

FAITH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

2030 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120

Phone: 860-547-0820 ~ Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.

Rev. Cleo Graham, Pastor

Join Worship Online at <https://www.youtube.com/@FaithUCCHtfd> or <https://faithmatterstoday.org>

 <https://www.facebook.com/FaithUCCHtfd/>



July 12, 2026 ~ Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

Bro. Wayne Dixon

WELCOME

Dea. Pamela Walters

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sis. Lorrie Adeyemi

Faith Church Welcome Song: *"You are welcome in this place in Jesus Name. You are welcome in this place in Jesus Name. We're glad you've come among us, and we pray you feel God's Love through us. You're welcome in this place in Jesus Name!" (Sung twice)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(congregants read **BOLD** aloud)

Dea. Pamela

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. **We come, set free by God's grace and sustained by God's love.** The Spirit of God breathes new life into weary souls. **We open our hearts to the Spirit's renewing power.** Where fear once ruled, hope now rises. **Where death once threatened, Christ brings abundant life.** Come, draw near to the God who sets us free. **With grateful hearts, let us worship God!**

*OPENING HYMN

"Yield Not To Temptation"

#429 AAHH

PRAYER OF INVOCATION &

(spoken together)

Dea. Pamela

SHARING THE PEACE

"Holy and Liberating God, Your Spirit breathes life into dry places, speaks peace into troubled hearts, and raises hope where despair has taken root. Meet us, Lord. Break every chain of fear and every burden of guilt, for in Christ we are made new. Fill this house with your holy presence and may Your Spirit lead us, ready to love, to serve, and to proclaim your good news. We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ, who gives us abundant life. Amen." **And let us now share a moment of peace with each other!**

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:1-11

Dea. Al Strother

*[red Bible (NKJV): p. 1110; blue Bible (NRSV): NT p. 120]
"The Word of God for the People of God. Praise Be to God!"*

***GLORIA PATRI (sung)**

*"Glory be to the Father (Creator, Mother) and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen."*

SERMON**"GOD DID IT"**

Dea. Al Strother

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP**"Holy Spirit" #319 AAHH**

Dea. Pamela

At this time, we invite you to be a disciple of Jesus Christ and become a member of our church!

You may come forward now and be received by the Pastor or speak to the Pastor or a Deacon after service today. It's never too late, and we will embrace you in faith and thanksgiving!

PASTORAL & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dea. Al Strother

RESPONSE TO PRAYER**"Spirit Of The Living God"**

#320 AAHH

OFFERTORY APPEAL

Sis. Alfreda Gaither

GIVE WITH A GRATEFUL HEART - REMEMBER THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

1. Text: Send a text to **73256** Type: **'faithchurch'** and follow the prompts.
2. Online: At www.faithmatterstoday.org . Look for the  button.
3. Check: Payable to **'Faith Congregational Church'** 2030 Main St., Hartford, CT 06120.
- 4: In Person: The Ushers will now come to the pews to collect your offering.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM**"I Want Jesus To Walk With Me"**

Sis. Patricia Gray, soloist

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Sis. Alfreda Gaither

***DOXOLOGY (sung)**

*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen."*

CLOSING HYMN*"Spirit Of God, Descend Upon My Heart"**

#312 AAHH

BENEDICTION

Dea. Al Strother

POSTLUDE

Bro. Wayne Dixon

*(*Please stand, if able)*

Hymnals - AAHH: African American Heritage Hymnal; NCH: New Century Hymnal; OLOFOB: One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



[1]Announcements for the Week [1]



7th Annual Meeting of the SNEUCC 🏠❤️💻

This meeting, with the theme 'The Ties That Bind,' is being held Sept. 25 - 27 at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA and online, with some events being held at other Worcester venues. The Rev. Dr. Rapheal G. Warnock, U.S. Senator from Georgia, is scheduled to give the keynote address at 4 PM on Saturday, Sept. 26, and to preach at worship at 10 AM on Sunday. Both of those events will be held at the DCU Center. More info can be found at this link: <https://www.sneucc.org/eventdetail/7th-annual-meeting-of-the-sneucc-19566021>

July Birthdays 🍰

Wishing a 'happy birthday' to our Faith family and members born in July: Gail Martin and Omar Walters. If we missed your birthday, please email our administrative assistant, Regina Waters, with your birthday month and day at faithmatters.admn@gmail.com.

Friends & Family Cookout 🍔🍷

Our Cookout will be held on Sunday, August 9th at Northwest Park in Manchester, CT immediately following worship. Tickets prices are \$20 for ages 13+, \$10 for ages 4 to 12, and those under four are free. We still need volunteers to help with ticket sales, to donate beverages, water, chips and desserts, to bring games, and help with set up and break down) Please email Regina at faithmatters.admn@gmail.com if you are able to serve.

🌈 Hartford Black Pride Sunday Morning Service

Faith Congregational Church will host a Sunday morning service during the Hartford Black Pride (HBP) weekend on Sunday, July 26 at **11am**. Hear the morning message from Rev. Leslie Jackson, who serves the Southern New England Conference, as the Area Conference Minister for our South Central Region. Hartford Black Pride is a 3-day weekend of awards, fashion, a marketplace, an art ball and festival running from July 24th through July 26th. More information can be found at: <https://www.instagram.com/hartfordblackpride>.

Bible Studies & Park And Pray 📖🙏

Weekly Monday Bible Study: 7pm w/ Rev. Arthur Gaither at
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89131531513?pwd=WFQ2M3dNYjZSU3NocHEzOXRQb3lWUT09>
Remember our Sick and Shut in your prayers, and all may Park and Pray at 1:11 pm for a
Daily Prayer in the Spirit with Pastor Graham or at <https://parkandprayat111.com>.

🙏 OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU 🙏

The Family of Rev. Michael Williams
The Graham Family
Bro. Fred Crayton
Mr. Lawrence D. Pinkston II
Sis. Olga Callender
Dea. A. Lee Martin & Sis. Audrey Levine
Sis. Barbara E. James & Ms. Vivienne Cooke
Dr. Ruth Bass Green & Sis. Carrie Simpson
Sis. Doreen Webb & Sis. Donna Burgess
Sis. Orelia Myers & Mr. Roy Stafford
Mr. Jeffrey M. Bass & Ms. Judith A. LaBelle
Min. Patricia Hollis & Bro. Bill Hollis
The Families of Faith Members who have lost Loved Ones



No matter who
you are,
or where you are on
life's journey
**YOU'RE WELCOME
AT FAITH**
FaithMattersToday.org

(860)
547-0820
**Faith
Congregational
Church**
2030 Main Street
Hartford



a just
world
for all
ucc.org

Join Our Capital Campaign:

We cordially invite you to take part. Whether you're an individual eager to create an impact, a business looking to give back to the community, or a volunteer willing to lend a helping hand, there's a place for you in our journey.

Our Vision:

- Restore and sustain our historic church building
- Enhance accessibility and technology for ministry and mission
- Invest in the next generation of faith leaders and community impact



FAITH FORWARD: Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future!

DONATE NOW!

Send a text to 73256...

Type: 'faithchurch' and follow the prompts!

2030 Main St, Hartford CT | faithmatters.admn@gmail.com |
860-547-0820 | faithmatterstoday.org |

Faith Congregational Church Family & Friends



Fun, Food &
Fellowship

Sunday, August 9, 2026

12 – 8pm



Northwest Park

448 Tolland Tpke., Manchester, CT 06042

Cost: Ages 13 & Up **\$20**, Ages 4-12 **\$10**

Under 4 **Free**



Romans

Chapter 8

H	B	K	D	W	E	L	L	A	N	B	V	V	X	Y	M	O	R	T	A	L	W	T	J
D	X	D	C	Z	H	V	F	K	Z	E	V	S	S	T	B	J	P	Q	T	X	I	I	G
E	N	M	I	T	Y	T	N	H	B	A	R	S	G	H	D	E	A	T	H	N	T	Z	S
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I	A	A	I	Z	A	F	M	U	W	O	I	X	U	F	R	D	F	H	B	W	S	N	H
R	I	C	E	B	D	H	O	S	I	N	F	U	L	O	E	B	X	N	H	Q	Y	E	I
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D	L	E	T	G	A	P	M	F	W	J	G	S	E	N	D	I	N	G	V	C	X	A	I

ADOPTION
BODIES
CHILDREN
DEBTORS
FLESH
JESUS
MORTAL
QUICKEN
SINFUL
THINGS

AFTER
BONDAGE
CHRIST
DEEDS
FULFILLED
JOINTHEIRS
MORTIFY
RAISED
SPIRIT
WHEREBY

AGAINST
BRETHREN
CONDEMNATION
DWELL
HEIRS
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NEITHER
RECEIVED
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BEARETH
CANNOT
COULD
ENMITY
INDEED
MIGHT
PEACE
RIGHTEOUSNESS
SUFFER

BECAUSE
CARNALLY
DEATH
FATHER
ITSELF
MINDED
PLEASE
SENDING
THEREFORE



Faith Church is the oldest Historically Black Church in the city of Hartford. In our 207th year, the church is still a vibrant community of believers. We hold a high level of trust and witness to God's grace in the midst of human life. As a congregation of the United Church of Christ, (Southern New England Conference) we are devoted to making disciples for Christ. We are an **Open & Affirming, justice-minded church**; a community committed to addressing issues in a denomination that often leads the way in our nation as we celebrate many firsts as part of our history. For example, the UCC is the first denomination to ordain a Black man, a woman, and a LGBTQ person into ministry in this nation.

Faith Church is a historic local church, too, having participated in the nation's first civil rights case, (the Amistad trial) where the captives on the ship La Amistad were eventually set free. Faith Church raised significant dollars for the captive's defense. The first school for "Colored Children" in Hartford was started here as well. We are a caring community through the empowering and liberating Word of God revealed and lived through Jesus Christ.

Faith Church is a place where we discover, develop, and grow our faith. FAITH MATTERS TODAY and ALWAYS! Faith Church is a place where questions are welcomed, and answers are discovered and shared. Our faith is Bible-centered, but we trust in the sharing we seek to do with one another, to grow in faith as well. We would welcome you. Our Spiritual Gifts are discovered and shared for the glory of God. We celebrate our history and build upon the best of the old and new traditions of our faith and worship...we love to tell the story! Our community extends beyond the doors of our church, and we bear witness, testify, and share the Good News. We are not afraid to try new things and embrace those things that help us praise God with spirit and in truth.

NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME AT FAITH!

Pastor: Rev. Cleo D. Graham	faithmatters.pastor1@gmail.com
Office Manager: Patricia A. Gray	faithmatters.church@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant: Regina Waters	faithmatters.admn@gmail.com
Pastoral Support: Rev. Arthur Gaither	artgaither@gmail.com
Minister of Music: Wayne Dixon	faithmatters.music15@gmail.com
Treasurer: Asha Rooks	faithmatters.treasurer@gmail.com
Ass't Treasurer: TBD	
Moderator: Norma Sproul	
Ass't Moderator: Gail Martin	
Trustee Board Co-Chairs: Lorrie Adeyemi & Otis Anthony	
Deacons: Mark Welch (Chair), Pamela Walters (Co-Chair), Johnny Barnum, Wendy Booker-Nixon, Eric W. Gray, Llonia Jackson, Cheryl 'CC' Johnson, A. Lee Martin, Chelsea Neal, Charron Stoddart, Andrew 'Al' Strother, Linnette Williams	
Tech Deacons: Aiden MacCullagh, Regina Waters, Otis Anthony, Yvonne Brown On Call: Marcelus Brown, Yannick Gordon, Savannah Hayes, Gail V. Martin	
Ushers: Lenore Bailey, Mika Benford, Veronica DeLandro, Sharon Flowers, Dea. Llonia Jackson, Carol Knight-Mosby, Chelsea Neal, Errol Smith, Loretta Smith, Dea. Andrew 'Al' Strother, Dea. Mark Welch, Dea. Linnette Williams	
Sexton: Thomas Best	