

Annual Cove Service September 3, 10:00 AM

At Cove Park next to the Wethersfield DMV on Hartford Avenue.

An opportunity to come together and share in community worship, celebration and communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ from Evangelical Free, New Life, Lifeway and Generation Church.

Bring lawn chairs and blankets, and share in this time as we seek to worship and give praise and glory to our God.

Rally Sunday September 10, 10:30 AM

Service in the Meetinghouse.

Weather permitting, enjoy a BBQ following the service on the Morgan House Lawn.

Bring lawn chairs and blankets and help us kick-off the new year!

Concert September 17, 4:00 PM

Our 2023-2024 *Meetinghouse Concert Series* begins with an exciting performance from one of New York's most sought-after concert violinists, Yuko Naito-Gotay, performing with FCC's Director of Music and Organist, Sean McCarthy.

The concert will feature music by Franck, Guilmant, Rheinberger, and Dubois, and conclude with Widor's magnificent *Toccata from Symphony No. 5*. The concert is free, with donations welcomed.

Mark your calendar!



Church Happenings

FINANCE MEETING

A congregational Finance Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2023, in the Meetinghouse following the 10 AM blended worship service. All members are urged to attend. New finance reports will be available on Sunday, Sept. 17.

NEW STUDY

The New City Catechism: 52 Questions and Answers for our Hearts and Minds.

Do you desire a better understanding of the core doctrines of the Christian Faith? Do you long to let the word of Christ "dwell richly within you" so that God's truth takes root to help you think and act biblically? Throughout the history of the church, Christians have used catechisms--collections of questions and answers--to teach central doctrines of the faith. The New City Catechism Devotional is a gospel-centered, modern-day resource that examines and summarizes important transformative Christian beliefs. Helga Phillips will lead this study on Wednesday evenings beginning September 20 at 7:00 PM, location to be determined. For further information or to register contact Helga at hephillips@comcast.net or call 860-525-1357 by September 10.

WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT

Save the date – Saturday, October 28. Join us for a one-day Women's Retreat here at First Church, featuring Priscilla Shirer via simulcast. Attendees will be taught straight from God's Word, and participate in worship and prayer, helping to inspire and challenge us. We know that when we seek him, we will find him. The day will include food, fellowship, large and small group times, prayer, and reflection. Registration and further details will be available on the FC website www.firstchurch.org in September.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

We are happy to report the Search Committee has received numerous applications, more than were anticipated. Each application is being diligently reviewed and researched. The review process includes gathering information about the applicant's church, listening to sermon submissions, and evaluating each resume. The interview process has begun with top tier applicants. As we move through the application process, updates will be given. Please keep the committee in prayer as we seek to discern God's provision in calling First Church's next senior pastor.

BOOK OF LIFE

ENTERED ETERNAL LIFE

William Morris, December 21, 2022
Sebastian Petruzzelli, February 17, 2023
John "Jay" Brown, February 28, 2023
Rhoda Schott Bitzer, March 20, 2023
Lucinda Secrest McDowell, March 25, 2023
Barbara Bukowski, March 31, 2023
Lynn Anne Keleher, March 31, 2023
John Edward Church, April 2, 2023
Jane Erickson, April 4, 2023
Cathy Potter, April 22, 2023
Marion R. Treggor, April 21, 2023
Anne Behrendt, April 2023
Carol Dowd, June 5, 2023
Owen Richard Setzer, July 2, 2023
Richard "Dick" Inman, July 6, 2023

Our Church unites in an expression of heartfelt sympathy to their families.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Caleb Nathan Scalise, born April 13, 2023
Son of Nathan and Zoe Scalise

Lucas Kyle Szeszakow, born June 12, 2023
Son of Kyle and Jules Szeszakow

DEDICATION OF CHILDREN

William and Lucas Szeszakow,
August 6, 2023

Sunday Worship Times

First Sunday of the month combined service
at 10:00 a.m. with communion
All other Sundays
Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Service: 10:30 a.m.
Both services are live on our YouTube channel at **First Church Wethersfield.**
[facebook.com/FirstChurchPage](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchPage)

FIRST NOW — If you would like to receive our weekly email First Church Now, email communications@firstchurch.org

GIVING — For info about **e-giving**—contributing via a monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account—call the Finance Office, 860.529.1575 x127. You can also **give online**, at firstchurch.org (the ONLINE GIVING tab).

STAFF LISTING

Josh Arcata Family Ministries
Marie Fabian Communications
Diana Ferraro Finance Manager
Diane Galloway Director of Caring Ministries

Sean McCarthy Director of Music
Wayne Luman Senior Pastor
Lisa Roncaioli Director of Preschool
Nathan Scalise Contemporary Worship Leader

First Church of Christ

IN HISTORIC WETHERSFIELD
CONGREGATIONAL

860.529.1575 | Fax: 860.721.7861
250 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109
firstchurch.org
Email: info@firstchurch.org
The Spire online: firstchurch.org/spire

First Church of Christ

IN HISTORIC WETHERSFIELD

250 Main Street, Wethersfield CT 06109

Upcoming Opportunities

UNDERSTANDING YOUR GRIEF

Are you grieving the death of a loved one, or do you know someone who is? Diane Galloway and Nancy Carroll will co-host *Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart*. This course is built on basic principles and actions to help engage one's grief and create momentum toward healing. **The class will begin on Monday, September 18, and will meet on the first and third Mondays of the month from 1:30-2:45 PM.** For more information or to register, call Caring Ministries at 860.529.1575 ext. 117.

A BOOK AND A MUG

"God wants you to flourish in Him. Every last thing he plants in your life is intended for that purpose." So writes Beth Moore in her book, *Chasing Vines Finding Your Way to an Immensely Fruitful Life*. Beth traces the images of vine, branch and fruit through scripture and shows that nothing in our lives is wasted. Come, enjoy a cup of coffee and connect "where relationships matter," **Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:45 AM beginning September 20 in the Church Parlor.** To register and reserve your book email: care@firstchurch.org.

FIRST WOMEN ON FIRST FRIDAYS

Ladies of all ages join us for a fun night of Line Dancing instructions, lively music and plenty of laughs orchestrated by Chris Hookie! **Mark your calendars for Oct. 6, 7:00 PM.**

MASTERING MOTHERHOOD

Mastering Motherhood will be returning **Thursday mornings, starting September 14, with weekly gatherings meeting from 9:15 – 11:30 AM.**

We are excited to see this amazing ministry begin it's 6th year at First Church. Mastering Motherhood offers a reprieve from the hectic and demanding world of motherhood through faith, food, fun and friendship. Childcare is provided, For more information and to register visit: www.masteringmotherhood.com.



Welcome

We are happy to introduce and welcome new members who recently joined First Church:

Laura Caron
Steven (Steve) and Patricia (Patty) Chaffee
Jose and Marie Fabian
Michael Godart
Janet Hanscom

Brian and Taylor Murray
Judith (Judy) Pitt
Nathan and Zoe Scalise
Linda and Tom Traue