



The Congregational Chatter

January 2019



Musings From Tom...

Happy New Year! I hope you had a blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year's celebration.

Things slow down just a bit this month as we enter our New Year.

Highlights for this month include the following:

The Caretakers' Support Group will meet at 9 am on Saturday, January 12. This is open to all who are caring for elderly relatives or friends who are largely dependent upon you for care and emotional support and well-being.

Our budget hearing will occur after worship on January 20, and our annual meeting, will be held after a brief worship service on January 27. If a snowstorm closes the church on either of those days, the budget hearing will slide to January 27 and the annual meeting to February 3. A soup lunch will be held after the annual meeting, put on by those participating in the Seeds of Hope program. Committee chairs are requested to have their annual reports in to the church office by Tuesday, January 15.

Teens for Lunch will be held in the lounge during the annual meeting luncheon. This is open to all youth in grade seven and up. We will be enjoying the soups and desserts provided at the annual meeting luncheon. We will catch up with how Christmas vacation was, and talk about things like winter sports, school activities or whatever else comes up!

Men's Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22 at 5:30 at Marlborough Pizza. This fun evening is available to any men in the church. If you would like to attend, please let me know so I can make accurate reservations. These evenings are great, and not too costly for a night out!

We begin our Supper Club program again this year with a potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall beginning at 6 pm. At that gathering plans will be made for future events.

Finally, Lois and I thank you for all the cards and greetings that we received from you this year. You helped make our holidays very special!

Peace and blessings in this New Year!

Tom

EPIPHANY SERVICE **SUNDAY, January 6th**

The Deacons will be leading worship with a Christmas carol sing.

(Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, January 13.)

News from our wonderful, loving, supportive ladies group:

In December we shared a meal, laughs, white elephant gift exchange, and raised \$175, which will be doubled by a generous employer to a total of **\$350, for Cystic Fibrosis** in honor of Jonathan Miller (*Jill's son*). We gather once a month on the second Monday. Please contact Kim Clouser for details – we would love to have you join us!

Thanks!, KIM clsfrnk@aol.com

CARING for AGING PARENTS

Support Group for Caregivers
Saturday, January 12th
9am-10:30am in the lounge

OPEN to the public.

All are welcome ~ Bring a friend!

Coffee, refreshments and
a shoulder to lean on provided.

**The Congregational Church of
East Hampton, Connecticut, Inc.**

**WARRANT FOR THE
270th ANNUAL MEETING**

To the members of The Congregational Church of
East Hampton:

You are hereby notified that the annual meeting of
the Congregational Church of East Hampton,
Connecticut, will be held on Sunday morning,
January 27, 2019, at the conclusion of a brief
worship service. We will meet in the sanctuary to
transact the following items of business:

ARTICLE I To receive the reports of the church
officers.

ARTICLE II To receive the reports of various
church organizations.

ARTICLE III To receive the report to the
Nominating Committee regarding
various vacancies and to elect the needed
officers for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE IV To act upon the proposed budget for
the period January 1, 2019 to December
31, 2019.

ARTICLE V To transact any other business that
may properly come before said meeting.

Note: In the event of a snowstorm, the meeting will
be moved to Sunday, February 3, 2019

BY ORDER OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Martin Bartel, Moderator

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEETING WE
WILL HAVE LUNCH IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

Middlesex Hospital is no longer able to notify
the church of a patient's presence in the hospital.
If you or a loved one is in the hospital, let the
person caring for you know that you wish to see
the hospital chaplain. They will be sure to see
you and make the call to let us know you are in
the hospital.



Thank you to everyone who has continued to
support *Seeds of Hope* by purchasing Christmas
Greens and Pre Paid Gift cards this holiday season.

**Stop & Shop cards will continue to be
available from Lisa on Sunday mornings.**

Please continue to bring your clean, bagged clothing
donations to the Shed, and bottles and cans to the
furnace room to be recycled. These on-going
fundraisers support our mission trips as well as help
others who may be in need.

Yarners Busy Season - The East Hampton Yarners
are making hats, mittens, and scarves for the Food
Bank and St. Vincent DePaul. We always need lap
robes, prayer shawls, chemo hats (for men and
women), prayer squares, baby things, crocheted or
knitted stuffed animals and dolls.



**We will meet on Thursdays,
January 3rd, 17th & 31st
10am-noon & 7-8:30pm**

Knitters & crocheters of all skill levels are invited!

Please contact Judy Hoffhine at jhoffhine@gmail.com
or 860-365-0327 for more information.



LADIES GATHERING!

Is anyone interested in hosting?

Please contact Kim Clouser

765-714-1501 or clsfrnk@aol.com



The next Men's Night Out dinner will be held on
**Tuesday, January 22nd, at 5:30 at Marlborough
Pizza.** This dinner is open to all and any men of the
church who would like get together for stories, good
conversation and food! If you would like to attend,
please tell the pastor so he can make reservations.

THE SUPPER CLUB

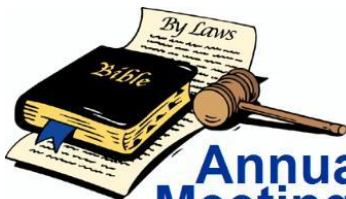
**Kick-off Potluck
Saturday, January 26th at
6:00pm**

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you are interested in taking part in the Spring Supper Club. This is a great way to meet new people, get to know other church members better and have a fun time with other adults from our church family.

Bring a dish to share to the Kick-off Evening and we will make our plans. All adult couples or singles are welcome!

*If you have an idea for something new,
please let Lisa know.*

**Sign up in Fellowship Hall by Wednesday
January 23rd,
call the office at 860-267-4959 or contact
Lisa at 860-918-1170 or
laarrestad@comcast.net**



Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 27, 2019



Join us on Sunday, January 27th for our annual Souper Bowl Lunch following the Annual Meeting Worship Service.

**Homemade Soups, Bread & Desserts
will be provided by
Seeds of Hope members.**

Teens For Lunch



Students in grades 7 through high school are invited to our casual once a month Sunday lunches held in the lounge once a month after worship.

**Our next gathering will be January 27
during the annual meeting luncheon.**

If the church is closed because of a snowstorm, the event will occur on February 3.



Thank you to the Deacons and anyone else who helped to decorate the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season. And also to those who moved and set up the Crèche. It all looked beautiful!

A very special thank you to Anita Guerin for producing and directing the children's Christmas Pageant. It was fabulous! **And thank you to the children and parents** for attending practice, learning your lines, practicing the songs and performing so beautifully!

Thank you Winnie Carillo and Patti Burdick for bringing back the Plum Pudding and to all the volunteers who set up and organized the Pot Luck lunch following the pageant. Great job!

As we end 2018 and begin a new year, let me extend one final thank you to all the church mice who take care of all the little and big things that need attention throughout the year. Most of the time we don't even know you've been scurrying around but ***you are so very appreciated!!***

East Hampton Human Services

Social Services is now scheduling appointments for the **Connecticut Energy Assistance Program**. This program is designed to offset winter heating costs.

Please call the Case Manager, Christine Wiesner at 860-267-7300 ext. 208 to schedule your appointment.



COSA Corner

COSA wants to thank everyone in helping with the gifts for the Middletown DCF and the East Hampton Food Bank for the holidays. All the tags were fulfilled and everything was dropped off. They were very so grateful for everyone's generosity. Thank you Nancy and Alan for their help delivering the goodies and much more!

COSA will be hosting the annual blood drive in April! Keep on the lookout for more information!

If you are interested in being part of the committee please be in touch with a member! We love new members and new ideas!

Happy New Year!!!

Lily, Julie, Martha, Alka, Alan, Anita,
Jackie and Winnie



Let Lisa Aarrestad know if you or someone you know of from our church is in need of helping hands (860-918-1170).

Or call the office (860-267-4959) so we can arrange for meals, rides, help with simple household tasks or just come by and visit!



A Note from our Building & Grounds Committee:

It's time the church becomes more environmentally conscious.

Unfortunately, a recycling dumpster is not in the budget at this time. So our plan is to have a recycling station in Fellowship Hall.

There will be space to collect ALL your recyclables; plastic, glass, food cans, foil, and paper, of course. Deposit bottles and cans will still be collected for *Seeds of Hope*. Church members will need to take recyclables home to put in their BLUE barrels.

This will have to be a team effort. But it won't be difficult if everyone pitches in and the benefits for our beautiful Earth will be.....PRICELESS.



Please sign up to provide a baked good to share during coffee hour. Purchase an item or share a home-made treat such as cookies, bars, breads... whatever you like. Your participation will make coffee hour pleasant and inviting to our members and friends!



PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Email Lisa Aarrestad at
laarrestad@comcast.net

or call 860-918-1170

to have a prayer concern listed for our "pray-ers".

Let Lisa know if you would like to be added to our group and a bi-monthly or as-needed list of prayer concerns can be emailed to you.

Prayer is a powerful way to connect with God during the good or difficult times in life.



43 West High Street
(860) 365-5978

Mon. & Thurs. 9am - noon

Generous Community,

We would like to take a moment in this season of giving and say thank you for your support throughout the year.

You make it possible for us to serve hundreds of our neighbors in need.

There are no current needs and will be looking for your support again in February.

Wishing you all a peaceful holiday season.

*Very sincerely,
Deb, Food Bank volunteer*



Book Share ~ For a \$1 donation you can take a book. Please leave donated books on the shelf located in the hallway outside of Fellowship Hall – if there is space.


(limit of 3 – gently used, appropriate content only)

Do Not leave books in boxes or on the floor.

*Sponsored by our Music Committee.
Proceeds will be used to purchase new sheet music.*

Looking Ahead:

Mark these two upcoming events on your calendar:


of East Hampton
and Live Auction!
Saturday, February 23rd
2:00 – 4:00pm

Easter Services
Sunday, April 21, 2019
Sunrise Service, 7am
(Sears Park)
Morning Worship Service, 10am


RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE
Saturday, April 20th
8am-1pm
Sponsored by COSA


3rd Annual
Seeds of Hope
10K / 5K / 2-mile Fun Run/Walk
at the Airline Trail in East Hampton
SATURDAY, APRIL 27th
Registration: 7:15am / Race/Walk: 9:00am



A Simple, Generous Choice ~ *Electronic Giving*

Electronic Funds Transfer

(Direct debit from your checking or savings account)

Now available at the Congregational Church of East Hampton

Participate Today.

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church.

Open your heart without opening your checkbook

Electronic Giving is the term used to describe automatic methods for making contributions on a regular basis without the need to write checks, carry cash or prepare envelopes.

Frequently Asked Questions About Direct Debit Giving

Q. What are the major advantages of electronic giving by direct debit?

A. Direct debit is all about convenience for you and consistency for the church. Electronic giving eliminates frequent check writing and helps members stay on track with pledges even when they are unable to attend services. The church in turn benefits from much-needed donation consistency and a reduction in the volume of check and cash contributions that must be handled and manually processed in the church office.

Q. How does Direct Debit Giving work?

A. Contributions are transferred automatically from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Q. How are my automatic contributions deducted and transferred?

A. First, you sign and return an authorization form to the church indicating the amount you wish to contribute on a regular basis. Contributions are then transferred through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network—the same network already used by families to make mortgage and utility payments or to receive payroll earnings and Social Security income. Direct debit goes by other names including Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), automatic payment, or simply, ACH.

Q. When will my contribution be debited from my account?

A. A debit to your account will occur each month on the date you specify on your authorization form.

Q. How will I keep track of contributions in my check register?

A. Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions will appear on your bank statement.

Q. What can I use to prove I made a contribution?

A. Your bank statement will show an itemized list of electronic transactions that can be used as proof of your contributions.

Q. Is giving by direct debit risky?

A. It is certainly less risky than writing checks or carrying cash to church. To process electronic donations, the church uses Vanco Services, LLC—an established and highly-regarded company that moves funds directly from church members to the church on the same day without any delay. Vanco processes contributions for more than 10,000 churches and nonprofit organizations.

Q. How much does direct debit giving cost?

A. It costs you nothing and it costs the church very little. It is the lowest cost method of transferring funds.

Q. What if I try electronic giving by direct debit and don't like it?

A. You can cancel your authorization at any time by notifying the church.

Q. How can I sign up for electronic giving by direct debit?

A. Complete, sign and return the authorization form on the following page to the church office.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

Congregational Church of East Hampton

UCC080570

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE
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Effective date of authorization: _____		
Type of Authorization Form:	<input type="checkbox"/> New Authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date	<input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation
Last Name		First Name
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email Address		
Please debit my donation from my: (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below) <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #)		Routing Number: _____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: _____ <small>C 1234567890 123 1234567 0001 Routing Number Account Number Check Number</small>
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____	FREQUENCY OF DONATION: (check only one) <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Monthly – 1 st and 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th	FUNDS AND AMOUNTS: <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____
AGREEMENT I authorize the above church to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization. Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____		

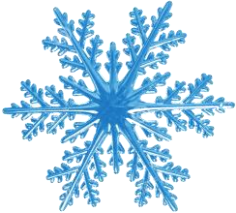


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**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



The DEADLINE for submissions to
the FEBRUARY 2017 issue of
The Congregational Chatter
is **Tuesday, January 29th**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 	2 AA – 8pm	3 Yarners 10am & 7pm Scout Parents & Leaders, 7pm Choirs: Bell 6pm Adult 7:10pm	4	5
6 Epiphany Hymn Sing, 10am AA – 8pm	7 Webelos, 6:30pm	8 Church Council, 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7pm (FH)	9 AA – 8pm	10 Choirs: Bell 6pm Adult 7:10pm	11	12 Caregiver Support Group 9am
13 Communion Worship, 10am Deacons, 11:30am AA – 8pm	14 Wolves, 6-7pm (FH)	15 Annual Report Deadline Boy Scouts 7pm (FH)	16 Lions, 6:30pm AA – 8pm	17 Yarners 10am & 7pm Choirs: Bell 6pm Adult 7:10pm	18	19
20 Worship, 10am Budget Hearing COSA, 11:30am AA – 8pm	21	22 Men's Night Out, 5:30pm Marl. Pizza Boy Scouts 7pm (FH)	23 AA – 8pm	24 Choirs: Bell 6pm Adult 7:10pm	25	26 Pinewood Derby, 8am-2pm Supper Club 6pm
27 Worship, 10am Annual Meeting Souper Bowl Lunch Teens for Lunch Boy Scout Council, 7pm AA – 8pm	28 Boy Scout Pack Meeting, 7pm (FH)	29 Newsletter Deadline Boy Scouts 7pm (FH)	30 AA – 8pm	31 Yarners 10am & 7pm Choirs: Bell 6pm Adult 7:10pm		

The Congregational Church East Hampton
59 Main Street, P.O. Box 237, East Hampton, Connecticut 06424
860-267-4959 / cceh@juno.com
Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 8am-noon

