

Faith in Action

United Congregational Church of Tolland
P.O. Box 160, Tolland, CT 06084

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Website: www.ucctolland.org

If you are new to our congregation, we would like to get acquainted. Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor card located in the pews, or be sure to sign our guest book in the Narthex.

Please take note...

- Infants and children are welcome in our worship. But, if it should occur that the worship is too confining for your child(ren), childcare is provided for infants and toddlers up to two years of age in the Nursery.
- Our Worship Service is televised Tues., 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon, on cable Channel 5. Please check the Community Voice Channel 5 or www.cvcct.org for the schedule listing or changes.
- PLEASE let us know when someone in the church family enters the hospital or is in need of a pastoral call. The pastors place high priority on such visits and calls. Phone 860-875-4160 or for Bob 860-508-7942 or Judy 860-874-3152 or Kim 860-558-6416.
- Our Sunday Bulletin, Faith in Action, *Tiding*, and Calendar are posted on our website.
- **IN THE EVENT** of any future day of terrorism, the Board of Deacons and your pastors are prepared to provide a Prayer Service that same evening at 7 p.m. The Deacons have created a phone tree in order to spread the word. Let's pray these plans need never be called upon.
- Areas of Rescue Assistance: available at stairways during any emergency, especially for disabled persons. Emergency personnel attend to these areas immediately upon their arrival.
- In the event of a heavy snowstorm, there will be at least one worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday. For information on changes or cancellation, listen to radio station WTIC AM (1080).

Simply Smiles is a non-profit organization that supports communities in River Sioux Tribe Reservation, South Dakota and in Oaxaca, Mexico. Their mission is to provide bright futures for impoverished children. Globalization of the coffee markets has all but destroyed coffee farming as a sustainable way of life in the mountains of southern Mexico. Stop by during coffee hour for more information and buy their delicious coffee.

Circle one: Pick Up Email Website Mail

Name _____

Email Address if applicable _____

-----✂-----**(Please place in offering plate or deliver/mail to Church Office)**-----✂-----

In an effort to be good stewards, responding to the requests of members and in the spirit of "Going Green" we are offering several options for delivery of the *Tidings*. We would like to be sure that all who want our newsletter receive it in a manner that best suits them while reducing our costs of distribution. We hope to start this with the March *Tidings*. Please sign up by using the tear off above to indicate your preference or email Stephanie Howard at SHoward@ucctolland.org.

Please be aware: The children in the Church School building will be experiencing a Fire Drill during this morning's classes. The Fire Drill will take place as a safety exercise under the supervision of Amie Giguere, Director of Christian Education and Dick Munichello, Tolland's Fire Marshall.

"Souper" Bowl Sunday-Today the Confirmation Class is sponsoring "Souper" Bowl Sunday, a day that the nation's attention turns toward the championship football game. This will benefit our area soup kitchen, the Cornerstone. Following both worship services, class members will be holding soup kettles as you exit church. The national program would like each person to donate \$1. Thank you.

The Church School will be holding a **bake sale, February 12**, to benefit Tate Kai, the child we sponsor through Global Ministries. Come to Fellowship Hall during coffee hours, help support Tate and bring home a treat! Bakers are needed to donate items for the sale. If interested, sign up outside the office door in the CE building or at Coffee Hour.

This morning the Christian Education Committee and the Youth Committees will be receiving a training from Karen Ziel, Minister of Christian Education from the CT. Conference of the UCC. She will share strategies for helping them explore the best practices and resources available for revising our church's safe conduct policy, so that it may be implemented effectively and consistently. If you are interested in learning more about this, please feel free to contact Amie Giguere.

The Senior PF will meet **today, 2:30-4:00 p.m.** in preparation for Youth Sunday. **The Junior PF** will meet **today, 4:00-5:00 p.m.**

"Count Yourself Blessed" is this year's stewardship message, reminding us of all the blessings we receive by belonging to our wonderful church. 85% of the budgeted income comes from our members' financial support. We are grateful for the \$378,152 in pledges already received which puts us only \$22,320 away from our goal of \$400,472. **There are 2012 pledge cards** and return envelopes available in the Narthex. They may be placed in the offering plate, mailed or dropped off at the Church Office.

The 2012 Daily Bible Reading Guides have arrived. You may pick up a copy in the Church Office. **Please remember the Building Fund.** Now that we have enjoyed our enlarged sanctuary and new nursery, choir room, conference room, and office area, we will continue to try to pay down on our mortgage. Everyone's packet of envelopes has a special Building Fund envelope or you may use the special envelope in the pews.

Wednesday Bible Study is a study of David, Old Testament shepherd, king, psalmist, and "a man after God's own heart" David: A Man of Passion & Destiny is the first of a multi-volume series exploring Great Lives from the Bible by Charles Swindoll, minister and president of Dallas Theological Seminary. Join Rev. Medeiros, Wednesdays 9-10 am. Books are in the office for \$11.00.

The Retired Women's Lunch will be held Tues., Feb. 7, noon at Pastori's, Route 83, Ellington. Please call Joan Ballestrini (860-875-0043) for reservations and if you plan to meet at the church (11:30) to carpool.

The Retired Men's Lunch Group will meet Monday, Feb. 6, at Willington Pizza, 11:30 a.m. All retired men of the church are invited to share lunch and a lively, informative discussion. Our guest will be Kevin Murphy, Sr. Vice president of ECHN and Ellen Belanger, administrator of Woodlake.

Are you an Artist? Have an interest in showing your work but only have one or two pieces? The UCCT is sponsoring a Community Art Show and would love to have members of our church display their work. Donna Dobieski has graciously agreed to coordinate the exhibition. If you have an oil, watercolor, charcoal or mixed medium and would be interested, please contact Donna 860-872-4662.

Summer will be here before we know it! Our fantastic CT UCC outdoor ministry for youth and families at **Silver Lake Conference Center** (in Sharon) brochures have arrived. On-line registration has begun! Our Church has some scholarship assistance available. Applications and brochures may be picked up in the Church Office.

Silver Lake Goods and Services Auction: A note of thanks to all of you who generously donated a wonderful variety of items, those of you who bid, the wonderful bakers who delighted the crowd with home made goodies, the musicians, and all the helpers the night of the event, too many to mention. We are on our way to breaking last year's record. If you have a winning bid on an item, you can pick it up during both coffee hours today. Again, thank you. The Silver Lake Committee.

Interested in Distributing Food to the Hungry? The Missions Committee recently met with a representative from Food Share to discuss the possibility of our church becoming a Mobile Food Distribution location, a place where Foodshare could distribute food, primarily fresh produce, to the hungry. Missions is excited about the idea and hopes there will be members of our community who will feel likewise. We need to provide a primary and secondary coordinator to oversee the distribution in our church parking lot, supervise our volunteers and serve as Foodshare's contacts, and a minimum of 6 volunteers each time. We are hopeful that there may be among us a person or two who would be interested in the coordinator position. Before we move forward we need to know we can accomplish this successfully. If you are interested, please call or stop by and see Rev. Medeiros. Thank you.

Save the Date: Saturday, February 25, 10 a.m.-noon. Hypertension and Diet Workshop, presented by Lisa Miller, RD, CD-N. Come learn about steps you can take to control or help prevent high blood pressure by changing the foods you eat.

Endowments are ultimately an act of faith in the future of our church. Have you thought about including your church in your will?

Today		“Souper Bowl” Sunday
	8:30 a.m.	Communion Service and Church School
	9:30 a.m.	Joyful Voices Rehearsal
	9:30/11:00 a.m.	Blood Pressure Screening
	10:00 a.m.	Communion Service and Church School
	11:30 a.m.	Christian Education Meeting
	2:30 p.m.	Senior PF
	4:00 p.m.	Junior PF
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Adult Exercise
	11:30 a.m.	Retired Men's Lunch-Willington Pizza
	7:00 p.m.	Parish Nurse Meeting
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	Retired Women's Luncheon-Pastori's
	12:30 p.m.	Staff Luncheon
	2:30/6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	4:30 p.m.	Cornerstone Supper Program
	7:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Adult Exercise
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	7:00 p.m.	AA 6 (Fellowship Hall)
Saturday	1:00 p.m.	Youth Sunday Rehearsal
Next Sunday		Youth Sunday/Christian Education Bake Sale
	8:00 a.m.	Joyful Voices Rehearsal
	8:30 a.m.	Worship Service and Church School
	9:30 a.m.	Joyful Voices Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service and Church School-7 th Grade in Worship

Rev. Dr. Robert J. Wright, Jr., *Senior Pastor*
 Rev. Judith C. Medeiros, *Associate Pastor*
 Steven C. Lowry, *Minister of Music*
 Debra Simpson, *Financial Secretary*
 Linda Johnson, *Secretary*
 Stephanie Howard, *Office Assistant*
 Amie Giguere, *Director of Christian Education*
 John Frassinelli and Gary Lotreck, *Co-Directors of Youth Fellowships*
 Kimberly Gottier, *Coordinator of Caring Ministries*
 Elizabeth Thornton, *Director, Tolland Green Learning Center*
 Rev. Donald G. Miller, *Pastor Emeritus*
 Rev. Hannah Howe, *Pastor Emeritus*