



[Visit Our Church](#)

[Make A Gift](#)

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

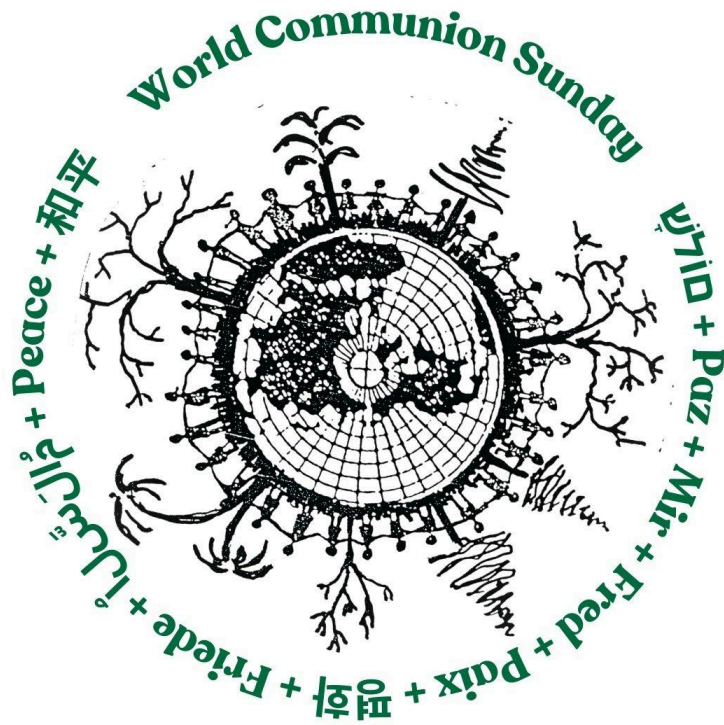
**We are the Body of Christ together:
In Person & Online!!**



Center Church E-News

October 2, 2026

**Join us at 10:30 AM - 675
Main Street
In Person and Online!**



Join us this week for worship!

In Person - and Online!

October 4, 2026

Starting at 10:30 AM at 675 Main Street

This week in worship we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. Pastor Liza will lead us in a worship service crafted by our partners at Global Ministries, a joint effort of the United Church of Christ and of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

In addition to celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion with the Global Church, we will also commission our deacons and junior deacons with a special liturgy and blessing.

We hope you will join us for this special, global service this Sunday, starting at 10:30 in person and online.

~The Worship Team

We will continue to be on our Facebook page!

You can access that feed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/centerchurchhartford>

If you have any questions before the service begins, feel free to contact Larry Roeming at (860) 997-3573

Worship Team seeks Volunteers!

There are many opportunities to be involved in worship for those who are willing. We are seeking volunteers for liturgist, ushers and greeters. These volunteers would be doing their part from the worship space on Sunday mornings. Anyone interested please reach out to Steven Lewis in the church office, by email at slewis@cchartford.org or by calling 860-249-5631.

Save the date!

News from our Sister Churches



The poster is set against a background of a stained glass window. At the top center is a large gold cross. To the left of the cross is the logo for Faith Congregational Church UCC, featuring a stylized church building and the text "Faith Congregational Church UCC" and "2030 Main St., Hartford, CT 06120". To the right of the cross is the logo for the Southern New England Conference, United Church of Christ, featuring a colorful four-leaf clover and the text "Southern New England Conference", "United Church of Christ", and "Living the Love & Justice of Jesus".

SAVE THE DATE

A portrait of Reverend Arthur Gaither, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark sweater.

Installation of
**Reverend
Arthur Gaither**

*as Associate Pastor of
Faith Congregational Church*

An icon of two hands clasped in prayer, with rays of light emanating from them.

Sunday, October 4, 2026
1:30 p.m.

Faith Congregational Church
2030 Main St., Hartford, CT 06120

 *Clergy are asked to be robed for the procession.* 

More details to follow



Faith Congregational Church
2030 Main Street, Hartford, CT
Rev. Cleo Graham, Pastor

Fall Concert
“Voices of Faith and Harmony”

October 18, 2026

3:00 pm

MUSICIANS

G. INGRID FANIEL STACY CAHOON
DR. RUTH BASS GREEN DR. JONATHAN BERRYMAN
WAYNE DIXON MICHAEL SCOTT, JR.
DAMON COACHMAN TERRY JONES, JR.

PATRICIA A. GRAY, SOPRANO SOLOIST
PAMELA WALTERS, SOPRANO SOLOIST
THOMAS FANIEL, BASS/BARITONE SOLOIST

Special Guests
The North End Senior Center Harmonizers
The Deacon Bill Beckham Singers

Free Will Offering
Light Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall following the Concert

This Moral Moment

An address by nationally-
renowned speaker and author
Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove

A **free** community event for all worried
about the moral direction of our country



Author of "Revolution of Values"
Co-author "Our Moral Moment" Substack
with Bishop William Barber.

RESCHEDULED

Sunday, Nov. 1
4 pm

Rocky Hill Congregational Church
805 Old Main St., Rocky Hill, CT
No tickets needed.

As seen on



Central CT UCC Youth Group

Center Church is proud to support this Greater Hartford area-wide youth group hosted by Immanuel Congregational Church (UCC), just up the road at 10 Woodland St. in Hartford. Open to youth in grades 6–12, the group offers twice-monthly gatherings that include a community dinner, mentor support, games, and discussion on relevant topics, along with prayer practices, guest speakers, retreats, and service trips.

See the attached flyer for the full fall schedule and details, and visit [iccucc.org/youth](https://www.iccucc.org/youth) to learn more: <https://www.iccucc.org/youth>.

For questions, families can also reach Immanuel directly at (860) 527-8121 or immanuel06105@gmail.com.

<i>Central Connecticut Youth Group Calendar 2026</i>		
<u>September & October</u>		
Kick off Party	September 20th	5:30-7:30 pm
Info session over Zoom	September 23rd	7:00-7:30 pm
Youth Group Session	October 4th	5:30-7:30 pm
Youth Group Session.	October 18th (\$ for lock-in due)	5:30-7:30 pm
<u>November & December</u>		
Youth Lock-in	Nov. 6th @ 7pm-Nov. 7th @ 3pm	
Youth Group Session	November 22nd	5:30-7:30 pm
Volunteering @ Immanuel House	December 6	1:00-3:00 pm
Holiday Party	December 13th	5:30-7:30 pm

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.

Gilberto Mercado and family; The family of Rev. Shawn Fisher, First Church Bloomfield, Asylum Hill Congregational Church, victims of and those affected by violence; migrant workers and immigrants; Jane and Jim Macomber and their family; John Conley, Jr.; 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,...

Introducing the Capital Campaign



Help Preserve the Historic Heart of Hartford

1636 Heritage
Partnership



2 Corinthians 9:6-7 *The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

We recently introduced and launched our Capital Campaign.

As most of you are already aware, significant repairs are required on the Meeting House (primarily carpentry and masonry along the eaves and windows). The first phase of these repairs will include the preconstruction activities and initiation of the repairs. The estimated cost of the first phase is approximately \$400,000.

We are currently applying for a matching grant from the State Historic Preservation Office. If we are approved for this grant, Center Church will need to commit \$200,000 to the repairs which will then be matched by an additional \$200,000 from the State Historic Preservation Office.

Please consider contributing to Capital Campaign. Center Church will need your help to reach our first goal of \$200,000. Please use the QRL code below or the Capital Campaign envelope in the pew for your contribution.

*~ Capital Campaign Steering Committee
(Kurt Moyer, Richard Markham, Ann Theriault)*



Keeping You Posted

Music & Arts Concerts 2026-2027 Season Announced!

The First Concert will be on October 18th, 2026, featuring the faculty and students of the Hartt School Guitar and Harp program.



Jazz Great Nat Reeves & Friends
Sunday, March 14, 2027, 4:30 PM

Join Center Church as we welcome back Jazz Legend Nat Reeves and other world renowned artists for a memorable afternoon in our historic meetinghouse.

Daniel Maltz
Fortepianist from Europe
Sunday, May 16, 2027 4 PM

Based in Vienna, Maltz has been called the "foremost performer in the world of the fortepiano." Specializing in Viennese Classicism, he brings "lavish but tasteful" performance to the works of Hayden, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and more.



A Jazz Christmas
Featuring the Sarah Hanahan Jazz Quartet
Sunday, December 13, 2026
10:30 AM

The Sarah Hanahan Quartet is back at Center Church, bringing their signature flair to a festive service of lessons and carols.



21st Annual Handel Messiah
Community Sing
Sunday, Jan. 3, 2027, 4 PM
(Snow Date: Sunday, Jan. 10, 2027, 4 PM)

This Hartford tradition is a holiday favorite! All area Messiah Singers are encouraged to participate and sing alongside outstanding soloists for the Christmas portion of Handel's work. Scores Provided. Singers, please arrive by 3:30 pm



Classical Guitar & Chamber Music
From the Hartt School of Music
Sunday, October 18, 2026, 4 PM

This feature program, called "America to Australia," showcases students and faculty of The Hartt School Guitar and Harp Program – the oldest and most-developed performance-based program in the country.



The Lisa Clayton Singers:
A Celebration of Gospel Music
Sunday, November 1, 2026, 4 PM

The ensemble made up of professional singers and UConn Alumni will highlight Gospel music history, its founders, and landmark spirituals.



Music & the Arts at
center church
the first church of christ UCC

presents:

The Hartt School Classical Guitar
& Chamber Music ensemble, performing

AMERICA TO AUSTRALIA

*A FREE concert showcasing the students and faculty of the
Hartt School Guitar and Harp Program - the oldest and most-
developed performance based program in the country.*

Sunday, October 18 at 4 PM
in the Historic Meetinghouse
675 Main St., Hartford

*All Music and Arts Concerts are free and open to the public.
On-street parking is available, as well as garage parking.
For more information please email Bob Gilbert, rgilbert@cchartford.org.*

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

THE HARTT SCHOOL

~ Save the Date ~

First Boyajian Lecture of the Year!

Tuesday, October 6th, 2026

Featuring Dr. Marcus Rediker, "The Fearless Benjamin Lay."

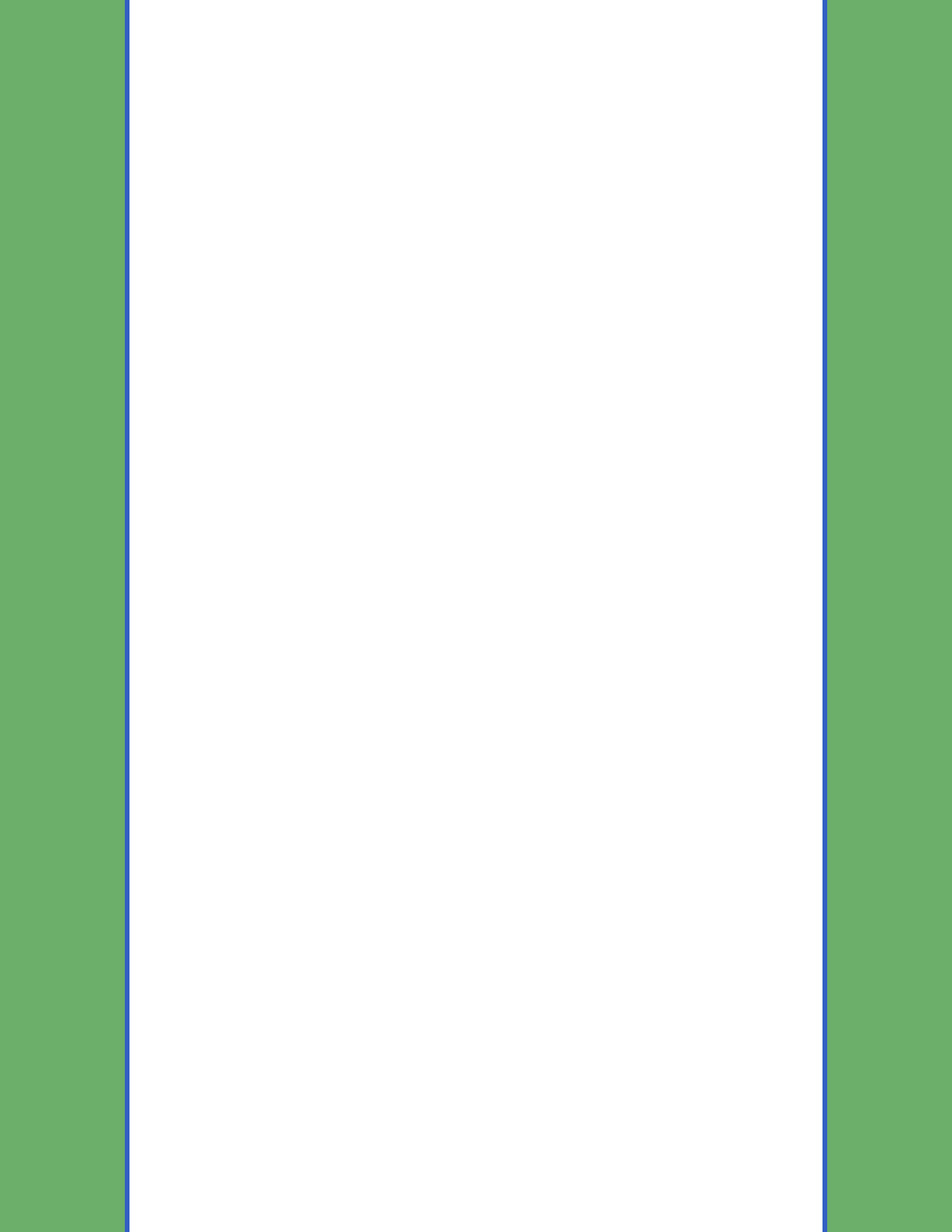
All lectures are free, registration is required.

We hope you'll join Center Church on Tuesday, October 6th at 7 PM online. Registration is required. All who register will receive a link to the presentation at a later date.

This will be an online-only event.

It will be recorded and we will be offering closed captioning services.

[Register Here Now!](#)





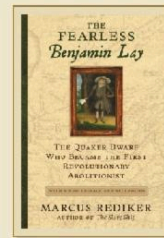
THE FRED & ELIZABETH BOYAJIAN LECTURE SERIES — FALL 2026

“Lest We Forget”

The Fearless Benjamin Lay

A VIRTUAL LECTURE

On the life, witness, and radical conscience of the Quaker abolitionist Benjamin Lay — drawn from the acclaimed book
The Fearless Benjamin Lay: The Quaker Dwarf Who Became the First Revolutionary Abolitionist.



Dr. Marcus Rediker

Distinguished Professor of Atlantic History, University of Pittsburgh



Rediker has written or edited eighteen books, including *The Many-Headed Hydra* (2000, with Peter Linebaugh), *The Slave Ship* (2007), *The Amistad Rebellion* (2012), *The Fearless Benjamin Lay* (2017), and *Freedom Ship* (2025). His writings have won numerous awards and been published in twenty-one languages worldwide.

He wrote the play *The Return of Benjamin Lay* with Naomi Wallace, created four graphic novels with David Lester, and co-authored a children's book with Michelle Markel and Sarah Bachman. With filmmaker Tony Buba, he has produced two documentaries: *Ghosts of Amistad* (2014) and *Becoming Benjamin Lay*. More at www.marcusrediker.com.

DATE	Tuesday, October 6, 2026 7:00 PM EST
FORMAT	Virtual lecture — joined online Registration link to be shared upon sign-up
HOSTED BY	First Church of Christ in Hartford Center Church, Hartford, Connecticut
SERIES	The Fred & Elizabeth Boyajian Lecture Series, “Lest We Forget” On faith, civics, and human rights

REGISTER TO ATTEND

Free and open to the public · details at centerchurchhartford.org



First Church of Christ in Hartford · Center Church

60 Gold Street, Hartford, Connecticut

New Outreach Schedule Programs & Hours - Fall 2026



THE CENTER ANGEL @ LEWIS & GOLD

Fall Open Hours

Tues & Thurs 5-8 PM

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

Mid-Week Meditation: Wednesdays at 12 PM

Visit Church website for more information

Sunday Community Meal:

Sundays at 3 PM, 60 Gold Street

(excepting the first Sunday of each month)

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.*

*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.**

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!

October 1 ~ Angela Taveras
October 4 ~ Janice Lombardi
October 7 ~ Olive St. Amant
October 9 ~ Dianna Woodard
October 11 ~ Aeniecia Parkes

October 13 ~ Shepherd "Shep" Holcombe, Jr.

October 15 ~ William "Bill" Gourlie

October 16 ~ Jane Macomber

October 17 ~ Ann Theriault

October 18 ~ Willie Mae Geter

October 23 ~ John Conley, Jr.

October 27 ~ Terrence French, Jr.

Happy Anniversary!

October 2 ~ Daniel Stefanski & Nana Marfo

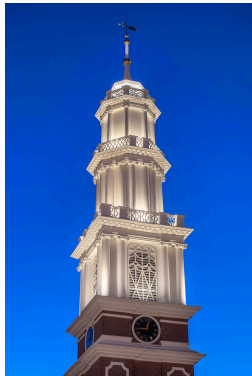
October 9 ~ Katherine Markham & David Feldman

*October 11 ~ Lawrence Roeming &
The Late Edward Turner*

October 13 ~ Ruth Fortune & David Reynolds

***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:

*October 1 ~ In memory of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Molowney, by their
daughter,
the late Lucy Annie Meacham*

*October 2 ~ As a tribute to the late Rockwell Harmon Potter
on the anniversary of the beginning of his pastorate at Center Church, by
Center Church Women*

*October 3 ~ In memory of Leslie Rounds, by his Christian friends,
Pauline Chen and the late Janet Chen*

October 4 ~ In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Nicola Pagliarulo, by their children

October 5 ~ In loving memory of Lester G. Hume by his wife the late Bertha Hume

October 6 ~ In loving memory of Wallace George and Ella Seymour Bailey on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary, 1978, by Carol V. Badger

October 7 ~ In memory of Samuel P. Avery, Jr.

October 8 ~ In memory of Elizabeth Dimick, by Center Church Women

October 9 ~ To the glory of God and to honor those adventurers who traveled the wilderness to found this church and this city, by the late Mrs. John A. Roberts and Miss Fay Callendar

October 10 ~ In memory of William and Wilhelmina J. Zimmer, by the Zimmer family

October 10 ~ In fond memory of Walter and Harriet Crittenden, by the late John B. Wells,

Eunice Crittenden Wells and family

October 11 ~ In memory of Anna Lincoln Hodge by her Center Church friends

October 11 ~ In loving memory of his father, the Rev. Dr. Hugh Penney, by his son, Hugh Burrill Penney

October 12 ~ As a tribute to Harry S. Campbell on the completion of 40 years of devoted service to Center Church 1970, by Carol V. Badger

October 13 ~ In loving memory of Rachel Wei-Hsiong Chen who died October 14, 1945, Sitiawan, Perak, West Malaysia by her sisters, the late Pauline Wei-Hsiang Chen and the late Janet Wei-Kuang Chen

October 14 ~ In memory of a dear friend, Dr. Louis C. Addazio, by the late Jacob and Zabelle Haroian

October 14 ~ In loving memory of Jacob Haroian by his wife and sons Alan & Gregory

October 14 ~ In loving memory of Madeline B. Bidwell and Eliot N. Bidwell by Bruce E. Bidwell

October 15 ~ In loving memory of Henry Wellington White by his wife

October 14 ~ For Harry Elvin Benson in joyous remembrance of his life, by his wife, the late Ethel A. Benson

October 14 ~ In loving memory of Edward D. Turner, Jr., who lit up this church when he became a member on this date in 2005, by Joyce and Harold Buckingham

October 17 ~ In memory of her sister, Miss Helen Libby Wolcott, by the late Mrs. Mary Wolcott Buck

October 18 ~ In loving memory of Veda P. Badger, on her birthday, by her daughter Carol and several friends

October 18 ~ In honor of Phyllis Fisette Batzner, by the late Ethel A. Benson

October 19 ~ In memory of her sister Margaret L. Knapp, by the late Mary Clissold Knapp

October 19 ~ In memory of Gertrude Tatro, a faithful 91-year member of this church, whose light went out on this date in 2016 at the age of 107, by Joyce and Harold Buckingham

October 20 ~ In honor of Dorothy C. Walter upon becoming a fifty-year member of Center Church, 1923 - 1973

October 21 ~ To commemorate my mother, Katherine Seymour (Jackson) Godsell,

and my grandmother, Katherine Perkins (Day) Jackson, by Percy Hamilton Godsell, Jr.

October 21 ~ In loving memory of Edna L. Winkelaar Otte by Timothy Otte, Sarah Otte,

Jonathan Otte and Gail Canzano

October 22 ~ In memory of parents, by the late Dorothy and Merrill L. Healey
October 23 ~ In memory of their son, Richard T. Hazen, by the late Mr. and
Mrs. Maynard T. Hazen
October 25 ~ In memory of Emma Reeve Bossen by her daughter Bertha
Bonham and family
October 26 ~ In memory of Frank Ward Gates by his family
October 27 ~ In loving memory of Mrs. Jean Gilchrist Potter
and Richard Montgomery Gilchrist Potter by the late Mary Gilchrist
October 28 ~ In loving memory of her brother Dubois Freer, by the late Gladys
F. Kopp and brother-in-law the late Leroy Kopp
October 28 ~ In loving memory of Janet Wei-Kuang Chen who died November
27, 1991, by her sister
Pauline Wei-Hsiang Chen and her nephew's family, John, Mary and Samuel
October 29 ~ In memory of Rev. and Mrs. Edward C. Perkins by the late Miss
Louise Roberts
October 30 ~ In loving memory of Clayton and Elsie Strever by the late Leroy
Kopp and the late Gladys Kopp
October 30 ~ In loving memory of Anthony ("Tony") Timpanelli, and in tribute
to his son, Patrick, and Patrick's husband, Rev. Paul F. Goodman, by the
Center Church family.
October 31 ~ In loving memory of Jessica Schuyler Holcombe 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

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)



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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