

FIRST CHURCH

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Our Vision and Mission:

Making God's Love Visible
Warm and welcoming, dynamic and diverse,
We come together with open arms to...

Renew our spirits,
Challenge our minds and
Celebrate Christ in our midst.

Excited and enlivened by the Holy Spirit, we are transformed.
Reaching Out we Become What Our Hearts Can See.

FROM US TO COMMUNITY !!!



Reaching Out We Become What Our Hearts Can See

Greetings! How wonderful to have you with us! How happy we are that you picked up our brochure! We hope that you are interested in learning more about our spiritual community. Spiritual community and church is about opening our hearts, coming to love God, self and neighbor. It means reflecting the kindness that is our spiritual inheritance, learning to accept our own lives and the lives of others just as we/they are, as they are held in God. As we learn the deep love and acceptance which is at the heart of life, our lives and communities are transformed. This movement of spirit is captured well by this line of our Mission Statement, "Reaching Out We Become What Our Hearts Can See." The kindness and acceptance that lies at the heart of our spiritual community is anything but passive. As we reach out to the greater communities of which we are a part, hope is born, lives are changed. Our lives begin to reflect the words of Jesus spoken in his great prayer, "Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

We Come Together With Open Arms

Isn't it time for a faith with relevance? A faith that honors blessing as it points to life's abundance? A faith with spiritual integrity? Isn't it time that inclusivity becomes something to celebrate rather than something to fear? Welcome to First Church. We are all about justice, understanding and exploration. So no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey you - and your questions - and your doubts - are welcome here.

We Are a Different Sort of Church.

Where before you may have met judgment, we offer welcome. Where before you may have known rigidity and narrowness in a church experience, we offer openness and generosity of spirit and blessedness of life.





The Gathering, 8:30 – 9:15

This new service is for those who are looking for something entirely different, An experiment in worship. With Spirit as our guide we will move from contemplative quiet to singing and conversation. Each week we celebrate communion. our loud "The Gathering" will open hearts as it celebrates the love that joins us all. The Gathering is held in the Chancel Area of the Sanctuary.

Over Coffee, 9:15 - 10:30

Between our services we're meeting over coffee to visit with one another and share meaningful discussions in our adult education book study classes. Or perhaps we're just enjoying a cup of delicious, fresh brewed Fair Trade Beneficio coffee. Over Coffee is held in our Friendship Hall and in the classrooms of the church.

Worship Celebration and Church School 10:30 – 11:30

Our worship and celebration service in our sanctuary is at 10:30. This is for those who enjoy active, alive worship. Children attend this service the first 15 minutes and move to their Children's Adventure classes after Children's Time. This service keeps our amazing Chancel Choir busy. We sing the wonderful old hymns of the church, focusing our time together on the presence of God-with-us. We have informal communion available each Sunday and on the first Sunday we celebrate a more formal communion.

Nursery Care is available for all our service. Worship Celebration is held in our Sanctuary.



Bible Study 10 to 11 am

There are two groups for Spiritual exploration and discovery which meet each Wednesday

Our This Bible Study begins with you. Here we study the Bible as it relates to the transformation of life, of ourselves and our communities. Here we discover that the Bible is a book, like other scriptures can guide and open us to spiritual change. Meets in the Fireside Room.

Zen Christian Meditation 6:30 to 8 pm

Through meditation we encounter Spirit at the root of life. Our Zen Christian Meditation Group meets once a week. During our time together we meditate with the Christian and Hebrew scriptures as well as koans from the Zen tradition. Instruction is available each Wednesday evening.



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