



Visit Our Church

Make A Gift

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



E-NEWS

April 10, 2026

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

This Week in Worship - Sunday, April 12

Join us at 10:30 AM - 675

Main Street



Worship with us this Week!

**Sunday, April 12, at 10:30 AM,
In Person & Online**

Greetings, Center Church,

This week Pastor Liza will begin a sermon series called "Gospel in Glass," exploring the histories, scripture and artistry of our Stained Glass Windows. This week, we'll be discussing the H. P. Bissell memorial window (above) which depicts Anne, teaching Mary the mother of Jesus how to read.

Come and join us as we revisit the beauty of our Historic Meetinghouse through scripture and art.

~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.

The friends, family and community of Alex Pretti and Renee Nicole Good, victims of and those affected by violence; migrant workers and immigrants; Jane and Jim Macomber and their family; Lani Ralston; Edward and Margaret Ralston; John Conley, Jr.; Gilberto Mercado and family; Sally Wagan and family; Ephraim Adams and Nancy J. Adams; the family and friends of Marilyn Watson; Richard Markham and family; Tina Bobbitt; Lita Rathnam; Cyndi Taplin and family; Dimekwan French and the French family; Diane Dwelley, Anita Hawkins,...

Keeping You Posted

SAVE THE DATE!

MUSIC & THE ARTS

at  **center church**
the first church of christ UCC

presents **JAZZ GREAT**
JIMMY GREENE
a free concert

april 19
4:30 pm
675 main st

free sunday street parking
free parking in the traveler's garage
on prospect st

CENTERCHURCHHARTFORD.ORG



A native of CT, Jimmy Greene is one of the most respected saxophonists of his generation.

From the Visionary Team Post-Annual Meeting Updates

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the Church Pulse Assessment at our Annual Meeting on March 22! The survey is now closed.

The Visionary Team will be meeting soon to review the results and will let you know of an upcoming Congregational Conversation where we will share the results.

With thanks,

The Visionary Team

PS: If you missed the PowerPoint Presentation for the 501c3 Research Team, you can download it here:

[501c3 PowerPoint](#)

~ The Visionary Team

***Lesley Morgan Thompson, Alvin Thompson, Chris Graesser,
Catherine Thompson Maclean, Brother Eric J. Hearst, Steven Lewis***

From the Property Subcommittee Winter Updates

Warm Greetings Center Church,

For the last few months a small group has been meeting together to discuss a plan for addressing the more pressing structural issues related to our two historic properties.

A short but incomplete list we're looking at includes:

- Repairs and Maintenance to the Slate Roof
- Structural and Cosmetic Repairs to the Meetinghouse Roofline
- Drainage and Masonry Repair and Preservation at both properties
- Structural and Cosmetic Repairs to the main entrance of 60 Gold Street
- Water Damage to the south facade, basement ceiling and underground walls of 60 Gold Street

We have completed a survey of the damage with the help of architect Tim Brewer to identify potential Project Managers. We have also begun drafting a Request for Proposal and Qualifications (RFP/Q) to send out to these would-be contractors.

We expect to meet with engineers soon, who can advise and inform us as we move forward. As we move along on the process we will continue to keep the congregation updated. We are currently using Capital Improvement Funds to finance the preliminary stages of our project but as more information becomes available about the full scope and cost of the project, we anticipate fundraising efforts that include grant writing, outside donations and a thorough exploration of other revenue streams.

If you have any interest in joining the Property Subcommittee Working Group, please contact David Maclean or Larry Roeming.

In Faith,

The Property Subcommittee
David Maclean, Larry Roeming,
Andrea Olson & Steven Lewis

Our Church's Wider Mission: News from the Denomination & Beyond!

AGM for Love of Church:

There will be a [Special Meeting of General Synod 35](#) on May 9, 2026 from 6-9pm ET. Since General Synod Delegate terms extend until the start of the next Synod, delegates from GS 35 (which took place last summer) are also delegates for this special meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect the Associate General Minister (AGM), Love of Church. At GS35 last summer, the Synod elected the [AGM, Love of Neighbor](#), but the initial search for an AGM for Love of Church [resulted in having no candidate identified](#). A [new search process](#) was launched in August.

You can watch this video here to meet the candidate for Associate General Minister for Love of Church, a job which focuses inward on caring for and supporting the local churches of the United Church of Christ.

Meet the Candidate here:

[Meet Rev. Jennifer Sowell, nominee for AGM for Love of Church](#)

From the Friends of Silver Lake

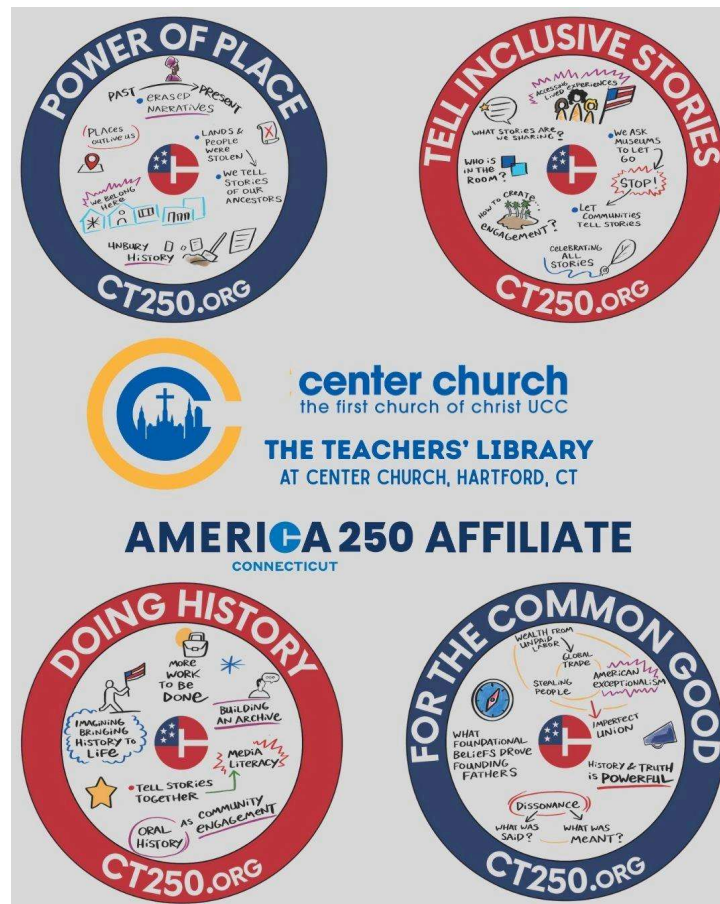
This is a message on the behalf of the Friends of Silver Lake Board of Directors. As you know, Silver Lake Conference Center is being shut down following this summer's camping sessions. [Friends of Silver Lake](#) is an independent group of supporters, alums, and stakeholders who are working to assure that Silver Lake and its outdoor ministry is sustained in some form or fashion recognizing the importance of ministry to youth and young people.

If you would like to know more and to stay connected to what's happening with FOSL, please fill out the [online form here](#) to show your support and hear periodic updates. If you can also help share this with old camp friends, I would really

appreciate it. Just sending a few messages right now will make a big difference. We need to get the word out to the thousands of people who love Silver Lake before it's too late!

Center Church Community - If you have something you want to feature in the Center Church e-news email a small paragraph and any relevant photos to the church office by Wednesday afternoon for publication on Fridays.

From the Center Church History Team



Center Church's History Team is seeking members and community partners who are excited by the long history of Center Church and who are interested in connected to our community near and far through that history.

To name a few of the local partners with whom we're currently working - Trinity College, Hartford International University for Religion and Peace, the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center for Literary Activism, The Mark Twain House and Museum, Opera CT, Liberty Christian Center International, The Slater Museum in Norwich and of course, the Official Royal House of Sori.

We're also currently exploring partnerships with the Congregational Library and Archives in Boston, MA, Warburton Community Congregational Church in Hartford, CT, and Temple University.

In the coming months, the History Team will be finalizing its programming for Hartford's celebration of America's 250th Birthday. Center Church and the Teacher's Library are America 250 CT, working closely with the City's ad hoc commission as well as with the Statewide commission and are very excited to be a part of this inventive and expansive definition of what America is and can be for the next 250 years. Watch this space for more information about America 250 CT - Hartford.

If making connections within Hartford and abroad and learning about our deep history speak to you, please do not hesitate to reach out the either [Andre Keitt](#), chair of the History Team, or [Brother Eric Hearst](#).



Pictured above: HRH Princess Karen, sovereign and head of the Official Royal House of Sori; Dr. Artemus Gaye, and many other descendants of Prince Sori; Mayors of Natchez, Mississippi and Hartford, CT; John Quincy Adams IV; Rev. Dr. Eric Hearst.





Center Church Teams: Help Wanted Community Board

The **Outreach Team** is looking for Volunteers to help with our Sunday Morning Coffee Ministry and for folks who are passionate about the missions of Center Church. 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 Church 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.

**Pastor Liza is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Brother Eric's Sabbath days are Friday and Saturday. Carrie**

has drop-in hours Tuesday from 5-9 PM and Fridays from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Outside of these hours, you can 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**





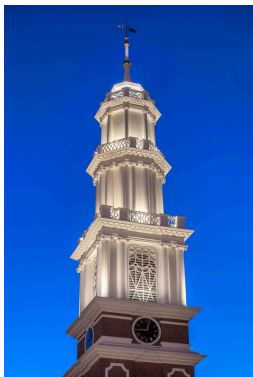
This Week's Celebrations!

Happy Birthday!

*April 1 ~ Priscilla French
April 2 ~ Susan Hayes
April 2 ~ Dan Theriault
April 2 ~ Katherine Markham
April 4 ~ Rosemary Arcieri
April 5 ~ Elizabeth Ververis
April 9 ~ Maegen Casey
April 10 ~ Amiyah Jones
April 13 ~ Joseph Howard
April 13 ~ Ariella Wagan
April 14 ~ Jorgette Peroza*

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

"Let There Be Light" Memorials



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.

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

April 1 ~ In memory of Mildred Weaver Buck
by Center Church Women/Evening Fellowship
April 1 ~ In grateful thanks for the life of Charles Grabarek
by George Francis and the late Wayne Arey
April 3 ~ To honor Catherine P. More by a friend, the late Mrs. Edward Taft
April 4 ~ In loving memory of Abigail Warren Lord Woodbridge and Noble
Everett Lord
by the late Emma B. Lord

April 4 ~ In loving memory of Margaret Macomber by her sons David, John and James
April 5 ~ In loving memory of Helen Haine
April 5 ~ In recognition of the marriage of Harry and Sabrina Sanders by their family
April 6 ~ In loving memory of Pasqua Micali Alaimo by her daughter, Mary Cavaleri
April 7 ~ In loving memory of our longtime dear friend, the late A. Harry Sanders,
on the anniversary of his April 7, 1929 acceptance into membership of Center Church, by Joyce and Harold Buckingham.
April 7 ~ In memory of their family by the late Ethel A. Benson and the late Harry Benson
April 7 ~ In memory of Gladys and Leroy Kopp on their 37th wedding anniversary, 1987,
by the late Julia McGadney
April 8 ~ In loving memory of Mary Agnes (Taylor) Hinkson
by her daughter, the late Ruth Hamilton and son-in-law Ellis Hamilton
April 9 ~ In memory of John H. and Carrie Bowers Wolf by their children
April 10 ~ In loving memory of her mother, Ruth Dixon Keniston
by her daughter, Lois Keniston Penney
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



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!

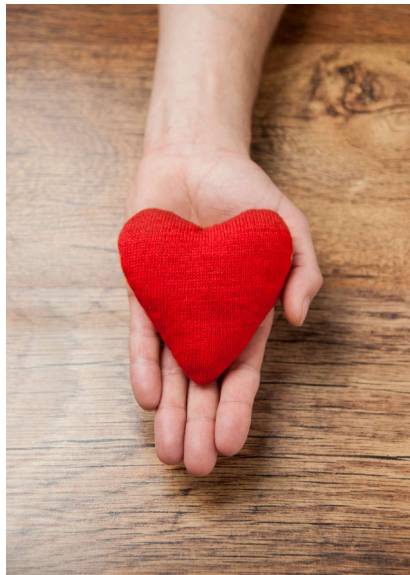
Click [HERE](#) to download information,
or send your inquiries to info@CCHartford.org,
or call Steven at the Church House,
860-249-5631 ext 200



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

Monday- Thursday, 9:30am-3:30 pm

(Closed Fridays)

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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