



FIRST WORD

April 2009

From the Pastor...

Palm Sunday, the Passion, Holy Week and Easter are about the new covenant between God and God's people. This concept had been presented to the Jewish people by the dynamic prophet Jeremiah:

Behold the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers... which they broke...I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall by my people.

-Jeremiah 31:31-33

The apostle Paul and other New Testament writers are convinced that the suffering and sacrificial death of Jesus Christ brought this concept into reality. These biblical authors tell us that times changed. The new covenant people will not be limited to men and women descended biologically from Israel and Judah, but of all people, everywhere, regardless of race or nationality, who respond in faith to God.

This includes all of us. As we journey through these final days of Lent and approach the glory of Easter, let us ponder the deep spiritual meaning of it all.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is a triumph over human hatred, it is reconciliation of the alienated and lost, it is the gift of guilt removed. Your sins are forgiven. You are free to love life and serve God and humanity.

You are new covenant people! You are Easter people! Rejoice!!

R. Randy Day

CE and Youth Update

On Friday, April 17th there is a Friday Night Event in the Youth Room. Karen Andrews is hosting.

On Sunday, April 19th the Youth Group will be preparing and serving a meal for the men at Pacific House, a homeless shelter in Stamford. We will meet at 12:30pm in the Youth Room (right after confirmation class), have lunch together and then start cooking and baking. At 5:30pm we will leave for Pacific House and return back to FCRH at 7pm.

Our K-5th graders will visit the Beardsley Zoo on April 19th. We will leave from the church parking

lot at 11:30am (after the service) and return approximately at 4:30pm. All children need to be accompanied by a parent.

Susanne Frank
Director of Children's and Youth Ministry

EASTER FLOWERS

One of the holiday traditions at First Church is to fill the sanctuary with flowers for the Easter season. We need donations to cover the cost of these lovely flowers. A sign up sheet is in the parlor.

Good Friday Joint service at Diamond Hill UMC, 7:30 pm

A joint Good Friday United Methodist service hosted by the Diamond Hill United Methodist Church will be held at 521 E Putnam Avenue, Cos Cob on April 10th at 7:30 pm. The Rev. Ken Keiffer is the guest preacher at this service.

**GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL
SERVICE AT CHRIST
CHURCH**

**First Church Sanctuary open
for prayer, 8 am – 8 pm**

A Good Friday Ecumenical Service will be held at Christ Church Greenwich, from 12 – 3 pm. Christ Church, Greenwich, is located at 254 East Putnam Avenue. All are welcome.



The sanctuary at First Church of Round Hill will be open for prayer during the day and evening hours of Holy Thursday and Good Friday. All are invited to stop in for quiet reflection and prayer.

WEB SITE LAUNCH!!!

We selected Palm Sunday, April 5th, to introduce the congregation to our new site. Palm Sunday has long been a day of celebration and welcoming. At the end of our service we will wave our palms and during the closing hymn, all of us will journey from the sanctuary to the Youth Group Lounge for a special coffee hour and a brief orientation of our new web site.

We invite you to visit the site at your earliest convenience and join us for Palm Sunday service. It is important to note the web site will be updated on a scheduled basis and we will continue to explore ways of elevating its functionality and efficacy. We welcome your comments and input. www.FirstChurchofRoundHill.org

FIRST CHURCH OF ROUND HILL
464 ROUND HILL ROAD • GREENWICH CT 06831

Phone 203-629-3876 Email: fcroundhill@aol.com

•FIRST CHURCH OF ROUND HILL STAFF•

R. Randy Day, Pastor
Avery C. Manchester, Pastor Emeritus
Gwendolyn Hillman, Director of Music/Organist
Susanne Frank, Director of Christian Education
Daisy Melo, Youth Director
Annie Callahan, Secretary
Sandy Regan, Financial Secretary
Ernesto Damm, Property Manager

First Church of Round Hill is a Christian community, rich in heritage, open and caring, bound together by our faith.