

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

WWW.FIRSTCHURCHBURLINGTON.ORG



WORSHIP:

Cozy Christmas Sunday, Dec. 25th 10am: Join us for an informal carol sing and story time. Pajamas welcome!

Watchnight Sunday, Jan. 1st 10am: Start the new year right with this traditional "watchnight" service.

Star Sunday, Jan. 8th 10am: Get a star to guide you next year! Don't know what this is? You're in for a treat!

Sunday Morning Worship: 10 am Sundays. We also livestream with a recording available on YouTube.

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.

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

FIRST CHURCH HAPPENINGS!

Pledges & Gifts of Self are DUE: Stewardship — gifts of money and gifts of self— are invited now! Stewardship information is available in the Church Office and on our website.



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



FREE LEGAL CLINIC We are hosting legal clinic on Sunday January 22 Call 802-862-5010 between noon and 1pm to request an appointment. This confidential, free service is available to all in the church and wider community.

Scholarship Applications

OUT NOW We invite scholarship applications for post high-school and/or vocational training programs. Scholarship applications can be completed online bit.ly/2023scholarship or picked up in the office.



Confirmation Starting Soon! Families with youth in grades 7-12 are invited to contact Jason Vanderlaan at jvanderlaan@collegestreetchurch.org for more information.

Silent Vigil for Racial Justice: Ring in the new year with purpose. All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice **NEXT SUNDAY from 11:30 to noon.** Bring a sign and meet us on the lawn!

SERVING:

CHOIRS: No rehearsals until January

- **Austin Chimers Bell Choir:** New and novice ringers are always welcome! For details contact Bell Choir Director, Jennie Coleman, 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 downstairs youth room - immediately following worship each SUNDAY - for a time of music making with Ms. Amy and Ms. Laura (lelderconnors@firstchurchburlington.org).

Friends at First work with our "Partners in Pastoral Care" – PIPC Team to provide rides, meals, and other services as needed. We have several meal trains going now. Email to sign up! Contact PIPC: office@firstchurchburlington.org for details or if you or someone you know is in need of care.

Meals On Wheels: We deliver two Wednesdays a month, contact Al Weldon to learn more at 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 3rd Thursday of any month. Contact Donal Dugan, 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.

JUMP: A Drop-In Center based here, JUMP assists hundreds in need in our community. JUMP is currently offering services online (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.

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 cancelled for December 29th.

Women’s Book Group is meeting on Zoom, **Monday, January 23rd at 7pm** to discuss: The Book of Lost Friends: A Novel by Lisa Wingate; with Janice Clements facilitating. To join, contact Janice Clements at: janclm25@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, 6th-12th 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.

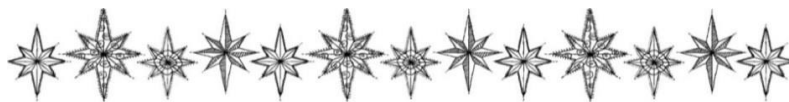
WELCOMING:

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

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

SUNDAY 12/25	10:00 am – Cozy Christmas Day Worship in the Sanctuary 10:45 am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all
Monday 12/26	Church Closed
Tuesday 12/27	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Wednesday 12/28	10:00 am – 3:00 pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS + Possibility Shop Open CANCELLED – Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm – AA
Thursday 12/29	CANCELLED – Bible Study with Elissa 10:00 am – 3:00 pm – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED CLOSED – JUMP Drop-In Center CANCELLED – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday 12/30	10:00 am – 3:00 pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS + Possibility Shop Open
Saturday 12/31	8:00 am – 9:00 am – Small Potatoes – free community breakfast/bag lunch
SUNDAY 1/1	10:00 am – Start the new year right with this traditional “watchnight” service 11:00 am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all 11:30 am – Silent Vigil for Racial Justice



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

- Michelle Mraz by Rob Backus · Amy Shortt by Diana Carlisle · Sarah, Jackson, Ella, and Amelia by Cyndy & Tony Hall ·

IN MEMORY OF

- Linda Backus by Rob Backus · 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 · My parents and Neal Slocum by Beverly Slocum · 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 or email info@firstchurchburlington.org.