



## Join us for Worship Sunday at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

October 4, 2024

Dear Friends of Second Church,

Many of you will remember taking part in summer Vacation Bible School, a long-time (and beloved) staple of church youth programming in many congregations, including ours.

You may also know that for the last several years, Jenny Byxbee has steered VBS at our church differently, offering half-day sessions at points throughout the school year, during days when kids don't have school and caregivers are often scrambling.

As someone who has done my own fair share of that scrambling, it's *genius*.

(Have I ever told you about the time when Grace was in day care here at the PreSchool, and Liz and I assumed there wasn't school for some reason? Four hours and two Disney movies into what was going to be a *long* day with a bored kid and a new baby, Grace kept looking out the window, and finally asked if she could go out to play with her friends over in the playground. They were all at school. Which was in session. Next to our house. Because it was not a holiday. It was a regular day. Somehow, we had just done this to ourselves.)

In its own way, a sequence of half-day VBS sessions helps parents to manage some of the ongoing scramble for parents.

But on a more basic level, it helps introduce kids to church and to the joy of church-going as part of the regular rhythm of the year, and the longer we do it this way, the more I see the wisdom in such an approach.

Giving them the run of the place can't happen on a Sunday. But if we don't, why will they ever believe us when we try to tell them that the church is *theirs*? Or that God is less concerned with wiggling than kindness or joy?

I'm 54 years old and a pastor, and I still feel weird about not showing up with a necktie. Was that in the Gospels, or was that something I learned, more specifically, from the unwritten commandments of a Brooklyn Heights Sunday coffee hour?

I am all for good manners and feeling comfortable when in uniform, of course. *And*...I hope church will be a refuge for all of us, regardless of age, where it is safe to be ourselves—and maybe even safer than any other

place. Superficial decorum is not the purpose of a Christian education or the ethos of a Christian community.

When I catch a glimpse of VBS here, I see that message of invitation and acceptance coming alive for our youngest members and their friends.

It reassures me that as their faith deepens and their lives demand more choices, they will know what God's love feels like, and who they are as His beloved ones. Because they'll remember being here and what it was to be free.

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.



The damage assessment from Hurricane Helene from Florida through much of the mountain South is only just beginning, but it is already clear that many communities will be rebuilding for weeks or even longer.

The United Church of Christ has a long tradition of disaster relief and support.

In most instances, we arrive after the initial work of rescue and basic repair has concluded, and a community's focus turns to its future.

Accordingly, while other (excellent) organizations work to be "first on the scene," we are known for being one of the ***last to leave***.

Click here to donate

[Click here to  
donate](#)

### Children's Chapel at 2CC

Infant and toddler nursery care is open 10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m., and little ones are also welcome with their parents in the sanctuary. Families are encouraged to join in the worship experience as makes sense for each individual child.

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.

For more information please contact [Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org)

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

**Register for Children's Chapel**

## Join our Elementary & Youth Choirs!

*Rehearsals are each Wednesday*

Elementary Choir (Grade K-4)  
4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Youth Choir (Grade 5 & Older)  
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Email Brigid for more information about our Choir Programs**

### Our no-audition Chancel Choir is back!

Please join us when you can, we rehearse after the 10:30 service for 45 minutes. You are not required to sing each month. All are welcome!

#### October

13 Choir Rehearsal  
20 Choir Rehearsal  
27 10:00 Rehearsal,  
10:30 Service

#### November

10 Choir Rehearsal  
17 Choir Rehearsal  
24 10:00 Rehearsal,  
10:30 Thanksgiving Service

#### December

8 Choir Rehearsal  
15 Choir Rehearsal  
22 Choir Rehearsal  
24 5:30 Rehearsal,  
6:30 Christmas Eve Service

**Email Alexander if you have questions about Chancel Choir**

## Regional Youth Ministry update...



*A couple of RYM youth and sponsors met for pizza and ice cream last weekend & they had a great time!*



[Click here to learn more about Regional Youth Ministry](#)

**Mark your calendars...**

2CC Women's Fellowship invites you for

## **"The History of Tod's Point"**

*A presentation by Susie Baker*

**Tuesday, October 8**

**11:00 a.m.**

*We will meet in the Innis Arden Cottage at Tod's Point*

**The presentation will start at 11:00 a.m. & lunch will follow.**

*The event will be held rain or shine in the cottage*

**All members of the church and their friends are  
encouraged to attend!**

\$20 per person

RSVP to with Pam@2CC.org or use QR code by October 6:



### **The History of Tod's Point: October 8**

Susie Baker is a retired Biology teacher at GHS and member of the Greenwich Point Conservancy. The Innis Arden Cottage is the restored cottage on the left as you enter the point & parking is on the right.

Those interested are encouraged to walk around the point following lunch.

**RSVP to Pam for October 8**

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# HALLOWEEN HAUNT



Sunday October 27

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Second Congregational Church  
Mead Lawn next to Coffee for Good  
Music, Crafts, and Special Guests!

The GEMS "Spooky Ambulance" will be there too!



Costumes Encouraged  
For more information  
contact: [Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org)



## Another GREAT Teddy Bear Story Hour & VBS ...







Our next VBS will take place on Tuesday, November 5  
[Click here](#) to save your spot!

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**Around Town...**

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# THE UNDIES PROJECT

PRESENTS

## THE MAGIC OF GIVING

WITH



**GARY FERRAR**



**MC KIM BERNS**

**OCTOBER 19TH  
7-10PM**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF STAMFORD**

**1101 BEDFORD ST.  
STAMFORD, CT**

**FOR TICKETS**

**[HTTPS://MAGICOFGIVING.GIVESMART.COM](https://magicofgiving.givesmart.com)**

The Undies Project is thrilled to announce its upcoming fundraiser event, "The Magic of Giving," set to take place on Saturday, October 19th, from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the Fish Church, aka First Presbyterian Church, located at 1101 Bedford Street in Stamford.

This enchanting evening will feature the incredible talents of magician, mentalist and comedian Gary Ferrar, promising a night of awe-inspiring entertainment and wonder. Charismatic Kim Berns will be the emcee for the night. Guests will also enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts by renowned Aux Délices, ensuring a delightful culinary experience. Attendees will also enjoy complimentary beer & wine throughout the evening.

In addition to the mesmerizing magic and gourmet food, the event will include a silent auction with exciting items up for bid.

All proceeds from the event will go towards supporting our 55 partner agencies by providing them with new underwear for those in need, promoting dignity and self-esteem.

The Undies Project is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing new underwear to men, women, and children in need, improving their lives by providing

a necessity that is overlooked.

[Click here for Magic of Giving Tickets](#)



**HEART CARE INTERNATIONAL  
30TH ANNIVERSARY GALA**

HEALING HEARTS GLOBALLY • OCTOBER 26, 2024 • 6:30PM  
RIVERSIDE YACHT CLUB • RIVERSIDE, CT



[Click here to learn more about Heart Care International](#)

[Click here to purchase tickets](#)

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

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