



January 18, 2024

Dear Friends of Second Church,

I hope you enjoyed your first snow day in a while.

For New York City, it had been 701 days since they'd last seen more than one inch of snow, and I'm told that people were sort of glad for a coating...although the temperature drop was not special in the same way and did not get many positive reviews.

As it happens, I went into the City yesterday to see a good friend who was passing through. Walking crosstown from Grand Central felt like standing in a wind tunnel, and I found myself wondering what it might be like on Bora-Bora just then—or if maybe Gilligan's Island could use a pastor in the mix after all these years.

There are those who say there is no such thing as bad weather, only inadequate clothing — and I appreciate the spirit of that, although it isn't my view.

But with that said, when it comes to living our lives in light of “current conditions,” we know full well that the atmospheric ones are often far from the most challenging.

By the same token, in those other conditions (emotional, professional, relational... you get it), it's not like holing up and just waiting for better weather is a real option.

We need to learn what we need to move forward even when we're out in the storm. Especially then.

It's important to be warm and dry, of course. What keeps us patient and focused? What prompts us to speak or listen, or teaches us when to trust or stay skeptical?

Our faith has a lot to say on such topics, and a lot it would encourage us to know about ourselves and the world as we head out into the elements...or discover ourselves out among them by no choice of our own.

Jesus walking across the water, stilling the storm; Elijah seeking shelter from the whirlwind and the fire, only to be greeted by the sound of sheer silence—Scripture is well aware of the divine presence in places that seem downright godless, much less hopeless by any human way of reckoning.

It says in the most uncertain terms that godlessness is not a thing, and offers that certainty as a place to begin, even when the storms seem to be doing their worst.

God loves us in all seasons and all weathers—and any condition, even the most dire, will finally reveal God's presence for those with eyes to see.

As we enter the season of snow days and bitter winds, may we learn to look for him and know the warmth of that love.

See you in church,

Max

All welcome, since 1705...

*Second Congregational Church of Greenwich*

Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

[2cc.org](http://2cc.org)

Sermons are always  
available online:  
[2CCSermons](http://2CCSermons)

If you can't make it in person, join us  
via [Livestream for our 10:30  
a.m.](#) Sunday service.

## 2024 Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 4

*Meeting will take place immediately  
following the 10:30 a.m. service in the Chapel*



## Children's Chapel at 2CC

Nursery care for infants to age 4 starts  
at 10:15 a.m.

Deacons can help direct you to our  
nursery room.

Children ages kindergarten and up are  
encouraged to start worship with their  
parents at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Those who wish may depart for  
Children's Chapel and Choir with  
Jenny at about 10:45 a.m.

Registration not required but helpful  
for us to best know and love your  
child.

[Click here to register for  
Children's Chapel](#)



Roll out of bed and join us in your PJs for

**TEDDY BEAR STORY HOUR  
WITH JENNY**

— at —

**COFFEE FOR GOOD**



Saturdays from 8 to 9am

Jan 27, Feb 24 & March 30, 2024

48 Maple Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Join Jenny at Teddy Bear Story  
Hour on Saturday, January 27,  
February 24  
& March 30 at 8:00 a.m.

[Email Jenny for more  
information](#)

6th to 12th Grade Regional Youth Ministry Lock-In

*Glow in  
The Dark*

 *First Cong. Church of Greenwich*  
**108 Sound Beach Avenue**

Drop Off: Fri, Jan 26th @ 6pm  
Pick Up: Sat, Jan 27th @ 12pm



Email to RSVP  
KhaleighL  
@FCCOG.org

**FREE!**

**Pizza, laser tag, cookie baking, painting, & more!**

<https://www.fccog.org/regional-youth-ministry/>

Email Khaleigh for more  
information

Mark your calendars...

# Mindful Monday Winter Yoga with Jill Ernst

Second Congregational Church  
BYOM (Bring Your Own Mat)

Monday mornings:  
January 8 - February 12  
9:15 a.m.

*6 weeks for \$60 or drop in fee of \$20 per class  
Scholarships available and childcare upon request*

Email [Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org) for more information





# Coffee and Connection Speaker Series resumes in 2024...

**Saturday, January 27**  
**10:00-11:00 a.m.**

*Join chaplains Kate Noonan and Jenny Byxbee for women of all ages and stages to connect and for some self care. During our time together we will learn centering techniques, meditate, be inspired by scripture and leave behind what doesn't serve our higher selves*

**Childcare can be made available upon request.  
Please RSVP to [Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org) to reserve your spot.**

**Email Jenny for more  
information**

## Looking Ahead...



Join us for...

# MARDI GRAS SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

In preparation for Lenten season, please join us for a pancake  
Mardi Gras party following worship in Fletcher Hall.  
Music, Fellowship, and Pancakes with all the fixin's!

All are welcome, rsvps appreciated:  
Jenny@2cc.org

RSVP for Mardi Gras  
Sunday

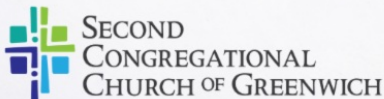
## Ash Wednesday

February 14

Ashes to Go from 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Communion will be offered during worship



## Around Town...



*"We shall overcome, because the arc of the moral  
universe is long but it bends towards justice"*

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Speech  
given at the National Cathedral



# Bending the Arc? A Conversation about Inequity & Access in Greenwich

**Thursday**  
**January 18, 2024**  
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Register at:  
[www.ywcagrnr.org/csmlk2024](http://www.ywcagrnr.org/csmlk2024)

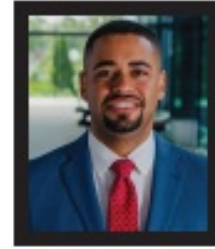
**Event is FREE and open to the public**

For more information, contact Simone Quartey at 203-869-6501 x. 104 or [s.quartey@ywcagreenwich.org](mailto:s.quartey@ywcagreenwich.org)

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
greenwich  
[ywcagreenwich.org](http://ywcagreenwich.org)



**Mark Abraham**  
CEO/Executive Director,  
DataHaven



**Dr. Louis (Lou) Hart**  
Medical Director of Health Equity,  
Yale New Haven Health System



**Demetria Nelson**  
Commissioner,  
Greenwich Department of  
Human Services



**Evonne Klein**  
Founder,  
Fairfield County  
Talks Housing

### Event Description:

Join us to learn more about the data that illustrates chronic disparities in our community and in the region. Our experts will discuss how these inequities and barriers impact the lives of people based on gender, race and other dimensions of identity. Our panel will offer solutions to these important issues to ensure that the arc continues to bend toward justice for all.

### Community Partners





## Another wonderful VBS on Monday!

*MLK-VBS was a blast! Big thank you to special guests Bobby "the builder" DeAngelo, Bob "the flash" Capazzo, Cos Cob Librarian, Jan DeAngelo, and book author and illustrator, Joe Belisle, for helping our day be extra special!*



*Save the date: Our Good Friday VBS takes place on March 29, details to come.*



Second Congregational Church | 139 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

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