

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

WWW.FIRSTCHURCHBURLINGTON.ORG



WORSHIP:

TRANS FORMATION

Our sermon series (Trans)formation, examining the importance of LGBTQ+ lives and theology, begins TODAY, and continues April 30th and May 7th.

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 Director of Music, Amy Shortt at ashortt@firstchurchburlington.org

CHOIRS: Sanctuary Choir: Please come sing! Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7pm and Sunday at 9:15am.

- **Austin Chimers Bell Choir:** New and novice ringers are always welcome! For details contact Bell Choir Director, Jennie Coleman, jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org Rehearsals: Wednesdays at 6:45pm.
- **Alleluia (Youth) & Cherub (Children's) Choir** rehearsals are CANCELLED for TODAY. If you are interested, please email Ms. Amy or Ms. Laura (lelderconnors@firstchurchburlington.org).

PARKING: The First Church parking lot is most needed and reserved for - our first-time visitors - and those with limited mobility only. Drivers are invited to drop off passenger(s) before using street parking or the garage (both FREE on Sundays). Please do not park on the lawn as it damages the grass.

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!



You are invited to attend the **Vermont Conference Association Meeting and Ecclesiastical Council TODAY in Charlotte, VT at 12:30pm.** Lunch will be provided.



"And Who Is My Neighbor?" the 228th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference will be held April 28-29 at Grace Church in Rutland, VT. All members of VT UCC congregations are invited. Learn more: www.vtcucc.org/am23/

Envelope Fundraiser for the Youth Group Mission

Trip: Take part by selecting an envelope (or two or three!) with a number on it - equal to the amount you want to donate - from the First Church Midway bulletin board. Then return the envelope(s) with your donation to either Jason Vanderlaan or the Church Office. *Checks payable to First Church, Memo: Youth Mission Trip. You can also donate online – select "Youth Mission Trip" - <https://onrealm.org/FirstChurchBurlington/-/form/give/>* Each envelope also contains message expressing "hope/concern/wondering about the trip" written by one of the youth, inviting donors to support them with prayer when they travel to Maine in June on their mission trip to serve with HOME, Inc. Thanks!



SERVING:

Silent Vigil for Racial Justice: All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice **May 7th from 11:30 – noon.**

Friends at First work with our "Partners in Pastoral Care" – PIPC Team to provide rides, meals, and other services as needed. Email 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.

Elmwood Community Shelter Snack Project: Donations of pre-packaged snacks invited for BTV's new pod shelter. Items may be brought to the Chapel on Sunday mornings or to the church office Tues. – Fri. 10am – 3pm.

JUMP is temporarily closed. We will keep you informed about its re-opening plans.

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.

Vermont Interfaith Action: We are currently partnering with VIA on issues of public safety, housing insecurity, and racial justice. To find out more, contact Louise Brewster at lbrewster@gmail.com.

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

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.

Community Outreach & Resource Advocacy through CVOEO provides support on Thursday mornings at 10am in the parking lot. Please email office@firstchurchburlington.org for more information about volunteering.

LEARNING AND CONNECTING:



LET’S TALK: In conjunction with our sermon series (Trans)formation, examining the importance of LGBTQ+ lives and theology, the Rev. Elissa Johnk is offering two “brown bag lunch” discussion gatherings on Fridays May 5 and 12 from noon to 1pm at First Congregational Church. All are welcome – bring a lunch, let’s talk!

Bible Study: You are welcome – no experience necessary! Rev. Elissa Johnk’s **Thursday** morning Bible Study is at **8:30am on Zoom:** bit.ly/BibleStudywithElissa.

Women’s Book Group is meeting on Zoom, **Monday, April 24th at 7pm** to discuss The Five Wounds: A Novel by Kristin Valdez Quade; with Dianne Griffiths facilitating. To join, contact Janice Clements at: janclem25@gmail.com.

zFellowship Breakfast is meeting **Tuesday , May 16th at 7:30am**. Please email Baki Nelson, fn.info@icloud.com for more information and to participate.

Men’s Game Nights occur occasionally throughout the year. Please Email Baki Nelson, fn.info@icloud.com for more information and to participate.

Midway Art Gallery: Check out the current exhibit in our Midway Gallery featuring work by digital and graphic illustrator Raph Brice. The gallery is open on Sunday mornings.

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 – 8pm Wednesdays – with April meetings at First Church. Contact Hilah Clarke or Jason Vanderlaan to receive email updates.

WELCOMING:

NAME TAGS help build community: Forms and completed name tags are available in Sanctuary Narthex.

SUNDAY 4/23	9:15am – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:00am – Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all & Virtual Fellowship on Zoom
Monday 4/24	Church Closed 7:00pm – Women’s Book Group (Zoom) 6:00 – 7:30pm – Tai Chi: White Cloud Arts (Dining Room)
Tuesday 4/24	10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Wednesday 4/26	10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS + Possibility Shop Open 4:00pm – Personnel Team Meeting 6:00pm – Youth Group at First Church 6:45pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm – AA (Chapel)
Thursday 4/27	8:30am – Bible Study with Elissa (Zoom) 10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10:00am – 12:00pm – CVOEO CORA Truck Outside in the Parking Lot 7:00pm – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday 4/28	10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS + Possibility Shop Open
Saturday 4/29	8:00am – 9:00am – Small Potatoes – free community breakfast/bag lunch
SUNDAY 4/30	9:15am – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:00am – Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all

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 online, in the Church Office, or complete a Welcome Card in your pew. To receive a mailed newsletter, sign up in the Church Office.

Please note that Office Manager Caroline Catlin is away until May 2. Volunteers will staff the office on Wednesday and Friday. If you have a time-sensitive issue, please email Elissa Johnk at ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org