greatly appreciated. Our hearts are still with the church.

Fondly, Joanne Fish

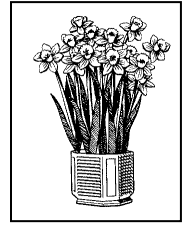
We received a note from Woody and Marcia Winslow in August....

Many Thanks To Our Church Family,

Your prayers have helped to cope being partially house bound with Woody's Alzheimer. It's so good to have your love and we thank God each day and ask HIM to bless each of you! Love, Woody & Marcia

We wish a very **"Happy Birthday"** to the following members of our congregation who have

September birthdays: Robert Janota (9/8), Rex Cone (9/9), Christopher Wazorko (9/14), Carl Binder (9/15), William Pegg (9/19), Barbara Edge (9/19), Cadwell Hoerle (9/19), Marcia Winslow (9/27), and Francesca Heap (9/30).



We also wish a very **"Happy Anniversary"** to the following members with **September anniversaries:** Claire Bamberg and Bob Willard (9/3), Chris and Shelly Johnson (9/11), and Raegan Armata and Christopher Wazorko (9/26).

MILESTONES AND HIGHPOINTS

New Members	None reported
Transfers or terminations of membership	None reported
Inactive	None reported
Deaths	Alan Fish, Marcelyn King
Marriages/Unions	None reported
Births	None reported
Baptisms	None reported

CHURCH CALENDAR



September 2009



Steeple articles due by: September 18, 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10:00 am - Worship: 7:30 pm - Recovery	31 10:00 am AI Anon 7:30 pm - Church School Teachers Meeting (Library)	1 10:30 am - AA 7:00 pm - AA 7:15 pm - <u>All Committee Meeting Night</u>	2 5-7pm Food for Friends	3 7:30 pm - NA	4	5 6:30 pm - NA
6 10:00am - Worship: Communion	7 10:00 am AI Anon	8 10:30 am - AA 7:00 pm - AA	9 5-7pm Food for Friends 7:00 Diaconate meeting	10 7:00 Second Chance Investors Meeting	11	12 6:30 pm - NA
13 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am - Worship After worship - Music Committee meeting 11:15 Thrift Shop open 3:00-6:30 Youth Theater Party	14 10:00 am AI Anon	15 10:30 am - AA 7:00 pm - AA 7:30 pm - <u>Church Council</u>	16 5-7pm Food for Friends 6:45 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm- Adult Choir	17 6:30 pm - NA Administrative 7:30 pm - NA	18 *All Steeple Articles due	19 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Mum Sale! Book Sale! Bake Sale! 6:30 pm - NA
20 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal 10:00am - Worship ~ RALLY SUNDAY ~ followed by.... ALL CHURCH PICNIC	21 10:00 am AI Anon	22 10:30 am - AA 7:00 pm - AA	23 5-7pm Food for Friends 6:45 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm- Adult Choir	24 7:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ruthe's home 7:30 pm - NA	25	26 6:30 pm - NA
27 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am - Worship and Teacher Installation 6:30 Adult Ed kickoff	28 10:00 am AI Anon	29 10:30 am - AA 7:00 pm - AA	30 5-7pm Food for Friends 6:45 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm- Adult Choir	1 2010 budget requests due 7:30 pm - NA	2	3 6:30 pm - NA