



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

An open, welcoming and affirming congregation

July 2017

Dear Friends,

The Beloved Community – a Beautiful Love!

Over the past year as we have journeyed together, we have laughed and cried, we have smiled and we have hugged, we have loved one another and we have humbly tried to love God's beautiful, precious children both near and far. Together, we have supported one another and made a difference in each other's lives and in the world.

And now may these glorious summer days bring you and those you love rest, re-creation, and God's peace!

Faithfully,

David and *Kate*



**Celebrations and Fellowship in our Beloved Community:
Church Picnic, Children's Celebration Sunday, Bloomfield Backpack Project,
Progress at the Micah House and Chapel, Thanking our Volunteers!**

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

Through September 3:
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*
- Elizabeth Gleich, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*
elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 113
- Wes Grove, *Facilities Manager*
facilities@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 121
- Peggy Hartman, *Director of Handbell Program and Childrens' Choirs*

Micah House and Chapel Update July 2017



The miracle we know as the The Micah House and Chapel continues to amaze visitors, friends and congregation members!! Take a moment and look outside when you are visiting church or attending Sunday worship services. Even better – view the First Church live webcam on our website and watch the progress every day towards our dream of revitalizing the historic Thomas Hale Homestead into the Micah House and Chapel.



Since April 3, 2017, George Fay has been the project's contractor. The building has been lifted, the chimney stabilized, and the dirt dug out for the new foundation. The concrete for the new foundation was poured and has now settled. George Fay can begin the next phase of renewal and construction.

People are asking – how can I help? Volunteers are needed to help clean off 250-year-old bricks. Anyone can help, no previous experience needed! In the coming weeks, we need to clean up hundreds of salvaged bricks for reuse on the Micah House concrete foundation. Volunteers can contact Jonathan Russell via email at cjjc5@cox.net for this project.

Just as a reminder, for safety's sake, please don't talk to the contractors as they work on the Micah House and Chapel. Everyone is excited and curious about the construction but distracting contractors from their work is a potential safety hazard! Please direct all questions to Jonathan Russell, Mick Gifford or Walt Briggs, who continue to provide hands-on financial and construction oversight. Estimates of sweat-equity cost savings to date exceed \$40,000.

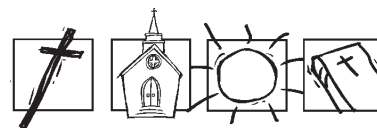
The Micah House and Chapel at the Thomas Hale Homestead is God's miracle and will be a legacy that serves First Church today and for future generations!!

“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

THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Monday, July 10: August 2017 issue



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.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Through our connection with our denomination, the United Church of Christ, we participate in varied mission, outreach, fellowship and educational opportunities. Our church gives generously to the state and national settings of our beloved church, and we encourage you to look at the Connecticut Conference (<http://www.ctucc.org/>) and the national United Church of Christ (<http://www.ucc.org/>) websites.

2017 General Synod: Every two years, General Synod brings together thousands of faithful members of the United Church of Christ for formal church witness, inspirational worship, and fellowship with friends (new and old). From **June 30 through July 4, 2017**, thousands from across the country (and abroad) will gather for General Synod 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland. Together, our clergy and lay leaders will discern resolutions of witness, church structure and function. Everyone gathered will "Make Glad!" as they celebrate, debate, worship and witness. Two youth from our congregation, Megan Kimmel and Brett Schneider, will be going to Synod with a group of other young people and advisors from around the state. For more information on General Synod, visit <http://synod.uccpages.org/>.

Justice and Peace Action Network: If you are someone who is longing to make your voice heard about issues affecting the people of our country and world, learn more about how to become involved in the Justice and Peace Action Network (JPANet). The JPANet both educates and engages its members in shaping public policy in keeping with God's vision of a just and loving society. Our work is grounded in General Synod resolutions, consonant with historic UCC witness, and formed by a biblical understanding of prophetic ministry. These issue areas are resourced by national staff of the Justice and Witness Ministries and Wider Church Ministries who work with local UCC advocates to shape coordinated strategy on our common witness. To learn more, visit http://www.ucc.org/join_the_network.

Opportunities to Volunteer with Foodshare!



Foodshare's vision is for a community where all people can get the food they need. As the region's food bank they work toward that vision by getting food donations from the food industry and distributing them to 300 food pantries, community kitchens, homeless shelters and other partner programs.

There are **three ways to get involved** with Foodshare here at First Church.

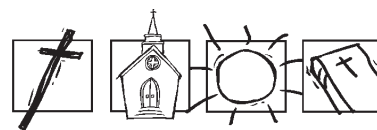
1. **Volunteer when the Mobile Foodshare truck comes to our back parking lot every other Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m.** This is a "farmer's market" style food distribution of fresh produce and other foods, and it takes many volunteers to serve everyone who comes. If you are interested in participating (adults, youth and children are welcome!), contact Sally Riddell at 860-657-8715.
2. **Volunteer at Foodshare's Regional Market in Hartford on alternating Wednesday mornings** to help sort and package the produce that gets given out on the Mobile Foodshare truck at various sites across the state. **Volunteers gather in the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. to drive in together, and the shift is from 8:30-11:30 a.m.** If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jim Hartung at ctsdncmnfolk@gmail.com or 860-430-2123.
3. **Volunteer to 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. To help, please contact John Dugan at 860-659-2193 or jdugan1967@gmail.com or Paul Fraleigh at 860-643-1571.

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 \$3,000!! Special thanks to all those who came for the clean up! The rummage sale is an extraordinary witness to the power of many hands with a mission. Thank you!



Christian Service



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. There are two baskets at church (one in the back lobby and one in the narthex) where the food is collected. 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. Thank you!

Our Good Samaritans!

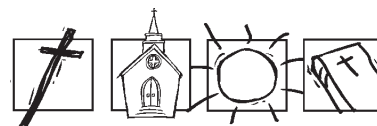
The First Church family of faith has many talented people, and some of these talents include "handyperson" skills and abilities. Our "Good Samaritan" group is willing to help individuals in the congregation who might be having trouble finding the right people or the adequate resources to do the job – various "odd" jobs around the house or yard. To find out 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.

Homemade Syrian Dinner and Cultural Experience!

Enjoy a delicious multi-course home-cooked Syrian meal by Ezdehar Al Wadi. The dinner will be accompanied by a slide show and stories of her family's four year journey from Syria to a refugee camp in Jordan, and finally to Glastonbury in July 2016, when our church sponsored them. The dinner is **Sunday night, July 23, at 6:00 p.m. in Schultz Hall**. The cost of this delicious feast and cultural experience is \$25 per person. Please make out your check to "First Church of Christ," with "Syrian Dinner" in the memo section. Please note this covers the cost of the meal and the presentation and is not tax deductible. Spread the word to your friends in the First Church community and join us for this special evening! Seating is limited to 35, so **RSVP to Lisa Hurley at lisahurley@snet.net or 860-335-5850 or Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com by Wednesday, July 19**. Payments should be brought to the dinner and given to Lisa or Danae.



Children's Ministries



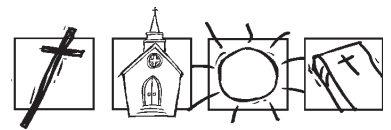
Summer Church School 2017!

This summer all children 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 in Room 205.

Date	Unit	Room	Station	Main Idea
02-Jul	The Good Samaritan	206	Movie	Through the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus teaches us to love God and other people. When we follow Jesus' teachings, we show God's love to other people, whether they live close to us or far away.
09-Jul			Cooking	
16-Jul	Jesus is Baptized	205	Art	Baptism is a gift from God, given to us in love. Our acceptance of that gift is our acknowledgement of God's love for us and our place in God's family.
23-Jul			Games	



Children's Ministries



Church School Mission Project Update!



We have raised more than \$9,000! Thank you to all who supported the Church School mission project! This year's project is ***School Safe Zones*** through Church World Service, through which we will help revitalize a school in East Africa. Schools are the bedrock of a community's health, well-being and future. When a community struggles with limited access to clean water and sustainable food sources, it is often reflected in the school buildings. We are grateful for your support! Special thanks to Josh Muller 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 Church World Service during Children's Celebration on Sunday, June 11.

Many thanks to...

Amanda Carlino
Dennis & JoAnne Cavanaugh
Kathy Ciolkosz
Kathy Ciolkosz
Andrew & Kimberly Cox
Miguel & Valerie Escalera
Miguel & Valerie Escalera
Bruce & Rebecca Fleahman
Pam Hobbs
Thomas & Susan Morway
Bruce & Linda Sill
David Taylor
Gordon & Wanda Bates
Shirley Warren
First Church Office Staff
Meg & Emily Taylor
Rob Glidden & Kate VanDerzee-Glidden

in honor of Kathryn McDonald
in honor of the Davis, Phillips & Wilcox families
in honor of George Dixon
in honor of David Taylor & Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
in memory of Earl Cox
in honor of Lynn Baronas
in honor of our family
in memory of our parents
in memory of Doug Hobbs
in honor of Ruth Atwell
in honor of Turo Dexter from the Sill children
in honor of our First Church Staff
in honor of Cynthia Bates' Birthday
in memory of Barbara Thompson
in honor of David Taylor's 65th Birthday
in honor of David Taylor's 65th Birthday
in honor of Robert & Susan VanDerzee



Other donations made by:

Norma Anderson
Ellen Barton
Paul & Donna Bengtson
Dr. Bruce Burnham
Jonathan Black
Laura Cahill
Jim & Susan Clancy
Paul & Susan Crisafulli
Michael & Emily Daigle
Greg & Amy Dalton-Kay
Michael & Danae Dwyer
Ross & Gina Engel
Jay & Suzy Fisher
Ryan Franklin
Lois Gamer
Penny Gellett
Sherry & Lester Gellett
Marilyn Gerling

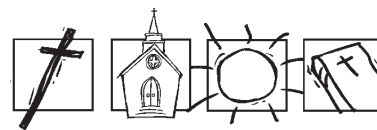
John & Becky Glezen
Victor & Dana Grin
John & Kathy Harris
Jon-Ann Higgins
Jason & Pamela Husband
Margery Izard
Stephen & Susan Jackson
John & Tracy Kavanaugh
Myonghee Cho Lee
Kelli Lorey
Meredith & Jeremy Krauss
Edward & Marcia Machuga
Grant & Beverly Maier
Daniel & Lorie Martin
DJ & Mary Martin
Thomas & Pamela McGraw
Josh & Jennifer Muller
Carolyn Neely

Kelley & Sandi Philbrook
Michael Puziak
Peter Richter, Sr.
Diana Ruddick
Jonathan Russell
Katherine & Gil Salk
Beverly & Dennis Shaw
Anita Sperry
Terry Stephenson
Nancy & Raj Tandon
David Taylor & Jane Hawken
David & Catherine Tracy
Robert & Susan VanDerzee
Shirley Warren
Senior High Fellowship
Junior High Fellowship

...and all the contributors to and supporters of our class bake sales, Advent calendar sales, Mother's Day and Father's Day fundraisers, craft and honey sales, Firehouse Subs fundraiser and weekly children's offerings!



Children's Ministries



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 Board of Christian Education 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! We can't wait to see you again next year for more faith, fun, and friendship!

Julia Anderson
Jayda Barber
Jessica & Andy Bean
Donna & Katie Bengtson
Sarah Brown
Judy Burr
Amanda Carlino
Lisa Charles
Chelsea Cooper
Michael & Alison Couture
Andrew & Kimberly Cox
Susan Crisafulli
Madison Cubberly
Kara Czapiga
Emily Daigle
Amy Dalton-Kay
John, Laurie & Dominic DiTomasso
Katelyn Donovan
Danae Dwyer
Kelly & Katelyn Eagen
Hannah Foley
Adam & Amanda Garrity
Wayne & Chelsey Gellett
Lily Gillespie
Rob Glidden

Victor, Dana & Eric Grin
Bryce & Alison Grissom
Chris & Jaime Guilmette
Ann & Katelyn Hadley
Lisa Hapgood
Judy Harding
Kara Hetes
Lisa Hurley
Pamela Husband
Shannon Jeroszko
Victoria Johnson
John & Tracy Kavanaugh
Emily Keel
Jen & Keri Kernisan
Carol & Megan Kimmel
Kim King
Cecilia & Vivian Krause
Meredith Krauss
Greg & Mary LaChance
Katie LeLasher
Courtney & Tatum MacDonald
Greg, Sonmi & Zachary Manto
DJ Martin
Ellie McDonald
Maddie McGraw



Thanks
Teachers!

Kathy McGuire
Beverly Miller
Josh & Jen Muller
Jim O'Brien
Kelley Philbrook
Ashley Priest
Phil, Catie & Tucker Resor
Alex Richter
Christine Roberge
Shannon Sales
Kaari Scaglia
Julie, Leah & Brett Schneider
Jack Sevigny
Jennifer Shannon
David & Kim Shelto
Linda, Elizabeth & Emily Sill
Karen Simmons
Amy Sprague
Catherine Stone
Kate Tandon
Caroline Thompson
Kate Vella
Karen, Kaitlyn & Kyle Vigeant
Nicole Wronski
Cheryl & Nicole Zalewski

Vacation Bible School



July 31st - August 4, 2017

8:45 a.m. - noon

4-year-olds* through 5th graders

\$35/week; \$70 family maximum

Financial assistance available

Get ready for an action-packed 5-day super hero training camp where kids discover their strength in God! Grab your cape and get ready to fly with epic music, spectacular science, crafty crafts, heroic recreation, and fantastic Bible stories!

"Do good! Seek peace and go after it! (Psalm 34:14b)"

For more Vacation Bible School information, visit our website at

www.glastonburyfirst.org or contact Tracy Kavanaugh at lilypadprints@gmail.com

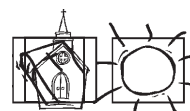
*Children must be 4 years old by 7/31/2017

Silver Lake this Summer!

Attention parents of children in 3rd grade and up! Sign-ups are now on for Silver Lake Conference Center's amazing summer programs. Silver Lake is a ministry of the Connecticut Conference of the UCC and has hosted youth for summer camps since 1957. Each week throughout the summer they offer opportunities for children going into 4th grade to 12th grade. Scholarships are available. For more information or to register, go to www.silverlakeect.org.



Youth Ministry



SHF and JHF Summer Fun!

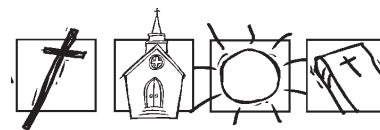
Save the dates for summer youth fellowship gatherings! We can't wait a WHOLE summer to hang out. Stay tuned for more information!

Senior High Fellowship will meet in the evenings of **July 12 and August 9** for two fun summertime get-togethers.

Junior High Fellowship will meet in the evening of **August 15** for fun and games at the church.



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 **Jake Anderson, Liza Giguere, Gretta Hartman and Cecilia Krause.**

A Fond Farewell!

These members of our church community graduated this year. 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. We send forth all these young people with our love and prayers as they begin a new chapter in their lives.



Jake Anderson
Abigail Briggs
Brenna Budaj
Madison Cubberly
Joseph DeLuca
Eliza Derick
Alina Dixon
Quillan Dwyer
Hannah Foley
Michael Fydenkevez
Liza Giguere
Jake Gillespie



Sarah Grove
Jackie Harris
Gretta Hartman
Delaney Hurley
Stephan Kapustka
Keri Kernisan
Cecilia Krause
Griffin Kretzmer
Sean LeLasher
Nicole Martin
Christopher Merritt
Cassandra Pederson

Olivia Pizzo
Abby Renaud
Griffin Scaglia
Samuel Schaefer
Simone Sears
Rose Sparrow
Andrew Stoloff
Morgan Tennyson
Lucas Vieweg
David Yandow

Thank You, Youth Advisors!

We are so thankful for all the youth who participate in our Junior High and Senior High Fellowship groups. We give thanks for our faithful advisors. Senior High Fellowship advisors are Sarah Gantley, Walter Gantley, Jenny Giguere, Kyle Kulas, Erin Maier, John McNab and Meg Seitz. Junior High Fellowship advisors are Katie Bengtson, Patrick Carey, Keith Conroy, Bob Ferrante, Liza Giguere and Cheryl Villano.

New Confirmation Class Begins in the Fall

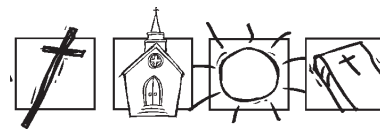
Our nine-month Confirmation program is open to any interested student entering the 9th grade (or above) in the fall. Parents do not need to be First Church members in order for students to enroll, and students who are not yet baptized can choose to do so during the year. Our Confirmation program aims 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.





Youth Ministry



Celebrating our Confirmands!

On **May 21**, we confirmed thirty-three of our First Church youth. During the worship service, each young person was called forward for a special blessing. Family, friends and others who have been a part of the confirmand's faith journey were invited to lay their hands on the youth while a prayer was said. *God bless these young people!*

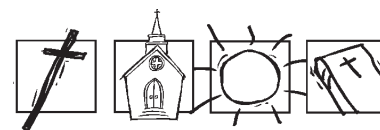
*Julia Rose Anderson
Thomas Patrick Anglim
Katie Grace Bengtson
Amanda Nicole Carlino
Devin Michael Cronin
Derek John DiTomasso
Katelyn Marie Donovan
Sean Patrick Donovan
Katelyn Anne Eagen
Grace Marion Flynn
Liliane Grace Gillespie*

*Daniel Kyle Gottschalk
Katelyn Grace Hadley
Kyle Scott Harriman
Daniel Phillip Johnson
Victoria Grace Johnson
Megan Rae Kimmel
Vivian Claire Krause
Katherine Ann LeLasher
Ellie Davies McDonald
Madison Grace McGraw
Brandon Jeffery Myers*

*Cameron Paul Pedemonti
Shaw Richard Pedemonti
Lincoln James David Rybeck
Nathan Robert Salcedo
Brett Kenneth Schneider
Emily Marie Sill
Kylei Marie Stephenson
Kate Ackermann Tandon
Caroline Ransdell Thompson
Nicholas Kirby Traver
Kate Lorraine Wilson*



Music Ministry



Family Night: Hartford Yard Goats – August 28



On **Monday, August 28**, the Cantate and Cantabile Choirs will be singing the National Anthem at the Hartford Yard Goats Baseball Park. This will be a fun-filled church family event. The Yard Goats will be playing against the Boston

Red Sox Farm Team. **Tickets are on sale in the church office for \$8 each and must be paid for by August 15. Paid tickets will be available at the “will call” window at the box office that evening.** The proceeds from this event help to support our yearly Choir Camp.

Choir Camp, August 20-23

The Cantate, Cantabile and Mallet Ringers Choirs will attend Choir Camp 2017 from **August 20-23** at Silver Lake Conference Center in Sharon, CT. The choristers will have a fun-filled week of singing, ringing, playing games, swimming, boating, low ropes course activities, storytelling, skits over a campfire and great fellowship. A deposit of \$100 to reserve your place at the camp was due by June 1. **Health forms were emailed to all the camp choristers and should be filled out and returned to the church office by August 1 along with your final camp payment.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Angela Salcedo, Director of Music Ministries at (angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org).





Music Ministry



Fall 2017 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.

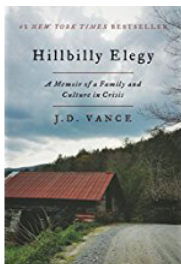
CHOIR NAME	DAY OF REHEARSAL	REHEARSAL TIME	FIRST REHEARSAL
<i>Cherub (K-Grade 1)</i>	<i>Sundays</i>	<i>11:00-11:30 a.m.</i>	<i>September 17</i>
<i>Carolers (Grades 2-3)</i>	<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>4:30-5:15 p.m.</i>	<i>September 13</i>
<i>Cantate (Grade 4-6)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>4:00-5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 14</i>
<i>Cantabile (Grades 7-12)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>6:00-7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 14</i>
<i>Chancel</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>7:15-8:30 p.m.</i>	<i>September 7</i>
<i>Jubilate Ringers</i>	<i>Tuesdays</i>	<i>7:00-8:30 p.m.</i>	<i>September 12</i>
<i>Mallet Ringers (Grades 5-12)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:00-6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 14</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 5</i>
<i>Red and Purple Ribbon</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:30-6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>October 5</i>



Adult Opportunities



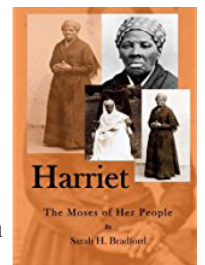
Thursday Morning Study Group

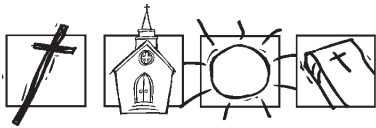


The Thursday Morning Study Group will complete its discussion regarding *Hillbilly Elegy* on **July 6** and begin a summer recess. During that time we will be looking at an unlikely alliance between a small time con artist and a young orphan World War II evacuee using the novel by Lissa Evans titled *Crooked Heart*, which we will discuss on **September 7**. Following that, the group will take up Gordon Bates' study: *The Connecticut Prison Association and the Search for Reformatory Justice*. Gordon has promised to be with us on **September 14 and 21** to talk about his book. On **September 28**, we will look at the question of how do we start a successful day by considering Admiral William H. McRaven's little book *Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life...And Maybe the World*, currently on the *New York Times* bestseller list. You are invited to join these discussions whether or not you have read the reference material. We meet in the **Lehman Library at 9:30 a.m. on the scheduled Thursdays**. Please contact Sally Brown via email at saldaybrown@aol.com for more information.

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 for any of our upcoming selections. We chose, for our July meeting, *Harriet Tubman: The Moses of her People* by Sarah Bradford. It is a tiny book (63 pages) written by the author as a second volume to sell as a way to help pay Harriet's mortgage in 1886. It is a classic of the courageous escaped slave who almost single-handedly drove the efforts to help others escape the South to get to Canada. Harriet Tubman is currently being considered as the picture on one of our paper bills. The book can be purchased on Amazon in paperback. It should generate a lively discussion for our **July 11 meeting at 4:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library**. Check the August Reminder for our new book choice for the **September 12 meeting**. The original selection, 2015 *New York Times* bestselling 'biography' novelette by Sarah Vowell, *Lafayette in The Somewhat United States*, has been postponed to our November meeting. It is a highly regarded biography and accounting of the life of this close friend of George Washington, focusing greatly on their relationship during the Revolutionary War. This promises to be a fun biography to read. Call or email Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 or miguel.escalera@sbcglobal.net with any questions.



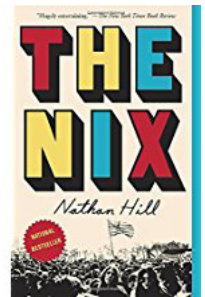


Adult Opportunities



Second Sunday Book Club

The Second Sunday Book Club meets on the **second Sunday of every other month in the Lehman Library at 4:00 p.m.** to discuss a selected book as well as other great reads we are enjoying. We hope you will join us for one of our upcoming meetings this year! We will meet on **Sunday, September 10 at 4:00 p.m.** to discuss *The Nix* by Nathan Hill, soon to be made into a film starring Meryl Streep! If you have any questions, contact Amy E. Thompson at thompson.amy72@gmail.com.



More selections and dates are:

Sunday, November 12: *Never Let Me Go*, Kazuo Ishiguro

Sunday, January 14: *An Exaltation of Larks*, Suzanne Laqueur

Sunday, March 11: *Everything I Never Told You*, Celeste Ng

Sunday, May 6 (note this is the first Sunday due to Mother's Day): *Station Eleven*, Emily St. John Mandel

Join with Other Nature Lovers!



Attention all nature lovers! We are excited to announce the formation of a new group of First Church people who will meet monthly and focus on special projects, fellowship and conservation. We are looking for anyone who enjoys nature and wants to help protect what God has created for us. Whether you enjoy nature photography, hiking, feeding the birds, gardening or just sitting outside and taking in all that God has created, we want you!

We had our first brainstorming meeting in June, and we have many ideas of what this group could do (hikes, building a butterfly garden, programs at church to teach about conservation advocacy, etc.). If you have questions or want to get involved, please contact Tracy Kavanaugh at lilypadprints@gmail.com or 413-250-3838.

Come Join the Latter Day Marthas

What can happen when a few women decide to sit around a table and discuss frankly their own spiritual direction? A most beautiful thing. The birth of a new community fortified by authenticity, tolerance and vulnerability. A refreshingly raw group of women, not religiously pretty, but gorgeous in their willingness to share with one another their introspective journeys. Searching has become a lesser part of our communal landscape than finding. We are all Latter Day Marthas (Martha was the sister that just didn't get it) with one unified front – we desire movement toward God and we want to talk about that. Some of us are stumbling, some are dancing and usually it depends on the day. **You are invited to join our conversations on the second and fourth Thursdays (July 6 and 20) at 5:45 p.m. in the Lehman Library.** Please contact Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com or 860-967-2269 for further information.

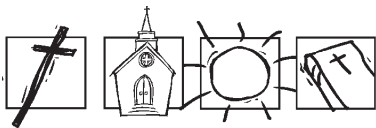
Women's Theological Reflection Group

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**. We will meet throughout the summer. Please contact Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com or 860-967-2269 for further information.

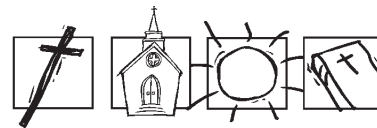
Potpourri

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! Come anytime, a place is always set for you!





Adult Opportunities



Prayer and Share

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/discussions and from each other. **All are welcome to join us in the Parlor each Tuesday morning throughout the summer from 9:45-11:00 a.m.** Please contact Nancy Higgins at 860-573-6092 or Donna Smith at 860-633-4428 for more information.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Sponsored Knit in Public Day

Five First Church knitters joined in the fun on **Knit in Public Day** on June 10. **Knit in Public Day** is a worldwide annual event held to celebrate the joy of knitting. Last year



it was held at 1,122 sites in 54 countries! Fifteen Glastonbury knitters met at the fountain green on the corner of Main Street and Hebron Avenue to enjoy fellowship and the lovely spring weather as they knitted. For Prayer Shawl Ministry information, please contact Nancy Pacht at 860-659-3935.



General Info Corner



Prayer Corner

Prayers of joy for:

Having our children and youth lead worship.

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Barbara Harding Audrey Hernandez
Lois Harwick Chris Hernandez

Prayers of sympathy for:

Andrew Wicks and his family on the death of his grandfather, Bob Oppelt, on June 12.



New Ushers Invited



Would you like to help usher at one of our Sunday morning worship services? We are ever so thankful for the head ushers and ushers who help in seating and participate in the offertory. The Board of Deacons invites anyone who would love to be a head usher or usher to please make a note in the fellowship pew pad, speak to the host at the Welcome Table in Schultz Hall or call Kathy Ciolkosz at the church office (860-633-4641). We would love to add your name to our list!

IN CASE OF HOSPITALIZATION:

Hospitals can't release information to us, so if you or a loved one is hospitalized and would like a visit, please make note of the following.

For Hartford Hospital, inform them that you are from First Church of Christ, Congregational in Glastonbury.

For St. Francis Hospital, tell them Code 17 for First Church.

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

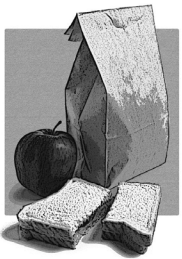
Altar Flowers Requested

Church members are invited to provide flower arrangements for the altar in memory of, in celebration of, or in honor of people, events or accomplishments. Please contact Susan Bonitsky at kowsz@juno.com.

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



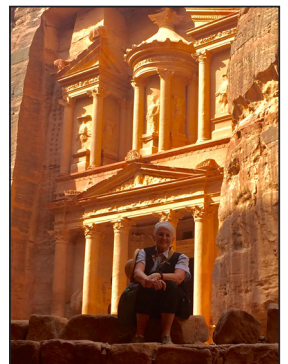
BROWN BAG LUNCHES

Once again, escape the heat, enjoy the church's air conditioning, see some old friends, make some new ones and learn something new about this wonderful world in which we live! We have two more "brown bag" lunches planned for July and August. Bring a bag lunch and we will provide the beverages and dessert.

Wednesday, July 19: 12:00-1:15 p.m.

A Jaunt Through Jordan with Diana Ruddick!

Diana will share photographs of and reflections on her recent trip to Jordan, including visits to Petra, Mount Nebo, Jerash and Amman. With Israel to the west and Syria and Iraq to the north, Jordan is surrounded by war and strife, yet has managed to maintain a peaceful kingdom whose citizens are warm and welcoming to Americans.



Tuesday, August 8: 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Memories of Morocco with Samantha LaFargue!

Samantha studied in Morocco for the spring semester. Join us to hear about her experiences while she lived and studied in Morocco. She will give us a feel for this fascinating country.



First Church

Through and including Sunday, September 3,
one worship service at 9:00 a.m.



Sunday, July 2

Preacher and Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Arwen Norman, soprano

Sunday, July 9

Preacher: Elizabeth Gleich
Worship Leader: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: The *SPARK!* Band

Sunday, July 16

Preacher: David Taylor
Worship Leaders:
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Vance Harris
Guest Organist: David Bradley

Sunday, July 23

Preacher and Worship Leader: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Virginia Kousen

Sunday, July 30

Lay Preacher: Tara Conway
Worship Leader: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Elizabeth Flynn

Sunday, August 6

Preacher and Worship Leader: Bruce Johnson
Special Music: Wayne Rivera

Sunday, August 13

Preacher: Bruce Johnson
Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Ken Kousen

Sunday, August 20

Preacher: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Worship Leaders:
Kate VanDerzee-Glidden and David Taylor
Special Music: Stanley Battle, baritone

Sunday, August 27

Lay Preacher: Vance Harris
Worship Leaders:
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Vance Harris

Sunday, September 3

Preacher and Worship Leader: Bruce Johnson
Special Music: Wayne Rivera

Sunday, September 10 - Homecoming Sunday

One service at 10:00 a.m.

Preacher: David Taylor
Worship Leaders:
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Hot Cat Jazz Band,
Chancel Choir and Choir Camp Participants
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 1)

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 3 and Tuesday, July 4** in celebration of the holiday. The office will also be **closed on Monday, September 4** 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, Sally Brown and Bruce Johnson 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.