

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

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



## WORSHIP:

**Sunday Morning Worship:** Worship is at 10 a.m. on Sundays. Our worship services are also live streamed - and a recording of each service is available - on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV](http://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV).

- **CHILDREN:** 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:** We are in a search process for a **Director of Music Ministries** - we are thankful for the service of our Fall Music Coordinator, Ann Vivian, and of our lay musicians and vocalists. If you are interested in offering your musical gifts, vocal or instrumental, please contact Ann Vivian: [av@gvvarchitects.com](mailto:av@gvvarchitects.com).

For information about the Children's Choir, contact Laura Elder-Connors: [lelderconnors@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:lelderconnors@firstchurchburlington.org), for the Youth Choir, contact Ana Ruesink: [aruesink@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:aruesink@firstchurchburlington.org).

**Bell Choir:** Our Austin Chimers welcome new ringers!

For details contact Director, Jennie Coleman, [jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:jcoleman@firstchurchburlington.org)

**PARKING:** On Sunday mornings, **the First Church parking lot is most needed and reserved for - our visitors, friends, and members with limited mobility.** If that is your situation - please park in the church lot. Drivers are invited to drop off passenger(s) before using (FREE on Sundays) street parking or the parking garage. Thank you.

**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](mailto:office@firstchurchburlington.org) for details.

## FIRST CHURCH HAPPENINGS!



**Share Christmas** is a First Church tradition dating back to 1988! Share Christmas is a way to give the joy of the holidays to others - and a way to receive practical support (and joy!) from the congregation.

**GIVE:** To support Share Christmas with a gift of time or treasure, use this link:

<https://bit.ly/givesharechristmas2021>

**APPLY:** If you are affiliated with First Church and need support, apply for Share Christmas assistance using this link: <https://bit.ly/applysharechristmas2021>



### **WREATH PICK UP Saturday**

**12/4:** If you ordered a wreath - please pick it up at First Church from **10am-12pm Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you to all for supporting

our youth through the 2021 wreath sale!

## SERVING:

**Silent Vigil for Racial Justice on December 5<sup>th</sup>:** All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice from 1 to 1:30pm on the first Sunday of each month. 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](mailto:alweldon@aol.com) to learn more about helping to deliver meals monthly, or as a substitute on the second Wednesday of the month.

**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](mailto:donal.dugan@gmail.com) for info.

**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](mailto:hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org), or drop by the "Faith Formation Kiosk" before the 10 am worship.

**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).



### **YOUTH-LED ADVENT SERVICE**

**for ALL:** Youth participating in Confirmation have planned a beautiful Advent Worship for **Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.**

All are welcome and invited to worship in person at First Church (masks required) or remotely via live stream on the FirstChurchBTV YouTube Channel.



**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Scholarship funds are available for those affiliated with First Congregational Church who are

actively enrolled in post-secondary educational programs. Learn more on our website or email Director of Faith Formation, Hilah Clarke:

[hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org) with questions and/or to request an application.

**The FCCB Possibility Shop:** Our basement thrift shop sells gently used, household items and clothing.

The volunteer-managed “Poss Shop” is open Wednesdays and Fridays 10am-3pm!

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!

**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](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org).

## **LEARNING AND CONNECTING:**

### **Faith Formation Opportunities**

- **Childcare** is available for Nursery, Pre-School, and Elementary School programs each Sunday morning. 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).
- **Worshipping remotely?** Youth age K-5 are invited to join Hilah Clarke on Zoom, Sundays from 9:15-9:45am <https://bit.ly/churchschool930>
- The next **Confirmation** meetings are **9am Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** for wreath pick-up and Sanctuary decoration, and **Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** during the 10am worship for planning the Youth-led Advent service which will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Bible Study:** The Rev. Elissa Johnk’s Thursday morning Bible Study at 9am on Zoom: [bit.ly/BibleStudywithElissa](https://bit.ly/BibleStudywithElissa). All are invited to participate and explore scripture for the following Sunday’s worship service.

**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! The next discussion will be on Zoom, Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm! The fourth book will be Sue Monk Kidd’s The Book of Longings: A Novel and Penny Rieley is the January facilitator. The list of books for 2021-2022 is available here: [bit.ly/2021booklist](https://bit.ly/2021booklist) For details and to be added to the group’s email list, please contact Janice Clements at: janclem25@gmail.com.

## **WELCOMING:**

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

**Sunday Morning Welcomers & Ushers:** Friendly faces are needed to greet or usher. For more information, please contact Director of Creative Ministries, Hannah Sachs, at 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: [bit.ly/fccbconnectioncard](https://bit.ly/fccbconnectioncard)

**First Church Podcast:** “First Church Phonic” is located at: [anchor.fm/firstchurchbtv](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-Newsletter – in the Church Office - or at [www.firstchurchburlington.org](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org). To receive a mailed copy, sign up in the Church Office.