

STEEPLE VIEWS & NEWS

July/August 2011

The Storm

The storm is imminent.
It lures the foolish surfer
to his death beneath the waves.
It fails to urge the die-hard resident
who will not leave his threatened home
despite the warnings of the past.
Why do people tempt their fate?



Ernesta Marchand

THE REV. HOLLY H. ADAMS, TRANSITION MINISTER

THE REV. CHRISTOPHER TATE, ASSOCIATE MINISTER

ALEXANDER CONSTANTINE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

LISBETH LLOYD, MUSIC EDUCATOR

JESSICA STANCIU, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

KAREN IZZI, CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES ASSISTANT

(203) 869-9311, Fax (203) 862-8624

E-mail: info@2cc.org

Our Website: www.2cc.org

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
139 EAST PUTNAM AVENUE
GREENWICH, CT 06830

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

STEEPLE VIEWS & NEWS

From the Senior Pastor's Office

In transition.....

If you were at church on Tent Sunday, you were part of an exuberant and Spirited congregation of all ages which witnessed the Holy Spirit descend as wind-blown feathers - red, orange and yellow - representing the "fingers of fire" as reported in Acts 2, with youthful Wind-Runners running through the tent, their streamers aloft flying in the "violent" rush of wind behind them. And you heard the music of Alexander's choral voices that soared to new heights and moved your feet to dancing and hands to clapping. Yes, God was present among us that morning!

Sometimes we get so caught up in the busyness of our lives that we forget about the gift of our life, and our very reason for being. It's easy to *believe* in the evidence in front of us and mistrust our *faith* in the invisible, the unprovable. Do you *believe* in wind, even though you can't see it? Of course you do, because you have faith in the evidence of the power of wind.

On Sunday, I told the story of a colleague, Martin Copenhaver, who asks us to imagine a circus where a skilled high-wire artist accomplishes many marvelous feats with his bicycle while the audience watches, amazed and believing that he can do anything! The ringmaster addresses the crowd, "Ladies and gentlemen, how many of you believe that this daring man can ride safely over the high wire on his bicycle while carrying someone on his shoulders? If you believe he can, please raise your hand!" Many in the audience raise their hands. "Very well, then," says the ringmaster, surveying all the raised hands, "now who would like to be the first to volunteer to sit on his shoulders?"

The difference between belief and faith is the difference between staying in your seat and volunteering to climb on the shoulders of the high-wire artist. We may believe that God has "the whole world in his hands," but *faith is the act of trust by which we put ourselves in God's hands.*

For me, faith is also the act of trusting ourselves - as individuals and as a congregation - to know a God who can appear to us suddenly, in a fiery blaze or a rushing wind, in a cloud and on a mountain top, and a God who can even open the locked doors of our hearts and minds just as Jesus appeared to his disciples.

On that day of Pentecost in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit descended (Acts 2), Peter said to the crowd, "God has poured out God's spirit upon all flesh, and your young shall see visions and your elders shall dream dreams.... and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." And so the church was born.

Isn't that the mission for us as a community of faith-filled? To have visions and to dream dreams, and to worship the Lord that we might be saved and do our part to help others?

I believe that we all continue to dream, just as our ancestors have for over three centuries, about fulfilling the destiny of this church on the hill that has been a beacon and a refuge to generations. All we need is faith, the faith to get up out of our seats and catch God's Holy Spirit and let it carry us to the destiny God calls us to.

May this summer strengthen your Faith that in God, all things are possible.

With love,

Holly

The Reverend Holly Adams

*The way is long - let us go together; the way is difficult - let us help each other;
The way is joyful - let us share it; the way is ours - let us go in love.
The way grows before us - let us begin.*

Second Church at Worship

One Service
at 9:30 a.m.

in the air-conditioned Chapel

July 3, the message will be given by Holly Adams.
July 10 and July 17, Chris Tate will bring the message.
July 24 and July 31, Holly Adams will be preaching.

August 7 and August 14, Holly Adams will be preaching.
August 21, Chris Tate will bring the message.
August 28, the message will be given by Holly Adams.

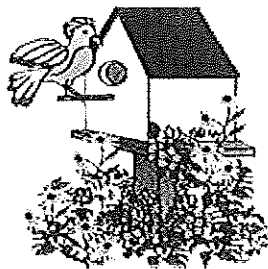
Special Thanks to the Starrs.....

Second Church would like to give special thanks to Starr Tents of Mount Vernon, NY, for donating the Tent for our Annual Tent Weekend. Thank you to Doug Young, our soundman, our All Volunteer Choir and Chris Wyle and the Deacons.

Updated Membership Directories

The directories will be published by the Women's Fellowship in late August.

If you wish to make changes in your current listing, or if you wish to add an email address, please submit the changes to the church office in writing or email Gloria@2cc.org no later than **August 1**. Thank you.



Telephone Extensions & Email Addresses

Rev. Holly H. Adams	121	holly@2cc.org
Rev. Christopher Tate	125	chris@2cc.org
Alexander Constantine	129	alexander@2cc.org
Lisbeth Lloyd	128	lisbeth@2cc.org
Jessica Stanciu	131	jessica@2cc.org
Karen Izzi	131	karen@2cc.org
Gloria LaDestro	120	gloria@2cc.org
Catherine Colucci	122	catherine@2cc.org
Meg Stewart	123	meg@2cc.org
Tony Izzi	124	tony@2cc.org

The Director of Children's Ministries Message

Jessica Stanciu

We are continuing to enjoy ourselves this summer at 2CC while learning some important lessons! In class, we are covering Bible characters who showed their faith. As adults it is always good to remind ourselves of this as well. Some character examples that the children will be reminded of are listed below:

- Paul wrote letters to encourage believers.
- Lois shared faith with her daughter.
- Eunice shared faith with her son.
- Timothy relied on the power of God.
- Noah obeyed God and built an ark.
- Abraham followed God's direction and traveled to a new country.
- Moses led God's people out of Egypt.
- Jesus shared God's love with people.

Talking about faith with children can be challenging for parents. How do we find the right words to say what we believe about the Bible? God? Creation? The Church? Some questions your children might have already asked you are, "Why is there evil? Why does God let terrible things happen? Where is heaven? Is my dog there?" I am currently reading, "Making a Home for Faith," by Elizabeth Caldwell that addresses some of these questions. I encourage you to read books and articles as your resources for this topic, but most importantly to turn to God when confused on what answers to provide your children. Pray about the answers and I am sure they will come. Remember you are not alone. All children are curious, as we adults are too. Sometimes just saying, "I don't know," is a good enough answer, too. Feel free to share with other parents or your church staff some of the tricky ones and tackle them together!



Each day at our "Pandamania Vacation Bible School, Where God is Wild about You!" (August 1-5), children will be exposed to a Bible point as well as a corresponding Bible story and Bible verse. The Chapel will be decorated like a rainforest this summer for camp so get ready! Please email Jessica@2cc.org, call 203.869.9311 or visit our website www.2cc.org to register your child today!

Through the use of songs, acting, crafts and games, the children will be experiencing these stories on many different levels. I am very excited to share this time with them.

I pray everyone is having a relaxing summer and I look forward to seeing you soon.

CROSS

July/August 2011

Summer is here, woo-hoo! Check your e-mail for information on anything we may try to organize over the summer. Questions or comments? Call me (Chris) @ 203.829.1336 (cell), e-mail @ chris@2cc.org, or AIM at SniWrngler or TatesAbode

Summer Activities

We have a number of mission trips this summer, as well as a few other opportunities to do some volunteer service and have some fun. Here's the summer "docket," such as it is, for the next few months:

Our Annual Six Flags Trip (to New England, because of its awesome water park) which does not yet have a date, but will, obviously, be sometime in July

June 27 - July 1: Sports Camp (for ages 4 through 5th grade) If you'd like to be a counselor, contact Jessica@2cc.org

August 1-5 — Vacation Bible School (9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m.) Contact Jessica@2cc.org ASAP if you'd like to be a counselor

August 7-13 -- High School Mission Trip to Toronto, Canada

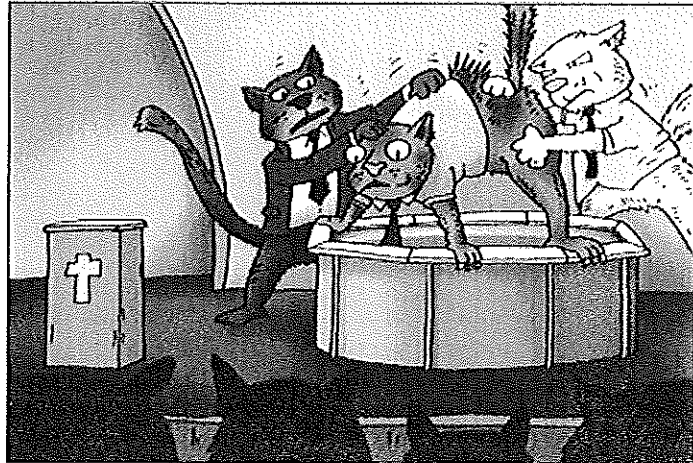
Random "hang out" days— these can be pretty much any time you want them to be. Just call me and let me know when you'd like to get together! Rainy day? Call me, maybe we can go to the movies!

Church: 203.869.9311 ext. 125

Cell: 203.829.1336

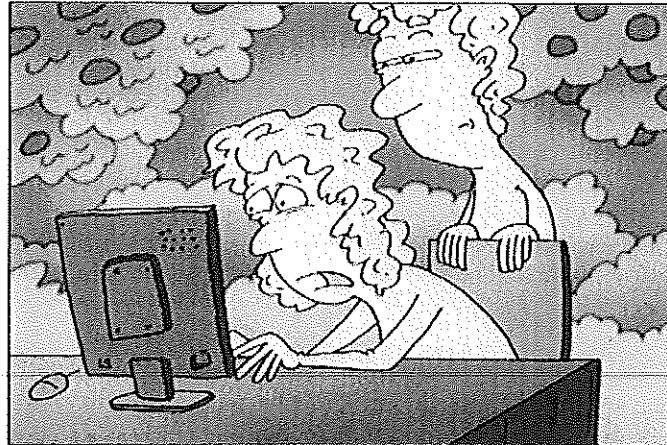
And once again, a few cartoons for the Summer :)

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TROUBLE IN CAT CHURCH

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



I SIGNED UP OVER TWO MONTHS AGO AND YOU ARE THE ONLY PERSON WHO HAS FRIENDED ME

As always, dates/times listed here are subject to change. Consult the weekly update e-mails or the Google calendar for the most current event info.

From the Music Educator

Lisbeth Lloyd

This year has been a wonderful year filled with many Youth Choir memories and highlights. Here are some favorites:

- Serving breakfast with the Youth Choir to the Homeless in Boston Commons, and then watching our Choir participate in the Multi-Cultural Concert at historic Boston Tremont Temple.
- Taking the Choir to the awe-inspiring Lion King for our Annual Broadway trip to New York.
- Conducting the High School Girls in their beautifully choreographed version of "Broadway Baby" in the Community Concert at Temple Shalom.
- My absolute favorite is the Youth Choir's moving rendition of "You Raise Me Up" for Bob Naylor's final 2CC service.

I am also proud to announce that this year, more than seventeen children have advanced their music theory levels! Congratulations to each one of you, and thank you for such an amazing year!

After a seemingly endless winter, summer is finally here. With exams, year-end recitals, sports competition finals and graduations behind us, we all should breathe a sigh of relief. Each year I watch Youth Choir students, their parents, and the 2CC community stretched to their limits with their hectic daily schedules. As we approach our summer vacation, I want to remind everyone that "Even God rested on the Seventh Day!" You deserve some rest! Summer is the time to nurture yourself and recharge your batteries. Find time to enjoy the beauty of God's world, and delight in family fellowship. I know one of our loyal Youth Choir members, Regine Azor, will be using the summer to prepare for her first year of college. The Youth Choir and I thank her for her many years of enthusiastic service and we look forward to her singing with us as an Alum. We wish Regine a wonderful journey at the University of Connecticut on her way to becoming a Pediatrician.

We are currently planning an exciting program for the Youth Choirs for our fall season. I look forward to seeing each of you renewed and ready to make beautiful music in the fall. If you can't wait until then, be sure to join us for the Performing Arts Camp July 5 through the 15.

PERFORMING ARTS CAMP: July 5-15. Weekdays only 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For all Youth, 9-18 years of age. If your child loves to sing, dance and act, this camp is a perfect summer activity. Our program includes lots of singing and performance training, movement classes, and lessons on essential acting skills. Call Lisbeth at 203.869.9311, ext. 128 for more information. Register now. Limited Enrollment!

From the Music Director

Alexander Constantine

The July/August newsletter allows me the opportunity to recognize and give thanks to those who assist with making our church's music ministry an inspiring and joyful part of our weekly worship. Without the help of these supportive and giving people, our program would not be nearly as effective as it has grown to be over the years. I'm proud of not only the folks who attend rehearsals and sing in the choir loft, but those who behind the scenes believe in this ministry as a way of enhancing each spiritual journey by adding music to the soul and spirit of each congregant. My heartfelt thanks goes to...

- Our chancel choir volunteers who don't count the hours that they're here, but count on each other to bring their best to each service and special event. There is a continuous song of joy in each of their hearts.*
- Our chancel choir section leaders who have become a part of our extended church family. They share their leadership skills with our volunteers and they are the foundation of our group.*
- David Perlman and the entire music committee for listening and responding to the needs we share together.*
- Our office staff: Gloria, Meg and Catherine for countless hours of help, and for allowing me to fudge on deadlines as long as I back it up with some chocolate.*
- Tony Izzi for always being ready to help.*
- Amanda, who sings while she cleans and singlehandedly makes our space look spotless each week.*
- Karen Izzi, whose cheery greeting, demeanor and green thumb are such a wonderful way to be welcomed to our campus each day.*
- Chris Tate who never says, "no" and whose abounding creative talent and deep affection for the music ministry of our church continues to be a source of unending support for me musically and spiritually.*
- Lisbeth for her laughter and for being a great neighbor across the hall as well as a wonderful music educator.*
- Jessica, whom I enjoy working with each chance I get.*
- The people of this church, who are always giving such positive feedback and for always making us feel so special at Second Church.*
- Holly, who has entered through our doors with a breath of fresh air, a sparkle in her eye and a kind thing to say about everything and everyone. Her door is always open, her heart is always listening and her hands are always ready to serve.*
- And finally, my newsletter would not be complete without thanking my colleague, my mentor and my friend, Bob Naylor, who taught me to dream, believe in myself and to always remember the light of Christ will always be there to show me the way.*

God bless our church. Have a wonderful summer!!

Tenth Annual Jack A. Schlegel Summer Retreat

We hope you will join us for our Tenth Annual Jack A. Schlegel Summer Retreat in the Green Mountains of Manchester, Vermont, from Thursday evening August 4 returning Sunday afternoon, August 7. Rick Roth, Ted Strathdee and Steve Walker will be leading us in this spiritual, social and physically enriching weekend! Kunduck Moon will encore as our chef for the Saturday evening Argentine Style Barbeque! Everyone can drive or carpool up and back anytime during the weekend. We will have spiritual time each day plus play golf, tennis, swim, fish, shop, tour the area, read a book (including the Bible of course) or just relax together. Although we will be able to play golf each of the three days, absolutely no ability but a lot of humility and a sense of humor are necessary.

Those who can depart from Greenwich Thursday afternoon will arrive in Manchester (200 miles/3 hour drive) in time for dinner followed by a brief spiritual time. We will provide housing for all, so the only expenses are meals and golf fees of approximately \$100.00 per 18 holes including carts. Spouses are invited for our cookout dinner prepared by Chef Kunduck and his volunteer sous chefs, and sing-a-long led by Alexander Constantine Saturday evening, as well as golf and lunch on Sunday. We'll be home by Sunday dinner.

Please email me at ccombe@combe.com as soon as possible if you want to join us for any part or all of this fun-filled weekend with our outstanding members and friends!

Member Milestones:

Baptisms: *Alana Hodgdon and Justin Hodgdon* were baptized at Second Church on May 22, 2011. Alana and Justin are the children of Jetlin and Jonathan Hodgdon. Barbara Zappavigna was their sponsor.

Deaths: We send our prayers and sympathy to Pam, Doug, Mitchell, Molly and Garrett Towne. Pam's father *Roger A. Berkland* passed away on May 15, 2011, in Iowa.

Mickey Robinson's brother, *Harold Robinson* passed away in May 2011. We extend our condolences to Mickey, Catherine and family.

Benjamin Romeo, Jr. brother of Robert Romeo, passed away May 27, 2011. We extend our prayers and condolences to Bob, Nancy, Kevin and Lisa and family.

The following were confirmed of Second Church on Sunday, June 5, 2011: *Sabrina Kheng, Rebecca Dolan, Daryl Kennedy, Alexandra Ng, Tommy Rogan, Molly Towne, and Vince Urbanowski.*

New Members: *Sabrina Kheng, Rebecca Dolan, Daryl Kennedy, Alexandra Ng, Tommy Rogan, and Molly Towne* became members of Second Church on, June 5, 2011.

2011 Graduates:

Regine Azor graduated from Trinity Catholic High School in Stamford, CT, and will be attending UCONN to study biology for the pre-medicine program. She will be at the Stamford campus for a year then will transfer to Storrs.

Yasmeen Audi graduated Cum Laude from Greenwich Academy. She will be attending Barnard College of Columbia University in the fall.

Carly Downs graduated from Greenwich Academy. Carly will be going to Bucknell in the fall.

Elizabeth Fichtner will be graduating from New Canaan High School and will be attending Pepperdine University in the fall.

Maggie Harding will be graduating from Skidmore College in August with a Bachelor of Science in Studio Art.

Megan Hayden graduated Greenwich High School and will attend the University of Richmond in the fall. Megan will be playing soccer for the University of Richmond where she will be majoring in Sports Medicine.

Jacob Hladky graduated from Greenwich High School and will be attending California Polytechnic State University in the fall.

Lisa Romeo graduated from Western Connecticut State University, with the degree, Bachelors of Music: Classical Trombone.

Kevin Chang Scanlan graduated from Brunswick School and will be attending the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania dual degree program in Chemistry and Finance.

John Singleton is graduating from Cornell University with a Masters of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering.

Kirby Taylor graduated from Greenwich Academy and will attend the University of Vermont in the fall.

Bartlett (Bart) M.P. White graduated in May from Touro University, San Francisco, CA, with his P.A. (physician's assistant) certification and a Masters in Public Health. Bart's undergraduate degree is from UNR (Univ. of Nevada, Reno). Bart is the son of Second Church members Jim and Elizabeth White of Las Vegas, NV.

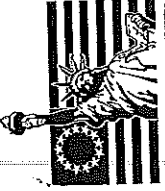
College Graduates 2011 of Grandchildren of Richard Hammer and Muggs Erwin

Richard Busch--University of Connecticut-- Accounting & Business B.S.

Carey Busch Kilpatrick --University of Connecticut-- Reg. Nursing B.S.

Jim Jesse Erwin-Svoboda---Gonzaga University--- Engineering B.S.

Sam Erwin Svoboda---Washington State University--- Business B.S.

		JULY					2011
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					1	2	
3 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour	4  (Church Office Closed)	5 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	6 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	7 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	8 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	9 6:15 pm Nuevo Amanecer Concert Ricardo Rodriguez performing	
10 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour 12:00 pm Pacific House	11 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp 5:00 pm Pacific House	12 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	13 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	14 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	15 9:30 - 3:45 pm Performing Arts Camp	16	
17 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour	18	19 5:00 pm Pacific House	20	21	22	23	
24 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour 12:00 pm Pacific House	25 5:00 pm Pacific House	26	27	28	29	30	
31							

		AUGUST			2011		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	2 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	3 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	4 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	5 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	6	
7 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour 5:00 pm Pacific House	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour 12:00 pm Pacific House	22	23	24	25 7:00 pm One Milbank - FH	26	27	
28 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Hour	29	30	31				

Vacation Bible Camp



10th Annual Jack A. Schelegal
Summer Retreat - August 4 - 7

Youth Group Mission Trip to Toronto, Canada

5:00 pm
Pacific House

5:00 pm
Pacific House