



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

An open, welcoming and affirming congregation

July 2016

“I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”
~ Joshua 1:9

Dear Friends,

We are so thankful for this amazing family of faith! This year we have journeyed together and experienced some wonderful moments of grace, clarity and joy, as well as moments of sadness, challenge and pain. Together, we have supported and loved one another and made a difference in each other's lives and in the world.

May the summer months bring you and those you love rest, recreation and God's peace.

Paul and Kate



First Church of Christ, Congregational

United Church of Christ
2183 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

*The Rev. Dr. Carl F. Schultz, Jr., Pastor
Emeritus (1932 - 2012)*

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.

Church School: 9:15 a.m.

Childcare is provided

Phone Number: 860-633-4641

Fax Number: 860-633-5826

Email: firstchurch@glastonburyfirst.org

Website: www.glastonburyfirst.org

Staff

- The Rev. David Taylor, *Senior Pastor*
davidtaylor@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 118
- The Rev. Kate VanDerzee-Glidden, *Associate Pastor*, katev@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 120
- Angela Salcedo, *Director of Music Ministries*
angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 116
- The Rev. Gordon Bates, *Minister of Visitation*
- Karin Carlino, *Church School Administrator*
ceadmin@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 115
- Kathy Ciolkosz, *Administrative Assistant*
kathyc@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 110
- Valerie Escalera, *Program Administrator*
programadmin@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 115
- Susan Feller, *Publications Specialist*
publications@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 112
- Rebecca Fleahman, *Office Manager*
rebeccafleahman@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 122
- Cheryl Foley, *Child Care Provider*
- Wes Grove, *Facilities Manager*
facilities@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 121
- Peggy Hartman, *Director of Handbell Program
and Childrens' Choirs*
- Andrew Wicks, *Interim Director of Children
and Youth Ministries*
youth@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 113

THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Sunday, July 10: August 2016 issue

Search for Director of Children and Youth Ministries Underway

The Search Committee appointed to fill our Children and Youth Ministries position is nearing the end of its work! The Committee has been blessed with some amazingly strong and impressive candidates for our position! Working carefully through multiple interviews with the top applicants, the Committee has been prayerfully considering the many strengths and gifts of each of them. The Committee is grateful to the congregation for its prayerful support! Stay tuned for word of the Committee's recommended candidate to join our staff family!

Refugee Resettlement Update

First Church's planning to host a refugee family continues! The committee has been working hard on organizing volunteers into ten groups (housing, furnishings, healthcare, ESOL, employment, etc.) according to their interest. Great progress has been made in collecting and temporarily storing furnishings for the refugees' apartment. And thanks to the generosity of the congregation, we have surpassed our \$6,000 goal.

The committee has given IRIS the "green light" that we are ready to take in a family. If you would like to help or have questions, please contact committee co-chairs John Dugan (860-659-2193) or Rosemary Richter (860-633-2320).

Summer Communion Will Use Gluten-free Wafers



The Board of Deacons has been looking for a new bread element to serve at Communion to better serve our members and visitors with food allergies and food sensitivities. Currently, we use rice bread that we place in

a separate cup in the center of the tray. We are aware, however, that cross-contamination can easily occur as people take bread from the tray. The Deacons have found a gluten-free Communion wafer that makes it possible for people to safely take Communion. Not only are the wafers gluten-free, but they also avoid all common food allergens. They are free of gluten, wheat, dairy, egg, yeast, soy, nuts, corn, casein and salt. The ingredients are: filtered water, sweet rice flour, potato flour, organic palm fruit oil, potato starch, modified cellulose and sunflower lecithin.

During the summer months of July, August and September, Communion is served by intinction on the first Sunday of the month. We will use the new gluten-free wafers for all who wish to take Communion. You will see only the new wafers in the bread tray. By using gluten-free wafers, we are truly being open and welcoming to all people!

Update on the Micah House and Chapel

Dear Friends,

A congregational meeting was held on June 1 to hear reports from the Building and the Capital Campaign Committees for the building of the Micah House and Chapel at the Thomas Hale Homestead. At that meeting, a motion was made in response to detailed estimates provided by contractors to the Building Committee that the targeted budget for the project be increased to \$950,000 due to unanticipated costs. The motion also extended the time frame for the Capital Campaign Committee to fundraise for the Micah House and Chapel until August 31, 2016, and to the time period for payment of pledges until December 31, 2018. After considerable discussion, this motion was passed.

At present, the campaign has received donations and pledges amounting to \$862,500 from 135 families of the congregation. Between now and the end of August, the Capital Campaign Committee will attempt to close the shortfall of approximately \$88,000. If you have not previously made a pledge and are able, we invite you to do so. This project is about “Building a Legacy” which may last another 300 years, about the mission of this beloved church as demanded by the prophet Micah, and about being a good neighbor to the Glastonbury community.

May this legacy truly enable our family of faith to continue “to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.”

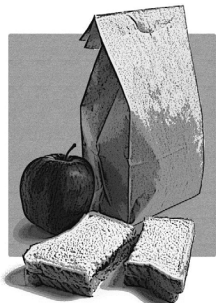
Faithfully,

Diana Ruddick

First Church of Christ, President

“God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” ~ Micah 6:8

Building a Legacy



BROWN BAG LUNCHES

Our popular brown bag lunches return this summer for more fun opportunities for you to learn about your fellow parishioners! Bring a packed lunch and head over to Schultz Hall on July 13 and August 17 from noon – 1:15 p.m. We’ll provide the dessert, beverages and a guest speaker. Each month will feature a different church member offering a presentation on an exciting topic. Check out the speakers below, and RSVP to the church office (860-633-4641)!

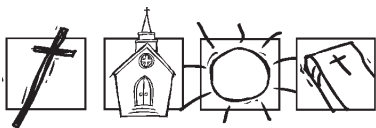
Wednesday, July 13 – Andrew Wicks *Journeying Through Israel*

The Holy Land is one of the most sacred, and contested places on earth. Sacred to Christians, Muslims and Jews, it’s filled with people from around the earth seeking a connection to the divine. Every hillside, every stone, every river is a witness to thousands of years of history. Come hear about Andrew Wicks’ pilgrimage and his 10 days in the Holy Land.

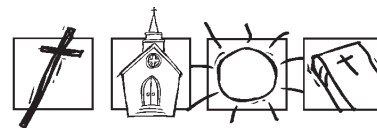


Wednesday, August 17 – George Norman *What’s Life Like Aboard a Sub, You Ask?*

George Norman retired from the Navy after 27 years, where he served on five submarines and was the Captain of two Ohio class subs. He will talk about life on a submarine to include the daily routine, how the crew learns to get along (and how they handle it when they don’t), what they do for entertainment, how they manage their separation from family, how they manage their spiritual well-being and a host of other topics.



Adult Opportunities



Thursday Morning Study Group

Summer vacation will find the Study Group looking at the world of professional baseball to answer the questions they will address beginning on **Thursday, September 8 in the Lehman Library**, “What happens when a routine throw goes disastrously off course and the fates of other people are upended? How does that reflect on life when small incidents become big events?” Using Chad Harbach’s popular novel, *The Art of Fielding*, the group will have their summer reading filled with “a tender, funny, poignant story” to savor and build on for discussion. For more information, please email Forbes Warren at fwarren2@cox.net.

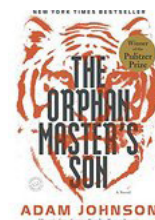


Biography Book Group

The Biography Book Group will be on summer break until September, when we invite you to join us to discuss *Mary McGrory: The First Queen of Journalism* by John Norris. This is an “entertaining biography of the trailblazing Washington columnist and first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. Mary McGrory achieved national syndication and reported on American politics for five decades. From her first assignment reporting on the Army–McCarthy hearings to her Pulitzer-winning coverage of Watergate and controversial observations of President Bush after September 11, McGrory humanized the players on the great national stage while establishing herself as a uniquely influential voice (*Amazon.com*.)” We’ll meet to enjoy an informal discussion of this book on **Tuesday, September 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library**. Call or email Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 or miguel.escalera@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

Second Sunday Book Club Summer Read

The Second Sunday Book Club will spend the summer reading the 2012 Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction, *The Orphan Master’s Son*, by Adam Johnson. “An epic novel and a thrilling literary discovery, *The Orphan Master’s Son* follows a young man’s journey through the icy waters, dark tunnels, and eerie spy chambers of the world’s most mysterious dictatorship, North Korea,” according to Amazon. We will meet at **4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 11 (Homecoming Sunday) on the Hale House lawn** if the weather holds. We hope to see you there to discuss this and other great reads you’ve enjoyed this summer! If you have any questions, contact Amy E. Thompson at thompson.amy72@gmail.com.



Prayer and Share

Prayer and Share meets **Tuesday mornings from 9:45 to 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor**. Come join us for a time of prayer, sharing, strengthening your faith and forming friendships. Being part of a small group within a large church fosters a feeling of belonging and caring. We learn and grow from our study and from each other. We will continue discussing Emilie Barnes’ *Help Me Trust You, Lord: Knowing the Healing Touch of God’s Love*. Barnes, the bestselling author of more than 35 books, shares how our Savior will mend your broken heart and give you lasting peace and strength to go on. All are welcome. For more information, please call Nancy Higgins at 860-633-6604 or Donna Smith at 860-633-4428 (feel free to leave a message).

Women’s Theological Reflection Group

We invite all interested First Church women to join us on the **third Wednesday of each month** to discuss a variety of faith questions, reflect on our personal journeys and share friendship and community. In the past, we discussed prayer, healing, faith journeys, doing justice, finding quiet time, our addiction to hurrying and gratitude. We often circulate short articles of interest to those who attend, but there is no homework - the resources we share are for those who wish to learn more about the topic before we meet. We hope to see you at one of our gatherings from **8:00 to 9:00 a.m. in the Lehman Library**. Please contact Lynn Baronas at 860-543-3301 or baronas@hartford.edu for further information.

Potpourri

What is Potpourri? It’s breakfast and fellowship on the **first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 a.m.** The church kitchen is alive with coffee, conversation and a delicious breakfast cooked up by Al Reid! No reservations necessary, come anytime, a place is always set for you!



Children's Ministries



Vacation Bible School

August 1 – 5, 2016
8:45 a.m. – noon

4 yr olds* through 5th graders
Leadership opportunities available
for 6th graders & up

\$35/week; \$70 family maximum
\$10/week for 6th – 8th graders
Financial assistance available



Visit our website at www.glastonburyfirst.org
or contact Meredith Krauss at meredana@aol.com

**Children must be 4 years old by 8/1/2016*

Childcare

First Church is blessed with a hired childcare provider, Cheryl Foley, who is here each week to look after our infants and toddlers during the Sunday Service.



Cheryl has a wonderful team of volunteers working with her. Childcare will continue through the summer.

Thank You, Teachers!!

We are blessed here at First Church to have such an amazing and dedicated group of volunteers who make our church school year so great! From our Crib and Toddler Volunteers, Preschool Teachers, Rotation Model Station Leaders, Shepherds, Explore Teachers, Puppet Troupe Leaders, Church School Superintendents, Special Project Teams and CE Board Members – we couldn't have done it without you! Your creativity and love of this church school program is truly inspiring. Thank you for all that you do, and we can't wait to see you again next year for more faith, fun, and friendship!

Halle & Jayda Barber
Jessica & Andy Bean
Susan Bonitsky
Rebecca & Emily Brown
Judy Burr
Amanda Carlino
Beth Carrera
Lisa & Kristen Charles
Susan & Kylie Clancy
Jennianne Clegg
Chelsea Cooper
Alison Couture
Kimberly Cox
Susan Crisafulli
Madison Cubberly
Emily Daigle
Leslie Dalenta
Amy Dalton-Kay
John & Laurie DiTomasso
Leslie & Katelyn Donovan
Kelly & Katelyn Eagen
Hannah Foley
Adam & Amanda Garrity
Jenny & Liza Giguere
Tammy Gillespie
Victor, Dana & Eric Grin

Bryce & Alison Grissom
Carol Guerra
Chris & Jaime Guilmette
Ann Hadley
Peter Hapgood
Judy Harding
Jackie Harris
Peggy Hartman
Kara Hetes
Lisa Hurley
Shannon Jeroszko
Victoria Johnson
John & Tracy Kavanaugh
Emily Keel
Jen & Keri Kernisan
Carol & Alex Kimmel
Robin, Stephen & Sarah Kohs
Cecilia & Vivian Krause
Meredith Krauss
Katie LeLasher
Sarah Lieschke-Bodge
Zachary Manto
DJ Martin
Ellie McDonald
Kathy McGuire
Beverly Miller



Jen Muller
Jim O'Brien
Kristen O'Brien
Susan & Erik Palen
Kelley & Sandi Philbrook
Ashley Priest
Phil, Catie & Tucker Resor
Alex Richter
Christine Roberge
Shannon Sales
Julie, Leah & Brett Schneider
Jack Sevigny
Jennifer Shannon
Linda, Elizabeth & Emily Sill
Karen Simmons
Kim St. Laurent
Catherine Stone
Aaron Swahn
John & Christine Szalkiewicz
Kate Tandon
Carol Tiroff
Kate Vella
Karen & Kaitlyn Vigeant
Deborah Willard
Nicole Wronski
Cheryl & Nicole Zalewski



Children's Ministries



Church School Mission Project Update!

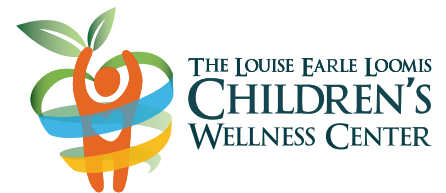


We have raised more than \$7,400! Thank you to all who supported the Church School mission project! With a focus on creating safe and secure places for Hartford's low-income families, *The Children's Wellness Center* strives to develop healthy lifestyles through nutritional education (a teaching kitchen), physical education (large exercise space) and encouragement of a joyful childhood (indoor playground). We are grateful for your support! Special thanks to Sarah Lieschke-Bodge and all the members of the Board of Christian Education who worked on this project and to all the people who helped us with our fundraising efforts. A check was presented to Family Life Education during Children's Celebration Sunday on June 12. **Many thanks to . . .**



Gordon & Wanda Bates
 Gordon Bates
 Wanda Bates
 Mary Carlino
 Dennis & JoAnne Cavanaugh
 Bruce & Rebecca Fleahman
 David Taylor & Jane Hawken
 Robert & Susan VanDerzee
 Board of Christian Education

in honor of our grandchildren and of Genny Norman's piano concert
 in honor of Wanda Bates' birthday
 in honor of Gordon Bates' birthday
 in memory of Warren Winship
 in honor of the Davis, Phillips & Wilcox families
 in memory of our parents
 in honor of our wonderful children at First Church
 in honor of Ruth Haar
 in honor of our Church School volunteers



Other donations made by:

Linda Beauchemin
 Mark & Jennifer Beauchemin
 Sarah Betts
 Bill & Sarah Bodge
 Jay & Sandee Brown
 Jose & Beth Carrera
 Kathy Ciolkosz
 Jim & Susan Clancy
 Andrew & Kimberly Cox
 Rose D'Amico
 John & Laurie DiTomasso
 John & Karen Dugan
 Michael & Danae Dwyer
 Robert & Kimberly Eagen
 Ryan Franklin
 Walter & Sarah Gantley
 Peter Garrity
 Wayne & Chelsey Gellett
 Victor & Dana Grin

Christopher & Jaime Guilmette
 Jon-Ann Higgins
 Lisa & Brad Hurley
 Glen & Gina Johnson
 John & Tracy Kavanaugh
 Michael & Robin Kohs
 Jeremy & Meredith Krauss
 Michael & Susan Lambert
 Gloria Leone
 Myonghee Cho Lee
 Maria Machuga
 Grant & Beverly Maier
 Greg & Sonmi Manto
 DJ & Mary Martin
 Donald & Audra McNiel
 Russ & Grace Morin
 Josh & Jen Muller
 Carolyn Neely
 Jim & Diane O'Brien

Sean & Kristen O'Brien
 Brian & Jill O'Connor
 Nancy Pacht
 Kelley & Sandi Philbrook
 Michael Puziak
 Sally Riddell
 Michael & Jennifer Shannon
 Jerry & Donna Smith
 Anita Sperry
 The Strahs Family
 Allison Stutz
 Raj & Nancy Tandon
 Kevin & Karen Vigeant
 Shirley Warren
 Nicole Wronski
 Jenny Zito
 Junior High Fellowship

. . . and all the families who supported the weekly Children's Offering, Class Bake Sales, Advent Calendar sales and Bertucci's fundraiser!



Summer Church School 2016!

This summer all children will have the opportunity to attend Church School classes on Sunday mornings, where our children will learn about important Bible stories through fun, hands-on activities. Childcare will be provided throughout the summer as well! All children (entering Preschool and higher) will meet together. If you are interested in volunteering for a two-week unit, please contact Karin Carlino at ceadmin@glastonburyfirst.org. Thank you!

Date	Unit	Station	Main Idea
03-Jul	Rebekah	Movie	Rebekah was a strong and determined woman who was chosen by God. God chooses us, as God chose Rebekah. Like Rebekah, we can show hospitality and kindness to others. God gives us opportunities to serve, and we can recognize these opportunities.
10-Jul		Art	
17-Jul	House on the Rock	Science	One of the many times that Jesus spoke to the people, he told them this metaphor about trusting in God. Listening to what Jesus says is like a having strong foundation that you can build upon - will provide stability and stay strong even in hard times.
24-Jul		Games	





Children's Ministries



Telemaque: Update from HELO Haiti



We recently received an update from HELO Haiti's April visit. Telemaque is doing very well, he works hard in school and is excelling in computer and English classes. He had a great time with the team, especially the electronics classes. The children had a great time at the beach and a lot of fun playing games. HELO Haiti



thanks First Church for our support that makes all of this possible for Telemaque.



Youth Ministry



Faith & Faithfulness Award Recipients



Congratulations to the Recipients of the Faith & Faithfulness Award! Each year the Youth Board invites graduating seniors to apply for the Faith & Faithfulness Award. Candidates are evaluated based on their involvement in the life of First Church. This year's recipients are *Kylie Clancy, Meredith Jones, Alex Kimmel and Aaron Swahn.*

A Fond Farewell!



Congratulations to our high school graduates! Some of them were intimately involved in our life here at First Church – as part of our fellowship programs, going on mission trips, taking part in mission days, singing in the choir, teaching church school and many other activities – and others were not. Regardless, we send forth all these young people with our love and prayers as they begin a new chapter in their lives.



*Zachary Anderson-Birdsall
Halle Barber
Austin Briggs
Kristen Charles
Kylie Clancy
Eleanor Dowd
Kaity Flint*

*Katie Flynn
Jordan Hokunson
Sara Jefferson
Emily Jones
Meredith Jones
Alex Kimmel
Yerim Lee*

*Genny Norman
Andrew Piskura
Aaron Swahn
Haley Wagaman
Quinn Wolthausen*

Thank You, Youth Advisors!

We are so thankful for all the youth who participate in our Junior High and Senior High Fellowship groups. We also give thanks for our faithful advisors: Senior High Fellowship Advisors – Jenny Giguere, Kyle Kulas, Sarah Gantley, Walter Gantley, Erin Maier, John McNab and Meg Seitz; and Junior High Fellowship Advisors – Andrew Wicks, Bob Ferrante, Liza Giguere, Meredith Jones and Alex Kimmel.

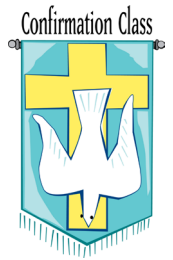


Youth Ministry



New Confirmation Class Begins in the Fall

Our nine-month Confirmation program is open to any interested student entering the 9th grade (or above) in the fall. Parents do not need to be First Church members in order for students to enroll, and students who are not yet baptized can choose to do so during the year. Our Confirmation program aims to help young people explore and articulate their faith as they prepare to reaffirm their baptism and become full members of First Church. All we require is your willingness to jump on this journey! Together, we will be using a combination of service projects, mentoring relationships, activities and structured class time to explore our own personal faith, the church and the world in which we live.



A letter will be mailed in early July to all incoming 9th graders and their parents. Please contact David Taylor or Kate VanDerzee-Glidden in the church office with questions or for more information.



Music Ministry



Choir Camp for Cantate, Cantabile and Mallets Choirs

On **August 21-24**, the Cantate, Cantabile and Mallets Choir members will be attending Choir Camp 2016. Choir Camp will be held at the Incarnation Center in Ivoryton, CT. This camp is nestled in a quiet Connecticut town with its quaint New England beauty.



It has an amazing lake and lots of extracurricular activities organized by the camp itself. The choristers will have a fun-filled week of singing, ringing, playing games, swimming, hiking, storytelling over a campfire and great fellowship. Like last year, we are inviting those choristers in Caroler Choir moving up to Cantate Choir to join us so that they can begin to build friendships with the Cantate Choir members. The total cost per chorister will be \$250 which includes accommodations and meals. **A deposit of \$100 to reserve your place at the camp was due on**

June 1. Please remember to mail your health forms and final payments to the office for this camp by August 1. The health forms are good for two years, so if you came last year, you do not need to fill out a new one. Also, if you are interested in chaperoning, contact Angela Salcedo by e-mail at angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org.

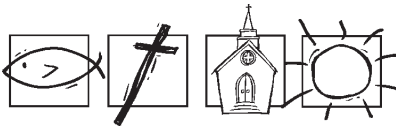
Fall 2016 Choirs Rehearsal Schedule

Choir rehearsals in the fall will begin after Labor Day. The following is the timetable for fall rehearsals and RSCM Ribbon Work (Royal School of Church Music Ribbon Program). Please note the starting dates for each of the choirs listed below.

CHOIR NAME	DAY OF REHEARSAL	REHEARSAL TIME	FIRST REHEARSAL
<i>Cherub (K-Grade 1)</i>	<i>Sundays</i>	<i>10:45-11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>September 18</i>
<i>Carolers (Grades 2-3)</i>	<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>5:00-5:45 p.m.</i>	<i>September 14</i>
<i>Cantate (Grade 4-6)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>4:00-5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 15</i>
<i>Cantabile (Grades 7-12)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>6:00-7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 15</i>
<i>Chancel</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>7:15-8:45 p.m.</i>	<i>September 8</i>
<i>Jubilate Ringers</i>	<i>Tuesdays</i>	<i>7:00-8:30 p.m.</i>	<i>September 13</i>
<i>Mallet Ringers (Grades 5-12)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:00-6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 15</i>

OPTIONAL: RSCM RIBBON LEVEL WORK

<i>Light Blue and Dark Blue Ribbon</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:00-5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>October 6</i>
<i>Red and Purple Ribbon</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:30-6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>October 6</i>



Christian Service



First Church is a place where we are constantly serving our neighbors in need. It is our call and our privilege to spread God's love in our church community, in Glastonbury, in Hartford, in other Connecticut towns and cities, throughout our nation and all around the world.

Thank You for your Support of our Rummage Sale!

The Board of Christian Service members wish to thank all the faithful and dedicated volunteers, including our youth, church members and friends, who made our Spring Rummage Sale such a huge success. It took countless hours of sorting, pricing, lugging, organizing, selling, counting, cleaning and so much more, and we made over \$3,500!! Special thanks to all those who came for the clean up, because we didn't have Charities of Hope to help us this time. The Rummage Sale is an extraordinary witness to the power of many hands with a mission. Thank you!



Food Collection

First Church has had a long tradition of collecting food items for our neighbors in need. Our donations go to Horace Bushnell Children's Food Pantry in Hartford and Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC). Please continue to bring in food for our neighbors in need. **In July, we're asking for contributions of baby food, formula and other items people are willing to donate. Please bring food that is not expired or open. Thanks for your help!**



Mobile Foodshare

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 (July 6 and 20)** in our back parking lot. If you are interested in volunteering (adults, youth and children are welcome), contact Sally Riddell at 860-657-8715.

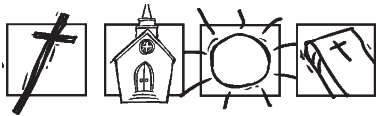
Our "Good Samaritans!"



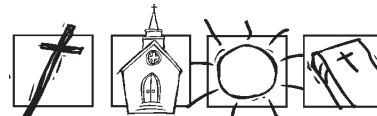
The First Church family of faith has many talented people, and some of these talents include "handyperson" skills and abilities. Our "Good Samaritan" group is up and running, and they are willing to help individuals in the congregation who might be having trouble finding the right people or the adequate resources to do the job – various "odd" jobs around the house or yard. If you are interested in seeing if your household task or project is something they would be able and willing to take on, at no charge, please contact David Taylor or Kate VanDerzee-Glidden.



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.



General Info Corner



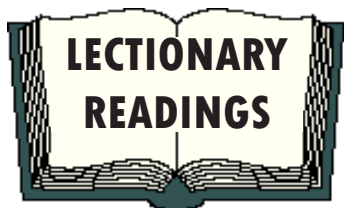
Altar Flowers Requested



Church members are invited to provide flower arrangements for the altar. Flowers can be in memory of, in celebration of or in honor of people, events or accomplishments. Susan Bonitsky can order arrangements from Keser's and have you billed, you can use another florist or you can create your own arrangement. If you are interested, please contact Susan by phone 860-633-7128 or email kowsz@juno.com. Arrangements can be left at the church or taken home after the service.

Media Ministries at First Church

Watch a First Church service on television...
 "Living the Word," each Sunday at 7:30 a.m. and noon
 on Cox Cable, Channel 15



July 3, 2016 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30 or Isaiah 66:10-14;
 Psalm 66:1-9; Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16;
 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10, 2016 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82 or Deuteronomy 30:9-14;
 Psalm 25:1-10; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

July 17, 2016 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52 or Genesis 18:1-10a;
 Psalm 15; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

July 24, 2016 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85 or Genesis 18:20-32;
 Psalm 138; Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19); Luke 11:1-13

July 31, 2016 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43 or Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14;
 Psalm 49:1-12; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

Prayer Corner



Prayers of Joy:

Walter Harris and Juana Sanchez on the birth of their daughter, Wendy Rae Harris, on May 13. Proud grandparents are Sally and Vance Harris.

Katherine (Ruddick) and Jermaine Matheson on the birth of their son, Colin George Matheson, on May 22. Proud grandparents are Diana Ruddick and David Ruddick.

Sarah and Walter Gantley on the birth of their daughter, Madeline Grace Gantley, on June 2. Proud grandparents are Grace and Russ Morin.

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Barbara Harding	Audrey Hernandez
Lois Harwick	Chris Hernandez

IN CASE OF HOSPITALIZATION

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please inform the hospital of the code for First Church:

Hartford Hospital – Code C18
St. Francis Hospital - Code 17

In addition, if you would like the church to know of an upcoming hospitalization, please give the church office a call at 860-633-4641 to inform the pastoral staff.



Dear Friends,

On June 12, we joyfully gathered in the Meetinghouse for our annual ***“Children’s Celebration Sunday.”*** It was truly a ***wonderful*** morning!

One of our third graders read his Bible verse from Micah 6:8, *“God has shown you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”* And another read her verses from the book of Romans, *“ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.”*



What can ***we*** do, what can the First Church congregation ***do***, in response to the recent horrific, hateful and tragic events in Orlando?

We believe that God is calling us to do ***exactly*** what we have already been doing in our mission and outreach to the world. And we believe that is exactly what the Lord has ***always*** required of us – namely, to do justice, to love kindness, to hate evil, to hold fast to that which is good, and to love one another and love all of God’s children in this world. We believe God is calling us to pray and to work for a world that is free of gun violence and more tolerant and loving of all of God’s children.

As we pray for the victims and families of the Orlando tragedy, and for first responders, and for our nation and for God’s beautiful yet imperfect world, let us continue the work that we have begun in being an open, welcoming and affirming congregation. Let us recommit ourselves to doing justice and loving kindness in all that we say and do!

Wishing you all God’s grace, mercy and peace,

David and *Kate*



First Church Summer Worship Schedule



Through and including Sunday, September 4, one worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 3

Preachers and Worship Leaders:
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Wayne Rivera

Sunday, July 10

Preachers and Worship Leaders:
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: The *Spark!* Band

Sunday, July 17

Preacher and Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Ginger Kousen

Sunday, July 24

Preacher: Don McNiel
Worship Leader: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Vance Harris
Guest Organist: David Bradley

Sunday, July 31

Preacher: Andrew Wicks
Worship Leader: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Arwen Norman
Guest Organist: David Bradley

Sunday, August 7

Preacher and Worship Leader: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Vance Harris and Elizabeth Flynn

Sunday, August 14

Preacher: Pam Vollinger
Worship Leader: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Elizabeth Flynn

Sunday, August 21

Preacher: Kathy Ciolkosz
Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Chris Stone

Sunday, August 28

Preacher and Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Ginger Kousen

Sunday, September 4

Preacher and Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Wayne Rivera
Guest Organist: Suzanne Gates

Sunday, September 11 - Homecoming Sunday One service at 10:00 a.m.

Preacher: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Worship Leaders:
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Hot Cat Jazz Band

Church Picnic Following Worship



Church School and Childcare

All children age three through eighth graders will have the opportunity to attend Church School classes on Sunday mornings throughout the summer. Child care will be provided throughout the summer.

Church Office Summer Hours (through September 2)

Summer office hours: **Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**, and **Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** The office will be **closed on Monday, July 4** in celebration of the holiday. The office will also be **closed on Monday, September 5** in celebration of Labor Day. For emergency pastoral contact after office hours, call 860-633-4641 and press 5.

Pastoral Coverage

Throughout the summer, depending on their vacation schedules, David Taylor, Kate VanDerzee-Glidden, Gordon Bates and Sally Brown will be providing pastoral care for the church. If at any time you are in need of pastoral care, please contact the church office, and they will secure the help that you need.

Summer Newsletter Schedule

The summer schedule for our church newsletter *The Reminder* is as follows: All items are due at 9:00 a.m. on the 10th of the month prior to publication. The deadline for the *Sunday Bulletin* and *Weekly Word* each week will continue to be Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m.