

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

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



**WORSHIP:**

**Sunday Morning Worship:** 10 am Sundays. We also livestream with a recording available on YouTube.  
[www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV](http://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV).

- **CHILDREN:** Please check in at the *Faith Formation Kiosk* after 9:40am. See "Learning" for more info.
- **MUSIC:** To offer your musical gifts, vocal or instrumental, or to learn more about First Church music programs contact Music Director, Amy Shortt at [ashortt@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:ashortt@firstchurchburlington.org).
- **CHOIRS:**
  - **Austin Chimers Bell Choir:** New and novice ringers are always welcome! For details contact Bell Choir Director, Jennie Coleman, [jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org). Rehearsals are Wednesday at 6:45pm
  - **Sanctuary Choir:** Please come sing! Contact Music Director, Amy Shortt, for more information. Rehearsals are Thursday at 7pm and Sunday at 9:15am.
  - **Children's Choir & Youth Choir:** All children and youth are invited to meet in the Sanctuary - immediately following worship each **SUNDAY** - for a time of music making with Ms. Amy and Ms. Laura ([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 Sunday flowers is available in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. You can create an arrangement or order one. We will contact you with details. Questions? Email: [office@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:office@firstchurchburlington.org)

**FIRST CHURCH HAPPENINGS!**

Blue Christmas  
Worship  
Tuesday December 20  
6pm  
@First Church & YouTube  
All are invited

Saturday December 24  
Christmas Eve  
4:30 Family Service: Lessons & Carols  
7:00 Candlelight Service: Lessons & Carols



**Work with our Faith Formation Team!**  
We need YOU to work with our children and youth! Volunteer and paid positions available. Please email, Hilah Clarke at [hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org)

**Scholarship Applications**

**Available NOW** We invite scholarship applications for post high-school and/or vocational training programs. Scholarship applications can be completed online [bit.ly/2023scholarship](https://bit.ly/2023scholarship) or picked up in the office.



**THE BLUE CHRISTMAS & CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES** will be live streamed on the FirstChurchBTV YouTube Channel.

**SHARE CHRISTMAS:** Use this [LINK](https://bit.ly/sharechristmasdonation) to learn more about and to make a donation in support of the First Church Share Christmas program: <https://bit.ly/sharechristmasdonation>

**POINSETTIA & MISSION OFFERING:** To make a donation "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone important to you – use this [LINK](https://bit.ly/christmasflowersandmission) to learn more: <https://bit.ly/christmasflowersandmission>

**SERVING:**

**Silent Vigil for Racial Justice:** All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice January 1<sup>st</sup> from **11:30 to noon**. Bring a sign and meet us on the lawn!

**Meals On Wheels:** We deliver two Wednesdays a month, contact Al Weldon to learn more at [alweldon@aol.com](mailto:alweldon@aol.com).

**Dismas House** – is a transitional home for parolees on Buell Street; 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 Donal Dugan, [donal.dugan@gmail.com](mailto:donal.dugan@gmail.com) for info.

**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 need in our community. JUMP is currently offering services online ([www.jumpvt.org](http://www.jumpvt.org)) on weekdays - and in-person on Thursdays (only) starting at 9am.

**The FCCB Possibility Shop:** Our thrift shop sells gently used, household items and clothing and is open **Wednesdays & Fridays 10am-3pm. Volunteers needed:** 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 throughout the year! The First Church Stewardship Campaign seeking pledges for the year ahead is happening now. Stewardship information is available in the Church Office or on our website.

**Friends at First** work with our “Partners in Pastoral Care” – PIPC Team to provide rides, meals, and other services as needed. Contact PIPC: office@firstchurchburlington.org for details or if you or someone you know is in need of care.

**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.

**LEARNING AND CONNECTING:**

**Bible Study:** Rev. Elissa Johnk’s **Thursday** morning Bible Study is at **8:30am on Zoom:** [bit.ly/BibleStudywithElissa](https://bit.ly/BibleStudywithElissa).

**Women’s Book Group** is meeting on Zoom, **Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm** to discuss: The Book of Lost Friends: A Novel by Lisa Wingate; with Janice Clements facilitating. To join, contact Janice Clements at: janclem25@gmail.com.

**Faith Formation Opportunities:**

- **Childcare** is available for Nursery and Pre-School children each Sunday morning during the 10am worship. Families are encouraged to check in at the *Faith Formation Kiosk* after 9:45am. “Fidget bags” available in pews.
- **Church School Peer Group:** Elementary & middle school youth meet following the Word of God for All Ages.
  - Please, visit the **"Faith Formation Kiosk"** prior to worship to sign in participating children/youth.
- **YOUTH PROGRAMS:** Joint with College Street, 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades meet from 6 to 8pm Wednesdays. December meetings are at First Church. Contact Hilah Clarke or Jason Vanderlaan to be added to the email list.

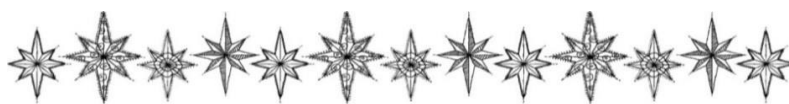
**WELCOMING:**

**NAME TAGS help build community:** Please request a First Church magnetic name tag! Forms and completed name tags are available in Sanctuary Narthex. Questions? Please email: office@firstchurchburlington.org.

**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](https://bit.ly/fccbwelcomecard)

**The Church E-News:** Sign up in the Church Office or online. To receive a mailed copy, sign up in the Church Office.

<b>SUNDAY 12/18</b>	9:00 am – Check-in for Pop-Up Pageant with Ms. Hilah in the Sanctuary 10:00 am – Worship in the Sanctuary. Pop-Up Christmas Pageant & New Member Joining! 11:00 am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all 11:00 am – Children/Youth Choir Rehearsal
<b>Monday 12/19</b>	Church Closed
<b>Tuesday 12/20</b>	10:00 am – 3:00 pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 6:00 pm – Blue Christmas Service in the Sanctuary and live-streamed on YouTube
<b>Wednesday 12/21</b>	10:00 am – 3:00 pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS + Possibility Shop Open 4:00 pm – Connections Team Meeting (Zoom) 6:00 pm – Youth Group at First Church 6:45 pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm – AA
<b>Thursday 12/22</b>	8:30am – Bible Study with Elissa (Zoom) 10:00 am – 3:00 pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am – 12:00 pm – JUMP Drop-In Center Open 7:00 pm – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday 12/23</b>	10:00 am – 3:00 pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS CLOSED Possibility Shop
<b>Saturday 12/24</b>	8:00 am – 9:00 am – Small Potatoes – free community breakfast/bag lunch 4:30pm – Christmas Eve Family Service 7:00 pm – Christmas Eve Traditional Service
<b>SUNDAY 12/24</b>	10:00 am – Cozy Christmas Day Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00 am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all 11:00 am – Children/Youth Choir Rehearsal



**THE POINSETTIA AND MISSION OFFERING**

Our Mission Offering this year is given in support of the VT Conference’s Hope Fund. The Hope Fund provides grants for new initiatives in Vermont UCC congregations that help build relationships with people outside our churches; bring our best to the common good; and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**IN HONOR OF**

· Amy Shortt by Diana Carlisle · Sarah, Jackson, Ella, and Amelia by Cyndy & Tony Hall ·

**IN MEMORY OF**

· George Passage Jr. by his sisters, Bev & Liz · Robert L. Bourgault by Mary Ellen Bourgault

- Lawrence and Beverly Dewar by Karan Dewar · Margaret and Bob Shaw by the Carter Family · Alan Elrick by his Family · Ronald Carter by his Family · Our parents by Carl and Carlanne Herzog · Our parents by Mary & Steve Hyde · Rev. Bob Lee by Donna Lee · Helen Douglas by Nancy McClellan and Elliot Douglas · Our parents by Elizabeth Miles & Beverly Peronace · My father, Mag Nelson by Laurie & Baki Nelson
- Tom Taylor by Laurie & Baki Nelson · Our grandparents by Jenny Niles and Greg Baker · Rev. James Avery Smith and Rev. John Edward Berger by Tim, Emy, Holly Berger · Josephine & Fred Samara, Cynthia & Bill Wynne, Arlene Black & loved ones by Michael & Lucy Samara · Betty & Oatman, Stephen, Douglas & Jessica Saunders by Susan E. Saunders · Nancy Collins Schmidt, a native Vermonter and my loving wife of 35 years by Don Schmidt · Blaine Sprout and Bud Ames by Rosalee Sprout
- Judy & Andy Dales by Judy & Bill Whitman · Nancy & David Whitaker by Beth Whitaker ·

For more information on these, or any other offerings, please visit [www.firstchurchburlington.org](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org) or email [info@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:info@firstchurchburlington.org).