



## A COLLECT

Long ago the psalmist wrote, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to live together in unity." (Psalm 133:1)

Today we give thanks for the joys of our common life:

- > For shared understandings, visions and hopes.
  - > For times of forgiveness and signs of acceptance;
  - > For the support which comes from each other and eases burdens;
- and
- > For the love which we find in this community of people.

## SPIRIT PRAYER

Oh God, whose Spirit works peace among us; you have called us to be your people and joined us together in a family of faith. We thank you for every word and act that makes our unity more real; for open minds and hearts; for patience and understanding; for caring and sharing. Above all, we thank you for Jesus who is the revelation and source of our unity and in whose name we gather. AMEN.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

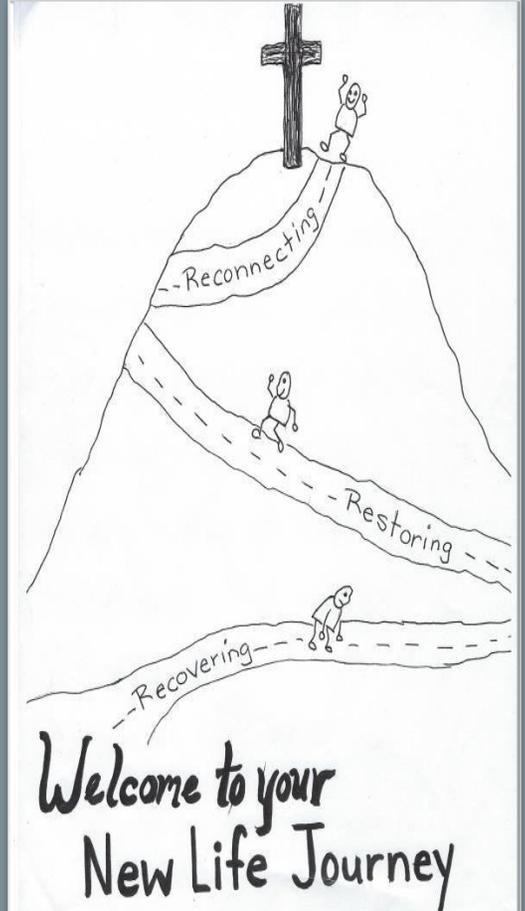
We confess our failings in community:

- our lack of understanding,
- our lack of forgiveness,
- our lack of openness,
- our lack of sensitivity.

We confess the times when:

- we are too eager to be better than others,
- we are too rushed to care,
- we are too tired to bother,
- we are too lazy to really listen,
- we are too quick to act from motives other than love.

Jesus promises to all who place their trust in God's forgiveness, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, God's presence in times of trial and rejoicing, and life in God's kingdom which has no end. We greet God's forgiveness and accept it gladly. Let us also extend forgiveness and acceptance to each other.



**Every Friday**

**7:00pm.-8:30pm.**

**First Church**

190 Court Street  
Middletown, CT. 06457

## Meet some of who we are!



*Streetfire Ministries* - **Pastors James and Karla Woods** have been counseling and mentoring individuals in faith-based recovery for many years and have a service oriented ministry in the streets of Middletown.

*Trinity Episcopal Church* - **Rev. Phil Bjornberg** is a graduate of Fuller Seminary Institute for Recovery Ministry. He has served as Chaplain for active duty military and veterans with post-traumatic stress (PTSD) and substance use disorders (SUD) at a local intermediate residential recovery residence.

*Grace and Mercy Family Ministries* - **Pastor Donald Watson** - Federal Access to Recovery (ATR) provider including Faith Recovery Support Services, Mentoring, Pastoral and Spiritual Counseling, Social Support and Community Engagement and Recovery Values to Support Recovery and Relapse Prevention.

*Cross Street AME Zion Church* - **Rev. Gregory B. Winborne:** Co-Pastor of Cross Street, A.M.E. Zion Church Recovery/12-Step Ministry, Biblical/Spiritual Counselor. Twenty + years serving veterans at the Dept. of Veterans Affairs: NA Forensic Certified CCDC. CCJS. Specialize: Chemical dependency/Substance Abuse Disorder, Motivational/Brief Intervention Counseling: Relapse Prevention, Anger Awareness/Management and the Enhancement of Individual and Family Relationships.

Faith Christian Assembly - **Deacon Wallace Collins** manages the daily function of two (2) residential units containing up to eighteen (18) adjudicated juveniles and nine (9) staff each at the Connecticut Juvenile Training School. Wallace also is owner/operator of Collins Parent Coaching, LLC, professionally assisting parents in raising responsible and resourceful adults and he is a Board Member of Streetfire Ministries

*The Episcopal Church in Connecticut* - **Fred Faulkner** - Director of Operations for The Open Hearth, a 110 bed residential facility for men in recovery located in Hartford, CT.

*City Church Middletown* - **Ed Davis** is a long-term recovery (>11,000,000 minutes) practitioner and sponsor: "Having walked the path I've walked, it is my purpose and privilege to help others suffering from addiction." **Joanie Sylvia** - soulful servant heart, creative encourager, lover of God and companion and true neighbor to all - the light of Christ.

*Plus Susan, Gloria, Bobby, Kenny, Kevin, Darryl, Tara, Gerry, Erin, etc.....*

## Recovering Restoring Reconnecting

*New Life Journey* is a faith based recovery support community rooted in fellowship, compassion, and a desire to "thrive" together.

- It is through community we are able to establish a lifelong platform for flourishing, thereby enabling us to kindle the life we were created for; a life rooted in the fundamental concepts of loving self and others with purpose.
- We are comprised of human beings who desire to connect, who have a voice with which to be heard, and who thrive only in an environment that honors each as an integral part of a collective whole.
- We are people from all walks of life who recognize that although our experiences influence and mold us, we are not limited to or confined by our stories. Every person has infinite value and is worthy of being heard.
- Recovery is not a term exclusive to substance use disorders – it is a process applicable to the vast diversity of humanity in our various stages of life.
- We are one humanity, all drinking from the same cup. The universal language of "LOVE" unites us.

Let us live a life of love and purpose, doing what we were all put here to do together:

**Care for one another unconditionally**