



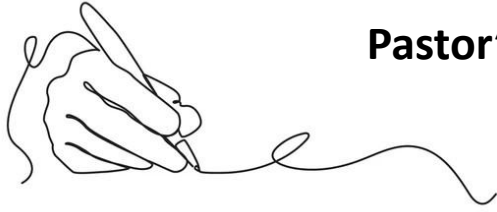
The Steeple

June 2026

Frist Congregational Church

36 Main Street, New Milford, CT, 06776

860-354-8232 | nmchurch.org



Pastor's Message

Dear Friends,

Summer is upon us! I pray that you may find time this summer to rest, renew, and recharge. While many of us will spend some time away, there are still many things happening. From VBS to the Tag Sale, Independence Day celebrations to summer worship, we at FCCNM continue to minister to and with our community.

I find that my summer to-do list always includes reading all the books I didn't have time to read last year and cleaning out those places that call to me. And I find that I always run out of time for all that is on my list. I hope that you run out of time for some of those items on your list as well. May each day of summer hold a small piece of fun and joy. Summer beckons us to revel in God's magnificent creation. I pray that you have the time to enjoy it.

May this season of abundance fill your soul to overflowing.

Thank you so much for all your hymn requests! We have so many that we will be singing them from Sunday, June 14 through Sunday, September 27. I will still have about 5 hymns that we will sing in October so that everyone's hymn is sung. It is wonderful to have so many hymns requested. Thank you for the songs in your hearts.

Blessings,

Rev. Marie

Looking Ahead

- June 14:** Pride Picnic
June 21: Choir Appreciation
June 22-26: Vacation Bible School
July 18: Annual Tag Sale
August 17-23: Rev. Marie Vacation
September 13: Welcome Back Event
September 20: 250th revolutionary event with St-John's
October 4: Pastor Emeritus Celebration

thank you

Thank you all so very much for baptizing our little Anna Katherine in this wonderful church - we so appreciate being welcomed and feeling at home in this community. A Special thank you to the chapel stitchers for the absolutely beautiful and soft baby blanket, which Anna loves and will cherish as a reminder of her baptism. We are so grateful to you all.

Love, Helen, Philip and Anna

To my friends at the First
Congregational Church
My Very best THANKS for
The Birthday card and lovely messages
for my 102nd Celebration
Your friend
→ TELMA

Community Outreach

Thank you to the Roger Sherman Chapter, D.A.R. of New Milford for their donation to the church in Mary Schenzer's name.

Thank you to the New Milford Community Shelter for their donation to the church for the use of our building during the cold winter months.

Flower Committee



The function/job of the flower committee is to provide flowers for the communion table on Sundays. We have four members on the committee that supply this, with each having a Sunday. We would like to welcome anyone who would like to provide flowers in memory of, or celebrate a loved one to participate. The process is very simple. Please just let Carole Zeigler know and/or a member of the committee, and it will be put in the bulletin with your intentions. There is a sign up calendar in the foyer across from the stairs leading down to fellowship. You may add your name to the specific Sunday you would like. Members of the committee are Sandy Gammons, Debbie Poole, Bonnie Westerberg, and Anne Olson. Thank you in advance for considering this donation.



The Women of the Bible study group

This group chooses books, scripture and current topics to discuss. It is a round room discussion and safe place for all to share viewpoints. The group meets on Mondays at 1pm in the Chapel.

Scholarship Fundraising Tag



Are you ready to clear out well-loved items for which you no longer have a use? The Scholarship Team would love to have those gently used items for the fundraising tag sale which will be held on Saturday, July 18, in the Fellowship Hall. The money raised will be used to award scholarships to New Milford students going on to further their education in college or a trade school. This year we awarded scholarships to fourteen seniors.

You can drop off your items in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday nights, July 15-17, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Please no clothes, large furniture, large exercise equipment, or large electronics. If interested, you can volunteer to help organize in the evenings or sell at the tag sale. We hope to see you as church and community members come together and enjoy mingling that week.

Regards, The Scholarship Committee: Sandy Gammons, Steve Hendricks, Carol McKay, Katie Mc Kay, Joan Vill
scholarship@nmchurch.org



A Prayer for Fathers

adapted by John MacIver Gage from words by Robb McCoy

For fathers everywhere, who have given us life and love, that we may show them respect and love.

For stepfathers who have assumed that role with love and joy, who have loved the children of another as their own, and created a new family.

For adoptive fathers and foster fathers, who have heard the call of God to lovingly step forward to care.

For fathers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them.

For men who may or may not have children of their own, but act like a father to someone in need of advice, support, nurturing, and love.

For fathers who have been unable to be a source of strength, who have not responded to the needs of their children and have not sustained their families.

For fathers who struggle with temptation, violence, or addiction. For those who do harm, and for those whom they have harmed.

For new fathers, full of hope. For long-time fathers, full of wisdom. For the fathers yet to be, and fathers soon to be.

For those that have shaped our lives without claim of family or kinship. For those who have taught us, guided us, shaped us and molded us into servants of Christ our Lord.

For men working to father a new masculinity in the world, a Christ-like, life-giving masculinity, full of strength tempered with compassion and with vulnerability.

God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their children, honor them always with a spirit of gratitude and respect and encouragement. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

HAPPY
*Father's
Day*

A Poem in Honor of Mother's Day

by the Rev. Kristen Barner

To the Moms who are...
the Moms who will be...
the Moms who were...
the Moms who can't be...
the Moms who want to be...
the Moms who didn't want to be but are...
the Moms who are Dads...
the Moms who are Aunts, Sisters, or Grandmothers...
the Moms who have human babies...
the Moms who have furry babies, feathered babies, scaly or swimmy babies...
the Moms who tried so hard and paid tons of money to be...
the Moms who tried so hard and paid tons of money and still are not yet...
the Moms who travel to airports, foreign lands, agencies and attorneys...
the Moms who are Coaches, Trainers, Teachers, and Directors...
the Moms who are Neighbors...
the Moms who are estranged from their children...
the Moms who are reunited with their children...
the Moms left out of overpriced Mother's Day brunch...
the Moms who have to work the overpriced Mother's Day brunch shift...
the Moms who make beds in hotel rooms, and can't make their kids breakfast...
the Moms who wait for the taxi, the bus, the ride to get to work...
the Moms who help with homework...
the Moms who don't know how to help with homework...
the Moms who wake up their kids from school when they come home from the night shift...
the Moms who drop their kids to school on their way to job #2...
the Moms who homeschool...
the Moms who go to school...
the Moms who create culinary masterpieces out of leftovers...
the Moms who pray to God they can eke out a little more ketchup for tonight's fish sticks...
the Moms suffering with postpartum depression...
the Moms radiating from joy and miracle-thanks...
the Moms who long for a nap...

the Moms who can't get out of bed...
the worried Moms...
the proud Moms...
the Moms who need to grow up...
the Moms who have grown old...
the Moms who never ever want children and yet care for them so tenderly...
the Moms who so want children and weep as Rachel wept...
the Sarahs, the Hagars, the Leahs, the Rebeccas, the
Elizabeths and the Marys...
to all of you:
You are thought of on this day:
Happy Mothering Day!

If you would like to make a donation, **Digital Giving** is available.

Please scan the QR Code to donate.
We kindly ask that you use the comment
feature to direct your contribution.

Imagine
Together



Your continued support to the church is appreciated.