

We Invite you to...



open our doors...



and come on in...

History and Artistry...



The church's three red entrance doors represent the Holy Trinity. The solid granite structure is symbolic of the eternal greatness of God.

The twelve massive columns stand inside like the twelve apostles. Their capital crowns were each carved in a different design by early Meriden monument makers.



Three Tiffany stained glass windows reflect biblical texts while the others diffuse sunlight in radiantly colorful patterns. Enter this sanctuary and you will know peace.

Faith: the Best Gift to Your Child...

Faith in God, faith in families, and faith in self are all important elements for developing children. Our faith formation program is biblical, experiential and filled with fun!

Our dedicated staff and volunteers utilize age appropriate lesson plans. In any given week, they may meet in a classroom, kitchen, games area, computer lab or outdoor play area.



We invest in our youth through our campership and college scholarship programming.

Our Teen Youth Group provides meaningful activities and community service opportunities.

Family activities are planned and organized throughout the year to encourage inter-generational interaction and fun. Bowling, apple picking, bingo night and mini-golf are just some of the options.



Inspired Worship and Meaningful Ministries...



Our Pastor offers both traditional and creative worship services on Sundays at 10:00 AM (9:30 in Summer). Baptisms and weddings, along with funeral services,

mark the key junctures of life. Care giving visitations and pastoral counseling are also available.

Reaching Out to Our Community...

The Bible instructs, "Faith by itself, if not accompanied by good works, is dead." Each year we "reach out" to our community and respond to needs in a variety of ways. To name a few, we:

- Support the Soup Kitchen,
- Help Stock the Food Pantry,
- House and Support Addiction Services,
- Enroll Families in "Access to Health Care",
- Engage in a Parishioner's "Pay It Forward" Program,
- House First Congregational Church Preschool,
- House Four Additional Churches,
- House and Support Boy Scout Troop #10,
- Are an Active Member of the Meriden Clergy Association,
- Support "Safety Net" for Homelessness Prevention,

and we are a major supporter of the "Back To School Expo," Meriden's student backpack distribution program.

Prayers and Answered Prayers...

We pray and we open our hearts to God. Prayer is an important part of each worship service, but it also is deserving of its own focus.

Each month we host “Soup and Sanctuary,” where we first gather for homemade soup, bread, salad and fellowship. Then we move into the Sanctuary for “Night Vigil,” a contemplative prayer service. Here we create a respite from life’s “busyness” and just let God in.



Our “Within Reach Ministries” enables us to address specific prayer requests that are identified as being within our reach. Prayer requests can be attached to our “Prayer Ribbons” in the Sanctuary.

Music to Lift Your Spirits...

We are charged to “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.” The Chancel Choir and the Bell Choir meet weekly to rehearse under the leadership of our Music Director. A Children’s Choir joins in at special times during the year.



Our historic “Austin Organ” and our Steinway Piano provide wonderful accompaniment.



Our music outreach includes a series of concerts that are held in our Smith Hall. These concerts represent a variety of musical traditions. At times, Special “Music Sundays”, such as “Hot Jazz Sunday” and “Ukulele Sunday”, add to our worship experience.



Events That Really Are Special...

There are a number of signature “events” presented throughout the year:

- Easter Celebration
- Lenten Workshops
- Family Christmas Party
- May Day Community Breakfast
- Martin Luther King Memorial Service
- Christmas Eve Pageant, presented in three languages!



Extending Our Loving Reach to a Needful World...

First Church has been supporting the Mercy Touch Orphanage in Zambia, Africa, for many years now. We frequently communicate with the Orphanage, and are amazed at the on-going expansion of their program.



In 2014, members of our congregation journeyed to Sonrisa de Deos, a poverty stricken barrio located in Nicaragua, to build a school classroom. This was our first international mission trip! Mission programs continue with great enthusiasm.

Special offerings are solicited throughout the year for world-wide crises that develop.

“I might be interested, what’s next?”

We’d love to have you visit any Sunday morning at 10:00 AM (9:30 AM summers) for our hour long service, or to any church function. Come as often as you like with no commitment required. You are welcome to join the church whenever it feels right.

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

It’s a great place to explore faith, meet new people and strengthen your personal relationship with God.

Still Have Some Questions?

Call 203-235-5704 and ask for our Church Secretary or for our Church Pastor.

Check out our web site and/or...



First Congregational Church

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Meriden, CT 06451

Phone: 203.235.5704

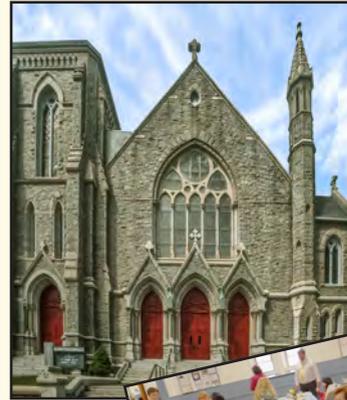
Fax: 203.235.8044

www.fccmeriden.org

www.facebook.com/FCCMeriden



First Congregational Church of Meriden



*Bringing
Church...*



...to life!

We are a very caring, Christian faith community. We extend our loving reach to our members, our neighbors and to a needful world.

Our service is active, personal and meaningful, as called by God through prayerful discernment.

**Almost 300 years of
Faith, Families and Fellowship!**