



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

An open, welcoming and affirming congregation

November 2016

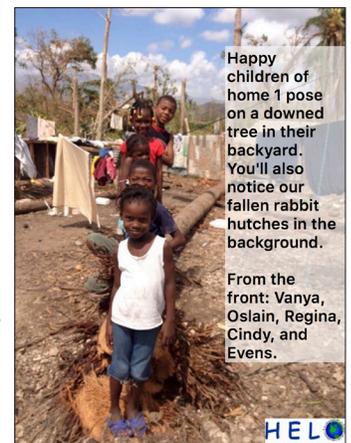
Dear Friends,

The great anthropologist Margaret Mead once wrote, *“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”*

With all the divisiveness going on in our nation, with all the war and violence in our nation and our world, and with natural disasters overwhelming areas both home and abroad, it would be easy to lose hope. But we would rather think it is precisely the time to have courage and to take action! *It is a time to show love!*

If you have given to our Easter offering, which includes a generous gift from this family of faith to **One Great Hour of Sharing**, you are already showing love to the people of Haiti, North Carolina, and the refugees in the Middle East. Grants from the United Church of Christ disaster relief fund, supported by our **OGHS** offering, have already been sent to these areas of immense need. Our partner churches are administering these funds to help people with food, shelter and safety.

As many of you know, First Church has had a special relationship with the people of Haiti. In 2006-2007, we raised over \$11,000 to build 15 homes on that island nation. And in 2010-2011, our Church School Mission Project was to raise money for HELO Haiti. Again, we raised over \$11,000, this time to sponsor one child, Telemaque, aged 8 at the time, until he turns 18. Telemaque lives at **HELO** (Home, Education, Love, Opportunity), an orphanage in Haiti started by Elisabeth Kennedy from the Middlefield Federated Church.



Happy children of home 1 pose on a downed tree in their backyard. You'll also notice our fallen rabbit hutches in the background.

From the front: Vanya, Oslain, Regina, Cindy, and Evens.

HELO

So, the First Church family has a special place in its heart for Haiti, and we are saddened that yet another tragedy has happened. According to Elisabeth, the fantastic news is that all children and employees at **HELO** are safe. However, in addition to losing all of the tin roofs, trees fell on homes two, three, kitchens and food store rooms, causing heavy damage. All of the food that was on hand has been destroyed or washed away. All of the children's beds, school uniforms and most clothes have also been ruined.

Elisabeth recently wrote, *“We are moved by the realization that we completed the primary school just before the earthquake in 2010, and that school became home to many children orphaned by that earthquake. We completed the secondary school just before Hurricane Matthew, which is now home to many of those same children. God is good, faithful, and stronger than any disaster. We've a lot of work to do, we are so grateful for our faith, your love and your support.”*

We can support the people in storm-tossed and war-torn areas of God's world by giving generously to the network of churches in those areas that are sharing our love with those in need. And we do this through **One Great Hour of Sharing**. In addition, our upcoming Thanksgiving (please see the enclosed letter about this year's offering) and Christmas offerings (which will be given to **HELO, Glastonbury Fuel Bank, Manchester Area Conference of Churches, Hands on Hartford and the Horace Bushnell Children's Food Pantry**) will also be sharing our gifts and our love with people near and far!



Children in home 2 receive their new mattresses! Pictured here is a very happy Martine.

It truly is a time to take courage and show love! By giving generously to First Church's special offerings at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and by making gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing** (which can be made all year long to **“First Church”** – with memo line, **“OGHS”**), you are among those thoughtful committed citizens who have truly changed the world!

Faithfully,

David and Kate

First Church of Christ, Congregational

United Church of Christ
2183 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

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

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship Services at 8:00 and 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*
kathyc@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 110
- Valerie Escalera, *Program Administrator*
programadmin@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 115
- Susan Feller, *Publications Specialist*
publications@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 112
- Rebecca Fleahman, *Office Manager*
rebeccafleahman@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 122
- Cheryl Foley, *Child Care Provider*
- Elizabeth Gleich, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*
elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 113
- Wes Grove, *Facilities Manager*
facilities@glastonburyfirst.org, ext. 121
- Peggy Hartman, *Director of Handbell Program and Childrens' Choirs*

THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Thursday, November 10: December 2016 issue



Steward Spotlight On:

Jennifer Muller

Hometown: Bloomfield, Iowa

Family: Husband Josh, Daughters Madelyn (age 10) and Ella (age 9)

How long you've been a member of First Church: A year

Favorite thing(s) about First Church: The children's programs, and how welcoming everyone is

First Church activities you've participated in: Church School and children's choir

Why you support First Church: It is a wonderful place.

Your job: I am a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner at Middlesex Hospital as well as do per diem work at Manchester Hospital NICU

What you like best about your job: Helping the babies get better and being there for the birth of a child

What you like least about your job: When a family loses a child

Skill that helps most on your job: Being friendly and positive

Pet peeve: Mean people

What you cannot live without: My family

Favorite day of the year: Halloween

Hobbies and hidden talents: Working on family genealogy

Favorite snack: Pretzels

Schools attended: University of Iowa and Rush University

What never fails to make you laugh: My kids

Funniest person you know: Kati Kennedy, of course, followed by my husband, Josh

Childhood nicknames: Pooky and Shorty

Favorite season of the year and why: Fall, because of all the beautiful leaves and colors

Favorite musical artist or group: Dave Matthews

Favorite movie: A 1940's movie, *So I Married a Witch*

Biggest fear: Failure

What you are most thankful for: My kids and family

Favorite way to relax: Curled up in front of the fire

What touches your heart: Kindness of others

What you would order for your last meal: Steak and potatoes from Joseph's

Childhood winter memory: Playing in giant snow tunnels with my family in winter

Where you worked as a teenager: Ted's Pizza as a waitress

Favorite vacation spot: La Jolla, California

Comfort food: Mocha Oreo Ice Cream

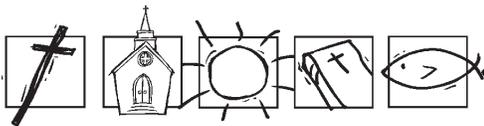
What you are most proud of: My kids

Favorite charity: First Church

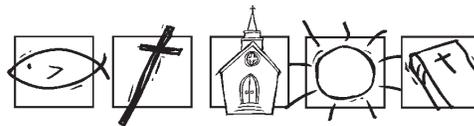
Your hero: My Dad

Favorite quote or scripture passage: Proverbs 22:6,
Start children off the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.





Worship



November 6

8:00 and 10:00 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

All Saints' Sunday with Communion

Kate VanDerzee-Glidden
and David Taylor preaching

November 13

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Reception of New Members

David Taylor preaching

November 20

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Thanksgiving Sunday

Kate VanDerzee-Glidden preaching

November 22

7:00 p.m.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

November 27

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

David Taylor preaching



Sunday Afternoon Service

Please join us for a spiritually moving service that features contemporary music, on **Sunday, November 6, at 4:30 p.m.** As it is All Saints' Sunday, we will honor those who have died in the past year and leave time for all attending to lift up the people who have influenced their faith journeys. Children are always welcome, but childcare will be provided for the littlest among us for those who desire it. **On November**



6, we will gather for a time of fellowship after the worship service and eat a simple meal of soup and bread together. We are an open, welcoming and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, and all are welcome to join us!



Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Come worship with us at **8:00 or 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings!** The 8:00 a.m. service is 45 minutes long and is a more intimate service of prayers, music, Scripture and a sermon. The 10:00 a.m. service is our celebration of our church's life and ministry as a vibrant and vital community of faith! Childcare will be available during both services, while Church School will take place during the 10:00 a.m. service. All are welcome to join us!

Glastonbury Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

First Church will be the host for the Glastonbury community interfaith Thanksgiving service held on **Tuesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m.** As in previous years, the different faith communities of the town will come together and offer prayers, songs and sacred words, all focusing on the theme of finding unity in community. We invite people to bring items for St. James' Carol's Closet, which is the paper pantry in Glastonbury that is supported by the interfaith community. If you are able, please bring an item or two - adult incontinence pads (men's and women's), deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes (soft brushes), bars of soap (unscented preferred), shampoo (11oz. to 12.5 oz. sized bottles preferred), paper towels (individually wrapped, if purchased as packages of multiples) and toilet tissue (preferably the 4-pack). We will gather after the service for a time of fellowship.

The Greater Hartford Multi-Faith Prayer Breakfast

Since 1997, the Greater Hartford Multi-Faith Prayer Breakfast has reached across religious boundaries to find and celebrate those beliefs that many faith traditions share. A light breakfast is served, and there is uplifting, spiritual music. A main speaker is selected with a message of hope and compassion. The breakfast will be **November 17, 2016 from 7:15-8:45 a.m. at the Artist's Collective, 1200 Albany Ave., Hartford.** For more information, go to <http://ghpb.weebly.com/>.

Covenant Renewal with Covenant To Care

Covenant to Care for Children (CCC) mobilizes and channels the generosity of caring and faithful people and groups to advocate for and provide direct services to children in CT. First Church's relationship with CCC dates back to the late 1980s, and through the years, we have partnered with various state social workers to provide for the necessary and special items needed for all of the children in a social worker's caseload. This augments the provisions of the State, often assuring greater stability in the life of children and families. In mid-September, we re-signed our covenant, promising to stay in relationship with CCC. Pictured here are Kate VanDerzee-Glidden representing First Church, Catherine Haugh, a program coordinator at CCC, and our two social workers, Kat Keating and Kara Lam Hetes. The generosity of the congregation is amazing. Whenever there is a need, you all respond.



Stewardship



Service of Celebration on October 30!

On **October 30**, we will celebrate the life and ministry of our church – our beloved community! Thanks to everyone's generosity, the future of First Church is bright, and we will continue our ministry of love to our members, to our community and to the world!! While we are on our way to reaching our goal of \$750,000, specific numbers were not available at press time. With two more months of 2016 to go, there will still be time to reach out to those who have not had a chance to return their pledges.

Please be sure to return your pledge commitment to the church office if you have yet to do so. This will cut down on the phone calls Stewardship Committee members need to make – thanks so much!

Thank you to everyone for sharing your time, talents and treasure with our wonderful faith community!! We have been truly blessed by the faithful and generous love of all of our members!

Your Stewardship Committee



We Need You: Time and Talent Forms Available!



Are You Able?

It takes many people to keep our church vibrant, and First Church is blessed by all of you who give so freely of your time, money and energy. Thank you! There are so many ways to get involved here at church, and we look forward to working with you!

Each fall we have our *Time and Talent* form available and encourage parishioners to fill it out so we know where you feel called to serve. In order to save paper, the Time and Talent forms aren't being mailed in the *Reminder*. Instead, they will be **available at church starting on Sunday, October 30** during worship and then at other times in the back lobby and the narthex. If you have filled it out in the past and your interests haven't changed, then you don't need to fill it out again, because we have that information stored in our database.



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.

Join Us on Family Mission Immersion Day November 12

Come one, come all, to share God's love in the world! **Spend some time on November 12** volunteering your time to help others. If you can spare just a few hours, you can:

- **Put together Christmas packages** for children and families on the Cheyenne River Lakota Sioux Reservation through Hawkwing
- Work on **home repair jobs** through Habitat for Humanity
- Or **make soup, cookies and cards** and deliver them to First Church members.

For more information or to sign up for this mission experience, go to the table during coffee hour or contact Linda Sill at LindaSinCT@yahoo.com or 860-430-1676.



Carol's Closet Collection

The Board of Christian Service needs your assistance. Several places of worship, including First Church of Christ, assist St. James Church with "Carol's Closet." The Closet collects nonperishable items for folks in need.

The Board of Christian Service would like your help collecting:

- deodorant
- bars of soap (unscented preferred)
- toothpaste
- toothbrushes (soft brushes)
- shampoo (11 oz. to 12.5 oz. sized bottles preferred)
- adult incontinence pads (men's and women's)
- paper towels (we request that they come individually wrapped, if purchased as packages of multiples)
- toilet tissue (4-packs preferred, if purchasing packages larger than the 4-pack, we request that they be individually wrapped)



BCS will have a **collection box in the back office lobby between November 1 and November 16**. We will bring the items with us to the Carol's Closet packaging night. If you have questions, please contact Amy Grove at ajacksongrove@cox.net. Thank you!

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 (November 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.

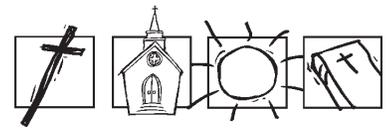
SERRV Handcrafts Return!

The Board of Christian Service will again this year offer SERRV products for sale **during Common Fellowship starting Sunday, November 20. The SERRV table will be displayed each Sunday through December 18, and will also be available at the Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 3.** Come and browse the beautiful handmade items. You're sure to find things that will make wonderful Christmas gifts for everyone on your list!

Established in 1949, SERRV is a non-profit organization that promotes the social and economic progress of people in developing regions of the world by purchasing and marketing their handcrafts in a just and direct manner. Through SERRV orders, artisans and farmers in more than 30 countries are lifted out of poverty. They are given a voice and treated with respect. They earn a fair income, send their children to school, develop vital community projects like water wells and medical clinics, and improve their skills through training. First Church has offered SERRV products at Christmastime for many years. The Board of Christian Service continues to offer these products to support the important work of SERRV.



Christian Service



Collecting Turkeys and Twenties November 20

Foodshare is the heart of greater Hartford's fight against hunger, and each year First Church members and friends bring in turkeys and raise money to help our neighbors in need. **On November 20, help us reach our goal of 250 turkeys this year!** The need is up so please help if you are able. You are also invited to donate \$20 to Foodshare. **Please make checks payable directly to Foodshare.** Please bring your FROZEN turkeys and checks to the church's back lobby on **Sunday, November 20 before noon.** There will be volunteers there to help. If you have questions, contact Carol Tiroff at ctiroff@sbcglobal.net or 860-657-3397.



Support Our Giving Trees

In November, look for our giving trees in Schultz Hall. If you are able, take a tag and support area children and families during the Christmas season. Look for more details in the *Bulletin* and at the sign near the trees. Thanks!



Service Trip with Simply Smiles

As hundreds of past participants will attest, the volunteer service trip to the Cheyenne River Reservation with Simply Smiles is a life-changing opportunity. Adult participants will live and work with Simply Smiles in the town of La Plant on the Reservation. On the trip, participants will be doing home construction projects, working on town-wide events and helping at daily camps, all while learning about the rich Lakota culture! The trip will be **May 13-20, 2017**. If you are interested in learning more, contact Charlie Kuchenbrod at charliek@ctucc.org.



Thank You for Donating Clothes

We appreciate all the clothing that was recently brought in for area refugee families. The families came into Schultz Hall and picked which clothes fit their needs. They are very thankful for the continued support of our generous congregation.

Reading Changes Lives!



Fred Wish School is an Elementary School on Barbour Street in Hartford. During the past four years, volunteers from First Church have been helping the kindergarteners with basic reading skills. We hope to encourage their love of reading by spending time with each child reading books, talking about what excites them and what they have learned from the stories. Books appropriate for their grade level and skills are provided. It is rewarding to see their progress and how proud they are when they begin to read to us. Volunteers are asked to spend **two hours weekly on a day of their choice**. We are assigned two students and spend 30 minutes with each child. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Sally Riddell at 860-657-8715 or grammasal@att.net.

Food Collection

First Church has 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). **In November, we're asking for contributions of cranberry sauce, boxed stuffing and other items people are willing to donate.** Please bring food that is not expired or open. There are two baskets at church (one in the back lobby and one in the narthex) where the food is collected. Thanks for your help!





Church School Mission Project: School Safe Zones

What do you expect to find at your children's school building? A roof? Classrooms? Bathrooms? Clean water flowing from faucets? Drinking fountains? Teachers? We would never dream of sending our children to a school without a solid building structure, plumbing and electricity. But this is the reality for many students worldwide, including in East Africa.

Schools are the bedrock of a community's health, well-being and future. They are a centering point and a place to learn and commune for the greater good. Yet the challenges that impoverished schools face can be steep. When a community struggles with limited access to clean water and sustainable food sources, it is often reflected in the school buildings. A vibrant learning environment requires infrastructure, supplies and dedicated teachers.

Each year our Church School partners with a non-profit to help provide vital funding for programs serving the neediest among us. This year's Church School Mission Project is School Safe Zones through Church World Service. Through the School Safe Zones program, we will be helping to revitalize a school in East Africa. Our goal is raise \$10,000 for this special project. Here are just a few examples of how we can help!



\$100 = a bunk bed
in the dormitory



\$600 = a latrine
for improved sanitation



\$1,500 = a catchment system
for clean water

Money collected from children's offerings, bake sales, Advent calendar sales and your donations and memorial gifts all go to help create a safer school for children in Africa. If you would like to make a contribution to this special project, please make your check payable to "First Church of Christ," with "School Safe Zones" in the memo line. Thank you for your continued support and for responding to God's call to share love near and far!

Church School Updates

November 6

*Puppet Troupe Performance
Church School Assembly*

During Church School, the children will hear more about this year's Mission Project through a presentation put together about **School Safe Zones!**

November 13

*Advent Calendars Sale Begins
Preschool, Kindergarten, & 1st Grade Bake Sale*
Proceeds benefit **School Safe Zones**

December 4

Advent Workshop, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Advent Calendar Sale!

The Board of Christian Education will be holding an advent calendar sale **during coffee hour on November 13, 20 and 27 and December 4.** There will be chocolate and paper calendars, and Christmas cards that will range in price from \$5 to \$8. All proceeds will benefit the Church School Mission Project, **School Safe Zones.**



Giving Tree!

This year, the Board of Christian Education's **Giving Tree will go up in Schultz Hall on Sunday, November 13.** Please help us support local families



and the Glastonbury Department of Social Services by taking a yellow star from the tree. When you return your gift, please make sure to include the tag in the bag or taped to the box, and please do not wrap the

gift. **The last day for bringing in gifts is December 4.** Last year, Glastonbury Social Services was very appreciative of our support, so thank you in advance!

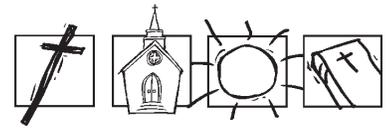
Annual Advent Workshop Sunday, December 4



Save the date! The annual Advent Workshop will be held on **Sunday, December 4, from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.** in Schultz Hall. Get ready for the holiday season by attending this special family event! Stay tuned for more details.



Children's Ministries



Church School Unit 2: "Joseph"

Bible Story Reference: Genesis 37 and 45

Bible Verses: "You plotted evil against me, but God turned it into good."
(Genesis 50:20, GNT)

Main Idea: God is always with us--in bad times and in good times.

Objectives:

Children will explore these concepts -

- God worked through Joseph.
- God works through people like you and me to bring about good.
- God is with us always.
- God turned evil into good.



	<u>Sunday 10/30</u>	<u>Sunday 11/6</u>	<u>Sunday 11/13</u>
<u>K & 1st grade</u>	Science Room 205 Susan Crisafulli	Music Room 206 Sarah Brown	Art Room 103 Chelsea Cooper
<u>2nd grade</u>	Storytelling Room 111 Victor Grin	Science Room 205 Susan Crisafulli	Music Room 206 Sarah Brown
<u>3rd grade</u>	Storytelling Room 111 Victor Grin	Science Room 205 Susan Crisafulli	Music Room 206 Sarah Brown
<u>4th grade</u>	Games Room 110 Karen Simmons	Storytelling Room 111 Victor Grin	Science Room 205 Susan Crisafulli
<u>5th grade</u>	Games Room 110 Karen Simmons	Storytelling Room 111 Victor Grin	Science Room 205 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!

First Church is blessed with a hired childcare provider, Cheryl Foley, who is here each week to look after our infants and toddlers during Sunday services, along with a wonderful team of volunteers. Childcare is provided at all worship services. You can print out a registration form from our website or register online.

Bake Sale on November 13

On **November 13 during coffee hour**, the Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st Grade classes will be having a bake sale! All proceeds benefit our Church School Mission Project, **School Safe Zones**. Please stop by and purchase a tasty treat to help support a worthy cause. Thank you!



We Need YOU to Help With Church School!



We are always looking for volunteers to participate in the Church School program! If you haven't taught Church School in a while, our Rotation Model Curriculum (RMC) provides you with all the activities and supplies for a whole unit! Sign up to be a Station Leader, Explore teacher or Puppet Skit Leader! If any of these roles interest you, please contact Karin Carlino at ceadmin@glastonburyfirst.org. Thank you to all of the volunteers who have already stepped up to help fill these positions! Together we can create a safe, nurturing environment for our children to learn about their faith.



Youth Ministry



Sr. 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** on the third floor of the church.

**Denotes special time*

Sunday, November 6: Mission-focused session; first Mission Trip deposit is due (\$100)

Sunday, November 13: Regular session

***Sunday, November 20:** Youth and families are invited to attend the annual Harvest Supper in Schultz Hall (5:00 – 8:00 p.m.)

Sunday, November 27: Regular session

***Friday, December 2 – Saturday, December 3:** Advent Lock-in

Junior High Fellowship Silver Lake Retreat!

We are so excited for our JHF retreat! We will have time to relax, play, pray, eat and have lots of fun! Here are some specifics! And, as always, contact Elizabeth at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org if you have questions.

When: Friday through Sunday, November 11 – 13

Where: Silver Lake Conference Center in Sharon, CT

Who: Any students in 6th through 8th grade

Cost: \$130 covers your lodging, food and transportation

Depart: Friday, November 11 at 6:00 p.m. (First Church parking lot) Eat Dinner First!

Return: Sunday, November 13 at noon (First Church parking lot)

Registration Deadline: November 4, 2016



Permission slips are available in the Youth Room or on the Church website. Unfortunately, refunds will not be issued for cancellations.

Confirmation Class Schedule

Our nine month Confirmation program is open to any interested student entering the 9th grade (or above) in the fall. Our Confirmation program aims to help young people explore and articulate their faith as they prepare to reaffirm their baptism and become full members of First Church. All we require is your willingness to jump on this journey! Together, we use a combination of service projects, mentoring relationships, activities, and structured class time to explore our own personal faith, the church, and the world in which we live.



Our regular class sessions will be **Sundays from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Room.**

**Denotes Special Time*

***November 13:** Mentor Session #1 (4:00 – 6:00 p.m.)

***November 20:** Abbreviated Class Session (4:00 – 5:00 p.m.) Harvest Supper begins at 5:00 p.m. in Schultz Hall.

Jr. 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.**

**Denotes Special Time*

***November 11-13:** Silver Lake Retreat

***November 14:** No JHF Session

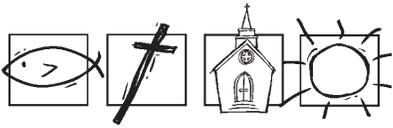
***Sunday, November 20:** Youth and families are invited to attend the annual Harvest Supper in Schultz Hall (5:00 – 8:00 p.m.)

Monday, November 28: Regular Session

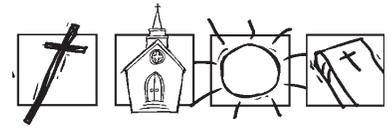
Apple Festival Was Successful!

Thank you so much to everyone who helped out with the successful Potato Booth sales at the Apple Festival! We couldn't have done it without your support and help! We especially thank the various congregants who came out to support the booth and the dedicated volunteers from the Board of Youth Ministry. All the proceeds help us take our annual Mission Trip – this year in April to Biloxi, MS!





Youth Ministry



Join Our Senior High Fellowship Mission Trip to Biloxi April 9-15!

Who can go? This trip is open to any ninth through twelfth graders, as well as our faithful volunteer advisors.

When will we go? During GHS April Break, **Sunday, April 9, to Saturday April 15, 2017.**

What organization will we work with? Back Bay Mission is a nonprofit community ministry of the United Church of Christ serving the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. It has been a force for good since 1922, meeting the needs of those suffering from poverty and its effects. Our church has a long standing relationship with Back Bay and they host our annual Adult/Alumni trip each January.



What kind of work will we do? Our group will be divided into work teams working at various sites throughout the week. Typically, work with Back Bay Mission includes construction. Their housing restoration program helps low-income families stay in their homes by making necessary renovations and repairs. We will also help staff the food pantry for emergency assistance clients and volunteer at Micah Day Center, which serves homeless clients with laundry and showering facilities. And of course, there's always time built in to have fun, see the area and get to know the community.

What is the cost? The cost will be approximately \$550 per participant. A **\$100 deposit is due on November 6.** Financial assistance is available. Please contact Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org for further details.



Music Ministry



Music at the Meetinghouse Presents...

BRIAN PATTON



**“Almost Cool”
A Program of Broadway Tunes**

**Saturday, November 12, 2016
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*

Cookie Walk



and Christmas Bazaar

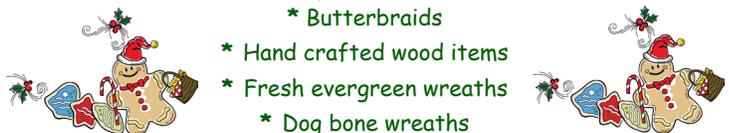
**Saturday, December 3, 2016
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

Volunteers Needed!!

- * TO BAKE DELICIOUS COOKIES
- * TO HELP AT THE EVENT

Please contact Courtney King at kcrpking@aol.com

Festive Holiday Cookies and More



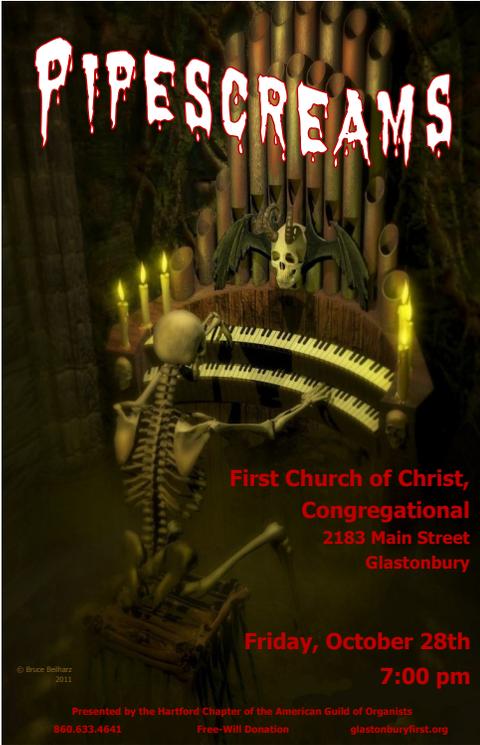
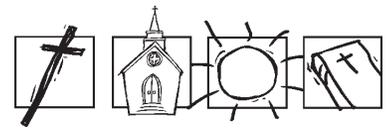
- * Butterbraids
- * Hand crafted wood items
- * Fresh evergreen wreaths
- * Dog bone wreaths
- * Handmade quilt, table runners and hand towels
- * First Church Choirs CD: "Praise and Thanksgiving"
- * SERRV products

Cookie Walk proceeds to benefit the First Church music programs.

Children's Choirs will sing carols at 9:30



Music Ministry



Choir Sleepover November 4-5

On **Friday, November 4**, there will be a Cantate and Cantabile Choirs Sleepover. This fun-filled event will entail an evening of baking Christmas Cookies for the “Cookie Walk” fundraiser, followed by playing board games and watching a movie. **Choristers should arrive at 6:00 p.m. on Friday evening.** We will order pizza for dinner, and pancakes and sausages will be served for breakfast, followed by a 45-minute choir rehearsal. **The sleepover will end at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. The cost for the sleepover is \$5 per chorister to cover breakfast and pizza.** Mrs. Salcedo is looking for a total of six parents to help chaperone. Please contact her at the church office (860-633-4641) if you are interested in chaperoning or need more information.

Butterbraids are Back!

Pre-sale orders for our delicious winter pastry will be held on **Sunday, November 6**. This is part of our Cookie Walk fundraiser. If you are ready to fill your freezers once again with these breakfast or dessert pastries that bake in 25 minutes, stop by the Music Board table and order one or more! They will be available for pick-up at the Cookie Walk on **December 3**.



Caring Ministries



Calling Knitters and Crocheters!



Knitters and crocheters will gather on **Monday, November 21 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library**. Whether you are new to the group or would like to learn to knit or crochet, all are welcome for handicrafts and fellowship. 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, call Chair Judy Burr at 860-643-9368. All 2016-2017 meetings except the June meeting are planned for the third

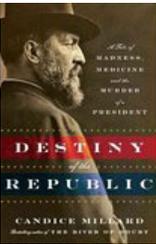
Monday of the month as follows: **December 19, January 16, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15 and June 12.**



Adult Opportunities



Biography Book Group

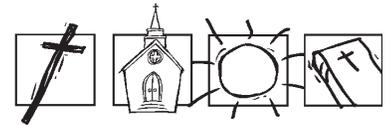


The Biography Book Group meets every other month to review a book and enjoy fellowship in an informal setting. We invite you to join us for any of our upcoming selections. The November biography selection is *Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President* by Candice Millard. The 20th President of the United States, James A. Garfield, is largely remembered today as the President assassinated after only four months in office. This biography shows us the remarkable man he was. Born into abject poverty in rural Ohio, he became a wunderkind scholar through his brilliance and work ethic. After serving in the Union army during the Civil War, he was elected to Congress. In 1880,

a deadlocked Republican convention elected him as its nominee – against his will. The drama of his short Presidency is vividly told in this remarkable biography. Join us on **Tuesday, November 8 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library** to talk about James Garfield. We hope you will join us for these fun and interesting book discussions. Call or email Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 or miguel.escalera@sbcglobal.net with any questions.



Adult Opportunities



Thursday Morning Study Group

TMSG gathers in the **Lehman Library** at **9:30 a.m. on Thursdays**. All are welcome for these studies. For more information, please email Forbes Warren at fwarren2@cox.net.

The World’s Greatest Works of Art – 70 Miles Away or Less!



So, you don’t have an unlimited travel budget to fly to the **Louvre** in Paris, the **Hermitage** in St. Petersburg, or the **Tate** in London?? Well, take a tour of some of the world’s greatest works of art by traveling no farther than the library on the second floor of First Church!

David Taylor will continue leading us in a feast for the eyes **through November 10** to learn more about some wonderful works of art – each of which can be visited at one of New England’s world-renowned galleries! Living in central Connecticut, we have access to some truly spectacular museums – with some magnificent art in each of them.

We will hear class presentations on those works of art which are among the most famous at each of five museums (**The Wadsworth Athenaeum, the New Britain Museum of American Art, the Worcester Art Museum, the Center for British Art at Yale and the Yale University Art Gallery**) reachable by a mere *hop, skip and a jump* from Glastonbury! Who knows, after learning about some of these paintings, some of us might just hop in a car to see them up close and personal! Please call the church office (860-633-4641) to sign up, and get ready to be *“wowed!”*



Second Sunday Book Club

The Second Sunday Book Club’s fall selection is *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos*, by Dominic Smith. Described by the New York Times as a novel that “begins as a mystery about a crime, but ends as a mystery of the heart,” this selection is a combination of historical fiction and contemporary story expertly woven into “fiction that keeps you up at night,” according to the Boston Globe. We will meet in **Lehman Library on Sunday, November 13 at 4:00 p.m.** to discuss this and other great reads. Selections for the remainder of the year are: **January 8: *H is for Hawk***, Helen Macdonald; **March 12: *Ordinary Grace***, William Kent Krueger; **May 7: *Underground Railroad***, Colson Whitehead. If you have any questions, contact Amy E. Thompson at thompson.amy72@gmail.com.



Women’s Theological Reflection Group

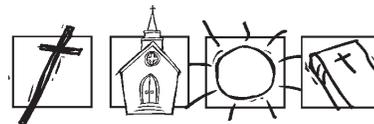
We invite all interested First Church women to join us on the **third Wednesday of each month** to discuss a variety of faith questions, reflect on our personal journeys and share friendship and community. In the past, we discussed prayer, healing, faith journeys, doing justice, finding quiet time, our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

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. We are looking into the book of Esther. Although God is never mentioned in the book, we will see that God is at work to save the people of Israel. All are welcome to **join us in the Parlor each Tuesday morning from 9:45-11:00 a.m.** No book purchase is necessary. Please call Dianne Schwegler at 860-633-6326 for more information and to reserve your copy of the study guide questions.



General Info Corner



ALL SAINTS' DAY

On **Sunday, November 6**, we will observe *All Saints' Day*. As part of our morning services of worship, we will remember those members of First Church who have died in the past year.

It is a time to thank God for the gift of their lives and to thank God for the promise of the gospels that those we love live on in God's care. It is a time to remember and to thank God for the truth that we are "surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses."



IN MEMORIAM

November 1, 2015 – October 31, 2016

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Helen Behrens | Edward Nollman |
| Earl D. Cox | Alfred Phillips |
| Douglas Cameron Graves | Gregory Priest |
| Victoria M. Guertin | Corrinne Reid |
| Robert H. Johnson | Mary D. Reitze |
| Daniel Landauer | George Wallace Ripley, II |
| Lois LaSalle | Edward Francis Ruff |
| Ernest Mandeville | Alice Weil |
| | Sally deVeer Whipple |

Prayer Corner



Prayers of joy:

Karen and Rich Fecko are rejoicing over the birth of grandson Ethan William Fecko on September 21 in Boston. Proud parents are Doug and Sarah Fecko. Ethan has a big sister, three-year-old Emma.

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Barbara Harding Audrey Hernandez Al Reid
Lois Harwick Chris Hernandez

Prayers of sympathy:

Andrew and Kimberly Cox on the death of Andrew's father, Earl Cox, on September 16. His memorial service was held here on September 24.

Ruth Miller and family upon the death of her sister-in-law, Carol Eberhardt, on October 5.

SAVE THE DATE

for the next

Prospective Member Gathering

Sunday, October 30

The Church Growth and Membership Committee would like to cordially invite those persons who have worshipped here and would like to make First Church their church home to attend the next prospective member gathering. Please consider becoming part of our church family and sharing more fully in our life together.

The next gathering of prospective members will be on Sunday, October 30 at 11:30 a.m. At that time, church leaders will be present to greet you and to tell you about the many wonderful programs and ministries of our congregation. Prospective members are then asked to ***attend a second session on Sunday, November 6, at 11:30 a.m.*** In this small group setting, one of our Pastors will provide more background about First Church and the United Church of Christ, and those attending will have an opportunity to share their own religious upbringing.

New members will join on Sunday, November 13 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

If you would like to learn more about making First Church your church home, ***please join us on October 30.*** If you need more information, please speak to one of the Pastors or contact Kathy Ciolkosz in the church office at 860-633-4641, extension 110 or kathyc@glastonburyfirst.org.

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 email kowsz@juno.com.

IN CASE OF HOSPITALIZATION

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please make note of the following. There is a change for Hartford Hospital.

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.

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

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

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Hartford, Conn.
Permit No. 5063
Non-Profit Organization

Return Service Requested.

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come Harvest Supper

featuring **Church Talent**



Sunday, November 20, 2016

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Dinner in Schultz Hall

Entertainment in the Meetinghouse

Please stop by our table during coffee hour with your ideas and questions!
The Board of Lay Life and Ministry will provide baked ham and roasted turkey.

Bring a dish of your choice. . . What is your favorite?

Roasted vegetables or a green bean casserole? Carrots or squash? A different protein?

Potatoes (sweet or white) or rice pilaf? Your specialty bread? (pumpkin, cranberry, banana, etc.)

Or delicious dessert? (we request finger foods this year like cupcakes, brownies, bars or cookies)

We have the categories to fill, so please, stop by our table on Sundays 10/30-11/13,
call the church office at 860-633-4641, or email Sandi at novakgrl@sbcglobal.net

Give Thanks

with a GRATEFUL heart

Dear Friends,

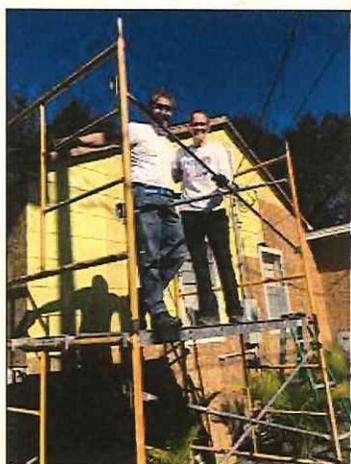
First Church is a beloved community that is *faithful, compassionate, and generous*. Time and time again, this caring and loving family of faith hears of a need – and it responds – again, and again and again! And as we respond with our generosity and our love, we are helping people who are facing challenges that are sometimes even beyond belief – hunger and homelessness, disaster and despair.



But in our response, we are blessed by the joy of giving and with the hope and the prayer that we are making a difference in the life of some of God's beloved children – and this beloved community is itself strengthened and blessed! This year our Thanksgiving offering will be divided among four worthy projects.

The *Bloomfield Backpack Project* was started by Eunice Medwinter, a member of First Congregational Church of

Bloomfield, when she saw a need. Eunice wanted to do her part to make sure the children in Bloomfield had enough to eat over the weekends, and so she contacted Foodshare and started the Bloomfield Backpack Project. Eunice began in 2009 and, since then, our church has helped financially and continues to send teams of volunteers to pack the backpacks once a month.



Back Bay Mission has been a lasting source of hope and help for thousands of children, adults and families along the Mississippi Gulf Coast since 1922. As one of the oldest and most highly respected organizations within the United Church of Christ and on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Back Bay Mission continues its journey of providing innovative solutions and compassionate responses to those suffering at the hands of social injustice and economic hardship. One of its most recent endeavors was the construction of housing for veterans. Our church has been working with Back Bay Mission for 12 years,

and both our adult group and senior high youth group will travel there in 2017 for their annual mission trips.





The Louisiana Flood Recovery Fund of the United Church of Christ has been established to provide relief and emergency aid to the people and communities devastated by recent flooding. These funds will provide necessary support to those communities as they clean-up and rebuild, and as volunteer mission teams travel to the area to help in this restoration effort.

Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services, a New Haven-based agency, with whom we have resettled refugees in the

past, is leading the effort to help settle Syrian refugees here in Connecticut, including the Al Abas family. Church member and Glastonbury resident Chris George is the executive director of IRIS.



To generously support all of this important work of love, please help us reach our goal of \$7,500.

Please give generously! Your ***Thanksgiving offering contribution*** can be sent to the church office at any time, or simply put in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, with checks made out to “***First Church***” with the memo line, “***Thanksgiving offering.***”

Peace,

David and *Kate*