

November 6, 2011

8:45am & 10:30am

### Service of Word and Sacrament

*Monroe Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming congregation. Are you visiting with us for the first time? An active member of MCC? Returning after an absence? We hope you will feel at home here. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, we welcome you in Christ's name.*

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<b>Gathering Music</b>	8:45am	<i>There Will Be A Light</i>	Harper
		The MCC Folk Group	
	10:30am	<i>Be The Center</i>	Frye
		Ken Fredeen, guitar and vocals	

### Words of Welcome & Announcements

#### Lighting of the Candles

#### Call to Worship

One: Today is a new day!

All: *New life is rising among us.*

One: Today we are challenged to live fully in God's love.

All: *So we greet and embrace one another in love.*

One: We praise the God who fills our lives with grace.

All: *We praise the God whose grace transforms the world!*

**\*Hymn** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* # 439

8:45 am - *Children are welcome to stay in worship*

10:30am - *Please see the location and announcement under Christian Education*

#### \*Prayer of Preparation

**\*UCC Statement of Faith** Reading #885 in hymnal

#### Call to Confession– Silent Prayer– Unison Prayer

*Spirit of Love, what an awe inspiring thing it is to fall into your hands, to be shaped like clay, to be forged through the fire of suffering and conflict. Grant that we might rejoice in your work within and among us, that we might find our home in the hollow of your hand. Inspire us to be instruments of your peace in a world so vulnerable to conflict, and empower us to be the change we wish to see in the world. In Christ's name, Amen.*

#### Words of Assurance

#### \*Response to God's Grace

#### \*Passing of the Peace

#### Morning Prayers – Pastoral, Silent, Lord's Prayer

*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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

#### Time for Giving

#### Invitation

**Offertory** 8:45am *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*  
10:30am *You've Got a Friend* Carole King  
The MCC Band

**\*Doxology and Presentation**

8:45am

10:30am

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow*

*Praise God, all creatures, here below*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow*

*Praise Christ, the Word in flesh, born low*

*Praise Holy Spirit, evermore*

*One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen!*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Scripture**

Matthew 20: 1-15

pg. 897

**Communion Meditation**

Merit or Mercy

Rev. John Collins

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymn**

*Heaven and Earth, and Sea and Air*

# 566

**Communion Prayer**

**Sharing the Bread and Cup**

**Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

**\*Hymn of Parting**

*Eternal Christ, Who, Kneeling*

# 390

**\*Benediction**

**\*Parting Music** 8:45am

*Beams Of Heaven*

Tindley

10:30am

*The MCC Band*

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

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*Welcome Visitors!*

The members and friends of the Monroe Congregational Church, UCC are happy to have you with us. We hope that you feel God's presence and find peace. We hope that you will join us for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Wilton Hall.

Handicap accessible restroom facilities are located in the hallway of Rexford House.

*Special note to parents of infants* – We're glad that you are here and that you have chosen to bring your children to church with you. While nursery care is available in Rexford House, your infants are welcome to stay with you in the sanctuary throughout the service. If, during the service, you decide you and your baby need a quiet place, there are rocking chairs available in the Narthex.

To learn more about our church's programs and outreach in the community, please visit our website: [www.mcc-ucc.org](http://www.mcc-ucc.org).

**Prayer Concerns  
November 6, 2011**

**Matt Duchon; Larry Barnes** (John and Angela Cross' friend); **Tama A** (Kathy Maiolo's friend); **Madeline Aeschbury** (David Kingsbury's niece); **Tammy Ainsworth** (Linda Fracassini's cousin); **Donna B** (Sue Price's friend); **Bill Balliette** (Kelsey & Marissa Maiolo's grandfather); **Jean Buschbaum** (John Cross' mother); **Janie Carlisle** (the Colegroves' friend); **Cheryl Ciambriello** (Wendy Colegrove's friend); **David Delia** (David Bailey's friend); **Marc Duchon** (Will Duchon's brother); **Cheryl Finch** (Judy Coward's friend); **Patricia Ford** (Jackie Bleakney's sister-in-law); **Marilyn Guerrieri** (Fred DuBois' sister-in-law); **Colleen Gilmore** (Cynthia Robinson's aunt); **Karen Guinness** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Beth Gullo** (Donna O'Hara's cousin); **Marian Hampel; Bob Heffernan** (Ann Zeiner's son-in-law); **Jody Heussner** (Julie Heussner's mother); **Sally Kelley** (Lani Siciliano's mother); **Chris Keeler** (Ann Zeiner's nephew); **Nancy Kirby** (Pamela Joy's sister); **Kathleen Krenicki** (Wendy Colegrove's friend); **Peter Litchfield** (the Gran's brother-in-law); **Barbara Lord** (Nancy Hedine's friend); **Luba** (the Coward's friend); **Nicole Malia; Rica Mendes** (David Bailey's friend); **Sandy Morrison** (Ken Fredeen's sister); **Kathleen Murphy** (Susan Walker's friend); **Sarah Post; Wanda Price** (Dave Price's aunt); **Linda Resnick; Cynthia Robinson; Connor Scalia** (Jen Nivison's friend); **Nick Scalzo** (Angela Cross' father); **Lou Scalzi** (Debbie & Bruce Gran's friend); **Carlos Serrano** (Kathy Maiolo's cousin); **Ethel Slater** (Pam Kelly's mom); **Annika Stadler, Christl Stickney** (Diane Prall's mother); **Judy Swarbrick** (Nancy Hedine's friend); **Peggy Torrito ; Heather Tusch; Ujwala** (Sampson family relative); **Shane Watson** (Will Duchon's friend); **Don Williams; Grace Wright** (Kathy Maiolo's Aunt); **George Zaleha; Richard Zeiner** (Ann's brother-in-law); those suffering from mental illness, **Caregivers**

Those serving in the military:

Iraq: **Tony Cuseo** (Cliff Cuseo's nephew)  
**Lindsay Whitehead** (Kelsey Maiolo's friend's father)  
Japan: **Bobby Herring** (Ashley & Scott Levins' cousin);  
**Davis Cappabianca** (Ashley Levins' friend)  
Korea: **Meara O'Hara** (Donna & Pat O'Hara's niece);  
Texas: **Sara Linley** (Rob & June Linley's granddaughter);  
Germany: **Rachel Hoffman** (Vaughan Askue's daughter);  
Afghanistan: **Capt. Caitlin Hall** (Judy Coward's niece)

Concerns of our nation and world:

- The people of **Turkey** as they recover from a recent earthquake
- The people of the **Middle East** and **Libya**: may they have justice and peace
- The people of **Haiti** and the people who seek to aid them
- The people of **Somalia** and the horn of Africa suffering with drought, disease and famine

**The flowers today are given by** the Herkimer family in loving memory of Serena Epstein

**Providing leadership this morning:**

Trustee of the Day: Mark Barnhart  
Deacon of the Day: Pamela Joy  
8:45am Lay Reader: Kristina Logan  
10:30am Lay Reader: Kate Parker-Burgard  
CE Person of the Day: Don Parker-Burgard

**The November Coffee hour** is sponsored by Dave & Kathy Allen

**Happy Anniversary** to the following people and to anyone we may have missed, we will keep you in our prayers. (Number in parenthesis is anniv. date)

Kristina & Andrew Logan <sup>(9)</sup>

Susan & Paul Granello <sup>(12)</sup>

**Happy Birthday** to the following people and to anyone we may have missed, we will keep you in our prayers. (Number is birth date)

Matthew Rousseau<sup>(6)</sup>

Robert Memmesheimer<sup>(8)</sup>

Gail Olson<sup>(11)</sup>

Andrew Fredeen<sup>(6)</sup>

Karen Goul<sup>(8)</sup>

Linda Resnick<sup>(11)</sup>

Laura Ann LaMastra<sup>(6)</sup>

Jack Campbell<sup>(8)</sup>

Jordan Vaglivello<sup>(11)</sup>

Bruce Gran<sup>(7)</sup>

Judy Coward<sup>(9)</sup>

Marge Lapidge<sup>(12)</sup>

Mark Malia<sup>(7)</sup>

Mark Elmendorf<sup>(9)</sup>

Mark Stevison<sup>(12)</sup>

Sharon Daurgard<sup>(7)</sup>

Olivia Kingsbury<sup>(9)</sup>

Tom Guglielmo<sup>(12)</sup>

John Jarecki<sup>(7)</sup>

Diane Prall<sup>(10)</sup>

Attendance for October 30 Total for both services: 47

**STEP INTO THE FUTURE WITH MCC!**

*Since our celebration of Stewardship Sunday was impacted by last week's storm, we are asking everyone to please return their pledge cards as soon as possible! If you need one, pledge cards are available in the narthex or by contacting the church office. We really need your help to Step Into A Bright Future here at Monroe Congregational Church. Thank you so much!*

**Christian Education**

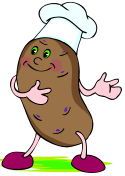
Where	November 6	For What?
Beardsley	Preschool & Kindergarten	Sunday School
Rexford 4	1 <sup>st</sup> grade	Art
Rexford 5	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	Science
Wilton Hall	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	Games

## Nominating Committee



**Your Church Needs YOU!!!** Our need for Servant Leaders is greater than ever and will help set our vision for the future. Being a servant leader is a wonderful gift to your church family, and can also open the doors to spiritual growth while helping you build great friendships. If you are unsure about what being a servant leader means, please feel free to speak to Kathy or Tony Unger or our Pastors. Please consider saying "YES" when you get that phone call asking you to serve on a Board. If you can't wait for us to call you and you want to call us, please feel free to do so! Peace, Kathy Maiolo and Tony Unger, The Nominating Committee

## Outreach



**Mission:1** MCC is participating in a national UCC initiative to help those in need called Mission:1. Between 11/1/11 and 11/11/11 we are hoping to collect 1,111 items of non-perishable food and raise \$1,111 for the Monroe Food pantry. Most of this will occur at Potatoes for the Pantry. **Today, after the second church service, the congregation is invited to stay for a baked potato lunch.** Potatoes will be sold for \$5 and you can fix yours whatever way you like. The Board of Outreach will match your \$5 donation and all proceeds will go to the food pantry. In addition, we are asking all families to bring a bag of non-perishable foods to church that day to add to what we are collecting from the Sunday School and PFs.

## Covenant to Care Needs Our Help To Feed 28 Families for Thanksgiving



The board of Christian Outreach has received a request for Thanksgiving Food Baskets again this year from our social workers at DCF. Last year we supplied Thanksgiving Food Baskets for 22 families in the care of the Connecticut Department of Children & Family Services -thanks to all of YOU! We hope everyone will help out again this year! Donations of any amount will be appreciated. Please make your check payable to M.C.C, and note: "Covenant to Care -Thanksgiving Baskets" Questions? Call Diane Prall 268-1041 Thank you for your support of Covenant to Care!

### **Please make your donation by Sunday, November 20th.**

A \$30 donation will provide 1 hungry family with a Covenant to Care Thanksgiving Food "Basket"

- |   |   |   |                              |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | \$10 Gift Card for a turkey (If we raise extra money or I can find extra good deals I can purchase a \$15 gift card!) | 1 | large can corn               |
| 2 | cans of gravy   | 1 | box of brownie mix           |
| 1 | cranberry sauce   | 1 | fruit cocktail               |
| 1 | stuffing  | 1 | Kraft Mac & Cheese (or More) |
| 1 | box of mashed potato flakes   | 1 | Swiss Miss Hot Coco          |
| 1 | can yams  | 1 | <u>Green Bean Casserole</u>  |
| 1 | can carrots   | 2 | cans green beans 14.5 oz     |
|   |   | 1 | French's Fried Onions 2.8 oz |
|   |   | 1 | cream of mushroom soup       |



**Give the Gift of Sight** - Have you gone through your drawers and found used prescription glasses, non-prescription sunglasses or clip-ons with cases that no one uses anymore? Please consider donating them at MCC. These can be left in the box on the serving table until **October 30th**. They will be cleaned, checked and sent out to developing countries so that those in need can get a new focus on the world. Please contact Susie Cuseo at [thecuseos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecuseos@yahoo.com) with any questions

**Habitat for Humanity**-We had a great Blitz Build – Thank to everyone who participated. Please check out the Coastal Fairfield County Habitat for Humanity Facebook page to see the. There are three more workdays setup for this fall: November 12, December 3, December 10. Please let me know if you are able to make any of the dates. We'll meet in the church parking lot at 8AM to carpool. David Kingsbury, 445-0647

### **Sponsor a month of Coffee Hours**

Would you like to help the people who come to worship get to know each other? What if we told you that sponsoring a month of coffee hours at the low, low price of \$40 could feed four children for 3 weeks? You will not only get that warm and fuzzy feeling of doing something generous, but you can use your sponsorship to honor loved ones – a dedication goes on a plaque and in the bulletin. That's one strong cup of coffee!

### **Take home some Simply Smiles Coffee today**

Our adult mission team traveled in 2010 to the jungles of southern Oaxaca, Mexico, to feed the starving and stand with suffering. A long-term solution for our new friends includes making a sustainable income through coffee farming. You can help restore their health, dignity, and traditional way of life and help them provide their children with the basics, like food, clothing and shelter. When you purchase and take home your own  $\frac{3}{4}$  pound bag of coffee after worship on Sunday mornings you can be part of a long-term solution. Only \$10 per bag feeds a child for 3 weeks. That's one strong cup of coffee! Look for the display in Wilton Hall, there is an honor system money pouch in the basket.

## **ellowship**



**The Thanksgiving Family Feast** will be held on Saturday, **November 19th at 6PM**. Sign-up sheets can be found in Wilton Hall to attend the event. We also need help with cooking turkeys, carving, set up, serving and clean up. Last names beginning with A-M are asked to bring an appetizer or vegetable side dish. Those that begin with N-Z are asked to bring dessert. The cost of the meal and entertainment is \$10/person (over 13), \$5/child (4-12), children under four are free. Please contact Clark Gingras with questions at [cgingra@earthlink.net](mailto:cgingra@earthlink.net) .

We are very excited to welcome **Surcari** as our family entertainment following the meal. If you have friends who want to join us JUST for the entertainment and dessert, we are pre-selling tickets at \$5 per person. See Julie McClenathan for details.

***Who is Surcari?***

Surcari is a performance group originally from Chile and Puerto Rico under the musical direction of guitarist Lorena Garay. The members of Surcari are talented and gifted musicians who have performed for audiences in the United States, South America and Europe. The group performs a blend of traditional and original Latin American, Andean, Afro-Caribbean, Spanish and world music on a wide array of authentic instruments. Surcari derives its name by combining sur, the Spanish word for south (as in Suramérica), and Cari, the first four letters of the word Caribbean. Their repertoire includes an irresistible mix of instrumental and vocal music from different Spanish speaking cultures!

## MCC Community Calendar

### **Week of Nov. 6**

8:45am Worship w/Communion  
9:00am Junior Choir Practice (Classroom 5)  
10:30am Worship w/Communion  
11:45am Potatoes for the Pantry  
6:00pm Senior PF  
6:30pm Adult PF (Parker-Burgard House)

### **Mon. Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>**

7:00pm Search Committee (Dineson)

### **Tues. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>**

12:00pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag  
7:30pm Deacons (Dineson)

### **Wed. Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Retired Men's Breakfast (Dineson)  
11:00am Morning Circle (Dineson)  
6:30pm Confirmation class (Dineson)  
8:00pm Men's Fellowship (Dineson)

### **Thurs. Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am Bible Study (Dineson)  
6:30pm Bell Choir  
7:30pm Adult Choir

### **Fri. Nov. 11-13**

Confirmation Retreat at Silver Lake

### **Week of Nov. 13**

8:45am Worship w/Communion  
9:00am Junior Choir Practice (Classroom 5)  
11:45am Trustees (Dineson)  
11:45am CE Meeting (Classroom 4)  
6:00pm Senior & Junior PF

### **Mon. Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>**

7:30pm Outreach Meeting (Dineson)

### **Tues. Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>**

12:00pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag  
7:30pm Fellowship (Dineson)

### **Wed. Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>**

6:30pm Confirmation Class (Dineson)

### **Thurs. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am Bible Study (Dineson)  
6:30pm Bell Choir  
7:30pm Adult Choir

### **Fri. Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>**

Prep for Thanksgiving Feast (Kitchen)

### **Sat. Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>**

6:00pm Thanksgiving Feast (Wilton)

### **Week of Nov. 20**

#### *Thanksgiving Sunday*

8:45am Worship  
9:00am Junior Choir Practice (Classroom 5)  
10:30am Worship  
6:00pm Senior & Junior PF

### **Tues. Nov. 22**

12:00pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag  
7:30pm Council Meeting (Classroom 4)  
7:30pm Divorce Support (Dineson)

### **Thurs. Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>**

Happy Thanksgiving!  
The office is closed

### **Fri. Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>**

The office is closed

### **Week of Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>**

#### ***First Sunday in Advent***

8:45am Worship  
9:00am Junior Choir Practice (Classroom 5)  
10:30am Worship  
6:00pm Senior PF

### **Tues. Nov. 29**

12:00pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

### **Wed. Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>**

6:30pm Confirmation Class

### **Thurs. Dec. 1**

9:30am Bible Study (Dineson)  
6:30pm Bell Choir  
7:30pm Adult Choir

