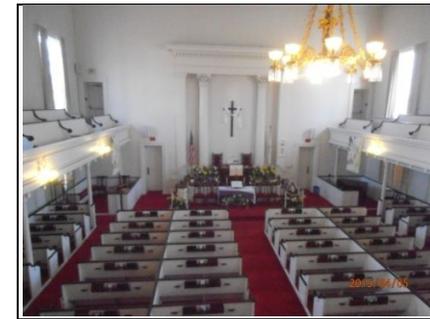


Begin the self guided tour at the front of the church:

1. The Center **Pulpit** was the gift of Gilbert Chapin in memory of Augustus Hazard (1915). The Center Pulpit with an open bible is typical of early New England Congregational churches indicating the central position of the word of God as revealed in the scriptures and the importance of the spoken word in Puritan and Congregational tradition.
2. The **Deacon's Chairs** – Communion is served to the congregation by deacons who sit in these chairs. These chairs came about 1890 and were more elaborate, but were renovated in 1962. One more was made to match about 1980.
3. The **Communion Table** in memory of Augustus Hazard was also a gift of the Chapin Family. It is placed at the center of our sanctuary as a symbol of the table around which the congregation gathers “In remembrance”.
4. The **Cello** (in glass case at north side of the sanctuary near the “Deacon’s box”) was made locally by a member of the Allen family. It is dated at about 1840. This is the only surviving instrument from the early church. It was recently restrung and repaired and was played during a church service. Before the cello, a flute was used to accompany singing and prior to that the song leader hummed into an instrument similar to the kazoo.
5. The **Baptismal Font** is modern and was a gift of the Roberts Family in memory of their son.
6. **Chandelier** - This French Chandelier was a whale oil lamp that had to be lowered to fill and to light. It was then electrified.
7. **Boxed Pews** are located at the front on either side. Originally these were facing pews. When there was a church fire (about 1912) pews were taken from the corners to replace some in the center of the church.
8. **Pipe organ Façade** – The church had a pipe organ which came from E. and G. G. Hook Co. It was soaked in the 1938 hurricane and completely gave out in 1945. The present electronic Rodgers organ was installed in 2003. The pipe facade remains and covers the speakers for the present organ.
9. The **Baby Grand Piano** was a gift from Cindy Chapin-Howell and Doug Howell. The piano was previously owned by Frederick Oliver, Cindy’s maternal grandfather.
10. The **Pews** were first painted in 1912. Before that they were stained. Note the cup holders for the individual cups used in our communion service.
11. The **Clock** was added about 1888, but it dates back to 1845.
12. **Architectural Details** – The wood carving under the balcony is called dentil work and is the original carving. Fluting on the front columns was added in 1912, and was a gift of Margaret Miller. At one time, there was stenciling around the church and a Trompe L’oeil painted alcove between the front columns.
13. The **Marble Topped Table** was the original communion table used in the building.
14. **Steeple Lighting** –Through the efforts of F. Russell Meyer, monies were subscribed for the installation of lights to illuminate the church steeple. This work was completed in the spring of 1988. In 2016 energy efficient lighting was installed.
15. **This Building** is the 4th building of the Enfield Congregational Church which “gathered” as a congregation in 1683. This building was erected in 1849 and was largely financed by Colonel Augustus Hazard, foremost supplier of gun powder to the Union Army in the Civil War. F. Mason Stone was the architect and Newton Moses, the builder, both from New Haven.



The Church Bell was cast in 1815, but due to a crack was recast in 1830. First used in our third building (Old Town Hall), it was moved to the present church in 1849.

The Old Town Hall was the 3rd building of this church. Built in 1775, it was sold to the town for \$500 and moved across the street when this building was erected in 1849.

Of Historical Interest – It was in the second “meeting house” of the Enfield Congregational Church that Rev. Jonathan Edwards preached his famous sermon, “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” at the peak of “The Great Awakening”. Visitors from all over the world still come to locate the site of this happening. Edwards was a Northampton minister at the time.

Restoration- In August 1979, our building was declared unsafe because of inadequate foundations and a leaning steeple. For two years this congregation worshiped weekly at the Enfield St. School. We returned to this sanctuary on July 12, 1981. Total reconstruction and restoration costs were \$499,241 plus interest of \$102, 705. An historical preservation grant of \$20,000 came to us through the State Historical Commission. We are on the National Register of Historic Landmarks.

Ceiling –Two vertical beams in each corner support a 50 foot by 3 foot steel I-beam across the church. In the hallway, vertical beams on each side of the floor support another beam. These horizontal beams hold the steeple up. Four 8 ton concrete piers in the basement hold the steeple. The reconstruction was done in 1979-1981.

Time Capsule -This is located in the basement of the church. This was added during the restoration. Scheduled to be opened in 2080 it contains selected materials about the community and the church.

Website: <http://www.enfielducc.org>

The website contains additional historical information

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Self Guided Tour Enfield Congregational Church 2016 revised



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