



Ways to Experience Community at First Church

There are many meaningful ways to become involved in our shared life together at First Church. From book groups to Bible study, choir, and small groups, we welcome newcomers, friends, and members alike to enjoy our offerings as a way to explore shared interests and get to know one another more deeply.

Small Groups: We currently offer two monthly small groups. Our Young Adult group meets both online and in-person for social events and service opportunities. To learn more, contact Michael Ensekifrank at michaelensekifrank@gmail.com. Our Movie Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month to discuss a film that members have watched in advance. To learn more about the movie group, contact Anne Mascolino at annemascolino@gmail.com.

Bible Workbench: Bible Workbench is First Church's bible study group, which meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the chapel (on the second floor) and on Zoom (hybrid group). Andrew Hamilton convenes this group; to learn more, contact him at hamilton8691@gmail.com. No prior knowledge of the Bible is needed.

Drop-In Center: On Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00, First Church partners with Sasha Bruce Youthwork and Table Church to host the Drop-In Center for unhoused and precariously housed young adults (as well as others). Pizza is served, movies are enjoyed in the Living Room, special programming and STI testing is also available. Volunteers must undergo training to participate. To learn more, contact our Drop-In Center Coordinator Jarred Bowman at jarreds.bowman@gmail.com.

Book Groups: Each year we offer Lenten Learning Circles in the six weeks leading up to Easter. The Learning Circles each focus on a book, workbook, or podcast related to antiracism and meet weekly by Zoom for discussion. During the summer, First Church typically participates in an "all congregation read" of a selected book, with a Zoom discussion of the book in August. To learn more, contact Rev. Amanda.

Breakaway Meditation: Every Wednesday from 12:15- 12:45 a small group gathers by Zoom (and in the chapel on site) for Breakaway Meditation, a time of briefly checking in with one another, listening to a reading, and spending 12-15 minutes in silent meditation. All are invited to attend; no experience necessary. To learn more, email Nora at knoramash@icloud.com.

First Church Music: Under the direction of our Interim Music Director, Dennis Turner, the First Church Choir sings anthems on the second and fourth Sundays of the month throughout the academic year with special musical programs such as our annual Christmas Cantata. The choir currently rehearses two Saturday mornings each month. Dennis also guides special music offerings on the first and third Sundays of the month, including instrumentalists, vocalists, and ensembles reflecting a wide diversity of musical styles and cultural backgrounds. To learn more, contact Dennis at dturner544@aol.com.

Nurture Programs: Throughout the academic year, we offer “nurture programs” for adults following worship, including class series such as “Progressive Theology,” an Advent series focused on the worship theme, and opportunities to place the critical issues of our day in conversation with our faith. All are welcome to participate; most nurture programs include both in-person and Zoom options.

Potluck Community Meals: Throughout the year, we enjoy potluck meals nearly every month. These community meals are open to all and take place following worship in the Community Hall on the second floor. We include vegan and gluten-free options.