



The First Word

March, 2020

The First Church in Hartland

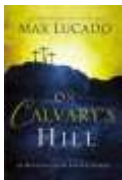
Pastor's Pen

Dear friends,

As I think about March, the Graham Kendrick song, “We Are Marching in the Light of God” keeps playing in my mind. It’s an upbeat, motivating melody that encourages us to march, live, love and dance in the light and love of Christ Jesus. That’s a good song to lead us into this month! Perhaps we’ll sing it one Sunday. This month of March is also completely dedicated to LENT, offering us an opportunity to consider somethings.

May I encourage each of us to consider (and read the passage listed):

- **M**aking time for PRAYER – first thing in the morning (*Ephesians 6:10-20*) or last thing at night (*Psalms 4:7-8*)
- **A**sking yourself, in these turbulent times, where does your help come from? (*Psalms 121*)
- **R**esting and **R**efreshing yourself. We all need rest. Whether it’s deep breathing, yoga, or 5 minutes in the sun, take time to be refreshed. (*Psalms 23*)
- **C**onnecting with a ministry of our church where you might just discover a gift God has given you. Teach a Sunday school class or help with Play Group, or sign up to make coffee. (*Romans 12*)
- **H**elping another person – with transportation, a meal, a phone call, or an invitation to church. There are 59 “one another” scriptures. Want the whole list? Ask me! (*1 Peter 4:10*)



This devotional is available and will be the subject of our 4-week Bible Study beginning Tuesday, March 3. We meet from 6:30 – 7:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Access all the events and locations on our “living” calendar at this link: <https://localendar.com/public/Firstchurchhartland>

With the very love of Jesus,

Pastor Marilyn

Messy Church

Sunday, March 22 will be “Messy Church” day along with Pretzel Sunday. We will make give away items for the residents at Meadowbrook.

Christian Education and Sunday School

Come learn and praise with us! Contact Heather Leeman: heatherj10@gmail.com or 860-573-8479.

Additional CE and Sunday school information is located at the end of this newsletter.

Pretzel Sunday



March 22nd during Sunday school our children will be making pretzels for our fellowship after church service. Donations will be collected for our Sunday school’s service fundraiser. All adults and children are welcome to join us!

- Donations of pretzel dough would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to donate dough, please email Heather at heatherj10@gmail.com for the recipe!

March Sunday School Schedule



- 1 - Sunday school @ 10:00am
- 8 - Sunday School @ 10:00am
- 15 - Sunday School @ 10:00am
- 22 - Sunday school @ 10:00am
- 29 - NO Sunday School

Community Playgroup - Saturday, March 28



Meets every 4th Saturday of the month from 9:30 to 11:00am (through June) in the Parish Hall Nursery rooms. We encourage ALL families with young children in Hartland AND surrounding towns to join us! Spread the word! Please contact Heather Leeman if you would like to see how you can help with playgroup (heatherj10@gmail.com or 860-573-8479).

Community Egg Hunt Donations



As we prepare for the spring, please keep in mind that we will be graciously accepting donations for our Community Egg Hunt that will take place on **Saturday, April 4th**. It is a free community event, but donations are collected to go towards our Sunday school's service project. During the month of March, as you do your holiday shopping, we appreciate your consideration to donate individually wrapped candy, small toys or trinkets such as bubbles, tattoos, play dough, and stickers. There will be a container in the Narthex and the Parish Hall for donations. Thank you!

Coffee Hour Fellowship

March

- 1 - Pastor Marilyn ❖ 8 - Missions ❖ 15 - Open*
- 22 - Deacons ❖ 29 - Trustees

*You are asked to bring a snack to share, Alan will make coffee.

The Committees set up on their assigned Sunday. Anytime you wish to bring refreshments, your contributions are always welcome! Let the host know if you are bringing something on the Open Sunday.

Church Events



Monday, March 2 - Community Luncheon at First Church

12:00 noon - 1:30 pm

Annual Corned beef and cabbage luncheon, *reservations* were required by 2/26.

Volunteers are always welcome to donate soup, dessert or bread for this luncheon. A nurse from the FVVNA will be there for a monthly blood pressure check.

Church Renovations

Church members were asked to vote on Sunday, February 23 after worship on either wood or carpeting for the steps and Pulpit area. The vote to refinish the wood floor and paint the risers and front of the chancel was 19 and the vote for carpeting the Pulpit and steps was 7. Be sure to follow the progress on the church renovations.

Decisions on floor covering will most likely take place on a Sunday after worship, so come on Sundays if you want your voice to be heard. The sub flooring is installed, the next vote will be on carpet choice!

Visit churchinteriors.com to see before and after examples. Copy/paste or Follow link:

<https://www.churchinteriors.com/before-after-gallery/>

Birthdays this Month!



Happy birthday wishes to our Church members and friends!

4 - Sawyer Leeman	6 - Cherie Henselder	7 - Pat Carrier
12 - Elise Lindgren	12 - Margie Secora	17 - Siobhan Murphy
25 - Karen Hill	27 - Rob Henselder	27 - Sidney Palinkas

Altar Flowers



Holidays, memorials, birthdays, or anniversaries are a great time to consider placing a flower arrangement or plant on the altar. Flowers in honor or remembrance of a loved one are always welcome! Please call the church if you can help.

♪ Music ♪

Choir rehearsal - Sunday at 9:00am and Wednesday nights at 6:30pm in the Church; all are welcome to participate! Please contact our Music Director, Charlie Dye. Email address: cdyefirsthartland@gmail.com or cell # **585-770-4534**.

Community Activities

Senior Ladies Breakfast - *Third Thursday* of the month from 9:00 am - 10:30 am. Located at Camp Alice Merritt, 167 Hartland Blvd., Nellie B. West Building. Handicapped accessible. **RSVP** to: Magi Winslow at 860-653-8600 or Jen A. Kershaw at 860-978-1876. Let them know if you have any food restrictions. Next breakfast: **Thursday, March 19, 2020**.

Monday, March 23 at 7:30pm - **Hartland Land Trust** invites you to a showing of the Emmy Award winning documentary film: "*Green Fire Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time*". Learn about Aldo's connection to Hartland through his niece Edith Leopold who lived here and how he developed his ideas of conservation and land use. Location: Hartland School. Refreshments served. Free - donations gratefully accepted.

Yoga Classes

- **Tues. at 6:30pm**; Call Kristal Fiorentino at 702-523-0274 for more information. (Meeting together at First Church for 11 years!!)
- **Thurs. at 6:30pm**; Call Ann Brieck for information 740-590-9752 or email bluemoonyoga2@gmail.com. Building community, connection and compassion through yoga.
- A **new Wednesday morning** class at 10:30am. Begins on March 4. Bring a mat, your first class is free!



Town of Hartland Senior Potluck Luncheon - Mon., March 16 - luncheons are held in the Parish Hall. Call Bea Isabelle, Municipal Agent, at Town Hall 860-653-6800 for info.

🌸Hartland Library Hours 🌸

Tues. - 5:00 to 8:00pm
(NEW) Friday - 3:00 - 6:00pm
Sat. - 9:00am to 12 noon

Mark your 2020 calendars

Following are *some* of the activities and meetings that will be held in the upcoming month at First Church. All calendar updates can be found in the link located in the Church Information, below.

Deacon's Meeting - Thurs., March 5 at 9:30am.

Council Meeting - **Monday**, March 23 at 7:00 pm.

Bible Study - Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall through March.

The Bruce Porter Memorial Music Series

Celtic Fire

Sunday, March 1 at 4:00pm - Celtic Fire! and City Singers of Hartford
South Congregational Church Granby, 242 Salmon Brook Street, Granby, CT

Suzanne Gates directs choral music and poetry with instrumentals on wooden flute, fiddle, Irish Harp, guitar, mandolin, bodhrán, double bass and Highland pipes.

Event is free and open to the public, donations of \$15 at the door are welcomed to continue the series.
www.southchurchgranby.org

One Great Hour of Sharing



“You are God's field; God's building.”

This special offering will be taken on **Sunday, March 22**.

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, we are planting seeds of new life. Together, we are investing in communities worldwide: providing education to girls and boys, empowering communities through vocational training, supporting microcredit lending and seeing people through to self-sufficiency, empowering families with skills to support themselves and their neighbors, and participating in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all. These are just a few ways the OGHS offering touches God's children, in addition to disaster relief and refugee initiatives.

Through your generosity, the world is a better place. But more is needed. Today, you have an opportunity to plant seeds into the lives of others. Be a co-worker with God. Building, planting, watering... and trusting that God gives growth to all good gifts shared in faith. Thank you for your partnership. Thank you for your generosity.

Church information

Worship - Sundays at 10:00am

Sunday School - 10:00am*

Communion - an open table, is offered on the **first Sunday** of every month

Mailing Address - The First Church in Hartland, P.O. Box 155, East Hartland, CT 06027

Street address: 2 Hartland Boulevard (Church) † 5 Hartland Boulevard (Parish Hall)

Phone: 860-653-6495 • **email:** firstchurchinhartland@gmail.com

web address: www.firstchurchinhartland.com

On-line Calendar Link: <https://localendar.com/public/Firstchurchhartland>

Pastor's Hours

Pastor Marilyn is in her office on Monday through Thursday and by appointment. Call the church office to confirm. Her confidential email address is: pastorfirsthartland@gmail.com. Cell number: 959-888-1237.

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

Sunday School is for all children ages prek3-6th grade. There are two classes: prek3-3rd and 4th-6th. Children accompany their parents to worship in the church at 10:00 a.m. After the Children's Message, the Sunday school teachers walk all the children over to the Parish Hall to begin their lessons. At 11:00 a.m., after worship service concludes, parents pick up their child(ren) from their classroom.

- ***Sunday School does not meet on the last Sunday of each month or holiday weekends. CE Calendar is available, call the church office.** Sunday school runs through May 17.

During worship there is a **Nursery Room** available in the back of the Sanctuary, for infants through kindergarten ages. This room has a monitor so parents can watch the service and take care of their children whom are unable to sit through the worship service.



In the unlikely event of inclement weather when church is cancelled, please check WFSB.com "Closings and Delays".



Saturday, March 7

Set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed!