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Choosing this Community, Walking in Love
& Acting like Jesus Christ

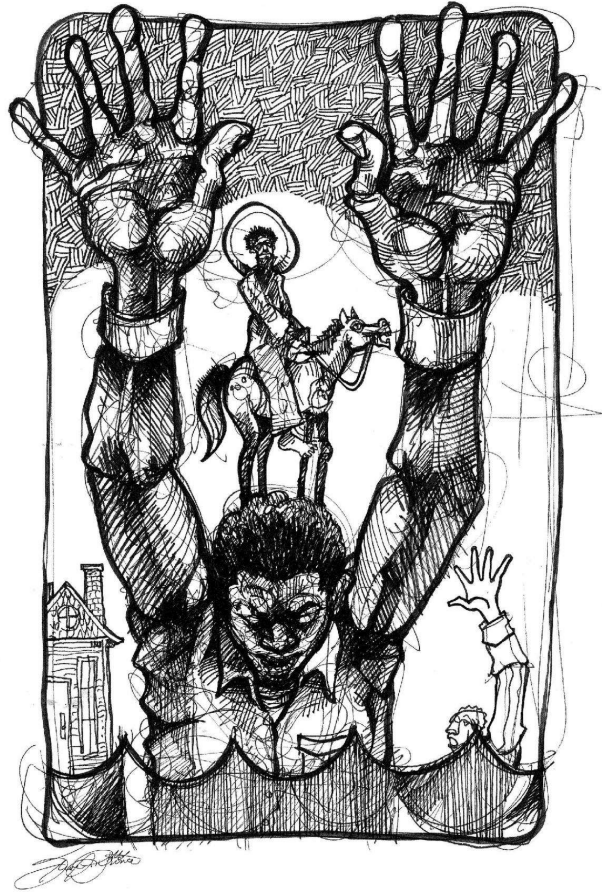


E-NEWS

April 11, 2025

We are the
Body of Christ
Together!
In Person & Online!

This Week in Worship ~ April 6, 2025
Palm Sunday - Passion Sunday



"I Believe," by Steve Prince

**Worship with us in person or online
this Sunday, April 13, at 10:30 AM - In the Meetinghouse
Worship with us in person or online!**

This week is Palm Sunday...Hosanna! Hosanna!

Dr. Mindy McGarrah Sharp reflects on what happens when we bear witness to injustice. "Bearing witness," she writes, "complicates things" and blurs the lines between "us" and "them." Bearing witness brings us closer to one another and God. As Jesus rode a borrowed donkey into Jerusalem after a ministry in which he spoke truth to power, the Pharisees wanted the crowd silenced.

We will not be silenced, however.

Because we confess our faith in Jesus Christ, we know that death is not the end. We will walk with Jesus toward the cross this week. But, at the end, we know that a better way exists. A better world will come.

Join us for worship this week, where we will welcome Jesus with shouts of loud Hosannas, timpani, soloists and choir, and a festive palm parade. Be sure to see the full schedule of Holy Week events

at Center Church, below.

The same crowd that shouts "Hosanna!" in praise will call for crucifixion and death. The same crowd that calls for death will be given life everlasting. Beloved, we are that crowd. Beloved, that is the Good News. Amen.

Join us on Sunday morning, starting at 10:30 AM. We will stream the service on Facebook for those who cannot join in person.

We hope to see you all there!

Blessings, and Peace,

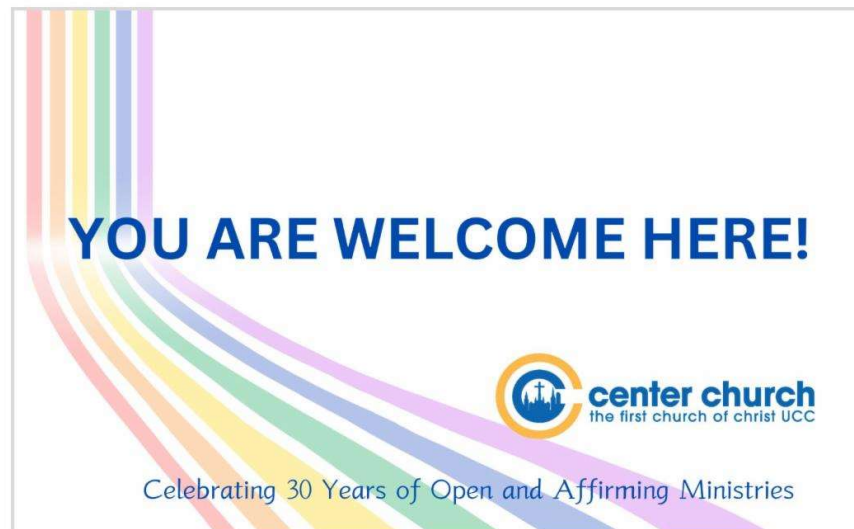
~The Worship Team

The Church At Prayer

We are keeping the following members, friends and their families in our prayers this week. If you have prayer concerns to share, please email Pastor Liza, pastor@cchartford.org, or the Care Team, careteam@cchartford.org.

Denise Wards & her husband; Tina Bobbitt; Lita Rathnam; Frances Burton; Cyndi Taplin and family; the Macomber family, Dimekwan French and the French family; Diane Dwelley, ...

Are You Feeling the New Nametag FOMO?



*Well, that's because
you haven't filled out
the form yet for your
new nametag!*

*So, don't delay, do it
today!*

Fill out THIS FORM
for your new nametag
& look for it on Sunday in worship!

Do it for (Social) Science!



Center Church members and attendees have been asked to participate in a research project for a Trinity College Senior. The student has already interviewed Pastor Liza and hopes to obtain a robust population of congregational participants. Thank you for your participation!



JOIN THE CENTER CHURCH GARDENERS & OUR
NEIGHBORS FROM BUSHNELL TOWERS FOR OUR

SPRING CLEAN UP!

LET'S CLEAN UP OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD
& SPRUCE UP THE MEMORIAL
GARDEN

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
APRIL 11-12, 2025
9 AM - 12 PM

BRING YOUR GLOVES & YOUR RAKES,
GARBAGE BAGS AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE
PROVIDED

Attention Center Church Gardeners!

*We will do a Memorial Garden spring clean-up on **Friday, April 11; 9AM-12PM, and Saturday, April 12th; 9AM-12PM (if needed)**. We will plant some perennials (bring some if you have spares!) and mulch the flower beds. If you are interested in helping, come along! Bring your gloves, a rake if you like, and whatever else you like to have for gardening. [Email Steven](#) to let him know if you're coming (we'll reward you with food!)*

And for those of you who aren't gardening inclined, we'll also be doing a neighborhood clean-up with our friends from Bushnell Towers – the Stone Sculpture, the ABG, and the walkway between 60 Gold and 675 Main.

Bring gloves and comfortable clothes, and be ready for whatever weather we get!

*We will go forward, (Light) Rain or Shine! If it's a downpour, we'll reconsider... *pray for sun**

Blessings,
~ The Center Church
Garden Club

*We are now taking dedications
for Easter Flowers!*

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

To dedicate a plant in memory of or
in honor of a loved one,
please fill out the form online.

The suggested donation is \$20 per plant;
donations can be sent to the Church Office.

The deadline for
dedications is
Sunday, April 13th.

Scan me



[If QR codes aren't your thing, you can fill out
the flower order form here.](#)

Holy Week at Center Church

PALM SUNDAY April 13



Festive worship 10:30 AM
Historic Meetinghouse

April 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY

Simple Meal



& Tenebrae Service 6:30 PM

Center Church House - 60 Gold St

GOOD FRIDAY April 18



Ecumenical Procession

Starting at 12 PM - Christ Church Cathedral,
at Church St. & Main St., Hartford

April 20 EASTER SUNDAY

Festive worship 10:30 AM

Historic Meetinghouse

Egg Hunt After worship



The Tradition Continues...

**Join us as we tell the story,
share in fellowship and celebrate
the last supper of the Lord.**

Maundy Thursday

April 17th, 2025 - 6:30 PM

**Holy Communion &
Tenebrae Service**



**Service Begins
after a Simple Meal
of Soup and Bread**

60 Gold Street - 2nd Floor

Please note this service will not be live-streamed.

If you would like to make either a soup or bread for our simple meal, [please contact the church office, here](#). Please be mindful of allergens and avoid anything with tree-nuts and peanuts. If you want to be a reader for the service, you can [email Steven](#) or call the church office.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2025

*Starting at 12 pm
at Christ Church Cathedral
Corner of Church & Main Streets
Downtown Hartford*

**Walk with us down Main Street and Capital Avenue;
the Journey to the Cross will conclude at
First Presbyterian Church, Hartford.**

Parking can be found at both ends of the route.



SAINT MONICA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
CONNECTICUT'S CATHEDRAL

*Don't Forget to
SAVE THE DATE!*

Join Us for Center Church's Spring Retreat!

Saturday, May 3rd, 2025



When: Saturday, May 3rd, 2025, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Where: Immanuel Congregational Church, 10 Woodland Street, Hartford

Parking: Small parking lot on site and free on-street parking

We will have time for fellowship and continued discernment of our vision and priorities as a congregation. Most of all, we will have FUN together! We look forward to seeing you there! - The Visionary Team

Look for the big sign-up poster in worship on Sunday! It's got glitter!

Center Church Teams:

Help Wanted Community Board

The Outreach Team is looking for Volunteers to help with our Sunday Morning Coffee Ministry. For more information, contact Anita Hawkins or Cynthia Taplin.

The Worship Team is seeking volunteers to help with liturgy, ushering, and greeting. [Email Steven](#) or [Pastor Liza](#) to find out how you can help.

The Faith Formation Team is looking for help planning future events for our kiddos and church community. [Email Brother Eric](#) to find out more!

If your team needs help or volunteers for upcoming events, email the office to advertise here!

Updates From The Church Office:

Greetings, Center Church!

The Office is closed on Fridays. It is open Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 4 PM.

These hours are subject to change, and we will do our best to inform you of any departures.

- *The office will be closed on Maundy Thursday, April 17th.*

Pastor Liza is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Brother Eric's sabbath days are Friday and Saturday. Carrie has drop-in hours Wednesday and Fridays from 10 to 2.

Outside of these hours, you can leave a call and leave a voicemail for our office staff.

Church Administrator Steven Lewis x 200

Pastor Liza Arulampalam x 202

Brother Eric Hearst x 209

Outreach Director Carrie Howe x 205

Music Director Bob Gilbert x 204

Bookkeeper Brenda Russell x 201

Warmest Blessings,
Your Church Office Team

center church

Celebrating 30 Years of Open and Affirming

www.centerchurchhartford.org ☎
@centerchurchhartford@
facebook.com/centerchurchhartford 📍



The Church at Prayer

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Denise Wards & her husband; Tina Bobbitt; Lita Rathnam; Frances Burton; Cyndi Taplin and family; the Macomber family, Dianne Dwelley; Dimekwan French and the French family; the Rev. Cleo Graham & Family; ...



Announcing A New Thing:

Spiritual Support Group for Parents

Please Join us for our Next Session: April 13th!



**Beyond
CONSEQUENCES, LOGIC, AND
CONTROL**
A Love Based Approach to Helping
Children With Severe Behaviors

Facilitated by
the Rev. Deb Moyer

*Childcare will be available
for those who require it.*

WHAT IS IT?
A time of discussion, learning and prayer; This is not a therapeutic group, but rather a time for parents to receive spiritual nurture and support. We will also be discussing some of the concepts found in the book "Beyond Consequences, Logic, and Control: A Love Based Approach to Helping Children With Severe Behaviors," by Heather T. Forbes, LCSW & B. Bryan Post.

WHEN IS IT HAPPENING?
Time: 11:45AM -12:45 PM
Sessions: Jan. 26 (Orientation)
Feb. 9, March 9, April 13, May 4
Center Church UCC parlor,
at 60 Gold Street, Downtown Hartford

WHO IS THIS FOR?
Parents who are coping with children who have difficult behaviors. These behaviors can be the result of abuse, medical issues, neglect, foster care, adoption, special needs, neuro-diversity etc.

HOW DO I ATTEND?
For more information, contact Rev. Deb Moyer
email: dmoyer239@gmail.com
phone: 860-808-7871.

ABOUT REV. DEB
Rev. Deb Moyer is a parent of two boys, ages 16 and 20, who have experienced trauma. She is an ordained United Church of Christ pastor and has also been trained in Gestalt Pastoral Care and spiritual direction. She works part-time as an artist and piano teacher where she works with children and adults of various ages and abilities.

Hey, Families and Campers!

Center Church Camp Asto Wamah

Registration is now Open!

Remember the
Other Fellow



Celebrating Our 116th Season!

Center Church Camp Asto Wamah

Columbia, Connecticut

www.campastowamah.org

Founded in 1910

Camp ASTO WAMAH is a non-sectarian residential camp open to children ages 8 through 14. Camp ASTO WAMAH does not discriminate for reasons of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

Chris Maclean will continue to serve as the camp director. He is employed as a school counselor in Connecticut public schools and has been the camp director for many years.

Remember the
Other Fellow



There will be 3 two-week sessions.
The coed session is the only one-week session.

June 22 to June 28	coed, ages 8 to 12
June 29 to July 12	all boys, ages 8 to 14
July 13 to July 26	all girls, ages 8 to 14
July 27 to August 9	all girls, ages 8 to 14

The 2025 registration fee of \$50 is due at the time of registration and is not refundable or deductible from the camp fee of \$725 per week.



Online registration opens on Saturday, February 1st, 2025 at 8:00 am!



For further information:
Call (203) 631-0167 or
email campastowamahct@gmail.com



Center Church Camp Asto Wamah is licensed by the State of Connecticut and accredited by the American Camp Association.



center church
the first church of christ UCC



A Note from Our Creation Justice Team

As Rev. Liza said in her sermon, if everyone opened their heart to Jesus, the world would change; so too, if people realized the horrible effects of plastic, we believe that the harmful use of plastic would drop.

[Read More about the Harmful effects of Plastic Here.](#)

~ The Center Church Creation Justice Team



This Week's Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!

April 13 ~ Joseph Howard

April 13 ~ Ariella Wagan

April 14 ~ Jorgette Peroza

April 15 ~ Dectora Jeffers

April 16 ~ Nancy Maclean

April 16 ~ Leila Sipes

*Please remember to wish members
of your church family a happy celebration!*

"Let There Be Light" Memorials

*The Meeting House steeple
will be lighted this week as
follows:*

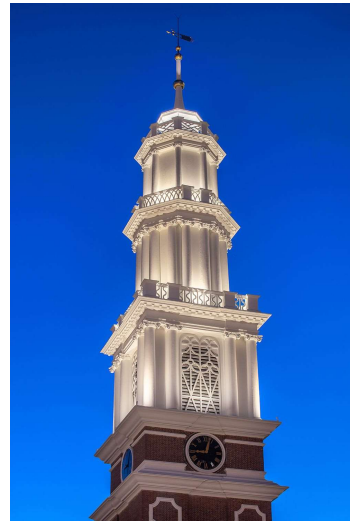
*April 11 ~ In memory of
Lindsay John Hunt, a
special friend, by Cheryl E.
Sanderson*

*April 11 ~ In loving
memory of Margaret B.
Chesebro by her daughter
and son-in-law, Joyce and
Harold Buckingham*

*April 11 ~ In loving
memory of Rev. Thomas E.
Otte by the Otte family*

*April 15 ~ In loving
memory of Jane Peterson
Markham by her family*

*April 16 ~ In loving
memory of George C.*



If you would like to light the steeple in memory or honor of a loved one, [please e-mail the Church Office](#) to make arrangements.

*Badger and son Bobbie, by
his daughter Carol and
wife, the late Veda P.
Badger*

*April 17 ~ In memory of a
loving mother and
grandmother, Amanda R.
Harwood by her daughter
and son-in-law, Maurine
and Stuart Plettner and
family*

*April 17 ~ In loving
memory of my parents,
Sebastiano and Serafina
Corpaci Russo, by their
daughter, Sara Tangarone
and family*

*April 17 ~ In memory of my
dearest friend, Gilda Van
Sand, on her birthday by
Gladys Hernandez and
family.*

*April 17 ~ In loving
memory of a gentle and
caring friend, Eleanor
Moriarty, by Peggy & Sandy
Macomber and Carol
Badger.*

Who do I talk to
about...?



With so many folks engaged in the many ministries at Center Church, it's sometimes hard to know where to direct our questions.

Fortunately, the CET and the Care Team have put together a helpful sheet which answers some of those questions.

Follow the link below to download the chart:

[Care Team Contact Chart](#)

Looking to be More Involved? Connect with a Center Church Team!

Let us know if you're interested in being a part of our teams! [Fill out this form to show your interest!](#)

The Worship Team:

Contact *Steven Lewis*,
slewis@cchartford.org

The Care Team:

Contact *Larry Roeming*,
LDRinCT@gmail.com

The Faith Formation Team:

Contact *Rev. Dr. Eric Hearst*,
ehearst@cchartford.org

The Outreach Team:

Contact *Anita Hawkins*,
anitasfarm1010@gmail.com

The History Team:

Contact *Andre Keitt*,
corykit1@yahoo.com

The Resource Team:

Contact *David Maclean*,
macleand596@gmail.com

The Community Relations Team:

Contact *Church Office*,
cctech@cchartford.org

The Visionary Team:

Contact: *Lesley Morgan-Thompson*
l.morganthompson@gmail.com

The Music the Arts Committee:

Contact: *Kate Robinson*,
kate@gallorobinson.com



The Outreach Corner at Lewis and Gold

Carrie's office hours are Wednesdays (10 AM - 2 PM) & Fridays (10AM - 3 PM); on the ground floor of the Church House building, at 60 Gold Street.

We are always taking donations for:

- Milk or coffee cream
- Bottled Water
- Hot chocolate
- Large Aluminum Food Trays
- Aluminum Foil
- Hygiene Items
- Gift Cards

Carrie Howe is available to receive donations anytime!

If you have a question regarding the meal program or if you'd like to volunteer, please contact Carrie!

**Cell - 860-778-1210
chowe@cchartford.org**

You can also call Steven at the Church Office (ext. 200) to arrange your drop off. Your generosity helps our Outreach Team continue to care for our Hartford neighbors! Thank you so much!



Center Church BED FUNDS at Hartford Hospital

Need help paying for medical or dental bills at Hartford Hospital?
Have a friend or family member in need?
Center Church BED FUNDS
may be available!

Click [HERE](#) to download information,
or send your inquiries to info@CCHartford.org,
or call Steven at the Church House,
860-249-5631 ext 200

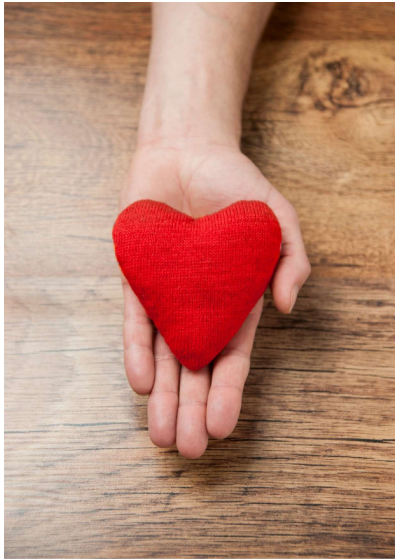


Offerings

We truly appreciate those who continue to offer financial support! Remember, you can do so in three ways:

1. **Send a check** payable to "First Church of Christ in Hartford" to 60 Gold Street, Hartford, CT 06103;
2. **Set up EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer)** by **contacting Brenda** at the Church Office: (860) 249-5631; or

3. [Click the donate link](#) on our website to use your credit card.



Church Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday, 10:00 am–4:00 pm
(Closed Mondays)

See and Share Us On Social Media:



60 Gold Street, Hartford, CT 06103 · (860) 249-5631
www.centerchurchhartford.org

The First Church of Christ in Hartford | 60 Gold Street (Church House) Corner of Main & Gold Streets (Meeting House) | Hartford, CT 06103 US

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