



Join us for Worship Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

August 7, 2024

Dear Friends of Second Church,

When my grandmother became a widow at age 40, she moved into the house where she would live until her own death 47 years later.

And live there she did. By our family's admittedly informal reckoning, we calculated that across that span of years, she'd only been away overnight *anywhere* else for around fifteen or sixteen days, total, including a family wedding in California and a week playing bridge at a friend's cabin in Maine (which had made her swear her off travel completely).

The house had been new construction when she moved in, but had become increasingly dated by the time she entered her final years—cathedral ceilings and electric heat had never been a great combo, and at some point, we started worrying that one day, the bathtub was going to fall through the floor, though it never did.

After she died, it became clear that nobody in the family was planning to take over living there, and we weren't surprised when the next owner decided to tear the house down and build something else.

In a way, it felt right. Let the old house be hers and hers alone, we thought.

But while the house was no great shakes (I mentioned the bathtub), I do miss it.

More precisely, I miss being able to visit the scene of so many chapters in our family history.

I miss that we didn't preserve more mementos from it, not that I can even quite say what those ought to have been.

A few years ago, when the church redid Fletcher Hall, I was given a set of coasters made out of a small remnant of the old carpet. The gift made me laugh out loud when I got it. And yet, I love it. Every now and again, I find myself wishing I had something like that from my grandmother's old house, too.

Our last days in the house were a flurry of getting things in boxes and then getting the boxed labelled (approximately) correctly, so that we'd know, for example, where all the old ashtrays were, on the offhand chance we ever went to the storage unit in search of some ashtrays.

We meant to snap a final picture out front, but we were sweaty, and we weren't all there, which seemed judgy, so we ended up not doing that.

We never really found the right way to say goodbye to that house, or to take a piece of it with us (again: however improbable a souvenir it might have been).

We never really admitted (if we knew) that we would be leaving a piece of ourselves there.

But I have come to understand that God speaks to us in many ways, including in and through place--so much so that, while "holiness" may be a hard concept to understand, a sense of "holy ground" is easy for most people to conjure.

So in these final weeks of summer, as you may be making a pilgrimage to or from some of your own holiest ground, give thanks for its lessons, and open your heart to all the ways it might sustain you through all the places you have yet to go.

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 this summer...

Now through August 25, children are encouraged to meet in the nursery from 9:30-10:30 a.m. for a very special summer worship experience for infants to school age children entering grade 5. This is in alignment with our Summer worship schedule.

Children's Chapel this summer will include worshipping outside, special guests, crafts, games, scripture lessons, prayer, and worship services designed with young hearts and wiggly bodies in mind.

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](#)



During the summer, Neighbor to Neighbor provides weekly additional food supplies to families with school-aged children who would otherwise rely on the free and reduced lunch program at school.

Please consider donating to their Summer Supplement food drive. Every donation directly supports families in need.

A collection bin is placed outside the 2CC nursery room door. Most needed items include canned meat, cereal, canned fruit, canned vegetables, and shelf-stable milk.

Mark your calendars...



*2CC Ladies Night
Summer Soirée*

Friday, August 16

6:00- 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Brenda Felletter

Feel free to bring a book to swap or a bite to share

RSVP to Jenny@2cc.org for address

RSVP for Ladies Night

Sunday was a beautiful day for coffee hour outside after worship...



Around Town...

Running Start Program at the YMCA

Helping Local Children Start The School Year With Confidence

Running Start is a program aimed at providing local school children with the opportunity to go **back-to-school clothes shopping**, empowering them to the start the new school year with confidence. This program is directly aligned with our commitment to nurture the potential of every child and teen.

As a volunteer, you will serve as “personal shopping assistants” for the program participants. It would be great to have members of the our local non-profits and community agencies participate; It is a wonderful opportunity to connect with families in a fun way to build and deepen connections.

Volunteering to help bring a local child back to school shopping is one of the best ways you can support our Running Start program. By volunteering your time, you can be an essential part of this transformative experience and create memories that will last a lifetime.

[Click here to learn more or volunteer for Running Start
2024](#)



River House Presents

Wonka

Free Entry



DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM
THE MOVIE STARTS AT 7 PM

AUGUST 30TH 2024

125 River Road Extension Cos Cob CT 06807



Please join us for a free indoor family
viewing of Wonka.

Email : info@theriverhouse.org to register.

**"REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE
PROVIDED"**

*Donations
are Greatly
Appreciated!*





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