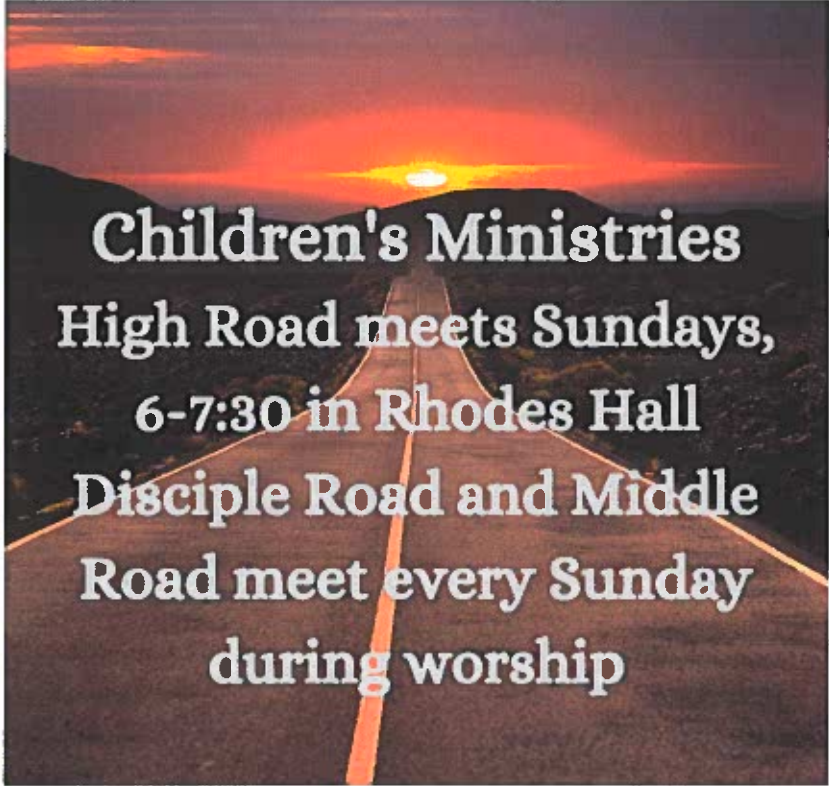




New Member

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

New Members will be joining the church by "Owning the Covenant" on March 12th during the 10:15 worship service. If you are a current member, please join in receiving them! If you would like to join please contact Vanessa



Children's Ministries
High Road meets Sundays,
6-7:30 in Rhodes Hall
Disciple Road and Middle
Road meet every Sunday
during worship

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 7:30pm
Good Friday 12 Noon

Easter Sunday

Sunrise at Jennings Beach 6am
Sanctuary at 9am & 11am

FAITH



Lenten Devotionals have begun. Join Mondays, 7:30-8:30 virtually

**Meeting ID: 893 1353 0287
Passcode: 882825**

Please join us for Wednesday morning Bible Study at 10am, in person and online. We are reading Isaiah.



The Men's Retreat is back!

We will gather for a one-day retreat with our brothers from First Baptist on **March 11th from 10 am – 4 pm** at the Blackhawk Country Club (formerly Oronoque) in Stratford. Cost is \$60. Please contact David McKinnis –

david@bethandddavid.org, 203-246-8138 – for more information.

Women's Spirituality

First Church's Women's Spirituality group meets the last Wednesday of each month to discuss readings which have been chosen to explore life, spirituality and faith. Currently we are reading *Sacred Voices - Women's Wisdom through the Ages*. We meet in the Eunoia room from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and simultaneously via Zoom.

Newcomers are welcome! If you would like to join us for the first time, or wish for more information, please contact Amy-Alison at: amyaliward@gmail.com



The Easter Bunny returns to First Church!



Covenant to Care for Children
Helping Connecticut's Children in Need.

We will be having sign ups for Covenant to Care Easter baskets on **March 19th and March 26th** after the 10:15 services in the connecting corridor.

The baskets mean a great deal to the children and families in our Social Workers' care. In most cases, they are the only gifts these children will receive on Easter.

Please sign up to donate a basket to make a child feel special this holiday and know that your thoughtfulness will be deeply appreciated.

Blessings to all, Marilyn, Kim and Jessie



Our new HVAC system for the sanctuary is fully operational!

The system includes special filtration for killing bacteria and viruses and is run before and during services. Please join us for in person worship and enjoy the clean air!



Souper Bowl of Caring

Thank you to all who donated to our Souper Bowl of Caring event. We delivered bags of fresh food, nonperishable items, and personal care supplies as well as \$600 for Fridgeport to use for their pantry. We also had a great time doing our skit and hope you had fun watching!

Sincerely, Middle Road



UPCOMING EVENTS



MUSIC
in the
MEETINGHOUSE

Music in the Meetinghouse presents our Lenten Organ Recital series. These 30-minute lunchtime concerts offer the chance to hear our renowned pipe organ played by some of the region's best organists! Our 2023 series begins Wednesday, March 1 at 12:15 PM, recurring each Wednesday of Lent. Hope to see you there!

March 1: Robert Kwan (Trinity Church, Southport)

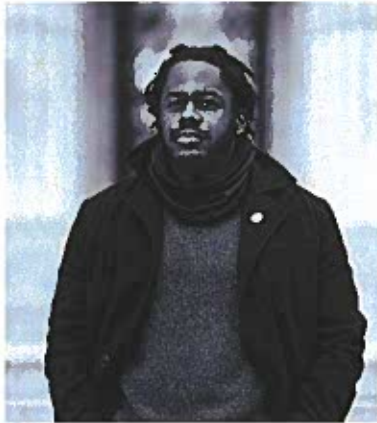
March 8: Irina Georgieva, First Presbyterian, Fairfield

March 15: William Atwood (Director of Music, Diocese of Bridgeport)

March 22: Chris Muller (Stratford United Methodist Church)

March 29: Frank Martignetti (First Church, Fairfield)

Round Table Discussion with Tre Kayumba March 5 during Fellowship Hour.



At our March meeting we will continue to work with Stratfield police officer James Lofton to learn from him about his program PAL and how he and his partners are conducting community engagement in their community. The plan is to follow up and continue our discussion and exploration of what we can learn and partner with James and, in the future, our own local police department.

Tré Kayumba is co-founder and President of Fairfield Yabantu, and as a teacher at the Unquowa School. First Church and Fairfield Yabantu have been sharing in some of the anti-racism work in the community, and the Youth Center has made a home here in the Loft and Rhodes Hall.



SAVE THE DATE!
Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Sunday, April 9

**YEE HAW! We're having a square
dance! Time to dig out your
cowboy boots!**

The Foot & Fiddle Hoe-Down

Saturday, March 4

Wakeman Hall

5:30pm - 8:30pm

Prizes for best costumes

Children's games

Admission: please bring a non-perishable
item for Operation Hope

Pot Luck supper

A-M brings a salad or side dish.

N - Z brings a main course.

RSVP link on google Forms with
number of attendees and what
you will bring by 2/27.

Visit the church website to make your reservation!



The IRRC (Interfaith Refugee Resettlement Committee) is starting to get 2 apartments ready for the family we are resettling and their expected arrival is in 2-3 weeks! We need the following items of furniture: full size beds, twin beds, bunk beds, dressers, bedside tables, lamps, sofas, living room chairs, side tables, dining room tables and chairs. Additionally, we need to stock the kitchen and supply other household items. The Amazon shopping list can be found by following the web address below. For shipping, make sure to select IRRC (Westport, CT) so the item(s) can be shipped directly to us. If anyone has any of these items that are new or gently used and wishes to donate them, please let me know.

Emily Fuehring: ekey@mail.bradley.edu or 309-258-3804.

Thank you for your continued support! web address:

https://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/1O3Q7BOUS1QFU/guest-view?ref=cm_sw_em_r_gr_un_4BT5uBhiJf78j

WE ALSO NEED VOLUNTEERS to help settle in the next family! If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact Emily Fuehring, First Church member and representative of the IRRC by email/call/text. ekey@mail.bradley.edu or (309)258-3804.

Thank you in advance for all of your support!



**Connecticut Institute for
Refugees and Immigrants**
Strengthening Communities Since 1918

CIRI APARTMENT SET UP

First Church continues to set up apartments for incoming CIRI refugees with our partner churches. We recently set up apartments in New Haven and Bridgeport for families and individuals from Afghanistan, Guatemala, and Ethiopia. If you would like to help our efforts, you can donate your time (cleaning and setting up apartments), supplies (we are especially in need of paper blinds), and furniture (bedside tables are our greatest need)! Contact Nikki at treschukennney@gmail.com for more information on how you can get involved.



Bereavement Group Finding Comfort in Our Time of Loss

Coping with the loss of a loved one has no set time frame. There are moments when we seem to be managing just fine and then there are moments when we continue to struggle. Memories can fill us with joy and are bittersweet as well.

Please come join us as we support one another in a shared loss, yet knowing that our grief experiences are unique to us. Laughter and tears are equally welcome.

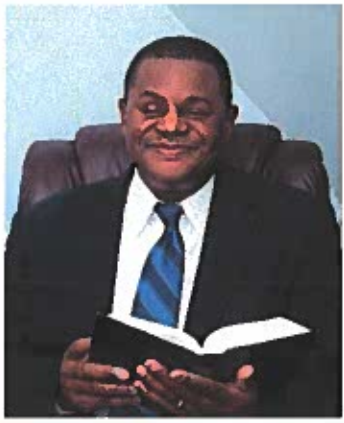
Celeste McGeehan, is a medical social worker and a deacon at the First Church of Fairfield, along with Joanna Moody, LCSW who will co-facilitate this important group. There is no charge but pre-registration is required. Please email Celeste at mcgeehanceleste@gmail.com or call (203)362-8969.

February 8, 2023- March 29, 2023 (Wednesdays), 1pm-2:30pm
First Church of Fairfield, 148 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT 06824

YOU ARE INVITED!

You are cordially invited to join First Baptist Church of Stratford for the 25th Pastoral Anniversary celebration of their Pastor, Dr. William B. Sutton, III, which will include the following events:

Friday, April 21: A Night of Comedy at Blackhawk Country Club (formerly Oronoque County Club) from 6-9pm. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$30 for children 12 and under and may be obtained by contacting the church office to reserve your ticket 203-377-1441.



Sunday, April 23: Sunday's Anniversary Worship Experience will be at 10:30a.m. with guest preacher Reverend John W. McVicker, Pastor of Christ the King Baptist Church in Milwaukee, WI. A light reception will follow.

Black Rock Sunrise Group
Closed Meetings Daily at 7am
Please call Matt D. for more information 203-394-2229

Daily Reprieve AA Group
Tuesday 8pm - Closed Big Book Meeting
Thursday 7pm - Open Step Meeting
Friday 8pm - Open Speaker Meeting

Sunday 8pm - Online Beginners Topic Meeting
Please call Len with any questions or for more information 203-333-4771



First Church Congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
148 Beach Road • Fairfield CT • 06824



The Foot & Fiddle Hoe-Down

Saturday, March 4

Wakeman Hall

5:30pm - 8:30pm

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 7:30pm

Good Friday 12 Noon

Easter Sunday

Sunrise at Jennings Beach 6am

Sanctuary at 9am & 11am

FirstChurchFairfield.org