

THE CORNERSTONE

*First Church is an Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*

Welcome to Summer 2017 at First Church!

**This edition of the Cornerstone Newsletter will cover
all of Summer 2017!**

Take a look and see what's happening at
First Church this Summer!

Please Join Us!

Worship Services through June 11th:

- 8:30 am in the Chapel**
- 10:00 am in the Sanctuary**
- 11:00 am Fellowship in Palmer Hall

Worship Service beginning June 18th:

- 9:30 am in the Sanctuary**
- 10:30 am Fellowship Following
- (9:30 am Schedule will continue through September 3rd)

Newcomers, Visitors and Friends:

**You are Invited to Learn More About Membership
with First Church
Sunday, June 4th at 11:30 a.m. in the Parsons' Study**

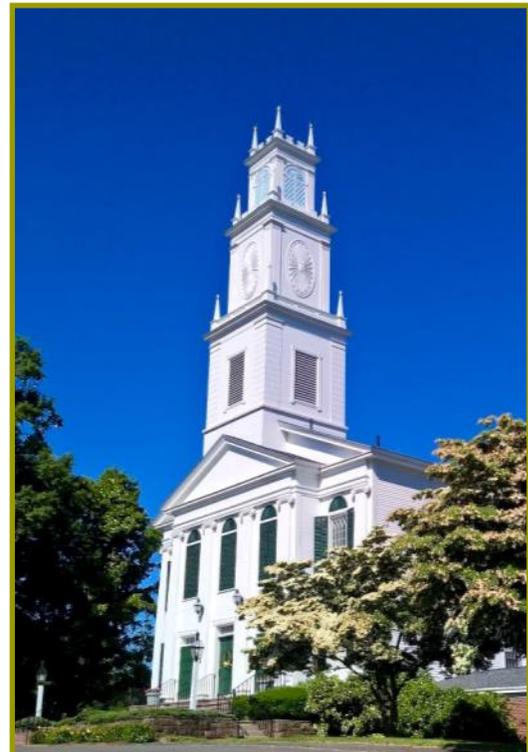
Join the ministers and lay leaders for a light lunch and conversation following worship. Take this opportunity to get to know church leaders, ask questions, learn about the church and discover just what being a member of First Church is all about.

All attendees of this luncheon will be invited to be welcomed into First Church as New Members on Celebration Sunday, June 11th, at the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Please RSVP for the reception to the Church Office,
admin@fccsimsbury.org or 860-651-3593.
Childcare available upon request.



Whether you've been attending for years or weeks,
we would love for you to join us!
Please come and explore membership with our
faith-filled, active congregation!



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**Rev. George
Harris**

Senior Minister

860-651-3593 x14

gharris@
fccsimsbury.org

Out of Office
Tuesdays

Pastor Pondering

“Can lawn care serve as a model for faithful living?” said no one ever. Except, of course, this pastor.

For the first time ever, I have become invested in having a beautiful, green lawn. In our New Britain home our lawn was beyond repair, so we just lived with what was there, weeds, crabgrass, bare patches and all. In fact, I once preached a sermon, “If It’s Green, It’s Grass,” referring to my decision to embrace the weeds. But here in Simsbury we have the opportunity to have a beautiful lawn. Lourdes and I enjoy our morning cup of coffee or evening glass of wine in our sun room that looks out onto our back yard. So as spring sprang this year, I decided to make the effort.

A friend told me about the “Scott Four Step Lawn Care Program,” a series of four chemicals that I am to apply to my lawn between the beginning of spring and Labor Day. Step 1 went down without incident, and my lawn has responded with thick, green grass! I couldn’t have been happier. I was keeping up with the Simsbury Joneses!

(Cue the ominous music suggesting impending doom.)

Then, a few weeks ago I noticed brown patches in my front lawn, then what appear to be trails of brown grass that intersect in little muddy patches. Friends in the know about such things tell me I have some sort of burrowing rodent, likely moles! Oh the horror! Visions of the Bill Murray character Carl Spackler in the 1980 comedy classic *Caddyshack* came immediately to mind, “My enemy is a varmint. And a varmint will never quit – ever.”

I asked friends on Facebook how to get rid of moles and got a wide variety of earnest responses. Here is a sampling of suggestions I received:

- Trap the moles. There are a variety of mole traps available; they appear to not only kill but mutilate the moles in the process. Even if I had the stomach for mole maiming, the traps appear to be too hard to use for this Carl Spackler wannabe.
- Let the dogs out. Our dog is named Sweetie for a reason. She has zero interest in hunting moles.
- Shoot the varmints with a .22. Um, no.
- Kill the grubs the moles feed on and the moles will go away. There was widespread support for this option, though the suggested methods for grub extermination varied widely.
 - Poison the grubs with a readily available Scott product called Grub-Ex.
 - Spray Palmolive dish soap on the lawn. Sorry, I’m skeptical.
 - Get chickens! Seriously! Thanks to Simsbury Selectman Elaine Lang, she of lawn chicken fame, for this suggestion.
 - Let the skunks eat them. Moles or skunks? Hmm.
- The very best suggestion came from my friend Michael in Hawaii who recommends a really good bottle of Cabernet (not for the moles or the grubs, but for me. Thanks, Michael!)

Some of these respondents were zealously anti-poison, pointing out the environmental and health hazards of using any poison, but especially this grub killing poison, on my lawn. One friend, Joe, summed up the feelings of these folks

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A Message from Rev. Kevin Weikel

Greetings!

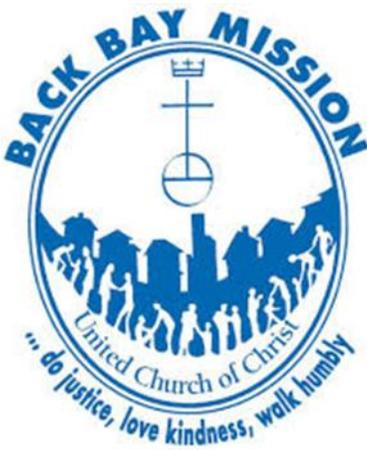
This edition of the Cornerstone covers the months of June, July and August, making it extra difficult to decide what to share in this space. There is just so much exciting stuff going on, how could one possibly choose just one of them? Well, I've decided to take the easy way out and not to write about just one thing, but to highlight four of them! Here some of the items on the forefront of my mind as summer kicks off at First Church.

The 2017 Confirmation Class

If you happened to be in attendance on Confirmation Sunday, you know first hand that our newest church members are an impressive bunch. I'm also sure you could tell that this group loves to sing! Even more, however, these Confirmands were an absolute pleasure to work with this past year and I can't wait for them to be involved in PF Youth Group and church as a whole in the coming years. On the right is a photo of the group standing on the steps singing the last song on Confirmation Sunday.



Youth Summer Mission Trip to Biloxi, Mississippi



Youth mission trips are an important and enduring part of youth ministry at First Church, Simsbury, and have been for a long time. Most recently, these trips have alternated between urban and rural settings, giving our young people the opportunity to serve and learn across a variety of contexts. Through our mission trips, our youth have helped resource-poor individuals and families, witnessed and gained an understanding of the harsh realities of poverty, and returned home with a deepened sensibility for the compassion and justice of Jesus. This summer, from July 23-29, thirty youth and six youth advisors will travel to Biloxi, Mississippi, an area devastated by hurricane Katrina in 2005 and a region that continues to experience poverty and social injustice even in its rebuilt state. Our group will work

with Back Bay Mission, a mission agency of our denomination, to restore houses and learn about social injustice and the concerns of those living in poverty. Our interactions with the people of Biloxi will give us unique connections that will influence our lives long after we've traveled home.

*As of this writing, there are just a few spots left for this trip. Contact Rev. Kev asap at kweikel@fccsimsbury.org to inquire about a spot.



Rev. Kevin Weikel
Associate Minister
for Youth and
Young Adults

860-651-3593 x16

kweikel@
fccsimsbury.org

Out of Office
Wednesdays

...continued on pg. 6

Musical Notes



Mark Mercier,

**Director of Music
Ministries**

860-651-3593 x21

mmercier@
fccsimsbury.org

Out of Office
Tuesdays

Summer's here! Time to think about the beach, or the pool, or vacation, or the lotion with the most accurate SPF.

In the midst of all that, though, we remember that God does not sit at the door of the church, tapping a foot and looking at the old watch, wondering where we are all summer and when we're going to come around. God loves a good beach, a swim in the pool, time at the lake, or a backyard barbecue as much as any of us. Don't think we leave God behind – God is right there sitting at the picnic table, and is truly a member of the family when it comes to this stuff.

That said, though, it's nice to take a moment and acknowledge this, and look up from our books or whatever we're doing every now and then to say hi, just like we would do to anyone that was there beside us. One might be surprised at how much more meaningful summer fun is when God is involved.

And, if we are around at any point, the church is here – giving us roots, like the home we come back to after we've been out and about. And, like our parents, God certainly knows that we love God. But parents still do like to get a visit and actually hear you say so to their face without having to assume so – and so does God. My parents are gone, but I would give anything to have an opportunity to tell them I love them now. And I'm not going to miss the opportunity to say the same thing to God on as many Sundays as I can.

OK, so musically, the summer is pretty active – we have some new people who are going to share their talents with us, along with familiar faces. And if you have something yourself that you would like to do, let me know. The summer's a great time for letting your light shine – a bit more informal and relaxed. But the music on Sundays will still be excellent – we have an incredible wealth of talent here at the church,

Also, we are, believe it or not, looking toward the fall. Musical plans are being made – some exciting ones! And our groups might gather for a rehearsal at some point just to say hi and to explore a few things. Another great time to test the musical waters here at the church.

But take some time this summer to hear some music! A summer lawn concert in the gazebo; some summer jazz in the park; or even one of the shows at the meadows – symphony or otherwise - (there'll be some great ones!) And, like church is one way of saying hi to God, music is a way God has of saying hi to us. So when you hear it this summer, smile and enjoy it. It's summer – you're supposed to.

Have a happy and safe summer –

Mark





Kids @ First

Grow your heart at First Church



Visit www.firstchurchsimsbury.com to see the church school schedule, videos, and information about what the kids are doing at First Church. **Weekly church school emails** are sent to parents on Thursday. If you are not receiving the emails contact ccole@fccsimsbury.org.




Hero Central VBS 2017 at First Church of Christ, Simsbury

June 19-23 Monday-Friday 9am -12 pm

At Hero Central, the kids will discover their strength in God!
Do good! Seek peace and go after it!

Adventure Church School Program

Kids ages 3 and up met in the Youth room. The program consists of a short video with a life lesson from Paws & Tails series, discussion, and activity—typically a game or craft—along with learning the Hero Central Songs for Vacation Bible School. **Parent volunteers to assist in our program each Sunday are greatly appreciated.**

- June 4 – Kids attend worship and participate in Communion
- June 11 – The Great Go-Kart Race (Being Kind and Caring)
- June 18 – Tiffany Cometh (Playing By Rules)
- June 25 – The Tribe (Playing By Rules)
- July 2 – Kids attend worship and participate in Communion
- July 9 – The Course Correction (Pleasing & Obeying God)
- July 16 - Whose Name Is Jealous (Pleasing & Obeying God)
- July 23 -Snake Oil Man (Following God)
- July 30—August 20 Kids attend worship

Fall Church School Teachers Needed

Church school for the kids at First Church is only made possible because of dedicated volunteers like you!

Please considering volunteering in our fall 2017 church school program. All the classroom materials and curriculum are provided to you. Teachers share the responsible of teaching a class, and decide who is teaching on any given Sunday.

If you are interested in volunteering next year or would like more information please email ccole@fccsimsbury.org .

Our volunteers so far are:

- ⇒ **PreK - (At least 3 teachers needed)**
- ⇒ *Kindergarten* – Patti Scanlon & Theresa Carlson
- ⇒ *Rotation Program Shepherds* accompany the kids as they rotate to the different classes, take attendance, monitor student behavior and assist the teacher where needed:
 - ⇒ *Grades 1&2* – Jess Buckle
 - ⇒ *Grade 3* – Suzanne Osborne
 - ⇒ **Grades 4 & 5 – (shepherd needed)**
- ⇒ *Rotation Program Teachers* for Grades 1-5. Remain in the class and teach the same lesson to the 3 different groups (above) that rotate to their room:
 - ⇒ **Art - (2 teachers needed)**
 - ⇒ *Bible story* - Jen Petron & Kristen Pomeroy
 - ⇒ **Cooking—(2 teachers needed)**
 - ⇒ *Computer* - David Mcelligott & Rob Dawson
- ⇒ *Pre-confirmation teachers* – Erin Naspo & Anna Harris

Back Pack Blessing

Save the Date: August 27, 2017 @ 9:30



- ♥ Students and Adults are encouraged to bring their back packs and briefcases to the service to be blessed for the upcoming school year.
- ♥ After the blessing, students will be dismissed to Palmer Hall for the Backpack Mission Project and activities.
- ♥ We will be collecting school supplies and backpacks in the month of August for this mission project.
- ♥ Continental breakfast to follow the service sponsored by the Board of Christian Education.



For information about the kid's at First summer mission project see:
www.firstchurchsimsbury.com/faith-mulira-health-care-center-masooli-uganda.html

Pastor Pondering *continued from pg. 2...*

when he replied, “HOW ABOUT NOT SPRAYING LIQUID CANCER IN YOUR YARD!” Oh boy.

This is where the moral dilemma comes in. Poisoning the grubs seems to be the most accessible and efficient approach to getting rid of the moles and restoring my yard to its near-pristine, green state. I feel judged by the anti-poison lobby, but have to admit they are probably right. Poison could be harmful to pets, to my family, and to the environment. In spite of this knowledge I will probably end up poisoning the grubs (I bought the poison, just haven’t applied it yet).

The lesson for a life of faith? We are confronted daily with moral dilemmas, asked to choose among options when there is no perfect right answer. Even when one choice does appear to be ethically preferred (no poison), we reject that choice in favor of another option, often for selfish reasons (ease and efficiency). Here are two takeaways. Take each decision seriously; gather all the information needed and make the best decision possible. And, when we still come up short (as we surely will), be gentle with ourselves and embrace God’s grace and forgiveness.

In Christ,
Pastor George



A Message from Rev. Kevin Weikel *continued from pg. 3...*

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is Cindy Cole’s baby, but I just have to mention it here because I could not be more excited for it to begin. The theme this year is “Hero Central: Discover Your Strength In God.” Cindy and her team have been hard at work for months preparing for this week of games and activities that will provide fun and meaning for the children of First Church and wider community. For the first time in years, VBS will be taking place at First Church as well!



Young Adult Service Communities (YASC@Simsbury)



In the March edition of the Cornerstone I wrote rather extensively about YASC@Simsbury. If you desire to read a comprehensive overview of the program, [click here](#). As an update, I am excited to share with you that two out of our three positions are filled! While I will hold off on sharing specific names until all of the paperwork is complete, I can promise you that these two young adults will energize and inspire our congregation next year. In preparation for these young adults to arrive mid-September 2017, we are looking to fill a team of folks willing to welcome and support them, especially when they first arrive, and also throughout the year. If you are interested in being part of such a team, let me know.

As you can tell, this will not be a boring summer! I hope to see you around and wish for you all the best!

Peace to you,

Kevin

Youth and Young Adults

Junior Fellowship (JF) is our youth group for 7th and 8th graders. JF gathers approximately once a month, from 2:10-4:30 pm. At JF, we enjoy a snack, play games, participate in service projects, and in faith-based discussions. For Henry James students, the church bus will pick you up from school. The bus will be parked in the back lot (the bus parking lot). Simply walk out the back doors of Henry James, take a right past the gym and tennis courts, look to your left, and you'll see the church bus parked next to the field. You can't miss it. For students who attend schools other than Henry James, please join us by meeting us at the church at 2:30pm.

Friday, June : 2:10-4:30 pm Closing Picnic

Confirmation at First Church is an intentional time of exploring what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We do this in large and small groups through fellowship, conversation, study, mission work, worship, and more.

Pilgrim Fellowship (PF) is for all 9th through 12th graders no matter their religious background, or ideas about God. Everyone is welcome. PF is a place to play, discuss, worship, grow, serve, and love. PF is a place for teenagers to journey together in faith. PF meets for fellowship, retreats, mission opportunities, and more.

[Visit the Youth and Young Adult Pages on our Website for Current, Up-to-Date Information!](#)

May 21, 2017 Confirmation Sunday

Congratulations to all the students who took part in and completed the 2016-17 Confirmation Class!
Thank you to all the leaders, assistants, hosts, and volunteers who contributed to the class' success!



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST AND ECCLESASTICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING
April 30, 2017
MINUTES

Reverend George Harris offered an opening prayer.

President Cindy Braunlich called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.

Based on a visual count, Clerk Steve Osborn confirmed there was a quorum present.

It was moved, seconded, and approved that a reading of the 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes be dispensed with, and it was further moved and seconded that the 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented. This motion also carried.

President's Comments. Cindy Braunlich described the current program year as “vibrant” and “a rebuilding process which marks the end of our uncertain transition stage”. She noted that worship attendance in the last twelve months topped 12,000, in contrast to 8,500 during the prior year. We have also made important financial progress, although the possible budget shortfall this year must be overcome either with increased income or with selective program cutbacks. The immediate focus is on encouraging additional pledging to close the gap. Cindy concluded her comments with thanks to the Nominating Committee and the By-Laws Revision Committee, whose reports would follow later in the meeting.

Vice President's Comments. Mark Scully noted that despite the hard work of the Nominating Committee this year, there were many unfilled Board and Committee positions left. He urged those present to embrace the excitement building at First Church and take the message to those not at the meeting. He cited the enthusiasm of the Just Faith initiative and Hartford Area Neighbors Alliance (HANA), the success of Healing Meals, and the upcoming Young Adult Service Communities (YASC), all new undertakings this year. Mark urged the meeting to recall the pledge made by the congregation to Pastor George at his installation to support his new ministry.

Senior Minister's Comments. Pastor George referred readers to his written report, which he summarized by saying, “The honeymoon continues.” He welcomes the overall enthusiasm as well as the sometimes diverse reaction with which the congregation has responded to his ministry, which he describes as one based in the teachings of Jesus, scripture, shared activities, and confession. He described faith as a process where we must acknowledge “we don't have it all figured out” but which is dependent on affirmation and sharing without forsaking strongly held beliefs.

Treasurer's Report. Linda Peach referred to her report at the February Financial Meeting, in which it was disclosed that we faced a budget deficit of \$37,300. While pledge results have improved since then, and operating expenses remain tightly controlled, we have not eliminated the gap.

Stewardship Report. Mario Chiappetti thanked members of the Stewardship Committee and all those who responded to the 2017 pledge campaign. At the February Financial Meeting, the Committee undertook to find the means to close the 2017 budget deficit. A supplemental appeal is currently underway which has already raised \$12,700, and an anonymous matching gift of up to \$10,000 is aimed at generating additional new or increased pledges. A targeted letter request is planned for immediate mailing, and the committee believes this is likely to cover the remaining shortfall. In response to a question about funds for capital projects, Mario replied that the Committee had determined to postpone fundraising for capital projects so as to focus attention on

resolving the operating deficit and until a definitive spending list could be prepared.

By-Laws Revision. At the request of the Executive Council, an *ad hoc* committee was formed to consider certain proposed changes to the Church By-Laws, which were last amended in 2011. Committee members contributing to this project were Melinda Westbrook (past President), Paul Bryant (past President), Steve Osborn (member at large), George Harris (Senior Minister), and Shannon Lindsay (Church Administrator). The requested changes included updating the names and, in some cases, the composition of various Boards and Committees as well as reflecting a number of administrative and policy changes already in practice. Three significant proposals were (a) reference in the description of Membership to the Church's Open and Affirming Covenant; (b) elimination of the requirement (but not the opportunity) to recruit youth members for all Boards and Committees; and (c) the addition of any Associate Minister as a voting member of the Executive Council. A list of material changes is included in the Annual Report, and both this list and the proposed revised document were made available in the Church Office and on the Church website. Steve Osborn requested a motion to approve the revised By-Laws, and following a motion and a second, the congregation voted unanimously in favor of the changes.

Nominating Committee. Dane Woodberry offered thanks to both ongoing and retiring Board and Committee members, noting that some whose terms had expired were nominated to serve a second term. The nominating slate which had been distributed with the Annual Report was incomplete, with several names inadvertently omitted. After a reading of those names, and a plea for eligible members to consider filling remaining open positions, Dane called for a motion to accept the amended slate of nominees. The motion was offered, seconded, and unanimously approved. An amended list of nominees will be included in the final version of the Annual Report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Osborn
Clerk of the Congregation

Let the Sun Shine!

Have you wondered how you can become a steward of the world that God created for us? First Church of Christ is supporting the Solarize with Faith program. The program provides an environmental stewardship opportunity for you to participate in sustainable energy efforts by installing solar panels on your residence. Participants are eligible to receive discounts by participating in the program.

Solarize with Faith is a program that is sparked by the Connecticut Green Bank and administered by SmartPower, a non-profit marketing group. The program works with a designated pre-approved installer, Sunlight Solar.

If you are interested in learning more, please join us for an informational session immediately following the 10am service on Sunday, June 4 in the Youth Room. Representatives from SmartPower and Sunlight Solar will describe the program, its benefits and costs. There will also be information available outside the sanctuary after the services on May 21 and May 28. There will be a sign up sheet available.

You may also reach out to church member Tim Abbuhl at tabbuhl@gmail.com or 303-910-7608 if you have questions or go to the program website at solarizect.com/faith.

[Sign up Here for the June 4th Session!](#)



“A Glimpse of Our Church History...”

Do you know the origin of our baptismal bowl? The Harriet Beecher Stowe baptismal bowl was given to then minister Rev. Oliver Hart Bronson in 1906 by Hatty Stowe, daughter of Harriet Beecher Stowe, in memory of "the gentle motherhood of her mother." This bowl was given to Rev. Bronson, not the church; however the widow of Rev. Bronson sent the silver bowl to then minister Rev. Kenneth Palmer in December 1953.



First Church Memorial Garden

Many people are perhaps unaware that on our church property outside of the church parlor we have a lovely Memorial Garden. It is a special place designed for the peaceful and respectful interment of the cremated remains of our loved ones. It was created in the mid-1990s and currently holds the cremains of 62 persons. All of their names are inscribed on brass plaques mounted on larger plaques secured to two rocks near the entrance to the garden. There is a quiet sitting area with a wall, brickwork and benches. Surrounding this are trees, bushes, flowers and a flowing fountain in warm weather. There is a walkway down to the lower parking lot outside of Palmer Hall.

Present and former members of First Church and their families and friends of First Church may use it for the interment of ashes of their loved ones. Ashes are buried directly in the ground in a biodegradable container. Any further enhancements, such as plantings, may be used only with the discretion of the Memorial Garden Ministry. Use of our garden is solely by agreement between the deceased's family and First Church. The plaque with the name and dates of the deceased will be made after the information is given in writing to the Memorial Garden Ministry.

A Book of Remembrance is kept in the church parlor entrance area. There is a page for a photograph and newspaper article or obituary of the deceased. These items are furnished by the family. Another copy is kept in another secure part of the church.

The fee for using the garden for members of First Church and their families is **\$700** to be paid at the time of interment includes the cost of obtaining the brass plaque with the name and dates of the deceased. **The fee for friends of First Church who are not members is \$900** includes the cost of the plaque. The cost of the plaque has changed over time.

Gifts for the Memorial Garden are welcome at any time and they will be used to help maintain the garden now and in the future. **All Gifts and Fees should be made payable to First Church of Christ and designated on the check for the Memorial Garden Fund.** There is now an **Endowment Fund** established for the maintenance of the garden and any amount is welcome.

The **Memorial Garden Ministry now consists of nine members** with the Senior Minister as an ex-officio member. The group **works closely with the Board of Trustees** when considering alterations to the garden and the ministry now has a line-item in the Trustees budget. The Garden Ministry supervises all maintenance, enhancement and use of the garden. It is maintained by a professional landscape company.

The garden is here for our members and friends to use in a time when grief and sadness make decisions difficult. The time to consider using it is before it is needed. Brochures are available in the church office and they contain all the information that you may need to consider this alternative for the loss of a loved one.

The Memorial Garden Ministry: Jim Block, Donna Hopkins, J. John, Joyce Kalika, Betty Keirstead, Wally Musick (Chair), Lee Ora, Peg Psarakis, Dick Wilde.

~The Memorial Garden Ministry

Graduate Sunday

On **Sunday, June 11th** we will celebrate "**Graduate Sunday.**" If you are graduating from high school or any institution of higher learning, please contact the church office (admin@fccsimsbury.org) by June 5th with the following information:

⇒ Name, degree and school, what you are doing next year, a way or two in which you plan to continue being a disciple after graduation.

We look forward to acknowledging your accomplishment!

Graduation
2017
twenty seventeen

Save the Date!

Note your calendar for these upcoming important dates:

Monday, May 29th	Memorial Day—Church office Closed
Sunday, June 4th	New Member Reception and Class
Monday, June 5th	Executive Committee Meeting
Sunday, June 11th	Celebration, Graduate, Baptism, and New Member
Sunday	
Monday, June 12th	All Boards Meetings
Sunday, June 18th	Father's Day
	9:30 am Summer Sunday Services begin
Monday June 19th—Friday, June 23rd	Vacation Bible School
Tuesday, July 4th	Independence Day—Church office Closed
Sunday, July 23rd—Saturday, July 29th	Youth and Young Adult Mission Trip



Best Wishes Joe!

Joe Martinez, our Facilities Manager, has been our "go-to guy" here at First Church for 5 years! As of June 1st, Joe is leaving First Church to focus solely on his business, Ameri-Best Carpet Cleaning. He has been an invaluable asset to us and will be greatly missed! We wish Joe the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

If you require assistance relating to the building or facilities, please contact the Church Office and your request will be addressed to the best of our abilities.

Fellowship Hosts



Upcoming Fellowship Hour Schedule:

June 4th:	HANA	July 16th:	By Laws Committee and Delegates
June 11th:	ONA and ATA Committees	July 23rd:	Care Bag Committee
June 18th:	Friends of First Church	July 30th:	Comm. for Endowment Dev. and Board of Stewardship
June 25th:	Memorial Garden Committee	August 6th:	Faith Circle
July 2nd:	4th of July No Fellowship Hour	August 13th:	TBD
July 9th:	Nominating Committee and Welcoming Ministry Team	August 20th:	Committee of Deacons
		August 27th:	Board of Christian Education

For a Complete Copy of our Monthly Calendar:

Please go to our [website and click on Church Calendar](#) to get the most current information. If you would prefer a printed copy, please call the church office, we will be happy to print one and send it to you!

September 2017 Cornerstone Submission Deadline: *Friday, August 11th!*



First Church of Christ

689 Hopmeadow St
Simsbury CT 06070
(860) 651-3593
Fax (860) 408-9229
Kitchen (860) 658-9043
www.fccsimsbury.org
[Donate Online](#)

STAFF

Rev. George M. Harris
Senior Minister
gharris@fccsimsbury.org

Rev. Kevin Weikel
Associate Minister for
Youth and Young Adults
kweikel@fccsimsbury.org

Mark Mercier
Director of Music Ministries
mmercier@fccsimsbury.org

Cindy Cole
Director of Children's
Ministries
ccole@fccsimsbury.org

Shannon Lindsay
Church Administrator
slindsay@fccsimsbury.org

Valerie Aldrich
Administrative Assistant
admin@fccsimsbury.org

Judi Sedor
Financial Assistant
finance@fccsimsbury.org

Special Sundays this Summer:

June 4th Pentecost Sunday
with Holy Communion
Services at 8:30 and 10:00 am

June 11th Celebration Sunday
with Recognition of Graduates, New Members
in addition, celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism
Services at 8:30 and 10:00 am

June 18th Father's Day
with the Sacrament of Baptism
Summer Services at 9:30 in the Sanctuary begin

June 25th VBS Culmination Presentation Sunday
during the Children's Moment
Service at 9:30 am

Sundays in July and August

Services at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary
Fellowship Hour will follow at 10:30 am

August 27th Backpack Blessing Sunday
Service at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary
Students and Adults are encouraged to
bring their back packs and briefcases to the
service to be blessed for the upcoming
school year.
After the blessing, students will be dis-
missed to Palmer Hall for the Backpack
Mission Project and activities.



~ Please notify the church office of any address changes. ~

First Church of Christ

689 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070