

Here's What's Happening at  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC OF BURLINGTON

[WWW.FIRSTCHURCHBURLINGTON.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTCHURCHBURLINGTON.ORG)



**Today:** Lead Minister, the Rev. Elissa Johnk returns from parental leave and we say farewell to Parental Leave Pastor, the Rev. Joan Newton O'Gorman.

**Vacation Days:** Director of Creative Ministries, Hannah Sachs will be on vacation: August 23 through September 6.



**Pastoral Care Needs & Emergencies:** The Rev. Elissa Johnk coordinates pastoral care in collaboration with our Partners in Pastoral Care – PIPC Team. To share prayer requests or to request other support that you may need, or for pastoral care referrals to staff/PIPC &/or clergy, please email our Partners in Pastoral Care (PIPC) Team at [info@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:info@firstchurchburlington.org) or call the Church Office: 802 862 5010, ext. 4. Our Office Manager, Caroline Catlin can take your message and will help you connect with staff, PIPC, and/or clergy.

**The members of our Partners in Pastoral Care Team are:**

- Janice Clements, Chair; Tony Hall, Carlanne Herzog, Michael Samara, the Rev. Bill Neil, Janice Claypoole, Barbara Carter, Lucy Samara, and the Rev. Elissa Johnk, Lead Minister

## WORSHIP:

**Sunday Morning Worship:** Worship is at 10 am on Sundays. Our worship services are also live-streamed - and a recording of each service is available - on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV](http://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV).

- **CHILDREN:** Families are encouraged to check in at the *Faith Formation Kiosk* after 9:40am. See "Learning."
- **MUSIC:** To offer your musical gifts, vocal or instrumental, or to learn more about First Church music programs, including **Youth Choir** - contact Music Director, Amy Shortt at [ashortt@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:ashortt@firstchurchburlington.org).
- **CHOIRS:**
  - **Austin Chimers Bell Choir: Wednesday 6:45pm rehearsals will resume on September 7 at First Church in September.** New and novice ringers are always welcome. For details contact Bell Choir Director, Jennie Coleman, [jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org).
  - **Thursday 7pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsals begin on September 8<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel at First Church.** All are welcome to sing! Contact Music Director, Amy Shortt for more information about the **Sanctuary Choir**. The Choir is gathering today at 9:15am for a quick rehearsal before they sing in worship this morning!
  - The **Children's Choir** is open to all in grades K through 5 – rehearsals will resume on Sunday mornings in September. For more information, contact Children's Choir Director, Laura Elder-Connors at [lelderconnors@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:lelderconnors@firstchurchburlington.org).

**PARKING:** On Sunday mornings, **the First Church parking lot is most needed and reserved for - our first-time visitors - and for friends and members with limited mobility.** If this applies to you, please park in the church lot. Drivers are invited to drop off passenger(s) before using street parking or the parking garage (both FREE on Sundays). Thank you!

**FLOWERS:** The calendar for donating flowers is available in the Church Office. You can create an arrangement with your own flowers, or order flowers from Maplehurst. Email [office@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:office@firstchurchburlington.org) for details.

## FIRST CHURCH HAPPENINGS!



The "**Blessing of the Backpacks**" is planned for Homecoming Sunday. Children, youth and educators are invited to bring their backpacks to worship to receive a prayerful and tangible (aka a small gift for your backpack!) blessing to carry with you in the year ahead.

**Our FCCB Re-Gathering Team invites all to complete the 2022 Regathering Survey** online as soon as possible: <https://bit.ly/regathering2022> - Need a printed copy? A few will be available in the Church Office.



**DID YOU GET A PEACE CRANE?** If

We will soon feature photos of cranes in places that bring joy and peace during

worship. Please submit photos here:

[bit.ly/cranephotos2022](http://bit.ly/cranephotos2022)

**Vision Project Team Update:** To learn more and sign up – complete the form in today's bulletin – or this link: [bit.ly/VisionProjectTeam](http://bit.ly/VisionProjectTeam)

**PRIDE SUNDAY:** All are invited to join our FCCB group walking in BTV's Pride Parade on 9/18 after worship.

**Silent Vigil for Racial Justice:** All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice **TODAY from 1 to 1:30pm.** Bring a sign and meet us on the lawn!



**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11:**

**Homecoming Sunday** Get ready to celebrate this special time of reunion as choirs and programs begin anew. After the 10am worship (also on

YouTube), all are invited to gather outside for hotdogs & chips – and time to enjoy visiting and connecting and some entertainment including games and music.

## SERVING:

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY** – Are you looking to exercise your green thumb? Want to use the electric or ride on mower – or tend a raised bed of veggies? We need your volunteer spirit – gardening and mowing - at First Church this summer! Use this form: [bit.ly/greenthumbfccb](http://bit.ly/greenthumbfccb) or contact the Church Office to learn more.

**Meals On Wheels:** Contact our own Al Weldon to learn more at [alweldon@aol.com](mailto:alweldon@aol.com) about helping to deliver meals twice monthly, or as a substitute.

**Dismas House:** We have been involved with the BTV Dismas House (a transitional home for parolees) for 30+ years. You are invited to prepare and share a meal on your own or with a friend on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of any month. Contact our Dismas Coordinator Donal Dugan, [donal.dugan@gmail.com](mailto:donal.dugan@gmail.com) for info.

**Volunteers Needed to work with our Faith Formation Team!** Our vibrant programs for children are available every Sunday! For more information about programs, or volunteering, please contact Director of Faith Formation, Hilah Clarke, [hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org), or drop by the “Faith Formation Kiosk” before the 10am worship.

**Small Potatoes:** First Church hosts this weekly, community, free Saturday breakfast and bag lunch. Want to help make sandwiches? To learn more, contact Outreach Team Member, Reid Willis, [frwillis@gmail.com](mailto:frwillis@gmail.com).

**JUMP:** A Drop-In Center based here, JUMP assists hundreds in our community annually. Contact our JUMP Board member, Anne Tewksbury Frye to learn more: [actfrye@burlingtontelecom.net](mailto:actfrye@burlingtontelecom.net). JUMP is currently offering services by mail, phone, and email on weekdays - and in-person on Thursdays (only) at starting at 9am.

**The FCCB Possibility Shop:** Our thrift shop sells gently used, household items and clothing. The “Poss Shop” is open **Wednesdays & Fridays 10am-3pm.**

Interested in learning more about volunteering? Call Karan Dewar 802-922-3821 or Brenda Frazer 802-862-4747.

**Pledges & Gifts of Self:** Stewardship — gifts of money and gifts of self— are invited and needed year-round! Stewardship information is available in the Church Office or check out our website: [www.firstchurchburlington.org](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org).

**Friends at First** work with our “Partners in Pastoral Care” Team to provide rides, meals, and other services as needed. Please contact the Pastoral Care Team: [office@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:office@firstchurchburlington.org) for more information.

**Sunday Morning Welcomers & Ushers!** Friendly faces are needed to greet or usher. For more information, please contact Office Manager, Caroline Catlin at [office@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:office@firstchurchburlington.org).

## LEARNING AND CONNECTING:

### **Faith Formation Opportunities:**

- **Childcare** is available for Nursery, Pre-School children each Sunday morning. Families are encouraged to check in at the *Faith Formation Kiosk* after 9:45am (in the *Church Office*).
- **Today:** children above kindergarten age are welcome to remain in the sanctuary. Fairly early in the service – on most Sunday’s following the Word of God for Sm(all) Ages – Faith Formation Director, Hilah Clarke, will invite them to gather with her at the back of the Sanctuary, where space will be set up with quiet activities for our youngest members.
- As always, “fidget bags” will be available for children who wish to remain in pews with family. This will be the model we will have in place throughout the summer.
- **Church School Peer Groups** will resume on **Homecoming Sunday September 11** for all in grades K through Middle School following the Word of God for (Sm)All Ages.

**YOUTH PROGRAMS:** We are happy to share that our collaboration with the College Street Church will be ongoing and that the fall calendar for youth programs is taking shape! For details make sure that you subscribe to our Church Newsletter. Families with middle and high school youth are encouraged to contact Hilah Clarke, Director of Faith Formation ([hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org)) to be added to the e-list for youth program updates.

For the 8.12.22 Youth Program update – use this link: [bit.ly/youthupdate81222](http://bit.ly/youthupdate81222)

**Bible Study:** The Rev. Elissa Johnk’s **Thursday** morning Bible Study will resume in September.

**Women’s Book Group:** The Women’s Book Group has made their reading selections for 2022-2023. Use this link to learn more: [bit.ly/womensbookgroup22](http://bit.ly/womensbookgroup22) For details and to be added to the group’s email list, please contact Janice Clements at: [janclm25@gmail.com](mailto:janclm25@gmail.com).

## WELCOMING:

**NAME TAGS help build community:** We're rolling out new, magnetic name tags! Forms and completed name tags are available in Sanctuary Narthex! For questions, please email [office@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:office@firstchurchburlington.org).

**Virtual Fellowship:** Every Sunday, after worship, on Zoom - [bit.ly/sundayfellowship](http://bit.ly/sundayfellowship)! All are welcome!

**New to First Church?** Please fill in your contact information on the welcome cards provided in the pews. We’d love to know you’re here and say hello! Our online Welcome form: [bit.ly/fccbwelcomecard](http://bit.ly/fccbwelcomecard)

**The Church Newsletter:** Please sign up to receive our weekly E-Newsletter – in the Church Office - or at [www.firstchurchburlington.org](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org). To receive a mailed copy, sign up in the Church Office.