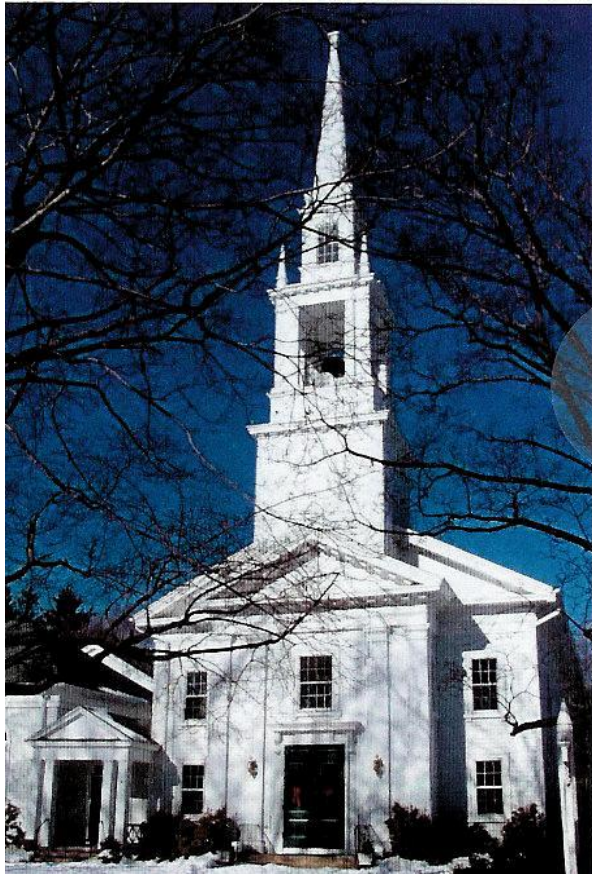


Youth Ministry

*“It is our aim to bring
Instruction and High Ideals to
Youth...”*

Covenant of Green’s Farms Congregational Church



*Green’s Farms
Congregational Church*

Making Faith Tangible

At Green's Farms Church our goal is to provide meaningful and fun programs for youth in a welcoming environment where they can explore their faith as a part of everyday living. Our hope for each of them is a faith that is alive and relevant, the foundation for their lives

Mission Trip

Senior high students take an annual mission trip to an area in need. In recent years students and a group of adult leaders have participated in trips to build and repair homes and community centers. The students raise much of the funds for the trip themselves through a silent auction where they offer their services as cookies bakers, party planners, tennis coaches, etc., and then donate their fees to the mission project.



Once there, the group works hard--but it isn't all work! They also take time to be kids and have fun together as they explore a new place. While the participants experience the satisfaction of hands-on building of physical structures, most of them come home with an even greater appreciation for relationship building--with each other, and with the people they have come to serve. Through the act of giving of themselves, they receive their own spiritual gift in return.

Youth Groups

Special Events

Both middle school and high school students participate in their own youth groups. The kids help plan their own activities, which include all kinds of social events ranging from relaxed lock-ins at the church to hayrides, skiing, bowling and overnight trips such as winter camping and a Nightwatch at St. John the Divine cathedral in NYC. They also serve the community through various outreach projects.



Every Week

Senior high students also get together weekly. Over pizza, friends check in with each other and talk about issues relevant to them in the context of their faith. Under the guidance of trained adult leaders, the group thrives in an open atmosphere of acceptance and support. On Sunday mornings the senior high students participate in church in whatever way works best for them-- some in the worship service and some as classroom assistants or teachers. As full members of the church, they also may choose to serve a liturgists, ushers or greeters



Confirmation

Eighth graders are eligible to join confirmation classes in early January. The classes are led by two seminary trained staff members and two experienced lay leaders. In class, the students explore Christianity and our UCC denomination. Through reading, listening and questioning the students come to a deeper understanding of their faith. Outside of class, the kids go on overnight retreats, work on service projects and often develop lasting friendships that have grown from a shared meaningful experience. At the end of the session in May each student decides for him or herself whether to be confirmed. Once confirmed, he or she becomes a member of the church and also eligible for the senior high mission trip.



Youth Ministry Leadership

Amy Forte works with an experienced team of lay volunteers to lead Youth Ministry. She brings a wide range of relevant educational and professional experiences to her role. Amy began her career as a special education teacher, then returned to school to obtain a nursing degree and a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology. She has been a labor and delivery nurse and a school nurse in Westport. In the spring of 2004 Amy obtained her Master of Divinity Degree from Yale Divinity School. In addition to her professional experience, she also has years of experience as a lay youth leader. Amy is married to Dwight Meyer and the mother of two teenaged girls, Anna and Eliza.



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