

Rev. Dr. Anne Coffman

Rev. Anne was born in Lexington, Kentucky and grew up in Madison, Wisconsin. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, received her Master of Divinity from Yale Divinity School, and her Doctor of Ministry degree from Fuller Theological Seminary. She has ministerial standing with the United Church of Christ, American Baptists, and Disciples of Christ. She comes to us after successfully guiding the New Canaan Congregational Church for the last couple of years as Interim Senior Minister in their search for a new Settled Pastor. An expert in churches in transition and church growth for much of her ministry, we will be the 10th church in Fairfield County Rev. Anne has served.

Rev. Anne understands the importance of music in the worship experience. She has sung for as long as she can remember and was an undergraduate voice major. Since college she has sung professionally and has an impressive number of operatic roles in her repertoire. She likes to say, "Music is a window into our souls. It helps us see into our spiritual centers, and through music we can project outward what we cannot otherwise express. I have a plaque on my garden fence that I love. It says "singing is praying twice" and I really believe that is true."

She has been married to Paul Schmidt for 37 years. Paul is a former partner with Arthur Andersen and Ernst & Young, and currently serves as Senior Vice President, Finance for News America Marketing with his office in Wilton. Paul is also a musician, which is how he and Anne met. He has been the organist and choir director for a number of churches, and was recently the baritone soloist for a performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams's Five Mystical Songs with the Fountain Music Series in Ridgefield. Anne and Paul are the parents of three sons and they have six grandchildren.

Rev. Anne is looking forward to meeting all of you and she is excited to begin her ministry with Wilton Congregational Church!