



The Church Bell  
The Federated Church of Christ  
Brooklyn, CT



Sunday  
Worship &  
Sunday School  
10:00am

Office Hours:  
Tue - Thu  
9:00 - 1:00

**September 2015**

*Notes from Pastor Mary*

*"The breezes taste of apple peel. The air is full of smells to feel - Ripe fruit, old footballs, burning brush, new books, erasers, chalk, and such. The bee, his hive, well-honeyed hum, and Mother cuts Chrysanthemums. Like plates washed clean with suds, the days are polished with a morning haze." - John Updike, September*

I came across this poem by John Updike the other day and immediately my mind and senses were engaged, especially the lines about ripe fruit and old footballs, and brushfires. Though Updike neglected to include the smell of roasting marshmallows and oozy Hershey bars between graham crackers. September is indeed a month full of transitions: the weather carries a different feel, our calendars start filling up, and even the stores are switching out sunscreen and flip flops with Halloween candy and early Turkey decorations.

As our church moves into the new month and new season, there are two exciting events that you'll want to get on your calendars. First, on Sunday, September 20th, we will be kicking off our first Annual **Federated's Fall-tastic Jubilee™** celebrating our children, our church,

and letting folks in our community know we are a place of welcome, hospitality, and grace for all. The word "Jubilee" is especially rich in meaning and tradition because in the Hebrew Bible, God commanded that every 50 years the people set aside time to restore rightful ownership of land and property, reconcile relationships, and celebrate being God's Beloved Community by focusing on loving God and loving one's neighbor.

On September 20th, we will participate in this tradition of loving our neighbor through offering food, fun activities for children, teens, and adults of all ages, and a host of other exciting offerings. Come and see for yourself! If you are interested in helping or have questions, get in touch with

Therese  
Carpentier,  
our  
Christian  
Education  
Director,  
for more  
information.

*continues*

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**Articles due 18th each month:**  
[ChurchBell@FCCBrooklynCT.org](mailto:ChurchBell@FCCBrooklynCT.org)

Pastor: Rev. Mary L. Apicella  
Christian Education Director: Therese Carpentier

Worship Accompanist: David Gonzalez  
Secretary: Linda Huber

### *Notes from Pastor Mary (continued)*

Continuing in the spirit of Jubilee, on Sunday October 18th our church will be marking the 75th anniversary of being the Federated Church of Christ. All members, former members, and friends of Federated Church are warmly invited to come back and see what we've been up to, catch up with friends, and make new ones. Thanks to the leadership of Todd Clark and a committee of others who are helping to plan the day, we will begin with a celebration of worship followed by an afternoon potluck, and program including dramatic readings and skits reenacting some of the more exciting (and ridiculous) parts and characters of our shared histories. Hope to see you there!

Peace,

*~Pastor Mary*

## ***Christian Education***

Here we are again starting a new school year, how summer does fly. I hope everyone enjoyed their time off and are ready to start a new Sunday School year! We are starting with a brand new Sunday School curriculum called "Kids own Worship", we found it to be a good choice because it has good quality lessons and is easily implemented into our church's needs. I look forward to getting started with it and getting feedback from the teacher's and student's.

We now have a twitter account, if you have any news or advertisement that you want tweeted please let me know and I can take care of it for you. Otherwise if you have your own tweeter account you can follow us at "**FederatedChurc1**" (yes a "1" and not an "h") I look forward to this helping to get our church out there in the community.

Another new project on the agenda is the start of our 1st annual **Federated's Fall-tastic Jubilee™** which will be held on Sunday, September 20th from 10 am to p.m.. We will start with a service at 10 am that will kick off the new Sunday School year and then ease into the festivities. There will be hot dogs, chips, refreshments, games, Moon bounce, face-painting, live music, and so much more. If you are interested in helping with an activity or donation of an item or craft ideas please feel free to let me know. A special thank you goes out to this wonderful Congregation that helped with ideas for the title of our event!

Another item I would like to address is if anyone is interested in becoming a teacher for our Sunday School, please let me know, even if it would be to be a Substitute Teacher.

I wish everyone a wonderful start of the new school year and look forward to working with your children.

God's blessing's

*~Therese H. Carpentier*

## Deacons

This year instead of Rally Day we have two new fall gathering events. We reach out to the community on Sunday, September 20th with our **Federated's Fall-tastic Jubilee™** beginning with worship at 10 am and continuing with activities for kids and adults through 2 pm. Please extend a invitation to your neighbors, family and friends to join in getting to know us. On October 18th we are celebrating the 75th anniversary of the federation of the Baptist and Congregational (United Church of Christ) congregations. These gatherings will be focused on sharing our spirit with the community.

Labor Day Sunday, Sept 6th we worship with our greater community. Killingly and Brooklyn churches join together for worship at 10:15 am in Davis Park for Creation Care Day. The focus of worship is the care of the creation God has entrusted to us. Pastor Mary has been working with area ministers in the planning of this worship. Bring a chair. If you need a ride or help with chairs call the church office or Mary Ann Thomen.

The Deacon's continue their on going care about our church family members. Please let us know of folks that need a call, visit and or prayers.

~ Mary Ann Thomen

## Mums the Word

Friends of the Brooklyn Library will be having a mum and plant and bake sale on Saturday, September 12th from 9:00 AM until noon on the front lawn of the chapel.

## Ch- Ch- Ch- Changes



Sometimes change is good "just because", and other times it is done for a reason. The new rock wall, constructed by Therese

Carpentier's son Andrew, with a bit of help from Earl McWilliams, really sets off the new Rt 169 sign.



The brick-work out front

was another story. Bricks, as you may know, do not survive too many New England winters, and the last one was too much. So a new, red concrete walk was installed with a safer, off-road passenger drop-off was constructed.



The granite step was moved to the front of the crawlspace bulkhead, at the back of the church near the memorial garden

## *Loving God, Hear Our Prayers...*

- For Roger, Lorraine's nephew, who is recovering from heart surgery.
- For Barbara, who is having a hard time with persistent illness.
- For Terri, who has been diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- For grace and peace as families go through life transitions.
- For Nicholas and all students going to school, for families sending children to school and college, and teachers and staff as the next academic year begins.
- For Ruby's sister-in-law, Erma, who has cancer.
- For Dylan, recovering from a motorcycle accident, and for Shaelyn.
- We extend prayers of Christian love and sympathy to Betsy and Dave B. upon the passing of Betsy's brother, Larry, after a long struggle with pancreatic cancer.
- For friends whose friendships are strained and for reconciliation and understanding.
- For all who are struggling with addiction.
- We continue to pray for and with all those who are fighting cancer, especially for Diane, Luke, Paul, Brian, Billy, Dee Dee, Enddie, and Leah.
- For the firefighters who are working to put out the numerous wildfires on the west coast, for the families of those whose lives have been lost because of the fires, and for everyone who has lost their homes and livelihoods as a result of the flames.

- For the congregation of Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC and for our nation still in need of healing from racism, prejudice, and violence.
- For peace in our world, particularly in Hartford, Baltimore, New York City, Ferguson, Missouri, between Palestine and Israel, Ukraine and Russia, in Syria, Turkey, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran.

## *Gracious God, we give you thanks, for...*

- The birth of Lincoln, Ruby's grandson.
- Companionship and joy of pets.
- The ways you bless us with Sabbath rest.
- The marriage of Beth and Jed Otto, Saturday, 7/25/15
- For this loving and supportive church family who blesses others with the power of prayer.
- The service, bravery and courage of our military veterans.

For the people in our lives who remind us of God's love and presence, even in the midst of struggle.

### **Federated Church of Christ**

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Find us on FaceBook:  
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## *Party Line*

We hope to see Sandy and Kyle Collins back in church soon. They recently spent 3 weeks driving across the country, visiting family and sightseeing along the way. Sounds great!

Congratulations to Carolyn Otto's son, Jed and his new wife, Beth who were married in July. Carolyn is also to be commended for surviving a kitchen renovation this summer!

Cindy and Mark Rollins were able to visit Cindy's sister and brother, and brother's family, in Nashville TN, while Mark was there for a client.

Ruby Babcock has another grandchild. Lincoln James Grissom was born on August 17th, weighing in at 7 lbs 4 oz. to Ruby's son and daughter in law. This will be grandchild # 5 for her. Congratulations to all!

## **WCGCS**

The Women's Group summer break is almost over. In September our meeting will not be held on the second Monday of the month but has been postponed until the next week, Monday September 21st at 1 PM in the chapel meeting room. We will be starting our planning for the Lasagna Dinner ( November 7th), the Sugar Plum Fair (December 5th) and other upcoming events. We hope you will join us!

~Katharine Stelltino

## **Time Capsule for our 75th**

We are collecting items for a time capsule, to be buried at our Jubilee, and opened on the church's 100th anniversary. Bring in your item to church, there is a box at the front where you can put them.

Note space is a bit limited.

## *Scenes from Service*





# September Calendar - [www.federatedchurchbrooklynct.org / calendar.html](http://www.federatedchurchbrooklynct.org/calendar.html)

Today	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	30 9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship Service	31 Steve & Kathryn S - anniversary 9am Office Hours	Sep 1 Evan R. birthday 9am Office hours 7pm Choir Practice	2 9am Office hours	3 Steve S - birthday	4 Michael C - birthday 9am Mum and Bake Sale	5
	6 Ruth S - birthday 10am Worship @ Davis Pe	7 David B - birthday 9am Office Hours 7pm Choir Practice	8 9am Office hours 7pm Choir Practice	9 9am Office hours	10	11 9am Mum and Bake Sale	12
	13 9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship Service 11:30am Deacons meeting	14 Hallie T - birthday 7pm Executive Board	15 9am Office hours 7pm Choir Practice	16 9am Office hours	17 Anne P - birthday Emma R - birthday 8pm Bell articles due	18	19
	20 9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Fall-Tastic Jubilee™	21 Arlene B - birthday Maureen G - birthday 9am Office Hours	22 9am Office hours 7pm Choir Practice	23 Mia B - birthday 9am Office hours	24 Sharon H - birthday	25	26
	27 9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship Service	28 Paula M - birthday 9am Office Hours	29 9am Office hours 7pm Choir Practice	30 9am Office hours	Oct 1	2	3

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