

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

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.	CE Board, Lehman Library
4:30 p.m.	Spark! Worship, Meetinghouse
6:00 p.m.	SHF, Youth Room

Church School Schedule

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

	Kindergarten & 1st grade <i>pink</i>	Science Room 206 Amanda Garrity
	2nd grade <i>yellow</i>	Cooking Room 205 Beverly & Spencer Miller
	3rd grade <i>purple</i>	Cooking Room 205 Beverly & Spencer Miller
	4th grade <i>red</i>	Storytelling Room 111 Carol Tiroff
	5th grade <i>green</i>	Storytelling Room 111 Carol Tiroff

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!

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.





Spark! Sunday Afternoon Service TODAY!

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 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. We are an open, welcoming and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, and all are welcome to join us!

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.

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!



First Church now has a Facebook page! Stay up to date with what’s going on around church, and make sure to “like” us!

Wish School Children’s Hat, Mittens, Socks Collection

Hats, mittens and socks (size 5-6) are need to keep the Fred Wish Kindergartners warm this winter. Donations can be put in collection boxes located in the narthex and back lobby of the church. We will be collecting items until the end of January. Please contact Linda Sill at lindasinct@yahoo.com if you have any questions. Thank you!!

Serve Lunch 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.



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!



Second Sunday Book Club

The Second Sunday Book Club is meeting at 4 pm on Sun., Jan. 10 to discuss My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante as well as any other great reads for the winter months! Please join us in the Lehman Library!

Biography Book Group

The Biography Book Group meets every other month to review a book and enjoy fellowship in an informal setting. We invite you to join us whether it is for just one selection or for every book. Come to the Lehman Library on **Tuesday, January 12** and join us for a discussion of the newly released *Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World* by Linda Hirshman. Call or e-mail Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 or Miguel.escalera@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

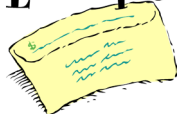
Refugee Resettlement Update

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

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!

Mission Immersion Day Coming Up!

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.

Please join us for upcoming Music at the Meetinghouse events...

MOSTLY BAROQUE PLAYERS

A Program of Sacred Music
Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

ANGELA R. SALCEDO, ORGANIST

An Organ Recital featuring Calvin Hampton's "Five Dances" and the Music of D'Grigny, Bach and Widor
Saturday, April 9, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

ELM CITY GIRLS' CHOIR

New Haven's Premiere Female A Cappella Choir
Saturday, June 4, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

This Week at First Church

Monday, January 4, 2016

5:45 p.m. Youth Board Meeting,
Lehman Library
7:00 p.m. Decons Meeting, Parlor
7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, Room 202

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

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

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

10:15 a.m. Mobile Foodshare
5:00 p.m. Caroler Choir
6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Youth Room
6:30 p.m. Music Board, Lehman Library

Thursday, January 7, 2016

9:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Study
Group, Lehman Library
4:00 p.m. Cantate Chior
5:00 p.m. Mallets Bell Chior
5:00 p.m. Ribbon Work
6:00 p.m. Cantable Chior
7:15 p.m. Chancel Chior

Sunday, January 10, 2016

8:00 a.m. Worship Service & Child Care
10:00 a.m. Worship Service & Child Care
10:15 a.m. Church School
10:30 a.m. Salmon Brook Service
11:00 a.m. Cherub Choir, Room 112
4:00 p.m. Book Club, Lehman Library
4:00 p.m. Spark! Meeting, room 202
6:00 p.m. SHF, Youth Room

Reading Changes Lives!



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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Monday

Knitters and crocheters will gather on **Monday, January 18, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** in the Lehman Library for knitting and fellowship. If you are new to knitting, one of our members will be able to help. Yarn is available, just bring along a pair of #13 needles and we will get you started. All are welcome to come and join us. If you have any questions call Co-Coordinators Judy Burr at 860-643-9368 or Liz Webb at 860-593-7831.



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*