



United Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth, Pastor

INVITATION TO DONATE ART TO THE SICILIAN ART SHOW

Dear members and friends of UCC Westerly,

We are writing you to today to invite you to consider how you might be able to support the upcoming “Bob & June Sicilian Memorial ‘Homegrown’ Art Show” planned for Saturday, September 24, 2022. As some of you may recall, the church was gifted with almost the entirety of the Sicilian Art Collection by the executors of their estate. This was done in the hopes that the church could sell the collection and benefit from its value in that way. This is what we are preparing to do at this moment.

The Sicilian Art Collection is large and eclectic, and all original creations by Bob & June Sicilian who were each gifted artists in their own right. For example, it is Bob’s dove woodcarving which hovers over the baptismal font in our sanctuary and June’s watercolor “Yellow Rose with Bee” which is on display in the Bell Courtyard. The rest of the collection consists of many of Bob’s bird carvings as well as June’s watercolors, oils, tole painting, needlepoint art and fabric art. The collection consists of 39 pieces of which 38 will be for sale at the show.

However, we would like the Art Show to stretch beyond the Sicilians’ work to include artwork of different types and styles such as textiles, pottery, numbered prints, paintings and mounted photographs. Where is this additional art to come from? We hope from you! Perhaps you’re ready to make a change now and have items you would be willing to donate. Perhaps you have friends or family members downsizing who would like these items which have graced their homes to find a new purpose. Whatever the reason, your donations of quality artwork of any kind would be much appreciated. If you are willing to donate items to the show, please speak with any one on the Congregational Life Board for details on how best to do that. Also, do note we are pleased to offer receipts of donated items for tax purposes, based on what items eventually sell for.

So, this is our situation, and this is our request. We sincerely hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to find a new audience and new homes for your high quality works of art. Do know this Art Show is the first fundraiser event in support of our campaign to repair and refurbish our Wicks Pipe Organ. If you have any questions, kindly speak with any Board member. **Please note the deadline for all donations is August 31.**

Your friends from the UCC Westerly Board of Congregational Life,

Sandi Davis, Linda Evans, Cathy Gray, Julie Grillo, Carolyn LeRoy, Shirin Platt
Rev. Ruth Hainsworth, *ex officio*