

The Quester



**Fairfield Grace United
Methodist Church**

**February
2016**

A Message from Pastor Cho:

My beloved Fairfield Grace family and friends,



The 2016 confirmation journey is on. I am blessed and honored to take a confirmation journey with our precious youth-- Ellie C, Cassie S, Addison R and David R. Since early last month, I have been enjoying the time of worshiping, praying, and learning with them on Sunday afternoons. At the last meeting, I gave them an assignment to search for where God is and what God does in this world and take pictures if they find God. I look forward to their pictures this coming Sunday afternoon. Have you seen God lately? Have you heard God speaking to you? I would love to hear from you, as well. Please email me pictures at kunsam-cho92@gmail.com. I can receive them via texting at 914-319-4241.

This year is our church's 60th anniversary year. Yes, God was there when our church began in 1956. Yes, God has been active and touching many people last 60 years. Yes, God continues to work in our midst. According to the lunar calendar, every 60th year a new life cycle begins so we are entering a new life cycle this year. I am ready to welcome a new life of Fairfield Grace. I am ready to see a new turning point in our church mission and ministry. Are you? Join me to see what God is doing anew and celebrate it with me. Sunday, June 19, is the day we plan

to have a special thanksgiving service with Rev. Ken Kieffer, CT District Superintendent. Mark it on your calendar now.

Believe it or not, a new beginning is already happening at Fairfield Grace. You might have already heard that the spaghetti dinner will be "resurrected" in March this year. It is true that the spaghetti dinner is coming back. March 12 is the day we resume the community dinner, missed greatly by many including myself. I look forward to enjoying the time with many regular diners and new visitors. Special thanks goes to Todd Daigle, one of our young adults, whose energetic willingness and passionate love for the church has empowered us for this mission of the church. I have no doubt we will have a lively and



good time every second Saturday together as a church family and with our neighbors and their friends who have been missing it very much. Do come and enjoy fellowship and friendship in Christ once a month. Do all you can do to make the monthly dinner a time and a place for many to find joy and celebrate life together.

Lenten season is around the corner. Time flies, indeed. I still remember vividly the Christmas Eve candlelight services in the beautifully adorned sanctuary. But look, we are about to enter the new season leading us to the cross. It is the time to follow Jesus and his journey to the cross. It is an opportunity to examine closely our relationship with Jesus, our God and our Lord. We remember the question the risen Jesus asked Peter three times: "Do you love me?" Do you love Jesus? Do I love Jesus? Am I really his disciple to follow him all the way, even to the cross? Do I do all I can do to take part in the mission and ministry of the church in this world? Am I really his faithful follower? I would like to keep asking these questions with you throughout this season, expecting the power of the Holy Spirit to awaken and empower us anew. The Lenten journey begins with the Ash Wednesday Taizé Prayer Service on Feb. 10 at 7 pm, which our confirmation candidates plan to attend.



See you soon in church.

Kun Sam, your M&M partner

PS. M&M stands for "Mission & Ministry"



A Sincere and Heartfelt THANK YOU

A heartfelt and sincere **thank you** from the staff to all church members for the very generous Christmas gift. We are grateful for your kindness and thoughtfulness during this Christmas season as well as throughout the year. Your support makes us thankful to be a part of the team.

***“Worship the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing with joy.”
(Psalm 100:2 NLT, second edition)***

To strengthen your faith, you must unite with others in worship. Worship is for God, but it also has benefits for you. Here are two of the biggest benefits of corporate worship: It renews your faith, and it restores your joy.

Isaiah 40:31 says, “Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint” (NIV).

How many times have you gotten up on a Sunday morning and said, “I am so tired. I really don’t have any energy to go to church,” but then you went to church and worshipped and afterward you were more energized? That happens because worship renews you. It strengthens you. It strengthens your faith.

You’re not going to get your strength renewed by watching golf on tv. That’s just going to make you lazier and lazier. You get renewed by worshipping God with other believers.

As a pastor, sometimes I think of myself like the coach in the boxing movie “Rocky.” Rocky is out there in the fight, and he’s pouring his heart out and just getting beat to a pulp. The bell rings and he goes, “Thank God.” He comes to the corner, and the coach says, “You’re doing a good job.” The coach throws some water on him, pats him on the back, and says, “Now get back out there.”

Sometimes I feel like that’s what I’m doing on Sunday for my church. I’m telling them, “You’re doing a good job. Now get back out there. You can do this!” But that’s not me renewing people’s strength. It’s the Word of God. It’s music and praying and worshipping together with other believers.

The Bible also says in Psalm 100:2, *“Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy”* (NLT, second edition).

I think it ought to be fun to go to church. That may seem strange to you because it’s not how you were raised or how you felt about a certain church you’ve attended. But the Bible says to worship the Lord with gladness — not boredom, sadness, anger, or out of duty. You should be singing for joy in church! Church should have that effect on you. Worship should renew your faith and restore your joy.

*“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord’”
(Psalm 122:1).*

Rick Warren
January 16, 2016

*Thank you to Karen Price for submitting this sermon from Pastor Rick Warren,
Pastor at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California and
leader of the Purpose Driven Network of churches.*

Ushers

Team #3 ~ Ed Schindler

- ~ *Ed Schindler*
- ~ *Charlene Schindler*
- ~ *Lee Del Vecchio*
- ~ *Wayne Brown*

Greeters

Volunteers

Worship Leaders

February 7: *Scout Sunday*
February 14: *Martha Wood*
February 21: *Georgina Holdsworth*
February 28: *Youth*

Fellowship Hour

February 7: *Scout Troop 88*
February 14: *Need Volunteers (UMM)*
February 21: *Spaghetti Luncheon*
February 28: *Need Volunteers (UMM)*

Children's Preachers

February 14: *Franklyn Maclean*
February 21: *Fredene Daeschner*
February 28: *Youth*

Communion Steward

Karen Benson

Fairfield Grace Families In Our Prayers

Week of:

February 7: Darken family, Dot Daruka and Lee DelVecchio
February 15: Denuette family, Dowgiallo family and Duguid family
February 22: Zet Ford-Medina, Nancy Fray and French family
February 28: Galpin family, Stella Gentile and Emma Gilbert



Ash Wednesday Taizé Service

There will be a special Taizé Prayer Service on
Ash Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 PM

Come and Rest. Come and Listen. Come and Praise.
Come and Give Thanks. Come to Taizé Service.

Weekly Taizé Services will resume on Wednesday, March 2

12:30 PM and 5:30 PM

and monthly services on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM

Scripture Readings for February, 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Featured Chapter from The Story</u>
Feb 7	2 Kings 17-19, Isaiah 3, 6, 13-14, 49, 53	16 – The Beginning of the End
Feb 14	2 Kings 21, 23-25, 2 Chronicles 33, 36, Jeremiah 1-2, 4-5, 13, 21, Lamentations 1-3, 5, Ezekiel 1-2, 6-7, 36-37	17—The Kingdom's Fall
Feb 21	Daniel 1-3, 6, Jeremiah 29-31	18—Daniel in Exile
Feb 28	Ezra 1-6, Haggai 1-2, Zechariah 1, 8	19—The Return Home

We want to let the Fairfield Grace community know about all the good work it's
members are doing! Send updates, news and photos to
fairfieldgrace@sbcglobal.net

**Deadline for the March Issue of the Quester is
Saturday, February 20.**



February Birthdays

01	Sean Mizoguchi
02	Andrew Jurgielewicz
03	Kimberly Spangler
06	Jim Wood
09	Jim Conroy
09	Kristina Joukhadar
10	David Harrison

11	Yubin Yi
14	Craig Michelson
14	Alexander Tang
15	Jenna Michelson
15	Marion Prescott
18	Cynthia Peck-Humphrey
19	Joseph Dowgiallo

20	Felix Beriguete
24	Steve Lopes
26	Maggie Price
26	Elizabeth Sweeney
28	Robert Bedson
28	Hae Kim



February Anniversaries

Feb 07

Carol and Bob Watson

57 years

Cancellations due to Weather

In the case of hazardous weather conditions, it may be necessary for the church to cancel building activities or services. The decision to close the church on Sunday mornings will be made as early as possible, but no later than 7:00 AM. We will send an email alert to members when a decision is made. In addition, any closures will be posted on Channel 12 News, News 8 and NBC Connecticut.

Are you receiving our "Friday's News" via email?

Every Friday the church office sends out an email with important news, updates and reminders. We are using a new platform and want to make sure all members are receiving it. Please let Anne know if you do not see these emails every Friday in your inbox. We want to make sure that you are informed of our weekly news as well as **emergency alerts in the future.**

fairfieldgrace@sbcglobal.net

Fairfield Grace Ministries

Susanna's Circle

The Susanna Ladies Circle and other Church ladies had a lovely, fun luncheon at the Bear and Grill on Sunday, January 17. Because of the dubious February weather, we will not be having a meeting in February, but we do hope to see many of you at our exceptional March meeting on Wednesday, March 16. Mark your calendars now - more info to follow.



THE WESLEY WOMEN

MARCH 16, 2016
1-2PM

FAIRFIELD GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1089 FAIRFIELD WOODS RD.
FAIRFIELD, CT. 06825

Jerry Eyster is our guest speaker. He has a deep family connection to Methodism as his grandfather, father and brother were ministers.

He has written an academic paper titled "John Wesley on Leadership" at conference at University of Manchester in England for Wesley's 300th Birthday celebration. He is Finance Chair after serving as President of Church Council for United Methodist Church of Westport and Weston. At Conference he serves on various committees and commissions and is Vice Chairman of Commission on Archives and History.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: NANCY HAUSER @ 203-538-5901

Spaghetti Dinners to Resume

They're Back! Spaghetti Dinners to resume on Saturday, March 12

Help us kick off the renewal of Spaghetti Dinners.
We are hosting a **Spaghetti Luncheon** for all church members
after Worship Service on **Sunday, February 21**

Come enjoy a wonderful pasta meal and learn how our church can continue to host
this traditional outreach program that
serves our community.



Fellowship and Coffee Hour

Gathering with friends, meeting new members and sharing light refreshments in our Fellowship Hall after 10:00 Worship Service is a wonderful tradition and helps our congregation stay connected. Sunday volunteers are needed to organize some of these coffee hours. Please consider choosing a Sunday and helping in some way – set up coffee, prepare tables, provide simple baked items... Please contact **Georgina Holdsworth at 203-335-7129 or Marge Hood...** or you can just sign up on the sheet that is on the office door.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny Saturday, March 19

Please contact the church office if you are
willing to help out with this fun event.



203-374-6528
fairfieldgrace@sbcglobal.net

Save the Date for the Fairfield Grace Rummage Sale Saturday, March 5

We need donations of clothing, children's items and
household goods. Draperies, rugs, bedding are accepted.

Please do NOT bring the following items:
Furniture, Books, VHS Tapes and Dishes.

Contact Lee Del Vecchio 203-374-2130

Paper Shredding Day

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Do you ever want to clean out your files of old bank statements, checks, brokerage statements, income tax forms, etc.? There are a lot of papers that you should put through a shredder so no one will use the information for identity theft. You may even have a small office shredder at home. But there are times when you have so much to shred that it would take you hours with a small shredder. So the job just does not get done.

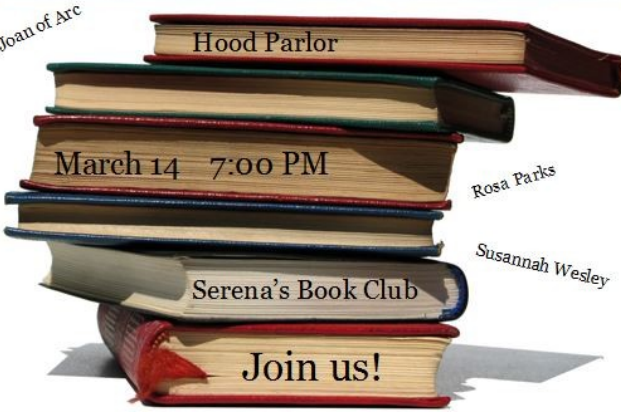
We have the answer. Just toss all that shredding material into a carton and bring it to church on Saturday morning May 14. For a mere \$10, we will take a 10-ream size carton of paper (price can vary--more for larger cartons and less for small ones) and have it shred for you. This shredding opportunity will take place in our church parking lot, and we will advertise it and make it available to the whole town. So it is something you can ask your friends to do also.

Please note that if we can get more than 50 people to bring boxes of paper, we will make some money to help the church. So talk it up with your friends, doctors, businesses, etc.

Serena's Book Club

New Book Club Starting

"Seven Women and the Secret of their Greatness"
by Eric Metaxis



The group provides fun and fellowship as we share our perspectives on each chapter.

We welcome new members.

If you would like to join the group or have questions, please contact Karen Price by phone 203-333-1272 or e-mail Karen1147@aol.com (please put book group in the subject line).

"Seven Women and the Secret of their Greatness" by Eric Metaxis has been selected by the Serena group. Each chapter of this book is a biographical sketch of a different woman. We will begin with Chapter Two, focusing on Susanna Wesley, the mother of the founder of Methodism, John Wesley. We will have a special guest to discuss Chapter One, on Joan of Arc, at a later date. Our focus will be on the insights and inspiration we discover about each woman's life. Women highlighted in other chapters, including Corrie Ten Boom and Rosa Parks, give us a varied timeline in history. You will only be asked to read one chapter before each monthly meeting.

The books can be ordered online from Amazon.com or CBD.com for under \$14.00. The book is also available as an e-book. If you do not have a computer, please contact Anne in the church office at 203-374-6528 or fairfieldgrace@sbcglobal.net

CHANGE THE GAME

WITH SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The Fairfield Grace Youth Group and

Boy Scout Troop 88

are hosting a Souper Bowl food drive to
support Operation Hope of Fairfield.

Sunday, February 7th

10:00 – 11:30 AM

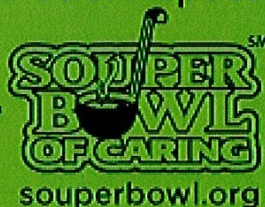
Please bring any canned goods, non-perishable
items, or monetary donations to our

Fairfield Grace UMC service at 10 AM

1089 Fairfield Woods Road

For a full list of the items Operation Hope especially
needs right now, visit the website at:

www.operationhopect.org/help/



Fairfield Grace in the Community

Wednesdays and Fridays,
April 13–May 27, 11:15 AM–NOON
Fairfield Woods Branch Library

International Taste with Fairfield Grace

Join us and our neighbors, Fairfield Grace United Methodist Church, at this wonderful event for the whole community. Learn about other countries through the timeless art of storytelling and then stay for an evening of sampling, sipping and mingling at a variety of international tasting tables—two great ways to experience cultures from around the world.

Sunday, May 1

4:00–5:00 PM, Storyteller Laconia Therrio

5:00–7:00 PM, International Food
and Music

Fairfield Grace United Methodist Church
1089 Fairfield Woods Road

Presenter: A therapist, a chaplain and the Director of Behavioral Science of Stamford Hospital's Family Medicine Residency Program, Laconia Therrio shares stories from across the globe. As a professional storyteller he tells stories in schools, libraries, corporations...or wherever stories can be told. Believing that stories remind us more of our commonalities than our differences, his repertoire include stories from the Americas, the African continent, Europe and Asia.

**Fairfield Grace's donation to
The Council of Churches of
Greater Bridgeport**

International Taste at Fairfield Grace May 1, 2016

Fairfield Grace is partnering with Fairfield Woods Branch Library as a way to involve the community in this day of learning and enrichment.

See the event listed in the Fairfield Public Library Catalog of Programs for this Spring.



"SEEK THE WELFARE OF THE CITY...
FOR IN ITS WELFARE
YOU WILL FIND YOUR WELFARE."
JEREMIAH 29:7

Dear Rev. Kun Sam Cho,

The recent pledge and payment of \$250 to The Council translates directly into the vital work of helping inner-city school children with their homework, providing counseling and temporary respite care to youth in crisis, guiding former offenders to a second chance, and supporting a network of over 39 feeding programs, who together, served over 2.5 million meals last year to hungry people ~ leveraging hope and changing lives! Please convey our gratitude to the members of your congregation.

As we are blessed with gifts, we celebrate the opportunity to bless the lives of others. With deep appreciation for your partnership in our shared mission, and my hope that you have had a blessed Christmas, and will have a happy New Year,

Cass Shaw

Rev. Cass L. Shaw
President and Chief Executive Officer





Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, March 28.

The Red Cross is very grateful to Fairfield Grace for hosting a successful blood drive on Friday, January 22.

Fifty-two units of blood were collected during this critical time.

We host another drive on Monday, March 28

1:00—6:45

Sleeves up.
Hearts open.
All in.



Music for Youth will also host a season of Showcases open to all student ensembles to promote the performance of chamber music in our community.

These showcases will be held at Fairfield Grace Church.

Dates:

February 12, 2016

March 18, 2016

Time:

5:00—7:00

5:00—7:00

Cost: \$10

Calendar for February/March/April

THE STORY

Chapter 16: The Beginning of the End

Sermon on Chapter 16 will be on 2/7

Focus: Fall of Israel

Related Bible Text: 2 Kings 17-19, Isaiah 3, 6, 13-14, 49, 53

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Feb 3: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Feb 4: 6:45 PM

Sunday, Feb 7: 9:00 AM

Chapter 17: The Kingdom's Fall

Sermon on Chapter 17 will be on 2/14

Focus: Fall of Judah

Related Bible Text: 2 Kings 21, 23-25, 2 Chronicles 33, 36, Jeremiah 1-2, 4-5, 13, 21, Lamentations 1-3, 5, Ezekiel 1-2, 6-7, 36-37

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Feb 10: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Feb 11: 6:45 PM

Chapter 18: Daniel in Exile

Sermon on Chapter 18 will be on 2/21

Focus: Daniel

Related Text: Daniel 1-3, 6, Jeremiah 29-31

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Feb 17: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Feb 18: 6:45 PM

Sunday, Feb 21: 9:00 AM

Chapter 19: The Return Home

Sermon on Chapter 19 will be on 2/28

Focus: Ezra

Related Bible Text: Ezra 1-6, Haggai 1-2, Zechariah 1, 8

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Feb 24: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Feb 25: 6:45 PM

Sunday, Feb 28: 9:00 AM

Chapter 20: The Queen of Beauty and Courage

Sermon on Chapter 20 will be on 3/6

Focus: Esther

Related Bible Text: Esther 1-9

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Mar 2: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Mar 3: 6:45 PM

Chapter 21: Rebuilding the Walls

Sermon on Chapter 21 will be on 3/13

Focus: Nehemiah

Related Bible Text: Ezra 7, Nehemiah 1-2, 4, 6-8, Malachi 1-4

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Mar 9: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Mar 10: 6:45 PM

*All groups meet in
Hood Parlor*

Chapter 22: The Birth of the King

Sermon on Chapter 22 will be on 4/3

Focus: Jesus

Related Bible Text: Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2; John 1

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Mar 16 & 30: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Mar 17 & 31: 6:45 PM

Sunday, Apr 3: 9:00 AM

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN SCHEDULE DUE TO HOLY WEEK.

Chapter 23: Jesus' Ministry Begins

Sermon on Chapter 23 will be on 4/10

Focus: Jesus

Related Text: Matthew 3-4; 11; Mark 1-3; Luke 8; John 1-4

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Apr 6: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Apr 7: 6:45 PM

Chapter 24: No Ordinary Man

Sermon on Chapter 24 will be on 4/17

Focus: Jesus

Related Text: Matthew 5-7; 9; 14; Mark 4-6; Luke 10; 15; John 6

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Apr 13: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Apr 14: 6:45 PM

Chapter 25: Jesus, Son of God

Sermon on Chapter 25 will be on 4/24

Focus: Jesus

Related Text: Matthew 17; 21; Mark 8-12; 14; Luke 9; 22; John 7-8; 11-12

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Apr 20: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Apr 21: 6:45 PM



Fairfield Grace Photo Scrapbook



Fairfield Grace on Christmas Eve



Susanna's Circle Christmas Lunch



Christmas Cantata

Fairfield Grace Photo Scrapbook



Youth Group...
Gingerbread House Decorating



Cooking for Operation Hope



Caroling



Fairfield Grace Photo Scrapbook



Breakfast with Santa



Fairfield Grace Photo Scrapbook



Rabbi Kormis from Congregation Beth El with his Hebrew School students visiting Pastor Cho at Fairfield Grace. In turn, our confirmation candidates will visit the Synagogue to enhance their studies on their faith journey

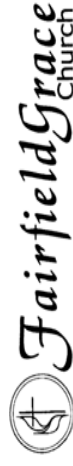
A great turn out for last month's Methodist Nursery School Board Meeting.



Thank you to Lori Stimpson for bringing this beautiful basket of chocolates for the Nursery School teachers. It was very much appreciated!



February, 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
HEALING TIME @ 9am - Story 10am - Worship 11am - Scholarship 11:20am - Treble	6pm - Brainy Alley, 7:30pm - Alanon,	10am - UMC Meeting 3:30pm - Girl 6:30pm - Yth Adv Bd 7:30pm - Handbells	10:10am - The Story 6:45pm - Boy 7pm - Trustees, 7:30pm - Finance, 7:30pm - Fourth	9:30am - Wesley's 6pm - Spaghetti 6:45pm - The Story 7:30pm - Chancel	5pm - Music4Youth	9am - District 10:30am - Brainy
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
COMMUNION 9am - Story 10am - Worship 11am - Staff-Parish 11am - Yth Group, 11:20am - Treble	6pm - Brainy Alley, 7:30pm - Alanon,	7:30pm - Handbells	Ash Wednesday 10:10am - The Story 7pm - Boy Scouts, 7pm - Taizé 7:30pm - Fourth 7:45pm - Ch Council-	6:45pm - The Story 7:30pm - Chancel	5pm - Showcase, 10am - Bday 10:30am - Brainy	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
CONNECTONAL Valentine's Day 9am - Story 10am - Worship 11:20am - Treble	Presidents' Day 7:30pm - Alanon,	9:30am - Staff 7:30pm - Handbells	10:10am - The Story 6:45pm - Boy 7:30pm - Fourth	6:45pm - The Story 7:30pm - Chancel	Youth Group Ski Trip 5pm - Music4Youth	10:30am - Brainy
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Youth Group Ski Trip 9am - Story 10am - Worship 11:20am - Treble 11:30am - Spaghetti 1pm - Faith Circle	6pm - Brainy Alley, 7:30pm - Alanon,	7:30pm - Handbells	10:10am - The Story 7pm - Boy Scouts, 7:30pm - Fourth	4pm - Scout District 6:45pm - The Story 7:30pm - Chancel	5pm - Music4Youth	10:30am - Brainy
28	29	1	2	3	4	5
HEALING TIME @ YOUTH SERVICE 9am - Story 10am - Worship 11:20am - Treble 1pm - Faith Circle 5pm - Confirmation	7:30pm - Alanon,	7:30pm - Handbells	10:10am - The Story 12:30pm - Taizé 5:30pm - Taizé 6:45pm - Boy 7pm - Trustees, 7:30pm - Finance, 7:30pm - Fourth	10am - Wesley's 6:45pm - The Story 7:30pm - Chancel	5pm - Music4Youth	9am - Rummage 10:30am - Brainy