



[Visit Our Church](#)

[Make A Gift](#)

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

Center Church E-News

August 14, 2026



**We are the Body of Christ together:
In Person & Online!!**

***This Week in Worship
At our Summer Time and Place
Join us at 10 AM - 60 Gold
Street***



Join us this week for worship!
In Person - and Online!
~ At our Summer Time and Place ~
Starting at 10 AM at 60 Gold Street

This Summer, Pastor Liza & Brother Eric will navigate us through a sermon series called *Rooted: Healthy People, Healthy Church*. We will explore the fifteen dimensions of Church health, divided into three buckets: nurturing, sending and leading.

Each week, as we explore a different dimension, there will be opportunities to directly engage with the dimension and with one another as we unpack the rich results of the survey we took at Annual Meeting.

This week, we will welcome our Area Conference Minister for the South Central Region, the Rev. Leslie Jackson, to join us for worship where he will share his sermon, "Still Gathering."

After worship this week please stay for the special financial meeting, more information about which is below.

We'll see you starting at 10 AM, in person and online.

~The Worship Team



About the Rev. Leslie Jackson:

Rev. Leslie Jackson supports clergy, congregations, and associations of the South Central Region as they live the love and justice of Jesus in their communities. He works closely with Committees on Ministry across the region, supporting their leadership within the seven associations and guiding congregations through the search and call process with strategic insight and steady accompaniment.

Over the past decade, Rev. Jackson has served as a pastor, preacher, and justice advocate in Houston and New Orleans. His work includes nonprofit collaboration, interfaith engagement, and board service with organizations across Texas. His ministry centers justice, transformation, and helping communities rise with hope.

This Week : Special Congregational Meeting

A Call to a Special Meeting of the First Church of Christ in Hartford, CT (Center Church)

Pastor Liza and Center Church Moderator Larry Roeming have, in accordance with the By-Laws of the First Church of Christ in Hartford/Center Church, issued the following call to a special meeting.

CALL TO A SPECIAL MEETING August 16, 2026

immediately following the worship service

A special meeting of The First Church of Christ in Hartford/Center Church will be held on August 16, 2026 immediately following the worship service. The meeting will take place in the second-floor parlor of the Church House (60 Gold Street) and via Zoom.

The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the expenditure of up to \$48,124.00 for preconstruction costs to begin necessary restoration and preservation to the historic Meeting House.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Liza Arulampalam, Senior Pastor

Larry Roeming, Moderator

Please make all possible effort to attend both meetings, but especially the meeting on August 16th as a quorum is required to transact any business.

The Building Project Working Subgroup is Larry Roeming, Chris Graesser, Andrea Olson, Sarah McCoy, Steven Lewis, David Maclean & Pastor Liza Arulampalam.

**Center Church is inviting you to a
scheduled Zoom meeting.**

Topic: Special Meeting FCCH/CC - 081626

**Time: Aug 16, 2026 11:30 AM Eastern Time (US and
Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85103890911?
pwd=0tbeby3QjWNhtflHkoLGPbFRb5Qttz.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85103890911?pwd=0tbeby3QjWNhtflHkoLGPbFRb5Qttz.1)**

**Meeting ID: 851 0389 0911
Passcode: 044993**

Save these dates!



JOIN US ON AUGUST 23RD FOR THE



BLESSING
OF THE
BACKPACKS!

**BRING YOUR BACKPACKS, LUNCH BAGS,
PENCIL CASES AND MORE TO WORSHIP
ON AUGUST 23RD!**

Join us for

RALLY **Sunday**

**Worship at 10:30 AM
in the Historic Meetinghouse**

Sept. 13

**CAW alum are encouraged to wear their best CAW green!
After worship we'll have an all-church lunch to celebrate
the new program year and welcome back Sunday School.**



center church
the first church of christ UCC

Join us!



center church
the first church of christ UCC

Interested in Joining Center Church?
Join us for our

NEW MEMBERS LUNCHEON

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 20 RSVP TO PASTOR LIZA
AFTER WORSHIP BY SUNDAY, SEPT. 13**

Come, enjoy some fellowship and lunch, learn about Center Church, the UCC and what "membership" means!



Attention Sunday School Parents & Guardians!

A Message from Brother Eric

Registration for this year's Church School is underway and accessible here:

<https://centerchurchhartford.breezechms.com/form/af4171>

Please complete your child's registration before Rally Sunday, **September 13, 2026**.

****The first ten families to register will receive a Barnes & Noble Gift Card as a part of our fall reading initiative.****

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

All students participating in the Church School must have an active registration file in the Church Office.

Best regards,

Brother Eric

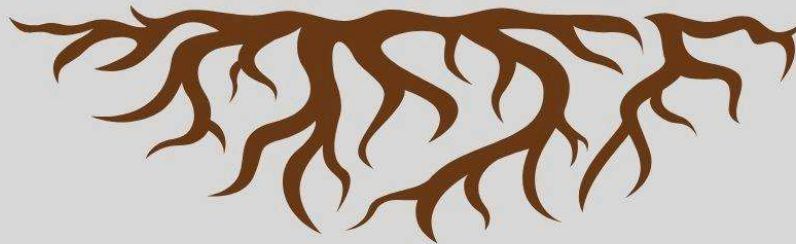
ehearst@cchartford.org

860.249.5631 ext. 209



Rooted: Healthy People, Healthy Church

A Summer Sermon Series



**How Are We Nurturing, Sending & Leading
for the Future at Center Church?**

Grow with us, Starting May 31st

Sunday Worship 10 AM

60 Gold Street, Hartford

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, community and victims of and those affected by violence; migrant workers and immigrants; Jane and Jim Macomber and their family; John Conley, Jr.; Gilberto Mercado and family; Sally Wagan and family; 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

New Outreach Schedule Programs & Hours - Summer 2026



THE CENTER ANGEL @ LEWIS & GOLD

Summer Open Hours

Tues & Thurs 5-8 PM

Appointments Available Tues & Thurs 1-4 PM

*Community Closet, Medical & Dental Referrals,
Financial Aid Requests, Document Services*

Mid-Week Meditation: Wednesdays at 12 PM

Visit Church website for more information

Community Partners:

Out of the Hat Acting Classes, Ability Bridge LLC,

CRT Street Outreach & More

To learn more about The Center Angel at Center Church, please email Outreach Director
Carrie Howe: chowe@cchartford.org



860.249.5631



centerchurchhartford.org

*The Center Angel @ Lewis & Gold is a mission initiative of
The First Church of Christ in Hartford, "Center Church," a 501 c3 non-profit organization.*

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

U.S. Senator & Pastor to be the Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock keynote speaker at SNEC's Annual Meeting

The 7th Annual Meeting of the Southern New England Conference of the UCC is scheduled for September 25- 27 in Worcester, MA. The keynote speaker and preacher will be United States Senator for Georgia, the Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock, who, in addition to his service as U.S. Senator, also serves as Senior Pastor at the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA (the spiritual home of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.).

If you have never been to an Annual Meeting, are a member of Center Church and you are interested in engaging in the Congregational Process at the wider church level, [email Pastor Liza today!](#)

A threefold cord is not quickly broken. ~ Ecclesiastes 4:12

The Ties That Bind

7th Annual Meeting

**Sept. 25 - 27, 2026
Worcester, MA**

**Keynote & Preaching by
US Senator Rev. Raphael G. Warnock**

 **Southern New England Conference**
United Church of Christ
Living the Love & Justice of Jesus



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 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 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.**

**Pastor Liza is away August 16-21, 2026.
Carrie Howe is away August 18-20, 2026.**

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!

August 16 ~ Bill Warner-Prouty (It's a big one!)

August 24 ~ Lisa Thomas

August 25 ~ Lincoln Newberger-Marks

August 28 ~ Lesley Morgan Thompson

August 29 ~ Jim Oliver

August 30 ~ William Wurts

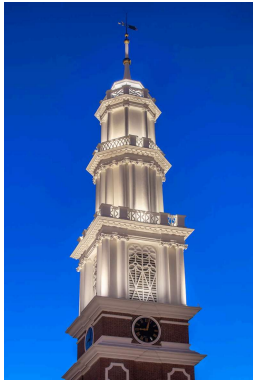
Happy Anniversary!

August 18 ~ William & Kathleen Gourlie

August 27 ~ Thomas & the Late Sally St. Amant

***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:

August 16 ~ As a tribute to Irene L. Canfield, a well-loved friend, by the late Catherine P. More

August 18 ~ Happy birthday wishes to Violet Goshdigian from children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren

August 19 ~ In loving memory of Clara F. DeWolfe, by several of her friends

August 19 ~ In loving memory of Rosario Morin by his wife Rita, son Dennis and daughter Terry

August 20 ~ In memory of Miss Virginia F. Browne

August 21 ~ In memory of Rev. Thomas and Mary Foxall, Charles and Thomas Foxall Jr., by their family

August 21 ~ In memory of Carolyn F. Engargiola by Jane Foxall and the late Richard Foxall

August 22 ~ In loving memory of Frank Carabillo by his late wife, Dorothy, and sons Rodney and Dennis

August 23 ~ In memory of Frances Amerman Hatton, by the late Leonard Hatton

August 25 ~ In memory of James Walker Losty, by the late Sarah Freeman

August 26 ~ In memory of Sofia Moren Ericson, by her many friends in Center Church



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 Resource Team:
Contact *David Maclean*,
macleand596@gmail.com

The Community Relations Team:
Contact *Church Office*,

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

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,

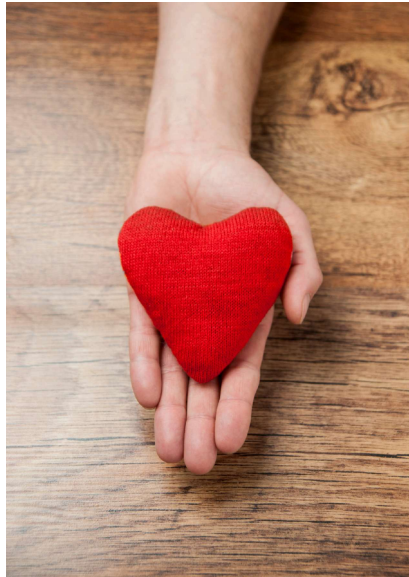
or send your inquiries to info@CCHartford.org,
or call Steven at the Church House,
860-249-5631 ext 200



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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!