



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

An open, welcoming and affirming congregation

June 2017

Dear Friends,

We recently read that Christian communities committed to mission in the world endure when they nurture the spiritual depth of practices that equip them for the long run. Well, as we all know, the First Church community has endured for over 320 years! This family of faith has truly embodied this truth: *“The habits of thinking, practices of living, disciplines of praying, celebrations of worship, and clarity of calling can only happen with one another.”*

(Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, *Sojourners Magazine*, April 2017)

For this past church year, our theme has been, **“Building the Beloved Community – A Beautiful Love!”** Through our weekly worship celebrations, our mission practices of outreach and service to the community, our habits of study and prayer, fellowship and renewal – this First Church family of faith, this **“beloved community,”** has been reminded daily of the clarity of our calling. And this clarity of our call – to share God’s love with one another and with the world – is most profoundly felt as we work together, pray together, sing together, cry together, laugh together and worship God together!



All around us now, the splendor of God’s creation is joyfully bursting with flowers and leaves, birds and wildlife, the laughter of children, the pouring rain and the warming sun. Despite this splendor, God’s beautiful world is often marred by the mysterious tragedies of nature, or by the apathy, neglect, hatred, prejudice and violence of humankind. With all of this pain and suffering, the calling to share God’s love with all our heart, soul, mind and strength becomes crystal clear!

As a beloved community, therefore, we teach, sing, ring, learn, play, serve, give, hold, hug, care, build, knit, dream, repair, hammer, paint, run, walk, dig, clean, worship, cook, pray and love! With generosity and with love, we link hands with one another and link hands and hearts with a joy-filled but often hurting and broken world.

God has truly cared for us with **a beautiful love!** It is with a profound humility, but also with an unbounded faith, hope and love that the First Church family boldly and courageously charts a course that will endure for another 320 years – a course that will be guided in the coming year by the words of the prophet Micah, **“to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.”**



Faithfully,

David 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

Through June 11:

Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
Church School: 10:15 a.m.

June 18 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*
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- Susan Feller, *Publications Specialist*
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- 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*

THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Saturday, June 10: July 2017 issue



Micah House and Chapel Update June 2017

Many of us search our entire lives for a miracle...well search no more. The renovation of the Hale House is a miracle happening right now at First Church!! Take a moment and look outside when you are visiting church or attending Sunday worship service. Even better – view the First Church live webcam and watch the progress every day towards our dream of revitalizing the historic Thomas Hale Homestead into the Micah House and Chapel. Alleluia!!



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 next phase is to pour the new foundation's concrete and let it settle. The house will then be

lowered onto the new foundation and George Fay can begin the next phase of renewal and construction.

Church members Jonathan Russell, Mick Gifford and Walt Briggs continue to provide hands-on financial and construction oversight throughout the project. Members of the Building Committee and many others continue to save money by providing hands-on interior and exterior demolition of parts of the Hale House.

Special care is being given to preserve anything that is reusable. 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

Click on our website homepage link to view our live webcam.

Season of Celebration, One Service at 10:00 a.m.

- May 28** Memorial Day Weekend, Music: Chancel Choir
- June 4** High School Senior Celebration Sunday
Music: Caroler and Chancel Choirs
Faith & Faithfulness Awards
- June 11** Children's Celebration Sunday
Music: Puppet Troupe, Cherub Choir

Summer Worship, June 18 – September 3
One Service at 9:00 a.m.



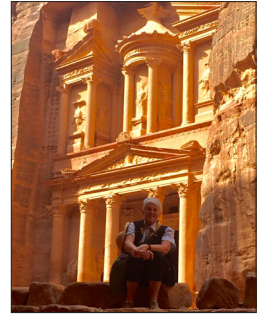
BROWN BAG LUNCHES

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 "brown bag" lunches planned for June and July, with another one in the works for August. Stay tuned! Bring a bag lunch and arrive at noon. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

Monday, June 19: *Sauntering Through Southeast Asia with Andrew Wicks!*



Southeast Asia is a beautiful and tropical paradise, home to a rich tapestry of cultures and peoples, a crossroads between China, India and the Pacific with its own unique flavor. From the beaches of Bali, to the ancient ruins of Angkor Wat, and the tea fields of the Cameron Highlands, lively people, exotic foods and breathtaking vistas abound. Come join Andrew Wicks and learn about Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Cambodia, and Andrew's latest year of travel and work across the region.



Wednesday, July 19: *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.

FIRST CHURCH

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Sunday, June 11



Immediately following worship, rain or shine
The pavilion at JB Williams Park, 705 Neipsic Road



Potluck Barbecue

Please bring a side dish!

We will provide burgers (beef and veggie) and hotdogs

Fun for all ages!

Crafts – Face painting, tattoos, fingernails

Playground – Swings, slide, seesaws, bubbles!

Games – Volleyball, badminton, kickball, cornhole

Fishing – Bring your own tackle and give it a whirl

Delicious fun – Cookie decorating

Music & dancing – Enjoy the song & guitar talents of Acoustic Rick, an entertainer for over 30 years with a repertoire of over 2000 songs covering every genre

Sign up by June 5 - don't delay!

Stop by the sign up table during coffee hour to add your name to the list of folks who are going to enjoy a wonderful afternoon, in the company of our awesome church family, to kick off a terrific summer season!

Sponsored by the Board of Lay Life and Ministry.
For more information please contact Sandi Philbrook at 860-659-1269 or novakgrl@sbcglobal.net



UCC Updates

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. Two upcoming events are:

Tri-Conference Annual Meeting: Be a part of UCC history, and come to the Annual Meeting on **June 16 and 17** at the CT Convention Center in Hartford. This Annual Meeting marks the first time that our conferences – Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island – will hold our annual meetings **Together, As One**. And it is the first time since the United Church of Christ was formed in 1957 that delegates will be asked to endorse the idea of joining to form a new conference. Everyone is invited to: worship and share communion; explore the future of our church with UCC General Minister & President John Dorhauer; and discern whether to endorse a new conference and move forward. For more information, visit the website at <http://www.ctucc.org/eventdetail/6345699>.

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. For more information, visit <http://synod.uccpages.org/>.



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.

Foodshare Volunteer Opportunity – We Need You!

Hunger is an invisible problem, so most people are unaware of how large a problem it is. In Hartford and Tolland counties alone, the area served by Foodshare, there are 137,000 people who cannot be sure where their next meal is coming from. The majority of these 137,000 people are either children or seniors, and the majority of the rest are working full-time jobs (or two). Foodshare's vision is for a community where all of these people can get all of the food they need. And 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.



Here at First Church, we have the Mobile Foodshare truck come to our back parking lot every other Wednesday. Now we have a new opportunity to go to the Foodshare Regional Market in Hartford on **alternating Wednesday mornings (June 14 and 28) from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.** to help sort and package the produce so it all gets given out to our neighbors. **People gather in the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. to drive in together.** If you are interested in learning more, please contact First Church member Jim Hartung at ctsdncmnfolk@gmail.com or 860-430-2123.

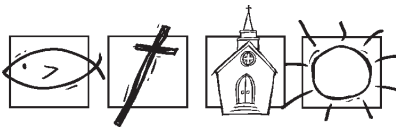
Al Abas Family Update

The Al Abas family, Syrian refugees First Church is co-sponsoring together with Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services (IRIS), have been here ten months now and continue to prosper as they acclimate to their new life and culture. On the employment front, father Zeyad is interested in developing a painting business, and has done a number of projects recently for First Church clients. Thanks to all who have had him paint! Ezdehar, with help from Refugee Committee members and her family, has been delighting church members and friends with her monthly Syrian dinners in Schultz Hall, which have been selling out quickly. The next one will be held in July. She has also catered dinners in several First Church members' homes and her long term goal is to have a food truck. Volunteers have been helping Ezdehar understand the many requirements for setting up a food business. Walid and Mohammad work part-time at Stop & Shop and Max Amore, while Majd has been doing yard work for First Church folks in his spare time, and plans to work full-time at the Killam and Besette farm in South Glastonbury this summer. Both Majd and Sedra have made honor roll at Glastonbury High School and Smith School, respectively, and first grader Sara continues to do very well in Buttonball School, as we hear from her teacher. Zeyad has been working hard honing his driving skills in hopes of passing the DMV road test and getting his license, which will be a big step in gaining independence for the family.

You are Invited to a 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 25, 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





Christian Service



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 (June 7 and 21)** 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. To help, please contact John Dugan at 860-659-2193 or Paul Fraleigh at 860-643-1571.

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.

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 June, we’re asking for contributions of **canned vegetables, pasta, sauce** and other items people are willing to donate. Please bring food that is not expired or open. Thank you!



Children's Ministries



Summer Church School 2017!

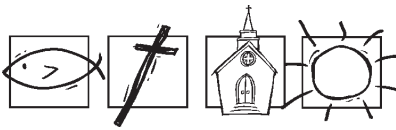
This summer all children have the opportunity to attend Church School classes on Sunday mornings where our children will learn about important Bible stories through fun, hands-on activities. Childcare will be provided throughout the summer as well.

All children (entering Preschool and higher) will meet together in Room 205.

Date	Unit	Room	Station	Main Idea
18-Jun	People Who Made a Difference	205	Art	People of faith made a difference. Through the stories of people of faith, such as Deborah, Jeremiah, the Centurion’s servant, and the woman at the well, we learn more about God. As people of faith, we can respond to God and make a difference.
25-Jun			Games	

Donations in the Church School envelopes go directly to the 2016-2017 Church School Mission Project, **School Safe Zones**. We suggest a children’s donation of \$1 per week. **Other designated envelopes are available for your pledges.**





Children's Ministries



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, as well as several conferences for families, from baking to boating, ropes courses to theatre, weaving to wilderness survival, hiking and biking. Scholarships are available. For more information or to register, go online to www.silverlakect.org.

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

Want to Know what Dads and Grandpas Really Want for Father's Day?

He may enjoy a donation to the Church School mission project in his honor! 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. Our informational *School Safe Zones* "thank you" postcards will be wrapped in festive Father's Day packaging, available during coffee hour or at the church office **the weeks of June 4 and June 11.**



With your help we can reach our challenge goal of \$10,000. Thank you for your support!

Children's Ministries Calendar

Sunday, June 4

Rehearsal for Children's Celebration Sunday
Grades 6, 7 and 8 will host a bake sale during coffee hour

Sunday, June 11

Children's Celebration Sunday
Puppet Troupe and Cherub Choir perform

Sunday, June 18

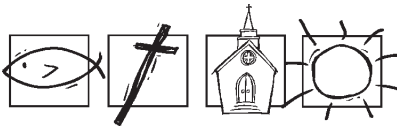
Summer Church School begins
Starting June 18, there is one service at **9:00 a.m.**

Monday, July 31 – Friday, August 4

Vacation Bible School here at First Church!

Children's Celebration Sunday

During our worship service on **Sunday, June 11**, we will celebrate our children and all of the wonderful volunteers involved in our Church School program. There will be no Church School that day as children will be participating in many aspects of the service. On **Sunday, June 4**, the week prior, we will hold **a rehearsal during our regular Church School time.** If you have any questions about Children's Celebration Sunday, please contact Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org.



Children's Ministries



Bloomfield Backpack Project

In partnership with Foodshare and other local churches, we provided backpacks filled with 11 pounds of nonperishable food each week to 100 Bloomfield school children in need. First Church sent groups of kids and adults to do the packing of the backpacks for the children twice a month. Thank you to all of those who volunteered this year. We look forward to more groups joining us next year for this meaningful mission opportunity!



Youth Ministry



New Driver Blessing at SHF!

On **Sunday, June 4**, we will have a new driver blessing at SHF. If you have received your driver's license anytime since June 2016, please be in touch with Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org and join us for a special blessing and receive a First Church SHF keepsake. Hope to see you there!

Senior High Fellowship Schedule

Senior High Fellowship is open to any student in 9th – 12th grade. We meet on **Sunday nights from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room.

Friday – Sunday, May 26-28: Craigville Retreat
Sunday, June 4: Senior Recognition Sunday (10:00 a.m. Worship Service), Senior Celebration Party and New Driver Blessing at Regular Session (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

Junior High Fellowship Schedule

Junior High Fellowship is open to any young person in 6th – 8th grades. Regular fellowship sessions are the **2nd and 4th Monday of each month during the school year from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room.



Monday, June 12: Reverse Rally Day!



Music Ministry



Choir Camp, August 20-23



The Cantate, Cantabile and Mallets Choirs will attend Choir Camp 2017 from **August 20-23**, to be held at Silver Lake Conference Center in Sharon, CT. Located in scenic Litchfield County near the northwest corner of the state, this camp offers a fabulous week with 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, boating, low ropes course activities, storytelling, skits over a campfire and great fellowship. Like last year, we are inviting those choristers in Caroler Choir who are 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 is due by June 2.** Sign up forms are available on the church website, as well as in the church office and choir room. Please contact Angela Salcedo (angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org) if you are interested in chaperoning.



Music Ministry



Special Recognition on Music Celebration Sunday

During Music Celebration Sunday on **May 14**, many parishioners, young and old, who participate in the great variety of singing and bell choirs, were recognized for the beautiful music they contribute to worship services all year long.

40-Year Plaque

David Motycka

10-Year Plaque

Sean Donovan

5-Year Trophies

Noah Carrera
Maddie Cline
Anna Dalton-Kay
Olivia Standish
Anna Stone

Graduating Seniors

Liza Giguere
Gretta Hartman

Receiving Hymnals

Noah Garrity
Cate Stone

Choristers Earning a New Ribbon This Year

Aiden Palen (LB)
Cate Stone (LB)
Anna Stone (LB)

2017-18 Head Choristers

Sean Donovan (Cantabile Choir)
Jamie Martin (Cantabile Choir)
Anna Dalton-Kay (Cantate Choir)

2017-18 Head Ringer

Elizabeth Sill (Mallets)

Perfect Attendance

Katelyn Kavanaugh (Caroler)
Owen Guilmette (Caroler)
Jamie Martin (Mallets)
Valerie St. Laurent (Cantate)
Cate Stone (Cantate)

Excellent Attendance

Anna Dalton-Kay (Cantate)
Christian Guerra (Cantabile)
Micah Krauss (Caroler)
Jamie Martin (Cantabile)
Tatum MacDonald
(Cantabile and Mallets)
Andrew Norman (Mallets)
Zack Manto (Mallets)
Kayla St. Laurent (Cantate)
Anna Stone (Cantate)



Family Night at the Hartford Yard Goats - August 28



On **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 \$8 each and will be on sale in June on Sundays during coffee hour or at the church office for the whole summer. The proceeds from this event help to support our yearly Choir Camp.

GODSPELL Thanks!

Thank you to all the choristers, *Godspell* participants and *SPARK!* Band for the wonderful music performed on Music Celebration Sunday!

Music at the Meetinghouse Presents...

GREATER MIDDLETOWN CHORALE



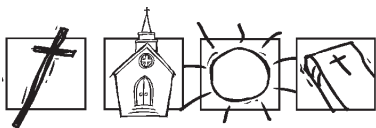
Vocal Alchemy

Saturday, June 3, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

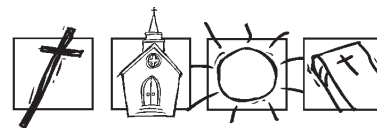
Followed by an ice cream social!

A donation of \$10 per person is suggested. \$20 family maximum.

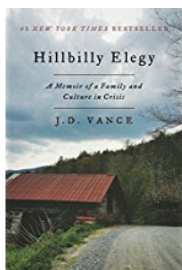
*First Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC
2183 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 860-633-4641*



Adult Opportunities



Thursday Morning Study Group



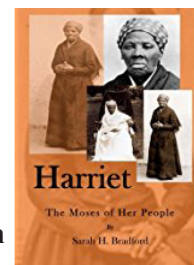
On **June 1**, the Thursday Morning Study Group will complete the story of two boys with the same opportunities at birth going in opposite directions in life, *The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates* by Wes Moore. Then, on **June 8** we will read and discuss a highly acclaimed novel by William Paul Young, *The Shack*. This is the 2007 book from the *New York Times* all-time bestseller list about a family tragedy where the father confronts Eternity to find some solace. Recently made into a first run theatre movie, our meeting for **June 15** will be to view *The Shack* off site. We will meet at the church and carpool. Then, on **June 22 and 29**, we will consider the plight of broken working class folk in America reaching beyond beginnings for success by using the *New York Times* bestselling book by J.D. Vance, *Hillbilly Elegy* as a guide. TMSG will then begin its summer recess. 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 most Thursdays**. Please contact Sally Brown via email at saldaybrown@aol.com for more information.

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 (June 8 and 22) at 5:45 p.m. in the Lehman Library.** Please contact Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com or 860-967-2269 for further 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.** On **September 12 at 4:00 p.m.** we will discuss the 2015 *New York Times* bestselling 'biography' novelette by Sarah Vowell, *Lafayette in The Somewhat United States*. 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.

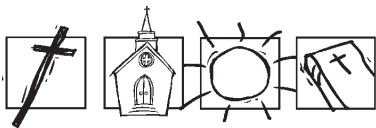


Women's Theological Reflection Group

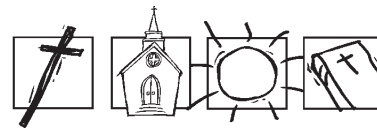
We invite all interested First Church women to join us on the **third Wednesday of each month** to discuss a variety of faith questions, reflect on our personal journeys and share friendship and community. In the past, we discussed prayer, healing, faith journeys, doing justice, finding quiet time, our 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 and Knit in Public Day!

Knitters and crocheters will gather on **Monday, June 12, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library** for our last meeting of the program year. For years, our Prayer Shawl Ministry has enhanced the life of our First Church community. The group gathers monthly for fellowship, inspiration and a time to knit. If you cannot attend meetings, we would still welcome the donation of your shawls. Patterns and needles can be provided by our group. As always, newcomers are always welcome. Yarn is provided. Bring a #11 or #13 pair of knitting needles, or a medium to large crochet hook, and receive some instruction. If you have questions, please contact Judy Burr at jaburr@cox.net or 860-643-9368.



All knitters are invited to join 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 1015 sites in 87 countries! Glastonbury knitters will **meet at the fountain green on the corner of Main St. and Hebron Ave. from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Participants are welcome to stay for the entire time but are also welcome to come and go as needed. In the case of rain, we will meet at the Welles-Turner Library in the Glastonbury Room. Bring your knitting project and meet knitters from around the area. First Church's Prayer Shawl Ministry is sponsoring the local event. Contact Nancy Pacht at 860-659-3935 or nrwp0503@yahoo.com with questions.



General Info Corner



Prayer Corner

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Barbara Harding Audrey Hernandez
Lois Harwick Chris Hernandez



Prayers of sympathy for:

Lieschen Seabeck on the death of her brother, Frederick J. Kaeser, on April 20.

Phil Mitchell on the death of his grandmother, Faye Mitchell, on April 23.

Scott Hadley and family on the death of his father, Robert Hadley.

Sara Kelly and family on the death of her father, Dr. James Barr Carroll, on April 29. Dr. Carroll was also the father-in-law of John Cancellieri and grandfather of Christina Conoscenti.

Robert and Jennianne Clegg on the death of Robert's mother, Noreen Clegg, on April 29 in Unionville.

Andrew Wicks on the death of his grandmother, Catherine "Kitty" Wicks, on April 30.

Carol Ruff and family on the death of her daughter, Marion Ellison, on May 3.

2017 Pentecost Offering



Pentecost is Sunday, June 4.

This year the Pentecost offering will be used to replace the exterior door and shed roof and gutter (exit near kitchen) above to resolve interior flooding when it rains. Those wishing to contribute to this needed and important project can find special Pentecost envelopes in the church pews, in your offering boxes, or by simply noting "Pentecost" in the memo section of your check.

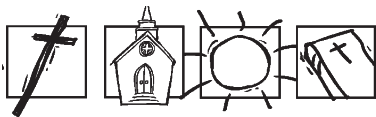
Thank you for giving,

Your Board of Trustees

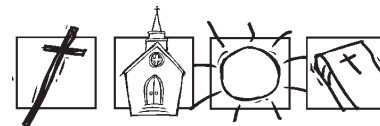
Media Ministries at First Church

Watch a First Church service on television...

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



New Members

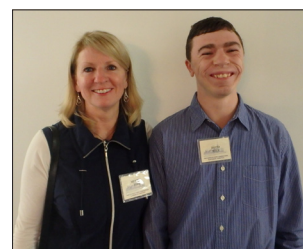


Sunday, April 30, was a very exciting day in the life of our church! The Church Growth and Membership Committee would like to join our entire congregation in welcoming all of our newest members, listed below.



Nicole and Dan R. Beagle, Jr. (28 Lazy Valley Rd., Glastonbury, 860-430-2148) Dan and Nikki have two children: Daniel (13) and Emma (10). Both are registered in our Church School program, and Daniel attends Junior High Fellowship as well. The family moved from the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area in 2014. Dan works in Insurance/ Investments for The Hartford and enjoys coaching both Little League baseball and basketball. Nikki is a stay-at-home mom and enjoys cooking, reading and entertaining.

David Rees (105 Olde Wood Rd., Glastonbury, 860-659-0404) David is the son of Merryl Rees, who is also joining in membership this morning. He is a college student, interested in track, skiing and basketball.



Merryl Rees (105 Olde Wood Rd. Glastonbury, 860-659-0404) Merryl is a Human Resource Executive with Medtronic. In her spare time, she enjoys kayaking, film festivals, Broadway and music shows and gardening.



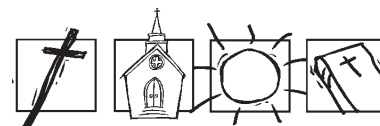
George Sawyer (29 Scott St., East Hartford, 860-934-8260) George has been attending worship since January. He is a machinist for Nelson Precision Drilling and loves hiking and fishing. He has special interests in drawing and cooking.



Amy Sprague (13 LedgeWood Dr., Glastonbury, 860-918-8954) Amy moved from upstate New York in 1997 and has been attending First Church since 2010. She has a daughter, Madelynn (7). Amy is a Special Education Paraprofessional in the Rocky Hill public schools, working with children 3 to 8 years old on the autism spectrum.



General Info Corner



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.

Thanks for Observing Our Driveway Fire Lanes!

As we are in the midst of another program year with lots of activities and events at the church, we offer this gentle reminder to observe the "No Parking – Fire Lane" signs in our church driveway. Cars should not be left parked, unattended, in these "No Parking" areas. With cars sometimes parked in the "Limited Mobility" area of the driveway, fire trucks and other emergency vehicles would have difficulty responding if our driveway has cars parked on both sides. In addition, there is a safety concern, especially for children who might be running out from behind cars as other cars are entering and leaving our church property. Thanks for helping to make our church a safe place for all!

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL
2183 MAIN STREET, GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT 06033-2208
CHURCH OFFICE 860-633-4641 FAITHLINE 860-633-4116

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Spring Happenings!! Mission Immersion Day, *SPARK!*, *Godspell*, Gold & Silver Member Brunch, Foodshare Walk Against Hunger!





First Church



From Sunday, June 18 through and including Sunday, September 3, one worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 18

Preacher: Bruce Johnson
Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Peggy Hartman, oboe; Stanley Battle, baritone

Sunday, June 25

Lay Preacher: Courtney Chatterton
Worship Leaders:
Kate VanDerzee-Glidden and David Taylor
Special Music: Wayne Rivera
Guest Organist: David Bradley

Sunday, July 2

Preacher: David Taylor
Worship Leader: David Taylor
Special Music: Yerim Lee,
2016 Music Scholarship Winner

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: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
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: Bruce Johnson
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

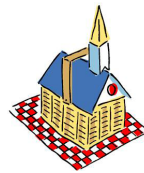
Sunday, September 3

Preacher: Bruce Johnson
Worship Leaders:
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
Special Music: Wayne Rivera
Guest Organist: Suzanne Gates

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

Summer Church School **starts on June 18!** 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 (June 12 - 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.