



The Weekly Word from First Church of Christ

In God's presence there is fullness of



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

Member of the United Church of Christ
2183 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033
(860) 633-4641

Television Ministry: *LIVING THE WORD*,
Sundays, 12:00 noon, Cox Cable Channel 15

E-mail: firstchurch@glastonburyfirst.org

Fax: (860) 633-5826

Web site: www.glastonburyfirst.org






Today at First Church

February 19, 2012

- 9:00 a.m. **Worship Service & Child Care**
- 9:15 a.m. Church School
- 10:00 a.m. Cherub Choir, Room 112
- 10:30 a.m. **Worship Service & Child Care**
- 10:30 a.m. Sermon/Scripture Discussion, Room 202
- 11:45 a.m. All-Church Financial Meeting, Meetinghouse
- 1:00 p.m. Mission Trippers Depart, Church Parking Lot

Attention Parents!

We are in our unit called "The Boy's Lunch" (Feeding the 5000) and the schedule is below. For this **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19**, we have:

| | | |
|---|--|--|
|  | <u>Kindergarten & 1st grade</u> <i>pink</i> | Games Room 110 Amy E. Thompson |
|  | <u>2nd grade</u> <i>yellow</i> | Science Room 205 Rosemary Richter |
|  | <u>3rd grade</u> <i>purple</i> | Music Room 206 Shannon Jeroszko |
|  | <u>4th grade</u> <i>red</i> | Art Room 103 Tammy Gillespie |
|  | <u>5th grade + up</u> (non Puppets) <i>green</i> | Storytelling Room 111 Nicole Wronski |

Every week, we will have:

- **Preschool in Room 105.**
- **7th grade Puppets in Room 302.**
- **6th and 8th grade Puppets in Room 303.**

Church school runs until 10:10 a.m. today. If church gets out before then, we invite you to enjoy some fellowship in Schultz Hall.

(The complete unit schedule is posted throughout the church and online.)

Thinking of joining our Church?

There will be an informational prospective member gathering on **Sunday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.** for those who are interested in becoming members. Child care will be provided. New members will join on Sunday, March 25 at the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Please let us know of your interest by making a note in the fellowship pew pad during any Sunday morning worship service or by calling the church office at 860-633-4641 and speaking with Kathy Ciolkosz (extension 110).

Youth Leadership Training for Returning Heads Up! Hartford Campers

On Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25, 2012 there will be a leadership development overnight event for all who have participated for one year or more as a camper at Heads Up! Hartford. Participants will help shape and design aspects of the week-long camp, and receive training on how to take on a leadership role during activities and team dialogues at camp. The overnight will be held at East Granby Congregational Church. Arrival is 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, and it wraps up at 3 p.m. Sunday, after attending worship. Cost is \$25 to cover cost of food and materials. It's important to RSVP to Susan Sit at headsuphartford@gmail.com for planning purposes.

Questions? Anna Aramini: 860-638-8758 or counterbalance@snet.net.

Save the Date for Heads Up! Hartford

Heads Up! Hartford (HUH) is a faith-based group of urban and suburban youths -- along with adult advisors -- who get together for a week every summer and weekends through the year to build communities, through promotion of diversity, developing leadership and providing community service.

HUH camp dates for 2012 are Friday, June 22 through Friday, June 29 (starting in the evening). Camp is open to all students in grade 8 through 12 this school year. 8th graders are put on a waiting list until all older youth have registered.

Registration begins March 4 and ends April 8, 2012. Come to the youth table during Common Fellowship or contact Sara Hokunson (shokunson@aol.com or 860- 430-1677) or Kate Lawes (clawes@cox.net or 860-657-3188) if you have questions.

SCRIP for Big \$ - Making Mission Happen

What is SCRIP? SCRIPS are gift cards to be used in hundreds of places throughout the United States. Among the most popular are Stop and Shop, Whole Foods, WalMart, Cabella's, Starbucks, L. L. Bean, Chili's and more...

You make your regular purchases at these stores with a gift card instead of a credit/debit card. The church will receive back AS MUCH AS 18% of the value of the gift card. All of this money helps to offset the cost of the Senior High Fellowship Mission Trip to San Antonio, TX.

Online set-up is quick and easy, and your order can be picked up each week during Common Fellowship. Don't want to order online? Cash and Carry allows you to pay cash or write a check and take one of our gift cards in stock. Check out the SCRIP table on Sundays during Common Fellowship, or contact Kathleen Swahn, 860-633-2354 or Kathleen729@yahoo.com, with questions. **Thanks for supporting youth mission work here at First Church!**

Junior High Fellowship Retreat!

“Exciting!” “Awesome!” “Relaxing!” “Fun!”

Those are several of the words some of our 6th-8th graders used to describe past Silver Lake retreats. All 6th-8th graders are invited to go on our retreat March 16-March 18 at Silver Lake Conference Center in Sharon, CT. Permission slips are available in the youth room, on the website or from Kate and Andy. Registration deadline is Sunday, March 4, 2012.

Make it a Silver Lake Summer!

Attention parents of children in 3rd grade and up! Sign ups are now on for Silver Lake Conference Center’s amazing summer programs. Silver Lake is a ministry of the Connecticut Conference of the UCC and has hosted youth for summer camps since 1957. Each week throughout the summer they offer opportunities for children going into 4th grade to 12th grade, as well as several conferences for families. From baking to boating, ropes courses to theatre, weaving to wilderness survival, hiking and biking, and of course - Harry Potter; there is something for just about everyone. For more information or to register, go online to www.silverlakeect.org or talk to Andy Wicks.

Please join us for upcoming *Music at the Meetinghouse* events...

**THE CHOIRS OF FIRST CHURCH,
GLASTONBURY**

*Bach’s “Magnificat” and
Williams’ “Five Mystical Songs”*

Saturday, March 24, 2012 ~ 7:30 p.m.

BOYS IN HATS

*A program of traditional and
contemporary music from sea,
farm and railroad*

Saturday, April 28, 2012 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Eat Yo Eggs! Help Church School!

We need to collect 50 one-dozen egg cartons over the next month for a church school project. Please bring in your empty one-dozen egg cartons to Andy’s office on the first floor. What’s better than a healthy, protein rich breakfast and helping Jesus at the same time? I can’t think of anything. Except maybe volunteering to help lead our last RMC unit of the year...

Save the Date - Vacation Bible School!

Spread the word! This summer VBS will be held July 30 – August 3, from 9 a.m. to noon, here at First Church, for children age 4 and up. Registration during fellowship hour, coming soon! Feel free to contact Leslie Donovan (leslied@MCCUEMORTGAGE.com) with questions. *We look forward to another great year!*

SUPPORT MERCY HOUSING! We need You!

The Board of Christian Education warmly welcomes you to make a donation towards our Church School Mission Project in one of the Children’s offering envelopes located in the pews. Please note that any money in these envelopes will be put towards Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation, and weekly donations or pledge money must be put in regular offering envelopes.



Parents Please Note...

There will be no Cantabile, Cantate, Caroler or Mallets rehearsal this week due to the school vacation week in Glastonbury.

This Week at First Church

Monday, February 20, 2012

President's Day - Church Office Closed

- 7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Lehman Library
 7:00 p.m. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, Room 202

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

- 7:30 a.m. Potpourri, Kitchen
 7:15 p.m. Adult Bell Choir, Meetinghouse

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

Ash Wednesday

- 10:15 a.m. Mobile Foodshare Van, Church Parking Lot
 12:00 p.m. **Ash Wednesday Service**
 7:00 p.m. **Ash Wednesday Service**
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 23, 2012

- 9:30 a.m. Book Group, Lehman Library
 10:00 a.m. Prayer & Share Group, Quiet Room
 2:00 p.m. World Day of Prayer Rehearsal, Parlor

Saturday, February 25, 2012

- 10:00 a.m. Spirituality Prayer Circle, Quiet Room

Sunday, February 26, 2012

- 9:00 a.m. **Worship Service & Child Care**
 Church School
 10:30 a.m. **Worship Service & Child Care**
 10:30 a.m. Scripture/Sermon Discussion Group, Room 202



One Great Hour of Sharing

On Sunday, March 4, your child will come home with a coin box that will be collected on April 1 during the children's message in church. The money collected will be donated to **One Great Hour of Sharing** (OGHS). The theme for this year is "**Sharing brings joy to us. To others. To God.**" When the coin boxes are handed out, we will include a letter and a calendar that you can use to help your children learn more about the good they are doing by giving away money.

OGHS is a non-profit, ecumenical ministry that provides for the needy all over the world. This group represents the disaster relief, refugee response, and long-term development work of ten Protestant denominations, including our denomination, the United Church of Christ. Most of their focus is overseas, but they also recognize and support similar needs in the United States. *OGHS responds to a new disaster on average every 2.5 days!*

MINISTERS

All the members of the church
 Pastor Emeritus The Rev. Dr. Carl F. Schultz, Jr.

PASTORS

The Rev. David T. Taylor, *Senior Pastor*
 The Rev. Kate VanDerzee-Glidden, *Associate Pastor*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rebecca Fleahman, <i>Office Manager</i> | Angela Salcedo, <i>Director of Music Ministries</i> | Cheryl Foley, <i>Child Care Provider</i> |
| Roger Yost, <i>Facilities Manager</i> | Kathy Ciolkosz, <i>Administrative Assistant</i> | Jennifer Giguere, <i>Publications Specialist</i> |
| Peggy Hartman, <i>Director of Cherub Choir, Mallets and Accompanist</i> | Sue Falotico, <i>Director of Adult Bell Choir and Accompanist</i> | |
| The Rev. Gordon Bates, <i>Minister of Visitation</i> | Valerie Escalera, <i>Program Administrator</i> | Karin Carlino, <i>Church School Administrator</i> |
| Andy Wicks, <i>Director of Christian Education and Assistant Director of Youth Ministries</i> | | |



2012 First Church Family Meeting
Friday, March 2, 5:30-8:45 p.m. and Saturday, March 3, 8:15-11:30 a.m.
at the Riverfront Community Center

Mark your calendars! We are excited about and look forward to attending the 2012 First Church Family Meeting with you on March 2 & 3! This gathering of our church family will mark a vitally important step in setting the direction of First Church's future. Throughout February you'll hear about all the things we've accomplished since the last meeting in 2004. These "Ta Da's!" serve as a great reminder about the wonderful things we have achieved and they will also be sure to spark new ideas. We hope all members will make every effort to attend our Family Meeting as together we move Forward in Faith.

This two-part Family Meeting will be held at the Glastonbury Riverfront Community Center. We will begin Friday, March 2nd from 5:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. and continue on Saturday, March 3, from 8:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. We'll kick off the Friday evening meeting by sharing dinner from 5:30 to 6:15. Saturday morning will begin with continental breakfast from 8:15 to 8:30. Childcare will be provided in the Church toddler room during both meetings for babies and young children under age 4. Older children (ages 4 to 13) will participate in crafts at the Community Center and our high school youth are encouraged to actively participate in the meeting. We hope that everyone can attend or at least have a representative from each First Church family at the meetings, so please sign up!

For more information, please stop by the Family Meeting Information Table in Schultz Hall during Common Fellowship. You can sign up by completing the form immediately below and placing it in the offering plate, by completing a form at our table in Schultz Hall or by contacting Heather Jackson by email heather.jackson@cox.net or phone (860-633-6489). Looking forward to seeing you on March 2 & 3!

FIRST CHURCH 2012 FAMILY MEETING SIGN UP

Please provide the following information: *(Please Print)*

Family Representative(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number Attending - # Adults _____ # Children _____

Children's Names & Ages _____

Do you need childcare for children under age 4? _____

I plan to attend:

- Both Friday night and Saturday morning Friday night only or Saturday morning only



Worship



This week the First Church Strategic Planning Committee is highlighting another vital part of our church life—Worship. We hope you are impressed by the progress we have made in this area since our last family meeting in 2004 (please see our “Ta Da” list posted outside Schultz Hall), but there is so much more that we need to do! Please join us in March because we need **your** vision and ideas to move “forward in faith.”

Below are a few thought provoking questions for you to ponder about this “bucket”:

During the school year, we offer two one-hour worship services on Sunday mornings; during the summer months, we offer a single one-hour worship service. These questions are intended to learn what brings you to church, to elicit your views about the content of our worship services and music, and to hear your ideas for exploring alternative worship approaches:

1. If you could wave a magic wand, how would you go about making First Church worship more of a priority in peoples’ lives?
2. What have you seen/experienced at other churches that might work at First Church?
3. What types of music would you like to explore? If we wanted to try something different, what changes would excite you?