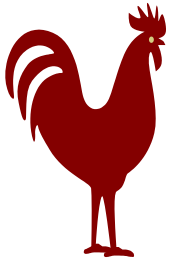


CHURCH NEWS  
Vol. 63, No. 11



# First Church News

First Church of Christ, Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
830 Corbin Avenue  
New Britain, CT 06052  
860-229-3709  
[www.firstnewbritain.org](http://www.firstnewbritain.org)

**NOVEMBER 2015**



#### OFFICE AND GALLERY HOURS

Monday - Friday 9 am - Noon

#### PROGRAM STAFF

The Rev. Kendrick Norris, Interim Minister  
Sharon Chamberlain, Coordinator of Christian Education  
James Gower, Director of Music Ministries  
Sarah Flythe, Coordinator of Youth Programming

Please go to our website, [www.firstnewbritain.org](http://www.firstnewbritain.org) for staff contact information

Copies of sermons and additional newsletters are available in the information rack outside the church office.

#### **2<sup>ND</sup> HOUR BOOK TALK WITH PETER KILDUFF**

On Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, church member, Peter Kilduff will give a Second Hour book talk about his new book, "Billy Bishop, Lone Wolf Hunter". The biography of a Canadian fighter pilot in World War I, it delves into Bishop's inner feelings amidst deadly turmoil over the Western Front. Published in England, the Bishop story is the latest in a series of books Peter has written about German and Allied airmen in the 1914-1918 war. A question and answer period will follow his remarks.

***"ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE."***  
*Ephesians 3:17*

## GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien were close friends, both being literature professors at Oxford. Tolkien helped convert Lewis to Christianity, whereas Lewis encouraged Tolkien to expand his fictional writing. They both produced numerous well-loved books which propagated basic Christian themes and principles. Tolkien's words from *The Hobbit* seem appropriate for us today.

"Go back?" he thought. "No good at all! Go sideways?  
Impossible! Go forward? Only thing to do! On we go!" So up he  
got, and trotted along with his little sword held in front of him  
and one hand feeling the wall, and his heart all of a patter and a  
pitter."

Our Church Council has voted and approved to accept the following slate for our Settled Minister Search Committee.

1. Mike Duncan, co-chair
2. Beth Sticca, co-chair
3. Justice Bowser
4. Mike Chamberlain
5. John Gemmel
6. Mike Gorzoch
7. Margo Hunt
8. Sylvia Lucas
9. June McCarthy
10. Deborah Ortega
11. Don Robertson
12. Arlyd Munoz-Snyder

As you can see this is a very balanced committee representing the broad spectrum of our members and interests. This we should celebrate. I am grateful that they have selflessly offered to give their time and wisdom to this central task for the future of First Church.

On Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Rev. Tamara Moreland, the North West Central Regional Minister, will preach to us about this time of moving forward and then hold a second hour to discuss the United Church of Christ search protocol. As much as possible we all want to be on the same page. While deliberations must remain confidential, everyone should understand the process and how the committee is moving forward.

*(continued on next page)*

*(greetings from the Pastor continued)*

Following the second hour, the Search Committee will meet with the Rev. Moreland, to learn how to proceed according to the United Church of Christ search protocol. The committee will make monthly reports to the congregation. We have already had three well-attended "moving forward" meetings that garnered essential information, but this committee will be gathering even more suggestions and hopes from you. We want to make sure that every voice is heard, every heart understood.

If you have any questions, feel free to speak to me or one of the co-chairs.

In Christ's love, Kendrick

## WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER

On Sunday, September 27, 2015, we welcome a new member, Justice Bowser. She was born and raised in New Britain and is a middle child. Her older brother has been in the military for 13 years and is currently stationed in Hawaii. She has a younger sister, who recently moved to Terryville, CT and she, too, is planning a wedding for the following fall.

Justice graduated from New Britain high school in 2005 and studied Dental Hygiene at Briarwood College, graduating in 2011. She is very fortunate to say she loves her job. As some know, she is getting married here at First Church on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>; her fiancé's name is Edwin Irizarry. They are high school sweethearts and are very excited to finally be getting married.

What drew her into First Church was the hospitality and sense of community, which are "amazing". Attending church is new to her and she is still finding what faith means to her, but feels very comfortable here while on this journey. She likes that Kendrick references history and famous quotes. Justice is a "pretty good cook" and would love to help out with functions. She read about Rebuilding Together recently and is "not very good with a hammer, but is good with a paint brush". We welcome her today!



## 2<sup>ND</sup> HOUR BREAKFAST CONCERT

On Sunday, November 1, 2015, at 11:30, we will host Classical Guitarist, Benjamin Tint. Our morning Worship service will be followed by a Coffee Hour and a Continental Breakfast at 11:00, after which is a brief concert in the sanctuary from 11:30 to 12 noon.



### IN OUR FIRST CHURCH FAMILY

- Our thoughts and prayers are with the Belanger family on the passing of Joan, on Tuesday, October 13, 2015. The service was held here, at First Church, on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Our thoughts, prayers and congratulations are with George and Gail Najarian, who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Thursday, October 22, 2015. Their address is 8 Robbin Avenue, Old Lyme, CT 06371.

This is an opportunity to use our Sunshine Post Office, to send good cheer, see later article. Cards, pens, an address book and a mailbox are set up in the Fireside Room . . . just write one out during Coffee Hour. They are a nice and easy way to send caring thoughts to our church family and are greatly appreciated by, and comforting to, those who receive them. A birthday list and birthday cards will be provided, also.



### FROM THE FINANCIAL CLERK . . .

Please remember that all contributions must be in the Church office or postmarked no later than December 31, 2015, in order to be shown on your 2015 Giving Statement for tax purposes. Many thanks to all who support the church's finances.



### OSGOOD FOOD PANTRY

In November, we are asking parishioners to bring in "Thanksgiving Food Items" to be donated to the Osgood Food Pantry. This would include such items as stuffing, canned green beans and sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, canned pie filling and pie crust mix. As always, any and all donations are greatly appreciated and may be dropped off on Sunday morning or during the week during church office hours.

Feel free to use the coupons clipped onto our shopping cart and, as always, your donations may be brought to the Sunday worship service or dropped off during the week when the office is open.

~Missions & Congregational Life



### THANKSGIVING SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING

This year's special Thanksgiving Offering has been designated to go to the Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi. The collection will be taken the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving, Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Envelopes are provided in your regular giving envelopes and will also be provided in the Sunday bulletin.



### MOMS WISH LIST TREE

It has recently come to our attention that the MOMS group is in need of various items to help out the mothers who participate in their programs. Our church has had a long association with the MOMS program, as it was originally housed in our building.

Please consider taking one or more leaves from our "Wish List Tree" in the Narthex and purchasing those items so that we can help them out. All items should be brought in **no later than Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**.

We hope we can continue to show them our care and support.

~Missions & Congregational Life



### FOOD BASKETS FOR THE ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

We would like to again provide Thanksgiving food baskets to five families for the Outreach Program of the Friendship Center. Beginning on November 8<sup>th</sup>, please stop by the table in the Fireside Room during coffee hour and pick up some food item cards. You can then bring these items to church no later than November 22<sup>nd</sup> and help make Thanksgiving a special day for our neighbors in need.

~Missions & Congregational Life



### SOCK BASKET

With cold weather settling in, we will once again be collecting socks during the fall and winter to donate to area social service organizations. New socks for men, women and children will be gratefully accepted and distributed throughout the upcoming months.

~Missions & Congregational Life



### BREAD BAKING!

Thank you to Arlyd Munoz-Snyder, Mabel Yeterian, Teri Grecki and AnneMarie Duncan for baking bread for the month of October.

AnneMarie Duncan will be baking for Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Joyce Anderson will be baking for Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, Lois Zink will be baking for Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, Amanda Costa will be baking for Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, Margo Hunt will be baking for Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Joyce Furman will be baking for Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, Lois MacFarlane will be baking for Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, Justice Bowser will be baking for Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and Arlyd Munoz-Snyder will be baking for Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Bakers are needed for Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and all Sundays (except 2/7/16) after. Please sign up, in the Narthex before church or during coffee hour, to bake two welcome breads to be given out to visitors, returning members or those having difficulty in their lives. Any kind of homemade bread is appreciated, from yeast breads to sweet breads to bread from mixes.



### MEN'S BREAKFAST, SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>

Calling all men to join us for breakfast at 8:30 am, on the third Sunday of each month. We will take turns cooking and cleaning up and put our wonderful church kitchen to good use. A hearty breakfast and good conversation is the perfect way to get ready for church. The next breakfast is on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> and Chili Cook-Off winner, Don DelCegno, will be the cook. Other upcoming dates are: December 20<sup>th</sup>, January 17<sup>th</sup>, February 14<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>.



### LEAF RAKING AND PIZZA

It's that time of year again to gather your rakes, gloves and energy . . . please join us after Worship and the Council meeting, on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, for leaf raking, followed by a pizza lunch.



### NOMINATING

It's nominating time again and we are beginning to work on the Nominating Slate for 2016. Maybe you're on a Working Group and would like to try something new, that would be great! Maybe you're happy where you are and would consider chairing that Working Group, that would be great! It would be wonderful to have some new people on Council. If you're not on a Working Group, we'd love to have you included on one. Please talk to me at coffee hour about Working Group opportunities.

Karen Canora



### CALLING ALL USHERS AND READERS

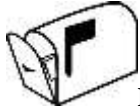
Would you like to be an Usher and/or Reader? There will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex before church and during Coffee hour, in the Fireside Room, after worship. Ushers and Readers are needed for the next three months, October, November and December and an usher is still needed for next Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. The training for ushering is easy and can be done before the service. Please pick a date or a whole month to help. We'd love to have you join us!

Karen Canora



### NAME TAGS

Name tags are in the Narthex and we ask that you take a minute to fill one out and wear it each Sunday morning. This will be helpful to members and visitors, since we are beginning a new program year and have some new and returning faces in church.



### PLEASE USE OUR SUNSHINE POST OFFICE

Following the Apostle Paul's call to "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep," (Romans 12:15), we now have greeting cards for you to write to someone who has been mentioned during our "Prayers of the People" or anyone you would like to reach out to. Cards, pens, and an address book are available during Coffee Hour, on a table in the Fireside Room. Just place your cards in the Sunshine Post Office box and they will be stamped and mailed out on Monday. This is an easy way to show you care. Please challenge yourself to write at least one card a month. As Jesus made it abundantly clear, as we do it for another so we do it for him.

~ Kendrick



### PRAYER SHAWLS

Also remember that our prayer shawl ministry is an outreach ministry. Yes, prayer shawls are for those in our congregation who are ill or grieving. And, they are also for people outside our membership. So if you have a family member, a friend, or a co-worker who you think might appreciate a soft, warm symbol of God's love please let me know and I will get you one of our beautiful prayer shawls. ~ Kendrick



### SECOND HOUR PROGRAMS

A variety of programs, from book lectures to discussions to music, are offered throughout the year, following worship. More may be added, some of them are as follows . . .

- October 25<sup>th</sup>: Church Member, Peter Kilduff, hosts a 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Book Talk about his new book, "Billy Bishop, Lone Wolf Hunter"
- November 1<sup>st</sup>: Continental breakfast following worship and 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Breakfast Concert (11:30) with Benjamin Tint, Classical Guitar
- November 8<sup>th</sup>: Rabbi Howard Sommer, Sermon Talk Back
- November 22<sup>nd</sup>: The Rev. Michelle Hughes, Associate Conference Minister for Transitions, will speak about the search process for a new settled minister.
- December 13<sup>th</sup>: The Rev. Kendrick Norris: A Fresh Look at the Christmas Story.
- January 10<sup>th</sup>: Luncheon Concert with Guest Musicians, Phil Rosenthal and son



### CLIPPED COUPONS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

The Missions & Congregational Life Working Group will continue to collect coupons for military families to help them provide for their families. HOWEVER, they are asking that they be already cut out, since there is a back-log of ones needing to be clipped. Please remember to bring in your coupons, drop them off in the basket in the church office and help us continue with this worthwhile venture!



### NOVEMBER 2015 CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- Sunday, 11/1: Carillon Prelude, Communion Sunday, All Saints, Reformation and Memorial Sunday, Worship in the Sanctuary, Sunday School and 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Breakfast Concert: Benjamin Tint, Classical Guitar
- Tuesday, 11/3: Tai Chi, meets Tuesday afternoons at 1 pm
- Thursday, 11/5: NB Women's Club Program, Steven Ford, 2 pm and Adult Choir meets Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm
- Sunday, 11/8: Guest, Rabbi Howard Sommer; Pledge Sunday, Worship in the Sanctuary, Sunday School and 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Sermon Talk Back with Rabbi Sommer
- Wednesday, 11/11: Building closed for Veteran's Day
- Thursday, 11/12: NEWBAIC Panel Discussion, 7-9 pm
- Sunday, 11/15: Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am, Worship in the Sanctuary, Sunday School, Worship, Council meeting and Leaf raking and pizza, after Council meeting
- Sunday, 11/22: Guest Preacher, Rev. Tamara Moreland, the North West Central Regional Minister, Thanksgiving Sunday, Thanksgiving Offering, Worship in the Sanctuary, Sunday School and 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour with Rev. Moreland speaking about the UCC search protocol
- Monday, 11/23: Newsletter deadline
- Thursday, 11/26: Happy Thanksgiving! Building closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday
- Friday, 11/27: Building closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday
- Sunday, 11/29: First Sunday of Advent, Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School





**THE WOMAN’S CLUB OF NEW BRITAIN PRESENTS STEVEN FORD**

On Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 2 pm, here at First Church, the Women’s Club of New Britain will present Steven Ford, actor and son of former President Gerald Ford and former First Lady Betty Ford. He will share inspirational stories about his family and details about his life on the sets of some great movies such as “When Harry Met Sally”, “Armageddon” and “Black Hawk Down”. Steven also spent seven years on the Emmy Winning soap opera “The Young and the Restless”. Within each of his stories, the focus is always about character, integrity and strong family bonds. Guests, who are not club members, are asked to pay \$5.00.



**Honest Conversations with Muslim Neighbors**

Who are our Muslim neighbors? What do they believe? How do extremist actions worldwide affect them?

Hear greater-Hartford-area Muslims share their stories, and respond to questions such as: Why don’t we hear moderate Muslims speak out against extremism? Why do some girls & women wear Muslim dress, and others do not? What does the Qur’an really say about people of other religions? American Muslims don’t have all the answers, but our guests will respond out of their own experiences, raising issues that concern them as well as us. Together, in conversation, we can promote a more peaceful world for everyone.

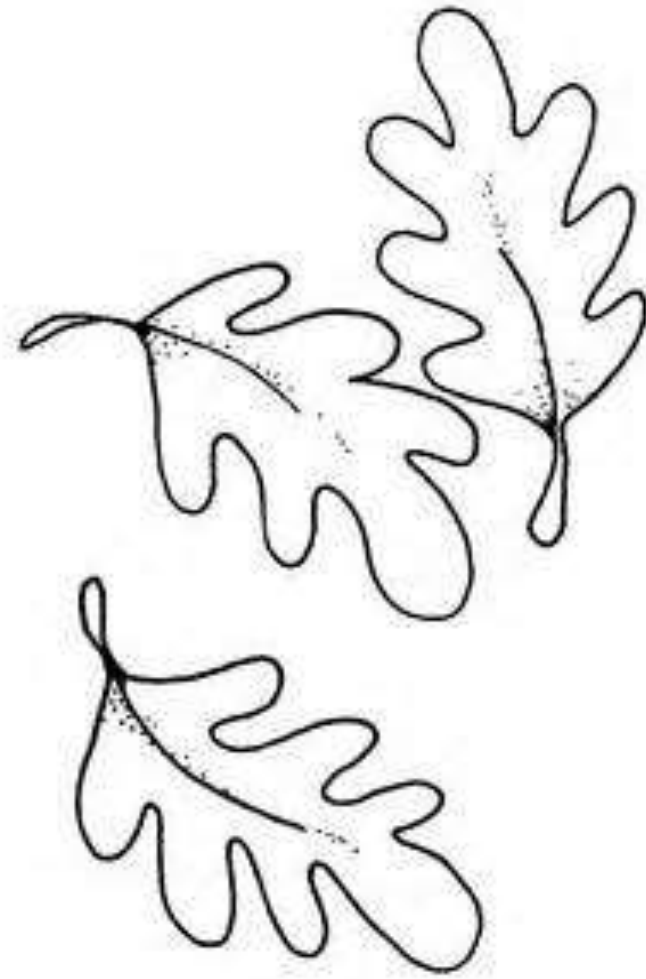
**Thursday, November 12, 7:00 p.m.  
First Church of Christ, Congregational  
830 Corbin Ave New Britain, Ct**

ALL are welcome . . .

Join us for this important event in the interfaith life of Connecticut & bring a friend!

***Because of limited seating, please RSVP to sharonfcc830@gmail.com***

Sponsored by: the New Britain Interfaith Area Conference (NewBAIC), CT Council for Interreligious Understanding (CCIU), the Muslim Coalition of CT and Hartford Seminary



**FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL!**

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 1 – 4 p.m. First Church will host what we hope will be the first of many Fall Family Festivals. There will be something for everyone – crafts to make, food and beverages to purchase from local vendors, games, face painting, pumpkins to decorate and more! The New Britain Fire Dept will bring a fire truck *and* the “smoke house”! Come in your Halloween costumes and bring a friend! Beth Sticca and Sharon Chamberlain

## FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

1 – 4 p.m.

1:00 – Fun begins!

1:30 – Apple Eating Contest

2:00 – Halloween Bingo

2:30 – Raffle Drawing

3:00 – Pie Eating Contest

3:30 – Halloween Costume Contest

4:00 – Raffle Drawing

Available to purchase – Avery's Soda, Max II pizza, Popcorn,  
Homemade Apple crisp and bottled water.

\$5 for Family or Group Photo Booth 4x6 picture

Face Painting, Henna Painting, Pumpkin decorating!

Wear your costumes to "Trunk Or Treat"!

*Help Warm Your Neighbor Coat Drive!*

*Please look for the collection box at the festival and bring your new or  
gently used coats for all ages*



### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...

Margo and Don Hunt

Joyce and Paul Petrisko

Betsy and Craig Turbacuski

Maurice and Jammy Davies

November 5<sup>th</sup>

November 5<sup>th</sup>

November 6<sup>th</sup>

November 29<sup>th</sup>



### HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING ...

4 RICHARD HALLIN

5 JUNE McCARTHY

6 JILLY STICCA

7 PETER NIEMAN

8 NICOLE PERROTTA

STEVE CULTON

DIANE LOHR

JENNY COOK

11 NATALIA GORZUCH

GROVE STEELE

JESSICA CURTIS

15 RUTH LERRO

19 JOAN CROMWELL

20 JONI ANDERSON-SENK

HEATHER NEUMAN

22 ARLENE HALLIN

24 GAIL NAJARIAN

CAROL SISCO

26 SCOTT MANGAN

28 DAVID HARRIS

GREGORY McELRAVY

DONALD HASENJAGER

# NOVEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 ~ Communion Sunday, All Saint's Day, Reformation Sunday and Memorial Sunday 9:45 Carillon Prelude 10:00 am. Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour (11:30) Breakfast Concert, Benjamin Tint, Classical Guitar</p> <p>7-10 pm. Alanon Anniversary Party</p>	2	<p>3 9:15 am. Staff Meeting 1:00 pm. Tai Chi</p> <p>7:30 pm. AA (men only)</p>	4	<p>5 2 pm. New Britain Women's Club Presents Steven Ford</p> <p>7:30 pm. Adult Choir</p>	6	7
<p>8 ~ Guest, Rabbi Howard Sommer and Pledge Sunday 10:00 am. Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Talk Back with Rabbi Howard Sommer</p> <p>7:00 pm. Alanon</p>	9	<p>10 9:15 am. Staff Meeting 1:00 pm. Tai Chi</p> <p>7:30 pm. AA (men only)</p>	<p>11~ Building Closed, Veteran's Day</p>	<p>12 7-9 pm. NewBAIC Panel Discussion, "Honest Conversations with Muslim Neighbors"</p> <p>7:30 pm. Adult Choir</p>	13	14
<p>15 8:30 am. Men's Breakfast 10:00 am. Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School 11:15 am. Council meeting 11:30 am. Leaf Raking and Pizza, after Council meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm. Alanon</p>	16	<p>17 9:15 am. Staff Meeting 1:00 pm. Tai Chi</p> <p>7:30 pm. AA (men only)</p>	<p>18 9-noon NB Women's Club Board</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30 am. Conference Committee on Ministry</p>	<p>19 7:30 pm. Adult Choir</p>	<p>20 4-9 pm. NB Youth Museum Auction</p>	<p>21 10 am. – 3 pm. CONCORA Rehearsal</p>
<p>22 ~ Guest, Rev. Tamara Moreland, Thanksgiving Sunday and Thanksgiving Offering 10:00 am. Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School 11:30 am. Rain Date for Leaf Raking and Pizza 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour, Rev. Moreland speaks about Minister search protocol After 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour, Search Committee meeting, with Rev. Moreland</p> <p>7:00 pm. Alanon</p>	<p>23 10:00 am. Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>24 9:15 am. Staff Meeting 1:00 pm. Tai Chi</p> <p>7:30 pm. AA (men only)</p>	25	<p>26 ~ Building Closed, Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>27 ~ Building Closed</p>	28
<p>29 ~ First Sunday of Advent 10:00 am. Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School</p> <p>7:00 pm. Alanon</p>	30					



