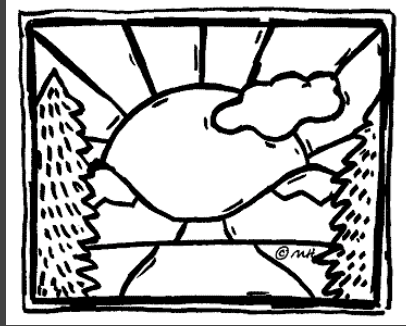


# First Words

## Summer 2008



### Youth Ministry Programs @ First Church in Glastonbury

#### CONNECTION WITH CREATION

*Open to all students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through graduated seniors.*

Let's get outside and experience God's Creation! Join us for these multi-age Summer programs!

For these events:

1. Pack a lunch (no glass containers).
2. Bring a filled water bottle.
3. Put that stuff in a backpack.
4. Leave electronics at home.
5. Wear sunscreen and bug stuff.
6. Hikes = closed-toed shoes.
7. Permission Slips found on First Church website under "Youth Fellowship" section.

#### **Rafting on the Housatonic + Dinner @ Silver Lake**

*Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> ✧ Leave First Church at 9am, Return 9:30pm*

*Cost: \$35 (checks made out to First Church, memo: Rafting)*

This day-long event will start with rafting a 10-mile stretch of the Housatonic River, followed by dinner at Silver Lake, where we'll stick around for the "Sing Praise" musical performance worship. Bring a change of clothes and a towel along with a light jacket or sweatshirt for the evening! RSVP to Chris by Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Ghost Town Hike @ Gay City State Park in Hebron**

*Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> ✧ Leave First Church at 11am, Return at 2pm. ✧ Cost: FREE*

We'll wander through the woods and check out this abandoned village and try to imagine long-gone times. Please RSVP to Chris by Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Great Hill Hike in Cobalt/East Hampton**

*Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> ✧ Leave First Church at 11am, Return at 2:30pm ✧ Cost: FREE*

This hike will take us up along a ridge with a view of the Great Hill Pond and the Connecticut River. We'll hike in further to have our lunch by a rushing waterfall and pause to give thanks for the beauty all around us! RSVP to Chris by Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Foodshare Mobile Food Pantry**

*Wednesdays 10:45-11:45 a.m. June 18; July 2, 16, 30; August 13*

Help distribute food to hungry folks in Glastonbury when the Foodshare Mobile Food Pantry comes to the First Church parking lot. A little bit of your time will go a long way to help out! To sign up to volunteer, contact Sally Riddell: 657-8715. If you are in Junior High, please come with an adult. Thanks!

## First Church Korean Partnership CHOWEOL CHURCH YOUTH VISIT

Two youth from our Korean Partner Church, Choweol Presbyterian Church, will arrive in Connecticut on July 24<sup>th</sup> and return to Kwangju, KyunggiDo, Republic of South Korea on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Youngmin Bae, a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student, and Cheolhyung Bae, an 11<sup>th</sup> grade student, will attend the Sacred Journey youth exchange program at Silver Lake from July 27<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The remainder of their stay is coordinated with the CT Conference Korean Partnership Committee and the First Church Korean Partnership Committee. Our relationship with Choweol Church began in 2004 with the visit of Pastor Bae, Senior Pastor of Choweol Church. Youngmin is the son of Pastor Bae.

Hospitality experienced by American visitors in Korea has been that the guest is provided with overnight accommodations, meals and entertainment. Exchanges of mementos are a traditional custom as well. The following are some of the ways members of First Church can help to reciprocate this generous hospitality during the visit of our guests:

- Host a home stay July 24 – 27 or August 2 – 7.
- Work with the Partnership Committee on activities on Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Host a fun day to Six Flags, Boston, New York City, the movies, dinner or shopping on July 25<sup>th</sup>, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Provide transportation to Silver Lake July 24<sup>th</sup>, the return drive on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, or to Bradley Airport on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

In 2006 three youth from First Church attended the Sacred Journey to South Korea and were awed by the experience. We hope to bring a similar experience to these young men that will meet their expectations and give them many happy memories to take home with them. Please call Irene Choi at 228-3508 experience.

**Counselors Needed!** Silver Lake always needs volunteer counselors for these weeklong conferences - do you think you're up to the challenge? This is a perfect opportunity to learn leadership skills and spend some time in the great outdoors. Anyone over the age of 16 can volunteer. For more information, contact Chris Mereschuk at the church or call Silver Lake directly at (860) 364-5526.

## Congratulations Seniors!

If you have not had the chance to complete the Senior Questionnaire, please take a moment to pick one up at the church or grab one off the website. Let us know where you're headed this fall and be sure to join the First Church Fellowship ALUMNI group on Facebook to help keep updated with alumni events. Check out UCC.org to find a church near your school!  
*Best of Luck and Many Blessings!*

## Save the Date! Rally Day

Everything goes back into full swing on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> with our Homecoming Celebration in the morning followed by the Junior High Fellowship Rally Day event from 12 noon to 2pm. The Senior High Fellowship Rally Day kick-off will follow from 4-6:30pm.

Look for more info as the date gets closer.  
Be there!

## SHF Mission Trip to New Orleans!


*February 15-21, 2009*

Mark your calendars and get ready! We'll travel to New Orleans to help with the continuing hurricane recovery. Participants are expected to take part in Sunday Fellowship, fundraising events, and pre-trip meetings.

Look for more info at Rally Day.

## CHECK US OUT ONLINE!

[www.glastonburyfirst.org/YouthMinistry.htm](http://www.glastonburyfirst.org/YouthMinistry.htm)

Calendars & Updates  Retreat & Activity Forms

Pictures & Links

Get Involved!

Explore Your Church!

Rev. Chris Mereschuk, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries • [chrismereschuk@glastonburyfirst.org](mailto:chrismereschuk@glastonburyfirst.org)  
First Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC • 2183 Main Street • Glastonbury, CT • 06033  
(860) 633-4641 phone • (860) 633-5826 fax • Check us out on the web! [www.glastonburyfirst.org](http://www.glastonburyfirst.org)