



A Newsletter for the Members and Friends of
Kensington Congregational Church

Website: www.KensingtonCong.org

E-Mail: Kensington.Cong@Juno.com

Gabriel's Trumpet

Proclaiming Christ is with us in the new millennium!

Revelation 11:15

FEBRUARY 2012

A Note From Our Pastor

Dear Members & Friends,

Usually at this time of year the church is asking for money but I want to make people aware of the Pastor discretion fund that I have for people in our church in need of a little financial assistance. I know this can be an embarrassing request to make to one's Pastor, but I want to make this perfectly clear that a gift like this from the church is totally confidential. Not even the treasurer is aware of the recipient. Your church is here to help you through all the places in your life, the mountaintop and valleys of your life. This money is set aside each year through our Easter and Christmas offering. If you know of someone please pass on the word.

Lent begins in February with an Ash Wednesday Service on February 22, one at 12noon and one at 7:00 p.m. This is open to the community. Communion will be served; ashes will be offered and one can choose a shell to remind us of our baptism. Our first Lenten Potluck dinner is February 28th sponsored by the C.E. committee. An Intergenerational program with life size puppets! Please let us know if you would like a visit or would enjoy doing some parish visiting!

Peace
Rev. Olivia Robinson



Dear Church Family

Thank you for all your cards of sympathy, for the beautiful poinsettia plant at Christmas, and to the carolers who brightened my evening with their songs.

I appreciate all of your thoughts and prayers, and your very kind words during the past few weeks. I am grateful for all.

Fondly,
Sue Stein

Sundays At KCC

January 29th

Scripture: Mark 1:21-28

Sermon: The Spirit of Healing

February 5th

Scripture: Lamentations 3:1-30

Sermon: God Is On Our Side

Dan Morisse-Corsetti Preaching

Communion

Super bowl Subs & Chili

February 12^h

Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1-14, Mark 1:40-45

Sermon: Keep It Simple Stupid (K.I.S.S.)

February 19th

Scriptures: Mark 9:2-9

Sermon: Thin Places

Transfiguration Sunday

Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast

February 22nd

12:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

February 26th

Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8,

I Corinthians 15:35-58

Sermon: Are You Ready?

Rev. Chuck Davis preaching

1st Sunday in Lent

Corbin Beisner Recital

You are invited to a piano recital featuring special music by Grieg, Liszt, and Scriabin on **Saturday, February 11th at 7 pm. at Emanuel Lutheran Church, 60 Church Street, Manchester, CT 06040.** The program will include selections from Grieg's "Lyric Pieces," Liszt's "Valley of Obermann" and the second half will be all Scriabin. Please come and I look forward to seeing you there.



Mark Your Calendars

The Gathering is going to be held on Sunday, May 20, 2012.

300th Anniversary Book Sale

Anniversary books will continue to be available on Sundays from Kay Murray or Cathy Nelson, in the church office, and at the Berlin Peck Memorial Library from Cathy Nelson, or at activities planned by the Anniversary Committee.

300th Anniversary Update

The 300th Anniversary Committee would like to remind you that sun catcher ornaments will continue to be sold at coffee hour after every service. They are \$20 each and make great gifts for family and friends who have moved away from the area. We would also like to alert you to the following events:

The month of February - A display at the Berlin-Peck Memorial Library featuring the history of Kensington Congregational Church.

Sunday, March 25th after Coffee Hour in the Sanctuary - A skit that will feature the way we worshipped 300 years ago. Look for era-appropriate touches during that day's service!

We will also enter a float into the Memorial Day Parade in town and have a concert in April. We need plenty of your help to make these plans come to light. If you would like to help please contact a member of the committee (Mark Parasiliti, Terry Perrelli, Sue Harris, Joyce Dyson, Carol Welz, Lisa and Dave DeGroff, Ally Burness or Mike Urrunaga). Help us celebrate the 300th birthday of YOUR church!



Gabriel's Trumpet Deadline:
February 15, 2012

Attention Seniors In High School!

The Frank Roswell Fuller Scholarship applications and directions are available in the church office. You may contact them by email at financial-aid@trincoll.edu or call (860) 297-2047 with any questions.

Crib Room Volunteers needed

Crib Room volunteers are needed for the coming months. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at coffee hour or contact Gwen McCann at (860) 828-0064 or Kensington.CE@Juno.com.

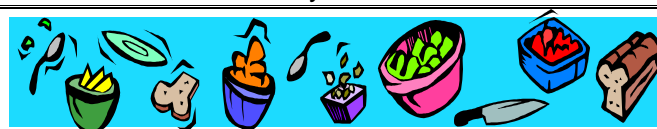
CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD

Baptism

Jaxon Scott Wentworth: January 15

Birthday

John Fuller: On January 3 turned 91



Save the Dates for our Lenten Potluck Suppers

We will be having Potluck suppers this year on February 28, March 6, 13, 20 at 6:00 p.m. with the program starting at 7:00 p.m.

Intergenerational Potluck Supper

February 28, 2012

The Christian Education committee will host the first potluck supper of the Lenten season on Tuesday, February 28th at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring an entrée, salad or side dish to share with your church family and the C.E. committee will provide drinks and dessert. Following the potluck supper at 7:00pm, Jonathan DuVall and the youth of First Congregational Church of Willimantic will entertain us with their creative outreach ministry, Four Corner Puppets. This is an evening to be enjoyed by the young and young at heart!



Budget Updates

December income from offerings and Berlin Fair Booth profits: \$16,707.43. December spending on budgeted expenses: \$32,190.33.

Women's Service League Programs

WSL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Sunday February 5th, 12:00 PM at Dorie Wojcik's house, 156 Ellsworth Blvd, Kensington. Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert will be provided.

We have two short books on our list for the next book discussion: **Night** by Elie Wiesel and **Heaven is for Real** by Todd Burpo. Sign ups will be taken at coffee hour in the later part of January.

April 5th, 6:30pm: Meal in the Upper Room

May 5th or 6th, Day Retreat - Save the date. Details to follow.

June 4th, 6:30pm - Annual Salad Supper. Bring your favorite salad for a "potluck" salad supper. Our annual scholarship recipient will be our invited guest. We will also install our officers for the coming year. A special program is planned.

All women of the church are welcome!



Women's Service League Devotional

By Jean Munson

(Families of Faith)

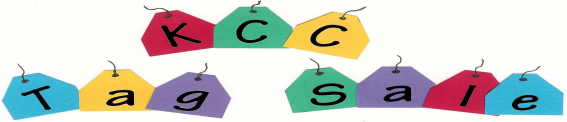
*Proverbs 24:3 Through wisdom a house is built,
and by understanding It is established.*

The family is the most important institution in the world. It was God's idea in the first place. It was not the invention of sociologists or economists or government bureaucrats who decided it would make society operate more smoothly. Families existed before cities and governments, before written language, nations, temples and churches.

In the home, character and integrity are formed, values are made clear, and goals are set. These last a lifetime. If they aren't formed correctly, that too, will result in patterns, bad patterns, that last a lifetime, if God doesn't intervene.

Today, Satan is attacking the family as never before. But what are our defenses against such attacks?

As always, our best defense is the Word of God. Read the Bible together as a family. Have family devotions. Pray for one another daily by name. Be on guard against the forces that tend to pull families apart today. And most of all, commit your marriage to Christ, and make Him the center of you home and your life.



SAVE THE DATE!
And save your not-needed treasures for the KCC
Bi-Annual Tag Sale
SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2012!

Details to follow
Questions, ask
Carol Welz or Wendy Kingsbury

Material Available

Tuesday Circle has many pieces and colors of corduroy material. We are no longer using this material and are looking for a craft group or individuals who might be able to make use of the materials. There is also some chintz available. We will continue to accept any cotton or cotton/poly materials, as we make "Huggie Pillows" for Hole in the Wall Camp" kids with that and have someone

who will cut and sew them for us. If you have any information on people or a group looking for these materials, please give Kay Murray a call. Thanks for your help.

Inspirational Reflections

By Skip Munson

"Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Give careful thought to your way.'" Haggai 1:5

We have just changed from 2011 to 2012 and it is a time to reflect on the previous year and start making plans for the year to come. Maybe last year was a good one for you and you want to keep it going into the future; but to many it may have held misfortunes or disappointments and they are looking forward to something better in the coming year. So, we make "New Years Resolutions"! To many these plans are kept for a while but do not last too long because they are different from what we had been doing even though they may be in our best interest. The Lord said through Haggai to, "*be careful in the way you plan ahead.*" Maybe the best way to plan ahead is through consultation with the Lord through prayer and His Holy Word.

I have found that the only way I can move ahead in any situation is by reading God's Word in the Bible. It is full of useful information on most any topic of concern in the Christian life. It is best way to plan for your future life (not only for the coming year but for eternity). Try reading your Bible; it is your road to the future.



Join Us For Mardi Gras February 19

Sponsored by the Christian Education committee

Mardi Gras is the traditional New Orleans celebration of Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, when people cleared out their pantries, using up all their sweet and tasty ingredients in preparation for simpler meals during the season of Lent.

We hope you will join us after worship on Sunday, February 19th for our traditional Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast, as we whip up a delicious brunch, including, fruit, pancakes, sausages and beverages. A free offering will be collected that morning. All proceeds from the brunch will be used as scholarships for Silver Lake attendees.

ATTENTION DELEGATES!

Mark your calendars there will be a Central Association Mid-Winter meeting on Monday, January 30, 2012 at the Center Congregational Church in Meriden. Registration will be at 6:00 PM with dinner and worship to follow.

If anyone would like to receive KCC's newsletter Gabriel's Trumpet via email please send your request to the church office: Kensington.Cong@Juno.com.



PARISH VISITOR MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH

It has been my pleasure to serve the Kensington Congregational Church for the past years as Parish Visitor. I have tried to be not only an ambassador of this church but also of Jesus Christ to the people I visited by praying with them and encouraging them to look to Jesus in all their needs. My hope was to make them aware that they are never alone although they were in the hospital, a nursing home, or their own home; no matter where you are, you can never be too far away from your loving God.

I leave this position in the hopes that I have brought some measure of joy and contentment to those people I visited. I know that it has brought me much pleasure, a feeling of fullness, and Christian fellowship with all those "Friends in Need" of our church. May those who visit in the future give and get these same feelings.

May God bless this Church and those who visit "those in need" in the future.

Walter (Skip) Munson

