



The Weekly Word from First Church of Christ



**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST,
CONGREGATIONAL**

Member of the United Church of Christ
An open, welcoming and affirming congregation
2183 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033
860-633-4641

Television Ministry: *LIVING THE WORD*,
Sundays, 7:30 a.m. and noon, Cox Cable Channel 15

E-mail: firstchurch@glastonburyfirst.org

Website: www.glastonburyfirst.org

Today at First Church

March 19, 2017

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship Service & Child Care**
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service & Child Care**
- 10:15 a.m. Church School
- 11:00 a.m. Cherub Choir, Room 112
- 12:00 p.m. Soloists and Select Chorus Rehearsal, Meetinghouse
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High Fellowship, Youth Room



Church School Schedule

<u>Kindergarten & 1st grade</u>	Games Room 110 Chelsea Cooper
<u>2nd grade</u>	Art Room 103 Lisa Hapgood
<u>3rd grade</u>	Art Room 103 Lisa Hapgood
<u>4th grade</u>	Cooking Room 205 Emily Daigle
<u>5th grade</u>	Cooking Room 205 Emily Daigle

Attention Parents: We are in Unit 6, "Easter - Peter's Story," and our schedule is below. Please note: some classes are combined for this unit.

Preschool is in Room 105. Children in grades 6-8 can attend Explore in the Youth Room.

The kindergarteners and first graders will go to Cherub Choir as part of their Church School experience. Please pick up your children at 11:30 a.m. in Room 112.

Church School runs until 11:10 a.m. today. If the service ends earlier than that, please enjoy some time in Schultz Hall before picking up your children. Thanks for your cooperation!

The complete unit schedule is posted throughout the church and online.

Register for Vacation Bible School TODAY!

Vacation Bible School is almost here! (Well, it's 5 months away...) **TODAY** we are kicking off Vacation Bible School registration! **Save the dates for VBS: July 31-August 4.** The theme this year is **Hero Central**. Stop by the registration table during coffee hour to register your child and participate in a special VBS craft!



Employment Leads Wanted!!

Since First Church began hosting the Al Abas family of Syrian refugees last July, the family has happily embraced life in Glastonbury. The five children, ages 8 through 19, are all doing well in the town's schools, mother, Ezdehar, a great cook, is developing a career in cooking/catering, and Walid and Mohammad are helping with expenses working part-time at Max Amore. The family loves Glastonbury but now fears they may not be able to stay here with Zeyad, the father, unable to find full-time employment. In Syria, Zeyad worked in construction, including operating a business constructing formwork for concrete foundations. His experience includes carpentry and painting. Zeyad's English is improving but not yet fluent. He will soon have a driver's license, so he can use the car generously donated for transportation. Until then, Zeyad can get to work with help from First Church volunteers. Our refugee volunteers have been assisting with the job search, but we're hoping to find some good leads from the wider First Church community. If you have ideas that may lead to an opportunity for employment, please contact Paul Fraleigh (860-643-1571, paul@fraleigh-gray.com) or John Dugan (860-989-9430, jdugan1967@gmail.com).

A Beautiful Love – A Lenten Series, March 29, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Let us come together to hear some stories of how a wonderful organization is making a difference in this world – making a difference by sharing God's beautiful love!

Wednesday, March 29: Martha Page and Elaine Robedee, Hartford Food System

Founded in 1978, Hartford Food System seeks long-term solutions for access to affordable and healthy food in the city of Hartford. They implement programs that improve access to nutritious and affordable food, help consumers make informed food choices, advocate a robust and economically sound food system, and promote responsible food policies at all levels of government. The Board of Christian Service will host a simple meal of soup and bread. Please call the church office, 860-633-4641, to sign up.

Knitters and Prayer Shawls Needed!

For years, our Prayer Shawl Ministry has enhanced the life of our First Church community. The group gathers monthly for fellowship, inspiration and time to knit. If you cannot attend meetings, we would still welcome the donation of your shawls. Patterns and needles can be provided by our group. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Burr at jaburr@cox.net or 860-643-9368. As always, newcomers are welcome at the meetings on the *third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Lehman Library.*

Support the Youth Mission Trip Through Shares and Cards!

SHARES: We encourage everyone in the First Church family to help support our SHF youth on their mission trip to Biloxi, MS in April! ***Please visit the Youth Table through April 2 to contribute to the mission trip by purchasing "Shares" for \$20 each.*** All donations will be included in your First Church giving statement. You'll receive a share certificate and be included in our year-end report to shareholders of mission activities. For questions, please contact Patti Jagoe at ctsdncmnfolk@gmail.com or Elizabeth Gleich at elizabeth@glastonburyfirst.org, and be sure to look for our table during coffee hour!

CARDS: Each year our youth create a thematic image that reflects our coming year. Individual greeting cards are available for \$1 (or you can purchase sets of 10) by contacting Elizabeth.



Our Church Needs You!

Our Church has many boards and committees that help enrich our Church programs, events, and worship services. These dedicated boards and committees are recruiting new members, so please consider saying "Yes!" if you are asked to join a committee or board. Now is the time for you to get involved!

We offer so many opportunities...what interests you? Please consider becoming involved in one of the following groups: Trustees (oversees our property and building), Youth Ministry, Christian Education, Deacons (focuses on worship), Music, Christian Service (concentrates on mission and outreach work), Lay Life and Ministry (organizes and runs church fellowship events), Church Growth and Membership (welcomes people to our church), Adult Education, Media or Stewardship, among others.

If you have an interest in joining a specific board or committee, contact Lisa Charles, Chair of Human Resources, at 860-338-4816 or lisacharles@cox.net; Christine Roberge, Vice Chair of Human Resources, at 860-430-1572 or roberge.happyface@gmail.com; a church officer; a current board or committee member; David; Kate; or Elizabeth. Thank you to all our volunteers!

Godspell Rehearsals

Rehearsals for the cast and small ensemble for our **Godspell** service will continue **today from 12:00-3:00 p.m.** and will continue every Sunday through May 14, and every Thursday evening from 6:30-7:15 p.m. Chancel, Cantate and Cantabile rehearsals for this production will occur during the regularly scheduled weekly choir rehearsal. Run-through rehearsals for everyone will be the following dates:

Saturday, May 6	10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 7	12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Monday, May 8	6:30-9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 9	6:30-9:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 11	6:30-9:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 14	8:00 a.m. Performance Call

Foodshare Opportunity – We Need You!

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

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

Women's Theological Reflection Group Rescheduled to March 22

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. We hope to see you from **8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.** in the Lehman Library. Please contact Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com or 860-967-2269 with questions.

*Please join us for our next
Music at the Meetinghouse event...*

MERRIMACK VALLEY RINGERS
Ring into Spring Concert
Saturday, April 29, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

This Week at First Church

Monday, March 20, 2017

6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry,
Lehman Library
7:00 p.m. Council, Parlor

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

7:30 a.m. Potpourri, Kitchen
9:45 a.m. Prayer and Share, Parlor
4:00 p.m. Biography Book Group,
Lehman Library
6:15 p.m. ***Spark!*** Rehearsal, Schultz Hall
7:00 p.m. Jubilate Ringers, Meetinghouse

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

8:00 a.m. Women's Theological Reflection
Group, Lehman Library
4:15 p.m. Caroler Choir
7:00 p.m. Church Growth and Membership,
Lehman Library

Thursday, March 23, 2017

9:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Study
Group, Lehman Library
4:00 p.m. Cantate Choir
5:00 p.m. Ribbon Work
5:00 p.m. Mallets Bell Choir
5:45 p.m. Latter Day Marthas,
Lehman Library
6:00 p.m. Cantabile Choir
6:30 p.m. Soloists and Select Chorus
Rehearsal, Schultz Hall
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

Saturday, March 25, 2017

6:00 p.m. Dinner by Ezdehar, Schultz Hall

Sunday, March 26, 2017

10:00 a.m. Worship Service & Child Care
10:15 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Cherub Choir, Room 112
11:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Rehearsal,
Meetinghouse
12:00 p.m. Soloists and Select Chorus
Rehearsal, Choir Room
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class Mentor
Session, Schultz Hall
6:00 p.m. Sr. High Fellowship, Youth Room

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 who 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 (March 23)***. Please contact Danae Dwyer at danaedwyer@me.com or 860-967-2269 with questions.

MINISTERS

All the members of the church
Pastor Emeritus The Rev. Dr. Carl F. Schultz, Jr. (1932 - 2012)

PASTORS

The Rev. David T. Taylor, *Senior Pastor*
The Rev. Kate VanDerzee-Glidden, *Associate Pastor*

Rebecca Fleahman, *Office Manager*

Wes Grove, *Facilities Manager*

The Rev. Gordon Bates, *Minister of Visitation*

Elizabeth Gleich, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*

Angela Salcedo, *Director of Music Ministries*

Kathy Ciolkosz, *Administrative Assistant*

Valerie Escalera, *Program Administrator*

Cheryl Foley, *Child Care Provider*

Karin Carlino, *Church School Administrator*

Susan Feller, *Publications Specialist*

Peggy Hartman, *Director of Handbell Program and Children's Choirs*