

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

[WWW.FIRSTCHURCHBURLINGTON.ORG](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org)



The Rev. Elissa Johnk will be on vacation beginning August 23rd – September 5th. For urgent pastoral care matters, please contact Director of Creative Ministries, Hannah Sachs, hsachs@firstchurchburlington.org.

WORSHIP:

Sunday Morning Worship: Worship will be at 10 a.m. on Sundays through the summer.

- Our worship services will continue to be broadcast via livestream to our remote worshippers and a recording of each service will be available on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV>.
- Families are encouraged to check in at the *Faith Formation Kiosk* after 9:40am (in the *Midway Art Gallery*, the space that connects the Sanctuary and main building) for information and to sign in children for the Nursery, Pre-School, and Elementary School programs each Sunday morning.

MUSIC: If you are interested in offering your musical gifts, vocal or instrumental, this summer, or learning about our Youth Choir, please contact our Summer Music Coordinator Ana Ruesink: aruesink@firstchurchburlington.org. For information about the Children's Choir, contact Laura Elder-Connors: lelderconnors@firstchurchburlington.org; The Sanctuary Choir is on break for the summer.

Bell Choir: Our Austin Chimers welcome new ringers.

For details contact Director, Jennie Coleman, jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org

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 for details.

FIRST CHURCH HAPPENINGS!



**In-Person Visioning Meetings:
Sundays at 11:30am
Join the Conversation.**

Yes. You. First timer. Old timer. Frequent visitor, old friend, haven't-been-in-a-while or baptized-here-and-then-baptized-

my-babies-here. YOU. Our visioning process only works if we have wide-spread participation from everyone - and that really does mean YOU.

Sign-up after worship or contact Office Manager, Caroline Catlin at 802 862 5010, ext.4. **Zoom option also available at 11:30am on Sundays!**



Music Director Job Description is LIVE! Great news! The Music Director Search Team has heard your feedback through the Visioning process, and we are ready to go live with our search!

The description is available on

the website, and to pick up after service. Please distribute widely to any you think might be interested or know someone. If you have any questions, please contact the Search Team at FCCBMusicSearch@firstchurchburlington.org.

SERVING:

The FCCB Possibility Shop: Our basement thrift shop sells gently used, household items and clothing. The volunteer-managed "Poss Shop" is open Wednesdays 10am-3pm and starting August 27th Fridays too! Interested in learning more about volunteering? Contact Mary Hyde: marywhyde@gmail.com or Louise Brewster: lrbrewster@gmail.com.

- **SPECIAL VOLUNTEER REQUEST:** We have a need for volunteers to greet Possibility Shop customers (inside on the first floor) at First Church on Wednesdays and Fridays between 10am-3pm. This is the perfect volunteer role for knitters, readers and anyone with a stationary activity they enjoy! Cover all five hours on any Wednesday this summer – or offer to be there from 10 to noon, or noon to 3pm. Please contact Mary Hyde or Louise Brewster (contact info above) and they will get you scheduled – thank you!

JOIN A SUMMER LIFE GROUP:

This August we are offering an array of summer Life Groups focusing on a range of fun activities including nature walks, bike rides, potluck suppers, picnics, yoga, and boating trips! Visit this link to sign up: www.tiny.cc/summerlifegroups



PRIDE PARADE & FESTIVAL – Sunday September 5th:

The VT Pride Parade and Festival are set for Labor Day weekend. We hope that many from First Church will walk with our church banner, and with representatives of Vermont UCC congregations. We're inviting other area UCC congregations to meet at First Church at 11:30 before walking several blocks to the parade gathering site on King Street. The parade route proceeds up Church Street and on to Battery Park for the Pride Festival.



Garden Boxes: Volunteers are needed to weed and water our raised bed gardens on the church front lawn this summer. All veggies raised will be donated to Feeding Chittenden. Sign up: <https://bit.ly/gardencare2021>

Silent Vigil for Racial Justice: All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice from 1:30-2pm on the first Sunday, September 5th. Bring a sign and meet us on the lawn!

Meals On Wheels: Al Weldon leads this community mission for us, contact him at alweldon@aol.com to learn more about helping to deliver meals monthly, or as a substitute on the second Wednesday of the month.

Laity Lawnmowers: Our volunteer mowing crew keeps the First Church lawns in good shape all summer for all to enjoy. Interested in joining our team? Please contact Bob Wolf at: bcwolf@burlingtontelecom.net

Dismas House: Our volunteers have supported the dinner program at the BTV Dismas House (a transitional home for parolees) for many years. You are invited to prepare and share a meal on your own or with a friend on the third Thursday of any month. Contact First Church Dismas Coordinator 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 our community annually. Contact our JUMP Board member, Anne Tewksbury Frye to learn more: actfrye@burlingtontelecom.net. JUMP is currently offering services by mail, phone, email, and in-person on Thursdays only at starting at 9am.

Friends at First work with our “Partners in Pastoral Care” Team to provide rides, meals and other services as needed. If you are interested in helping or if someone you know could use some care, please contact the Pastoral Care Team: office@firstchurchburlington.org

Quilt/Shawl Ministry & Evening Knitting/Crocheting Group: On break currently, for more information, please contact Jan Jackson at organjan@comcast.net or Betsy Freeman at: bfreeman789@yahoo.com, respectively.

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.

LEARNING AND CONNECTING:

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, or drop by the “Faith Formation Kiosk” before the 10 am worship.

Bible Study: The Rev. Elissa Johnk’s Thursday morning Bible Study will resume on September 9th.

Men’s Breakfast: All who identify as male are invited to gather for good company and a great breakfast! Next meeting TBD. For more information contact to Baki Nelson at: fn.info@icloud.com.

Women’s Book Group: All who identify as female are invited to participate in The Women’s Book group! Discussions will re-start on Zoom, on Monday, September 27th at 7pm! The first book will be Isabel Wilkerson’s Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents. Diana Carlisle is the September facilitator of this brilliant, contemporary book. The list of books for 2021-2022 is available here: <https://bit.ly/2021booklist> For details and to be added to the group’s email list, please contact Janice Clements at: janclm25@gmail.com.

“We Make the Path by Walking It” – an art exhibit at First Church featuring the visual and written work of Elizabeth Emmett is on display for you in the Midway Art Gallery space - between the Church Office and the Sanctuary. All are invited to explore Elizabeth’s work and perspective by visiting this space before or after worship on Sunday mornings – or during Church Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 3pm.

WELCOMING:

Fellowship Hour: Every Sunday, after worship, on Zoom - <https://bit.ly/sundayfellowship> - and in person at Church! Come chat with others about worship and life.

Sunday Morning Greeters & Ushers: Friendly faces are needed to greet or usher. For more information, please contact Director of Creative Ministries, Hannah Sachs, hsachs@firstchurchburlington.org

New to First Church? Please fill in your contact information on the connection cards provided in the pews. We’d love to know you’re here and say hello! Our online Connection form: <https://bit.ly/fccbconnectioncard>

First Church Podcast: “First Church Phonic” is located at: <https://anchor.fm/firstchurchbtv> and on all major podcast platforms. Our podcast holds many 10-minute guided prayers, sermons, Spirit Seeker interviews, and more!

The Church Newsletter: Please sign up to receive our weekly E-Newsletters – in the Church Office - or at www.firstchurchburlington.org. To receive a printed mailed copy, sign up in the Church Office.