



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany • February 2, 2025 • 10:00am
178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

Grace and peace to you, and welcome!

As you prepare for worship, please sign the red welcome pad found at the center of each aisle so that we will know you worshipped with us. Then pass it to your neighbor. The last person to sign the pad should pass it back to the center of the aisle. We suggest you prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of where you are, and the quiet stirrings of the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

**PLEASE STAND IN BODY AND/OR SPIRIT.*

THE GATHERING

Prelude: Air II (from *Two Slow Airs for Organ*) Herbert Howells

***Call to Worship (from Psalm 84:1-4)** Stephanie Hare

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place,

People: O Lord of hosts!

Leader: My soul longs, indeed it faints,

People: for the courts of the Lord;

Leader: my heart and my flesh sing for joy

People: to the living God.

Leader: Even the sparrow finds a home

**People: and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,**

Leader: at your altars, O Lord of hosts,

People: my Sovereign and my God.

Leader: Happy are those who live in your house,

People: ever singing your praise.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Blessing for our Younger Disciples

Stephanie Hare

Call to Confession

Armin Thies

We come before God confident in the grace of our Savior Jesus, who has come not for the righteous, but to save sinners. Let us confess our sin, with full assurance of our forgiveness, first together in the unison prayer, and then individually in a time of silence. Let us pray...

Confession of Sin (unison)

Armin Thies

Almighty ever-living God, just as your Beloved Son was presented on this day in the Temple in faith of your goodness and mercy, so, by your grace, we present ourselves before you, acknowledging that we have not loved you with all our heart, soul, strength and mind, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, and set us free to follow in the way of Jesus' self-giving love. May we be liberated so that our lives may reflect the light of your love for all people...

(silence for further individual reflection and repentance...)

Leader: In Jesus' name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Armin Thies

Leader: In fact, we cannot stand when you appear, but we can completely rely upon your grace. Thank you that you have promised that if we confess our sins, you Lord, are faithful and just, and will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Help us then to hear and believe the good news:

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous. Amen.**

*Gloria Patri (No. 581)

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.**

*Passing of the Peace

Armin Thies

Leader: The first words of the risen Christ to his followers were, "Peace be with you." May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Please share that peace with one another.

(All share a greeting of peace with one another.)

THE WORD

Lighting the Candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice, and Peace

Stacy Arevalo

Leader: Today we light a candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice, and Peace....

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

First Lesson – Malachi 3:1-4

Stacy Arevalo

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Response – Hymn No. 459, vs. 1:

O Word of God Incarnate

Munich

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

Second Lesson – Luke 2:22-40

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to

Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Dismissed in Peace?”

The Rev. Scott Herr

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 545: Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

Land of Rest

1 Lord, bid your ser - vant go in peace; your
2 This is the Sav - ior of the world, the

word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing

va - tion's dawn, this child so long fore - told.
in our midst, the joy of Is - ra - el.

Call for the Offering

Armin Thies

God has blessed us so that we would be a blessing. God has given us peace so that we can be peacemakers. God has been generous with us, so that we can be generous with others. Trusting in God's goodness and mercy, let us offer our tithes, gifts and offerings.

Offertory Anthem:

O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

Herbert Howells

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces.
(Psalm 122: v.6 & v.7)

FPCNC Choir

***Doxology:**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old Hundredth

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

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Armin Thies

May our offerings today strengthen the ministry and mission of your church O Lord, and may our daily thoughts, words and actions extend your compassion and love for the life of the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to The Lord's Table

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

Eucharistic Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

The Words of Institution

Breaking the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Prayer After Communion (unison)

The Rev. Scott Herr

Loving and gracious God, from east and west, from north and south, you have gathered us at your table, called us your beloved, and fed us from your Spirit. Transform us to be your body in the world, and fortify us by your Spirit, so that we may be better aligned with your heart of love, and serve you and our neighbors with great joy; in Christ, with Christ, through Christ, and for Christ we pray. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn No. 546:

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Sicilian Mariners

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us, from our strug - gling

joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, let no fear of death ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
glad your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in a 4-part setting. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with four lines of text corresponding to the four voices. The score concludes with a final cadence in the Soprano and Alto parts.

*Benediction

The Rev. Scott Herr

*Choral Amen

***Ring of the Church Bell**

***Postlude:**

Flourish for a Bidding

Herbert Howells

***Join us in the Common Room after worship for a time of fellowship,
coffee/tea and snacks and stop by the Welcome Table.***

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to worship on this Fourth Sunday after Epiphany when we remember the **Presentation of the Lord** in the Temple. We will be reflecting through the lens of the lectionary texts from Malachi and Luke on why Jesus came to the temple, and what was revealed to Simeon and Anna that informs our understanding of who Jesus is and the scope of his mission. We are glad you are joining us for worship, and pray that you will be spiritually renewed and socially reoriented as we move through the coming weeks of Epiphany!

Today in worship, we celebrate the Sacrament of Communion also known as the Eucharist, a commemoration of Jesus' last supper with his disciples. Our communion bread is gluten-free and the cup is grape juice so that all who wish to partake of the sacrament may do so.

Sunday School! Join us as we explore Bible stories and all our questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the world around us. Children begin worship in the Sanctuary with their families then following the Blessing for Young Disciples, we move to our Sunday School classes upstairs in the Bliss House.

If your child is participating in Sunday School, please fill out this very short form so that we have up-to-date family contact numbers, and you can provide us with any information about your child that will help us minister to them: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/2024SundaySchoolStudents>

Adults or older teens who want to come be part of the fun of Sunday School, we need you! Join us and bring your own sense of wonder and joy as we learn together what it means to be part of God's big family. Let us know of your interest by filling out this form: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/Teachers2024-25>, or reach out to Steph Hare – stephanie@fpcnc.org.

FPCNC also offers **childcare during our Sunday Service** provided by Saturnina Greeves and Lizz Reyes from Wee Care Nanny Agency. Our Nursery is located just off our Common Room vestibule down the long hall from the Sanctuary and is available between the hours of 8:45–11:30am. **Parental and guardian sign-in is required and we do ask that you pick up your child promptly after the Service.**

Have a prayer request? We are called to pray without ceasing... In addition to receiving prayers during the service with the microphone, our **prayer box** offers the opportunity to submit handwritten prayer requests at any time. The box is in the back of the church adjacent to the Sanctuary entrance. Any prayer requests will be brought into the Sanctuary for worship by the Ushers. These requests will be included in our Prayers of the People for that Sunday. You will have the option to exclude your prayer from the communal prayer if you prefer. All prayers will be held and prayed over in confidence. Any questions or concerns, please contact Stacy (sarevalo@fpcnc.org).

TODAY IN WORSHIP (Cont'd)

Our **Welcome Table** is available each week as a resource for you to ask questions and learn about different ways to be involved in the life of this congregation, including music, study, fellowship, prayer and service opportunities in the church and community. Feel free to stop by after worship during Coffee Hour.



Our **COMMUNITY** is growing! Honoring the Session-adopted theme of COMMUNITY for 2025, the installation on the "chapel" wall of the Sanctuary continues to grow showing our church community and the communities to which we reach out: Covenant House, Pacific House, ABC, and the Pacific Presbyterian Church affected by the fires, to name a few. Come up close and find these and perhaps your name! Our prayers are inspired by these reminders! *Jan Lucie, Chair WMA*

Cents-Ability – The Cents-ability jar is in the hallway on the way to the Common Room. Please drop your spare change into the jar either on the way to Coffee Hour or whenever you're at church. You can also take home a small cents-ability bank to collect change. All change collected will be donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry. Thank you for your awareness and generous response to hunger. ***Update: for 2024 we collected \$362 which we will be sending to the NC Food Pantry at St. Marks. Keep your spare change coming.***



ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

All of this morning's music is composed by **Herbert Norman Howells** (1892-1983), an English composer, organist, and teacher, most famous for his large output of Anglican church music. Howells began music lessons in 1905 with Herbert Brewer, the Organist of Gloucester Cathedral, and at sixteen became his articulated pupil at the Cathedral. In 1912, Howells moved to London to study at the Royal College of Music, where his teachers included Charles Villiers Stanford, Hubert Parry and Charles Wood. In 1917, he became Assistant Organist at Salisbury Cathedral. In 1920 he joined the staff of the Royal College of Music, where he was to remain until 1979. The post at the RCM, which, from 1925 he combined with the position of Director of Music at St Paul's Girls' School, and frequent work as a competition adjudicator, was to reduce the amount of time he could devote to composition; but he continued to write orchestral and chamber music. From the late 1930s, Howells turned increasingly to choral and organ music. A set of Four Anthems, originally titled *In Time of War* and including *O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem* – heard today – followed in early 1941. In August of that year, Howells was invited to serve as acting Organist of St John's College, Cambridge, replacing Robin Orr who was away on active service in World War II. Herbert Howells died on 23 February 1983 at the age of 90 and his ashes were interred in Westminster Abbey.

TODAY

FPCNC invites you to participate in our 3rd Annual Souper Bowl of Caring* TODAY after worship. We love the big game, but we love our neighbors more. An estimated 111 million people watch the Big Game while 53 million Americans struggle with hunger. Don't sit on the sidelines. Join us in making a difference in our community!

Following worship, we will serve a soup lunch in the common room. Drop a donation in the specially marked stock pot and enjoy some delicious soup and fellowship. Last year we had 8 different soups! Can't stay? Your donation can also get you a frozen pint of soup to go. Suggested donation is \$5 per pint. All donations will be given to The Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County. **Last year we raised \$1,022!**




**About TACKLE HUNGER: Home of the Souper Bowl of Caring. Tackle Hunger's signature Souper Bowl of Caring effort is a youth-inspired movement working across the nation to tackle hunger in their local communities. Mobilizing grassroots resources including churches, schools, civic groups and caring individuals, Tackle Hunger and the Souper Bowl of Caring movement has created over \$175 million worth of support that stays completely local to make sure no one goes without soup in their bowl.*


TODAY

SMALL SPACE SERIES The magic of live music in unique and intimate settings

Sunday, February 2 at 3:00pm
The First Presbyterian Church Library of New Canaan



ORCHESTRA
LUMOS
Michael Stern
MUSIC DIRECTOR



MYSTERIES OF IDENTITY


A musical exploration of how we define ourselves, culturally, personally and spiritually.

Musical selections including

- Robert Schumann
- Manuel De Falla
- Ralph Vaughan Williams

and more

Five Stücke in Volkston – 1st movement *All is Vanity*
Siete canciones populares españolas
Six Studies in English Folk Song



Caroline Stinson, cello
Ieva Jokubaviciute, piano

Click to Purchase Tickets

GENERAL ADMISSION \$45

OrchestraLUMOS.org
203-325-1407 x1

THIS WEEK – CONCERTS @ FPC



New Canaan Chamber Music

Andrew Armstrong, Artistic Director

Americans in Paris

February 6 at 3:00 pm | February 7 at 7:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

[CLICK TO PURCHASE TICKETS](#)



Mak Grgić, guitar
Orion Weiss, piano



Andrew Armstrong, piano



WEEKLY/MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Bible Reading – Sunday mornings at 9:00am in the Parlor

We meet each week as a community of believers to read through the Bible, using the Lectionary as our guide. Please reach out to Stacy (sarevalo@fpcnc.org) with any questions.

Wednesday Weekly Bible Studies, led by Darlene Harmon, meets **every Wednesday at 10:00am**. The focus of the study is the Apostle Paul and his three missionary journeys in the book of Acts to spread the Good News about the life and teachings of Jesus to Gentiles. Please come at 9:45am to share a cup of tea or coffee. We hope you can come join us! Everyone is invited!

THE MEN'S GATHERING normally meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month via Zoom at 7:00am. Come and join us for a virtual but very real fellowship and learning experience. The 2nd Wednesday of each month typically focuses on a Bible Study topic led by Scott Herr or Bob Aldag (this year we are focusing on some of the more famous parables of Jesus). The 4th Wednesday of each month provides a reflection from a man of our congregation on part of their spiritual journey or a topic that is of interest to them. All men are welcome and feel free to invite any friends. We look forward to you joining us on Wednesdays at 7:00am! Any questions, please reach out to the office, Mark Magnusen mmagnusen@yahoo.com or Scott scott@fpcnc.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Coffee Concert – save the date... Our next Coffee Concert will feature Henry Tate and take place after Worship on Sunday, March 2 in the Sanctuary.



Coffee Concert



MISSION & OUTREACH

As we enter a new year, there are many new needs and upcoming opportunities. We strive to be a church that donates a minimum of 10% to outreach efforts.

The need for tremendous assistance continues with the **fires in California**. We have made a \$5,000 donation to **Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church** (<https://www.palipres.org/>) who lost their building, and of course most of the homes, schools, businesses, and medical offices in their area.

If you would like to make a personal donation, please do so or consider one of the following charities:



First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica: www.fpcsantamonica.org

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Wild Fire Fund: <https://pcusa.org/donate/dr000165-us-wildfires>

The American Red Cross: <https://www.redcross.org/about-us/our-work/disaster-relief/wildfire-relief.html>

Americares: www.americares.org

World Central Kitchen: <https://wck.org/news/first-alert-ca-fires-jan25>

(Animals) California Wildlife Emergency Disaster Response Fund: <https://www.worldanimalprotection.us/>

Many of us have family and friends who have been impacted. We understand the magnitude of their loss and how in a moment's notice their lives have changed. They will need our support. Anyone who has suffered a tragedy knows that watching the event unfold can cause heightened anxiety and stress, as well as a feeling of helplessness. We encourage you to take care of yourselves by limiting exposure to ongoing news reports. If you have children, reassure them that they are safe while also validating their concerns.

In an effort to provide support, we have received resources from the nonprofit organization **VOICES** to help you cope with the emotional toll of this crisis. VOICES provides long-term support and resources that promote mental health care and wellness, for victims' families, responders, survivors, and families of those who have died of 9/11 related illnesses; and assists communities in preparing for and recovering from tragedy.

VOICES Resources

Tip Sheets Following Traumatic Events: <https://voicescenter.org/tip-sheets/trauma>

The Ripple Effect of Trauma: <https://voicescenter.org/videos/ripple-effect-trauma>

Mindful Moment Meditation: <https://voicescenter.org/videos/mindful-moment-meditation>

Additional Resources

National Child Traumatic Stress Network: <https://www.nctsn.org/>

SAMHSA Disaster Distress Hotline (800-985-5990): <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/helplines/disaster-distress-helpline>

FEMA: <https://www.fema.gov/>

MISSION & OUTREACH (Cont'd)

January 26 Adult Forum

Jamie Boris, Executive Director of **ABC House** in New Canaan, spoke last Sunday, January 26. A generous congregant made a \$10,000 donation to ABC House. This goes under our church outreach to care for children at risk. We are so grateful! If you want to add to that amount, please write your check to FPC with the memo notation "ABC House" and we will add it to the donation.

New Covenant House (NCH)

Please use sign-up genius to pick a month to assist. Always looking for others to pick up food at Costco the Wednesday or Thursday before that Saturday. It takes about 90 minutes to pick up and take to NCH so keep that in mind, too. You can use Instacart for some items to save time. **March 1, April 5, May 3 – What's needed: 2-3 cooks and 2-4 servers.** For more information, please reach out to Cindy Graziano c_graziano@msn.com or Wendy in the church office.

Signup Genius for NCH: (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A44A5AE28A7FF2-newcovenant>)

Other Spring Donations: We will be making a donation to Pacific House for \$1,000 in March, recognizing their need for mattresses at their shelter. Our *March Mattress* donation of \$1,000 goes a long way for new mattresses and/or sheets and towels.

Stop by and buy soup at **Souper Bowl of Caring** today. These funds will be given to The Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County.

We are also looking at a mission trip in the summer...interested? More to come!

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."

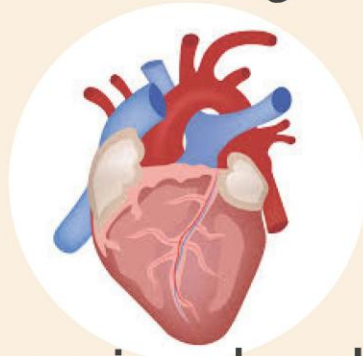
Thanks for planting seeds this month!

Monthly Coffee Talks with the Health Dept

This month is...

Heart Health

Get to know your heart



Heart disease is a leading cause of death in the United States. Join the New Canaan Health Department for an informational discussion where you will learn the different warning signs of a heart condition for men and women, how to prevent an event from happening, and what to do if you are experiencing one.

Friday, February 14th, at 11 am

Lapham Center in the Art Room
Free with Coffee and Treats

To register, call 203-594-3620

New Canaan Health Department

Free Tax Return Preparation

Feb 1, 2025 - April 15, 2025



No age, income, or residency restrictions

Stamford Government Center, 888 Washington Blvd 4th fl.
Mon and Thurs 10 - 4:30 PM (no appointment needed)

Stamford Harry Bennett Library, 115 Vine Road
Mon and Wed 10 - 3 (no appointment needed)

Stamford Weed Memorial Library, 1143 Hope St.
Sat 10 - 2 (no appointment needed)

Greenwich Library, 101 W. Putnam Ave.
Sat 9:30 - 1:30 (no appointment needed)



New Canaan Lapham Comm Center in Waveny Park, 677 South Ave.
Wed 10 - 3 **by appointment only. Call (203) 674-9336**



Bring Social Security Card or ITIN proof for each household member, Gov't issued photo ID, and last year's federal and state returns.

Bring tax documents, details of extra income/expenses, and bank account number or a check for direct deposit/payment

For complete and up-to-date information, including days/times, what to bring and what returns can NOT be prepared, go to <https://taxaidegreaterstamford.org/> or scan this QR code





WILTON CANDLELIGHT CONCERTS
presents the second concert of our 77th season

American Brass Quintet

February 9, 2025


Kevin Cobb, trumpet, Brandon Ridenour, trumpet
Eric Reed, horn, Hillary Simms, trombone
John D. Rojak, bass trombone

The Quintet will offer a varied program ranging from Baroque to contemporary, including commissioned works. The Times of London described their playing as having "a range of color and sound that was astonishingly rich and varied."



Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. at the Wilton Congregational Church
located at 70 Ridgefield Road (Route 33), Wilton CT 06897.

Tickets available at the door or at our website www.wiltoncandlelightconcerts.com
General admission \$30; students FREE. 203-417-7203



NAVIGATOR
Alzheimer's at Home for New Canaan


Providing support and guidance to those impacted by Alzheimer's in New Canaan

All Communications Confidential

- » Personal Alzheimer's Navigation Specialists
- » 24/7 accessibility
- » Complimentary grant based program
- » Exclusive respite apartment
- » Access to adult day programming
- » Assistance with trusted affiliated resources outside of the Waveny Network
- » Wellness checks
- » Alzheimer's-specific caregiver support groups
- » Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- » Dedicated mobile app

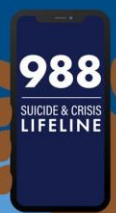
Contact us for a consultation
Phone: 203-594-5289
Email: Navigator@waveny.org

In collaboration with



**NEW CANAAN
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

**SAVE THE NUMBER
SAVE A LIFE
CALL OR TEXT 988**



Add this number to your phone now.
It could save a life later.

nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention

Save the number, save a life. Add the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988) to your phone now—it could save a life later. Trained crisis counselors are available to talk 24/7/365.

**NEW CANAAN
Behavioral Health
ALLIANCE**

Finding the right behavioral health support for yourself, family member or a friend can feel overwhelming. The New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance (NCBHA) is excited to announce the launch of its website. New Canaan Human Services, NCCF and Silver Hill Hospital have partnered with over 30 local agencies and organizations to encourage, develop and support a greater community awareness of behavioral health issues and resources in our area. To talk directly to someone that can help navigate available resources, or just to see what behavioral health events are happening around the area, visit www.newcanaanbha.org.

Support for domestic violence victims is available through the holidays.



24-hour Hotline: (203) 588-9097
CT Safe Connect 24-hour Hotline: (888) 774-2900 (call/text)

Main Business Line: (203) 588-9100
www.dvccct.org

Our services are free and confidential, multilingual and multicultural. Help is available.

DVCC is the only state-certified domestic violence agency recognized by the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) serving the communities of Norwalk, Stamford, New Canaan, Darien, Westport, Weston and Wilton.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your hearts.

New prayers and concerns: family of Nancy Helle who died January 25; family of John Lowry, Jr. who died January 27.


Continued prayers and concerns: Tim and Kate Albert (friends of the Holden family); David Altchek undergoing medical treatments (Charles Altchek's father); Prayers of healing for Andy (Steph Hare's friend); Audrey (Jessica Lister's grandmother) fell and broke her hip/leg and is recovering from surgery; Judy and Tom Duncan (Lisa Flanagan's parents); Kip Farrell - recovering from hip surgery; Peter Findlay (Mimi Findlay's brother-in-law); Amy Granato (Julie Fowler's sister); Dan Hodges; Barbara Holt (friend of Nancy LaBadie); David Johnson (Elsbeth Johnson's son); Denise Lynch; Mary (Barbara Wentzel's sister); Mark Martelle (friend of Maxine Gaddis) diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease; Sandy Nissley; Marlene Powers; Nancy Russell (Linda Martin's sister) who is suffering from lung failure and awaiting a lung transplant; Joan Scherman (Mark Magnusen's friend); Charlie Stewart (Jim Riehl's brother-in-law) who's in hospice; Kathy Ullerich (Wendy Starr's friend); the Abo Noktah family (the Syrian family FPCNC sponsored): father Khaldoun, mother Khawla Alzob, daughters Hanin, Zain and Hayat, and sons Yaman and Ahmed, and Khaldoun's mother, Nam Abo Noktah.

We continue to pray for the families and friends of the victims who have been affected by gun violence.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is our presence around the world when disasters happen. Through them we are on the ground around the world, responding to the enormous needs following wildfires, hurricanes and earthquakes and during war.

PSNE Community Prayer: For Noroton Presbyterian Church, its Members, Session, Seekers, and the Community of Darien, CT.

GROW IN FAITH

 **SILVER HILL HOSPITAL** If you know of someone in urgent need of mental health support, please remember the resource that our town has in the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. The town, in partnership with Silver Hill Hospital, is prepared to offer psychiatric assessment and tailored referral for ongoing care. The Program serves children, teens and adults who are New Canaan residents free of charge. To schedule an intake call, email NCUA@silverhillhospital.org or call Silver Hill Hospital admissions at 1-866-542-4455 and indicate that you are asking about the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. For more details use this link: <https://silverhillhospital.org/new-canaan-urgent-assessment-program/>

Pastoral Care Team: Do you know of someone who needs a visitor or a phone call? Our congregation is fortunate to have a team of people who are ready to reach out to church members who are facing a life crisis. They may be in declining health, shut-ins, living in a care facility, grieving, or struggling with a significant change in their circumstances. Our Pastoral Care Team, made up of Stacy Arevalo, Peg Bull, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, and The Rev. Mary Thies, is ready to provide pastoral care to church members who are dealing with such a situation. If you know of someone who could benefit from this ministry or if you have questions about the work of the team, please call the church office 203-966-0002 (ext 1).



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

CALENDAR – UPCOMING WEEK

SUNDAY, February 2

9 am Weekly Bible Reading (Parlor)
9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Sunday Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am Souper Bowl of Caring Fundraiser
3 pm Orchestra Lumos Concert

MONDAY, February 3

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
7 pm Purple Heather Dancers

TUESDAY, February 4

9:30 am St. A's Walking with a Purpose
9:30, 10:30, 11:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
9:30am – 2:30pm Staff Leadership Offsite Planning Mtg
8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, February 5

10 am Weekly Bible Studies
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
4:30 pm English Handbells Rehearsal

THURSDAY, February 6

3 pm NC Chamber Music Concert
3:30 pm Special Church (Tate Barn)
7 pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, February 7

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
7:30 pm NC Chamber Music Concert

SATURDAY, February 8

9:15 am A.A. Group (closed)
10:30 am A.A. Group (open)

SUNDAY, February 9

9 am Weekly Bible Reading (Parlor)
9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Sunday Worship
11:15 am Coffee Hour

CALENDAR – JANUARY–FEBRUARY

Wed, Feb. 19, 6:00pm

Saturday, Feb. 22, 4:00pm

Sunday, Feb. 23, 11:15am

Saturday, March 1, 2-6pm

Sunday, March 2, 11:30am

Wednesday at the Well

Charis Chamber Voices Concert

FPC Annual Meeting of the Congregation

New Covenant House (NCH) – prep and serve dinner

Coffee Concert (in Sanctuary immediately following worship)

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

The First Presbyterian Church Choir

with:

Lisa Flanagan – soprano, Jamie Ratcliffe – alto, Nikolas Brannan – tenor, Cliff Townsend – bass

Greeters: Sue Sherwood and Jennifer Van de Graaf

Lay Readers: Armin Thies, Stephanie Hare and Stacy Arevalo

Ushers: Jim Ely and Bob Spangler

Cross Bearer: Armin Thies

Communion Preparer: Mary Lee Lesko

Communion Servers: Stephen Caird, Nancy Reichart and Armin Thies

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

The Reverend Dr. R. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor • The Reverend Mary Marple Thies, Parish Associate

OUR STAFF

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts • Stephanie L. Hare, Director of Family Ministries

Stacy Arevalo, Director of Pastoral Care, Adult Discipleship and Spiritual Formation

Jim Riehl, Business Administrator • Wendy Starr, Office Manager • Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers

SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

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