



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

An open, welcoming and affirming congregation

May 2017

Dear Friends,

Well, it is finally springtime, and with the beginning of the baseball season the words of Yogi Berra still ring true, "***It's like déjà vu all over again.***"



If it is springtime, then the 20 yards of organic compost has once again arrived in my driveway. Very **BIG** dump truck. Very **BIG** pile. It's all worth it, however, as plants feel invigorated, nurtured, fed, loved, blooming, blossoming, growing – all hues of flowers (purple, blue, pink, white, yellow, lavender) shouting for joy and celebrating the wonder of God's world and the wonder of God's love!

This truly **IS** a season of celebration! And this truly is

OUR season of celebration here at First Church! And this is our season to celebrate the wonder of God's world and the wonder of God's love! For we, too, are feeling invigorated, nurtured, fed, loved – and we, too, are growing, blossoming and blooming with great joy with a rainbow of colors which express the beauty of our life together!



My, oh my!! With end of April, we begin our time to celebrate the vibrant life of this beloved community with festive events, worship services, and opportunities for mission! As April comes to a close, we hear the sounds of **bells, drums and guitars** in the Meetinghouse, **hammers** in Hartford, and the **prayers** of gratitude for our Gold and Silver members!

And as the merry month of May continues, we will celebrate God's love with the musical production ***Godspell***, the confirmation of 33 Confirmands, and the reflections of our 41 senior high youth mission trippers back from their spring break doing God's work at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi.

As the ***Micah House and Chapel*** "arises" during this season when we celebrate the promise of



new life, hope, beauty and love, we give thanks that we have chosen to dedicate this new facility to the work of sharing God's love with the world – which is nothing less than the work of the prophet Micah, "***to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.***"

May the work of this beloved family of faith be like the blooming of springtime flowers! May our mission of sharing God's love with the children (ages 1 day to 100+ years!) of the world be as colorful and joyous as the rainbow of hues that now grace this beautiful earth!



With springtime best wishes to all,

David

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 April 30:

Services at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

May 7 through June 11
ONE service at 10:00 a.m.

Church School: 10:15 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*
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- Rebecca Fleahman, *Office Manager*
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- 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 May 2017



The renovation of the Hale House is progressing on schedule – just take a moment and look when you are visiting church or attending Sunday worship service. The progress over the past month has been nothing short of amazing – our dream of revitalizing the historic Thomas Hale Homestead into the Micah House and Chapel is coming true with every passing day. Alleluia!!



A full building permit has been issued for the project, and the building was handed over to contractor George Fay on April 3, 2017. The building has been lifted and we are now working to stabilize the chimney and create the new foundation. The house will 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.

MANY THANKS to congregation members and friends who helped raise \$950,000 for this transformational mission project. The Micah House and Chapel at the Thomas Hale Homestead 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

View our live webcam at: <https://www.microseven.com/tv/lv/k449ZppoAcB/Micah-House.html>

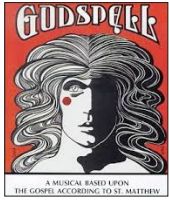
THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Wednesday, May 10: June 2017 issue



Music Ministry



Music Celebration Sunday: May 14, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. The Book of Godspell: Stories and Songs



Our upcoming Music Celebration Sunday will feature the lessons and music from Act I of the well-known musical *Godspell*. We are excited to have those singers and participants who attended our *Godspell* workshop join us on this day. The service will feature singing, ringing, costumes and staging, all to bring the Gospel alive in word and song. Our Jubilate Ringers will set the tone of this service with a medley of *Godspell*

favorites. So, mark your calendars for a worship service you will not want to miss! We hope all will be inspired and want to participate in the full production of this musical in March 2018.

Like past years, we will highlight those choristers receiving five-year trophies, ten-year plaques, graduating senior and perfect and best attendance awards. All of these awards will be noted in a special insert in the bulletin for that day. Choristers will be able to pick up their awards in Schultz Hall after the worship service.

All those participating in the *Godspell* service – Chancel, Cantate, Cantabile, cast, workshop participants and small ensemble - please note the schedule to the right.

Mandatory Rehearsals

- Saturday, April 29:** 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 3:** 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- Thursday, May 4:** 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, May 6:** 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Sunday, May 7:** 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Monday, May 8:** 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.,
dress rehearsal
- Tuesday, May 9:** 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.,
dress rehearsal
- Thursday, May 11:** 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.,
dress rehearsal
- Sunday, May 14:** 8:00 a.m. call,
10:00 a.m. performance

Music at the Meetinghouse Presents...

GREATER MIDDLETOWN CHORALE



Vocal Alchemy

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

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*

2017 Music Scholarships

First Church is pleased to offer music scholarships of up to \$1,000 to student musicians in the First Church family or the Glastonbury community to defray the cost of private lessons. The selection process will focus on an applicant's interest in classical music, especially music appropriate for sacred settings. Through these scholarships, the Board of Music seeks to encourage the appreciation and performance of church music through formal education and to foster church musicians, both professionals and lay volunteers.

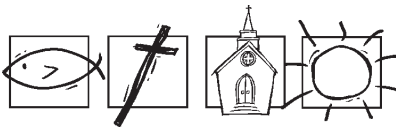


Applications are now available in the church office, the choir room, and on our website, <http://www.glastonburyfirst.org/scholarship>. **Applications and personal statements must be received at the church office by noon on Tuesday, May 23, 2017**, addressed to The Music Scholarship Committee, First Church of Christ, Congregational, 2183 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033, or emailed to bruce.munshower@gmail.com. Questions should be directed to Bruce Munshower, Chair of the Music Scholarship Committee, at bruce.munshower@gmail.com.



Congratulations!

We congratulate **Cate Stone** for receiving her Light Blue Ribbon as part of the Royal School of Church Music Program. Each ribbon color represents the various levels of musicianship achieved by the chorister according to the following graded program; Light Blue (Level 1); Dark Blue (Level II); Red (Level III); Purple (Level IV); and Black (Level V).



Music Ministry



Choir Camp for Cantate, Cantabile and Mallets Choirs, 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 1.** 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.



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.

Walk Against Hunger on May 7



Foodshare's 34th Annual **Walk Against Hunger on May 7** is the region's largest event raising funds and awareness in the fight against hunger. Here in Hartford and Tolland counties, the area served by Foodshare, there are 137,000 people who are not sure where their next meal is coming from. **THAT INCLUDES ONE OF EVERY 6 CHILDREN IN THE AREA.** The 2.5 mile walk starts with **registration at 12:30 p.m.** The Walk steps off at **2:00 p.m. from Liam E. McGee Memorial Park, 140 Garden Street, Hartford.** **FREE** Parking at 690 Asylum Ave. Bring along your family and friends and be part of this fun event.

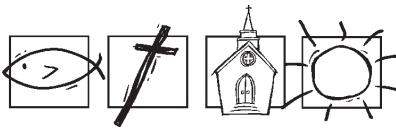
You can participate in one of three ways: join the Walk yourself and recruit donors, sponsor someone who is walking or register/donate online at www.FoodshareWalk.org. **Sign-ups and registration forms will be available at coffee hour through May 7.** We plan to carpool from the church to the walk. Contact Sally Riddell at grammasal@att.net with questions.

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 (May 3, 17 and 31) 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.



Christian Service



Serving Together at Mission Immersion Day, April 29



Come one, come all, to share God's love in the world! Spend a few hours on **Saturday, April 29** volunteering your time to help others. We will have four sites – making soup, cards and cookies for our parishioners who could use a little cheer; working in the soup kitchen and thrift store at Manchester Area Conference of Churches; serving lunch at St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen in Middletown and working on fixing up a house in Hartford through Rebuilding Together Hartford (RTH).

For more information about this Mission Immersion Day or to sign up, go to the table during coffee hour or contact Tina Sparrow at tsparrow21@gmail.com or 860-430-9484.

You are Invited to a Homemade Syrian Dinner and Cultural Experience!



Enjoy a delicious multi-course home-cooked Syrian meal by Ezdehar Al Abas. 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 **Saturday night, May 20 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! There will be no dinner in June due to Ramadan. The next dinner will be in July. Seating is limited to 25, so **RSVP to Lisa Hurley at lisahurley@snet.net or 860-335-5850 by Wednesday, May 17**. Payments should be given directly to Lisa.

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 (May 10 and 24)** 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 May, we're asking for contributions of **soup, chili, cereal** and other items people are willing to donate. Please bring food that is not expired or open. Thank you!





Christian Service



Diaper Drive for Covenant to Care for Children

The Board of Christian Service is sponsoring a diaper drive during May. Many babies lack a sufficient supply of disposable diapers to remain clean, dry and healthy. Did you know that there are 5.9 million babies in the U.S. aged three or younger who are living in poor or low-income families and that disposable diapers cost up to \$150 per month per baby? Without transportation, buying diapers at a convenience store rather than a large discount store can double or triple the monthly cost. People can buy candy with food stamps/SNAP, but diapers are classified with cigarettes, alcohol and pet food as disallowed purchases.

For the month of May, we will be collecting donations of diapers of all sizes and brands in a collection box in the back lobby. Our social workers at Covenant to Care for Children say the need is desperate. Thanks to all for your generous gifts and caring hearts!

Did you hear about the Diaper Drive?



Children's Ministries



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

VBS T-Shirt Design Contest

Love to draw? Then we need you! The Vacation Bible School Committee is looking for children and teens to design this year's VBS t-shirt. The theme is **Hero Central!** Your design should include the phrase, **"Discover your strength in God!"** along with the daily Hero Codes: **"God's Heroes Have Heart!"** **"God's Heroes Have Courage!"** **"God's Heroes Have Wisdom!"** **"God's Heroes Have Hope!"** **"God's Heroes Have Power!"** Please be creative with how you'd like to depict the theme! Entries should be in black and white on an 8.5" x 11" piece of unlined white paper, and are **due by May 15**. Drawings should be done with a sharpie marker (no pencil). Please hand in to Tracy Kavanaugh, Karin Carlino, or any First Church staff. Include your name and contact information on the back. Winners will receive an art gift basket and will get their own design on the VBS t-shirts!!!

Summer Church School 2017!

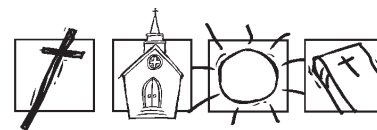
This summer all children will have the opportunity to attend Church School classes on Sunday mornings. By implementing a modified Rotation Model curriculum, our children will learn about important Bible stories and themes through fun, hands-on activities. **Summer Church School will begin on June 19.** Childcare will be provided throughout the summer as well!

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



Church School Unit 8: "How the Bible Came to Be"

Bible Story References: 2 Kings 22:8-23:3

Bible Verse: Joshua 1:8; Isaiah 40:8; Psalm 119:105; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Hebrews 4:12

Main Idea: The Bible, written by many different people over a long period of time, has been preserved and translated into many languages so it is now available to people around the world.



Objectives: In this unit children will learn:

- The books of the Bible were written over a long period by people of different backgrounds.
- The decision of what books go into the Old and New Testaments, the canon, was made many years ago. These books have been accepted by Christians as inspired by God.
- The Old Testament is the "Bible" that Jesus knew and quoted.
- The New Testament contains the story of Jesus, his disciples, and the beginning of the Christian church.
- All of the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, helps us know how God acts in relationship to people and to know how we should relate to God.
- We need to know what the Bible says and apply it to our daily lives.

	<u>Sunday 5/7</u>	<u>Sunday 5/14</u>	<u>Sunday 5/21</u>	<u>Sunday 5/28</u>	<u>Sunday 6/4</u>
<u>K & 1st grade</u>	Art Room 103 Nicole Wronski	Storytelling Room 111 Ann & Katelyn Hadley	Cooking Room 205 Kara Hetes	Science Room 206 Susan Crisafulli	Games Room 110 John DiTomasso
<u>2nd grade</u>	Science Room 206 Susan Crisafulli	Cooking Room 205 Kara Hetes	Games Room 110 John DiTomasso	Storytelling Room 111 Ann & Katelyn Hadley	Art Room 103 Nicole Wronski
<u>3rd grade</u>	Science Room 206 Susan Crisafulli	Cooking Room 205 Kara Hetes	Games Room 110 John DiTomasso	Storytelling Room 111 Ann & Katelyn Hadley	Art Room 103 Nicole Wronski
<u>4th grade</u>	Storytelling Room 111 Ann & Katelyn Hadley	Games Room 110 John DiTomasso	Art Room 103 Nicole Wronski	Cooking Room 205 Kara Hetes	Science Room 206 Susan Crisafulli
<u>5th grade</u>	Storytelling Room 111 Ann & Katelyn Hadley	Games Room 110 John DiTomasso	Art Room 103 Nicole Wronski	Cooking Room 205 Kara Hetes	Science Room 206 Susan Crisafulli

Please note: The Preschool Room is in Room 105. Puppet Troupe is in Rooms 302/303. EXPLORE is in the Youth Room. Some classes are combined for this Unit.

Church School runs until 11:10 a.m. each Sunday. If worship gets out earlier than that, please enjoy some time in Schultz Hall before picking up your children. Thanks for your cooperation!

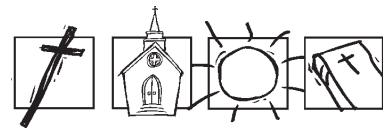


Bloomfield Backpack Project

In partnership with Foodshare and other local churches, we will be providing backpacks filled with 11 pounds of nonperishable food to 100 Bloomfield children in need. **On the second Thursday of every month from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.**, we send groups of kids and adults to pack the backpacks for the children. All are welcome at this meaningful mission opportunity! Contact Meredith Krauss at meredana@aol.com for more information or feel free to sign up on the poster outside of the Christian Education office. Remaining dates are **May 11 and June 8**.



Children's Ministries



Need a Mother's Day Gift Idea?

Are you looking for a meaningful way to celebrate and honor your mother, grandmother or other special people this year? Consider giving a donation to the Church School Mission Project in her 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 pretty Mother's Day packaging, available during coffee hour or at the church office **the week of May 7**. With your help we can reach our challenge goal of \$10,000. Thank you for your support!

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.

Children's Ministries Calendar

Sunday, May 7

Season of Celebration begins with one service at **10:00 a.m.**, Puppet Troupe performs

Sunday, June 11

Children's Celebration Sunday

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!



Youth Ministry



Fun, food, and fellowship at our annual Pancake Breakfast and Egg Hunt! Proceeds benefit the youth mission trip.





Youth Ministry



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. **Denotes special time*

Sunday, May 7: Mission Trippers lead worship, Regular Session

***Sunday, May 14:** No SHF (Mother's Day)

Sunday, May 21: Regular Session - 8th graders invited

***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.)

Confirmation Class Schedule

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.



**Denotes special time*

Sunday, May 7: Credo Study Hall (4:30 – 6:00 p.m.)

***Tuesday, May 16:** Credo Night & Reaffirmation of Faith (6:00 – 8:00 p.m., students at 6:00 p.m., family and mentors at 7:00 p.m. in the Meetinghouse)

***Sunday, May 21:** Confirmation Sunday (Service at 10:00 a.m., arrive at 9:30 a.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, May 8: Regular Session - 5th graders invited

Monday, May 22: Regular Session

Monday, June 12: Reverse Rally Day!

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!

Movin' On Up!

Attention all current 5th and 8th graders! Have you started thinking about your plans for the fall? Are you wondering what could be in store for you in the First Church Youth Ministry programs? You won't know unless you check it out! On **Monday, May 8, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**, all 5th graders are invited to the Junior High Fellowship meeting, and on **Sunday, May 21, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**, all 8th graders are invited to the Senior High Fellowship meeting. Clear your schedules for these special welcoming sessions as you learn about why our Youth Fellowship programs are such a hit! Get a preview of what's up next!

Scholarship Available

If you are a confirmed member of First Church, a senior in high school, planning to attend a four year college and can demonstrate need for financial aid, you may be eligible for the Frank Roswell Fuller Scholarship. If you meet the eligibility requirements of the Fuller Scholarship Fund, you may request an application packet by writing to financial-aid@trincoll.edu and inquiring about the Frank Roswell Fuller Scholarship Fund or be in touch with Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org.



INSPIRATIONAL GREETING CARDS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT YOUTH MISSION TRIP: \$1 EACH

Each year our youth create a thematic image that reflects our program year. Individual cards are available for \$1 (or you can purchase sets of 10) by contacting Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org.



Youth Ministry



Are You Ready for Camp at Silver Lake?!?!

Many First Church youth have experienced the wonders and fun of Silver Lake Summer Camp, a conference center run by the CT Conference of the UCC in Sharon, CT. Come and enjoy God's Backyard this summer, with various camps for youth in grades 4-12. If you're unsure or need convincing, talk to Elizabeth or ask any of the youth who have gone before. **Dates are available June 18 through August 12.**

Faith and Faithfulness Award



Hey graduating seniors, have you been an active and faithful volunteer throughout your years here at First Church? Our annual Faith and Faithfulness Award, presented at Senior Celebration Sunday each year is for you! Applicants must be graduating from high school in spring 2017 and planning to continue their education next year. They also must be church members or be part of a family of church members. Candidates will be evaluated based on their engagement in four areas: confirmation, youth fellowship, mission trips or other mission work, and other service to the church (for example, Church School teacher, video tech, Board representative or choir member). Applications, **due May 20**, are available in the church office and have been emailed to all seniors. We give thanks for all the ways our youth give to our church community. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org.

Pancake Breakfast Thank You!

The Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt was a great success! Thank you to the many youth and adult volunteers who made it happen. And thank you to the friends and families who attended! All of the money raised helped fund our youth mission trip.



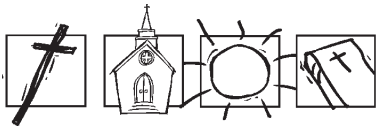
SHF Craigville Retreat Save the Dates: May 26 - 28

All students in grades 9 - 12 are invited to attend this fabulous, fun and faithful weekend on the Cape. Permission forms are available at SHF meetings, in informational emails and on the church website.

How Did We Spend Our Spring Break?

Thirty-four high school youth and six adult advisors recently returned from their annual mission trip. This year, they worked with Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS, to continue rebuilding homes and communities affected by Hurricane Katrina. The volunteers spent their April vacation painting, putting on siding, and serving at a soup kitchen.





Adult Opportunities



Thursday Morning Study Group: Art and More!

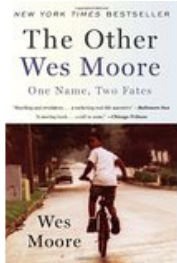
The Thursday Morning Study Group, which welcomes any and all newcomers, invites you to join them for their next **series on art!** Come one, come all, for a feast for the eyes as we *“love those landscapes!”* After the opening session on April 20, the remaining sessions are planned as follows:

April 27 – We will **meet in the church parking lot, and depart by 9:35 a.m. in carpools** and make a field trip to the studio barn of Julie Schnatz Rybeck. Julie will show us her work, and describe the process by which she does her wonderfully creative work! (If you prefer to meet at Julie’s at 9:45 a.m., that would be fine – just be in touch with David Taylor so we can properly plan for Julie’s special tour for us.)

May 4 – Barbara Jenkins will offer a presentation of her landscapes, likewise describing her creative process! What a treat to see and hear about Barbara’s beautiful work! Then, for the second half of this session, Sally Brown will offer a presentation of one of her favorite landscape artists, John Constable, the late 18th/early 19th century English Romantic landscape painter.



May 11 – The dynamic duo for the last session will be Diana Ruddick and Nancy Pacht! Diana will show how a camera can capture some stunning landscapes, including ones she saw on recent trips to Alaska and Jordan. We will be treated to the projection of some of her photographs. And Nancy will then be discussing the work of Matilda Browne, an underappreciated artist with Connecticut ties. There is an exhibit of her work at the Florence Griswold museum until the end of May.



Next, on **May 18** we will look at the modern definition of “Old School” vs. “Snowflakes” by reading the short, current study by east coast conservative Bill O’Reilly and west coast liberal Bruce Feirstein, ***Old School: Life in the Sane Lane.*** Published on March 28, it has shot to the top of the charts in less than five weeks. This will be followed on **May 25 and June 1** by another *New York Times* best seller ***The Other Wes Moore*** subtitled ***One Name, Two Fates*** by, wouldn’t you know, Wes Moore. This is a study of how two youngsters growing up in the same Baltimore neighborhood go in decidedly different directions. Please feel free to spend time with this group 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 (May 11 and 25) 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.

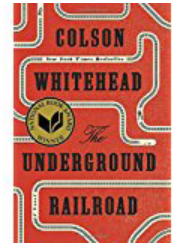


Adult Opportunities

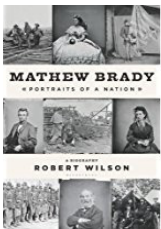


Second Sunday Book Club

The Second Sunday Book Club’s May selection is *Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. “Like the protagonist of Gulliver’s Travels, Cora, a slave, encounters different worlds at each stage of her journey—hers is an odyssey through time as well as space. As Whitehead brilliantly re-creates the unique terrors for black people in the pre–Civil War era, his narrative seamlessly weaves the saga of America from the brutal importation of Africans to the unfulfilled promises of the present day” (Amazon.com). We will meet in **Lehman Library on Sunday, May 7 at 4:00 p.m.** to discuss this and other great reads. If you have any questions, contact Amy E. Thompson at thompson.amy72@gmail.com.



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. The May selection is *Mathew Brady: Portraits of a Nation* by Robert Wilson. “In the 1840s and 1850s, ‘Brady of Broadway’ was one of the most successful and acclaimed Manhattan portrait galleries with many photographs of dignitaries. But it was during the Civil War that he became the founding father of what is now called photojournalism and his photography became an enduring part of American history. The Civil War was the first war in history to leave a detailed photographic record, and Mathew Brady was the war’s chief visual historian. Mathew Brady will be the biography of an American legend--a businessman, an accomplished and innovative technician, a suave promoter, a celebrated portrait artist, and, perhaps most important, a historian who chronicled America during its finest and gravest moments of the 19th century” (Amazon.com). **We will meet on Tuesday, May 9, at 4:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library** to enjoy a discussion of this biography. Call or email Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 or miguel.escalera@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

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!

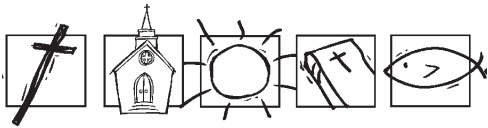
Prayer and Share

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 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, May 15, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library.** 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. **June 12** will be our last meeting of the program year.

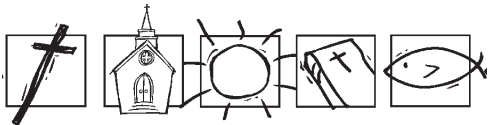
All knitters are invited to join in the fun on **Knit in Public Day on June 10. Knit in Public Day** is a world-wide annual event held to celebrate the joy of knitting. Last year it was held at 1015 sites in 87 countries! Glastonbury knitters will **meet at the fountain green on the corner of Main St. 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.



Worship



On Palm and Passion Sunday, a group of parishioners formed tableaux (living pictures) of the events of Holy Week while Kate and David read the story of Jesus being betrayed, beaten and eventually killed. The image of Jesus being carried out of the Meetinghouse in silence was moving and emotional. On Easter Sunday, we were reminded that sadness, death and cruelty don't have the last word. Joy, hope and love were felt by young and old gathered in the church worshipping our good and gracious God.



UCC Updates



Through our connection with our denomination, the United Church of Christ, we participate in a variety of mission, outreach, fellowship, and educational opportunities for young and old. 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. Here are two upcoming events taking place in our covenantal life with the UCC.

Environmental Justice For All Retreat: Are you concerned or want to know more about environmental issues in your neighborhood? Do you want to learn what you can do to make a difference? Together, we will discover how people of faith can work for environmental justice for all! **For youth in grades 9-12. Join us May 19-21, 2017** for an environmental justice and leadership training retreat at Silver Lake Conference Center to meet other young people like you, who care about their communities, and to find out how to take action! For registration assistance, contact Jenn Clark at 860-364-5526 or jenn@ctucc.org.

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 together to form a new conference. Everyone is invited to: worship and share communion with your New England neighbors; explore the future of our church with UCC General Minister & President John Dorhauer; and discern whether to endorse a new conference and move forward: **Together, As One**. For more information, visit the website at <http://www.ctucc.org/eventdetail/6345699>.

SILVER (40 years+) and



GOLD MEMBERS (50 years+)

On April 30, we will honor and recognize those who have been members of First Church for 40 years or more. We honor them for the blessing of their service to God and to First Church. Immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service, in Schultz Hall, we will hold the Annual Brunch prepared for them and their guests by the Board of Lay Life and Ministry.

GOLD MEMBERS

1941 Marion Hallas
1944 Robert Nystrom
1946 Jane Nystrom
Carol Ruff
1950 Susan Motycka
1953 Shirley Bailey
Winston Bailey
Frederick Bruening
Mary Gavin
Janis Jackson
Patricia Weibust
1954 Eva Bowden
1955 Pat Norton
1956 Jean Greene
Joe Greene
Robert Pikula
1957 Sandee Brown
Donald Keller
Eileen Oldman
1958 Lois Charron
Robert Charron
Barbara Fletcher
Althea Heacock
Janet Shannon
Robert Shannon
1959 Donna Chatterton
Fred Henrikson
Bruce Lester
1961 Elsie Bauer
George Dolde
Jean Haberman
Janice Habicht
Donna Henrikson
Phyllis Knickerbocker
Gary Lawrence
Shirley Lawrence
David Motycka
Thia Paternoster
Elio Paternoster
1962 Joanne Connolly
1964 Eleanor Chapman
Lois Gamer
Georgia Grunder
Walther Grunder
Edward Stewart
1965 Becky Glezen
John Glezen
Heather Pulito
1966 Tom Andrew

Barbara Bailey
Lynne Campbell
Susan Dixon
Nadine Lester
John Manion

1974

Earl Thompson
Sylvia Thompson
Eva Berch
Michael Berch
Richard Bowden
Robert Hoyt
Sarah Kelly
Harriett Mandeville
Paula Tripp
Peter Tripp
1975 Nancy Bailey
Janet Bassilakis
Susie Bragdon
Marian Huepper
Steven Huepper
Kim Kowsz
Beverly McGraw
Jackie Pancavage
Ed Smith
Margaret Smith
1976 Donald Boehler
Pat Boehler
Shirley Cole
Kathy Nussbaum
Shelby Nussbaum
William Rishell, II
Brenda Sperry
Kathleen Tambling
Philip Tambling
Catherine Tracy
David Tracy

NEWEST GOLD MEMBERS

1967 Jay Brown
Scott Olenick
Susan Phillips
Doris Rudd

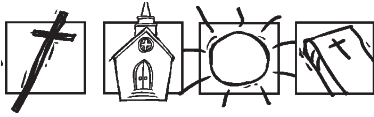
1975

SILVER MEMBERS

1968 Susan Carpenter
John McNab
Della Schultz
1969 Brad Benson
Linda Cook
Barbara Jenkins
Robert Jenkins
Blanche Marlow
Lester Marlow
Barbara Parker
Clem Pontillo
Frank Reichenbach
Judy Reichenbach
Norma Vaughn
1970 Isabel Higgins
Al Reid
1971 Carolyn Blackmore
Martha Leland
Robert Pulito
Gil Spencer
1972 Albert Birrell
James Conner
Marti Curtiss
Nancy Dixon
Jennie Elliott
Doris Hoffenberg
Charlotte Mowry
Wes Mowry
Ann Voorhis
1973 Judy Arth
Lucia Focht
Michel Gifford
Nancy Jefferson
Debbie Korper
Les Korper
Janet Pikula
Willard Pinney, Jr.

NEWEST SILVER MEMBERS

1977 Sarah Foster
Perry Gesell
Patricia Gesell
Tim Hassan
Donald Kelly
Penny Kelly
Tracey Mitchell
Lisa Roberson
Dan Simmons
Sandra Simmons
Pam St. Pierre
Stephen St. Pierre
Ashley Thompson
Robert Vivona
Jean Walker



General Info Corner



Prayer Corner

Prayers of joy for:

The birth of Elliette Mae Douville, on March 19, to Susie (Bonitsky) and Jon Douville. Proud grandmother is Susan Bonitsky.

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Barbara Harding Audrey Hernandez
Lois Harwick Chris Hernandez

Prayers of sympathy for:

Dan and Lorie Martin on the death of Dan's mother, Helen Martin, on March 24.

Kathleen and Philip Tambling on the death of their daughter, Christine Marineau, on March 13. A memorial services in celebration of Christine's life was held here on March 17, officiated by Gordon Bates.

Mary Jane Phillips on the death of her mother, Mildred Dainty, on April 5. Mildred had been a First Church member since 2002 and moved to Georgia in 2012 to be closer to her daughter.

The family and friends of Dale and Carl Baker on the death of Dale's father, Salvatore Vinci, on April 16.

The family and friends of Carla Yetter, on the death of her mother, Kay Earle, on April 16. Kay had been a First Church member since 1967.



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 every time 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

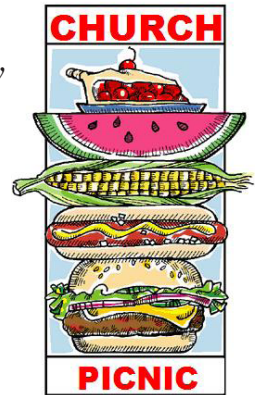
Save The Date...June 11...

First Church Picnic in the Park!

The Board of Lay Life and Ministry is excited to extend an invitation to the entire church family to attend our first ever *First Church Picnic in the Park, at J. B. Williams Park on Sunday, June 11, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service.*

We will enjoy some great food, games to play and/or observe, musical entertainment for all ages and time to sit back and enjoy the fellowship of our church family.

More information will be shared in the weeks to come and there will be a sign up table several Sundays beforehand but for now we ask that you circle the date on your calendar and plan to come to the park for a great kick off to the coming summer season!



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

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!

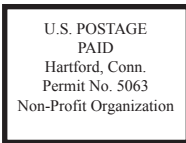
IN CASE OF HOSPITALIZATION:

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.



Return Service Requested.

Sunday Morning Worship

April 30 David Taylor preaching, new members join, Gold and Silver Members Brunch
Music: 8:00 a.m. Stanley Battle, baritone; **10:00 a.m.** Chancel Choir

Season of Celebration, May 7 – June 11, One Service at 10:00 a.m.

*These are all church celebrations,
and we look forward to being together for worship!*

May 7 *Justice Sunday* – Youth mission trippers leading service
Music: Puppet Troupe, Mallet Ringers and Chancel Choir

May 14 *Music Celebration Sunday – The Book of Godspell: Lessons and Music*
Chancel, Cantate and Cantabile Choirs and Jubilate Ringers

May 21 *Confirmation Sunday*; **Music:** Cherub and Chancel Choirs

May 28 *Memorial Day*; **Music:** Chancel Choir

June 4 *High School Senior Celebration Sunday*; **Music:** Caroler and Chancel Choirs

June 11 *Children's Celebration Sunday*; **Music:** Puppet Troupe, Cherub Choir

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

