



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

An open, welcoming and affirming congregation

May 2018

Dear Friends,

Easter is over. The candy is almost gone (at least in some of our houses!), the grass is turning greener and the flowers are starting to bloom. Spring sports have begun, and life here at First Church continues to be busy.

Many of us come here to be recharged, inspired and to find community. On a daily basis, we are reminded of the messiness of our world and our own lives, and sometimes those burdens get heavy. But here at First Church we come together to remember that we are not alone and that we are invited to follow Jesus and live in love. As people of faith, we aren't perfect. We have doubts, we judge others, and we lose our way. But luckily those things don't have the last word. Our faith does, and our faith calls us to love.

A few weeks ago we shared an inspiring poem in worship. Gather round, friends, we've been given an amazing gift, and we are called to share that gift of love with the world.

A Story of Love

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son..." (John 3:16)

*gather round
I have a story to tell
of one who reached inside himself
and took a handful of love
like a pile of stardust
and said: this is for you
it is all you need
it is all you will ever need
there is enough here
to change the whole world
take it*

*many laughed at him
mocked him
and ignored the invitation
but some dared to take it
and those who did
noticed something about this love
they found they could do what the gift-giver could do
they could stand with the lost
welcome the traveler
eat with the hungry
they found themselves doing what the man first did to them
give something of themselves to others
they became like the man
offering themselves
and as they offered themselves
others took the invitation
and many still do*



Volunteers at the Foodshare warehouse.



"Always there to lift you up!"
(from the Youth Mission Trip to Memphis)

Gather round, friends, we have a story to tell and love to share!

Peace, *Kate* and *Sam*

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 29:

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

May 6 through June 17
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, *Pastor*
davidtaylor@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 118
- The Rev. Kate VanDerzee-Glidden, *Pastor*
katev@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 120
- The Rev. Elizabeth Gleich, *Associate Pastor for Children and Youth Ministries*
elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 113
- 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
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- Rebecca Fleahman, *Office Manager*
rebeccafleahman@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 122
- Cheryl Foley, *Child Care Provider*
- Wes Grove, *Facilities Manager*
facilities@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 121
- Peggy Hartman, *Director of Handbell Program and Children's Choirs*

THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Thursday, May 10: June 2018 issue

Micah House and Chapel Opening and First Church's 325th Birthday Celebration, June 2 – 3!

We are planning a special weekend on **June 2 – 3** to commemorate the 325th anniversary of our church and town and to celebrate the building of the Micah House and Chapel. The two-day celebration will be full of tours, activities, music, food and fun. Come for an hour, stay all day or pick and choose what interests you and your family. All events are free and open to the public. If you'd like to help or have questions, contact Suzanne Schwartz at stonehill26@gmail.com or Nancy Pacht at nrwp0503@yahoo.com.

Cookies needed: If you can help bake for our celebration, colonial cookie recipes will be available in Schultz Hall after church in May. For more information, please contact Donna Daniels at donna.daniels@snet.net.



Schedule of Events

Saturday, June 2

- 10:45 a.m. Jubilate Ringers concert
- 11:00 a.m. Official Opening Ceremonies
- 11:30 a.m. Tours of the Micah House begin
- 11:30 a.m. The Resonant Winds concert
- 12:30 Cantate and Cantabile Choirs concert
- 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Activities for children and families; childcare available
- 2:00 p.m. Chancel Choir and Soloists concert
- 5:00 p.m. Picnic supper on the lawn and under the tent; bring your own or food truck available
- 6:00 p.m. Tours end for the day and Micah House closed
- 6:30 p.m. Ross Tucker and the Hot Cat Jazz Band concert; ice cream social follows

Sunday, June 3

- 10:00 a.m. Festive church service
- 11:15 a.m. Potluck picnic and cookout
- 11:15 a.m. Tours of the Micah House
- 12:00 p.m. Finale with SPARK! band concert

Micah House and Chapel Update: May 2018

Check your calendars – time really does fly!! The Micah House and Chapel at The Thomas Hale Homestead project started two years ago and now we are only weeks away from the official ribbon cutting ceremony!!

The Building Committee remains very busy working on the Micah House. The interior finishes are nearing completion and the trim in the Hale House and Chapel is complete. The hardwood floors are installed throughout, and the tile floors in the bathrooms are installed thanks to the time and talent of Jonathan Russell. The kitchen cabinets are hung, and the vanities and plumbing fixtures are now in place. The Micah House and Chapel is ready for painting and some finishing touches.



One of the main project goals was to ensure that as much of the old Hale House as possible could be reused in the transformation to our new Micah House and Chapel. This started from the very bottom of the old homestead. The original fieldstone and brick foundation was no longer structurally sound and needed to be removed and reconstructed. As a result, the original foundation, consisting of over 25 tons of fieldstone and thousands of old bricks, needed to be removed and set aside. Volunteers sorted and cleaned the bricks and stacked the foundation stone on pallets. The cleaned bricks were reused to provide a brick veneer face on the new foundation. The beautiful stone retaining wall and two sitting walls in the patio are all constructed from the Hale House foundation stone.

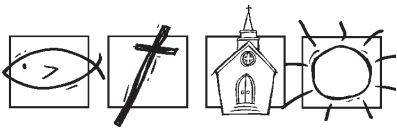
In the winter and spring of 2017, volunteers spent countless hours meticulously removing all the trim, parlor paneling and doors from the rooms on the first and second floors. Every piece was labeled and eventually stored in the big red trailer in the back of the property. Recently, all this material was returned to the Micah House and Chapel by another group of volunteers.

The exceptional craftsmen working on this project have recreated the first floor parlors and foyer using all the original trim, paneling and doors. In some rooms, they used their talents to replicate the Hale House trim for new doorways and openings. These are some of the examples of how the Building Committee has tried very hard to salvage materials from the Hale House homestead to find a home in the new Micah House.

Take a moment to look outside when you are visiting church or attending Sunday worship services. Even better – check out the First Church live webcam at: <http://www.glastonburyfirst.org/micah-house-and-chapel-thomas-hale-homestead>, which shows in real time the current work towards revitalizing the historic Thomas Hale Homestead into the Micah House and Chapel.

Get ready for the rebirth of Micah House and Chapel at The Thomas Hale Homestead in June 2018. Our beloved faith community's gift and vision will serve 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



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.



Because Every Child Deserves a Home

We are excited to announce that First Church has just voted to move ahead with becoming a host congregation for Family Promise of Central CT! Family Promise of Central CT (www.fpcct.org) is part of a national organization that provides temporary housing to families that find themselves homeless.

While a day program in New Britain, CT works with the families to help them on a path to securing affordable housing, nearby "host" congregations provide the comforts of a "home" setting from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. each day.

First Church will host about four weeks a year, providing evening meals, companionship and lodging to "guest" families in our church. The program's success will be through our volunteers who can help with everything from converting classrooms to bedrooms, providing dinner, interacting with families during the evening and sleeping at the church overnight.

For more information or to express potential volunteer interest, please contact anyone on the Exploratory Committee, including coordinators Kate and Tara.

Kate Ersevim: ersevim@cox.net / 860-985-8075

Tara Conway / Amy Woodruff: tara.amy1407@gmail.com / 860-462-9548

Committee Members: Nagy Mishriky, Nancy Tandon, Lois Kulas, Lorie Martin, Ellen McNab, Michael Ersevim

For more information about Family Promise in general, please visit the following websites:

www.fpcct.org (Connecticut affiliate) or www.familypromise.org (national chapter)

Walk Against Hunger May 5



Foodshare's 35th Annual *Walk Against Hunger on May 5* 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.** It will be held at Dunkin' Donuts Park, home of the Hartford Yard Goats. Step up to the plate and help make an impact on hunger in Greater Hartford! **Check-in starts at 8:30 a.m. and the walk steps off at 10:00 a.m.** FREE parking available. Bring along your friends and family and be a part of this event. **You can sign up April 29 during coffee hour** or register online at <http://site.foodshare.org/site/TR/Walk>. We plan to carpool from the church to the walk. Please contact Sally Riddell at sally.m.riddell@gmail.com with questions.

First Church's

"Good Samaritans!"

The First Church family of faith has many talented people, and some of these talents include "handyperson"

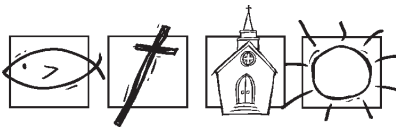


skills and abilities. Our "Good Samaritan" group is up and running, and they are willing to help individuals in the congregation who might be having trouble finding the right people or the adequate resources to do the job – various "odd" jobs around the house or yard. If you are interested in seeing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

Food Collection



First Church has a long tradition of collecting food items. Our donations go to Horace Bushnell Children's Food Pantry in Hartford and Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC). **In May, we're asking for contributions of unopened, unexpired soup, chili, cereal and other items people are willing to donate.** Thanks!



Christian Service



Foodshare Warehouse Volunteer Opportunities

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.



In addition to the Mobile Foodshare truck coming to our back parking lot every other Wednesday, we have volunteer opportunities to go to **Foodshare's Regional Market in Hartford on alternating Wednesday mornings (May 2, 16 and 30)** to help sort and package the produce that gets given out on the Mobile Foodshare truck at various sites across the state. **Volunteers gather in the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. to drive in together, and the shift is from 8:30-11:30 a.m.** If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jim Hartung at ctsncmfolk@gmail.com or 860-430-2123.

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 9 and 23)** 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.



Children's Ministries



Need a Mother's Day Gift Idea?

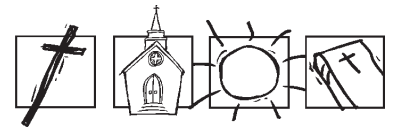


Are you looking for a meaningful way to celebrate and honor your mother, grandmother or other special people this year? Consider buying our church cookbook for \$10 or giving a donation to the Church School Mission Project in her honor during coffee hour or at the church office **the week of May 6!** *Little City Sprouts* is a Farm to Preschool program of

Hartford Food Systems, providing preschool children with the opportunity to know about, grow and taste fresh, healthy food through food-related field trips, gardening, nutrition and cooking lessons designed for them. The program encourages preschoolers across the city of Hartford to get excited about adopting healthy lifestyles. *Little City Sprouts* encourages healthy nutrition habits at a young age, as these habits will shape child development and continue into adulthood. First Church's support will help *Little City Sprouts* expand their reach and broaden their efforts to impact the lives of many more Hartford "sprouts" and their families! Thank you for donating to this important Church School Mission Project! With your help we can reach our challenge goal of \$10,000.



Children's Ministries



Church School Unit 8: "Man Beside the Pool"

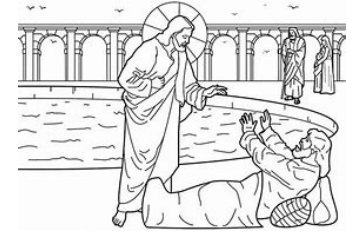
Bible Story Reference: John 5:2-9

Bible Verses: *My father is still working, and I also am working.* (John 5:17)

Main Idea: God is a source of hope in our lives and provides healing in unexpected ways.

Objectives: By the end of the unit, children will:

- explore the story of Jesus healing the man who was lame at the pool;
- study what sabbath-keeping meant in Jesus' day;
- consider where healing comes from today and how we can be sources of God's healing for others;
- discover ways to be sensitive to and inclusive of all people.



	<u>Sunday 5/13</u>	<u>Sunday 5/20</u>	<u>Sunday 5/27</u>	<u>Sunday 6/3</u>	<u>Sunday 6/10</u>
<u>K & 1st grade</u>	Cooking Room 205	Art Room 103	Movie Room 102	Games Room 110	Storytelling Room 111
<u>2nd grade</u>	Storytelling Room 111	Cooking Room 205	Art Room 103	Movie Room 102	Games Room 110
<u>3rd grade</u>	Storytelling Room 111	Cooking Room 205	Art Room 103	Movie Room 102	Games Room 110
<u>4th grade</u>	Games Room 110	Storytelling Room 111	Cooking Room 205	Art Room 103	Movie Room 102
<u>5th grade</u>	Games Room 110	Storytelling Room 111	Cooking Room 205	Art Room 103	Movie Room 102

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!

Summer Camp at Silver Lake!



Many First Church children, youth and adults have experienced the wonders and fun of Silver Lake, a conference center run by the CT Conference of the UCC in Sharon, CT.

We hold our annual youth retreats there, and many of our church folks have gone to summer camp there over the years. Come and enjoy *God's Backyard* this summer, with various camps for youth in grades 4-12. **Dates are available June 24 through August 11.** For information, go to <http://www.silverlakect.org>. If you're unsure or need convincing, talk to Elizabeth, Kate or David or ask any of the youth who have gone before.

Children's Ministries Calendar

Sunday, May 6

Season of Celebration begins with one service at **10:00 a.m.**

Sunday, June 17

Children's Celebration Sunday

Sunday, June 24

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

Monday, July 30 – Friday, August 3

Vacation Bible School here at First Church!



Children's Ministries



"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2

This year's theme is Rolling River Rampage! Children will enjoy interactive, energizing, Bible-based good times as they *Find Adventure on the River! Find Acceptance! Find Joy! And Find Peace in the River!* Children will participate in games, make crafts, learn new songs, strengthen friendships and create new ones!

\$35/Week; \$70 Family Maximum
Financial Assistance Available

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at First Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC

July 30th – August 3rd

Children ages 4 (by July 30th, 2018) through incoming 5th grade

For more information, please email Karin at ceadmin@glastonburyfirst.org
Registration and more info available on our website: www.glastonburyfirst.org

VBS T-Shirt Design Contest

Calling all kids!! Calling all kids!! We need YOU! This summer's Vacation Bible School theme is "Rolling River Rampage" and we are looking for an elementary school-aged child to design this year's VBS t-shirt. So, here are the details:

- Children entering grades K-5 are eligible to participate.
- The design must include the theme passage: "*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.*" - Isaiah 43:2. Each day has a different variation of the theme: *Find Adventure on the River! Find Acceptance! Find Joy! Find Rest! and Find Peace in the River!* Children can choose one of the variations or all of the variations in their design.
- The theme is "Rolling River Rampage: Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God"
- Submissions should be in **black and white on an 8"x11" piece of unlined white paper and are due May 13.** Drawings should be done with a sharpie marker (no pencils or hashmarks, which don't transfer to a t-shirt well). Please hand in submissions to Tracy Kavanaugh or any of the First Church staff. Include your name and contact information. Winners will receive an art gift basket and will get their own design on the VBS t-shirts!

Summer Church School 2018!

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 24.** Childcare will be provided throughout the summer as well!



Youth Ministry



Fun, food, and fellowship at our annual Pancake Breakfast and Egg Hunt! Twenty-five youth and adult volunteers served pancakes to almost 200 people! 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 6:** Mission Trippers lead worship, Regular Session

***Sunday, May 13:** No SHF (Mother's Day)

Sunday, May 20: Regular Session - 8th graders invited

***Friday – Sunday, May 25-27:** Craigville Retreat

Sunday, June 3: Regular Session

***Sunday, June 10:** Senior Recognition Sunday (10:00 a.m.), Senior Celebration Party, New Driver Blessing (6:00 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, April 29: Regular class session

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

***Wednesday, 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 20:** 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 7: Regular Session - 5th graders invited

Monday, May 21: Regular Session

Monday, June 11: Reverse Rally Day!

New Driver Blessing at SHF!



On **Sunday, June 18**, we will have a new driver blessing at SHF. If you have received your driver's license anytime since June 2017, 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 7, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**, all 5th graders are invited to the Junior High Fellowship meeting, and on **Sunday, May 20, 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.

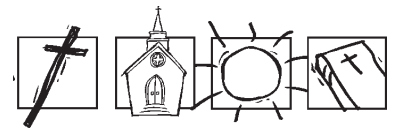


Inspirational Greeting Cards Available to Support the Youth Mission Trip

Each year our youth create a thematic image that reflects our program year. You can purchase sets of 10 cards for \$15 by contacting Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org.



Youth Ministry



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 2018 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 were 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 25 - 27

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-seven high school youth and seven adult advisors recently returned from their annual mission trip. This year, they went to Memphis, TN, where they learned about the history of civil rights in the city and worked with different service organizations. Their service included serving food to the hungry, helping at a health clinic which provides care to the uninsured, and doing service at the church where they stayed. The youth were empowered to create meaningful change in their own Glastonbury community.

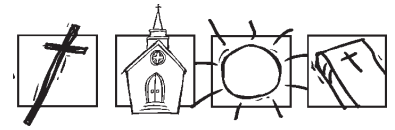


A "Heads Up" for Heads Up! Hartford!

Heads Up! Hartford Camp 2018: June 21 - June 28. Heads Up! Hartford (HUH) is a wonderful program for high school students founded several years ago by First Church members. Each year, over 100 high school aged students from the Greater Hartford area come together for a week of service and fellowship, helping to bridge the gap between urban and suburban youth while helping out local organizations. **Registration is going on NOW! Go to the HUH website: headsuphartford.org for registration materials, and contact Elizabeth Gleich to let her know that you are attending!**



Youth Ministry



Heads Up! Hartford's Energize! 2018 Annual Benefit & Raffle May 5

Heads Up! Hartford's *Energize! 2018* Annual Fundraising Benefit & Raffle is **Saturday, May 5 at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield from 6:00-9:00 p.m.** The evening promises to be a great night filled with a selection of drink tastings along with food pairings and the company of those who care about making a positive impact in our community by supporting Heads Up! Hartford. Tickets: \$40/person or \$75/couple available at bit.ly/HUHEnergize2018. Raffles will be held during the event for lots of wonderful items. All funds raised during this event will go directly to running the camp this summer. There is also a friendly challenge for this event - a Heads Up! Hartford team will donate a Day of Service at the church that has the most people register for *Energize! 2018*. Please contact Linda Sill at lindasinct@yahoo.com or 860-430-1676 with questions.



Music Ministry



Music at the Meetinghouse Presents...

ROSS TUCKER AND THE HOT CAT JAZZ BAND



Blues, Beatles, Buffett and more...

**Saturday, June 2, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.,
followed by an ice-cream social
FREE TO THE PUBLIC**

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

2018 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.

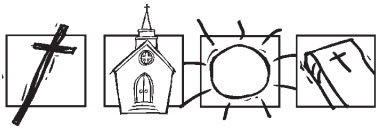


Applications are now available in the church office, the choir room, and on our website, <http://www.glastonburyfirst.org/scholarship>. **Applications and personal statements must be received at the church office by noon on Friday, May 18, 2018**, addressed to The Music Scholarship Committee, First Church of Christ, Congregational, 2183 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033, or emailed to jfd529@gmail.com. Questions should be directed to Jennifer Miller, Chair of the Music Scholarship Committee, at jfd529@gmail.com.

Choir Camp for Cantate, Cantabile and Mallets Choirs, August 19-22

The Cantate, Cantabile and Mallets Choirs will attend Choir Camp 2018 from **August 19-22** 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 will be available on the church website, as well as in the church office and Choir Room. Please contact Angela Salcedo (angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org) if you have questions or are interested in chaperoning.





Adult Opportunities



Come Join our Millennial Fellowship Group!



Are you a 20-something or an early 30-something? We are intentionally gathering together a group of millennials for our own fellowship. Our monthly events will focus on team-building, community service, faith-formation and fun. Whether you're a young professional joining First Church, a recently returned graduate living in your parents' basement, or a young at heart 80s kid, this is the group for you. We hope you join us for monthly volunteering, social events and faith conversations over a pint at a local brewery. For more information about the group, contact Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org or Kate VanDerzee-Glidden at katev@glastonburyfirst.org.

You are Invited to our Moms' Group!

Our Moms' Group is up and running, and we invite you to come! Raising children in this current world is a privilege and often a challenge, so we are coming together to support each other and to take action on issues that affect us and the world we live in. Inspired and encouraged by our faith, we are looking forward to meeting new friends, sharing ideas, taking action and providing opportunities for our children to help us create a more just and peaceful world. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month. **Come join us on May 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Quiet Room here at church!** If you have questions, please contact Chelsea Cooper at 860-614-2381 or chelsnelson@yahoo.com.



Nature Lovers Unite – Come Join Us!



Attention all nature lovers! Come join our First Church Outside group! **We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.** Come to our meeting on **May 15** - anyone is welcome to join! Whether you enjoy nature photography, hiking, feeding the birds, gardening or just sitting outside and taking in all that God has created, we want you! If you have questions or want to get involved with First Church Outside, please contact Tracy Kavanaugh at lilypadprints@gmail.com or 413-250-3838. More hikes are being planned for the coming months. To get on our "Hikers' Distribution List," please contact Bruce Munshower at bruce.munshower@gmail.com or 860-633-1408.

Women's Theological Reflection Group

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

Please contact Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com or 860-967-2269 for further 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 at 5:45 p.m. in the Lehman Library.** Please contact Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com or 860-967-2269 for further information.

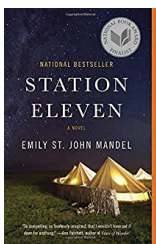
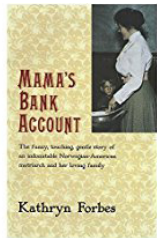


Adult Opportunities



Thursday Morning Study Group

May 3 will find TMSG completing a study of “How do catastrophic events affect the poor?” using *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. After that, we will look at two questions regarding family in our lives, “What are the positive influences, especially our mothers, in our lives?” and “What are some ways that a negative atmosphere affects our growing up?” On **May 10 and May 17** we will be using the classic novel by Kathryn Forbes, *Mama’s Bank Account*, as our reference, and on **May 24 and May 31** we will use George Hodgman’s memoir, *Bettyville*, as our reference. Please feel free to join us for these studies at **9:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings in the Lehman Library** even if you haven’t read the references, as the conversations are engaging and often carry us past the 11:00 a.m. cut-off time on Thursday mornings. All are welcome. For answers to your questions, please contact Sally Brown at saldaybrown@aol.com or Forbes Warren at 860-633-3982.

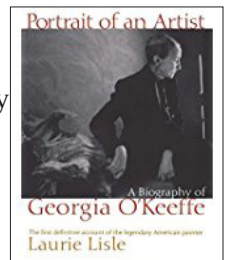


Second Sunday Book Club

The Second Sunday Book Club meets on the **second Sunday of every other month in the Lehman Library at 4:00 p.m.** to discuss a selected book as well as other great reads we are enjoying. We hope you will join us for one of our meetings! Our final selection for this program year will be *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel, which we will discuss on **Sunday, May 6** (note this is the first Sunday due to Mother’s Day). 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 in the Lehman Library to review a book and enjoy fellowship in an informal setting. We invite you to join us for any or all of our upcoming selections. *Portrait of an Artist* by Laurie Lisle is our selection for **May 8**, when we will discuss this biography about artist Georgia O’Keeffe. We hope you will join us at **4:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library**. Please contact Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 or miguel.escalera@sbcglobal.net with any questions.



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.

Calling Knitters and Crocheters

Do you knit? Crochet? Enjoy fellowship and the opportunity to help and support others? If the answer is YES to any of the above, come join us! Newcomers are always welcome. The First Church Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting **Monday, May 21 in the Lehman Library from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Yarn will be provided. Bring size 11 or 13 knitting needles, or a large crochet hook. Don’t know how to knit or crochet? We can teach you. Come share your knitting/crocheting and our company! Questions? Contact kathysalk@gmail.com. We now have a **Morning Prayer Shawl Group** as well. If you are interested, please contact Somni Manto at szzmanto@gmail.com for dates and times.



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!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST News

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.

Daily Devotionals

Our denomination has wonderful resources for pastors and for lay people. If you would like to start your day off with a **simple devotion**, you would go to http://www.ucc.org/feed_your_spirit and then click on "Daily Devotional." These short and meaningful words inspire many people to live faithful, justice focused and loving lives.

Justice and Peace Action Network

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

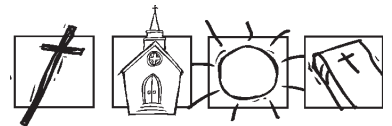
Connecticut Partnership Delegates Travel to Korea

In mid-April, ten delegates from the Connecticut Conference traveled to the People's Republic of Korea (PROK) to attend the Annual Meeting of the Gyeonggi Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea. The trip marked the 24th year of the partnership between the Connecticut Conference and the Gyeonggi Presbytery. Irene Choi of First Church once again traveled with the Conference delegation to act as the translator. First Church has a partnership with the Cho Weol Presbyterian Church.

The Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ formed a covenanted relationship with the Gyeonggi Presbytery in South Korea in 1994. The churches committed to build a relationship with each other, learn about each other's culture and grow in faith together. Delegations travel to visit the respective annual meetings of the two churches to help retain and develop this relationship, while local churches actively take part by developing individual relationships with partner churches from the Gyeonggi Presbytery.

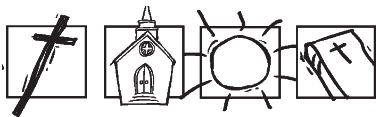


General Info Corner

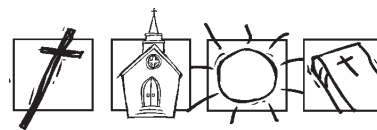


Basement Cleanout Call from the Board of Trustees

On **Saturday, June 23**, one of the longest days of the year, the Board of Trustees will be actively cleaning out the basement of the Meetinghouse. Since the 1982 widening of the Sanctuary, there has been a gradual gathering of cast-off material positioned for storage in that raw space. Now that there is more-than-adequate storage space available for otherwise usable material, it is time to empty that space. The Trustees are asking for 20-25 members of the congregation to gather as a chain of hands to remove those items from **9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**, weather permitting. Please contact Forbes Warren (860-633-3982 or fwarren2@cox.net) to let us know if you are willing to help. Coffee and donuts will be available for sustenance!



General Info Corner



Prayer Corner

Prayers of joy for:

The birth of Rowan Thomas Taylor Fisher, born on March 25 to Katie Taylor and Chris Fisher, in Washington, DC. Proud grandparents are Suzy and Jay Fisher.

The birth of James Anthony Emerson Cox, born on March 14. His adoptive parents are Andrew and Kimberly Cox. Baby James joins his big sister, Addison, at home.

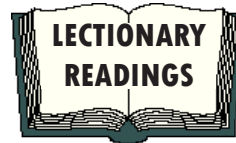


Prayers of sympathy for:

Family and friends of Linda and Roger Yost on the death of Linda's daughter, Brenda Flanagan. Brenda died on March 26 in Boston.

Family and friends of Donna Daniels on the death of her father, Carl Schatz, on April 3.

Family and friends of Wes and Charlotte Mowry on the death of Wes' sister, Audrey Dodge, on Easter Sunday in Massachusetts.



May 6, 2018 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98;
1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

May 13, 2018 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1;
1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

May 20, 2018 - Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 27, 2018 - Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29;
Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

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!



Altar Flowers Requested

Church members are invited to provide flower arrangements for the altar in memory of, in celebration of, or in honor of people, events or accomplishments. If you are interested, please contact Susan Bonitsky at 860-633-7128 or kowsz@juno.com.

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, inform them of Code 17 for First Church. In addition, if you would like the Church to know of any upcoming hospitalization, please give the church office a call at 860-633-4641 to inform the pastoral staff.

First Church Online – Podcasts and Facebook!

Each Sunday we gather as the body of Christ to be together in community and to listen, sing, pray, share and be inspired to go out into the world in love. If you miss a Sunday, you can still listen to the sermon online. Go to <http://firstchurchglastonbury.podbean.com/>. And did you know that we have a church Facebook page where you can hear about upcoming events, see pictures from activities and stay up to date with what's going on? Find us on Facebook, and "like" us!



SILVER (40 years+) and



GOLD MEMBERS (50 years+)

On April 29, 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 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
- 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
- 1967 Jay Brown

- Scott Olenick
- Susan Phillips
- Doris Rudd

NEWEST GOLD MEMBERS

- 1968 Susan Carpenter
John McNab
Della Schultz

SILVER MEMBERS

- 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
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
Earl Thompson
Sylvia Thompson
- 1974 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
- 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
Jean Walker

NEWEST SILVER MEMBERS

- 1978 Jeffrey Barlow
Stephen Connolly
Patty Dixon
Barbara Harding
Wayne Harding
Steven Hoyt
David Jefferson, Jr.
Barbara Kleiman
John Kleiman
Beverly Maier
Grant Maier
Linda Paternoster
Forbes Warren
Shirley Warren
Roby Wendtland

Sunday Morning Worship



- April 29** David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden preaching
Gold and Silver Members Brunch
Music: 8:00 a.m. Peggy Hartman, oboe
10:00 a.m. Puppet Troupe, Caroler and Chancel Choirs



Season of Celebration, May 6 – June 17, One Service at 10:00 a.m.

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



- May 6** *Justice Sunday* – Youth mission trippers leading service
Music: Cherub and Chancel Choirs



- May 13** *Music Celebration Sunday*
Music: Chancel, Cantate and Cantabile Choirs, Mallet Ringers,
Jubilate Ringers and Chamber Orchestra



- May 20** *Confirmation and Pentecost Sunday*
David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden preaching; **Music:** Chancel Choir
- May 27** *Memorial Day* – Kate VanDerzee-Glidden preaching; **Music:** Chancel Choir