



**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**






**December 13, 2015**

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship Service & Child Care**  
*A Quiet Christmas*  
**Worship Service & Child Care**
- 10:00 a.m. **A Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**
- 11:00 a.m. 2nd & 3rd Grade Bake Sale
- 12:00 p.m. Spark! Meeting, Lehman Library
- 3:00 p.m. Advent Workshop, Schultz Hall
- 6:00 p.m. SHF Christmas Party, Youth Room



**Church School Schedule**

**Attention Parents:** We are in our unit called “Journey to Bethlehem,” and the schedule is below. Please note: some classes are combined for this unit.

	<u>Kindergarten &amp; 1st grade</u> <i>pink</i>	<b>Storytelling</b> <b>Room 111</b> <b>Susan Crisafulli</b>
	<u>2nd grade</u> <i>yellow</i>	<b>Art</b> <b>Room 103</b> <b>Judy Harding</b>
	<u>3rd grade</u> <i>purple</i>	<b>Art</b> <b>Room 103</b> <b>Judy Harding</b>
	<u>4th grade</u> <i>red</i>	<b>Attend</b> <b>Lessons &amp; Carols</b>
	<u>5th grade</u> <i>green</i>	<b>Attend</b> <b>Lessons &amp; Carols</b>

Preschool is in Room 105. Children in grades 4-8 will remain in the service.

The preschoolers through third graders will go to Church School today, while older students will remain in the service.

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

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

## **Bake Sale TODAY!**

Cute kids + baked goods + great initiative = WIN!  
Come and get some goodies at our 2nd and 3rd graders' Bake Sale! All proceeds support the Church School Mission Project, which in turn helps improve the health and wellness of low-income families and their children in the Hartford area through the Children's Wellness Center, an initiative of Family Life Education! Come on out and support our youth so they can support so many others!

## **Food Collection**

Our donations for our neighbors in need go to Horace Bushnell Children's Food Pantry in Hartford and MACC. **In December, we are collecting peanut butter, oatmeal and other items people are willing to donate.** Thanks for your help!

## **Volunteer at Mobile Foodshare or Help Deliver Food**

Mobile Foodshare is a "farmer's market" style food distribution service that provides fresh produce and other food items to between 90 and 150 lower income people. Foodshare sponsors this service, and it takes place every other Wednesday in our back parking lot (**December 9 and 23**). If you are interested in volunteering (adults, youth and children are welcome!), contact Sally Riddell at 860-657-8715.

Besides 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.

## **Please Join Our Baby for the World Gift Giving on Christmas Eve**

At **4:30 p.m. on December 24**, our youth will be presenting the story of the birth of Jesus with music and pageantry at this service designed especially for the youth of our congregation.

The children of First Church will remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus by participating in a special offering that will go towards babies in our community who need help. **We ask that each child bring one of the following items to this service as an offering during the pageant: baby food, formula, warm blanket, diapers or wipes.**

During the offertory all of the children will be invited to come forward to the manger and donate their gifts in the designated boxes. **These boxes will remain for the later services so that older children and adults may also donate items.** All items will be donated to babies in the Greater Hartford Area through **Covenant to Care**. Thank you!

## **Giving Tree Gifts Due Today**

This year First Church sponsored four organizations with our Giving Tree. The remaining gifts need to be delivered back to First Church unwrapped **TODAY (stocking, tree and bell tags)**. Thank you for your generosity!

## **Purchase SERRV Handcrafts**

The Board of Christian Service will offer products from SERRV for sale **during Common Fellowship until December 20**. You're sure to find wonderful Christmas gifts for the people on your list! Through SERRV orders, artisans and farmers in more than 30 countries earn a fair income, send their children to school, develop vital community projects like water wells and medical clinics, and improve their skills through training.



## Pageant Rehearsals



### Christmas PAGEANT

The Christmas Pageant takes place at our **4:30 p.m. service on Christmas Eve**. Below are the rehearsal dates. Contact Jack Farrell for information at [jack@glastonburyfirst.org](mailto:jack@glastonburyfirst.org)!

**Sunday, December 20: 6:00-8:00 p.m.,**  
Pageant Rehearsal

**Tuesday, December 22: 6:00-8:00 p.m.,**  
Pageant Rehearsal

**Wednesday, December 23: 6:00-8:00 p.m.,**  
Pageant Rehearsal

**Thursday, December 24: Call for Pageant**  
**3:00 p.m., Pageant is at 4:30 p.m.**

## Boston Choir Trip December 19



The Cantate and Cantabile Choirs will travel to Boston on **Saturday, December 19, from 7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**, to sing Christmas Carols at Faneuil Hall Marketplace. The trip will entail a morning visit to the Boston Science Museum, lunch at Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Christmas shopping and singing on the grounds of the Marketplace from 2:00-3:00 p.m. **Please confirm your child's participation on this trip by December 17.**



Stay up to date with what's going on around church, and "like" us!

## Family Advent Workshop



**TODAY!! 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Schultz Hall**

**Come join us for crafts, fun and refreshments while exploring how countries around the world celebrate Christmas!**

*All are welcome!*

## Donate to the Wellness Center



THE LOUISE FARLE LOOMIS  
CHILDREN'S  
WELLNESS CENTER

Consider giving a donation to this year's Church School Mission Project, **The Children's Wellness Center**, as a Christmas gift to mom, dad, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, sisters, teachers, bus drivers or anyone else on your list!

Every year the Church School teams up with a local or international mission to help our neighbors near and far. This year's Church School Mission Project is to help fund a teaching kitchen at the exciting new **Children's Wellness Center** in Hartford. The Center promotes overall wellness among lower-income city children from birth through age 12 through three interlocking components: nutrition, exercise/movement and early childhood development. You can help us raise our goal of \$10,000! If you would like to make a contribution to this special project, please make your check payable to "First Church of Christ," with **Wellness Center** in the memo line. Acknowledgement postcards are available to provide to loved ones.

# This Week at First Church

## Monday, December 14, 2015

6:30 p.m. JH Fellowship, Youth Room  
 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry,  
 Lehman Library

## Tuesday, December 15, 2015

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

## Wednesday, December 16, 2015

8:00 a.m. Women's Theological Reflection  
 Group, Lehman Library  
 9:00 a.m. Library Volunteers  
 5:00 p.m. Caroler Choir

## Thursday, December 17, 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, December 19, 2015

7:30 a.m. Choir Trip to Boston

## Sunday, December 20, 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. Pageant Rehearsal, Meetinghouse



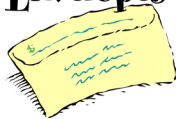
## Harvest Supper Thank You!

A big SHOUT OUT to everyone that came out to support our 43rd Annual Harvest Supper & Talent Show. The food was fabulous and the fellowship outstanding. The members of the Board of Lay Life and Ministry would also like our talented entertainers to take another bow. Your jokes, puppeteering, music and song, dancing and magic tricks were so appreciated!

## Offering Envelopes Are Here!

Please pick up a 2016 boxed set of offering envelopes in Schultz Hall. They are no longer

**Offering  
 Envelopes**



labeled or numbered, so please remember to print your first and last name if you contribute cash so it can be included on your giving statement. Thank you!

## Church Office Holiday Schedule



**December 24-25** Office closed  
**December 28-31** Open 9:00 a.m.  
 to 1:00 p.m.  
**January 1** Office closed  
 Regular office hours resume on **January 4.**

### 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, *Office Manager*

Wes Grove, *Facilities Manager*

Angela Salcedo, *Director of Music Ministries*

Kathy Ciolkosz, *Administrative Assistant*

Cheryl Foley, *Child Care Provider*

Karin Carlino, *Church School Administrator*

The Rev. Gordon Bates, *Minister of Visitation*

Susan Feller, *Publications Specialist*

Jack Farrell, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*

Peggy Hartman, *Director of Handbell Program and Children's Choirs*

Valerie Escalera, *Program Administrator*