



GAME NIGHT

ALL-CHURCH GAME NIGHT
Saturday, November 18
5:00pm-7:30pm
@ the Church House!



THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
November 19

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY is NOVEMBER 12



**"Journey to Generosity:
 The Way of Jesus"**

*"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."
 ~ Matthew 9:35-10:23*

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR 2017-18
 MUSIC SERIES WITH A
 CONTRIBUTION!**

The 2017-18 season of Music and the Arts at Center Church is made possible through monies received as admission for each event (ticket sales, suggested donations, free-will offerings) and by the generosity of our donors. As in the past, we are looking for church members and friends to partner with us as we present these important outreach opportunities. Please make your checks payable to *Center Church* and put "Music and Arts Series" in the memo section. All contributors will be listed in all programs. Contributors can also make contributions in memory of or in honor of family, friends, or loved ones. Our levels of support are as follows: Motivator (\$250 and above), Encourager (\$175-249), Supporter (\$100-174), and Sustainer (up to \$99.)

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION CLASS
8:45 a.m. in the Church House Parlor
October 31, 1517: 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

The Reformation was a powerful movement of church reform and renewal -- and a whole lot more. It was both cause and effect of sweeping changes in European culture and society. These changes shaped modern Europe and America and influenced the entire world. . . .

This study is made up of short reflections that introduce one of the important, and at their time radical, Reformation themes. These are the ideas and convictions that rocked the European world of the 16th century. . . .

Such a study and the conversations we hope it spawns among us also remind us of the very rich theological tradition of which we are part in the United Church of Christ. And it cautions us, as the study of history also always does, to avoid some of the mistakes of our forebears. As we introduce Reformation themes and insights, we will ask about their continuing relevance -- or irrelevance -- for the church today.

~ from the "Introduction" to our study guide

*For more information or questions, please contact Joe Bradley,
 Alvin Thompson or Bill Warner-Prouty.*



“Why are they always talking about money at church???”
 Actually, we don’t talk about it very much; in fact, not nearly as much as Jesus did. He talked about money/wealth/possessions more than any other single subject!

But while we’re at it, this is a time for us to talk a bit about money. Two issues around money are prominent at Center Church right now: our annual Pledge Campaign and our ongoing Capital Campaign to help pay for the steeple repairs.

You will receive a letter from the church soon to ask that you make a pledge to support Center Church’s general operating expenses for 2018. Please read it, especially if you have never made a pledge. We ask you to do this so we can make a valid budget for 2018, with a general sense of our various income streams. Yes, we have an endowment, but the funds we can take from that endowment are limited, and if we don’t have giving from the congregation, we need to cut back on our expenses (staff, building maintenance, programs, mission). When you make a pledge it also helps you think about how important this church is to your life, and then take one act to declare that importance. The number you give is never made public; only a very few people see it. Please consider a pledge this year.

Secondly, we are re-invigorating our Capital Campaign. We have received enough pledges to qualify for half of our grant from Partners for Sacred Places (total matching grant \$250,000). We are about \$180,000 short of qualifying for the rest. The total cost of the project will be about \$1.8 million. While we may not raise all of that, we hope to take a big chunk out of it. To do that, we need to approach foundations and corporations who give charitable gifts. To do *that*, we need to demonstrate that nearly 100% of our congregation has already given to the project. If you give \$50 we can count you. If you give \$100, or \$1000, or \$10,000 we count you. Your pledge to this campaign can be paid all at once or over 3 years.

If you need a pledge form, contact the church office. Again, your pledge is confidential.

I have made a pledge to the Capital Campaign and I will be making an Annual Pledge. Won’t you join me? ~ Shelly

**GOLDEN JUBILEE LUNCHEON
 CELEBRATING OUR
 50+ YEAR MEMBERS!**

This year’s Golden Jubilee Luncheon takes place after Worship on Sunday, November 12! Our Hospitality Committee will provide a delicious ham dinner. The whole congregation is invited! RSVP by calling the Church Office by Monday, November 6. Let us know if you need transportation.

COOKIES for COMMUNITY MEALS



Thanks to our Faith Formation friends for a colorful Halloween dessert!

**THANKSGIVING DINNER AT
 COMMUNITY MEALS (WROCC)**

Wednesday, November 22
 Doors open from 3:00pm-5:00pm
 (Thanks to our partners and friends at Night Angels for their dedication!)

**GREATER HARTFORD MULTI-FAITH
 PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Thursday, November 9
 Breakfast starts at 7:00am ~ Program begins at 7:25am
 @ The Artists’ Collective
 1200 Albany Avenue, Hartford (corner of Woodland)
 Main Speaker: Archbishop LeRoy Bailey, Jr.,
“Love Thy Neighbor Across the Street”
 Register at <https://ghpb.weebly.com/>

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Baptisms, Births, Weddings, Joined,
Transfers, Confirmations:
 None
Deaths:
 Peter W. Fairbairn (9-24-17)

MUSIC & THE ARTS UPCOMING EVENTS

The Yale Whiffenpoofs

Sunday, November 5, 4:00pm

@ the Meeting House

The Yale Whiffenpoofs are a world-renowned collegiate a cappella singing group who have toured the globe and performed at the White House. Tickets available at the door; reception to follow.

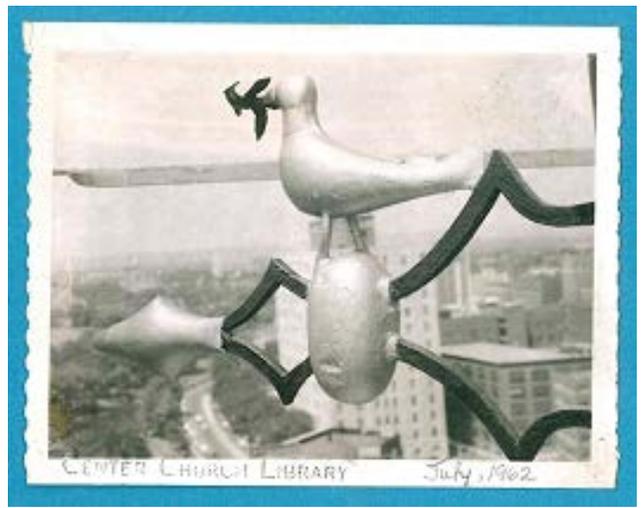
The 12th Annual Greater Hartford Handel's Messiah Community Sing (Christmas portion & Halleluia Chorus)

Sunday, January 7, 4:00pm

@ the Meeting House

Singers from the Greater Hartford Area join forces with the Center Church Choir to present this Timeless Masterpiece; reception to follow.

Free, well-lighted parking is available at the Travelers Plaza Garage on Prospect Street next to The Hartford Club, just one block east of the Meeting House. Just tell the attendant you are a Center Church guest upon entry.



CHURCH STEEPLE RESTORATION

The unearthed treasures in our Church Library continue! Here is a photo of the Meeting House weathervane circa July, 1962. If this bird could talk, what a story she would tell after observing the City of Hartford during these last 55 years!

*“Not what we say about our blessings,
but how we use them,
is the true measure of our thanksgiving.”
~ W.T. Purkiser (1910-1992)*



WEEKLY ASSISTANCE COLLECTION

Each week, we collect food for Hands on Hartford's food pantry. Why not pick up an extra item when you do your regular shopping? Most needed are jars of spaghetti sauce, toiletries, canned fruit, canned meat, low salt soups and meals, cereals/oatmeal.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/3 Harold Buckingham
- 11/3 James Macomber
- 11/5 James Lombardi
- 11/9 Van Parker
- 11/9 Anthony Morales
- 11/10 Karen Sanders
- 11/13 Jesse Sipes
- 11/14 Jaylin Rios
- 11/16 Gretchen Skelley
- 11/18 Amanda Nieves
- 11/19 Janice Baker
- 11/20 Mary Mattke-Jones
- 11/21 Kathleen Gourlie
- 11/23 Nilsa Cierpikowski
- 11/23 Aleia Parkes
- 11/24 Barbara Sanders



- 11/1 Sonal & Monika Agwani
- 11/2 Gregory & Susan Norsigian
- 11/11 Terrence & Priscilla French
- 11/22 Led & Nancy Baxter



CENTER CHURCH ADULT CHOIR

The Center Church (Adult) Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the Church House and we would LOVE to have you join us! Please call Director of Music, Bob Gilbert, at (860) 966-3920, or email him at rgilbert@cchartford.org to let him know of your interest or if you have questions. We hope to see YOU!

CENTER CHURCH CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Our Children's Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings from 12pm-12:20pm. All children are welcome to be part of this exciting music ministry. Church school children will be escorted from their Sunday School classes to the 2nd-floor choir room each Sunday at Noon to rehearse with Music Director, Bob Gilbert. Parents should arrive no later than 12:20pm to pick up their children. If you have questions, please contact Bob (see above.)

November at Center Church

2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday; turn clocks back 1 hr.
5 ALL SAINTS & COMMUNION Worship, 10:30am; Yale Whiffenpoofs Concert, 4:00pm (reception to follow)	6	7 ELECTION DAY Staff Meeting, 11:00am	8 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm	9 Greater Hartford Multi-Faith Prayer Breakfast at The Artists' Collective, 7:00am-8:45am	10 VETERANS' DAY  Church Office closed	11
12 STEWARDSHIP & GOLDEN JUBILEE SUNDAY Worship, 10:30am; followed by Golden Jubilee Luncheon; Community Meals, 3:00pm (WROCC)	13	14 Staff Meeting, 11:00am; Boards Night – check with your board chair for start time	15 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm	16	17	18 All-Church Game Night, 5:00pm- 7:30pm (Church House)
19 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY Worship, 10:30am; Faith Formation Board Meeting, 12:30pm; Community Meals, 3:00pm (WROCC)	20	21 Staff Meeting, 11:00am	22 DECEMBER NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE NO Choir Rehearsal this evening	23	24 	
26 Worship, 10:30am; Community Meals, 3:00pm (WROCC)	27	28 Staff Meeting, 11:00am; Prudential Committee Meeting, 7:15pm	29 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm	30	Children's Choir Rehearsal ~ Most Sundays at Noon	
					Adult Education Classes most Sundays, 8:45am	Sunday Church School begins at 10:30am.
					Deacon of the Month: Andre Keitt	Refreshments served after Sunday Worship



THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HARTFORD

A member of the United Church of Christ (UCC)

CENTER CHURCH, 60 Gold Street, Hartford, CT 06103

Church Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8:30am to 4:00pm

Summer Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 9:00am to 3:00pm

Library Hours: Wednesdays, 9:30am to 11:30am, Sunday

9:45am to 10:45am, or by appointment.

P 860.249.5631 ★ F 860.246.3915

www.centerchurchhartford.org

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Wednesday, November 22

←*Our Steeple Restoration Work continues!*
(photo: Shelly Stackhouse)