



## Worship with us on Sunday at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

January 15, 2025

Dear Friends of Second Church,

I think many of us are simply astounded by the images of the wildfires around Los Angeles — certainly, I am.

Beyond showing the sheer scale of the devastation, there are also the video clips of individual escapes, probably captured on a phone, with people racing away from (and sometimes even through) the flames to get to safety.

For me, these make a situation I can't imagine into one that, to some extent, I can.

How it changes those who have been through it will only emerge later, but it seems naive to suggest that they could come through it “unscathed,” even if their homes were undamaged, or their own stories of escape lean heavily toward the miraculous.

As Christians, we have good language for how God rescues us. As for how God guides us in rebuilding, deciding what comes next, learning how to live differently than we'd imagined because of what we've been through...even faith hesitates to speak too quickly. (Or it ought to.)

And yet we know that, later, there will be people whose accounts of life after the fire will mention, not just the first responders (for whom we should all give thanks), but also the person on the phone from the insurance company who was kind and familiar rather than scripted and corporate, the volunteer who played “go fish” with kids in a high school gym so their parents could get some sleep, the teacher who still assigns homework for a class that might not meet until Easter, the lady who let them go ahead and keep those drug store reading glasses.

There will be story after story like that. We probably won't think to call them miracles. But we ought to recognize their grace.

Recovery programs often describe the highly personal ways in which a person can hit “rock bottom,” that moment when their chemical dependency takes away something that really matters in a way that even their illness cannot pretend not to see.

Sometimes, God's presence is granular in that same way: a small gesture with particular meaning for us that the giver could never have guessed, and which we receive as a moment of genuine encounter with the Almighty.

In the days ahead, the survivors of the fires are sure to have many such moments, and they will need many as they see their way clear to what comes next.

As we keep them in our prayers, may we also resolve to offer whatever grace might be ours to share, and know God in comforting and being comforted.

See you in church,

Max

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

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



### Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life for Gerry Mayfield will be held in the Sanctuary on Saturday, January 18 at 11:00 a.m., with a reception to follow at Greenwich Country Club. Everyone is welcome to attend.

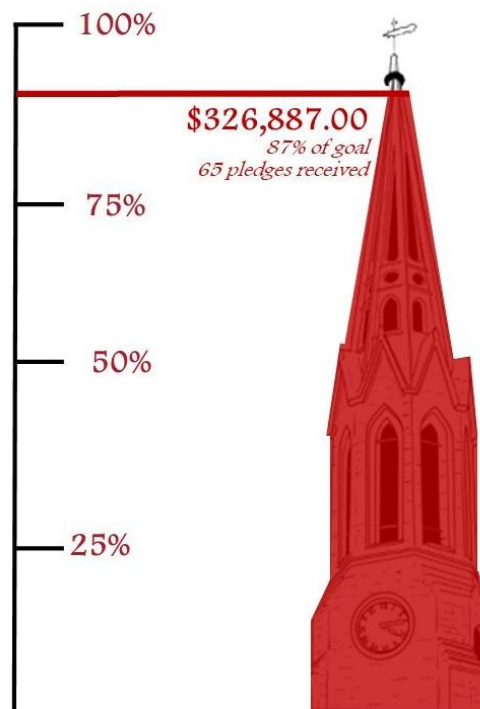
## 2025 Stewardship Campaign Update...

*"As each received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10*

As of January 12, 2025, we have received sixty-five (65) pledges totaling \$326,887.00 which is 87% of our \$373,646.00 goal. Thank you to all who have pledged for 2025. We are looking forward to receiving the remaining pledges to help us reach our goal.

Bob Willett, Chair

[Click here for more information about Stewardship](#)





# Sunday of Service January 19, 2025 11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



*2CC is partnering with Church World Service to assemble hygiene packs.*

**Please join us to help assemble hygiene packs to be distributed by Church World Service.**

*When disaster strikes, the CWS hygiene kits help individuals meet their basic needs as they begin to rebuild their lives.*

For more information please contact: 2CC Outreach Chair, Mark Dewing-Hommes at [dewingho@gmail.com](mailto:dewingho@gmail.com)

**All ages are welcome!**



**Details at [2CC.org](http://2CC.org)**

**Email for more information about Sunday of Service**

**Mark your calendars...**



It's okay to take a break...

# WINTER YOGA

January 10-February 14  
Friday Mornings  
9:00-10:00 a.m.

\$20 per week  
drop ins welcome  
Nursery care and scholarships  
available upon request

Caring and certified instructors each week can modify for beginner to advanced

Nursery care and scholarships available upon request

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



God's Love is...

Out of this World!

Join us for a Vacation Bible School &  
learn all about God's love.  
We will have a slime lab too!

**MONDAY, JANUARY 20**

**9:00-11:30 A.M.**

**SCHOOL IS OUT BUT VBS IS ON!**

**AGES 4-12 \$25 PER CHILD**

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Breakfast buddies and lunch bunch available

**DETAILS AT: [2CC.ORG](http://2CC.ORG)**

[Click here to Register for VBS on January  
20](#)

[Click here for VBS  
Payment](#)



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  
February 1, March 1, April 5 & May 3, 2025  
48 Maple Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

**Email Jenny for more information about Story  
Hour**

**A fun moment from last Sunday...**

Thank you to Kathy Singleton for sharing this adorable photo from Sunday where Jenny asked the children to come pray with her before they left for Children's Chapel...



## Around Town...



*We must make our hearts instruments of peace and nonviolence because when the heart is right, the mind and the body will follow.*

CORETTA SCOTT KING (Aug. 23, 2003).

## A Vital Conversation: Women's Health Equity Forum

The Coretta Scott King and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Conversation

January 23, 2025  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

YWCA Greenwich  
259 East Putnam Ave.  
Greenwich

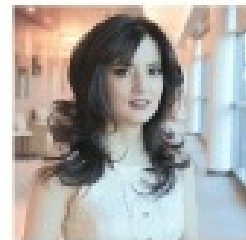
Event is **FREE** and open to the public  
To register, please go to [ywcagreenwich.org](http://ywcagreenwich.org) or scan below

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

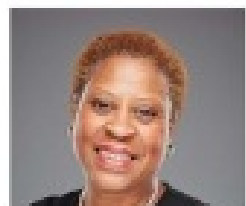
### PANELISTS



**Dr. Juliet Mushi**  
Harlem Hospital  
Obstetrician-Gynecologist



**Dr. Mia Kazanjian**  
Stamford Health  
Diagnostic Radiologist





eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
greenwich

**Fatmata Williams**  
State of Connecticut, Division  
of Health Services  
Director of  
Medical Administration

**Dr. Romelle Maloney**  
Greenwich Hospital  
Obstetrician-Gynecologist

**EVENT DESCRIPTION:**

Join YWCA Greenwich's Center for Equity & Justice to learn more about the data that illustrates chronic disparities in our community and in the region. Experts in medical fields 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. In addition, we will engage in an interactive data gathering session to gauge how health inequity impacts all.



**Click here for more information about the YWCA Event**

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

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