



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

April 25, 2024

Dear Friends of Second Church,

In Worship this coming Sunday, we will be welcoming Dr. Craig Symons and the choir from First Congregational Church, as well as our own accomplished musical team — we'd love to show them a nice, full church for them to report back about, so bring a friend!

This week, I've been reading a bit about L'Arche communities, a network of small houses throughout Europe and the Americas in which abled and physically handicapped/neurologically atypical people live together in Christian fellowship. While most of the physical care is done by the abled, the emotional and spiritual care is shared by all, and the relationships are tremendously powerful and, at their best, profoundly holy.

That's not to say it's easy, for true community never is. Many of the handicapped members of these houses come to them only after difficult or even traumatic experiences in other institutions or in their own family homes, and learning to trust is a long process. This means that quite often, the community is tasked with (in the words of one volunteer) "waiting for the beauty in each person" to emerge.

I've been turning over that phrase in my mind for the last few days, thinking about how that is a good description of the work of churches, at **our** best. Not only do we see and celebrate the true beauty in people, but we are also prepared to wait alongside them as that beauty begins to emerge, however slowly that may be — as the grinding depletions and exhausting expectations of life's challenges and past history have time and space to heal.

We don't always acknowledge how hard it can be to let our guard down. Sadly, some churches don't offer a safe place in which to do so. But it's a different sort of sadness that the idea of doing so may not actually occur to many who do come. Yet for some, admitting vulnerability has become so unthinkable that they don't seek shelter for it among the gathered people of the church, kind as so many of them may seem. Shelter isn't even what they've come for.

I can't help but think how puzzled and relieved they would be to discover, first that shelter, and then the beauty within them that shelter can finally coax into view.

With all that we offer and all that we wish we could, our primary task is to be a place where God's love can do its thing.

When it does, the lives that follow are beautiful, indeed.

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

Nursery care for infants to age 4 starts at 10:15 a.m.  
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.

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

On Sunday, April 28 in Children's Chapel we are building a relationship  
with God and Legos!

We welcome special guest, Beth Pierson, who has taught in various education spaces,  
in classrooms and outside, in the US and internationally for 25 years. She is  
leading a new program at Byram Shubert Library in Greenwich, Legos for Wee Ones.  
We will be getting a sneak preview on her class as she and Jenny teach us about  
building a relationship with God.

[Click here to Register for Children's  
Chapel](#)

**Mark your calendars...**

# Spring Yoga with Jill Ernst

*Second Congregational Church*

Friday mornings:

April 26-May 17

9:15-10:00 a.m.

*All ages & stages are welcome!*

*6 weeks for \$60 or drop in fee of \$20 per class*

*Scholarships available and childcare upon request*



**Email [Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org) for more information**

**Email Jenny for more information about  
Yoga**

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# Teddy Bear Story Hour

ROLL OUT OF BED AND JOIN US IN YOUR PJ'S  
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, MAY 25 & JUNE 22  
AT 8:00 A.M.



Coffee for Good  
48 Maple Avenue, Greenwich, CT

## Coffee & Connection

Saturday, April 27  
10:00-11:00 a.m.

*Women of all ages and stages please join Chaplains Kate Noonan and Jenny Byxbee for a morning of TLC, centering techniques, and thoughtful conversation inspired by scripture and rooted in love.*



For more information or to rsvp:  
[Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org).

*Childcare available upon advanced request.*

Email Jenny for more information or to RSVP for Coffee &

## Looking ahead to May...

# Music Together

Sunday, May 5  
9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Come sing, dance and play with your child ages 0-5. Babies, toddlers, and big kids can participate together in our family-style class.

Join Music Together at 2CC for a demo class and find out how much music making can support your child's overall development and have more joyful family time. Make new friends and join our welcoming community!

Registration required. More info contact [Jenny@2cc.org](mailto:Jenny@2cc.org)

[Click here to register for Music Together](#)

# Women's Fellowship Luncheon

Tuesday, May 7  
11:30 A.M.

Greenwich Country Club

*Music by Alexander Constantine*

All members are welcome!

Reservations will only be accepted when accompanied by a check in the amount of \$40.00 per person no later than Friday, May 3

Please make checks payable to Women's Fellowship and drop off or mail to the church office

## 2CC Ladies Night...

# Wine, Spirits & Cheese

Join us for some wine, spirits, cheese, and a chance to spend time together!

Thursday May 23

6:30-8:00 p.m.

A beverage or appetizer to share is welcomed!

Hosted by Karen Wieman and Lisa Wilson

Please RSVP to [Jenny@2CC.org](mailto:Jenny@2CC.org)  
by May 21 for location of event

Email Jenny to RSVP for Ladies Night

## Looking Ahead to June...

2CC is partnering with GEMS for a babysitting course on June 1, just in time for summer!



## Register for Babysitting Class

## Around Town...

### Join us! Stand Against Racism

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**

greenwich

Friday, April 26, 2024 | 12:00–1:00 pm  
Greenwich Town Hall

Join friends, family and neighbors in taking a stand against all forms of racism in Greenwich. The event is free and open to everyone!

*'Building Bridges Toward Equity'*

**Remarks by:**

- YWCA Greenwich President and CEO, **Mary Lee Kiernan**
- Director of the Center for Equity & Justice Program at YWCA Greenwich, **Simone Quartey**
- Jane Bagley Lehman Director of the Center for Public Purpose at Greenwich Academy, **Connie Blunden**
- Presentation of the Gender and Racial Justice Scholarships with School Superintendent, **Dr. E. Ann Carabillo**

Register at [www.ywcagreenwich.org/standagainstracism](http://www.ywcagreenwich.org/standagainstracism)  
For more information, contact Rennie Peterkin at 203-869-6501, ext 106



the **Y** WCA

**HEALTHY KIDS DAY**  
April 30 | Free to the Public  
12—3 PM

FIND YOUR JOY.  
FIND YOUR Y.  
GREENWICH YMCA

Scan the QR Code to RSVP

For a better us.®

Visit the YWCA website for more information

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

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