

# Depart to Serve

## Formative Discussions for Adults ...

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston leads today's study titled "Engage: Mission" during the 10 a.m. hour. It is out of growing disciples that we engage in God's mission by preparing people in the church to be missionaries in their neighborhoods and local communities. Rev. Emily Corzine will finish the series next Sunday. The sessions will be in Room D.

## Lenten Season Begins ...

Lenten Calendars and sticker books for children are available at each entrance of worship. We will also provide these materials in our Faith Formation classes. This year we have identified several Lenten devotional books that you may purchase at your local bookstore. The book titles are posted throughout the building.

You are also invited to join a Lenten Small Group. This year's theme is "Christianity 101". Groups will begin meeting the week of March 8. If you are interested in participating or would like to host or lead a group in your neighborhood, please email Amy Wagner at [awagner@first-church.org](mailto:awagner@first-church.org).

Lenten Small Group for Parents with Young Children will begin next Sunday, March 1st during the 10 a.m. Faith Formation Time in Room C. Donice Wooster will be leading the group on "Christianity 101" and how it relates to your children. Child care will be provided.

## Keep in Prayer

Ann Richards, mother of Jonathan Miller; Paul Zimmerman, father of Doug Zimmerman; Taco, service dog for Mariner Taft; Brenda Childs, friend of Susan Sitler and Tim Ahrens; Pavan Peter; Marti and Rob Rideout; Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz; Amy Smith, sister of Sarah Lange; Arlene Reynolds; and Andrew MacGregor; and those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Melanie Brown, on the death of her sister of Kathy Erskine; Ron Jenkins, on the death of his sister-in-law Joan Jenkins; and Jonathan Chandler, on the death of his partner Ben Wiant.

## Give ...

At First Church, our financial resources enable us to "Enter to worship, depart to serve." Give now by scanning the QR Code or by placing a check or cash into the offering basket. Sunday's loose offerings and designated checks go to the mission of the day. Today, cash and designated checks go to **Deep Griha Scholarships**.



The mission offering to **BREAD** on February 16 was \$815.89. Thank you for your generosity.

## A note from Budget and Finance ...

Budget and Finance is holding discussion forums during February. These will be held in the Fanning Room at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Your participation and feedback is requested. Please read the Treasurer's Annual Report (pg 20) of the 2019 Annual Report and bring your questions and concerns to the forum. A link to the Annual Report is available at [www.first-church.org/](http://www.first-church.org/).

Members are also encouraged to review and return the recently mailed letter and response form. These forms are available in the church office. The Response Form gives members the opportunity to offer input, ask questions, sign up to volunteer, and/or offer additional financial support to address the issues discussed at the Annual Meeting, and addressed in the Moderator's letter regarding our church's finances and staff support. The form, along with pens and envelopes, is available on the volunteers' desk in the office with a tray to turn in your completed form. Look for the sign.

## UCC Coffee Project ...

Sacred Earth sells Equal Exchange coffee during the coffee hour and we need to increase the cost of the coffee from \$8.50 to \$9.00/bag. This new rate will go into effect March 1. Tea and cocoa prices will not be increased. Additionally, baskets for donations will be placed out during the coffee hour for those who would like to contribute to the cost of the church coffee. Any offering is appreciated.

## This Week at First Church

### Sunday, February 23

9 a.m. — Worship (Parish Hall)  
10 a.m. — Faith Formation (Classroom D); Budget and Finance Forum (Fanning Rm)  
11 a.m. — Worship (Sanctuary)  
12 noon — Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)  
12:15 p.m. — BREAD Team Mtg. (Parish Family Rm)  
12:30 p.m. — “Faithful Footprints” Home Energy Workshop (Fanning Rm)  
6 p.m. — Concert Rehearsal (Sanctuary); Youth Groups (Parish Hall)

### Monday, February 24

12 noon — Grief Support Group (Fanning Rm )  
6:30 p.m. — New Members Class (Parlor)

### Tuesday, February 25

5:30 p.m. — Pancake Dinner (Parish Hall)  
6 p.m. — Laundry Love (Wash Land Laundromat)  
6:30 p.m. — Pancake Races (Sanctuary)  
7 p.m. — Church Council (Fanning Rm)  
7 p.m. — Deacons' Mtg. (Classroom D)

### Wednesday, February 26

10:30 a.m. — Book Study (Parlor)  
12 noon — Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)  
7:30 p.m. — Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, February 27

7 p.m. — BREAD Gun Violence Committee Mtg. (Fanning Rm)  
7:15 p.m. — First Church Choir Rehearsal (Parish Hall)

### Saturday, February 29

8:30 a.m. — NAMI Mental Health First Aid Training (Parish Hall)  
1 p.m. — Concert Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

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## Save the Dates ...

Sunday, **March 1** — Congregational Concert followed by Congregational Concert / Pasta Dinner  
Monday, **March 2** — New Members Class  
Tuesday, **March 31** — Campership Request Deadline  
Thursday, **April 9** — Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service  
Friday, **April 10** — Good Friday Service  
Sunday, **April 12** — Easter  
Tuesday, **May 12** — **BREAD NEHEMIAH ACTION**

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## Sanctuary Flower Dedications ...

The following dates are still available in March and April for sanctuary flower dedications: March 1, March 22, and April 5. Honor a special person or event in your life by dedicating sanctuary flowers for \$70. Sign up on the flower chart located on the bulletin board outside the church office, or contact Amy Wagner ([awagner@first-church.org](mailto:awagner@first-church.org)) and specify date(s) requested.

## Church Leadership

### Church Staff

Senior Minister **Rev. Dr. Timothy Ahrens, D. Min.**  
Associate Minister **Rev. Emily Corzine, M. Div.**  
Minister of Music **Kevin Jones, M. M., M.S.E.**  
Christian Education Director **Mark S. Williams, M. Ed.**  
Office Administrator **Amy Wagner**  
Office Assistant **Pat Patterson**  
Building and Grounds Superintendent **Mark Dahnke**  
Building and Grounds Assistant **Darrell Cross**  
Wedding Coordinators **Amy Wagner, Janet Newcity, Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani, Katie Wagner**  
Nursery Staff **Miranda Brooks, Norma Secor**

### Diaconate

Senior Deacon **James Velo**  
Deacons **Carol Ernst-King, Shelly Gies, Sarah Giffen, Scott Graham, Greg Halbe, Lanier Holt, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen, James Lowe, Dayna McCrary, Allison Lowery Palmer, Mark Sholl, Andrew Smith-Verhage, Al Waddell, Marty Worth**

### Trustees and Council Leadership

Chairperson **Chris Farquhar**  
Trustees **Allen Baker, Brian Cave, Kevin Cubick, Sue Cook, Tom Hadley, Jim Kyle, John Martin, Elaine Warren**  
Moderator **Lynn Wallich**  
Treasurer **Dennis Secor**  
Secretary **Jim Griffin**

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## Get Involved ...

Laundry Love will be Tuesday, February 25. Please email Amy Wagner at [awagner@first-church.org](mailto:awagner@first-church.org) if you are available to help.

## Eleventh Annual Pancake Dinner Tickets On Sale ...

First Church Youth will host the Pancake Dinner on Tuesday, February 25 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. Purchase tickets after each service or at the door. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 12 and under. “Pancake Races” will be in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.

## First Church Choir Pasta Supper and Silent Auction ...

Attend First Church Choir's Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction Sunday, March 1 following the Congregational Concert. This fundraiser supports the Choir's pilgrimage to Winchester Cathedral, summer of 2022. Ticket price is \$20 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available from any choir member or the church office. Look for more information to come on this fun, entertaining evening.