



**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

December 27, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Worship Service & Child Care (One Service)

11:30 a.m.

Biloxi Misson Trip Meeting, Youth Room



Spark! Afternoon Service January 3



Spark!, our new worship service, had a rousing debut in October. These monthly services (on the *first Sunday of each month at 4:30 p.m.*) are spiritually moving, feature uplifting 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. We are an open, welcoming and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, and all are welcome to join us!

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.



Donate to The Wellness Center

Consider giving a donation to this year's Church School Mission Project, *The Children's Wellness Center*. Donations are accepted in the form of cash or checks – please make checks payable to First Church with *Children's Wellness Center* written in the memo line. Thank you for supporting the Church School Mission Project and helping our children help Hartford's children lead healthy, sustainable lives!

Mission Immersion February 6

Join us *Saturday, February 6* to volunteer and help others. If you can spare just a few hours, we invite you to sign up! For more information or to sign up, go to the table during fellowship hour in January or contact Tina Sparrow at tsparrow21@gmail.com or 860-430-9484.

Refugee Resettlement Update

Over many decades, First Church has a rich tradition of “welcoming the stranger” as exhorted by our Biblical tradition. The Board of Christian Service held an information meeting on November 23 with Chris George, Executive Director of IRIS. Some parishioners went to an informational session at IRIS about sponsoring a refugee family, and the Board of Christian Service enthusiastically endorsed this initiative. A committee is being formed to begin the process of sponsoring a family. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Nagy Mishriky (860-214-5240 or nmishri@gmail.com), member of the Board of Christian Service, or come to a meeting on **January 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

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. 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.

Offering Envelopes Are Here!

Please pick up a 2016 boxed set of offering envelopes in Schultz Hall. They are not labeled or numbered, so please print your name if you contribute cash so it can be included on your giving statement. Thank you!

This Week at First Church

Friday, January 1, 2016

Happy New Year! Office closed.

Sunday, January 3, 2016

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

11:20 a.m. Board of Christian Education,

Lehman Library

4:30 p.m. *Spark! Worship & Child Care*

6:00 p.m. SH Fellowship, Youth Room

Serve Lunch on January 18

On **Monday, January 18**, we will provide the food and servers for lunch at Center City Church through Hands on Hartford. Please sign up during Common Fellowship or contact Sharon Conway at shartc@cox.net or Suzanne Schwartz at 860-430-1350.

Food Collection

Our donations for our neighbors in need go to Horace Bushnell Children’s Food Pantry in Hartford and MACC. ***In January, we are collecting crackers, canned meat and other items people are willing to donate.*** Thanks for your help!

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*

Angela Salcedo, *Director of Music Ministries*

Cheryl Foley, *Child Care Provider*

Wes Grove, *Facilities Manager*

Kathy Ciolkosz, *Administrative Assistant*

Karin Carlino, *Church School Administrator*

The Rev. Gordon Bates, *Minister of Visitation*

Jack Farrell, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*

Valerie Escalera, *Program Administrator*

Susan Feller, *Publications Specialist*

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