

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
Website: www.glastonburyfirst.org






Today at First Church: World Communion Sunday October 4, 2015

8:00 a.m.	Worship Service & Child Care
8:30 a.m.	Board of Lay Life and Ministry, Room 202
10:00 a.m.	Worship Service & Child Care
10:15 a.m.	Church School
11:00 a.m.	Cherub Choir, Room 112
11:20 a.m.	Board of Christian Education, Lehman Library
4:30 p.m.	Spark! Worship Service
5:30 p.m.	Dinner after worship, Schultz Hall
6:00 p.m.	Sr. High Fellowship, Youth Room



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 & 1st grade</u> <i>pink</i>	Storytelling Room 111 Victor Grin
	<u>2nd grade</u> <i>yellow</i>	Art Rom 103 Shannon Jeroszko
	<u>3rd grade</u> <i>purple</i>	Movie Room 102 Cheryl Zebold
	<u>4th grade</u> <i>red</i>	Games Room 110 Karen Simmons
	<u>5th grade</u> <i>green</i>	Games Room 110 Karen Simmons

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.)

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!

Music at the Meetinghouse Presents...

**GRAYSON HUGH
with POLLY MESSER**



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

The Blue-Eyed Soul Legend

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

First Church at Apple Fest 2015

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**. Greg LaChance has set up an online sign-up system, which you can access at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949aea72fabf49-apple>. Thank you!

Reading Changes Lives! Volunteer at Wish Elementary 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.

Serve a Meal in Hartford October 12

Four times a year, we provide the food and servers for a meal for the hungry in Hartford. Our first meal of this program year will be **Monday, October 12**. You can sign



up in Schultz Hall starting Sunday, September 20. For more questions or to volunteer, please contact Sharon Conway at shartc@cox.net or Suzanne Schwartz at 860-430-1350.

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. With more volunteers, we can better support and expand our help to those in need. If you would like to help, please contact John Dugan at 860-659-2193 or Paul Fraleigh at 860-643-1571.

Spark! Service Debuts Today!

We've heard your comments about offering a different type of worship



experience at a different time of day. **So starting TODAY, Spark!, a new worship service, will have its debut!** These monthly services (on the first Sunday of each month at 4:30 p.m.) will be spiritually moving, feature contemporary music and allow parishioners to interact in meaningful ways throughout the service. Children are always welcome, but childcare will be provided for the littlest among us for those who desire it. **This afternoon, we will gather for a time of fellowship after the worship service and eat a simple meal of soup and bread together. All are welcome to join us!**

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.**

This Week at First Church

Monday, October 5, 2015

5:45 p.m. Youth Board, Youth Room
 7:00 p.m. Board of Christian Service,
 Room 204
 7:00 p.m. Board of Deacons, Parlor
 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees, Room 202

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

7:30 a.m. Potpourri, Kitchen
 9:45 a.m. Prayer and Share, Parlor
 7:00 p.m. Jubilate Ringers, Meetinghouse

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

5:00 p.m. Caroler Choir
 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Youth Room
 6:30 p.m. Board of Music, Lehman Library
 7:00 p.m. Church Growth and
 Membership, Room 202

Thursday, October 8, 2015

9:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Study Group,
 Lehman Library
 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
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 11, 2015

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

Rummage Sale 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.

Stewardship Quiz

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

Question: How much does the United Church of Christ (UCC) give to support First Church on a yearly basis?

- A. \$28,000
- B. \$150,000
- C. It varies year to year based upon the UCC's annual fundraising efforts
- D. Nothing



Answer: D. The members of First Church are responsible for funding our mission and outreach. It is up to all of us!

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 Ministry</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>	