

## Second Congregational Church of Greenwich

*Conversation, Celebration, Community - Of Faith*

---

August 23, 2018

Dear Friends of Second Church,

A few days ago, a friend posted a picture of their beloved family summer house with the caption “Goodbye, little house! See you next year!”

It’s that time.

On Monday, the girls received their class lists in the mail; their beloved friends are filtering back home; and as I’ve walked the dog in the last few mornings, I’ve found it — dare I say it? — a little cool.

When I was younger, I knew summer was pretty much over as soon as the box arrived from LL Bean: my new Blucher moccasins, my same grey sweater in the next size up, a couple of flannel shirts. I only ordered the boots once — I still have them.

Every year, I’d leaf through the catalogue with its pictures of fall in northern New England — a world of foliage, canoes, dogs, and people all drinking coffee with their friends on some dock — and it seemed so foreign and wonderful, and so very different than the hazy, hot, and humid days of early August where I was.

There’s a moment in *The Great Gatsby* when Daisy tells Gatsby admiringly, “You always look so cool.” By which she simply means “cool” as opposed to “hot,” as all the rest of them are in the oppressive heat of a Long Island summer. Yet not so simply, it’s also an acknowledgement of Gatsby’s particular aura, the way he seems to represent almost a different quality of being that others do not share.

Sitting at my grandmother’s dining room table, leafing through the LL Bean catalogue, the pictures of autumn at some lakeside camp up north always looked cool to me in just that way.

And so, when the box finally arrived in the waning days of August, I was more than ready for a new beginning — a new school year and all that it might hold, and most especially, the possibility of glimpsing in myself that effortlessly self-confident, unhurried adult life from the catalogue, where maturity was an invitation to a long weekend that never ended.

That’s not how adulthood has turned out for me. (For which, thank God.)

But each year at the end of summer, I still find myself eager for a new beginning, and still hoping for a glimpse into what the year might hold for me and for the people I love.

What’s ahead? What will happen next?

Increasingly, I’m aware of how God journeys with us, sometimes hiding in plain sight, and yet working powerfully in ways that often become clear only later.

Our challenge as faithful people is to learn how to see, and also to trust, so that we might be sustained through the times when seeing is impossible for us.

The new beginning we find in God’s love teaches us over and over to proclaim the promise

that in Him, all things will be made new.

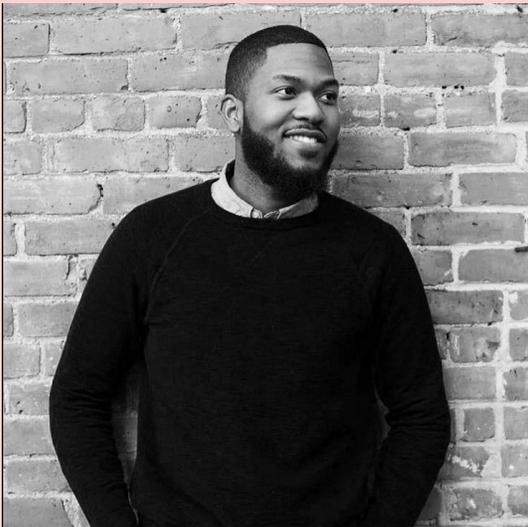
So may we be blessed by this moment of new beginnings and able to embrace it gladly, sustained by hope for what may come, and mindful of the One who loves us no matter what may happen. May God draw us ever closer in these days.

See you in church,

Max

If you would like to hear past Sermons you can find them on our website: [2cc.org](http://2cc.org)

## The Scripture selection for Max's Sermon this week is from: Ephesians 6:10-20



Allen Louis will be singing this Sunday at 9:30 in the Chapel. Allen Louis is a recent graduate of Manhattanville College, where he received a degree in vocal performance. Apart from working in the Marketing Department at the Palace Theatre in Stamford, Allen continues to audition for professional theatre, in hopes of one day earning his place on stage. He has received numerous callback auditions, and he remains hopeful regarding the opportunities that will soon come his way. The positive feedback he continues to receive keeps him motivated and focused, as he pursues his dreams. He believes, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that with God, everything and anything is possible and he is delighted to be back at 2CC!

Kathy Singleton's father David Dudley Smith Sr., died on July 31, 2018 at the age of 94. We extend our prayers and condolences to Kathy & Matt Singleton and family. A memorial service was held in Red Bank, New Jersey, on August 20, 2018.



To sign up for Coffee Hour please email: [Pam@2cc.org](mailto:Pam@2cc.org) with a date that you are willing to help out, thank you!

# Upcoming Events

## **Greenwich Mom's Night at Tod's Point**

**Monday, August 27**

**at 5:30 p.m.**

**BYO food & drink**

**Meet us near the flagpole**

**RSVP to [Jessica@2cc.org](mailto:Jessica@2cc.org)**

*Please note date change - [Click here](#) to RSVP*

---

**Homecoming Weekend: September 7-9**

# Cocktails with Constantine

Friday, September 7  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
at the Cottage

Wine & light hors d'oeuvres

RSVP to [alexander@2cc.org](mailto:alexander@2cc.org)



[RSVP to Alexander by clicking here](#)

---

# Outdoor Family Worship, Picnic & Movie Night

Saturday, September 8, 2018 starting at 5:00 p.m.

*Second Congregational Church of Greenwich*

## I CAN ONLY IMAGINE



Starring:

J. Michael Finley

Madeline Carroll

Trace Adkins

Priscilla Shirer

with Cloris Leachman

and Dennis Quaid

*The Song You Know. The Story You Don't.*

This **FREE** family-friendly event includes popcorn and drinks for everyone. Bring a blanket & a friend. Rain or shine.

*This emotionally gripping movie directed by the Erwin Brothers and starring Dennis Quaid, chronicles Christian rock star Bart Millard's true-life father-son journey of redemption and the power of forgiveness that inspired him to write the hit song "I Can Only Imagine".*

Don't miss the Movie Night Gift Basket drawing valued at over \$100!

More details at [2cc.org](http://2cc.org)

# Welcome Home!

## Join us on Sunday, September 9 at 10:30 a.m. for our Annual Homecoming Service Under the Tent

(we only have one service on this day)

Bring family and friends for Worship featuring a Bluegrass Band followed by fun, fellowship and activities for all ages. We will have a bounce house, sand art, games & fun stuff for kids!

*The service will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the picnic will immediately follow. Second Church will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, beverages and dessert.*

According to last name please bring the following:

**A-L: Salad**

**M-Z: Vegetable Dishes**

*We look forward to seeing you at this annual outdoor service and picnic!*

[Click here for more Homecoming Weekend Information](#)

## Do you "Like" Us?

*Follow us on Social Media for updates and fun "shares" of all the great things going on here at 2CC!*

**Click here for [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)**

## Leaving you with a giggle...



