

# The Weekly Word from First Church of Christ



## FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

Member of the United Church of Christ  
An open, welcoming and affirming congregation  
2183 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033  
860-633-4641

Television Ministry: *LIVING THE WORD*,  
Sundays, 7:30 a.m. and noon, Cox Cable Channel 15  
E-mail: [firstchurch@glastonburyfirst.org](mailto:firstchurch@glastonburyfirst.org)  
Website: [www.glastonburyfirst.org](http://www.glastonburyfirst.org)

### Today at First Church






8:00 a.m. *Worship Service & Child Care*  
10:00 a.m. *Worship Service & Child Care*  
10:15 a.m. Church School  
11:00 a.m. Cherub Choir, Room 112  
6:00 p.m. Sr. High Fellowship, Youth Room

October 11, 2015



### Church School Schedule

**Attention Parents:** We are in our unit called "Creation," and the schedule is below. Please note: 4th and 5th grade classes are combined for this unit.

	<u>Kindergarten &amp; 1st grade</u> <i>pink</i>	<b>Games</b> <b>Room 110</b> <b>Karen Simmons</b>
	<u>2nd grade</u> <i>yellow</i>	<b>Science</b> <b>Room 205</b> <b>Susan Clancy</b>
	<u>3rd grade</u> <i>purple</i>	<b>Art</b> <b>Rom 103</b> <b>Shannon Jeroszko</b>
	<u>4th grade</u> <i>red</i>	<b>Movie</b> <b>Room 102</b> <b>Cheryl Zebold</b>
	<u>5th grade</u> <i>green</i>	<b>Movie</b> <b>Room 102</b> <b>Cheryl Zebold</b>

Preschool is in Room 105. Children in grades 6-8 can choose between Puppet Troupe in 204/206, and Explore in the Youth Room.

The kindergarteners and first graders will go to Cherub Choir as part of their Church School experience. Please pick up your children at 11:30 a.m. in Room 112.

Church School runs until 11:10 a.m. today. If the service ends earlier than that, please enjoy some time in Schultz Hall before picking up your children. Thanks for your cooperation!

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

Please note that the monies collected in the envelopes with this logo are used to support the 2015-2016 Church School Mission Project, **The Children's Wellness Center**. We suggest a donation of \$1 per week.



## Looking Ahead – Our Thanksgiving Offering

For a number of years now, First Church's annual Thanksgiving offering has supported two wonderful programs that reach out to persons in need – the **Bloomfield Backpack Project** and **Back Bay Mission** of Biloxi, Mississippi. Our generous dollars have reached “the poorest of the poor” who are served by the United Church of Christ mission agency on the Gulf coast, and children in nearby Bloomfield for whom a backpack of food over the weekend can make them better students on Monday morning!

On September 21 our church council voted to affirm the recommendation of the Board of Christian Service that our Thanksgiving offering once again include a donation to each of these two vital mission partners. In addition, the Board of Christian Service recommended that the needs of **Syrian refugees** also should be the recipient of our Christian love. The council overwhelmingly endorsed this recommendation!

In order not to dilute our annual giving to Back Bay Mission and to the Bloomfield Backpack Project, **a goal was set for \$6,000 for our Thanksgiving offering**, so that we might generously support all three worthy causes.

Your **Thanksgiving offering contribution** can be sent to the church office at any time, or simply put in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, with checks made out to “*First Church*” with the memo line, “*Thanksgiving offering.*”

Meanwhile, we are still receiving **gifts for the desperate need of the refugees in the Middle East and Europe**. Those designated gifts can be made with a check to “*First Church*” with the memo line, “*Syrian crisis.*”

The time is now for First Church to arise with its compassionate and caring heart to reach out with God's love to children in need both near and far!

## Stewardship Quiz

Think you know a lot about First Church?  
See how well you do on our Stewardship Quiz!!

**Question: What was the average pledge received in 2015?**

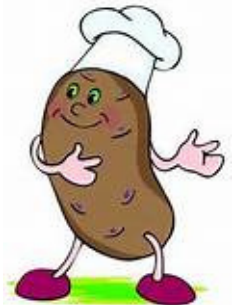
- A. \$2,343.00
- B. \$1,000.00
- C. \$3,032.00
- D. \$700.00



**Answer: A.** The estimated median income for a Gastonbury household is \$101,076. For a family with that household income, a 3% pledge would amount to a \$3,032 yearly pledge (or \$58.00 a week).

## Volunteers Needed for Potato Booth at Apple Fest October 17-18

We're excited to be operating our Potato Booth again this year at Apple Fest! The Youth Board is working hard to coordinate this operation, and they need your help! We're asking youth and parents to volunteer to help with sales at the Potato Booth on **October 17 and 18**. Youth volunteers are especially needed! Please contact Jack Farrell at [jack@gastonburyfirst.org](mailto:jack@gastonburyfirst.org). Thank you!



## Reading Changes Lives! Volunteer at Wish School

Volunteers from First Church have been helping kindergarten students at Fred Wish Elementary School in Hartford with basic reading skills. We hope to encourage their love of reading by spending time with each child reading books, talking about what excites them and what they have learned from the stories. Books appropriate for their grade level and skills are provided. It is rewarding to see their progress and how proud they are when they begin to read to us. Volunteers spend two hours weekly on a day of their choice. If you are interested or have questions call Sally Riddell at 860-657-8715 or email at [grammasal@att.net](mailto:grammasal@att.net).

## Butterbraids are Back!

Pre-sale orders for our delicious winter pastry will be held on **Sunday, October 24, and Sunday, November 1**. This is part of our Cookie Walk fundraiser. If you are ready to fill your freezers once again with these breakfast or dessert pastries that bake in 25 minutes, stop by the Music Board table and order one or more! These will be available for pick-up with your payment at the Cookie Walk on December 5.

*Music at the Meetinghouse Presents...*



**Saturday,  
November 7  
7:30 p.m.**

A donation of  
\$10 per person  
is suggested. \$20  
family maximum.

***The Blue-Eyed Soul Legend***

## Bloomfield Backpack Project: Service and Supper!



Come help to feed the hungry and then share a quick meal together! In partnership with Foodshare and other local churches, we will be providing backpacks filled with 11 pounds of nonperishable food to 100 Bloomfield children in need. Come join us on the **2nd Thursday of the month from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** We are organizing the following groups but **anyone and everyone** is welcome to join us on any date that works for you! Call Karen Vigeant at 860-432-4985 or [K4kota@cox.net](mailto:K4kota@cox.net) to sign up or feel free to sign up on the poster outside of the Christian Education office.

**November 12:** JH & SH Fellowship  
More dates: **December 10, January 14,  
February 11, March 10,  
April 14, May 12 and June 9.**

## Rummage Sale Items and Help Needed, October 23 & 24

The fall Rummage Sale will be on **Friday, October 23 from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 24 from 9:00 a.m. to noon**. Donations can be left in Room 203 beginning Sunday, October 11 (office is closed October 12), and on the stage in Schultz Hall beginning Monday, October 19. We will be accepting donations through Thursday, October 22. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the sale. Please contact Nancy Higgins at 860-573-6092 or Suzanne Schwartz at 860-430-1350 if you have any questions about donations or volunteering.



# This Week at First Church

## **Monday, October 12, 2015: Office closed**

6:30 p.m. Junior High Fellowship,  
Youth Room

## **Tuesday, October 13, 2015**

9:45 a.m. Prayer and Share, Parlor  
7:00 p.m. Executive Committee,  
Lehman Library  
7:00 p.m. Jubilate Ringers, Meetinghouse

## **Wednesday, October 14, 2015**

10:15 a.m. Mobile Foodshare  
5:00 p.m. Caroler Choir

## **Thursday, October 15, 2015**

9:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Study Group,  
Lehman Library  
12:00 p.m. Brown Bag Lunch: *Kate's Summer  
Adventures*, Schultz Hall  
4:00 p.m. Cantate Choir  
5:00 p.m. Ribbon Work  
5:00 p.m. Mallets Bell Choir  
6:00 p.m. Cantabile Choir  
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

## **Saturday, October 17, 2015**

SH Fellowship at Apple Fest  
Potato Booth

## **Sunday, October 18, 2015**

**8:00 a.m. Worship Service & Child Care**  
**10:00 a.m. Worship Service & Child Care**  
SH Fellowship at Apple Fest  
Potato Booth  
10:15 a.m. Church School  
11:00 a.m. Cherub Choir, Room 112

## Foodshare Help Needed

Beside distributing food to needy people in our parking lot twice a month, our volunteers collect food from ShopRite in East Hartford, bringing 500 to 1,000 lbs of meat, produce, baked goods and groceries weekly to shelters and soup kitchens in Hartford. If you would like to help, please contact John Dugan at 860-659-2193 or Paul Fraleigh at 860-643-1571.



## Brown Bag Lunch October 15

**Kate's Summer Adventures!** Come see photos from Kate and Rob's family trip to Maine and New Brunswick! They followed the Atlantic Ocean northeast through the beautiful Acadia National Park in Maine, stopped at the easternmost point in the USA at West Quoddy Head lighthouse, and into the Bay of Fundy in New Brunswick, home of the most dramatic tides in the world. Andrew and Lucas smiled and threw rocks every step of the way! We hope to see you for this fun and informal travelogue lunch! It's "BYOL" - bring your own lunch, but beverages and dessert will be provided. **Please RSVP to the church office and join us in Schultz Hall from 12:00 - 1:15 p.m.**

### MINISTERS

*All the members of the church*  
*Pastor Emeritus The Rev. Dr. Carl F. Schultz, Jr. (1932 - 2012)*

### 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>
Wes Grove, <i>Facilities Manager</i>	Kathy Ciolkosz, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Karin Carlino, <i>Church School Administrator</i>
The Rev. Gordon Bates, <i>Minister of Visitation</i>	Jack Farrell, <i>Director of Children and Youth Ministries</i>	Valerie Escalera, <i>Program Administrator</i>
Susan Feller, <i>Publications Specialist</i>	Peggy Hartman, <i>Director of Handbell Program and Children's Choirs</i>	