



Sunday Worship Information & November & Early December Save the Date(s)!

WORSHIP & MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS at First Church – All are welcome and invited to worship at First Church! We are offering both in-person and remote ([YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV](https://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV) - live-stream & recorded for later viewing) worship at 10am on Sundays.

- Masks are always required in the church building by all over age two.
- **PARKING:** On Sunday mornings, the First Church parking lot is reserved for our visitors, friends and members with mobility challenges. If that is your situation – please park in the church lot. Others are welcome to drop off passengers at church and park on the street or parking garage – **free on Sundays**.
- **MUSIC: We are in a search process for a Director of Music Ministries - we are thankful for the gifts and service of our Fall Music Coordinator, Ann Vivian, and of our lay musicians and vocalists.** If you are interested in participating as a musician or vocalist, please be in touch with Ann: av@gvvarchitects.com.
 - All interested in participating in **Bell Choir** (novices welcome!) are invited to contact Director [Jennie Coleman](mailto:jenc@ebpabenefits.com) (jenc@ebpabenefits.com) about rehearsals, at First Church, Wednesdays: 6:45 to 8:15pm
 - For information about the **Youth Choir**, please contact Ana Ruesink: aruesink@firstchurchburlington.org.
- **CHILDREN & YOUTH:**
 - We are offering both in-person and remote (on Zoom from 9:15 to 9:45am – the link is: <https://bit.ly/churchschool930>) Church School program on Sunday mornings.
 - Childcare (infants/toddlers/preschool) and Church School (K thru 5) are offered in-person during the 10am worship service.
 - For information about programs for Children and Youth through high school, please contact [Director of Faith Formation Hilah Clarke](mailto:hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org) at hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org You can see our Youth Program Calendar for “The Haven” [HERE](#)
- **INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO CHURCH:** This is a great time to extend an invitation to neighbors, friends and family to join you in worship - in person at First Church - or remotely as the worship is live-streamed on our [YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV](https://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV) at 10am on Sunday (a recording available on our YouTube channel any time after the service).

NOVEMBER & Early December EVENTS for YOU:

Our CHICKEN & BISCUIT TAKE OUT DINNER SOLD OUT!

Thank you for pre-ordering tickets - we sold 200+ dinners!

Emails are on their way to everyone who pre-ordered letting you know what time to pick up your dinner(s) at First Church on Saturday November 13.

Thank you, thank you to everyone who bought dinners – donated dinners for us to share in the community – donated pies – and worked in so many ways to bring this event together! Special thanks to Jennie Coleman for coordinating the cooking and packaging of so many meals and to our Connections Team and Saturday kitchen crew for all of the support! Donated Chicken & Biscuit dinners will be enjoyed by many individuals and families – and all of the residents of Burlington’s Dismas House and ANEW Place! Got questions? Email us at: info@firstchurchburlington.org





Bell Choir Bake Sale Sunday November 14 After Worship!

Stay for a bit after the 10am worship on this weekend and take home some delicious baked goods: a pie, a fruit or sandwich bread, or some brownie bars or cookies... all to benefit our wonderful Austin Chimers Bell Choir! Thank you!

FINAL VISION MEETINGS ANNOUNCED:

Our Vision Team has been working for many months to bring everyone - members and friends of First Church to the table - to a Vision Meeting - to share ideas for a faithful future at First Church.

This vital part of the process, when we gather ideas from everyone, is coming to an end. If you are new at First Church, please sign up... if you have been a member for many years, please sign up... we want everyone to participate!

This week the Vision Team announced the final group of meetings to gather ideas for the future. Please SIGN UP for any of the following times:

- Sunday November 14 at 11:30 – at First Church or on Zoom
- Tuesday November 16 at 10am - on Zoom
- Thursday November 18 at 10am - on Zoom
- Sunday November 21 at 11:30 – at First Church or on Zoom
- Tuesday November 23 at 10am – on Zoom

If you have yet to participate - please, pick a time from this list and sign up with a Vision Team representative at Fellowship Time on Sunday after worship or contact Vision Team member Susan Saunders at susansaunders@comcast.net any time. Thank you!



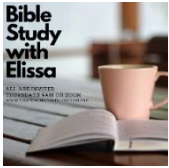
GET READY TO DECORATE YOUR DOOR Pre-Order a beautiful VT Balsam Wreath & SUPPORT YOUTH @ FIRST CHURCH

Our annual **Christmas Wreath and Garland – and Mail Order Wreath - Sale** benefits youth programs at First Church. You can learn more and place your wreath order online using this [LINK](https://bit.ly/wreathorder2021):

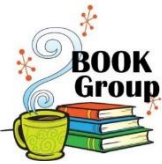
<https://bit.ly/wreathorder2021>

- Sending a Vermont Balsam Wreath by mail order is a great Christmas gift – **please place all mail orders by November 14.**
- Wreath and garland orders are appreciated as soon as possible in order to secure our full order – **please do order by November 21.**
- Wreath Pick Up Day is Saturday December 4 at First Church, 10am to noon – delivery to you possible too!
- Got Questions? Please contact [Hilah Clarke](#)





Zoom Bible Study – Thursdays this fall at 9am: The Rev. Elissa Johnk’s Thursday morning, 9am, Bible Study is open to all! Elissa grounds this weekly conversation (on Zoom) in the scripture reading for the upcoming Sunday. Use this link: <https://bit.ly/BibleStudywithElissa>.



THE WOMEN’S BOOK GROUP READING LIST for 2021-22: The Women's Book Group met in June to share ideas for books to discuss this year. Their selections are linked [HERE](#). Book discussions are scheduled for the 4th Monday of the month at 7pm – on Zoom – in November on the 22nd.



SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE – Applications due by December 15:

Use this link to learn more and to open the application: [2021-2022 Scholarship Application Form](#) Scholarships are available to all affiliated with First Church who are enrolled in post-secondary education.

VIA Racial Justice Housing and Land Ownership Presentation – Video Available

A video of the presentation made by [Vermont Interfaith Action \(VIA\)](#) Executive Director, the Rev. Debbie Ingram at First Church on November 7, about the effects of racial discrimination in housing and land ownership in Vermont – is available using this [LINK](#) <https://bit.ly/viaracialjustice7nov2021>

Members of the College Street Church and First Congregational Church BTV are part of a larger multi-congregation VIA Local Organizing Ministry (LOM) seeking to address the impact of systemic racism on home and land ownership by people of color in Vermont. The presentation addresses how systemic racism has disadvantaged people of color in accumulating generational wealth. Information in the presentation will help us lay a foundation for advocacy for specific legislative action in Vermont beginning in January.

**THE NEXT PRO-BONO – Phone-In LEGAL CLINIC -
is on Sunday November 21 from 1 to 3:**

Our September Legal Clinic served the community well! Our Outreach Team invites you to share this invitation to our final 2021 phone-in **FREE LEGAL CLINIC on Sunday November 21 from 1 to 3pm**. All folks need to do to participate is call the church number during those hours: (802) 862-5010. This service is available to any in our church and in the wider community. [CLICK HERE for details](#)

INSPIRING ADVENT SUPPLIES & INFORMATION

Pick Up Your Advent Kit on the first Sunday of Advent: Nov. 28

Our Deacons, Faith Formation and Connections Teams are working together with staff to assemble “Advent 2021 Kits” for each First Church household. Please plan to be in worship on Sunday November 28 to pick up your “Advent Kit.”

We’ll deliver Advent Kits to all households who do not pick them up on the 28th. Let’s walk the journey of Advent exploring... hope, peace, joy and love... together.



SILENT VIGIL FOR RACIAL JUSTICE – Sunday December 5 - from 1:00 to 1:30pm:

The Outreach Team at First Church invites all to participate in the monthly (first Sunday) Silent Vigil for Racial Justice on the front lawn at First Church. Bring a sign, a water bottle, a chair if you want – and join in to be in solidarity for racial justice in Vermont.