



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

May 21, 2025

Dear Friends of Second Church,

I had been going to Memorial Day recognitions a long time before I really began to understand what they were about.

Certainly, I knew how to conduct myself during the most formal parts of a service — to take off my baseball cap, turn toward the flag, place my hand on my heart, etc.

I was always entirely reliable that way. It mattered to my dad to make sure I got those things right.

But it was not my father's way to talk about his time in Vietnam (and still isn't), and neither of my grandfathers were inclined to reminisce about World War II.

The only one who much talked about his service was my Great Uncle Tom, who left for Germany by way of France, the Netherlands, and Belgium sometime just after his eighteenth birthday.

He claimed that he and his unit had buried wine bottles all along his route, and that if he could just get back there and get those bottles, he'd be rich — especially since, one day at a time, he was no longer drinking at this later point in his life.

(Tom was a character.)

To hear him tell it, the months after D-Day were an extended hike filled with wine, women, and song.

This fooled me until, of course, it no longer did.

More to the point, this also meant that the men closest to me were not willing — or just not ready — to share much about their actual experiences in uniform, and so it took me a while to pick up on their silence and to learn why, given that silence, Memorial Day was so personal and important to them.

I still wouldn't presume to know much, although I do know some and can probably guess more.

But it does remind us why Memorial Day is so important.

It remembers not only those who died (which is already so important), but also the enduring power of memories that can be acknowledged, even if they still can't quite be shared.

It is my own experience that nobody hates war or understands its cost more than veterans do. To them, these are not abstractions. They are memories.

This weekend reminds us that we should learn from their stories. And especially from their silences.

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.

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 to 5th grade 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 with Jenny at about 10:45 a.m. For more information, please contact Jenny@2cc.org. Registration not required but helpful for us to best know and love your child.

[Register for Children's Chapel](#)

A Note from the Church Office...



On Tent Sunday, we will recognize graduates from all high schools, colleges and universities, as well as professional schools, diplomas, bachelors, masters, doctorates and certificates of course completion. We want to recognize and thank God for those who have put the effort into their education. Please email Pam@2cc.org with the name of the graduate and with the information concerning any future

educational or professional plans that graduate might have, no later than Wednesday, June 4.

Tent Weekend will be here soon!

Join us for a Night
under the Tent!

Featuring food
from the
New Haven Pizza
Truck

Friday, June 6

Special Guest, Mr. Bungles & bounce
houses for the kids!

All are welcome, invite a friend!
Event is free - but donations
greatly appreciated...

Beer & Wine
starting at
5:00 p.m.

Details at 2CC.org

Second Congregational Church of Greenwich



Email khaleigh@2cc.org for more information about Regional Youth Ministry event on Saturday night

Second Congregational
Church of Greenwich

Tent Sunday

June 8

**Worship at 10:30 a.m.
featuring a Jazz Band.**

All-Church BBQ immediately
following while the band plays on...

Bounce Houses for the kids &
Ice Cream treats for all!

Details at 2CC.org



Sunday Potluck BBQ: please bring a salad or side dish for 6-8 people that does not need reheating in a disposable dish/pan (aluminum, etc.) and, if possible, plastic serving utensils.

The 2CC ice cream cart will also be there, so we request that you do not bring a dessert.

May has been busy...

It was a beautiful day at Greenwich Country Club for the Women's Fellowship Luncheon last week.



*A big thank you to the Roth family for opening their home to the 2CC Moms...
17 moms were Sippin' & Swappin' - it was a GREAT time!*





A big thank you to 2CC Outreach Chair, Jennifer Roth, for opening her home and hosting this past Fridays Sip and Swap. Donations were received and greatly appreciated by the Sharing Shelf in Port Chester.

Around Town...

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

May 2025

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
greenwich



DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year
- 1 in 6 U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year
- At least 8.4 million people in the U.S. provide care to an adult with a mental or emotional health issue

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Be a good listener!
- Promote healthy habits
- Know the warning signs, and refer to your local crisis line if needed
- Take care of your own mental wellbeing



FALL PREVENTION

IN PARKINSON'S AND THE OLDER ADULT POPULATION

PRESENTATION FROM OT GRETCHEN F. SINGSEN

Join us for presentation focused on educating clients, families, and caregivers on how Parkinson's can affect your functionality and how best to offset this to maintain and extend independence in the home and the community. At the end of the presentation, audience members will feel more empowered and knowledgeable about preventing ER visits, hospitalizations, and injuries.



Friday, May 23rd



10:15AM - 11:15AM



1st Floor Lounge
YMCA of Greenwich



OT Gretchen Singesen holds a master's degree in occupational therapy and has over 15 years of experience working with the older adult population. She has provided care in skilled nursing facilities, homecare settings, and privately, supporting patients with orthopedic, neurological, and cognitive disabilities and impairments. For the past seven years, she has served as the lead Occupational Therapist at Sterling Care. Outside of work, Gretchen enjoys racing sailboats, skiing, playing tennis with friends, exercising outdoors, and spending time with her 2.5-year-old daughter and husband.

Free & Open to the Public!

RSVP at GreenwichYMCA.org/Events





National Sponsor

PEANUTS

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HEALTHY KIDS DAY®

AT THE YMCA OF GREENWICH!



SCAN HERE TO RSVP!



Or visit greenwichymca.org/events

From cradle to career, we empower young people to lead inspired, successful lives. Join us for a day of celebrating kids being kids!

- Arts & Crafts
- Dancing
- Interactive Games
- Tie Dye Shirts
- Healthy Refreshments
- Raffles & Prizes

and more brought to you by our community partners!



FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU FROM 12:00 – 3:00 PM!

50 E Putnam Ave, Greenwich, CT 06830

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

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