center church
the first church of christ UCC

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 16, 2026

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

LET'S MAKE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Join us this week for worship!

In Person - and Online!

October 18, 2026

Starting at 10:30 AM at 675 Main Street

This week in worship we will have the joy of celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism for three candidates and welcoming eleven (11!) new members.

We will also begin our season of stewardship with a sermon series inspired by the beauty of creation, called "Let's Make Something Beautiful" (see yesterday's email from Pastor Liza for more information on that).

Join us as we celebrate the growth of our congregation and the abundance of God's goodness this week.

We'll see you, 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.

THIS WEEK

Free Music and the Arts Concert

Save the date!

All Saints' Worship
NOVEMBER 1, 2026
Bring a photo of your departed loved ones to adorn the Communion Table at our All Saints' worship service.

News from our Sister Churches

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

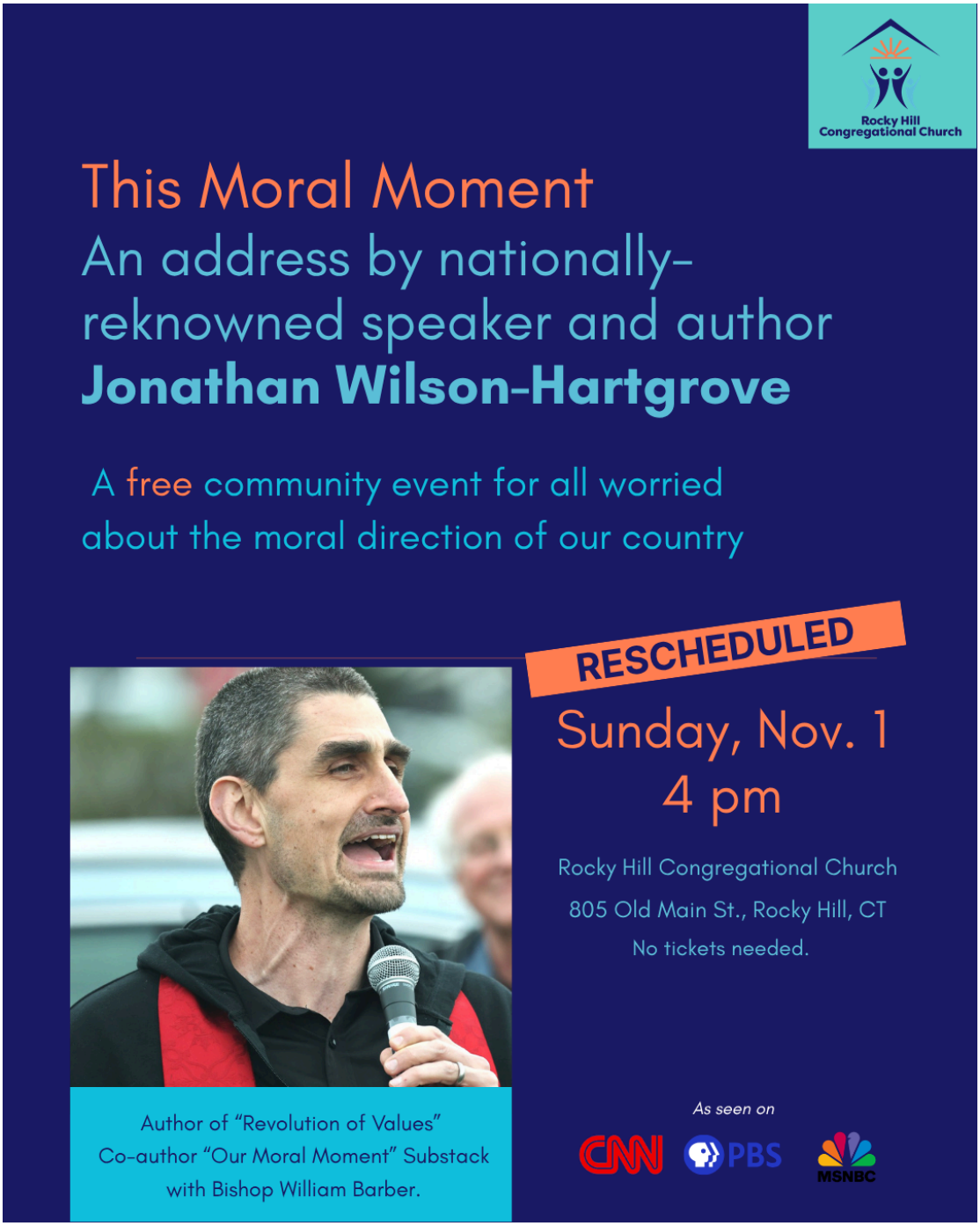
MUSICIANS

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



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 to learn more: https://www.iccucc.org/youth.

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

Central Connecticut Youth Group Calendar 2026

September & October

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

November & December

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.

Sue Thomas and the family of Jeff Thomas; 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

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.

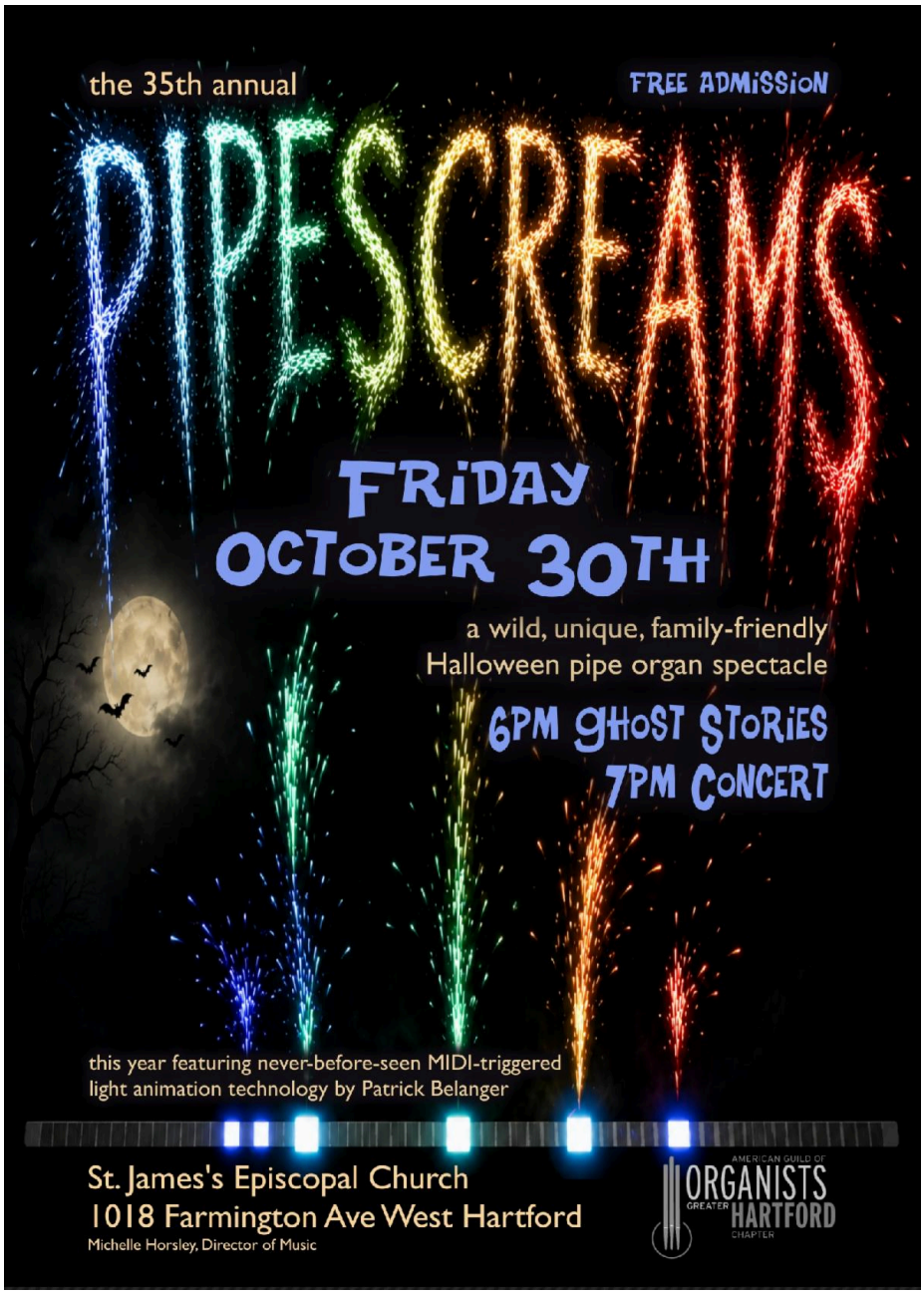
As most of you are already aware, significant repairs are required on the Meeting House (primarily carpentry and masonry along the eaves and windows). The first phase of these repairs will include the preconstruction activities and initiation of the repairs. The estimated cost of the first phase is approximately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


the 35th annual
FREE ADMISSION
PIPESCREAMS
FRIDAY
OCTOBER 30TH
a wild, unique, family-friendly
Halloween pipe organ spectacle
6PM GHOST STORIES
7PM CONCERT
this year featuring never-before-seen MIDI-triggered
light animation technology by Patrick Belanger
St. James's Episcopal Church
1018 Farmington Ave West Hartford
Michelle Horsley, Director of Music
AMERICAN GUILD OF
ORGANISTS
GREATER HARTFORD
CHAPTER

Hymn Festival

Richard Webster, music director

Hosted by the Greater Hartford Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

free concert

Saturday, November 21

1:30pm

hymns and anthems featuring organ with mass choir, festival brass, and timpani

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS GREATER HARTFORD CHAPTER

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church
285 Church Street
Hartford, CT 06103

free parking available in the lot across from the church

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 renown 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.

New Outreach Schedule
Programs & Hours - Fall 2026

center church
the first church of christ UCC

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

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CREATION JUSTICE CHURCHES

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.

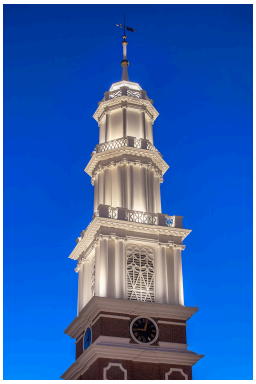
October 15 ~ William "Bill" Gourlie
October 16 ~ Jane Macomber
October 17 ~ Ann Theriault
October 18 ~ Willie Mae Geter
October 23 ~ John Conley, Jr.
October 27 ~ Terrence French, Jr.

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



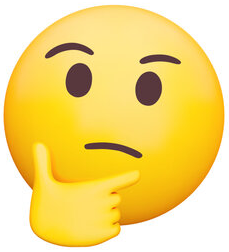
If you would like to light the steeple in memory or honor of a loved one, please e-mail the Church Office to make arrangements.

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, bythe 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
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

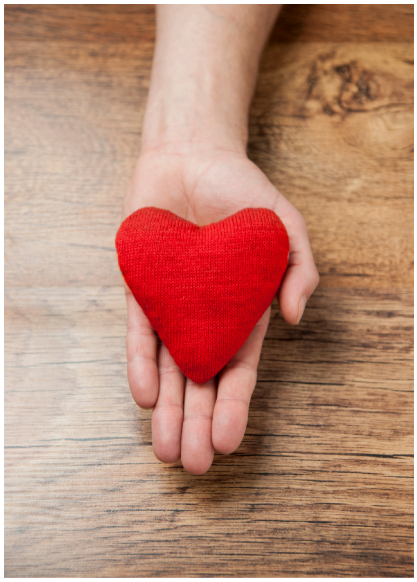
Need help paying for medical or dental bills at Hartford Hospital?
Have a friend or family member in need?
Center Church BED FUNDS
may be available!

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:

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the first church of christ UCC

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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