

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






November 8, 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
11:30 a.m.	Micah Center at Hale House Information Session, Parlor
4:00 p.m.	Second Sunday Book Club, Lehman Library
4:00 p.m.	Spark! Planning Meeting, Room 202
6:00 p.m.	Senior High Fellowship, Youth Room



Church School Schedule

Attention Parents: We are in our unit called "Out of Egypt," and the schedule is below. Please note: some classes are combined for this unit.

	<u>Kindergarten & 1st grade</u> <i>pink</i>	Movie Room 102 Bryce Grissom
	<u>2nd grade</u> <i>yellow</i>	Art Room 103 Carol Kimmel
	<u>3rd grade</u> <i>purple</i>	Art Room 103 Carol Kimmel
	<u>4th grade</u> <i>red</i>	Cooking Room 205 Susan Bonitsky
	<u>5th grade</u> <i>green</i>	Cooking Room 205 Susan Bonitsky

Preschool is in Room 105. Children in grades 6-8 can choose between Puppet Troupe in 302/303, 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.)

The Micah Center Information Sessions

You are invited to bring your questions and hear more about the proposed Micah Center at the Hale House at one of our three information sessions. The first one is **today at 11:30 a.m.**, in the Lehman Library. Another session is scheduled for tomorrow, **November 9, at 7:00 p.m.**, also in the Library, with a final session to be held next **Sunday, November 15, at 11:30 a.m.** The congregational meeting to vote on the project will take place on **November 22 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Meetinghouse.

Church School Mission Project

This year's Church School Mission Project is about helping support healthy lifestyles for children of low-income families in Hartford. **The best way to support our goal of raising \$10,000 is through our weekly Children's Offering donations!** Be the family that gets us there and make your Children's Offering donations!

Refugee Resettlement Open Informational Session

The Board of Christian Service invites you to attend an open, informational session to explore the possibility of our congregation once again welcoming and sponsoring refugees into our



community. Over many decades, First Church has a rich tradition of "welcoming the stranger" as exhorted by our Biblical tradition. While year after year there are more than 10 million refugees in the

world at any given time, the current plight of Syrian refugees has once again brought this critical need to our attention. On **Monday, November 23, at 7:00 p.m.**, Chris George, church member and executive director of IRIS, Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services, will be on hand to offer a step-by-step overview of how a congregation like First Church might sponsor either Syrian refugees, or any other refugees who have been living for years in refugee camps. Come and hear more, and consider being a part of a First Church initiative to reach out to someone searching for a home, just as Mary and Joseph were on a search for a place to lay their heads!

Last Chance To Sign Up for Our Mission Immersion Day



Spend some time on **November 14** helping others and spreading God's love. If you can spare just a few hours, you can **sort food** at the Foodshare distribution center in Hartford, **put together**

Christmas packages for children and families on the Cheyenne River Lakota (Sioux) Indian Reservation through Hawkwing in Glastonbury, work on **simple home repair jobs** through First Church Coventry's affordable housing program, or **make soup, cookies and cards and deliver them** to our First Church members. If you can't join us that day, we invite you to drop off a bar of soap that will go in the Christmas packages for the Hawkwing families. You can leave your bar of soap at the sign up table in Schultz Hall or in the back lobby in the designated box. For more information or to sign up for this mission experience, go to the table during Common Fellowship or contact Linda Sill at LindaSinCT@yahoo.com or 860-430-1676.

Collecting Turkeys and Twenties

Foodshare is the heart of greater Hartford's fight against hunger, and each year First Church members and friends bring in turkeys and raise money to help our neighbors in need. On **November 22, help us reach our goal of 250 turkeys this year!** If you have questions, contact Nagy Mishriki at nmishri@gmail.com or Jon Brown at 860-657-9223 or brownjre@cox.net.

Multi-Faith Prayer Breakfast

Join in multi-faith prayer, music, education and reflection, "There is Abundance in Hartford," on **Thursday, November 12 at 7:15 a.m. at The Artists Collective, 1200 Albany Avenue, Hartford.** For information: <http://ghpb.weebly.com/>. **Free parking.**

We Need Your Time & Talent!

Time & Talent forms are available in the back lobby and the narthex to fill out if we don't have one on file from you or if your interests have changed. There are so many ways you can help!

Butterbraids are Back!

Pre-sale orders for our delicious winter pastry will be held **today**. 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 at the Cookie Walk on December 5.**

Cookie Walk and Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 5, 2015

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

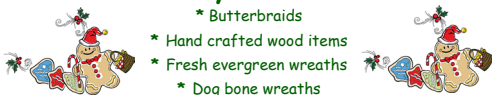
Volunteers Needed!!

* TO BAKE DELICIOUS COOKIES

* TO HELP AT THE EVENT

Please contact Alison Franklin at amfranklin1@cox.net or sign up on our website www.glastonburyfirst.org

Festive Holiday Cookies and More



- * Butterbraids
- * Hand crafted wood items
- * Fresh evergreen wreaths
- * Dog bone wreaths
- * Handmade quilt, table runners and hand towels
- * First Church Choirs CD: "Praise and Thanksgiving"
- * SERRV products

Cookie Walk proceeds to benefit the First Church music programs.

Children's Choirs will sing carols at 9:30 a.m.

Stewardship Update

In 2015, we received 305 pledges totaling \$716,000. We currently have received 202 pledges totaling \$604,557. If you have not done so please complete your pledge as soon as possible or contact the First Church Office Manager (Rebecca Fleahman; e-mail: rebeccafleahman@glastonburyfirst.org; Phone: 860-633-4641 ext. 122) to provide your pledge for 2016. Thank you for your support!!

Bloomfield Backpack Project

Come join us on the **2nd Thursday of the month from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** to fill backpacks with food for Bloomfield children in need. Contact Karen Vigeant at 860-432-4985 or karenvigeant@outlook.com to sign up or feel free to sign up on the poster outside of the Christian Education office for **November 12** or another date.

First Church's 43rd Annual Harvest Supper & Talent Show

November 21 from 5-8 PM, Saturday night (THAT'S NEW!!)

Riverfront Community Center, Welles St., Glastonbury

A Pot Luck with NO last name assignments (THAT'S NEW TOO!!)

Please bring **YOUR favorite dish** to share with 8 and ready to be served (carved, sliced, etc.)

LET "THE SHOW" BEGIN!

Headliners (Entrée dish) – How about a roasted chicken, a pan of lasagna, or meatballs?

Co-Starring (Vegetables) – Roasted veggies are nice, or some glazed carrots? Salad anyone?

Understudies (Pasta, Rice, Potato) – Rice pilaf? Scalloped potatoes? Baked ziti?

Grand Finale (Dessert) – Pie (sweet potato, apple...) or maybe those killer cookies?

What role will YOU play?

Stop by our table during Common Fellowship to reserve your seat. Reservations can also be made through 11/26 by calling the church office at 860-633-4642, or emailing Sandi Philbrook at novakgr1@sbcglobal.net.

Suggested donation: \$5 per person, \$25 family

And join us for an **Encore** of entertainment provided by talented members of our First Church family. Children's activities will also be provided.

Brought to you by LAY LIFE AND MINISTRY



This Week at First Church

Monday, November 9, 2015

6:30 p.m. JH Fellowship, Youth Room
 7:00 p.m. Micah Center at Hale House
 Information Session, Parlor

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

9:45 a.m. Prayer and Share, Parlor
 4:00 p.m. Biography Book Group,
 Lehman Library
 7:00 p.m. Jubilate Ringers, Meetinghouse
 7:00 p.m. Executive Committee,
 Lehman Library

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

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

Thursday, November 12, 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
 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

Saturday, November 14, 2015

off-site Mission Immersion Day
 8:00 a.m. Choir Breakfast, Schultz Hall
 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Meetinghouse

Sunday, November 15, 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
 11:30 a.m. Micah Center at Hale House
 Information Session, Parlor
 6:00 p.m. SH Fellowship, Youth Room

“So Hallowed and So Gracious is the Time” – Art for the Advent and Christmas Season

For centuries, musicians have been inspired by “**our Saviour’s birth**” to compose works of great beauty, and those compositions have come to be an important part of our Christmas celebration. Though less familiar than music, the visual arts can also enhance and enrich our experience of the birth of the Christ Child. Through the centuries, artists, painters and sculptors have sought to capture the wonder of the Incarnation. A deeper understanding and appreciation of some of these works of art, and their scriptural origins, can likewise enrich our experience of this holy season.

For four Thursdays, the **Thursday Morning Study Group** will look at works of art, and the artists, whose inspiration came from the Christmas story. There will be presentations by the participants who will reflect on this art, some of which can be found in nearby museums such as the Yale Art Gallery, the New Britain Museum of Art and the Wadsworth Athenaeum.

Come one, come all, for this seasonal series on religious and spiritual art! Please call the church office at 860-633-4641 to reserve your space at the table, and join us on **November 19 and December 3, 10 and 17.**

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>	