center church
the first church of christ UCC

Visit Our Church

Make A Gift

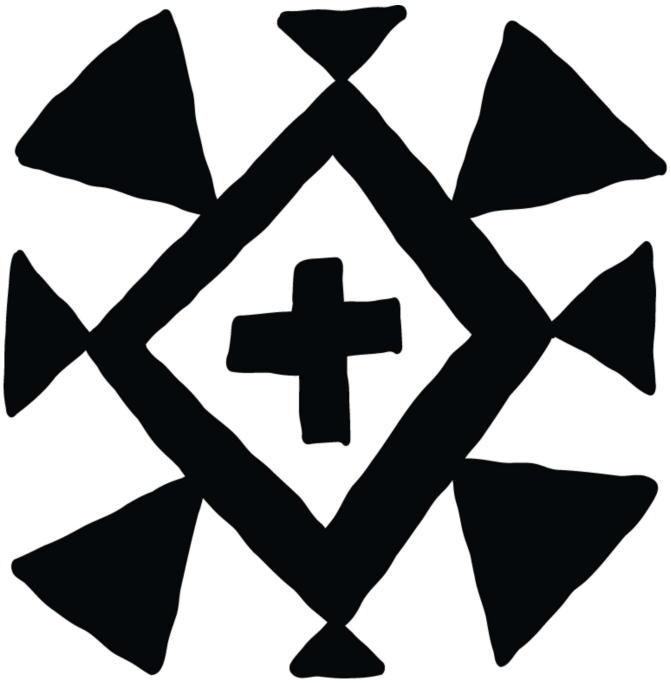
Choosing this Community, Walking in Love & Acting like Jesus Christ

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

Center Church E-News

November 6, 2026

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



Join us this week for worship!

In Person - and Online!

Starting at 10:30 AM at 675 Main Street

Don't forget to set your clocks back this weekend!

This week in worship we will resume our series on Stewardship, "Let's Make Something Beautiful." This week, Pastor Liza will lead us in worship and invite us to remember "One Thing." What, you ask? You'll have to come to worship to find out!

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.

P.S. How's your "30-Day Beauty Challenge" going? Whether you've done something every day so far, or just now and then, keep turning toward beauty – and enjoying the wonder and gratitude that follows. Don't forget there is a prize for those who complete the most days!

30 Days of Beauty Challenge

A Note from the Faith Formation Team

From Outreach Director Carrie Howe & Brother Eric J. Hearst:
Please Come to this Important Informational Meeting After Worship

This Sunday, November 8:

Join a group conversation after church service in the Church House Parlor (60 Gold Street) for questions and discussion.

If you cannot attend the meeting, please read the informational letter from Carrie & Bro. Eric here:
Letter to our Church Family & Sunday School Parents

Hello, Center Church Family!

One of the parts of Church School that our children most appreciate is the SNACKS!

Now that we have over 35 children registered for Church School classes, we are going through our snack budget quicker than we expected, and the Faith Formation Team is asking for help.

We are looking for donations of individually packaged, non-perishable snacks and juice boxes, which can be kept for use as needed. **Just please, no nuts.**

Donated snacks and juice boxes can be brought to service on Sunday or dropped off with Eric during the week.

Thanks for your support of our growing Church School ministries!

~ The Faith Formation Team
Lesley Morgan Thompson, Catherine Thompson Maclean, Nealie Newberger, Matt Marks, Rev. Deb Moyer & Brother Eric J. Hearst

Save the date!

News from our Sister Churches

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.

The family of Christine Lewis and Mike Greenlee, Dorothy Wurts, 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; 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

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

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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!

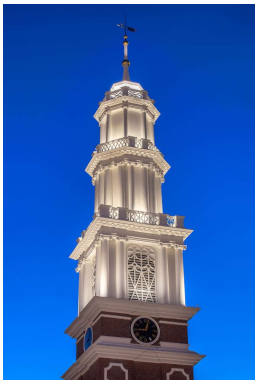
November 3 ~ James Macomber
November 3 ~ Hank Webster
November 6 ~ A'Mora Garrett
November 9 ~ Holly Wells
November 15 ~ Jane Foxall
November 21 ~ Kathleen Gourlie
November 23 ~ Aleia Parkes
November 23 ~ Nilsa Ciepikowski

Happy Anniversary!

November 3 ~ Logan & Danielle Singerman
November 11 ~ Terrence & Priscilla French

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:

November 1 ~ In memory of George C. Kosovich, Jr., by his wife Charlotte, daughters Cheryl and Lori, sister Sallyann and mother Elsie Kosovich
November 1 ~ In loving memory of the lives of Pauline Wei-Hsiang Chen, who died in Fizhou, China, 1997 and her sister, Janet Wei-Kuang Chen, who died Nov. 27, 1991 by their nephew, John Chen and family
November 2 ~ In memory of David Isaiah Green and Mary Titsworth Green by their son
November 3 ~ In memory of Colonel Harold Goodwin Holcombe, Jr. by William Clay Howe
November 3 ~ In loving memory of their parents Mr. & Mrs. G. Henry Clark, Mrs. Mabel Clark Arnold by the late Maude Clark Ashley and the late Edith W. Clark
November 3 ~ In memory of William G. DeLana, law partner, by Joyce and Harold Buckingham
November 4 ~ To the Glory of God and in memory of Dr. and Mrs. John C. Holtz, by Center Church Women/Evening Fellowship
November 4 ~ In loving memory of her father, Charles E. Keniston by his daughter Lois Keniston Penney
November 5 ~ As a loving tribute to Paul and Eleanor Battenhouse on the completion of their outstanding ministry to Center Church, November 5, 1967 - January 31, 1977, by Carol V. Badger
November 6 ~ As a tribute to Gladys Hernandez, Citizen of the Year 1997, for the City of Hartford, by her friends at Center Church
November 7 ~ In loving memory of George Hernes, by his late wife Madeline and their children, Marcia, George and John
November 7 ~ In loving memory of Wallace Shanaberger by his daughter, Diane Sherlock, and family.
November 7 ~ In loving memory of Colleen Olson, by her daughter Andrea E. Olson
November 8 ~ In loving memory of Isabell H. Merritt by her brother,

the late Joseph K. Hooker
November 9 ~ In loving memory of Frank F. Bohman, on the eve of his birthday, by Marie and the late Donald Bohman and family
November 10 ~ In memory of her parents, Jacob and Theresa Jacobsen, by their daughter the late Edna M. Jacobsen
November 10 ~ In loving memory of Patricia Renfro by Carolyn Arvidson
November 11 ~ In memory of their parents by the late Mr. and Mrs. John Herbert Sizer
November 12 ~ In loving memory of her parents and brother by Violet Vakel Goshdigian
November 13 ~ In memory of Mary L. Gilchrist
by the late Dr. Rockwell Harmon Potter and family
November 14 In honor of Ruth Spaulding on the occasion of her 100th birthday, November 14, 1993, by her many friends at Center Church
November 15 ~ In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Cutts and Mr. and Mrs. George G. Mankey, by their children

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:

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

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 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

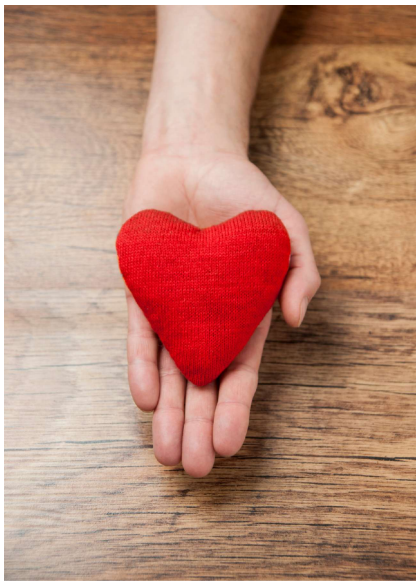
may be available!

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

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