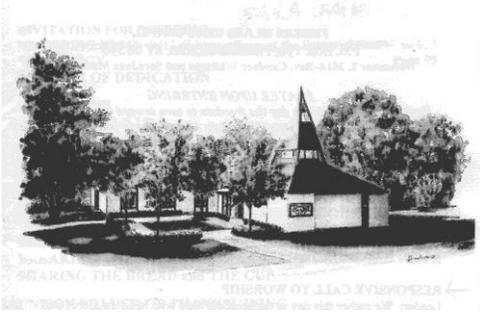


FISHERS ISLAND UNION CHAPEL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
821 CRESCENT AVENUE, P.O. BOX 192
FISHERS ISLAND, NEW YORK 06390

*"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here."*



CHAPEL HAPPENINGS

JULY – AUGUST 2015

The sea is his, for he made it. And the dry land, which his hands have formed. – Psalm 95:5

Dear Friends,

Fishers Island has come to life. The landscape is lush, the beaches inviting, boats are buzzing and as I write there are cars lined up for The Thrift Shop. It is glorious!

But as Fishers Island has come to life, there are places where life needs to come to Fishers Island. Over the winter it came to my attention that we have hungry families among our year-round population. In addition to food insecurity some struggle to pay their utility bills.

This summer I am working with a small team of people to strategize ways to help meet these needs. One way is to solicit donations to my discretionary fund, which would enable me to maintain confidentiality in assisting families. We are also looking into other support available and to collaborate with other churches and Island organizations.

At Union Chapel, we are concerned about the spiritual life of our island, and *quality* of life is a key part of that. I know many join me in realizing this assistance needs to be part of a longer term effort to revitalize our beloved island.

God's abundance is so evident now in the beauty of our surroundings. May God's love also be in abundance as we reach out this year to our neighbors. And may you be blessed and refreshed wherever you are this summer!

Shalom,
Candy

(If you would like to help islanders through my discretionary fund, simply make out a check to Union Chapel with "Islanders for Islanders" in the memo line. On behalf of islanders, many thanks for your support.)



BEACH CHURCH

New for summer 2015! Union Chapel will hold an informal service at 8:00 am at Dock Beach Sundays in July. Bring a chair and enjoy worship surrounded by the beauty of nature. Thanks to all the people who are teaming up to get the word out and help with logistics. Regular worship at 10 am in the sanctuary will continue throughout the summer. - CW

**Union Chapel is now on line!
Check out our new website at**

www.fiunionchapel.com.www.fiunionchapel.com.

The website was designed by Beth Jepsen of Insite Design, Ilc.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, August 9 at 3:30 pm

ALL ARE INVITED

Candy's Installation Service will take place Sunday, August 9, at 3:30 pm at Union Chapel. The celebration of our covenant relationship will be followed by refreshments.

Volunteers would be greatly appreciated to host guests from off island by providing transportation to and from the ferry, and giving them a brief tour or a stop on the beach!



June 19, 2015

Hello from Venice, FL!

I trust all of you are well into the summer rhythms of Fishers Island. I arrived June 2 to serve as summer pastor for Venice United Church of Christ after a whirlwind of graduation events, moving preparations and travel to CT for a break, which I spent recuperating from a whopper of a cold rather than visiting folks! To say the least, I was disappointed to lose my window of opportunity to come and visit and worship with you at Union Chapel. Thank you all for your congratulatory messages and healing prayers. I hope to be able to visit in September. So sorry I will miss all of you who are there for the summer only!

I will be serving here until August 25th, and then traveling back to CT to begin my hospital chaplaincy residency at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center for nine months until May, 2016. I have received a warm and hospitable welcome from the Venice congregation and have met several folks who have associations with Fishers Island. I feel blessed to be serving here. The next steps for me involve preparing my ordination paper and continuing the ordination candidacy process with the New London Association and the Connecticut Conference UCC.

Sending you wishes for a beautiful and blessed summer and continued joy in shared faith at Union Chapel, I remain,

Gratefully yours,

Nina



BIBLICAL QUESTIONS YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK

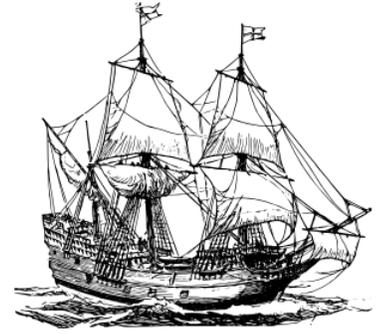
Have a question about church words or the Bible? Send it to Diane at fichapel@fishersisland.net and I will do my best to answer it! - Candy

Question:

Why do we sometimes see boats as a symbol for the church?

Answer:

A boat or ship served as a symbol for the Christian Church for people as early as the 4th century and quite probably earlier. The connection between the Church and a ship finds biblical warrant in the story of Noah and the ark (Genesis 6:13-8:19). Just as the ark protected Noah, his family and the animals from the chaotic waters of the Flood, so the Church protects the Christian community during its difficult voyage through the dangerous waters of living in the world.



That portion of the church building in which the people sit or stand is traditionally known as the *nave*. Most authorities suggest that this term means “ship” (from the Latin word “navis”). Others suggest that it may be a corruption of a similar Greek word meaning “temple.”

The biblical reference to Jesus using a boat as a pulpit (Luke 5:1-11) provides sufficient warrant for some pulpits to be built to resemble the captain’s bridge on a sailing ship.

Because St. Nicholas of Myra (the one on whom Santa Claus is based) is regarded as the patron saint of sailors, he is often depicted in art with either a boat or an anchor in the background.

Adapted from *Church Words* by Stephen E. Moore, published by Forward Movement.



Fishers Island Youth Group News



The Fishers Island Youth Group sold baked goods at the Spring Fair and raised \$235.00 to help refugees in South Sudan. They were inspired to send aid after seeing the film *The Good Lie* on a movie night. Thank you to all who supported their effort and encouraged them in their mission.

Their next goal is to organize a marine clean up on Saturday, August 29. The community will be invited to participate. To raise funds for this effort (gloves, prizes, refreshments, etc.) the group is planning a car wash on July 11 near the green in conjunction with the crafts fair. Justine Kibbe has graciously offered to advise the group as they plan for this marine clean up to enhance wildlife habitat and make the beaches more pleasant for humans.

The Fishers Island Youth Group is a community group led by the three year round churches. Their motto is "Dedicated to helping our local and global community." – CW

UNION CHAPEL CONTACTS

Church office phone #: (631) 788-7898

New email: fichapel1@gmail.com

www.fiunionchapel.org

Minister: Rev. Candace Whitman

Moderator: Susan Renna

Trustee Chairperson: Louisa Evans

Deacon Chairperson: Laura Edwards

Administrative Assistant: Diane Dexter



CHURCH BUSINESS HOURS

Monday, Thursday, Friday

10:00am – 1 pm

Tuesday – 10:00am – noon

Closed all other days



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

SOCIAL HOUR:

Diane Dexter

Laura Edwards

Sharon Patterson

Anita Fritze

Susie Renna

Ellen Parker

FLOWERS:

Laura Edwards

Susie Renna

Ellen Parker

CHAPEL HAPPENINGS MAILINGS:

A special thank you to our volunteer:

Mary Pankiewicz

UNION CHAPEL CALENDAR

JULY 2015

Sunday, July 5

8 am – Beach Church at Dock Beach

10 am - Communion Sunday

Monday, July 6

Noon – Ladies’ Potluck Luncheon

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Thursday, July 9

7 pm – Book Club at the Library

Friday, July 10

10 am Deacons’ meeting

Sunday, July 12

8 am – Beach Church at Dock Beach

10 am - Sunday Worship and Special collection for the Island needs Ministry; Guest organist – Glenn Orkney

4 pm Museum Lecture – “Homegrown Terror: Benedict Arnold and the Burning of New London”

Monday, July 13

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Sunday, July 19

8 am – Beach Church at Dock Beach

10 am - Sunday Worship

4 pm – Museum and Library Lecture at UC

5:30 – Island Concert at UC

Monday, July 20

1:00 pm – Trustees’ Meeting

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Sunday, July 26

8 am - Beach Church at Dock Beach

10 am – Sunday worship

4 pm - Museum Lecture “Venture Smith: Making Freedom”

Monday, July 27

4 pm – Bible Study at the parsonage

AUGUST 2015

Sunday, August 2

10 am – Communion Sunday

Guest organist Glenn Orkney

4 pm – Museum Lecture at UC

Monday, August 3

Noon – Ladies’ Potluck Luncheon

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Sunday, August 9

10 am – Worship Service and Special collection for the Island needs Ministry

3:30 pm – Installation of Rev. Candace Whitman with a reception to follow

Monday, August 10

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Thursday, August 13

7 pm – Book Club at the Library

Friday, August 14

10 am -Deacons’ Meeting

Sunday, August 16

10 am - Sunday Worship

Monday, August 17

1 pm – Trustees’ meeting

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Sunday, August 23

10 am - Sunday Worship

Monday, August 24

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

Sunday, August 30

10 am - Sunday Worship

Monday, August 31

4 pm – Bible Study at the Parsonage

The St. John’s Book Group meets every Friday at the Episcopal Rectory at 2:00 pm.

LIGHT THE STEEPLE MINISTRY

A soft light has been installed inside our “steeple” which is on a timer so that it is on from sunset to midnight. The Trustees invite you to “Light the Steeple” in honor of or in memory of a loved one by donating \$25 to Union Chapel. When you fill in and submit the form below, we will light the steeple on the appropriate week and print this remembrance in our newsletter.

LIGHT THE STEEPLE FORM

In Honor of or In Memory of (circle one)

Name _____

Given by _____

For the week of _____

Make check payable to and mail this form to: Fishers Island Union Chapel, P.O. Box 192, Fishers Island, NY 06390

THE STEEPLE WAS LIT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

MAY

- In Memory of Catherine Leslie - Given by Courtney, Jeff. Finlay & Tatum MacDonald
- In Celebration of Nina Schmid’s graduation from Eden Seminary – given by Nora Howard
- In Memory of Edith DuPont Riegel Pearson – given by Sandy Riegel

JUNE

- In Memory of Gunther Fritze - given by Anita Fritze
- In Memory of Nana and Pop – given by the Baldwin Family
- In memory of Andrew Knox Dwyer – given by Cindy Dwyer
- In Memory of Ranney Wyckoff – given by James and Laurie Carney
- In Memory of Herbert Ahlgren given by the McNamara Family

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Union Chapel Thrift Shop opened for the 2015 season Saturday, June 13 – a little later than usual – but it was a strong start! It was nice to see so many shoppers and we were delighted to see that everyone went away with a bargain.

Vi and Mary work Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11 am unpacking, sorting, cleaning and pricing donations. Together they work over 350 volunteer hours each season. Additional helpers at that time are welcome!

Thank you to our Thrift Shop angel who left a plastic storage container with a box of trash bags, rolls of paper towels, bottle of Windex and zip lock plastic bags. They were really needed and greatly appreciated.

If you are available to help with one of the following tasks, please get in touch with Mary or Vi!

- Taking unsalable items off island to Goodwill or the Salvation Army
- Taking plastic trash barrels Wednesdays at 11:00 am to the DUMP past the school (metals, woods, and anything not considered household garbage)
- Collecting paper bags with handles, egg cartons, paper towels, and cleaning supplies

More volunteers means a more successful shop. Won’t you consider helping?



June Food Drive: Thank you to all who contributed to our canned fruit drive. If you still wish to contribute, please bring your donations to the church during office hours.

**FISHERS ISLAND UNION CHAPEL
MEMORIAL DAY FAIR
A SUCCESS**

On Saturday, May 23, the church held its annual Memorial Day Fair. As usual, this type of function cannot be a success without the many volunteers who come. **A hearty thank you to all of you!**

Continuing the tradition, there was a food table filled with delicious creations, a lunch featuring Mary Pankiewicz's famous clam fritters (thank you, Mary), as well as homemade chicken salad and egg salad sandwiches.

In our one day raffle this year we had items donated by Laura Edwards (a beautiful handmade pillow) and Diane Dexter (three hand painted ornaments). In addition to these items we also started our October Fair raffle. Displayed was a beautiful painting by Charlie Ferguson that will be raffled off at the church's October Fair. (Raffle tickets can be purchased at the church office— see Diane Dexter) as well as at a table in front of the Post Office on Saturday mornings (weather permitting).

There were tables with homemade items by Mary Pankiewicz, Vi Meyer, and Diane Dexter; our minister Candace Whitman had some of her children's books for sale to benefit the church. In addition there was a table by our FI Youth Group selling home baked items to support the refugees of South Sudan and a table of students from the FI high school raising money for their class.

After everything was tallied up, the church made \$868.00. Again thank you for our volunteers and also those of you who supported this venture by coming to the fair.

**THE FISHERS ISLAND CHURCHES
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

This year the annual tournament was held on May 31st – a little later than usual due to the weather complications! Thank you to all who accommodated the change of date that was necessary. The committee (with volunteers from Union Chapel, Our Lady of Grace and St. John's), worked for several months putting together raffle items, auction items available for online bidding, getting on and off-island financial support, gift items for all of the 19 teams who played as well as lining up volunteers to help for the big day and raffle sales prior to the tournament

We thank the FI Fire Department for allowing the luncheon barbecue, the American Legion for the use of its facilities for the wrap-up dinner, raffle drawing and final auction bidding, and the Fishers Island Club for allowing the tournament to be held on its magnificent golf course . Checks will be given to the churches in July.



THINGS TO PONDER

Corduroy pillows are making headlines.

Dijon vu – the same mustard as before

Every morning is the dawn of a new error.

When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.

ADOPTED FAMILY

Several years ago as part of an outreach initiative it was decided to adopt a family. This was done through the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center who screens these families carefully. Funds for the program do not come from the Appeal and Capital Campaign donations, but through a special collection taken the second Sunday of every month. With those contributions a debit card is purchased and sent to the Center who then forwards it to the family.

For the past year we have been helping a family of five who lost everything in a house fire. We never know the family we are supporting, nor do they know us. Confidentiality is key to the success of the program. In addition to the monthly debit card we request a "wish list" for the holidays. Angels in our congregation do their best to grant these wishes. We almost always receive a note in return expressing their deep appreciation.

The best part of the program is that we help a family who is temporarily in crisis. The families we have previously supported were singles, parents, couples and children. These families want to become independent, go to school and get jobs. They are carefully monitored by Pawcatuck and once their situation improves they are removed from the adopted family list.

It has been so rewarding to assist these families and we extend our deepest gratitude to the congregation for their continuing generosity.

- Susie Renna

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Donate your old eyeglasses in the basket on the table in the Fellowship Room.

AA of Fishers Island meets Saturdays at 3 pm in the room near the altar at Our Lady of Grace.

Sing a Joyful Song

Come on Sundays to rehearse at 9:30 and join the magic choir.

Summer Worship

Notes



Glenn Orkney, our guest organist, returns July 12 and August 2. We look forward to Glenn gracing our worship again this summer.

Please be in touch with Diane if you would like to share your musical gifts with us during worship. Your participation is warmly welcomed!

Being "Living Stones" New Directions for Union Chapel

The leadership of Union Chapel gathered on June 5-6 and then again on June 22 to discuss new directions for our church. Rev. Sara Jane Munshower led the first weekend, providing us with a time of fellowship, worship, scripture study and group discussion. During our time together we developed a list of our core values and helped us identify our strengths, challenges, and opportunities.



Later in June the group reconvened to "build our spiritual house" in this time and place, based on the work of the previous meeting. Stay tuned for new events and programs that fulfill our role as a spiritual center for Fishers Island.

Please continue to pray for our church as it enters a new season of community and outreach. – CW



Wednesday School Celebrates at Dock Beach

The children celebrated their last day of church school in June with a scavenger hunt at Dock Beach. Laura Edwards gave them each a list of natural items to find as well as a hint about a special "sprite" hidden somewhere on the beach. Catherine Edwards brought ice cream cake, and the children shared what they liked about coming to church school. Hailey Myers raised her hand to make "a speech" and shared that she has been coming to church school for three years and never stopped.

Thank you to Laura Edwards for teaching this year, and for Dr. Barb's assistance. We are eager to find someone to take the lead this fall of this important program. Please get in touch with Candy if you or someone you know might be interested. – CW



GOING GREEN at UNION CHAPEL

Help us conserve our resources! Send us your email so we can send you Chapel Happenings electronically. (It comes in color when you read it on your computer!) Send your email to Diane at: fichapel1@gmail.com. Thank you.

UNION CHAPEL 2015 APPEAL

Please don't forget to send in your 2015 Appeal donation to Union Chapel. Your donation goes to help the Chapel operate on a day to day basis year round. We have an exciting new minister, Rev. Candace (Candy) Whitman, lots of new programs, and children going to summer camp. Come visit the Union Chapel. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

EXCITING EVENTS THIS SUMMER AT THE CHAPEL!

Union church is delighted to host a variety of island events in June and July. There will be a Museum Lecture on Sunday, July 12th at 4 pm – "Homegrown Terror: Benedict Arnold and the burning of New London." And don't miss Sunday, July 19th for a combined Museum-Library Lecture at 4 pm followed by an Island Concert at 5:30, featuring Tamsin Waley-Cohen, violinist.

Sunday, July 26 at UC, the Museum will be presenting a lecture "Venture Smith: Making Freedom".

In August, Museum lectures will be held at Union Chapel on August 2nd and August 16th.

OTHER ISLAND CONCERT DATES

Other Island concerts will be held on Friday, July 24th at 8:15 with the Salt Marsh Opera vocalists. It will be held at the Fishers Island Club and a 6:15 dinner buffet is available. Dinner reservations must be made by calling 788-7221.

On Sunday, August 23rd at 5:15 at the Museum, there will be a Tribute to Penni Sharp. The Westerlies, a brass quartet will be the guest performers.



Church Bulletin bloopers: (not ours, of course!)

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5 pm – prayer and medication to follow.