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October 11, 2023

Dear Friends of Second Church,

In this short space, I want to acknowledge the terrorism in Israel last weekend and the horrifying images of a still-unfolding situation.

As faithful people, it is especially painful to see religious extremism deliberately seeking to undermine trust and understanding between peoples anywhere, but perhaps more so in a region that has been so volatile for so long.

Peace-making is so difficult and holy for many reasons, but in part, peace-making is thus because it challenges us to live into our own humanity so *differently* — and to see others as sharing that humanity, in all its vulnerability and fear, ugliness and beauty, and with all its history.

It is fragile and gradual, starting and stopping and starting over.

Yet the deepest teaching of the three intertwined faiths, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, has always urged us to maintain that challenging perspective about the humanity we share, even as we hold close the ones nearest and dearest to us.

More at hand, what I come back to right now is just how many of our neighbors and friends are bewildered, angry, scared and hurting.

Many of us know and love people with strong ties to Israel and Gaza, or the region more broadly — and we may feel they need to hear from us, somehow, but not know what to say.

We may sense their polite standoffishness as they worry that a(nother) friend may blunder into words that say the *wrong* thing, however unintentionally.

Maybe the most we can offer is "holy listening," that deep, non-fixing, non-pushing, non-correcting, non-"but what about" kind of listening that receives our friends where they are, even if where they are right now is a place of sharp pain.

Or maybe they just need space.

Whether their pain asks for connection or privacy, it's important to honor that.

Alternatively, it may be that your care more properly takes some other form.

However we might offer some of the peace it is ours to share, may we offer it.

And may our prayers join those of all people of good will in seeking an end to

violence and a start to healing.

See you in church,





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.

Chancel Choir Fall Rehearsal Schedule

(11:45 a.m. in the Chapel):

November 5 & 12 December 10 & 17

Chancel Choir in Worship

November 19 December 24

No previous experience is necessary. Attend rehearsals/services when you are in town and able to join us. All you need is a love for singing! The choir is open to those who are high school age and older.

Email Alexander with any questions

Children's Chapel and Nursery Care

Children's Chapel and Nursery Care aligns with our regular worship schedule Sundays 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Children of all ages welcome to attend service for a multigenerational experience in the Chapel, or to come by the nursery room for some Godly Play!

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

Click here to register for Children's Chapel

Mark your calendars...

WOMEN'S • GATHERING • AT • 2CC

The one where Maria Turkel talks about clothing

Saturday, October 14 10:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker- Maria Turkel Wardrobe Styling

Maria Turkel is a wardrobe stylist from the set of Friends



\$20 per person, childcare available if requested in advance Please RSVP to: pam@2cc.org

Details at 200.org

Maria Turkel is an entrepreneur, wardrobe stylist and costumer from the set of FRIENDS.

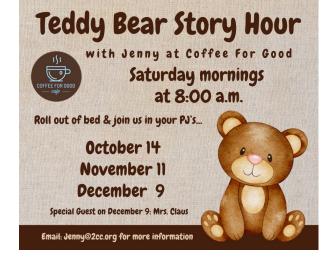
In 2007, she founded Maria Turkel Wardrobe Styling which has served clients from Fortune 500 companies to start-up CEOs to local philanthropists and stay-at-home parents to teens who are just starting to define their personal style.

With a background in fashion design and costume design, Maria built a successful career in the film and television industry in Los Angeles. She is one of the original Wardrobe Supervisors on the hit television series, FRIENDS; and dressed Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, Matthew Perry, and David Schwimmer as well as all guest stars on a weekly basis for that iconic show.

She believes "When You Look Good, You Feel Good; When You Feel Good, You Do Good" and currently works with approximately 35 private clients per year, one-on-one, with the goal of helping each feel confident and authentic in their everyday life through Closet Edits, Personal Shopping and Outfit Building. No closet or price point is too big or too small. She has a vibrant email newsletter subscriber base and an engaged social media community.

Maria lives in Greenwich, CT with her husband and three children. When not performing closet therapy, she can be found reading a great book, cooking Italian food or volunteering in support of local women entrepreneurs.

Email Pam to Reserve your spot!





Email Jenny for more information about Story Hour

Email Jenny for more information

2CC HALLOWEEN HAUNT



OCTOBER 29 11:45 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.



MUSIC, CRAFTS, AND SPECIAL GUESTS:
THE GEMS SPOOKY AMBULANCE



#15 PER CHILD

(SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE)

PROCEEDS BENEFIT GREENWICH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

REGISTER ONLINE AT 2CC.ORG

Click here to Register for the Halloween Haunt

Save the Date...



Lunch Bunch (11:30-12:30) Available upon request

Games, special guests, crafts, and more!

\$25 per child, scholarships available

Second Congregational Church, 139 E. Putnam Avenue in Greenwich

Details and Registration at 2CC.org

Click here to Register for VBS

Join us at Coffee Hour after worship each Sunday!





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

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