



The First Congregational Church

Litchfield, Connecticut

1721 - 1971

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

<i>Timothy Collins</i>	1721-1752
<i>Judah Champion</i>	1753-1798
<i>Dan Huntington</i>	1798-1809
<i>Lyman Beecher</i>	1810-1826
<i>Daniel L. Carroll</i>	1827-1829
<i>Laurens P. Hickok</i>	1829-1836
<i>Jonathan Brace</i>	1838-1844
<i>Benjamin L. Swan</i>	1846-1856
<i>Leonard W. Bacon</i>	1856-1860
<i>George Richards</i>	1860-1865
<i>William B. Clarke</i>	1866-1869
<i>Henry B. Elliott</i>	1870-1874
<i>Allan MacLean</i>	1875-1882
<i>Charles Symington</i>	1883-1894
<i>John Hutchins</i>	1895-1915
<i>Frank J. Goodwin</i>	1915-1924
<i>Carl M. Sangree</i>	1924-1929
<i>T. Bertram Anderson</i>	1930-1949
<i>Robert L. Edwards</i>	1949-1956
<i>Donald W. Morgan</i>	1956-1962
<i>William B. Bryant</i>	1962-1968
<i>John P. Mathis</i>	1969

250th
ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

October 3, 1971

10:30 A.M. Organ Dedication Service

7:00 P.M. Organ Dedication Recital

October 10, 1971

10:30 A.M. Service of Holy Communion

Noon Tree Dedication and Bulb Planting

4:00 P.M. Commemorative Service

The 250th Anniversary Committee: Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Ebersol, Co-Chairmen; David F. Anderson, Mrs. John M. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. C. Raymond Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Kerwin O. Lisk, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. John P. Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. Pico, Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. Peter H. Tillou.

John P. Mathis
Minister

Mrs. Robert M. O'Donnell
*Director of
Christian Education*

Mrs. Leonard A. Dickinson
Organist

Joseph W. Geyer
Choir Director

ORGAN DEDICATION

October 3, 1971

10:30 O'Clock

Psalm 150

Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals; praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

ORGAN PRELUDE *"Prelude and Fugue in E Major"* Vincent Lübeck

RINGING OF THE HOUR Thomas C. Baldwin, Sexton

CHORAL INTROIT BY THE CHOIR

OPENING SENTENCES The Rev. John P. Mathis

*HYMN 363 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (*depts*)

*GLORIA PATRI

ANTHEM *"Sing, Oh Ye Heavens"* Johann Friedrich Peter

SCRIPTURE Psalm 100 (King James Version)

ANTHEM *"Psalm 150"* Louis Lewandowski

SERMON *"Making A Joyful Noise Unto The Lord"*

*LITANY OF DEDICATION

To the glory of God, Author of all goodness and beauty,
Giver of all skill of mind and hand:

We dedicate this organ.

In faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, who has inspired men to offer in
His praise their best in music and song:

We dedicate this organ.

Moved by the Holy Spirit, our Guide in the worship of God and
our Helper in the understanding of truth and beauty:

We dedicate this organ.

To kindle the flame of devotion, that the people of God who here assemble may worship the Father in spirit and truth:

We dedicate this organ.

To bear up the melody of psalm and hymn and spiritual song in such wise that men may go forth from this house of God with high resolve to do his holy will:

We dedicate this organ.

To comfort the sorrowful and cheer the faint, to bring purity and peace into human hearts, to lead all who hear it in the way of eternal life:

We dedicate this organ.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

**HYMN 391*

"Be Thou My Vision"

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"It Is A Precious Thing"

Johann Friedrich Peter

**DOXOLOGY*

ANTHEM "Praise Ye The Lord" (based on Psalm 150) *César Franck*

**HYMN 19*

"Praise the Lord, His Glories Show"

BENEDICTION

CHORAL EPILOGUE

"Hymn Of The World's Creator"

(based on Psalm 150) *Louie L. White*

(Congregation remains seated for the Epilogue)

**Congregation stands*

Greeters and ushers for all services will be members of the Board of Deacons: David F. Anderson, Chairman; Thomas W. Ferguson, Jr., Vice-Chairman; S. Robert Ahlman, Robert W. Curtiss, Harry A. Day, Mrs. John A. D'Orio, Mrs. George N. Fenn, Mrs. Lewis L. Griswold, Frank H. Keller, Mrs. Kerwin O. Lisk, Robert M. O'Donnell, Mrs. Lucien H. Platt, Earle F. Taylor, Sr., Karl Webster.

ORGAN RECITAL

October 3, 1971

7:00 P.M. O'Clock

by

FREDERICK SWANN

I

CONCERTO IN F MAJOR, OPUS 4, NUMBER 5 George Frederick Handel
1685-1759

Larghetto — Allegro — Alla siciliana — Presto

These concertos, the first important compositions in this form for the organ, were played during the intermissions of his oratorio performances as an added attraction. The original score consisted only of the upper part and a figured bass; Handel improvised his performances from this framework.

THREE EARLY FRENCH PIECES

RECIT DE TIERCE EN TAILLE Francois Couperin le Grand
1668-1733

This composer was a member of the family which founded a French musical dynasty equivalent to the Bach family in Germany. The florid left hand melody line of this devotional excerpt from an *Organ Mass* is characteristic of music from the period, and employs the colorful *tierce*, a stop sounding two octaves and a third higher than the note played.

BASSE ET DESSUS DE TROMPETTE Louis Nicolas Clerambault
1676-1749

BOTTOM AND TOP OF THE TRUMPET STOP is a delightfully piquant little piece to show off this particular rank of pipes in the organ. The composer is one of the few French masters whose works have come down to us in complete form, rather than from obscure manuscripts.

GRAND JEU Pierre Du Mage
17th Century

We know little of this composer except that he was a pupil of Louis Marchand, and that he was organist at the Cathedral of St. Quentin. This composition, to display the various ensembles and the full power of the organ, recalls the style of his illustrious teacher.

SYMPHONIC CHORALE: "JESUS, LEAD THOU ONWARD"
..... Sigfrid Karg-Elert
1877-1933

In sharp contrast to the pure early music just heard is this atmospheric 19th century work. German organ music reached phenomenal heights of romanticism in the works of Karg-Elert and Max Reger. The majority of compositions by both men was founded on chorale melodies. The "symphonic chorale" is a treatment of grandiose proportion, utilizing many controversial harmonies and registrations.

FANTASIA AND FUGUE IN G MINOR Johann Sebastian Bach
1685-1750

The monumental Fantasia, with its vividly contrasting sections, striking dissonances, abrupt modulations and intensity of expression, stands as the composer's greatest work in this form. The Fugue subject is based on a Dutch folk song. The spontaneous theme, unusually attractive both melodically and rhythmically, is developed with a remarkable combination of technical skill and emotional power.

II

THREE POLYPHONIC SETTINGS OF INNSBRUCK Raymond G. Glover
1930-

Raymond Glover is organist and master of the choristers of Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford. In these three organ pieces, dedicated to Frederick Swann, the composer has expressed in music the ideas of each verse of an evening hymn. The tune *Innsbruck*, originally a secular folk song, was arranged as a chorale by Johann Sebastian Bach for the *St. Matthew Passion*.

TOCCATA Gerald Near
1942-

This prolific young American composer was a student of the late Leo Sowerby. The *Toccata* is distinguished by its rhythmic drive, and colorful, contrasting sections.

CHORAL IN B MINOR César Franck
1822-1890

Immediately before his death, Franck completed three organ *Chorals* which rank among the greatest works for the instrument. The B minor is divided into two sections, based on two principal themes. The first, announced in the bass, is treated in a series of variations in the style of a passacaglia. The chorale-like second theme is introduced, interrupted by interludes of a rhapsodic nature, and the first section closes quietly, one of the most beautiful moments in all of Franck's writing. A brilliant fantasia opens the second section; later the first theme is developed. Franck combines the chorale theme with it, and a drawn-out crescendo brings the piece to its climax with the final statement of the first theme. The quiet close is a near repetition of that at the end of the first section.

DEO GRACIAS Arthur Wills
(born 1926)

In this happy expression of praise, contemporary chordal structure is combined with a traditional French-like finale movement.

Organist of The Riverside Church in New York City since 1958, Frederick Swann had his first public recital at the age of eight and was appointed organist of a city church when he was ten. He graduated with distinction from Northwestern University School of Music. Prior to 1958, Mr. Swann served as organist at Brick Presbyterian Church and St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City. A former faculty member of Union Theological Seminary and Guilman Organ School, he was Director of Music of The Interchurch Center in New York, the largest interdenominational church center in the world, from 1960 to 1967.

You are invited by the Music Committee to attend a reception honoring Mr. Swann in the Church House after the recital.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

October 10, 1971

10:30 O'Clock

ORGAN PRELUDE

CONCERTO No. V

Georg Philipp Telemann-Johann Walther

RINGING OF THE HOUR

Thomas C. Baldwin, Sexton

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. John P. Mathis

*HYMN 306

"For All the Saints"

*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (*debts*)

Mr. Mathis

*STATEMENT OF FAITH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*GLORIA PATRI

SCRIPTURE

I Corinthians 12 (Jerusalem Bible)

*HYMN 260

"The Church's One Foundation"

MESSAGES from The Rev. Robert L. Edwards, The Rev. William B. Bryant,
The Rev. Gordon R. Naser and Mr. Mathis

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"The 23rd Psalm"

H. Schalit

*DOXOLOGY

REFLECTIONS ON THE 250th ANNIVERSARY

The Rev. Dr. Nathanael M. Guptill

*HYMN 288

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

*OUR CHURCH COVENANT

In the love of truth and in the spirit of Jesus, we covenant together to unite for the worship of God and the service of man. We seek to know the will of God and to walk in His ways, known or to be made known to us; to proclaim the gospel to all mankind; to work and pray for the progress of knowledge, the promotion of justice, the reign of peace, and the realization of human brotherhood. And we look with faith for the triumph of righteousness and the life everlasting.

ANTHEM *"Draw Us In The Spirit's Tether"* Harold W. Friedell

PRAYER Dr. Guptill

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Ministers serving, Dr. Guptill celebrating

*HYMN 61 "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

BENEDICTION

CHORAL EPILOGUE *"God Be In My Head"* H. Walford Davies

(Congregation remains seated for the Epilogue)

*Congregation stands

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

The Rev. Robert L. Edwards was minister of this church from 1949 to 1956. He is now minister of Immanuel Congregational Church, Hartford, Connecticut.

The Rev. William B. Bryant was minister of this church from 1962 to 1968. He is currently minister at The Congregational Church of Green's Farms, Westport, Connecticut.

The Rev. Gordon R. Naser, minister of the Chaplin Congregational Church in Chaplin, Connecticut, entered the Christian ministry from this church.

Rev. Dr. Nathanael M. Guptill is Minister of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ.

The children and young people of the Church will participate in the 250th anniversary program in a commemorative tree planting in the Church yard following the morning service on October 10th, weather permitting. The brief program, led by Deacon Robert O'Donnell, assisted by members of Pilgrim Fellowship, will include the planting of tulip and daffodil bulbs by the Church School members on the Church and parsonage grounds. The tree and bulbs have been furnished through the kindness and generosity of Gotthard B. Anderson and Herbert T. Nichols.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

October 10, 1971

4:00 P.M. O'Clock

Organ Meditations by Mrs. Leonard A. Dickinson at 3:30

PRELUDE "*Christ Our Lord to Jordan Came*" Johann Sebastian Bach

RINGING OF THE HOUR

Thomas C. Baldwin, Sexton

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. John P. Mathis

*HYMN I

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

*INVOCATION

*CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Mr. Mathis

*LORD'S PRAYER (*debts*)

*GLORIA PATRI

ANTHEM

"Onward Ye People"

Jean Sibelius

WELCOME TO SPECIAL GUESTS

David F. Anderson, Chairman of the Board of Deacons

GREETINGS: The Rev. David F. Gurniak, Litchfield Churches; Mrs. Roy E. Howe, Moderator of Litchfield South Association; The Rev. Dr. Nathanael M. Guptill, Minister of the Connecticut Conference of United Church of Christ

*HYMN 414

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (*Revised Standard Version*):

Epistle—Hebrews 11:1-16

Gospel—Matthew 16:21-25

REMARKS

Charles R. Ebersol, Moderator

ADDRESS

"On The Boundary Of Memory And Hope"

The Rev. Dr. Gabriel Fackre

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "*How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*"

J. Brahms

*DOXOLOGY

*LITANY FOR THE CHURCH

Page 514 in the hymnal

*HYMN 383

"Forward Through the Ages"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Congregation stands

The Evening Guild cordially invites you to attend a reception in the Church House immediately following this service.

GABRIEL FACKRE, B. D., Ph.D., was educated at Bucknell University and the University of Chicago Divinity School. He also spent one year at Oxford University. Dr. Fackre is a widely published author and has lectured throughout the country. On the faculty of Lancaster Theological Seminary from 1961 to 1970, Dr. Fackre spent a semester as a visiting professor at the University of Hawaii before going to Andover Newton Theological School where he is Professor of Theology.

The choirs from St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, St. Michael's Episcopal Church and United Methodist Church join with our own for this service.

A history of the First Congregational Church from its founding in 1721 to 1971 has been specially prepared for the Church's 250th Anniversary. Edited by Valerie Vondermuhll, the booklet is available for purchase at two dollars per copy in the Narthex and in the Church House. Proceeds from its sale will hopefully cover the costs of its production and some of the other expenses of the anniversary celebration.

The Litchfield Historical Society has joined in the Church's celebration with a special exhibit of manuscripts, letters and memorabilia which can be seen on October 5th, continuing indefinitely. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday; and from noon to 5 P.M. on Sunday, October 10th.

THE REUTER ORGAN

<u>Great Organ</u>		<u>Swell Organ</u>		<u>Pedal Organ</u>	
8' Principal	61 Pipes	16' Rohrflöte	85 Pipes	16' Subbass	32 Pipes
8' Spitzflöte	61 Pipes	8' Rohrflöte		16' Rohrgedeckt	Swell
4' Octave	61 Pipes	8' Viole de Gambe	61 Pipes	8' Octave	44 Pipes
4' Rohrflöte	Swell	8' Viole Celeste (TC)	49 Pipes	8' Rohrflöte	Swell
2' Fifteenth	61 Pipes	4' Principal	61 Pipes	4' Super Octave	
111 Mixture	183 Pipes	4' Koppelflöte	61 Pipes	4' Rohrflöte	Swell
		2 2/3' Nasard	61 Pipes	16' Fagotto	Swell
		2' Blockflöte	61 Pipes	8' Fagotto	Swell
		1 3/5' Tierce	61 Pipes	4' Fagotto	Swell
		11 Mixture	122 Pipes		
		16' Fagotto	85 Pipes		
		8' Trompette	61 Pipes		
		4' Clarion Fagotto			



ORGAN COMMITTEE

Mrs. Clarence W. Pico, Chairman, Mrs. Leonard A. Dickinson, Francis I. Enslin, Joseph W. Geyer, Mrs. Robert G. Knowles, Mrs. A. William Lindh, Mrs. Charles E. Linsley, Jr., Mrs. John C. Tibbs, Byron T. Virtue