

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, began last Sunday, and continues through May 7th. You can watch the first sermon on the [FirstChurch BTV YouTube Channel](#).

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!



Have you participated in the *Envelope Fundraiser* for the Youth Group Mission Trip?

Just select an envelope (or more!) with a number equal to the amount you want to donate - from

the First Church Midway bulletin board. *Donate online or by check payable to First Church, Memo: Youth Mission Trip.* Each envelope contains a "hope/concern/wondering about" the trip written by a youth, so you can support them with prayer when they travel to Maine in June on their mission trip to serve with [HOME](#).



Spring Green Up & Clean Up Day
Saturday May 6
9am to noon

Inside & outside - projects for all!

Let's gather
next Saturday
to make First
Church sparkle
inside and out!

All ages invited -
snacks provided.
Bring cleaning or
work gloves if you
can.



LET'S TALK: Along with our sermon series (Trans)formation, examining the importance of LGBTQ+ lives and theology, the Rev. Johnk is offering "brown bag lunch" discussion gatherings on Fridays May 5 and 12

from noon to 1pm at First Church. Please listen to [Vermont Public's 4/21/23 "VT Edition"](#) focused on VT trans youth. The link is online & on our website. All are invited on May 5 & 12 - bring a lunch, let's talk!



EXPLORE CUBA with LINDA ELRICK on SUNDAY MAY 7 at 9am @First

Church: Linda will share stories and pictures from her recent trip to Cuba. The Connections Team will provide coffee and a "taste of Cuba" light breakfast. All are invited!

Silent Vigil for Racial Justice: All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice at First Church **NEXT SUNDAY from 11:30 - noon**. Our Outreach Team invites donations of pre-packaged snacks for the Elmwood Community Shelter at this (first Sunday) monthly event.

SERVING:

COTS Walk Rest Stop at First Church on 5/7: Interested in volunteering? Email Lsamara@firstchurchburlington.org.

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 on Buell Street for parolees. 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 JUMP's May 2023 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 lrbrewster@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:

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.

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

Women's Book Group: Meets next on May 22 to discuss Kiernan's **Universe of Two** For info: Janclem25@gmail.com

Men's Game Nights occur occasionally throughout the year. Please Email Baki Nelson, fn.info@icloud.com for info.

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 4/30	9:15am – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:00am – Worship in the Sanctuary & on YouTube 11:00am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all & Virtual Fellowship on Zoom
Monday 5/1	6:00 – 7:30pm – Tai Chi: White Cloud Arts (Dining Room)
Tuesday 5/2	10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED – Office Mgr. Caroline Catlin returns on May 3.
Wednesday 5/3	10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS + Possibility Shop Open 5:00pm – Executive Council Meeting 6:00pm – Youth Group at College Street Church 6:45pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm – AA (Chapel)
Thursday 5/4	8:30am – Bible Study with Elissa (Zoom) 10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 10:00am – 12:00pm – CVOEO CORA Truck Outside in the Parking Lot 4:30pm – Building & Grounds Team Meeting 7:00pm – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday 5/5	10:00am – 3:00pm – CHURCH OFFICE HOURS + Possibility Shop Open
Saturday 5/6	8:00am – 9:00am – Small Potatoes – free community breakfast/bag lunch 9:00am – noon – First Church Green Up & Clean Up Day!
SUNDAY 5/7	9:00am – Explore Cuba – Stories & Slides – with Linda Elrick & Cuban Breakfast treats for all! 9:15am – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:00am – Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00am – Fellowship in the Chapel with refreshments for all 11:30am – noon – Silent Vigil for Racial Justice 2:00pm – 3:30pm – COTS Walk Rest Stop at First Church

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.

Off. Mgr. Caroline Catlin returns 5/3. Email Rev. Johnk, ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org, w/time sensitive issues.

For more information on these, or any other offerings,
please visit www.firstchurchburlington.org or email info@firstchurchburlington.org.