



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

September 11, 2024

Dear Friends of Second Church,

The anniversary of 9/11 comes on another beautiful morning, much like the one many of us remember from 2001.

23 years later, the shock of it is hard to explain — “explanations” don’t convey the feelings of it very easily.

The photographs do a better job at expressing the shattering humanity of it, and some have become iconic (from what we would come to call Ground Zero, there were “the falling man,” “the dust woman,” “the twisted cross,” “the fire department chaplain,” to name a few).

As time has gone on, those images have gone from being almost unbearable to indispensable, at least for me.

Within our faith communities, the conversation has also shifted.

Especially in the first year, there was a lot of reflection about where God was—should have been? Must have been?— on 9/11, including how we could even possibly speak about God in the wake of such a tragedy.

There are no simple answers to such questions, and time has not offered much new clarity along those lines. Many gestures toward an answer risk taking someone’s pain too lightly, as if preserving our ways of talking about God should matter more than the lives of our neighbors, both those who survived and those who didn’t.

I don’t want to do that, either.

But with each anniversary, faith communities come face to face with a central task of our own vocation: what it means to be communities of memory.

In particular, Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities — the People of the Book, as we are sometimes known — have always understood ourselves in relation to a God who enters into human history, and the act of gathering in worship to be one of remembering loss as well as victory.

What makes us faithful is, to some extent, our profound refusal to forget. This is what tells us who we are and guides us toward what we will be.

For Christians, we don't remember the joy of Easter without the devastation of Good Friday.

We don't remember the blessings of the moment without the memory of the women and men who came before us and lived in faith as best they knew how.

That commitment to memory is large part of what gives us "eyes to see" the presence of holiness among us now.

Similarly, it is the memory of those 9/11 firefighters walking resolutely into the towers that has taught me to look at first responders with ongoing gratitude and concern. Few of them were probably perfect people, or "saints" in the usual sense of the term. But memory teaches us to see depth of what it takes to do that work, and sometimes asks.

I respect the sanctity of that. And thank God for it.

May their memory guide us in ways of healing, peace-making, and new life.

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.



*Thank you to Chris & Suzy Starr
of Starr Tent for providing the
tent for our annual
Homecoming Weekend!*

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

GOT LEGOS?

Please help us with our Lego Drive!

As part of our Children's Worship experience this fall, we will be building our faith brick by brick or
Lego by Lego!

New or gently used Legos most appreciated for all ages & can be dropped off in the bin outside the Nursery Room.



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

**Register for
Children's Chapel**



Please join us in welcoming Brigid Mack, as our new Youth Choir Director. Brigid is from Wynantskill, NY, and she is currently at Purchase College, where she is pursuing a degree in vocal performance. We hope that you had a chance to meet Brigid during Homecoming Weekend.

Our Youth Choir and Elementary Choir rehearsals will begin on **Wednesday, September 18**. Brigid and Alexander will meet your children downstairs at the glass door entrance by the office to the church. Parents are always welcome to stay during our rehearsals.

**Elementary Choir (Grade K - 4); 4:30pm-5:15 p.m. .
Youth Choir (Grade 5 and older); 6:00pm-7:00 p.m.**

Please confirm your child's interest in joining us this year by emailing Alexander@2cc.org to let us know. We have some fun and creative ideas planned for our choristers this year, as well as a few surprises!

Join us for Chancel Choir this Fall

September

15 Choir Rehearsal
22 Choir Rehearsal
29 10:00 Choir Rehearsal,
10:30 Service

October

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

Our chancel choir will be gearing up soon for another season of singing during our 10:30 services. If you are considering joining us this year, please consider the following:

- You are not required to sing each month.
- We rehearse after the 10:30 service for 45 minutes.
- You don't have to sing like Pavarotti, just a desire to sing!
- Singing with the choir is a fun, social experience.
- You can try us out before you commit!
- No auditions, just show up and we'll sign you up!

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@2cc.org for more information

Mark your calendars...

Music Together

FALL MUSIC TOGETHER CLASS at 2CC

Starting Sunday Sept. 15 for 12 weeks

9:15 - 10:00 a.m.

Come sing, dance and play in a family style class for babies and toddlers
Registration required

Email for more
information

Click here to register for Music
Together



Teddy Bear Story Hour

ROLL OUT OF BED AND JOIN US IN YOUR PJ'S

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, OCTOBER 26,
NOVEMBER 23 & DECEMBER 21
AT 8:00 A.M.**

Coffee for Good
48 Maple Avenue,
Greenwich, CT



**Keep up with Regional Youth Ministry
this fall...**

RYM

FALL 2024 CALENDAR

Did you know?
WE HAVE TEXT UPDATES!

Type and text
 "@myrym"
 to 81010
 & receive
 messages
 on events,
 new locations,
 and much more!

WE AIM TO BE:
**Fun, Faith-filled
 & Inclusive**

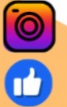
RYM is for **anyone**
 in Lower Fairfield County!

Regional Youth Ministry
First & Fourth Fridays
 Come grab a meal together for **FREE**
Locations to change, sign-up via text for regular updates!

Grades	September	October	November	December	January
6th to 8th	FOR ALL 6th-12th CARNIVAL NIGHT UNDER THE TENT! Saturday the 7th @ 5 pm 139 East Putnam Ave Greenwich	BOUNDLESS ADVENTURES Thursday the 3rd @ 4 pm 735 Anderson Hill Road Purchase, NY	YOGA & SOUND BATH Tuesday the 5th @ 2 pm 275 Richards Avenue Norwalk, CT	YOUTH VS PARENTS Sunday the 8th @ 5 pm 108 Sound Beach Ave Greenwich, CT	PASTA CLASS Sunday the 12th @ 5 pm 31 Cascade Road Stamford, CT
		SOFT PASTELS Sunday the 20th @ 5 pm 108 Sound Beach Ave Greenwich, CT	FANCY FRI-ENDSGIVING Sunday the 17th @ 5 pm 1345 E. Putnam Ave Old Greenwich, CT	NEW YEAR'S PARTY Sunday the 29th @ 5 pm 31 Cascade Road Stamford, CT	CANDLE MAKING Saturday the 7th @ 5 pm 275 Richards Avenue Norwalk, CT

WWW.MYRYM.ORG

@MYRYM.LEC



RYM Director: Khaleigh Laicher KhaleighL@FCCOG.org
 Partners: First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Second Congregational Church of Greenwich, United Congregational Church of Norwalk, & North Stamford Community Church

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

We had a wonderful weekend!

Thank you to everyone that helped pull off such amazing events throughout the weekend. Thank you also to those that invited friends or shared information that brought us new faces to meet our 2CC family.

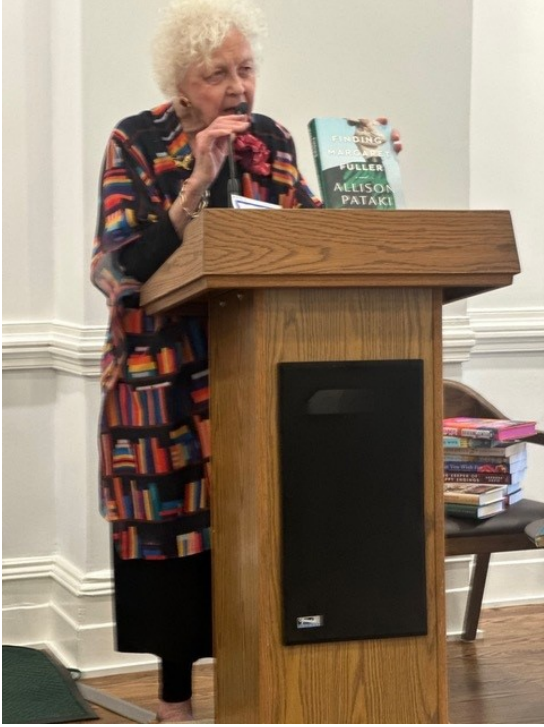




[Click here to see more Homecoming Photos on our website](#)

Women's Fellowship Fall Tea

Yesterday, Diane Garrett spoke at the Women's Fellowship Tea about the fabulous new books for adults and children available at Diane's Books of Greenwich. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear how her shop got started and this year will be the store's 35th year. Diane is a former member of 2cc and shared fond memories of the church.





Looking Ahead...



School is OUT but VBS is ON!

Fall Fun VBS



Thursday, October 3
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
K-5th Grade

Pre-K also welcome but must be accompanied by a guardian

\$25 per child, scholarships available

Can't join the fun?

Please consider a donation to help our scholarship children

Breakfast bunch add on 8:15 -9:00 a.m.
\$10 per kiddo

More information: Jenny@2cc.org

Register at 2CC.org

Click here to reserve your spot for VBS

Around Town...

Cathy de Graaff and Karen Giannuzzi invite you to grab your husband and kids (or not!), a cup of coffee and join them for two hours on a Saturday



morning at Cloonan Middle School in Stamford. You will help hand out diapers to over 400 families that line up for the food pantry.

More

info: <https://www.fillingtheblanks.org/copy-of-ways-you-can-help>

And if Saturdays don't work with your schedule, they're also doing a community distribution on Thursday, September 26 at the Wilbur Peck apartment complex. At this one, they will hand out diapers out of the backs of their cars for 2 hours in the morning and another 2 hour shift in the evening.

Sign up info is contained in the link below:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EADAF2EA5F5C16-51194489-help#/
/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EADAF2EA5F5C16-51194489-help#/)

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

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