



**The First Church of Christ
in New Haven
Center Church on-the-Green
311 Temple Street
New Haven, CT 06511**

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

IN NEW HAVEN

Rev. Kevin Ewing, Minister

Directors of Music ~ Kendall Crilly, Eleanor Fulton

CENTER CHURCH STAFF

Jessica Demorest, Sunday School Teacher

Linda Consiglio, Church Secretary

Luis Pagan, Business Manager/Assistant Treasurer

Michelle Reynard, Sexton 203-824-7647

Loretta King, Meeting House Custodian

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Meeting House (203) 787-0633

OPEN AND AFFIRMING ~ WELCOMING ALL!

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the **CHRONICLE**

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN NEW HAVEN

Volume 94

MAY, 2016

No. 5

***BEHOLD, I WILL DO A NEW THING; NOW IT SHALL SPRING FORTH;
SHALL YE NOT KNOW IT?
ISAIAH 43:19A (KJV)***

Greetings family!

If you've been to church lately you may have noticed the new guy leading worship the last few Sundays. Big guy with funny hair. Likes to call people in the bible 'dude'. That would be me. Hi. I'm Kevin. Reverend Kevin G. Ewing. RevKev. And I can't tell you how excited I am to be with you as your Bridge Minister. I am extremely grateful for the welcome you've shown me and the faith you are placing in me to be your spiritual leader for such a time as this.

I am originally from St. Louis, MO and grew up in the Church of God in Christ. COGIC is a Pentecostal faith that formed out of the Azusa Street Revivals in 1907. It was in this tradition that my faith was formed and I gained most of my training on how to "do church." It was there that, at a very young age, I received my call to ministry. And while I worked diligently in the church for most of my life and know that I grew stronger in my faith there was something missing. I couldn't define it. Still can't. But I felt it strongly. The several attempts I made to answer my call all fell flat. They didn't feel authentic. And my faith required me to be authentic in my service. So I walked away.

For several years I had limited contact with the church. I moved to several states across the country, worked a lot of jobs and lived a lot of experiences. I never lost my faith but didn't think much about it. When I was transferred to Hartford and short time later my brother (which is what we are after almost 50 years of friendship) started a church a mile from my house I wrote him checks but told him not to expect me at his church.

2 years later I was a fulltime seminary student at Yale Divinity School and the Associate Pastor of Amsted United Church of Christ. What I was missing was a religious education and a forward thinking Christian community like the UCC. I found a home. And now... I'm standing in your pulpit under the grand Davenport window sharing the love of God from my experiences, my education, my training and my heart.

"Behold I will do a new thing..."

This is a *new thing* indeed! For me and I imagine for you too. Change can be difficult, disrupting and scary. But it can also be exciting, necessary and often turns out to be totally worth it. Especially when you keep your focus not on the change but on the purpose. We are a mission driven church and part of a mission driven faith. And our mission is to love. Love God. Love each other. Love ourselves.

God is doing a new thing at Center Church. Things are changing. Together we can embrace the change and thereby *direct* the change. But we have to do it together. A season of change is upon us, whether we wanted it or not. If we remember to love each other, this new thing will emerge and it will be wonderful.

"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it?"

RevKev

**Pursuant to amended Article II Sections 6 and 7 of the Bylaws,
a Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 5,
2016, immediately following services to approve the budget for**

July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017

A quorum of 25 is required.

BOARD MEETINGS

Listed below is the schedule of upcoming meetings

Board of Deacons – Tuesday, May 3rd – 4:30 p.m.

Ladies' Home Missionary Society – Wednesday, May 4th = 10:00 a.m.

Crypt Committee – Wednesday, May 25th - 4:00 p.m.

Church Council - Tuesday, May 31st – 5:30 p.m.

Board of Stewards – TBD

Investment Committee – Friday, July 15th – 10:00 a.m.

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE PARISH HOUSE LIB RARY

**BEST WISHES TO ALL THOSE LISTED BELOW
CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAYS IN MAY**

12 Gordon Hall

26 Donna Prue

21 Shelley Cruz

28 Mark Riordan

23 James Didriksen

29 Shawn Garris

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – John Blassingame, Harriet Fulton,
Eleanor's sister-in-law, Cheryl, Alan Kendrix, Loren Le Blanc, Grace Lee, Jean Lind, Dan
Nugent, A.J. Olsen, and Elizabeth Ramirez, Cindy Schroeder, Linda's friend who is in
Hospice care.**

**DEADLINE FOR JUNE, 2016 CHRONICLE IS MAY 15th. PLEASE SUBMIT
YOUR ARTICLES BEFORE THAT TIME TO ASSURE YOUR ARTICLE WILL
BE INCLUDED. NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

MAY



Scripture Readings

5/1- Acts 16:9-15 • Ps. 67 • Rev. 21:10, 22-22:5

- John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

5/8 -Acts 16:16-34 • Ps. 97 • Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 • John 17:20-26

5/15 - Acts 2:1-21 or Gen. 11:1-9

- Ps. 104:24-34, 35b
- Rom. 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21
- John 14:8-17, (25-27)

5/22- Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31 • Ps. 8 • Rom 5:1-5

- John 16:12-15

5/29 - I Kings 18: 20-21, (22-29), 30-39

- Ps. 96 or 1 Kings 8: 22-23, 41-43
- Ps. 96: 1-9 • Gal. 1: 1-12 • Luke 7: 1-10

OFFICE CLOSING

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 30th in observance of Memorial Day. The office will reopen for regular hours on Tuesday, May 31st.



**PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS.
SEND A CARD; GIVE THEM A CALL, OR VISIT.**

Benchmark Apartments, 35 Hamden Hills Drive, Hamden, 06518

Evelyn Riordan, Apt. 452

Shut-ins at home

Barbara Pitcher, 200 Leeder Hill Dr., Apt. 113 Hamden, 06517

203-407-1204

Bob Keabian, 1887 Chapel Street, New Haven, 06515-2209

203-387-3263

WE WERE ADVISED THAT LOIS SIMEONE, long-time member of Center Church, was in Grimes Rehab Center, 1354 Chapel Street, New Haven. If you wish to send her a card, she is in Room 406.

ACTIVITIES LIST FOR THE UCC CHURCHES IN NEW HAVEN

* May 22, 2016	Combined Worship (Confirmation)	Church of the Redeemer
June 12, 2016	Multi-Church Picnic	College Woods Park
June 22, 2016	Combined Worship	Church of the Redeemer

*** NO CHURCH SERVICE AT CENTER - JOINT WORSHIP AT REDEEMER AT 10:00 A.M.**

**COFFEE HOUR DUTIES – MAY
STEWARDS**

1st—Dan and Carol Wade

8th—Shawn Garris

15th-Donna Hall

22nd—Confirmation Service at Redeemer

29th—Nancy Mellone

Answer to Bible Quiz: A (See Luke 24:51 and Acts 1:9.)

Ushers & Greeters



May 1

Greeters: Donna and Gordon Hall

Reader: Gordon Hall

Communion Assistant: Judy Gray

May 8

Greeters: Kevan Chase and Demeka Anderson

Reader: Demeka Anderson

May 15

Greeters: Donna Williams and John Ranciato

Reader: Donna Williams

May 22

JOINT SERVICE AT REDEEMER

May 29

Greeters: Dan and Carol Wade

Reader: Dan Wade

Special dates

- Ascension of the Lord, May 5
- National Day of Prayer, May 5
 - Mother's Day, May 8
 - Pentecost, May 15
- Armed Forces Day, May 21
 - Trinity Sunday, May 22
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 23
 - Memorial Day, May 30

Retold and Performed by Tom Lee
Sunday, May 29th, 2 p.m.



Prophets and Loss

United Church Parish House
323 Temple Street

**Organized by the Joint Projects Team of
the New Haven UCC Congregations**

A “talk back” will follow the performance, along with
a wine and cheese reception.

Professional storyteller Tom Lee presents an exciting opportunity for adult listeners to experience the biblical story of King David in the timeless format of the oral tradition.

"Prophets and Loss" follows Israel's evolution from twelve tribes to a great kingdom, describing the very human struggles and failures of prophets and kings as they manifest a new nation, under God. Listeners come away with a new appreciation of this ancient tale, its place in the Bible, and its connection to the modern world. The story shares the human experiences of hope, devotion, and loss.



Tom Lee has performed at The National Storytelling Center as a featured festival teller and as teller-in-residence. He is a frequent guest artist at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Yale Center for British Art, and The Metropolitan Opera Education Conference.

"Prophets and Loss" was originally performed as a commission from the Blanton Museum of Art at The University of Texas.

www.prophetsandloss.com
www.tomlessstoryteller.com

For more information, contact Allie Perry at allie.perry@gmail.com

CRYPT GUIDES SCHEDULE FOR MAY

SATURDAYS 11:00 – 1:00

May 7 – Michelle Georgevich, Valerie Bruneau

May 14 – Harold Peck, Lura Ellsworth

May 21 – Carol Robinson, Nancy Ahern

May 28 -- Harold Peck, Kevan Chase

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THE SCHEDULING
PLEASE CALL HAROLD PECK AT
(203) 874-0861.

BIBLE QUIZ



Which books of the Bible include an account of Jesus' ascension?

- A. Luke and Acts
- B. Matthew and Luke
- C. Mark and John
- D. All four gospels



AT OUR LAST DEACONS' MEETING, it was voted to alternate the way we serve communion. This month we are offering the bread and individual cups while sitting in the pews. After receiving communion, please put the empty plastic cup in the cup holder in the pew.

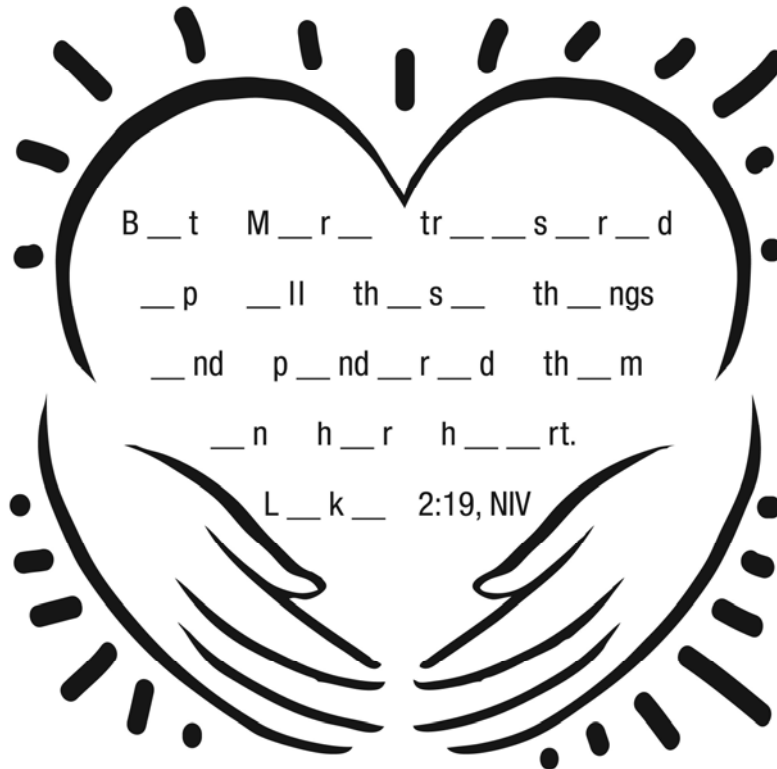


A mother's love

At age 12, Jesus was left behind in Jerusalem. His parents later found him in the temple, discussing Scripture. What did Mary, Jesus' mother, think about this?

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct vowels to complete the Bible verse.

A E I O U Y



Answer: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19, NIV

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