



LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Thursday

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday

9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

A Ministry of First Church

860-232-3893

jpwebster@whfirstchurch.org

October Reach Out: Mental Health CT



Mental Health Connecticut partners with individuals, families, and communities to promote mental health and wellness. Through housing support, recovery programs, in-home services, workshops, and crisis intervention, MHC helps individuals access the resources they need to live safely, find purpose, and thrive in their communities.

Learn more about Mental Health CT:
<https://www.mhconn.org/about-us/#about>

HOW TO DONATE

Through First Church:
Write 'MHC' on your giving envelope

Online through First Church:
Select "Reach Out Monthly Collection under "Fund"
<https://pushpay.com/g/whfirstchurch>



Stop by the Gratitude Tree table during coffee hour this Sunday!

Then, come back and see the completed tree on the third-floor bulletin board.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

860-233-9605

Office.Manager@whfirstchurch.org | <https://whfirstchurch.org/>



Oct 18,
2026

Sunday Notes

First Church Happenings

Issue
#42

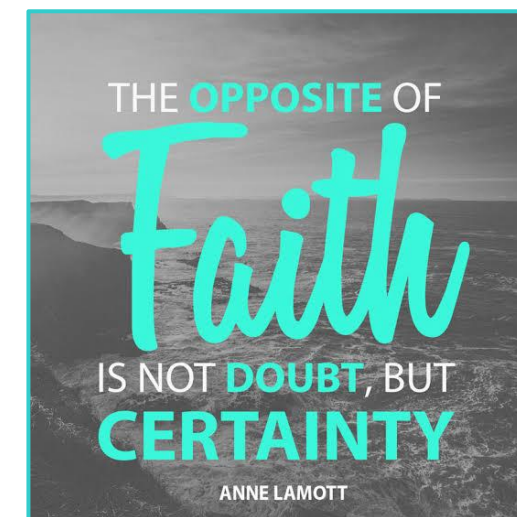
Grace and peace to you:

It has been said that anxiety arises whenever a person has a difficult relationship with certainty. A person could, for example, want to know precisely how God's future plans are going to play out. That person might demand detailed information about the blessings and benefits that s/he can expect to gain.

Moses was such a person. Sunday's scripture lesson depicts him anxiously asking God for absolute assurance: "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me." We crave complete confidence that everything is going to be completely okay. Maybe the most we can hope for is continuous improvement in our outlook. I'll say more when I see you.

Certainly,

rev.fredd



SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

This week's flowers are from:
Friends of First Church

"In celebration of
All Who Call First Church Home"

Sponsor flowers:
<https://bit.ly/26-27FCaltarflowers>

LIGHT THE STEEPLE

Light the steeple in honor, memory or celebration of a loved one, or just because!

Sign up to Light the Steeple!
<https://bit.ly/FCLightSteeple>

P-R-A-Y

Let us hold you in prayer

Submit a prayer request:
http://bit.ly/FCprayer_request

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION SESSIONS

Contact Rev. Fredd
860-233-9605 ext. 101
fredd.ward@whfirstchurch.org

LOST & FOUND

Room 304

SOUL CONVERSATIONS

JPWL BOOK LAUNCH & LUNCH AND LEARN
In-Person Attendance Sold Out — Join Us via Zoom!

Join Rev. Susan Izard for the launch of her latest work, *Soul Conversations: A Pilgrimage of the Heart*. While in-person attendance is full, all are welcome to participate in this free JPWL Lunch & Learn via Zoom!

Sunday October 18

11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

<https://bit.ly/SoulConversationsSusanIzard>

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Join us for coffee, conversation, and community.

📅 Wednesdays

🕒 10 a.m.

📍 Hartford Baking Co. WeHa Center

FITMIX FITNESS W/ KATHI BORATKO [FREE]

📅 Tuesdays

🕒 5:45- 6:45p.m.

📍 Auditorium

🔗 <https://bit.ly/FitMixKathy>

TAI CHI & QI GONG W/ CYNTHIA HOAG [FREE]

📅 Thursdays

🕒 10:30- 11:30 a.m.

📍 Chapel

🔗 <https://bit.ly/TC-QGCynthia>

EXPLORING CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM [FREE]

A documentary screening ft. “Bad Faith” [TV-MA]. Explore the issue of Christian Nationalism-history, influence, and its implications for our faith and democracy.

📅 TODAY! Sunday October 18

🕒 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

📍 Temple Sinai, 41 West Hartford Rd., Newington

🔗 <https://bit.ly/ChristianNationalism26>

MONTHLY CELTIC WORSHIP

Worship centered on prayer, Communion, poetry, music, and shared silence. Our October service will be led by retired minister and spiritual director, Tom Carr. Contact Court Lewis or Jennifer deSimas with questions.

📅 Sunday October 25

🕒 5 p.m.

📍 Chapel

OXEN HILL FARM & DISTINCTIVE IDEAS

The summer CSA is coming to an end but there’s still time to experience the fresh produce Oxen Hill has to offer for the fall!

SUMMER CSA

📅 Thursdays; through October 22

🕒 3 - 6:30 p.m. 📍 Rotunda entrance

FALL CSA

📅 Thursday November 5 & 19

📅 Wednesday December 2

🕒 3 -5 p.m. 📍 Rotunda entrance

More info: 🔗 <https://oxenhillfarm.com/>

LET’S MAKE LUNCHES! [WITH OUTREACH]

Volunteer to prepare lunch bags for our neighbors in the Asylum Hill Community.

📅 Sunday October 25

🕒 During coffee hour

📍 Auditorium

SISTERS IN SPIRIT: MINI RETREAT

A community for women seeking connection and spiritual exploration. Join us for guest speakers, retreats and more! Light bites provided.

📅 Sunday November 1

🕒 11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

📍 JPWL

INREACH INVITES YOU TO DINNER!

Mark your calendars and RSVP! You’re invited to dinner. More details to come soon!

📅 Friday November 6th

🕒 6p.m.

📍 Auditorium

🔗 <https://bit.ly/InreachDinner>

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

Great music performed to an audience in an intimate setting.

📅 Sunday November 15

🕒 3 p.m.

📍 Chapel

JPWL LUNCH & LEARN:

A QUARTER-ACRE OF HEARTACHE [HYBRID EVENT]

Join us to discuss Connecticut’s Golden Hill Paugussetts’ 1976 legal battle to preserve their reservation. Clan Mother, Shoran Waupatukuay, will join us via Zoom. Light lunch to be served.

📅 Sunday, November 15

🕒 11:30 a.m.- 1p.m.

📍 JPWL

🔗 <https://bit.ly/Quarter-Acre-Registration>

FILL OUR FOOD BUCKETS!

Blue buckets are located throughout the church and are waiting to be filled with pantry and toiletry items for local families in need.

EXPLORING SCRIPTURE BIBLE STUDY

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month

📅 TODAY! Sunday October 18

🕒 9 a.m.

📍 JPWL

📧 Joe Tobin: jmtobin@gmail.com ☎ 860-916-1923

EARLY CHRISTIANITY BOOK CLUB

The journey continues...Embark on the second tour of early Christianity. This fall, we’ll explore one of the very first converts to the faith while reading “Jesus According to Paul” by Victor Paul Furnish. Register online or contact Michael.

📅 Tuesdays: 11/10, 12/01

🕒 6:45 p.m.

📍 Youth Room

📅 Sundays: 10/25, 11/22, 12/13

🕒 9 a.m.

📍 JPWL

🔗 <https://bit.ly/FallChristBookClub>

📧 Michael Protos: michaelprotos@gmail.com

JPWL SPONSORED BOOK GROUPS

Book groups run September – June in the JPWL. Copies of books are provided at no cost. New members are always welcome!

For more information, contact Jennifer & Molly 860-232-3893

Hybrid option available for adult groups

AWAKENING THE SPIRIT

📖 *How the Qur’an Interprets the Bible*, by John Kaltner and Christopher Frechette

📅 Mondays

🕒 12-1 :30 p.m.

🔗 <https://bit.ly/Awakeningthespirit>

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

📖 *Theo of Golden*, by Allen Levi

📅 First Tuesday of the month

🕒 5-6:30 p.m.

BELIEVE IN YourSHELF [6-8 GRADE]

📖 *The Other Side of Tomorrow*, by Tina Cho

📅 TODAY! Sunday October 18,

Every third Sunday of the month

🕒 10:15 a.m.

11TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES



We’re inviting individuals, families, friends, businesses, and organizations to reserve a spot and create an original decorated artificial Christmas tree, wreath, or wall hanging for the festival. Let your creativity shine—entries can be traditional, whimsical, elegant, playful, or completely unique!

You can also participate by donating gift cards for our “Gift Card Presents,” packages of gift cards that will be included in the festival.

Reserve your entry by Saturday, November 28. Once you’ve reserved your spot, your completed tree, wreath, or wall hanging is **due Sunday, November 29.**

📅 Festival of Trees **December 3 and 5**

Festival Entry:

https://bit.ly/Festival_Entry2026

Gift Card Entry:

<https://bit.ly/FestivalGiftCardEntry>

Help Keep a Child Warm This Winter

Hat and Mitten Collection for Our Covenant to Care Children will be through Dec. 31st!



Please bring new or gently worn mittens, hats, scarves and other winter clothing for needy children to church, and look for designated boxes for collection. Thanks!!