

**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.

- **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.

PRE-REGISTER for CHRISTMAS EVE at First Church or Virtually: Our Deacons request that you pre-register: bit.ly/christmaseveregistrationfccb. By completing the form, you are providing invaluable information as we work to create a safe and joyful experience for all.

Christmas Eve Family Service 5:30pm: Family candlelight service of lessons and carols! Music leadership includes a guest organist, members of the Sanctuary Choir, and the Austin Chimers Handbell Choir.

Christmas Eve Traditional Service 7:30pm: Traditional candlelight service of lessons and carols! Music leadership includes a guest organist, members of the Sanctuary Choir, the Austin Chimers Handbell Choir, and the string quartet Eclectica, with Sofia Hirsch and Laura Markowitz, *violins*, Ana Ruesink, *viola*, and John Dunlop, *cello*.

Cozy Christmas Celebration Sunday, Dec. 26th 10am: A low-key, joyful gathering for all!

Star Sunday Jan. 2nd 10am: Get a star to guide you next year! With musical leadership by Patti Casey!

MUSIC: As we await the arrival of our new Music Director, Amy Shortt, 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.

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

Bell Choir: Our Austin Chimers welcome new ringers!

For details contact Director, Jennie Coleman, 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 for details.

SERVING:

Silent Vigil for Racial Justice: All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice on **January 2nd from 1 to 1:30pm.** 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.

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.

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 10am 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.

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.

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:

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** meeting will be **Sunday, January 9th from 4-5:40pm** at First Church.

Scholarship Application Extension: The deadline has been extended to **Dec. 22, 2021**. Learn more on our website or email Director of Faith Formation, Hilah Clarke: hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org with questions. Apply online using this link: bit.ly/onlinescholarshipform2022

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: Holiday Zoom Gathering with Christmas Poetry & Short Story Reading: The Women’s Book Group invites all who identify as female to gather on **Monday, December 20th at 7pm** on Zoom for this annual event. Bring a favorite Advent or Christmas poem or story to read, or simply come to enjoy all of the stories and poems! To receive a Zoom link to the event – please email coordinator Janice Clements at: janclem25@gmail.com

WELCOMING:

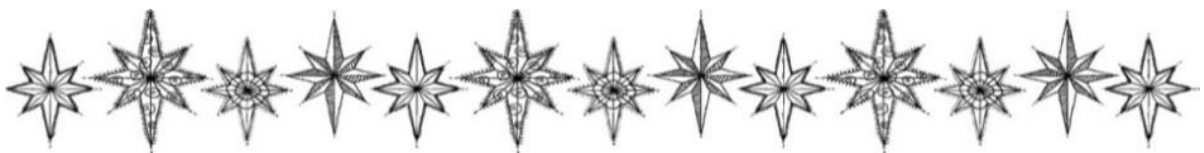
Fellowship Hour: Every Sunday, after worship, on Zoom - bit.ly/sundayfellowship - and in person at Church! Come chat with others about worship and life.

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

First Church Podcast: “First Church Phonic” is located at: 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. To receive a mailed copy, sign up in the Church Office.



THE POINSETTIA AND MISSION OFFERING

Our Poinsettia & Mission Offering provides funds to decorate the Sanctuary and to a mission selected by our Outreach Team. The Mission Offering is given this year to the New Alpha Missionary Baptist Church to support their time of transition following the unexpected, tragic death of their Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Christopher Von Cockrell.

POINSETTIAS DECORATING THE CHURCH WERE GIVEN

by Theresa Mazza-Anthony

A DONATION WAS MADE

by the Worden Family

DONATIONS WERE MADE IN HONOR OF

Susan Saunders by the Carter Family · In gratitude for the leadership of this church, present and past by Elliot Douglas & Nancy McClellan · Our grandchildren by Cyndy and Tony Hall · My parents, Kay and Richard Ryder by Allison Ryder

DONATIONS WERE MADE IN MEMORY OF

Linda Backus and Barbara Backus McCorkle by Robert Backus · George Passage by his sisters, Bev & Liz · Rose Bloomhardt by Paul Bloomhardt · In loving Memory of Janet Brown-Wolff by The Brown Family · Margaret and Robert Shaw by the Carter Family · Jean Bing by Susan Ellwood · Ronald Carter by his Family · Charles and Kathleen

Church Sr; Ralph and Analda Griswold by Charlie Church Jr. and Pat Heise · Our parents by Carl and Carlanne Herzog ·
Our parents by Mary & Steve Hyde · Rev. Bob Lee by Donna Lee · Ashley S. Boyd by Bill & Faith Neil · Our parents,
Mary & George Passage Sr. by Beverly Peronace & Elizabeth Miles · Pat Phillips by Bob Phillips & Family · Lora Gray
by Bob Phillips & Family · Arlene; Josephine & Fred; Cynthia & Bill by Michael & Lucy Samara · Marjorie and Frederick
Smith & Virginia and James Mellencamp by The Amy Mellencamp and Charlie Smith Family · Betty, Oatman,
Stephen, Douglas, and Jessica Saunders by Susan Saunders · Nancy & David Whitaker by Bethany Whitaker · Rev.
Bob Lee by Judy and Bill Whitman

The wreaths that decorate the front doors of our Sanctuary were given:

“In honor of singers past and present.”