



The Visitor

Fall 2025

I know it is hard and bittersweet to fathom summer is at an end. My favorite time of year was always summer, warm sunshine, working in the garden and the last three years a trip to Sight and Sound Theater in Landcaster, PA. This year the bus left Old Stone Church in East Haven at 8:30 AM and after about four hours you could definitely see you were not in Kansas anymore, Dorothy. The landscape changed and there were corn fields for miles; as we got closer to our destination there was even the occasional horse and buggy, one open and one closed. It was a welcome change of scenery but it was nice to come back home too.

The days are getting shorter and the weather is getting cooler; our last week of worship in the garden was during the last week of August. It is sad to see the respite of summer end, but there are exciting events planned for the fall and winter. I know the choirs are anxious to get back to singing and playing bells; Jurg is ready to get back to his and our beloved organ. What is it you are looking forward to this fall? Is it cool weather, learning more about the bible, fellowship, coffee hour (your reward for sitting through an hour in the sanctuary), just kidding - I know you all can't wait to hear another sermon!

We have continued to support those in need throughout the summer with trips to Birthright to bring them donations of baby formula, diapers and clothing, You have continued to support those in need with Midnight Run on the last two Wednesdays of each month with 20 bag lunches. Have you heard of the movie *Gone in 60 seconds*? Well, maybe not 60 seconds, but those bags have gotten pretty popular. We have helped some folks out with groceries, blood drives, and mammography van appointments, all while still enjoying the summer and during some very hot days and representing First Congregational Church at concerts and National Night Out. You may not see the work that goes on during the week, the leaking toilet, cleaning Elizabeth (our pink wagon), picking up trash, the meetings in person or via zoom, but the church does not function without all of us. Each of us is important; it takes all of us to be the body of Christ, not just a minister, not just a secretary, it takes your participation, your kindness, your smiles, your passing of the peace to make this a safe and warm place to learn, to love, to grow. We are a living bible, we are the body of Christ, and no matter where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

I pray you have had a safe and enjoyable summer and will join this family in prayer, song and Eucharist with a big "E" and small "e". If you have a desire to do lay reading or greeting or ushering, please let us know. I would like to know what your favorite scripture passage is. Please write it down and pass it to me. Or anything else you would like to share. Your Partner in Faith,

Pastor Kathy

Upcoming Events



COME AND CELEBRATE!

Heritage Sunday

October 19, 2025

Join us in celebrating our Heritage Members of 25+ years at First Church.

Worship will be at 10 am with refreshments following

Come join in celebrating our 25 + year members



Socktober

Warm Feet  Warm Hearts

WE ARE COLLECTING

MEN'S WHITE COTTON CREW SOCKS
SIZE 6-12

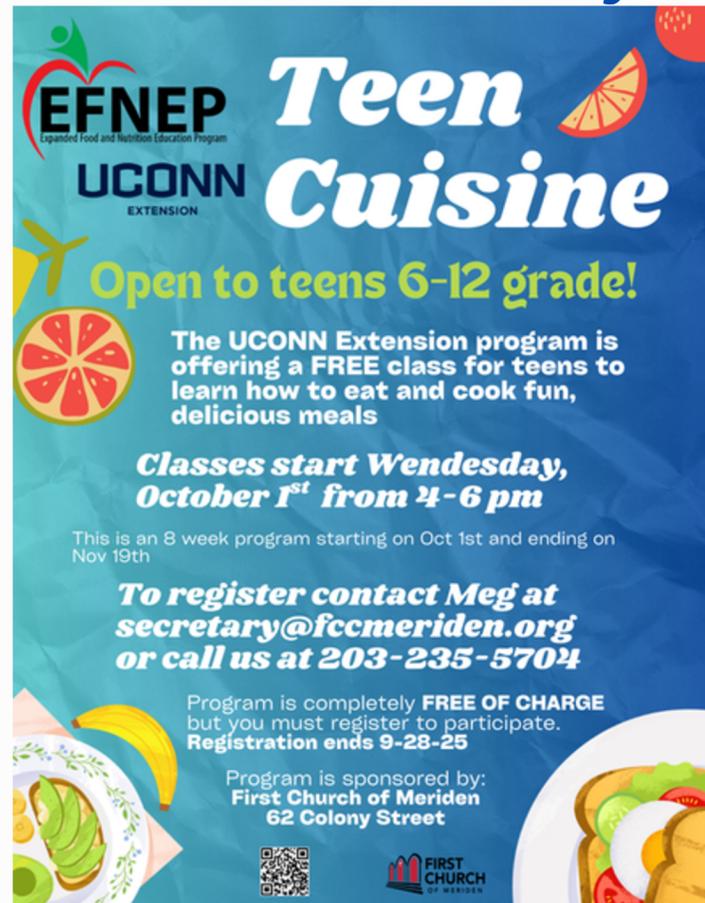
Drop off location:
First Church Office
62 Colony Street, Meriden
Office hours: Tues-Fri 9 am-1 pm
or call 203-235-5704 to drop items off

COLLECTING UNTIL NOV 9TH



WWW.FCCMERIDEN.ORG

Know any teens who like to cook? Send them our way!



EFNEP UCONN Extension Teen Cuisine

Open to teens 6-12 grade!

The UCONN Extension program is offering a FREE class for teens to learn how to eat and cook fun, delicious meals

Classes start Wednesday, October 1st from 4-6 pm

This is an 8 week program starting on Oct 1st and ending on Nov 19th

To register contact Meg at secretary@fccmeriden.org or call us at 203-235-5704

Program is completely **FREE OF CHARGE** but you must register to participate. Registration ends **9-28-25**

Program is sponsored by
First Church of Meriden
62 Colony Street



**Soctober is Back!!
Send in those white socks**

NOV 15TH AT 5 PM



COUNTRY WESTERN LINE DANCING AND KARAOKE NIGHT

RSVP with the
office

Carve out a
new tradition.

Give Blood!



BLOOD DRIVE



Tuesday
October 28, 2025
12:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Donate and receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice PLUS donors will automatically be entered to win one of three \$5,000 gift cards to be given away nationwide.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App
© 2015 The American National Red Cross



Take the Time Mobile Mammography



Hartford Hospital's Digital Mobile Mammography coach is coming. Take the time to visit us for your screening mammogram. Mammograms can save lives.

These screening mammograms are offered for women age 40 and older who have not had a mammogram in over a year.

Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. by appointment

Location: 165 Miller St., Meriden, CT 06450

Contact Person: Shanae/Elizabeth

Phone: 860-972-1243 for appointment

Don't forget to check out our Facebook and Instagram pages for current events, updates and photos of recent events.

All are Welcome!

Sunday Funday Games and Slime Making





FIRST CHURCH OF MERIDEN
62 Colony Street, Meriden CT

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

First Church is a UCC based downtown community church in Meriden, CT. We host different events throughout the year and have monthly acoustic concerts. We are very involved in the greater Meriden community by collecting food for the Meriden Soup Kitchen and items needed for the homeless shelter. We've started a new program to help mothers with newborns and have monthly Fellowship gatherings for families. Weekly Sunday services are at 10 am in our sanctuary or in our outdoor chapel. We have children's programs at Sunday service during the school year. Summer Services 9:30 am until Sept 14th.
Everyone is always welcome to come find a place with us!

Oct 1st	Teen Cuisine program by UCONN Extension Weekly on Wednesdays 4-6 pm until Nov 19th Open to Teens Grades 6-12 Contact Church office to register FREE Program
Oct 3rd	Olde Church Acoustic Concert 6pm dinner; 7 pm concert
Oct 4th	Beardsley Zoo Trip Please contact the office to sign up. Bring a picnic lunch. Discounted Group rate. RSVP by 10/1/25
Oct 14th	Mammography Bus 165 Miller Street 8 am-1 pm
Oct 25th	Annual Trunk or Treat on Meriden Green 12 pm -3 pm Meriden Green
Nov 7th	Olde Church Acoustic Concert 6pm dinner; 7 pm concert <i>Bluegrass Night</i>
Nov 15th	Country and Karaoke Night 5 pm dinner and then stay for line dancing lessons & karaoke
Nov 22nd	Yuletide Fair Vendors, Food,Crafts, Music and SANTA Come down to the Church and Gallery 53 from 10am-3pm to start your holiday festivities early and get that shopping done!



FCCMERIDEN.ORG 203-235-5703 SECRETARY@FCCMERIDEN.ORG



FALL 2025 SCHEDULE

FIRST FRIDAYS!

OCT 3
DUSTIN LOWMAN
BRYAN TITUS
KENN MORR

NOV 7
BLUEGRASS NIGHT!

DEC 5
PASS THE GUITAR!
SPECIAL BENEFIT FOR
MERIDEN SOUP KITCHEN









FIRST CHURCH
62 COLONY STREET