



Proclamation to Commemorate
First Congregational Church
300th Anniversary

Whereas, the First Congregational Church of Portland is commemorating their 300th anniversary on October 23, 2021 of which was founded October 25th, 1721 when early settlers formed what was then known as the Third Society of Middletown in the newly formed Society of East Middletown, later called Chatham and now known as Portland; and

Whereas, the present church building, located on Main Street, is the third meetinghouse and was dedicated on December 18, 1850. The original Gothic revival style has changed over the years, but still stands as a tangible living link to the past; and

Whereas, the First Congregational Church joined the United Church of Christ in 1961 and in 2013 the congregation voted to become an Open and Affirming Church, welcoming everyone to participate in the life, sacraments, missions, and work of the community of faith: "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Susan S. Bransfield, First Selectwoman of the Town of Portland Connecticut, do hereby pay tribute to the 300th anniversary of the First Congregational Church and proclaim Monday, October 25, 2021 as **First Congregational Church Day** in the Town of Portland, Connecticut.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Portland, Connecticut to be affixed on this 23rd day of October 2021.

Susan S. Bransfield

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First Selectwoman
Town of Portland, Connecticut



Board of Selectmen:

Michael S. Hernandez
Louis J. Pear
Michael A. Pelton
Edward J. Sharr, Jr.
James K. Tripp
Ralph R. Zampano