



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

An open, welcoming and affirming congregation

September 2016

The Beloved Community – A Beautiful Love!

Dear Friends,

The beloved community.



*Over the summer, joy, hope and love have flourished here at this beloved community we call First Church. The energy and excitement of Vacation Bible School, an overflowing school supplies and backpack collection, lively music and memorable lay preaching, edifying brown bag lunches, welcoming the perfectly delightful Al Abas family, fellowship prayer gatherings and mobile Foodshare parking lot conversations among friends. **The beloved community is built with a beautiful love!***

And the beautiful love in this family of faith will continue

*this fall: smiling children gathering for a children's message; junior and senior high youth rallying for another year of caring for one another and caring for the world; people loitering after worship to hug, to laugh and to cry with one another; planning for mission trips and mission immersion days; bake sales and collections for our new Church School Mission Project, School Safe Zones in East Africa; joy-filled worship services to give thanks to a good and gracious God! **The beautiful community is built with a beautiful love!***

*Once again, we **GET** to come together as God's beloved community, and to joyfully share God's awesome and amazing love with one another and with*



The Resettlement Committee gathered to celebrate Sara's 7th birthday!

God's children in need.

As we gather, we will

*meet and wholeheartedly welcome Zeyad, Ezdehar, Walid, Mohammad, Majd, Sedra and Sara Al Abas to the Glastonbury community. We are also welcoming Elizabeth Gleich as our new Director of Children and Youth Ministries. Welcome to all, and welcome to all who are visiting First Church for the very first time! **This beautiful community is built with your beautiful love!***

God's world most certainly needs the beautiful love that this family of faith is willing and able to share! And each time we

share God's beautiful love, we come closer to that day when all creation will live as God intended it to be – a place of peace and justice for all people, and a place of God's shalom!

Faithfully,

Nanci and Kate



First Church of Christ, Congregational

United Church of Christ
2183 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

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

Sunday Morning Schedule

Through September 4:
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
Church School: 9:15 a.m.

Homecoming, September 11:
One service at 10:00 a.m.

Beginning September 18:
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

THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Saturday, September 10: October 2016 issue

Steward Spotlight On: Doug Brown



Hometown: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Family: Kati Kennedy, Nolan and Briana Brown

Member of First Church for: 10 years

Favorite thing(s) about First Church: The music programs

First Church activities I've participated in:

Youth Board and the unofficial "Choir Auxiliary"

Your job: I'm a financial advisor at Wells Fargo

What you like best about your job:

Working at solving clients' planning needs

What you like least about your job: Too much media commentary that can be confusing for long term goals

Skill that helps most on your job: I'm a people person. I enjoy talking with people, getting to know them and helping them achieve their goals.

Pet peeve: Messy people

What you cannot live without: ESPN

Favorite day of the year: Opening day of Iowa Hawkeye football

Biggest challenge you've overcome: Moving to the East Coast

Favorite snack: Cheese and crackers

School attended: Arizona State University

Funniest person you know: Kati Kennedy

Childhood nickname: Dougie

Favorite season of the year and why: Fall - cool air and fall colors

Favorite musical group: First Church Chancel Choir, of course!

Favorite movie: *Caddyshack*

Biggest fear: Snakes

What you are most thankful for: Healthy family and good kids

Favorite way to relax: Cleaning

What you would order for your last meal: Kale and salmon salad

Childhood summer memory: Summer camp in Nisswa, Minnesota

Favorite vacation spot: Colorado

Comfort food: Buffalo wings

What you are most proud of: My kids

Your hero: My Dad

Favorite quote or scripture passage: Luke 6:21,
Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

"Bring A Friend Or Neighbor to Church" Sundays!

The First Church Growth & Membership Committee is excited to announce our annual BAFON Sundays, **on Homecoming Sunday, September 11, and September 18.** Bringing a friend or neighbor to a service is a wonderful way to share in the excitement of all that is First Church, from mission trips to inspiring sermons, fellowship to service opportunities, Bible studies to book clubs, choirs to children's messages! Exciting things are in the works for these special Sundays in September! We hope that each member of our community will consider spreading the good news by bringing a friend or neighbor during this time. Keep your eye out for more news as we reach out to share all that is special about our wonderful faith community!

Dear Friends,

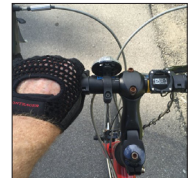
As we now move from August into September, we will perhaps remember this season as the summer of heat, Pokémon Go, the Olympics and the heating up of the presidential elections! But even with our excessive heat and humidity, I would never miss Glastonbury's great blueberry picking season!



I did get away as usual, however, for two weeks of continuing education – a time of renewal, learning and inspiration at the historic Chautauqua Institution!

Lectures (the themes were “People and the Environment” and “The Future of Cities”), worship, evenings of symphony, dance and drama all take place in the 4,000 seat open-air amphitheater. This summer I also tackled the book *Hamilton*, upon which the musical is based. My daughter, Meg, was able to secure face-value tickets for the show during the week between Christmas and New Year's! Emily and Meg joined us at CHQ for a week – a special place for our family for over 25 years!

That first week on the environment was presented in partnership with the National Geographic Society. The presenters were truly amazing – their life stories, their amazing photography and their commitment to preserving the environment. Fear not, however, my time at Chautauqua wasn't a totally sedentary existence! Almost daily I would get out for a bike ride and/or swim when the mind/brain had reached its fill!



The rest of my summer was filled with time spent gardening, bike rides along the Connecticut River, visits with family, cookouts and beginning to dream about and plan for the fall here at First Church! I look forward to once again being with you all as we gather as this cherished family of faith we lovingly call First Church!

Warmest regards,

David



Lucas

Dear Friends,

Recently I was out in my garden early one morning marveling at God's amazing creation. The air was cool, the flowers were beautiful and I had a moment to give thanks for all the blessings in my chaotic life.

One blessing was being able to take a family vacation in June. We rented a house right on the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland. It was a good week filled with watching boats, playing on the playground, eating ice cream and other fun adventures!

As some of you heard in church during the joys and concerns in mid-July, my parents moved to Cromwell to be closer to us. Having grandparents close by is something I always longed for as a kid, and so I am grateful that my parents are such an important part of Lucas and Andrew's lives.



Andrew

Because of their special needs, Lucas and Andrew started preschool through Cromwell Public Schools last February after they turned three. In late August, they will head off again to their school. They are looking forward to seeing their teachers and friends. The boys continue to be spirited, sweet and adventurous! Some of you have experienced them first hand at church!

I hope your summer has been filled with peaceful moments, loving people and joy-filled experiences. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Love, *Kate*



The Al Abas Family is Settling In

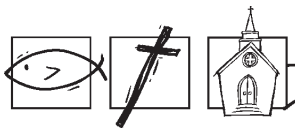
After a 32-hour trip from Jordan to Germany to New York, the Al Abas family of seven has been busy getting acclimated to the United States and to Glastonbury. In addition to Zeyad and Ezdehar (dad and mom), the family includes boys Walid, Mohammad, and Majd (ages 19, 18 and 15), and girls Sedra and Sara (13 and 7).

This delightful family is very appreciative of the help they've been given, and eager to learn English and become assimilated into our culture. We've rented a comfortable house for the family on Hubbard Street near the town green. During the month since they arrived, they've been busy getting their Social Security cards, enrolling in state and federal benefit programs, attending three days of training at IRIS in New Haven, taking almost daily English lessons from First Church tutors, and enrolling in three of our Glastonbury schools. They've enjoyed attending weekly prayer services at the mosque in Windsor. You might see the boys riding their bikes around town, or along the riverfront with their new fishing poles. The Al Abases have been welcomed in a get-together by their friendly neighbors and recently attended a performance of *The Little Mermaid* at the high school.

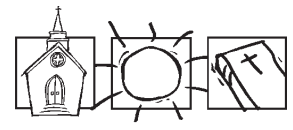


The critical next step is to find employment for the four oldest in the family. Zeyad has experience in building construction, including owning his own firm. Ezdehar loves to bake, and is quite good at it, and could work in the earlier part of the day before the kids are home from school. The older boys have experience in food service, but in the future, Walid and Mohammad would like to become a civil engineer and commercial pilot, respectively.

The activity outlined above has been made possible by countless hours and days spent by First Church's team of volunteers dedicated to God's work of welcoming a family in need. A big THANK YOU to all who are contributing to this united effort, with their time, talents and donations!



Building the Beloved Community!



With a strong commitment from the congregation for the Micah House and Chapel capital campaign, this dedicated family of faith is *"building a legacy"* for the future. In addition to the *"bricks and mortar"* that are necessary to house a vital and vibrant congregation such as First Church, exciting ministries and mission programs are also needed to faithfully serve God in this community.

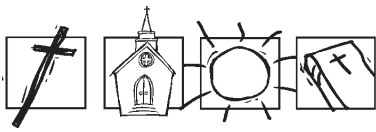
Our generous financial support of the congregation's annual operating budget is essential to ensure that together we build a beloved community of children, youth and adults of all ages who then share God's love in the world. The First Church 2017 Stewardship campaign will officially kick off in September on Homecoming Sunday. Last year, the congregation stepped up and helped raise over \$723,000 – a great result. *Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!*

Our fundraising campaign will conclude on Sunday, October 30, as we gather to celebrate our church's life and ministry, although we would ask that as soon as you receive your pledge materials that you send them back to the church office so we can track our progress! As in past years, members will receive in the mail a confidential, personalized pledge card. Your card will provide a choice of suggested pledge amounts that will challenge you to make a significant increase in your contribution.

We are asking our faith community to stretch their generosity so that we can maintain and grow our mission – caring for both our members and for the world with a *beautiful love!* That said, we realize some in our congregation will be unable to meet our challenge. *All gifts are greatly appreciated!*

Your ongoing support for and commitment to the work of First Church is, as always, both vital and appreciated, as together we build *the beloved community!*

Your Stewardship Committee



Adult Opportunities



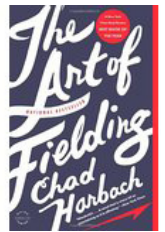
Biography Book Group



The Biography Book Group will meet in September, when we invite you to join us to discuss *Mary McGrory: The First Queen of Journalism* by John Norris. This is an “entertaining biography of the trailblazing Washington columnist and first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. Mary McGrory achieved national syndication and reported on American politics for five decades. From her first assignment reporting on the Army–McCarthy hearings to her Pulitzer-winning coverage of Watergate and controversial observations of President Bush after September 11, McGrory humanized the players on the great national stage while establishing herself as a uniquely influential voice (*Amazon.com*).” We’ll meet to enjoy an informal discussion of this book on **Tuesday, September 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lehman Library**. Call or email Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 or miguel.escalera@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

Thursday Morning Study Group

The summer break ends on **Thursday, September 8**, when the TMSG will gather in the Lehman Library to discuss what was experienced and learned when a routine toss to first base goes disastrously off course and affects the lives of other folks. Using the popular novel by Chad Harbach, *The Art of Fielding*, as a study guide, the group will have a lively discussion for two weeks. Then, for **September 22 and 29**, we will contemplate the possibility of Islamic reform by using D.M. Zuhdi Jasser’s book, *A Battle for the Soul of Islam: An American Muslim Patriot’s Fight to Save His Faith*, as a guide. Mark R. Levin writes: “Jasser proposes a cure for one of the greatest problems facing the world today - the violence and extremism of radical Islam.” All are welcome even if the suggested reading material has not been read, as the studies and discussions are universal in nature. For more information, please email Forbes Warren at fwarren2@cox.net.



Prayer and Share

Prayer and Share meets **Tuesday mornings from 9:45 to 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor**. 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 and from each other. All are welcome! For more information please call Donna Smith at 860-633-4428 or Dianne Schwegler at 860-633-6326. In the fall we will be studying the *Book of Esther*.

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 Lynn Baronas at 860-543-3301 or baronas@hartford.edu for further information.

Second Sunday Book Club Summer Read

The Second Sunday Book Club will spend the summer reading the 2012 Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction, *The Orphan Master’s Son*, by Adam Johnson. “An epic novel and a thrilling literary discovery, *The Orphan Master’s Son* follows a young man’s journey through the icy waters, dark tunnels, and eerie spy chambers of the world’s most mysterious dictatorship, North Korea,” according to Amazon. We will meet at **4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 11 (Homecoming Sunday) on the Hale House lawn** if the weather holds. We hope to see you there to discuss this and other great reads you’ve enjoyed this summer! If you have any questions, contact Amy E. Thompson at thompson.amy72@gmail.com.

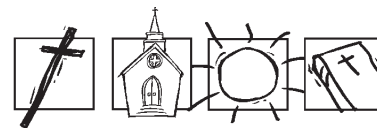


Potpourri on Hold

Potpourri breakfasts are on hold until further notice, but keep an eye out for an announcement of its return!



Children's Ministries



Be A Part of the 2016 – 2017 Church School Program!

This past year's Church School program was such a huge success because of all our wonderful Church School volunteers! We couldn't have accomplished all the events, fundraisers and church school classes without you! We encourage everyone to consider signing up to teach or shepherd for the 2016 – 2017 Church School year. We have some great lessons ready for you, so come see what the Church School classes are all about! Email Karin Carlino at ceadmin@glastonburyfirst.org, or sign up on the schedule outside the CE Offices!

Try Something New. . . Teaching Church School is a great way to connect with children, families and fellow church members. There is an added benefit of connecting with God as well! We wish to welcome ANYONE who wishes to lead or assist with our Rotation Model program, Explore class or puppet troupe. Lesson plans are fun and easy to follow and all supplies are prepared ahead of time.

Important Church School Dates!

Monday, August 29: *Christian Education Volunteer Orientation at 7:00 p.m. in Schultz Hall.*

This meeting is mandatory for all of the wonderful First Church volunteers who plan to be involved with our Christian Education and Youth Programs in 2016 – 2017. This will be the time for you to meet other volunteers, hear more specifics about the curriculums we implement and to review strategies for working with children. Refreshments will be provided and there will be childcare available in the Crib and Toddler room.



Sunday, September 11: *Homecoming Sunday! Worship service at 10:00 a.m. with the picnic to follow.*

There will be *registration for Church School* before and after the service. Every child needs to be registered each year.

Sunday, September 18: *The new Church School year begins during the 10:00 a.m. worship service!*

Current three-year-olds will be promoted to Preschool on this day. Again, there will be *registration for Church School* before and after the service.

Three-Year-Old Promotion Ceremony



One of the many traditions we have here at First Church is a promotion ceremony for our three-year-olds. This is an annual ceremony where the children are "promoted" from the Crib and Toddler rooms into our Preschool classroom. Each child will receive a certificate as we welcome him or her into the Church School program. We will be promoting all current three-year-olds on **Sunday, September 18 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service**. Parents of three-year-olds who were baptized and/or who have been attending church in the Crib and Toddler rooms will receive a letter explaining the promotion ceremony. If you are new to the church and have a child who is or will soon be three years old, please call or email Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4641 or programadmin@glastonburyfirst.org so that your child can be included in the ceremony.

Summer Church School 2016!

This summer all children have the opportunity to attend Church School classes on Sunday mornings, where our children are learning about important Bible stories through fun, hands-on activities. All children (entering Preschool and higher) will meet together. For more information, please contact Karin Carlino at ceadmin@glastonburyfirst.org. Thank you!

Date	Unit	Room	Station	Main Idea
28-Aug	Lost & Found	206	Games	In the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the forgiving father, Jesus teaches us that God's love is always there for us, no matter where we go or what we do
04-Sep			Movie	



Children's Ministries



Church School Unit 1: "Burning Bush & Other Images of God"

Bible Story Reference: Exodus 3:1-5, 13-14a; 13:21-22; 19:3-6; Psalms 18:1-2, 27:1; 62:1-2; Revelation 22:5

Bible Verses: "God created humankind in his image...God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good" (Genesis 1:27, 31a).






Main Idea: Who is God? What is God like? Throughout history people have expressed the reality of God through images and metaphor. Children will explore some of the many images of God in the Bible and discover how those images can help us know God.

Objectives:

Children will have an opportunity to

- enlarge their understanding of God through exposure to new images of God;
- explore a variety of images of God in the Bible -- fire, rock, eagle and light;
- explore the idea that the image of God can be revealed through them and their actions.



		Sunday 9/18	Sunday 9/25	Sunday 10/2	Sunday 10/9
	Kindergarten & 1st grade pink	Art Room 103	Cooking Room 205	Storytelling Room 111	Games Room 110
	2nd grade yellow	Games Room 110	Art Room 103	Cooking Room 205	Storytelling Room 111
	3rd grade purple	Games Room 110	Art Room 103	Cooking Room 205	Storytelling Room 111
	4th grade red	Storytelling Room 111	Games Room 110	Art Room 103	Cooking Room 205
	5th grade green	Storytelling Room 111	Games Room 110	Art Room 103	Cooking Room 205

Please note: The Preschool Room is in Room 105. Puppet Troupe is in Room 206. EXPLORE is in the Youth Room. Some classes are combined for this Unit.

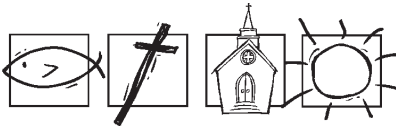
Church School runs until 11:10 a.m. each Sunday. If worship gets out earlier than that, please enjoy some time in Schultz Hall before picking up your children. Thanks for your cooperation!



Thank You, VBS Volunteers!

Thank you to our VBS volunteers. We had an awesome week! We give thanks for the time and effort contributed by our committee members, adult volunteers and many youth helpers!





Children's Ministries



The 2016-2017 Church School Mission Project Building the Beloved Community: One School at a Time

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!

3rd Grade Bible Recognition

First Church has a special tradition of giving all third graders their own personal Bibles. This presentation will be held on **September 25 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service**. All incoming third graders will be recognized. If your child has not received a Bible yet and is older than third grade, we would like to extend this special invitation for him or her to receive a Bible. Please contact Valerie Escalera at programadmin@glastonburyfirst.org or call the church office at 860-633-4641 to make this arrangement.



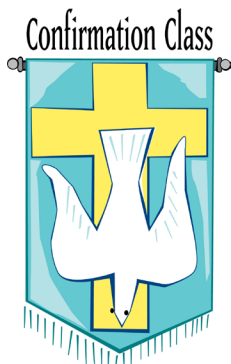
Presentation of Bibles



Youth Ministry



New Confirmation Class Begins in the Fall

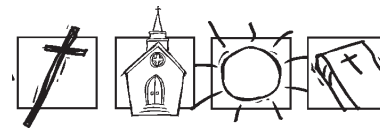


Our nine-month Confirmation program is open to any interested student entering the 9th grade (or above) in the fall. Parents do not need to be First Church members in order for students to enroll, and students who are not yet baptized can choose to do so during the year. Our Confirmation program aims to help young people explore and articulate their faith as they prepare to reaffirm their baptism and become full members of First Church. All we require is your willingness to jump on this journey! Together, we will be using a combination of service projects, mentoring relationships, activities and structured class time to explore our own personal faith, the church and the world in which we live.

There will be an **orientation meeting for prospective confirmands and their parents on Tuesday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. in Schultz Hall**. If you know someone who is interested in this opportunity, we always welcome new faces. Please contact David Taylor or Kate VanDerzee-Glidden in the church office with questions or for more information.



Youth Ministry



All Sixth through Eighth Graders are Invited to...

Junior High Fellowship Rally Day! Sunday, September 11, 2016

12:00 to 12:30 p.m. – Youth and parent meeting
(in the Meetinghouse)
12:30 to 2:00 p.m. – Youth only

Please bring: a great attitude, your friends and canned food.

The Youth Board will provide the snack.

A registration form must be filled out in order to attend Rally Day. The forms are available before and after church on Homecoming Sunday, on the website and on the Youth Room door.



All Ninth through Twelfth Graders are Invited to...

Senior High Fellowship Rally Day! Sunday, September 11, 2016, 4:30–7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Vincent and Katharyn Laudone
Meet at First Church promptly at 4:30 p.m., returning at 7:30 p.m.

Please bring: bathing suit, towel, your friends, canned food

AND Freshmen: Chippy, Dippy & Snacky Things

Sophomores: A Selection of Fresh Beverages

Juniors: Side Dishes (Green/Pasta Salad, etc.)

Seniors: Delicious Desserts!

The Youth Board will provide the rest!

A registration form and permission form must be filled out in order to attend Rally Day. The forms are available before and after church on Homecoming Sunday, on the website and on the Youth Room door.

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.**

**Denotes Special Time*

***Sunday, September 11:** Parent Meeting (12:00 – 12:30 p.m. for youth and parents) and Rally Day (12:30 – 2:00 p.m. for youth)
Monday, September 26: Regular Session

Senior High Fellowship Schedule

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

**Denotes special time*

***Sunday, September 11:** Rally Day at the Laudones' house. Meet at church at 4:30 p.m. and return to church at 7:30 p.m. (See announcement above for more details!)
***Sunday, September 18:** Mandatory parent and student meeting 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., session to follow 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 25: Regular session

Save the Date! Youth Mission Trip April 9-15

The Senior High Fellowship Mission Trip is open to all high school students. We'll head to Biloxi, Mississippi, from April 9 – 15, 2017 for a week of service work helping others. Information will be available in September at our Senior High Fellowship meetings. We hope you can join us!



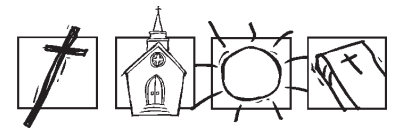
Help with Our Potato Booth to Support the Mission Trip!



Attention students and adults! We need your help at the Apple Fest Potato Booth on **Friday, October 14, Saturday, October 15 and Sunday, October 16!** This is an awesome fundraiser for our youth mission trip! Join us for a few hours during the Apple Fest or help us out with prep on Thursday and Friday. It's a great time for fall fellowship food fair fun!!! Sign-ups will begin in September during Senior High Fellowship and in Schultz Hall during Common Fellowship. Stay tuned! Also, please consider donating water bottles to sell at our booth! **Thanks!**



Music Ministry



Take The Plunge Now, Join The Choir!



Take the plunge now join the choir! Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la!

Sing and ring your heart's desire! Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la!

Praise your God through song and ringing! Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la!

Sign up now, rejoice with music! Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la!

Fall is a great time to join our music ministry, especially if you were able to recognize this very familiar Christmas tune! We have choirs for all ages here at First Church. There is power in numbers, and the more voices and ringers that participate, the more we affirm the resonating message that music inspires a deeper faith. Please contact Angela Salcedo, Director of Music Ministries, if you are interested or have any questions at angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org or 860-633-4641.

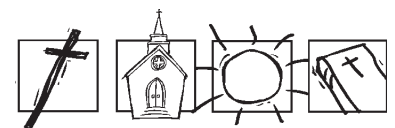
Fall 2016 Choirs Rehearsal Schedule

Choir rehearsals in the fall will begin after Labor Day. The following is the timetable for fall rehearsals and RSCM Ribbon Work (Royal School of Church Music Ribbon Program). Please note the starting dates for each of the choirs listed below.

CHOIR NAME	DAY OF REHEARSAL	REHEARSAL TIME	FIRST REHEARSAL
<i>Cherub (K-Grade 1)</i>	<i>Sundays</i>	<i>11:00-11:30 a.m.</i>	<i>September 18</i>
<i>Carolers (Grades 2-3)</i>	<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>5:00-5:45 p.m.</i>	<i>September 14</i>
<i>Cantate (Grade 4-6)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>4:00-5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 15</i>
<i>Cantabile (Grades 7-12)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>6:00-7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 15</i>
<i>Chancel</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>7:15-8:45 p.m.</i>	<i>September 8</i>
<i>Jubilate Ringers</i>	<i>Tuesdays</i>	<i>7:00-8:30 p.m.</i>	<i>September 13</i>
<i>Mallet Ringers (Grades 5-12)</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:00-6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>September 15</i>
OPTIONAL: RSCM RIBBON LEVEL WORK			
<i>Light Blue and Dark Blue Ribbon</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:00-5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>October 6</i>
<i>Red and Purple Ribbon</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>5:30-6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>October 6</i>



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.

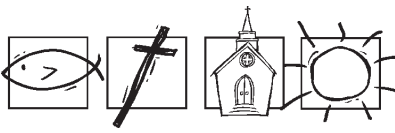
Food Collection

First Church has had a long tradition of collecting food items for our neighbors in need. Our donations go to Horace Bushnell Children's Food Pantry in Hartford and Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC). Please continue to bring in food for our neighbors in need. **In September, we're asking for contributions of pasta, sauce, soup and other items people are willing to donate. Please bring food that is not expired or open. Thanks for your help!**

Thank You for the School Supplies!



Thank you to everyone who gave school items! Because of your support, Glastonbury Social Services is able to help about two hundred Glastonbury students through the Back to School Program this year.



Christian Service



Volunteering at Wish Elementary School

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.



Donations Requested for Covenant to Care

For a family they serve, Covenant to Care requests a bed frame for a double bed (can be used) and monetary donations towards a new mattress and boxspring (approximately \$200 needed). For more information please contact Jim O'Brien at 860-977-2890 or james_f_obrien@sbcglobal.net.

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 (September 14 and 28)** 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. If you would like to help, please contact John Dugan at 860-659-2193 or Paul Fraleigh at 860-643-1571.



General Info Corner



Come Join Us for



With the new church year upon us, we invite one and all to come together as this beloved community celebrates its life and ministry during our first **Spark!** service of the year! Come and join us as we gather together for a time of fellowship and worship! All are welcome! The service on **September 25 at 4:30 p.m.** will include prayer, scripture, a message and the lively and beautiful music of our **Spark!** Band, who lead us in a variety of songs. After the service, we invite you to join us for a time of fellowship and food (soup and bread) in Schultz Hall.

Prayer Corner



Prayers of joy:

We are grateful for all the dedicated volunteers and eager children who helped at and attended Vacation Bible School this year.

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Barbara Harding Audrey Hernandez
Lois Harwick Chris Hernandez

Prayers of sympathy:

Ellen and John McNab and family on the death of Ellen's mother, Carolyn Strickland, on July 22.

Bertha Nollman and family on the death of her husband, Ed Nollman, on July 24. Ed had been a First Church member since 1992.

Donna and Jerry Smith and Amanda Garrity on the recent death of Donna's mother and Amanda's grandmother, Betty McQueen, in Chicago on August 3.

Sunday Worship Services

September 4 – One service at 9:00 a.m.

Preacher and Worship Leader: David Taylor

Special Music: Wayne Rivera; Guest Organist: Suzanne Gates

September 11 – One service at 10:00 a.m.

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Preacher: Kate VanDerzee-Glidden

Worship Leaders:

David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden

Special Music: Hot Cat Jazz Band

Church Picnic Following Worship

September 18 – Services at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Preacher and Worship Leader: David Taylor

Promotion Certificates for 3-year-olds and

First Day of Church School (10:00 a.m.)

September 25 – Services at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Preachers and Worship Leaders:

David Taylor and Kate VanDerzee-Glidden

Bible Presentation to 3rd Graders and

Commissioning of Confirmation Class and Volunteers (10:00 a.m.)

***Spark!* service at 4:30 p.m., followed by soup and fellowship**

Look! Out on the lawn...

It's a cookout - it's a party - it's the



Homecoming Sunday Church Picnic

September 11

**Following the
10 a.m. Worship Service**

Come and join the fun!

Hot dogs and burgers (beef and veggie!) provided

We ask that you bring something yummy to share as follows:

If your last name begins with:

A-H: Dessert; I-Z: Salad or Side Dish

Please drop food off in Scholtz Hall before the service.



**Remember! It's a BAFON Sunday -
Bring a friend or neighbor - or both!**

See you there!

Sponsored by the Board of Lay Life & Ministry