

faith matters

The Roxbury Congregational Church
A Congregation of the United Church of Christ



Continuing Testament
Extravagant Welcome
Changing Lives

Vol. 279, Issue 8, September 2022
Church Office, 24 Church Street
Roxbury, Connecticut 06783-1703
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Pastoral Reflections

Rev. David F. Peters, Minister

Making a Difference!

Sometimes, I think that we get so caught up in doing our annual events and traditions and liturgy, that we forget what a difference this church makes in the lives or individuals and this community.

Whether it is at a time of a baptism, or the time of support when someone dies, we are there and we make a difference in the liturgies and support given. We can never underestimate the influence this congregation has on the wider community. If one takes a look at just the volunteers who help to make this town function, set the tone and vision of what type of community we are to be, you can see the stamp of what we preach and live out because the Roxbury Congregational Church is here.

When we talk about having a friend join us here at the church, I hope it is couched in the language that we are instrumental in changing lives. The congregation is not here to serve our own personal needs only, a country club where we pay our dues and can then expect certain services or privileges in return. We support this congregation with our time, talents and treasure to make a difference in our lives, in the lives of others here, as well as others who we many not even know!

The world and our community is watching us more now than ever to see if we live out what we profess. Do we come to serve one who commanded us to serve the least, the needy, the lonely, the forgotten, or just ourselves? As an institution, we have not done such a good job in recent years, pulling our ranks close for institutional survival out of fear. Lets not be like that. Let's be bold, be authentic, be like the one who calls each of us to service – Jesus Christ.

Grace and Peace, *David*



thank you

... to those who have kept current with your pledges. We are healthy financially when all pitch in!

...to everyone who bought Father's Day cards to benefit Church World Service's "tools of Hope" program.

... to our choir members who have been rehearsing and singing each Sunday during the school year.

...to our Lay Readers and Zoom Techs – helping to have Sunday worship go smoothly and ensuring that our church community stays fed and connected.

... to our Confirmation mentors this year: Barbara Cover, Diana deVries, and Susan Zappulla-Peters.

... to everyone who helped with our Art at the Meetinghouse 17th Annual Juried Art Show June 17-19 The planning team was headed by Charlie Meade. Over 130 works of art were shown and sales added to our church budget.

.....to our organizers, benefactors, the Art Show team, our Judge, Linda West, our guests and those who purchased works. A portion of the works sold benefits the ministries of our church.

Newsletter

The *Faith Matters* newsletter is published each month with a combined summer issue. Please have all material for inclusion in the October issue submitted by September 15. Send your contributions to office@roxburychurch.org.

September Faith Matters Deadline
September 15th

From the Parish Register

Baptism

August 28, 2022 **Luke Justice Capodiferro**, son of John and Emily (Sears) Capodiferro, born May 4, 2021 in Waterbury, was baptized by Rev. Peters.

Funeral Services

July 2, 2022: **Diane Marie (Barago) Meade***, age 69, died June 26, 2022 in Danbury, CT. A Memorial Service was held in the Meetinghouse with Rev. Peters officiating. Burial will be at a later date.

July 23, 2022: **William Handel May**, age 37, died July 15, 2022 in Danbury, CT. A Memorial Service was held in the Meetinghouse with Rev. Peters officiating. Burial was in the Judea Cemetery in Washington, CT

July 30, 2022: **John Gunner Hays, Jr.*** age 75, died November 27, 2021 in Danbury, CT. A memorial service was held at the Bridgewater Pavilion with Rev. Peters officiating.



Godspeed Andy & Marilyn

August marked the departure of Andy Huber and Marilyn Huang as they moved from the area. We will miss them and wish them the best. The Congregation presented them with this framed print of the church signed by many.

mission matters

September 25: Greenwoods Counseling

Greenwoods Counseling Referrals will be our spotlight Mission Partner during worship on Sunday, September 25. Julia Jagger, MSW, a *Community Outreach & Recovery Navigator* for Greenwoods Counseling & Referrals, Inc. will be with us. She will share the life changing work that we support through our support of Greenwoods. Come join us and be sure to greet here afterwards during coffee and engage in conversation.

Loaves and Fishes

Serving the Meal at Loaves and Fishes on the fourth Wednesday of each month beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Richmond Town Center in New Milford. It is on the Green just north of the Congregational Church. Parking is behind the building. We need **three** servers each month to prepare the meal and clean up afterward. Usually out by 6:00 p.m at the latest. Please speak with Mike Wilcox at 860-354-8821 if you are interested.

**Next Loaves & Fishes opportunity is
Wednesday, September 27, 2022**

Daily Bread Food Pantry

The Daily Bread Food Pantry team distributes food the second Monday of the month (approx. 9 am - 12 noon). We need more volunteers on the list to draw from. If you are available or have questions, please speak with Sue Stauffacher at 860-354-1274. The number of households visiting Daily Bread have more than tripled. It has been enormously challenging to keep their shelves stocked.

You can help!

Next time you go to the grocery store, please pick up an extra bag of basic food items and drop them off in the Church Narthex (front doors always unlocked) and leave on the cart there. Our team will bring them down to the Pantry.

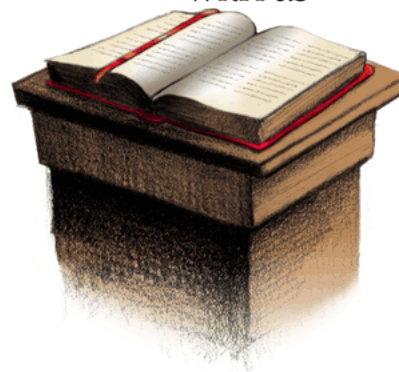
Items needed include:

Non-perishables: canned tuna, peanut butter, black beans, kidney beans, rice, pasta, tomato sauce, canned fruit, canned vegetables.

Financial Gifts are much appreciated as well.

Checks can be made out to RCC and Daily Bread in the Memo.

Study ^{the} Bible
with us



Bible Study - Ruth

In October, Rev. Jerry Smith, will be offering a Bible study on the book of Ruth. 4 sessions. It would be after worship on Sundays October 16, 23, 30 & Nov 6. in the Chapel Library.

Mindful Meditation Mindfulness Meditation

Your host, Charlie Stauffacher, invites you to join with us as we gather on Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m., in the Church Library or via Zoom, online.

These sessions are for anyone interested in meditation, whatever experience or lack of experience. Please speak with Charlie at 860-354-1274 so he can answer your questions or contact you by email with instructions for online access.

Roxbury Relief Offering at United Worship
\$300 was collected at the United Worship service for Roxbury Relief. Anyone in our community can apply for extra-ordinary needs .To apply speak with one of the clergy.

church event calendar

Save the Date

September 18 First Day of Choir season
September 25 Mission Guest Presenter

October 2 World Communion Sunday (Neighbors in Need Special Offering)
October 8 Trivia Night (Chris Childs & Joan Temple)
October 9 Bible Study – Book of Ruth (Jerry Smith)
October 9 Blessing of the Animals 1 pm.
October 16 Concert with Sandy Kleisner and Lynne Abeles
October 30 Laity Sunday (Deacons)

November 6 All Saint Sunday Dedication of Memorials – Remembering those who died.
November 6 Long River Concert series (outside group)
November 13 Stewardship Sunday 2023 pledges received

December 3 Country Church Christmas Fair (Charlie Meade & Committee)
December 11 Victorian Christmas Service
December 18 Christmas Caroling (Veterans of the Cross – Retired Clergy offering)
December 24 Christmas Eve Services at 7:30 & 11:00 p.m.
December 25 Christmas Day Informal Service

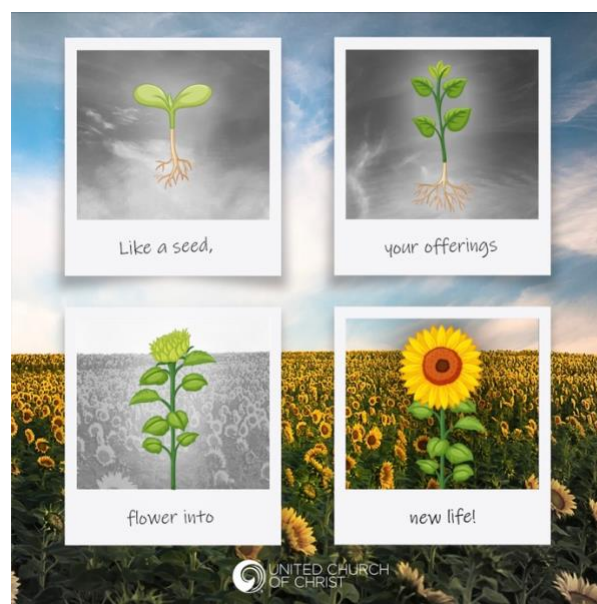
January 1, 2023 New Year's Brunch and Worship

Community Tag Sale /Bake Sale September 10 9-2

Our 19th annual Community Tag/Bake Sale is on Saturday, September 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It will be on the front lawn unless it rains, in which case it will be inside. Pray for a nice day!

There will be a lunch served headed up by Charlie Stauffacher. You can just stop by for lunch if you wish!
For information and sign-up, call Sue Stauffacher at 860-354-1274 before 7:00 p.m.

A Word From Our Stewardship Committee



Everything we have is given to us by God. A Christian steward serves God out of love and gratitude for these gifts knowing that it's not how much we have but what we do with what we have that is important. Stewardship is an expression of our faith; a way to thank God for blessing us with special gifts. It's based on our need to give something back to God to support Christ's mission. Everything we have is given to us by God. What will you do with all that you have been given?

(Rev. Lillian Daniel)

Be watching for the beginning of our Church's Stewardship Campaign and help make a difference in our community and world. We give thanks, share, and New Life emerges!

word & sacrament for September 2022

Underlined scriptures are for Lay Readers

Worship is now In-person and on Zoom

September Deacons of the Month: Mark Wolmer & Mike Wilcox

Sunday, September 4

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 18:1-11 and Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Deut 30:15-20 and Psalms 1

Philem 1:1-21

Luke 14:25-33

Greeter: Andrey and Elizabeth Kutepov

Reader: Elizabeth Kutepov

Zoom Tech: Barb Cover

Flowers:

Refreshments:

Sunday, September 11

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 4:11-12, 22-28 and Psalms 14

1 Tim 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

Greeter: Vail Barrett & _____

Reader: Vail Barrett

Zoom Tech: Charlie Stauffacher

Flowers:

Refreshments:

Sunday, September 18

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 8:18-9:1 and Psalms 79:1-9

1 Tim 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

Greeters: Diana and Phil DeVries

Reader: Phil DeVries

Zoom Tech: Barb Cover

Flowers:

Refreshments:

Sunday, September 25

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 32:1-3a, 6-15 and Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

1 Tim 6:6-19

Luke 16:1-13

Greeters: Beverly and Mark Wolmer

Reader: Mark Wolmer

Zoom Tech: Charlie Stauffacher

Flowers:

Refreshments:



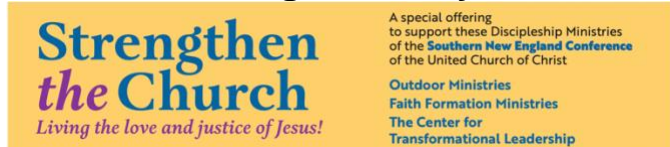
Steeple Lighting

The Steeple can be lit in loving memory or someone or in celebration for a month. We ask for a donation of \$25 to the Memorial Fund. Contact Rev. Peters to make arrangements.

During July it will be lighted in loving memory of loved ones by Janice and William Steers
August is lit by Katherine and Bruce Smith
In memory of loved ones.

We are now signing up Steeple Lightings for January 2023 and beyond – Contact the Office.

Strengthen the Church special mission offering – Sunday, October 2



Strengthen the Church) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports discipleship ministries here in the Southern NE Conference.

Areas of Support Outdoor Ministries including Silver Lake; Faith Formation Ministries (Christian Education & Youth), and the Center for Transformational Leadership -Equipping clergy & lay leaders with resources, tools, guidance, programs and services for the innovative and transformative work of the church.

Scam Alert

Scams are all about in these days. Especially among kind, generous people like you!

Some of these scams have an email being received from the minister or other church official looking for help or donations particularly by buying gift cards. Neither the Roxbury Congregational Church, its officers nor Rev. Peters will seek contributions in this way. If ever in doubt, do not click on any links and if you want, phone Rev. Peters if you have any questions. Sad that we have to even put this warning out there.



leadership listing

(All 860- unless note

Ministers: The Congregation

Moderator: Brian Neff, 354-3177

Clerk: Patricia Fraley, 868-0051

Treasurer: Dale Pinchbeck 355-2497

Collector: Beverly Wolmer 203-405-6795

Deacons: Mike Wilcox 354-8821

Trustees: Charlie Meade, 355-1584

Stewardship: TBA

Missions: Charlie Stauffacher 354-1274

Fellowship: Jeanne Steers, 354-7484

Pastoral Relations: Pat Fraley 868-0051

Men's Group: Charlie Stauffacher, 354-1274

Historian: Dale Pinchbeck, 355-4297

Librarian: Joan Temple, 350-0529

Ch. Secretary: Elizabeth Kutepov, 355 -1978

Minister of Music: Sandra Kleisner, 868-9040

Custodian: Bruce Rossiter

Minister: The Rev. David F. Peters,

office: 355-1978 home: 355-8830

david@roxburychurch.org

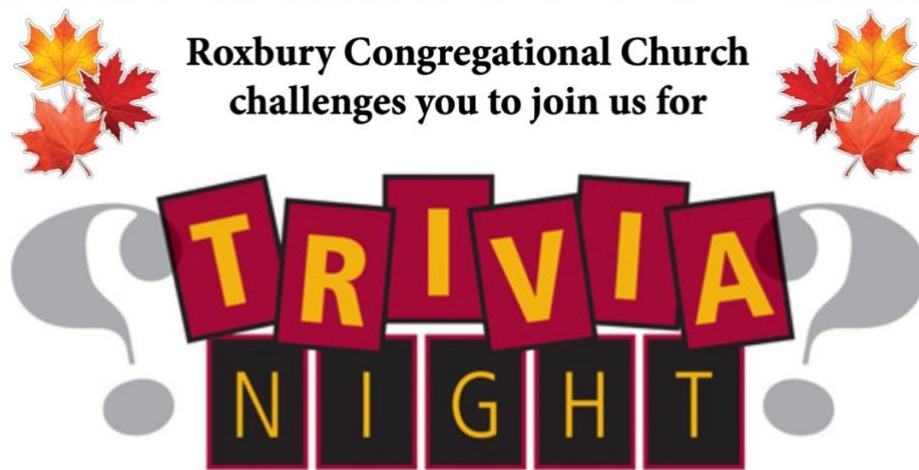


Birthdays & Anniversaries

A=Anniversary

September

5	Phil de Vries	13	Bob & Robin Montesi (A)
8	Ben Steers	18	Robin Montesi
8	Willy Steers	18	Charlie & Diane Meade (A)
9	Luke Steers	21	Elizabeth Kleisner
11	Ed & Catherine Racz (A)	25	Christina Dumas
12	Diane Meade	25	Alex Kleisner
12	Brian & Heidi Neff (A)	27	Sue Stauffacher
12	Charlie & Sue Stauffacher (A)	28	David Peters & Susan Zappulla-Peters (A)
13	Chris Childs		



on

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8th

**Doors open @ 6:30 pm / Trivia starts @ 7:00 pm
at the Roxbury Congregational Church**

Gather your smartest (or just most fun) friends and book a table ASAP!

\$75 per table (TEAMS OF 6 OR LESS)

Checks payable to Roxbury Congregational Church (Payable at the door)
Individual Players are welcome! (You will be on the wildcard teams :)

BYOB (*Bring your own beverages)

** Yes, this means "Adult Beverages" are allowed)*

BYOS (Bring your own snacks*)

**Forget the diet, bring carbs to improve your brain power!)*

For more information or to reserve your table, contact:

Chris Childs @ 860-355-9067

or email: cchilds287@gmail.com

Roxbury Congregational Church, UCC
24 Church Street
Roxbury, CT 06783

Address Service Requested

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Church Newsletter – September 2022

We Are A Community Seeking to Share God's Love!

Worship in-person & on Zoom (link on church website) or Facebook Live (fb.com/RoxburyChurch)

Sundays Worship 10:30 a.m.

No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!

