

**From:** FCCV (fccv@snet.net)  
**To:** fccv@snet.net;  
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**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Pastor's Weekly Email

One of the special joys and blessings of summertime for me is fresh fruit pie. When I head to Lyman's Orchards or to the pie display at the grocery store, I am like a little kid, sorting through the pies, choosing one, then another, then putting them both back for yet a different flavor. There are no bad choices among fruit pies, only a limited amount of time.....

I recently found this reflection from a kindred spirit....."The pie is religious, something from God. The only part of the meal to be eaten slowly. Huge pieces, a quarter pie per person, and between each bite, a drink of coffee. And when the pie is done, the fork is held sideways in the hand and swiped around the plate to get the absolute last of the juice and apple and crust." Gary Paulsen, Clabbered Dirt, Sweet Grace

Fresh fruit pies--get 'em while you can!

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Last Sunday, we were blessed to have our dear friend Joseph Tobin bring a message of hope and challenge to all who wrestle with the questions of life's meaning and purpose. And we were blessed to have special music by Serena Volovski.

This Sunday, we are fortunate to have a daughter of our congregation, the Rev. Joanne Myer, bring the morning message. Many in First Church have journeyed along with Joanne and Andy from her time as an active laywoman to responding to God's call to ordained ministry. Joanne consistently brings a message of hope and faith which springs from her own journey.

This week, Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger will be providing special music for our service and we welcome back, Jim Purnell, who is filling in while James Burr is away on vacation.

Next Sunday, part of our morning worship will include a dedication of the Field of Flags.

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Field of Flags: This note is a reminder about an upcoming event at FCCV, a memorial called Field of Flags. If you are unfamiliar with this, on Friday, August 24 starting at 8 AM, a flag will be placed on the church lawn for each soldier who has lost their life in the Iraq/Afghanistan conflict. This action is one way to remember each individual, as well as their families and friends, in prayer at our church. The Field of Flags will be dedicated on August 26 during the 10 AM worship service. The Field of Flags will be on display until Thursday, September 13. Volunteers are needed to help set-up the flags which should take about 4-6 hours. If you can help out, even if it's only for an hour, please contact Brad Leonard, 860-402-0434 or 860 871-1980 or the Church Office, 860-875-7580. Thanks!