

***“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”***



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEW MILFORD

October 26, 2025

WELCOME & CALL TO MINISTRY

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE/ CHERUB CHOIR ANTHEM

Great Big, Beautiful World /Tom Fettke

CHILDREN’S TIME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Spirit is here,

People: Bringing vision and hope for our world.

Leader: Christ lifts us up,

People: Welcoming us with loving arms.

Leader: God showers the earth,

People: Nourishing all creation with grace.

Leader: As we gather in worship this day,

People: We receive all that God’s love gives us.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

GLORIA PATRI*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen, Amen.

HYMN*

For the Beauty of the Earth #56

INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, strengthen us for the journey ahead. Lift our eyes to the hills, that we may see the light of your gracious loving presence. Open our minds to your vision and dreams, that we may claim our place as your children, and we may run with faithfulness the race set before us. We pray in Jesus' name; with the words he taught us...

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Choral Response

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Moment of Stewardship

Call to Offering

Offertory

O God, Our Help in Ages Past/arr. Joseph M. Martin

Song of Presentation*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures
here below; praise God above ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ and Holy
Ghost. Amen.*

Offering Prayer*

Holy God, we thank you for refreshing autumn rain and the dew in the morning. In thanksgiving and gratitude, we return a portion of our gifts to your and ask that you transform these gifts into blessings for a world in need. Amen.

HYMN*

All Things Bright and Beautiful #61

Church School children will process to the Parish House during the last verse.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 18:9-14

Choral Response

SERMON

Living Lives of Faith

Choral Response

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN*

Sweet, Sweet Spirit #261

BENEDICTION* - spoken and sung

POSTLUDE

Nicea Finale and Hymn/Piet Post

**All are invited to stand in body or spirit*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Are Welcome Here: For your comfort, listening devices are available by the front doors of the church. Additionally, services are live streamed in the chapel, should you need to step out of the service for any reason. Simply turn on the TV. Please see a Deacon if you need assistance.

Thank you to the Cherub Choir and Toni Sullivan for their gift of music at today's service.

Congratulation to Rev. Bacchiocchi on her 32nd year of ordination.

Coffee Hour: Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and cake following today's service.

Bible Study Group will meet in the Taylor room today at 11:15. This week's discussion will be Cain and Able.

Trunk or Treat is this afternoon at 4:30 PM. Thank you to everyone who donated candy to support our trunk.

Women of the Bible study group meet in the Chapel Monday at 1:00 pm.

Please consider donating gently used coats, hats, gloves, boots and sweater **to the Community Winter Coat Drive** hosted by St. John's Episcopal Church on Nov. 1.

New Member Reception will be held on Sunday, Nov. 16.

Book of Remembrance is Sunday November 23rd. Donations will be received until November 10th. Envelopes for this purpose are available at the front and rear entrances to the sanctuary. Please list the names of those to be memorialized on the envelope and place it in the collection plate or leave it in the church office. Checks should be made out to First Congregational Church c/o Book of Remembrance.

We are currently seeking someone for the role of Financial Secretary. If you are interested in this compensated position, please email: financechair@nmchurch.org.

Book giveaway: Last day to look through the free books and tapes in Fellowship Hall.

Weekly	
Sundays -	Worship 10:00 AM
	Coffee Hour 11:00 AM
	Bible Study Group 11:15 AM
Mondays -	Woman of the Bible Study Group 1:00 PM
October	
Oct. 26 -	Trunk or Treat 4:30 PM
November	
Nov. 1 -	Community Coat Drive
Nov. 5 -	Lunch & Learn 12:30 PM
Nov. 8 -	Wiffenpoofs 5:00 PM
Nov. 9 -	Recognition of Veterans Chapel Stitchers 12:30 PM
Nov. 15 -	Men's Breakfast
Nov. 16 -	Stewardship Sunday New Member Reception
Nov 20 -	Trans-Remembrance Service 7:00 PM
Nov. 23 -	Book of Remembrance
Nov. 29 -	Holiday Craft Fair Live Nativity - Evening
Nov. 30 -	Advent Week 1
December	
Dec. 3 -	Lunch & Learn 12:30 PM
Dec. 7 -	Advent Week 2 Chili Lunch
Dec. 14 -	Advent Week 3 Chapel Stitchers 12:30 PM Christmas Concert 4:00 PM

Dec. 20 - Men's Breakfast

Dec. 21 - Advent Week 4
Christmas Pageant
Brunch following Service

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve services 4:00 PM & 9:00 PM

Dec. 25 - Merry Christmas

The First Congregational United Church of Christ

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

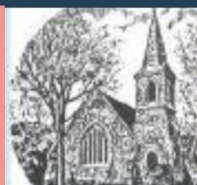
(860) 354-8232 Voicemail available 24/7

Pastor	Rev. Marie Bacchiocchi	revmarieb@nmchurch.org
Director of Music	Sarah Fay	musicidirector@nmchurch.org
Bell Choir Director	Kristen Dorrell	bells@nmchurch.org
CE Director	Katie Johnson	cedirector@nmchurch.org
Manager-Church Operations	Carole Zeigler	czeigler@nmchurch.org
Treasurer	Jill Coolbeth	tresurer@nmchurch.org
Financial Secretary	*Open	financialsecretary@nmchurch.org

Today's service

Deacon on Duty	Cary Westfall
Trustee on Duty	Bill Jackson
Ushers	Gail Peck, Cindy & Steve Hendricks
Scripture Reader	Jennifer Albright
Acolytes	Deacons

**Sat, November 1
9AM-NOON**



**St. John's
Episcopal Church
New Milford, CT**

GET READY FOR ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY WINTER COAT DRIVE

**Helping those
in need with
extra warmth
this season**

**Please arrange to drop off your
donations by calling the Church
Office at 860-354-5583, or
emailing
stjohnsepiscopal.office@gmail.com**

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NEW
MILFORD CT**

*"We are committed to creating a welcoming, safe
space for all people to explore life's big
questions and cultivate fellowship
This commitment stems from our understanding
that God loves us all for who we are, and we invite
you to explore that truth with us•"*

**Donations of
gently used**

**HATS
COATS
BOOTS
GLOVES
SCARVES
SWEATERS**

**are now being accepted
until the event date.
THANK YOU!**