



Sunday Notes

August 16, 2020



Looking towards Sunday:

This Sunday while Erica and Amie are away, we are delighted to be able to host a guest preacher in online worship.

The Rev. Mia J. Douglas is a relationship-driven leader with a passion for strategic community building. She is the former associate pastor of Faith Congregational Church in Hartford and most recently served as the Director of Discipleship at Asylum Hill Congregational Church where she successfully led a number of initiatives credited for broadening and deepening the church's impact in its surrounding neighborhood and Greater Hartford.



A classically trained psalmist, Rev. Douglas studied vocal performance at the Hartt School of Music; is a graduate of Furman University and Andover Newton Theological School. Her performance credits include New York City Opera's production of Porgy and Bess and Connecticut Opera. A native of Florence, SC, she makes her home in Glastonbury, CT.

Rev. Mia is not available to join us for the 11am cyber coffee hour, however Amie Giguere has been in conversation with Mia and will be leading a discussion on the themes of Rev. Mia's message. All are welcome!

Happening Today

Summer Bible Study

Sundays at 10 am via Zoom meeting

The Bible Study group is studying Exodus and would love you join them. Led by Jim Warner. Ready to join? Contact Jim at jwarneriv@gmail.com.

Cyber Coffee and Conversation

Sundays at 11 am via Zoom meeting

Join us for reflections on the Sunday morning worship themes, check-in, and discussion. Make your own coffee or tea and drink it where you are. Visitors welcome! Join by computer [here](#), Meeting ID: 924 416 446, Password: 899935; One tap mobile +16465588656,924416446#; by phone +1 646 558 8656.

Upcoming Events

Zoom Instructions

Many of our events are happening online with the Zoom platform. For **instructions on how to join a Zoom meeting**, click [here](#). For those hosting meetings, here is information on [Host Controls](#) and [Running a Meeting and Screen Share](#).

Church School and Mid-Week Check-Ins

We'll be having church school and check-ins every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 10 am until schools are open again. This lesson works best on a computer if you have access to one.

Submit prayer requests [here](#).

Sun Is Shining Series

The Sun Is Shining Series in August on Tuesday nights has become a tradition in the last few years. We are happy to announce that it will continue this year, although it will not be held outdoors on the labyrinth. Instead, it will be available on our YouTube Channel [here](#) on Tuesday nights at 5 pm. Tentative line up: 8/18 - Dan Liparini Jazz Group, 8/25 - Still Kicking and the Big City Horns. Watch for updates on our website and Facebook pages.

37th Foodshare Virtual Walk Against Hunger September 13th - 19th

The Foodshare Virtual Walk Against Hunger support Foodshare's efforts to raise awareness of and resources for the issue of food insecurity in Hartford and Tolland counties. Funds raised from the Walk help support not only Foodshare, but the partner programs that help them serve the growing number of people in Greater Hartford who struggle with hunger. Our Team *First Church Striders* hope you will be able to join the Virtual Walk Against Hunger which will be a weeklong event this year. We encourage you to walk or run a 1.5-mile route of your choice. If you cannot make the walk, please support our walkers by going to the Foodshare website to make your donation or you may send a check to the church marked as a donation for Foodshare.

First Church Striders has walked to support Foodshare and our partner Loaves and Fishes for many years. To join our team and support Foodshare, please go to the Foodshare website [here](#). Thank you for your support.

Announcements

Give Online!

Making monetary contributions to First Church is quick and easy! For peace of mind you can even sign up for auto pay! Visit our website at <http://www.whfirstchurch.org/donate/give> and click on the blue Donate Online button. Watch the video for detailed instructions on [How to Give](#). Checks can be mailed to the church at 12 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107.

Drive-By, Drop off Food Collection

August 25th and 29th, September 22nd and 26th, 10 am to 12 pm

The Drive-By, Drop off Food Collection this Summer has been a success but contributions are still needed.

Volunteers will be at the Rotunda Entrance parking lot to collect your donations for the West Hartford Food Pantry and Loaves and Fishes Meals to Go. [The list of items needed is on the flyer - download flyer to post at home](#) or take it to the grocery store with you. Loaves and Fishes welcome baked goods, too. If you are unable to come to the church, but want to contribute, please call Jenny Clark at 860-402-4851 or Dottie Stone at 860-521-0554. Thank you.

JPWL staff is here to answer your Library needs. Contact us with questions or requests by phone at 860-232-3893 (although the building is closed, JPWL staff are at the library every weekday) or by email at jpwebster@whfirstchurch.org.

Curbside Service at the JPWL: *Better than a Drive-Thru Coffee Run!*

- [Search the JPWL Catalog](#)
- Contact us via phone or email to set up a date for curbside pick-up
- NO LIBRARY CARD? No problem! We will issue you one - give us a call.

New at the JPW Library:

For Kids: *The Adventures of Sparrowboy*; *All American Boys (for teens)*; *Antiracist Baby (board book)*; *Dear Martin (for teens)*; *Happy: A Beginner's Book of Mindfulness*; *Peg + Cat: The Eid al-Adha Adventure*; *Pete the Cat and the Supercool Science Fair You Matter*

For Adults: *Ambassadors of Reconciliation: New Testament Reflections /Restorative Justice/Peacemaking*; *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*; *Christ in Crisis?: Why We Need to Reclaim Jesus*; *God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and Its Aftermath*; *It's Not All Downhill From Here: A Novel*; *Radical Amazement: Contemplative Lessons from Black Holes, Supernovas, and Other Wonders of the Universe*; *This Tender Land: A Novel*

DVDs: *Harriet*; *Just Mercy*; *Knives Out*; *Little Women*; *Parasite*

August Reach Out – Freshplace

Freshplace is an innovative client-choice/fresh food/case management food pantry in the Upper Albany and Asylum Hill neighborhoods in Hartford. Freshplace provide at-risk families with fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy products in addition to pantry staples. Clients are guided in making selections that accommodate their health, cultural, religious, and familial needs. There are also comprehensive intake and referral services, increasing access to food stamps, health and crisis intervention programs, public assistance, and educational services Freshplace is a collaborative project among Chrysalis Center, the Junior League of Hartford and Foodshare. For more information visit the Freshplace website at <https://chrysaliscenterct.org/> or donate to the Chrysalis Center, Inc. 255 Homestead Avenue, Hartford, CT 06132 Phone: 860-263-4400. – Thank you for your support!