

In God's presence there is fullness of



The REMINDER

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, Connecticut

Member of United Church of Christ

October 2011

12 September 2011

The Day After Homecoming Sunday

Dear Friends,

The sights and sounds of a joy-filled, but also poignant, Homecoming and Rally Sunday are still very much in our hearts and minds. For the over 400 people in attendance, we enjoyed the “**faith, fun and fellowship**” of this beloved and cherished family of faith.

Another exciting “church year” has begun, and together as people of God we are on a joyful journey with one another, and with God, to serve God in this community and beyond.

In this letter, I would like to “bullet” some of the many, many activities, events, and new initiatives that are underway here at First Church – and encourage you to have your ears and eyes open for more information – beginning notices inside this **Reminder**. As the seasons begin to change and the leaves begin to fall, please...



- Respond with an enthusiastic “**Yes!**” when invited to a small gathering to meet new people, share the joy you find in First Church, and receive your personalized pledge card to take home and to prayerfully consider your 2012 gift to the ministry of this congregation. We will bring our pledge cards to church for our one, **10 a.m. worship service of celebration and dedication on October 30th**.
- Look for updates from your “**Strategic Planning Committee**” – which has begun work to help this congregation embark upon new ministries, new programs, and faithfully plan for the future so that we can remain strong, vibrant, and growing.
- Be prepared to join in a month-long endeavor in November, called **Mission I**, whereby we hope to make a difference to help people who are hungry and facing food-related injustice.



- Support your senior high youth’s mission trip to San Antonio in February by participating in the **SCRIP** gift card program. It is so easy, even **I** have been able to figure out how to do it online, or visit their table during Common Fellowship!
- During the month of October, we will encourage you to fill out a **Time and Talent** form, so we might more faithfully utilize your gifts, skills and interests to further God’s work in the world.
- Save the new date of **Sunday, November 13** for our annual and festive **Harvest Supper**.

What else is on the horizon!?!?! Take a look inside this newsletter... **youth programs, adult education and fellowship opportunities, rotation model church school, Music in the Meetinghouse, confirmation, opportunities for mission and service to members of this community and the wider world... and so much, much more!!!**

It is my privilege to be on this joy-filled path of life with you all!!

Faithfully, *David*

First Church of Christ, Congregational

United Church of Christ
2183 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

The Rev. Dr. Carl F. Schultz, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship Services at 9:00 10:30 a.m.

Church School: 9:15 a.m.

Child Care is provided at both services.

Phone Number: 860-633-4641

Fax Number: 860-633-5826

Faith Line: 860-633-4116

Email: firstchurch@glastonburyfirst.org

Web site: www.glastonburyfirst.org

Staff

- The Rev. David Taylor, *Senior Pastor*
davidtaylor@glastonburyfirst.org
- The Rev. Kate VanDerzee-Glidden, *Associate Pastor*, katev@glastonburyfirst.org
- Angela Salcedo, *Director of Music Ministries*
angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org
- The Rev. Gordon Bates, *Minister of Visitation*
- Karin Carlino, *Church School Administrator*
ceadmin@glastonburyfirst.org
- Kathy Ciolkosz, *Administrative Assistant*
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- Valerie Escalera, *Program Administrator*
programadmin@glastonburyfirst.org
- Sue Falotico, *Director of Adult Bell Choir and Accompanist*
- Rebecca Fleahman, *Office Manager*
rebeccafleahman@glastonburyfirst.org
- Cheryl Foley, *Child Care Provider*
- Jennifer Giguere, *Publications Specialist*
publications@glastonburyfirst.org
- Peggy Hartman, *Director of Cherub Choir, Mallets and Accompanist*
- Andy Wicks, *Dir. of Christian Education and Asst. Dir. of Youth Ministries*, andyw@glastonburyfirst.org
- Roger Yost, *Facilities Manager*
facilities@glastonburyfirst.org

THE REMINDER submission deadline:
Monday, October 10: November 2011 issue
Thursday, November 10: December 2011 issue

Dear Friends,

Over the last year and a half, some of you may have heard me talk about going to my "Pastoral Excellence clergy group." The purpose of the Pastoral Excellence Program (PEP) is to develop, promote and sustain excellent pastoral leadership for our UCC churches. Christian and pastoral excellence is a way of life marked by character, competence and constancy and is practiced in community. To that end, groups of clergy have been created for every season of ministry, offering opportunities for collegial support and ongoing development in the practices of pastoral ministry.

This initiative started in the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ. In their grant request to Lilly Endowment, Inc., the MA Conference asked Lilly Endowment to invest in the notion that excellent, well supported pastors create thriving churches. Since receiving that initial major grant in 2002, Lilly has renewed funding for this project. Several years ago, this special program came to the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Right after I was ordained in January 2009, I was asked to participate in a PEP new clergy group. New Clergy Groups are for UCC ministers in their first three years of ministry. We meet monthly in small groups of three to five and are assisted by a more experienced pastor who is trained to serve as facilitator and mentor. As Massachusetts UCC Conference Minister and President Jim Antal said the Pastoral Excellence Program has proven that excellent pastors are indispensable for creating excellent churches. "By sharing their wisdom, experience, struggles and plans, they form a circle of accountability that enhances their effectiveness and deepens their faithfulness," he said. "The benefits of these discussions are then lived out in hundreds of our congregations."

My group meets monthly in Suffield, CT, and my group facilitator is Bridget Fidler who is the pastor at First Church in Suffield. We have five new pastors, including myself, in the group. Our time together provides me with insight, support, guidance and a place to share my challenges and successes in ministry in a confidential setting with individuals who understand the joys and trials of being a ministry in a local church. I give thanks for the opportunity to gather, learn, grow and build a community with my colleagues.

Blessings,

Kate

Prayer Corner

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Chris Hernandez	Blanche Marlow
Audrey Hernandez	Janet Shelmerdine
Martha Leland	John Heacock
Mildred Dainty	



Prayers of sympathy to the family and friends of:

Lynn Baronas on the death of her father, Fred Glover, on August 14;

Marney Tackett on the death of her father, Paul E. Roberts, on September 6;

Ann Brown and family on the death of her husband, Nelson Brown, who died on September 8. Nelson had been a member of First Church since 1960 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for many years.



Adult Opportunities



Prayer and Share

All are welcome to the Prayer and Share group that meets on Thursdays from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Come join us for a time of spoken and silent prayer, sharing and friendship.

This fall we will continue to use Joyce Rupp's book entitled "The Cup of Our Life." Joyce will help us "explore how a cup is a rich symbol of life, with its emptiness and fullness, its brokenness and flaws and all of its blessings."

If you would like further information or wish to order a copy of the book, please call Nancy Higgins at 860-633-6604 or Dianne Schwegler at 860-633-6326.

Being part of a small group at First Church affords a wonderful opportunity to get to know people better as well as to offer support and spiritual growth for ourselves. Consider joining us-even if you aren't able to attend every Thursday. We'd love to see you there.

Save the Date!

Save the date for a possible autumn adult excursion on Wednesday, October 19. Be on the lookout for more details!

The Spirituality Prayer Circle

The Spirituality Prayer Circle meets on Saturday mornings from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. for a time of prayer, music, meditation, and fellowship. Anyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to add names to our prayer list, please call the church office. For more information, please contact Nancy Higgins at 860-633-6604.

Sermon and Scripture Discussion

10:30 a.m. on Sundays

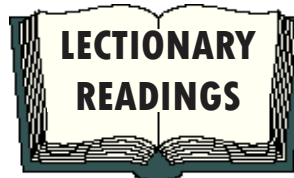
A group that has been meeting over the past two years has returned to its discussions of the sermon and scripture readings from Sunday mornings. These discussions take place on Sundays when there are two services of worship. The group meets in room 202. Coffee and blueberry loaf are served. We have found these discussions meaningful, and our conversations have enhanced our experience of worship. All who are interested are invited to attend. Should you have questions or would like to be included on the mailing list for the group, please email Earl Thompson at ethompson19@comcast.net.

Come to Our Monthly Women's

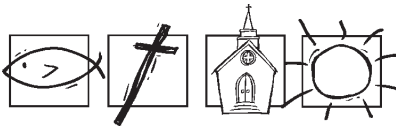
Theological Reflection Group Meetings!

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, finding quiet time, the Bible, 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 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in the Lehman Library. Please contact Kate VanDerzee-Glidden at 860-633-4641 or katev@glastonburyfirst.org, or Lynn Baronas at 860-543-3301 or lbaronas@daypitney.com with questions.



- October 2, 2011 - Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19 or Psalm 80:7-15;
Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 22:1-14
- October 9, 2011 - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**
Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6 19-23 or Isaiah 25:1-9;
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14
- October 16, 2011 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99 or Isaiah 45:1-7;
Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13); 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10;
Matthew 22:15-22
- October 23, 2011 - Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 or
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8;
Matthew 22:34-46
- October 30, 2011 - Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**
Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 or Micah 3:5-12;
Psalm 43; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12



Adult Opportunities



Play It Again, Sam!

Short Stories - Faith, Fun and Fellowship!!

Last year's Thursday Morning Study Group had a great deal of "faith, fun and fellowship" reading some wonderful short stories and discussing what insights about God the fictional characters had to offer. So much fun, that they have decided to offer a "sequel" – and they would love for you to join them!!

This four week series (September 29, October 6, 13, 20) will be led by the participants, and facilitated by David Taylor. This fun-loving study group (there is as much fellowship as there is study!) meets in the library on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00 a.m., and newcomers are always encouraged to attend, and almost always welcomed with cheers of joy!!

Short stories may be short on words and pages, but they can be very deep in thought. And many of our most famous short story writers delve deeply into religious and spiritual thought.

The discussion of these very accessible short stories by some wonderful writers will focus on the spiritual questions raised by the authors, but also on the spiritual questions that are stirred within us. We will choose stories by some of these writers – John Updike, John Cheever, Allegra Goodman, Wendell Berry, Mary Gordon and Robert Olen Butler.

Biography Book Group

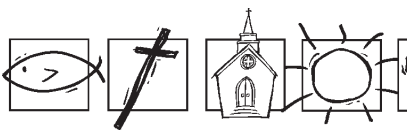
If you are a biography buff and enjoy discussing life stories in an informal setting with fellow biography fans, this is



the group for you! We meet every other month to review a book and enjoy fellowship. There is no study or preparation required other than to read the book and to share your opinion with others in the group. We invite you to join us whether it is for just one selection or for every book.

The group will meet on **Tuesday, November 8** at 4 p.m. to discuss the book The Woman Behind the New Deal: the Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins by Kirstin Downey. Despite her many accomplishments and the groundbreaking role she played in FDR's administration, few know her name today. This is the biography of Frances Perkins, who was the first female secretary of labor under Franklin Roosevelt. She was instrumental in shaping and implementing the New Deal programs of unemployment insurance, the 40-hour workweek and Social Security, among other things. With a decade of exhaustive research, author Kirsten Downey gives us a fresh and compelling portrait of this singular woman.

We hope you will join us in the Lehman Library. Call Valerie Escalera at 860-633-4452 with any questions.



Children's Ministries

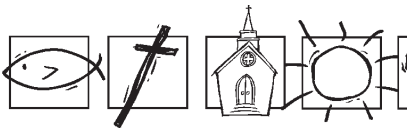


Big Thank You!

Thank You Summer Church School Volunteers!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who made our Summer Church School program such a great success. Dozen of volunteers helped to Lead Stations and Shepherd from June to September. In between camps, vacations and summer fun, our children got the chance to keep right on learning about the Fruits of the Spirit on Sunday mornings. A special THANK YOU goes out to Jessica Ripper, Kate McDonald, Jen Kernisan, Keri Kernisan, Greg Kernisan, Lois Harwick, Susan Bonitsky, Shannon Jeroszko, Amy Thompson, Katie Baronas, Mary Baronas, Katie Philbrook, Julie Krause, Sonmi Manto,

Carol Kimmel, Carol Guerra, Karen Simmons, Patti Renaud, Annie Renaud, Abbey Renaud, Joan Cubberly, Keri Myers, Katie Sevigny, Amy Thompson Jones, Anna Jones, Karin Carlino, Rosemary Richter, Heather Aselton, Leslie Donovan, Gail Gagnon and the unmentioned hands that helped bring it all together.



Children's Ministries



Unit 2: "Out of Egypt"

Bible Story Reference: Exodus 5:1

Bible Verse: "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness.'"

Main Idea: God worked through Moses to free the people of Israel from slavery. God works through ordinary people to do God's work in the world today.



Objectives:

- identify the Exodus as the defining event in the lives of the Hebrew people;
- discover that God wants all people to be free, to be treated with respect, justice, and kindness;
- recognize that, like persons of Bible times, they are called by God and can respond to God's call in many different ways;
- be assured that they can trust God's guidance and God's care and know that God is always with them;
- be shown how God can work through people to accomplish God's work on earth;
- discuss how God is present with people in the world today, even where there is suffering and trouble;
- be reminded that they can turn to God when they are troubled or afraid, and know that God hears and cares.

		Sunday 10/23	Sunday 10/30	Sunday 11/6	Sunday 11/13	Sunday 11/20
	<u>Kindergarten & 1st grade</u> <i>pink</i>	Art Room 103 Kathleen Swahn	Cooking Room 205 Susan Bonitsky	Movie Room 204 Rosemary Richter	Games Room 110 Victor Grin	Storytelling Room 111 Christine Priest & Kim Eagen
	<u>2nd grade</u> <i>yellow</i>	Storytelling Room 111 Christine Priest & Kim Eagen	Art Room 103 Kathleen Swahn	Cooking Room 205 Susan Bonitsky	Movie Room 204 Rosemary Richter	Games Room 110 Victor Grin
	<u>3rd grade</u> <i>purple</i>	Games Room 110 Victor Grin	Storytelling Room 111 Christine Priest & Kim Eagen	Art Room 103 Kathleen Swahn	Cooking Room 205 Susan Bonitsky	Movie Room 204 Rosemary Richter
	<u>4th grade</u> <i>red</i>	Movie Room 204 Rosemary Richter	Games Room 110 Victor Grin	Storytelling Room 111 Christine Priest & Kim Eagen	Art Room 103 Kathleen Swahn	Cooking Room 205 Susan Bonitsky
	<u>5th grade + up (non Puppets)</u> <i>green</i>	Cooking Room 205 Susan Bonitsky	Movie Room 204 Rosemary Richter	Games Room 110 Victor Grin	Storytelling Room 111 Christine Priest & Kim Eagen	Art Room 103 Kathleen Swahn

Please also note: The Preschool Room is located in Room 105.
The 7th Grade Puppet Room is located in Room 302.
The 6th and 8th Grade Puppet Room is located in Room 303.

Church School Dismissal: Church school runs until 10:10 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!



Children's Ministries



In God's presence there is fullness of



Church School Mission Project

Each year our Church school partners with a non-profit agency to help provide vital funding for programs serving the neediest among us. We are called as Christians to love one another and serve our brothers and sisters in Christ. This year we will be serving close to home, addressing the needs in our own community.

Our partner this year is Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation, a Christian charity which aims to address homelessness and related social issues in the Greater Hartford area. With a stated goal to "provide housing assistance and supportive services to persons

who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless," they operate multiple shelter and transitional housing locations. But housing only goes part of the way to addressing human needs. MHSC also helps to provide counseling, healthcare and food assistance, serving thousands of needy families. Last year MHSC served up a whopping 69,000 meals! At a time when household budgets are strained, and unemployment pervasive, people are cutting back, while need is increasing. **Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to help MHSC provide food, shelter and other services!**

It costs \$292.50 to make the 250 meals that MHSC serves EVERY DAY! Your contribution is so important. You can provide 10 meals for just \$11.70.

As in previous years, the money raised by the church school class sales, children's offering, and special gifts from congregation members will all go towards this special mission project.

We invite you to consider giving any amount of money to honor a loved one or the memory of a loved one. Giving a donation as a gift is a meaningful way to honor your friends and family. Post cards are available to provide to loved ones. If you would like to make a contribution to this special project, please make your check payable to "First Church of Christ," with *Mercy Housing* in the memo line.

Throughout the year, we will also be providing opportunities to serve as volunteers to help run the various programs the MHSC operates. Information on this will published as it becomes available.

Thank you for your willingness to share God's love with our brothers and sisters!

Children's Ministries Schedule

October 2

World Communion Sunday – Communion will be at the beginning of the service, and children will participate.

*On this Sunday, Christians around the world celebrate Communion and remember how connected we all are to one another. To honor this, we move Communion to the first part of the service so our children can participate in this meaningful sacrament. Find more information about World Communion Sunday on page 13 of this **Reminder**.*

October 29

Family Mission Immersion Day (Children and youth welcome!)

Arts at First Church!

We have a strong and thriving Christian Education program here at First Church, in part because we touch on all different aspects of living and expressing our faith. One area we strongly encourage is children and youth in the arts. Our Liturgical Dance program meets Sundays after the 9 a.m. service for an hour. There are two troupes, one for 8th and 9th grade girls and one for Kindergarten – 2nd grade girls. The dance troupes perform regularly throughout the year as a part of our worship services. If you are interested in the liturgical dance troupe program, please email Sharon LaFargue at Slafargue1@cox.com.

Also, look for updates on our drawing program and the development of a culinary program for children!!



Youth Ministry



Senior High Fellowship Schedule

Senior High Fellowship is open to any student in 9th – 12th grade. We meet Sunday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Youth Room. Our theme for this year is “On the path of life...” We asked some of the youth and advisors to finish the sentence, and based on their responses, we have our topics for the year. In September and October, we will be focusing on joy, disappointment and questions.

**Denotes special time*

Sunday, September 25: Regular Session

***Friday – Sunday, September 30 - October 2:** Silver Lake Retreat

Sunday, October 2: No SHF

Sunday, October 9: SHF Mission Focus, Mission trip deposit of \$100 due

***Saturday & Sunday, October 15 & 16:** Apple Fest!

***Sunday, October 16:** No SHF

Sunday, October 23: SHF

Sunday, October 30: SHF (Something Halloween-ish)

Junior High Fellowship Schedule

Junior High Fellowship is open to any young person in 6th – 8th grades. Regular fellowship sessions are 2nd and 4th Monday of each month during the school year from 6:30 – 8 p.m. in the Youth Room. Our theme for this year is “On the path of life...” We asked some of the youth and advisors to finish the sentence, and based on their responses, we have our topics for the year. In September and October, we will be focusing on joy, disappointment and questions.

Monday, September 26: JHF

Monday, October 10: JHF

Monday, October 24: JHF

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 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.

Our regular class sessions from September through December will be 4:30 -5:45 p.m. in the Youth Room.

**Denotes Special Time*

Sunday, September 25: Family Orientation (4:30-5:45 p.m.)

Sunday, October 16: Commissioning of Confirmation Class during 9 a.m. service

Sunday, October 16: Regular Class Session

***Sunday, October 23:** Crop Walk (1 p.m. at Glastonbury High School)

Sunday, October 30: Regular Class Session



The Apple Fest Potato Booth – We Need You!

Attention students and adults! We need your help at the Apple Fest Potato Booth on Saturday, October 15 and Sunday, October 16! This is an awesome fundraiser for our youth mission trip! Join us for a few hours at the Apple Fest on Saturday or Sunday, or help us out with prep on Friday. It's a great time for fall fellowship food fair fun!!!

Sign up during Senior High Fellowship, in Schultz Hall during Common Fellowship, or by contacting Susan Cunningham at sucunningham@brighthorizons.com or 860-659-8637.

Also, please donate 12+ packs of orange soda, Diet Coke, Sprite, Diet Sprite or water bottles to sell at our booth! Drop them off in the Youth Room by October 9th.

Thanks!

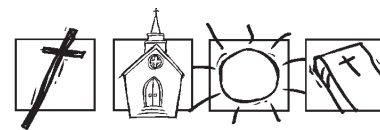
Hey Class of 2015!



Do you have a Facebook profile? Then you (and your parents) are invited to join the First Church Fellowship group on Facebook! Simply search for “First Church Fellowship” and request to join the group. This is the place for event invites, last-minute messages, and up-to-date communication about our youth group. *Check it out!*



Youth Ministry



SCRIP Makes BIG \$\$ for Our Youth

Here are two scenarios:

1. You go to the grocery store. You buy your groceries with Cash or a Credit Card. You go home.
2. You go to the grocery store. You buy your groceries with a Gift Card, that you picked up here at church. You go home. Our youth get money to go on the Mission Trip to San Antonio.



Help us out! By buying a Gift Card from the SCRIP program to shop at the places you shop already, we get money back to fund our youth mission trip. We appreciate it, and it makes a huge difference.

We take weekly orders – come to common fellowship or do them online by 8 p.m. each Sunday. If you have not yet signed up for an account, please visit the youth table and fill out an enrollment form during Common Fellowship. There are a couple of new ways to support this fundraiser.

“SCRIP Now!” is a new way to order printable gift certificates for a few of the retailers. Order online and pay with Presto Pay to print your Scrip at home right away! Some retailers also allow online card reloading using Presto Pay. It’s faster AND greener!

We have a small inventory of our best sellers so that you can “Cash (or check) and Carry” gift cards for your weekly shopping. The cards that we have available are Stop and Shop, Dunkin Donuts, Panera Bread, CVS, iTunes, Starbucks, Subway and Barnes and Noble.

Contact Kathleen Swahn, 860-633-2354 or Kathleen729@yahoo.com, with questions!

Youth Mission Trip Deposit Due



On Sunday, February 19, high school youth and adult advisors from First Church and St. James will be flying off to San Antonio, Texas to do urban mission work. While in San Antonio, we will with an organization called DOOR (Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection), which is a faith-based organization that provides opportunities for service, learning and leadership development within the urban context.

The trip costs \$650, and a **\$100 trip deposit is due on Sunday, October 9**. If anyone needs financial assistance, please feel free to contact David, Andy or Kate.

For more information, please look at the information flyer on our website: <http://www.glastonburyfirst.org/YouthMinistry.htm>.

We're looking forward to another meaningful trip!



Caring Ministries



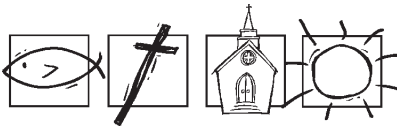
Do You Love to Sew?



The Prayer Shawl group has undertaken an additional project - small knitted bears. These knitted bears need to have their parts connected and a face given. We would welcome anyone who would like to become a part of our fellowship ministry.

Prayer Shawl Knitters ,Crocheters and Sewers of First Church will gather **Monday, October 17 at 7 p.m.** in the Lehman Library to knit and share fellowship. Yarn, needles, instruction and friendship are available to all who care to join.

A second opportunity to knit, crochet, sew and share fellowship will be **Wednesday evening, October 5 at 7 p.m.** in the Lehman Library. All are welcome to come and join us. Questions may be directed to Flo Fisher at 860-633-8005 or to Susan Morway at 860-633-2538, Co-Coordinators.



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.

October Activities

October 10 (Columbus Day) – Serving lunch at Center City Church through *Hands On Hartford*

We provide the food and servers for this lunch meal. Sign-ups will be in Schultz Hall on September 25, October 2 and October 9. We also serve meals on election day, Martin Luther King day and Good Friday. If you are interested in helping, contact Melissa Clair at gjclair@aol.com or Sharon LaFargue at 860-659-4951.

October 21 and 22 – Helping at the *Fall Rummage Sale*

Help is needed before, after and during the sale. We also need your donations! The money raised is distributed through the Board of Christian Service to chosen organizations. If you are interested in helping, contact Susan Carpenter at 860-633-9157.

October 23 – Walking in the *Crop Walk* at Glastonbury High School at 1 p.m.

During this event, neighbors walk together to take a stand against hunger in our world. Together we raise awareness and funds for international relief and development, as well as local hunger needs. Join First Church's confirmands, and walk with us! Sign-ups during common fellowship during the month of October. If you are interested in walking or donating money, please contact Amy Thompson Jones at thompsonjones@sbcglobal.net.



October 29 – Serving Together at *Family Mission Immersion Day*

Save the date for another day of fun and fellowship! We are looking for individuals and families (children are welcome) to volunteer at the Shepherd Home, Manchester Area Conference of Churches, Saint Vincent DePaul and other organizations that serve families in need throughout the Greater Hartford area. Sign up during common fellowship, or contact Jessica Ripper at jessicaripper@yahoo.com or 202-425-4510 for additional information.

Covenant to Care - Opportunity for Service

Covenant to Care is a unique network that partners area social workers with local churches and organizations to provide support to families and individuals who are experiencing difficult situations and/or urgent needs. We are looking for a "few good people" with strong backs, big trucks, or just big hearts to join our delivery team! There is no specific time or day commitment, and deliveries are local.

Covenant to Care has also received a request for the following items for a family in need: Dressers, kitchen table and chairs, toddler bed or bunk bed set, and bouncy seat for a baby.

Please contact Nancy Tandon at 860-430-5863 or nantanslp@yahoo.com if you are able to help in any way. **Thanks for caring!**

Tutor at Fred Wish Elementary School in Hartford

Beginning in October, mornings or afternoons, volunteers go into Fred Wish on a weekly basis to help students with their reading skills. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Sally Riddell at 860-657-8715.

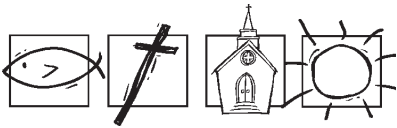
Horace Bushnell Food Pantry Collection

First Church has had a long tradition of collecting food items and bringing them to Horace Bushnell Children's Pantry in Hartford. There are two baskets at church (one in the back lobby and one in the narthex) where the food is collected. In October we're collecting canned fruits and veggies (low salt/sugar preferred). Please bring food that is not expired or open. Thanks for your help!

Volunteer for Mobile Foodshare Van

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 in our back parking lot. If you are interested in volunteering (adults, youth and children are welcome!), contact Sally Riddell at 860-657-8715.





Christian Service



RUMMAGE SALE!

The fall Rummage Sale will be held Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22 in Schultz Hall. Donations can be left at the church beginning Tuesday, October 11 in Room 203. The following items cannot be accepted for donation:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| food | mattresses or box springs | skis or ski boots |
| baby car seats, cribs or swings | portable toilets | lawn chemicals |
| computers | crutches | large exercise equipment |
| televisions | paints or other combustible items | |

We are looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of the sale. A sign up sheet will be left in the church office for those interested in volunteering. If you have any questions about donations or the sale, please contact Susan Carpenter at 860-633-9157.

This is Mission 1!

November 2011... ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for a **month** to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice. First Church of Christ, UCC, Glastonbury will join a UCC national campaign to fight hunger with the following initiatives.

- ✓ In one month, First Church will collect 1,111 food products and other household items for local food banks and outreach services. We're asking for donations of stuffing, cranberry sauce, oatmeal and whatever other items people are willing to donate. Please put the donations in the baskets in the narthex or back lobby. A tally will be kept so please be generous!
- ✓ In one month, First Church will make an extra-special push to gather contributions of more than \$11,111 for our Thanksgiving offering. The money collected will be distributed to organizations trying to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice.
- ✓ In one month, First Church will offer more than 111 LETTERS TO CONGRESS asking our government to reform U.S. foreign assistance in a way that more effectively benefits hungry and poor people worldwide, helping to provide a major final push to Bread for the World's 2011 "Offering of Letters" campaign. During the month of November, look for a table in fellowship hall with educational materials and mailing addresses.

Start planning now to learn about food-related issues, advocate and raise money on behalf of the hungry, and share bread -- and oatmeal, stuffing, tuna, peanut butter and vegetables -- with our neighbors in need at home and abroad. Together, we will more fully realize our UCC motto and Jesus' prayer, "That they may all be one."

The world needs the distinct values, vision and voice of the United Church of Christ - Continuing Testament. Extravagant Welcome. Changing Lives.

This is the United Church of Christ!

ucc.org/mission1



General Info Corner



World Communion Sunday

“The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’” -1 Corinthians 11:23-25



On October 2, Christians around the world celebrate Communion and remember how connected we all are to one another. To honor this, we move Communion to the first part of the service so our children can participate in this meaningful sacrament. In our service, there will be various languages spoken and breads shared.

Communion is a time of remembrance, praise and thanksgiving, confession, fellowship and commissioning. It allows us to recall and remember Jesus’ final meal and his invitation to follow. The bread and juice of Communion provide us with an opportunity to live anew into the Kingdom in fellowship with those in our immediate congregation as well as with Christians around the world who are sharing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The thanksgiving aspect of Communion acknowledges the gifts we have been given through Jesus Christ. Served at both services, our Communion is for everyone who loves Jesus and seeks to follow Him. During Communion, when we receive the elements, we eat the bread immediately symbolizing that we come before God as individuals. We wait to drink the juice together symbolizing that together we are one body of Christ.

In our denomination, children are welcome to eat the bread and drink the juice. Parents may decide whether or not their children participate.



Blessing of the Animals - *Sunday, October 30, 1 p.m.*

Bring Fido, Fifi, and your other furry friends to our third annual Blessing of the Animals! Join us for this brief service on the Hale House lawn as we welcome and bless companion animals that bring so much joy into our lives. For safety, please bring dogs on a leash, cats in a carrier or on a leash, and keep other animals appropriately within your control. Contact Kate VanDerzee-Glidden for more information.

DVD copies of our Sunday morning worship services are available!

There is a \$5 charge per DVD to help offset our production costs. Completed orders will be available for you to pick up in the church office. Please allow 1-2 weeks for delivery.

Media Ministries at First Church

Watch a First Church service on television ...

“Living the Word,” each Sunday at noon on Cox Cable, Channel 15. *Visit First Church on the Web*
www.glastonburyfirst.org

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FIRST CHURCH?

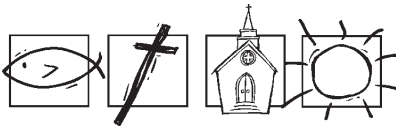
Are you thinking of joining our Church?

People join First Church from many different church backgrounds, but all find here a warm and caring, faith-filled church home. It’s a place where they can worship, learn, share, serve, and grow in faith.

There will be a prospective member gathering on October 23 at 7:00 p.m. for those who are interested in becoming members. Child care will be provided.

Come and learn ... Bring your questions and learn more about what it means to be a member of First Church. New members will join on November 13 at the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

Please let us know of your interest by making a note in the fellowship pew pad during any Sunday morning worship service or by calling the church office at 860-633-4641 and speaking with Kathy Ciolkosz (extension 110).



Music Ministry



Choir Camp 2011

On August 21-24, the members of the Cantate and Cantabile Choirs drove up to beautiful Plainfield, New Hampshire for our annual Summer Choir Camp! Nineteen choristers attended under the supervision of several dedicated chaperones: Jill Dickey, Peggy Hartman, Jared Solensten and Andy Wicks, and a special thank you to Sam Dowd, for being our camp lifeguard and assistant to the chaperones.

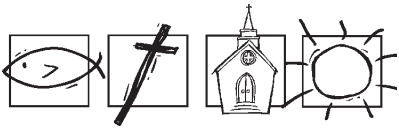


Choir Camp entailed three days of wonderful singing, ringing and great fellowship. Thank you to Peggy Hartman for directing the Handbell Choir sessions; Jill Dickey and Andy Wicks for their strong leadership roles with the various needs of the choristers and daily rehearsal schedules and the great camp fire!; Jared Solensten, for assisting with bell and choir rehearsals; Like last year, the choristers prayerfully made “no-sew blankets” – our annual outreach project for the children whose mothers are in the women’s prison in Niantic. Thank you to Charlene Dann, Courtney King and Linda Fraleigh for assisting in the preparation and planning of the choir trip. A special thanks to John Dugan, our First Church van driver, and all the parents who helped car-pool our children safely to New Hampshire and back.

Great Singing

Great Ringing





Music Ministry



Great Fun!



In closing, the goal of Choir Camp is to have our choristers singing in the summer, renewing their First Church friendships and preparing music for upcoming church year. God's gift of music is truly abundant in these talented choristers!

Great Outreach



Great Friendship



Music at the Meetinghouse Presents...

PAUL BISACCIA

The Great American Piano Re-Visited

Saturday, October 1, 2011
7:30 p.m.

A suggested donation of \$10 per person, children free.

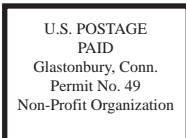
First Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC
2183 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 860-633-4641



We are pleased to welcome back Paul Bisaccia, pianist. He will perform for us "newly unpublished never heard before Gershwin treasures" along with audience's favorite Sousa marches. You are sure to be dazzled by Paul's musicianship and virtuosity!

This series is supported in part by the contributors to the United Arts Campaign and the United Way Community Campaign





Return Service Requested.



- October 2** Guest Preacher
World and Family Communion Sunday
16th Sunday After Pentecost
- October 9** David Taylor Preaching
17th Sunday After Pentecost
- October 16** David Taylor Preaching
Confirmation Class Dedication
18th Sunday After Pentecost
- October 23** Kate VanDerzee-Glidden Preaching
19th Sunday After Pentecost

October 30 **One Service at 10:00 a.m.** David Taylor Preaching
Stewardship Celebration Sunday
20th Sunday After Pentecost

Save the date!
***The Annual Family Harvest Supper will
be held on Sunday, November 13.***

