

# HILL CHURCH NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASYLUM HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*Helping people grow in faith and love as disciples of Jesus*



VOLUME 73 | ISSUE 9  
OCTOBER 2018

## *Halloween Carnival*

Sun, Oct. 28, 2:00 - 4:00pm

We had so much fun last year we're doing it again! Put on your costume, grab a friend and come gather for AHCC's Halloween Carnival Event. Members and ministries are invited to decorate tables and fill them with candy, as costumed children trick or treat through Drew Hall. There will be carnival games for children, a parade of costumes, cider, baked goodies, and a table decorating contest for the adults. Sign up at the Member Engagement table to reserve your table. Adult costumes encouraged.



## *Membership Growth Task Force Panel Discussion*

Sun, Oct. 7, 11:30am

Exciting things are happening at AHCC! The Deacons have approved a Membership Growth Task Force that is working with Fathom, strategy and creative consultants who help clients focus on the one thing they stand for in the world that creates a compelling attraction for others to join in pursuing a future together. The Task Force has met twice and through discussion and distillation, have identified and focused on the "one thing" that sets AHCC apart and makes it indispensable to those we serve.

During the panel discussion, Erica Thompson and Fathom Partner Brent Robertson will make a presentation on the objectives and the process for the Task Force, as well as go deeper into what has been discovered and discussed in the first two meetings. We will look ahead to a final Task Force report and a membership growth communications plan in early November. Brent will talk about Fathom and its process for working with us and other clients, and there will be an open discussion with time for questions.

### IN THIS ISSUE

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT	2
ADULT EDUCATION	4
COMMUNICATIONS	5
STEWARDSHIP	5
WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY	6
MUSIC & ARTS	6
OUTREACH	7
CHILDREN & FAMILIES	7
YOUTH & TEENS	9
HIGHLIGHTS	10

### October Worship

October 7: World Communion  
*Tongues*

October 14: Cornerstone  
*Knowledge & Wisdom*

October 21: Disability Awareness  
*Mercy*

October 28: Children's Sunday  
*Teaching*





Homecoming Sunday was  
September 9.  
More pics on back page

### ASYLUM HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

814 Asylum Ave., Hartford, CT 06105-2892  
Ph: 860.525.5696 | Fax: 860.525.3457  
www.ahcc.org | e-mail: info@ahcc.org

*The Hill Church News*  
USPS245-160 is published one time per month (every six weeks during June, July and August) by Asylum Hill Congregational Church. Periodical postage paid at Hartford, CT.

*Items for publication*  
must reach the office by noon on or before the 20th of the month prior to publication.

*Please submit items to*  
Rhonda Mitchell, Director of Communications,  
at the above address OR rmitchell@ahcc.org

*Postmaster*  
Send address changes to Hill Church News  
at the above address.

 **Worship Services; 9:00 & 10:15am**  
Sunday morning services are recorded. Sermons are posted on our website, ahcc.org

**Church Leadership**  
Rev. Erica A. Thompson, *Acting Senior Min.*  
Rev. Erica Avena, *Transitional Assoc. Min.*  
Tobey Aubert, *Youth Director*  
Camille Boyd, *Caring Coordinator*  
Susan Carroll, *Organist*  
Helena Carvalho, *Director of Operations*  
Rev. Mia Douglas, *Director of Discipleship*  
Marcie Jackson, *Dir. of Children & Family Min.*  
Rhonda Mitchell, *Director of Communications*  
Jack A. Pott, *Director of Music & Arts*

Bart Halloran, *Moderator*  
Linda Kelly, *Vice Moderator*

### Your AHCC Thrift Shop is Off to a Great Start

The Thrift Shop is part of the church, and that includes YOU! To really help us succeed, members are invited to come down and check out all of the wonderful things for sale. The Thrift Shop is comprised of three rooms and offers a huge variety of clothing, accessories, books, household items, and more. The kids room is packed with clothing and toys, and books suitable for toddlers to young adults. You really need to see it to believe it!

The Thrift shop is open the first and third Sunday of the month from 10:15am - 12:30pm, and every Friday from 9:30am - 2:00pm.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry (PSM)

Sun, Nov. 11, 11:30am | AHCC Library



Welcome back to all our talented knitters and crocheters. For those who would like to learn how to create prayer shawls, our members are excellent at teaching and helping beginners.

The PSM gives handmade shawls and lap robes to people who are going through difficult times emotionally or physically, donates baby blankets to the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at St. Francis Hospital, and provides AHCC's confirmands pocket-sized prayer squares at their confirmation.

PSM members are asked to bring projects completed over the summer to be blessed. We have some yarn and needles for anyone who needs new supplies. If you have any questions, please call Karen Denowitz (413-569-5152) or Diane Natrass (860-231-9794), Prayer Shawl Ministry co-chairs.

### Free Gentle Yoga

Tues, Oct. 2, 11:30am

Curious about how gentle yoga might benefit you? Come try it out for free! Discover how it can make you more comfortable in your body, decrease your aches and pains, help you manage stress, improve your balance and so much more. The class is taught by Cynthia Wolcott, Registered Yoga Teacher.

Tuesdays, 11:30am - 12:30pm

Oct. 9 - 30, 4 classes prepaid: \$40 or drop-in for \$12 each.

Nov. 6 - 27, 4 classes prepaid: \$40 or drop-in for \$12 each.

## Let's Do Brunch

Sun, Oct. 21, 10:30am - 2:00pm | Elaine's, 1841 Berlin Turnpike, Wethersfield  
\$15.95 pp plus tax & tip

If you don't drive at night, this is a great opportunity to attend a Dine Around event and get to see some new folks and old friends for good conversation, fun fellowship, and a great meal.

Sign up at the Member Engagement table, email June Day at [jday@ahcc.org](mailto:jday@ahcc.org) or text at 860.874.6430.

## Can You Volunteer to Drive?

You may have seen Larry Little ushering on Sunday mornings, and the joy he gets from meeting, greeting, and seating members and friends.

Larry also loves hockey, and every season has tickets to attend all of the Wolf Pack hockey home games. All he needs is a ride (and a companion for the game, if you're able). Larry provides tickets for both you and him, and needs folks to drive and pay for parking.

The games are held at the XL Center in Hartford and Larry lives in West Hartford near the Center.

We have lost several drivers over the past couple of years, and it would mean the world to Larry if we could get more volunteers for this fun opportunity.

If you're able to help out, please sign up at the Member Engagement table, email June Day at [jday@ahcc.org](mailto:jday@ahcc.org) or text at 860.874.6430 for schedule and more details.

## Active Men's Group at AHCC *by Frank Virnelli*

Fred Flintstone and Barney Rubble had the Loyal Order of Water Buffalo, Ralph Cramden and Ed Norton had the Raccoon Lodge, and the men of AHCC have the Men's Fellowship. While we don't have an initiation ritual (we just require you show up), a secret handshake, or a Grand Poobah, we do have men enjoying good food and good conversation.



The Men's Fellowship meets monthly for breakfast

We meet on the first Saturday of the month at 8:00am at Savvi's in East Hartford for breakfast, jokes, discussion, and a little Bible study. Conversations are lively, and there is a lot of laughter. During a typical morning, we spend the first 45 minutes or so talking about whatever comes to mind. We then read and discuss the Bible. The verse is usually the one the next day's sermon will focus on. No one pretends to be an expert, but we have been known to learn something from each other.

The group has been meeting for several years, and last February went on a weekend retreat to Silver Lake Conference where we prepared our meal on Friday and had a get-to-know-you discussion.

After breakfast on Saturday, we had a rewarding conversation on what it means to be a Christian man these days. In the afternoon, Gary Smith led a hike around the property, and one of the highlights of that trek through the snow was venturing onto the ice of Mudge Pond and discovering that was one of the few areas at the property where there was cell phone coverage!

That night, we watched the movie "Sully," about the Miracle on the Hudson, and more lively conversation followed, including input from a retired pilot who is a member of the group. Following breakfast on Sunday, we finished the retreat with a service among ourselves that included a baptism. Before we left, we agreed that we would go on another retreat. All men of the church are welcome to go on retreat, even if you don't attend the breakfasts.

The Men's Fellowship has cooked and served the first Lenten Dinner in both 2016 and 2017. One spring morning we cleaned up and prepared plots for the residents to plant in the Community Garden on Huntington Street. We are always looking for additional ideas for ways we can contribute to AHCC and the community. If you are interested in being added to our email list to learn about upcoming events, please email Frank Virnelli at [fvirnelli@comcast.net](mailto:fvirnelli@comcast.net) and attend events as your schedule permits.

### Fall Book Discussion

All are welcome and encouraged to attend the fall book discussion on Harvey Cox's book *How to Read the Bible* (available online or at your local bookseller). Dr Cox, who spent his long teaching career at Harvard University wrote a break out best seller in 1965, *The Secular City*, and 40 years later wrote this book for the lay person who wants to take scholarship and historical research seriously and still maintain faith with integrity.

The study and discussion group, led by Leslie DesMangles, Erica Avena, and Gary Smith will meet on Wednesday, October 10, to discuss the book of Genesis, and Wednesday, October 24 to discuss The Gospels.

Looking ahead, there are sessions on world religions and current issues:

- \* The Faces of the Gods (Discussion on Vodou) with Leslie DesMangles, Trinity College professor emeritus and chairperson of the Adult Education committee
- \* What is Buddhism?
- \* Religion in the Media with Dr. Mark Silk, Trinity College Professor and Director of the Leonard Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life and Professor of Religion in Public Life

The Adult Education Committee recognizes that learning and growth in the Christian faith is essential to personal spiritual growth. The committee provides various experiences, special programs and diverse pathways for people to consider and reconsider their Christian faith, to become familiar with the Bible, to encounter Jesus, to engage as adults in the life and events of the church, and to live as Disciples of Christ in the supportive AHCC faith community and in the world.

### Continuation of SUSO-sponsored Talk on Race in America

*Sun, Oct. 28, 11:30am*

To kick off SUSO programming for the upcoming program year, we have asked UCONN Associate Professor Jerry Phillips to come to present a talk / discussion on "Slavery and its Lasting Effects." This SUSO-sponsored forum is a continuation of our Conversation on Race in America series that began last November.

Members of the SUSO Planning Team took a course with Professor Phillips on "The American Experience of Slavery" and found him to be both a knowledgeable and dynamic speaker. Professor Phillips points out that the literary culture of the time tells us how Americans lived amid a great dehumanizing evil, in a society claiming to be based on individual freedom.

He asks us to ponder two questions:

- \* Can slavery ever be just?
- \* What are the limits of moral consciousness in political affairs?

Take some time to ponder these questions and mark your calendar for what will surely be an informative and interesting talk.

### Mid-week Bible Study

*beginning Tues, Oct. 9,  
10:00am | Youth Classroom*

Do you want to know more about the Bible? Would you like to get more out of the scriptures read in worship? Do you wonder how other people are hearing the message? These are skills you can hone! Inspired by the Men's Breakfast and Bible Study which has taken a monthly study of the preaching texts, we are opening this opportunity to the entire congregation.

Join us this fall on the second and fourth Tuesdays for a Bible study led by a member of the Adult Education Committee. We will gather together to talk about the history, questions, and challenges from the scripture which will be used in worship. Come with an open mind and a Study Bible.

## Communications

### 2017-18 Annual Reports

Each year, AHCC programs, ministries, and clergy report on the events and activities of the previous year in the Annual Report.

This information has been presented to the congregation and to the community at large in many ways. This year, we took a three-pronged approach. The Annual Meeting of the congregation took place on Sunday, June 3 and attendees were given a copy of the Annual Meeting Packet which contained the minutes of the May 2017 Annual Meeting, the necrology, a brief explanation of the mission/purpose of each Committee, the Slate of Nominees for approval, bios of committee chairs, proposed Bylaw amendments, the 2017-18 year end financial forecast, a 2018-2019 DRAFT budget, and the CT Conference Annual Report.

The second part of the communications was the Annual Report Issue of the Hill Church News published on June 1. The timing of this issue coincided with the end of the program year, and allowed Committee chairs to provide a detailed account of their Committee's activities.

Finally, the Annual Report was published and made available on Homecoming Sunday, September 9. This piece lifts highlights of the year from each ministry area. It will be given to those interested in learning more about AHCC who may want to continue the road to full membership, and used in marketing the church to the community. It is available in hard copy at the church or online in the Member Portal.

## Stewardship

### Legacy Fellowship Brunch

Thur, Oct. 25, 11:45am | Twichell Room

The Legacy Fellowship Committee is hosting a brunch to celebrate the members of the church who have included AHCC in their estate planning.

All current Legacy Fellowship members and those interested in learning more about legacy giving are welcome to attend.

Moderator Bart Halloran will update the membership on current church matters and on the progress of the Senior Minister Search Committee.

RSVP to Deb Holden at [dholden@ahcc.org](mailto:dholden@ahcc.org) or 860.216.9833.

For more information, please contact Susan Fellman, Chair of the Legacy Fellowship Committee, at [fellmansusan@gmail.com](mailto:fellmansusan@gmail.com) or 860.523.1096.

### Budget Passed for 2018-19 Fiscal Year

At the September 13, 2018 Diaconate meeting, the deacons unanimously passed AHCC's fiscal year budget. The two-month delay had been approved by the deacons in June to allow time to analyze the outcome of the Annual Stewardship Campaign during the summer and to review fiscal year 2018 year-end financials (they are draft documents until the audit is complete). Additionally, an AHCC Budget Workshop was held in August to educate the Diaconate about how our church leaders and staff manage AHCC's finances and our endowment and to conduct an extended conversation about the spending priorities for fiscal year 2019.

For fiscal year ending June 2019, the Administration and Finance Committee recommended the adoption of the following budget:

\* Total income of \$2,072,901

\* Total expenses of \$2,366,377

\* Projected deficit of (-\$293,476)

The projected shortfall will be covered by the elimination of this year's annual budget allocation of \$94,751 to the Capital Depreciation account, utilization of selected off-budget accounts totaling approximately \$121,057, and from additional contributions and pledges from church members during the early fall. If these resources are not sufficient, additional funds will be sourced from the Capital Depreciation account.

AHCC's congregation has always risen to major challenges that our church has encountered in the past. At this point in our journey, I expect the same generous outcome.

Ted Reed, Chair, Administration and Finance Committee

## Women's Spirituality & Fellowship

### Prayer Groups

Women have the opportunity to gather for prayer, fellowship, support, and laughter. These groups are open, there is no registration necessary, we have a come as you are/ come when you can policy.

Tuesday morning group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at AHCC from 10:00-11:30am.

Thursday evening group meets on the first Thursday of every month at Erica Thompson's home, 136 Whiting Lane in West Hartford from 7:00-8:30pm.

Questions and/or prayer requests? Please contact Rev. Erica Thompson at ethompson@ahcc.org.

### Asylum Hill is Alive with the Sound of Music (Movie Sing-a-long)

*Sat, Nov. 10, 6:30pm | Free*

Come for a fun-filled evening of watching this classic Julie Andrews musical on our two 90" sanctuary screens, complete with subtitles so that the whole audience can sing along! As part of the fun, costumes are encouraged!

The event is free, but please bring a non-perishable food item to support AHCC's Crisis Food Pantry.

### Women's Choir in Worship

*Sun, Oct. 21, 9:00 & 10:15am  
Rehearsal & Dinner, Tues, Oct. 16, 6:00pm*

Stand up for our church and church family, and join your voice in singing praises to our great, awesome God.

We will gather for an evening of dinner and singing where we'll eat, drink, make new friends, and learn two songs.

October 21 is Disability / Accessibility Awareness Sunday, and church member Candace Low will be giving the sermon. To be a part of the Women's Choir, email [jpott@ahcc](mailto:jpott@ahcc) or sign up at the Member Engagement table.

## Music & Arts

### It's Not Too Late to Register for Open Mic Night

*Fri, Oct. 5, 7:00 - 9:00pm | Drew Hall*

Calling people of all ages to share a song, spoken word, or instrumental solo. All acts are welcome for this free event! If needed, a pianist will be provided, or you can bring your own accompaniment, either live or recorded. Pre-registration is recommended to guarantee a spot. Please email Susan Carroll at [scarroll@ahcc.org](mailto:scarroll@ahcc.org) before October 1 to pre-register or for more information.

### Patron Tickets for the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

*Starting Mon, Oct. 15*

Do you want to purchase your tickets without standing in line? Do you want to sit down front, or at a choice location on one of the aisles? Do you need a number of tickets all together at a certain performance? Are you a loyal patron of the Festival and want to do something more to support this magnificent event? Then this new Patron Ticket program is for you.



Tickets are available to church members and the public when the box office opens on November 4, but a limited number of tickets will be set aside for Patrons of the Festival. These tickets, along with reserved parking passes, will be available beginning October 15, and will not be returned to the public sale ticket pool until December 14. Watch for an announcement coming when the Patron Tickets are available online or by phone on the Ticket Line.

## Concert: "Considering Matthew Shepard"

Sun, Nov. 4, 4:00pm | \$20

This oratorio, written in 2016 by Craig Hella Johnson, recounts the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student in Laramie, Wyoming. Johnson weaves together a vast range of musical styles to reflect the universality of this story. The UCONN Chamber Singers will join CONCORA to mark the 20th anniversary of his death. Jamie Spillane, conductor; Chris Shepard, piano.

**Agency beneficiary:** True Colors, Inc., a non-profit organization that works with other social service agencies, schools, organizations, and within communities to ensure that the needs of sexual and gender minority youth are both recognized and competently met.



Music for Humanity Concerts join the music and outreach ministries of Asylum Hill Congregational Church. All proceeds from ticket sales are directed to Hartford area service agencies and community programs supported by the church.

## Honoring Our Veterans

Sun, Nov. 11, 2018

The Music and Arts Committee would like to provide members of our congregation an opportunity to honor the military service of their family members.

If you would like a photograph of your veteran displayed in Drew Hall on Veteran's Day Sunday, please email a digital copy of the photo to Jack Pott at [jpott@ahcc.org](mailto:jpott@ahcc.org) by November 1. Please include your name, the veteran's name and branch of service.

We cannot accept responsibility for handling original photographs. If you have any questions, please contact Jack Pott.

Join us in making Veteran's Sunday a beautiful and heartfelt tribute to all in our church family who have served our country.

## Save the Date for the Annual All Church Choir and Orchestra

Thanksgiving Sunday  
November 18



Come be part of this amazing experience of filling our sanctuary with the sound of voices and instruments raised in joyful praise! There are parts for musicians and singers of all ages and abilities. To join, email Susan Carroll at [scarroll@ahcc.org](mailto:scarroll@ahcc.org) or sign up at the Member Engagement table in Drew Hall.

Instrumentalists will rehearse on Sunday, November 18 at 8:30 am. Singers will rehearse on Tuesday, November 13 from 7:00 - 8:00pm and Sunday, November 18 from 9:15 - 10:00am before the service.

## Outreach

### Outreach Committee to Host Network and Nosh with Agency Partners

*Sun, Oct. 14, 11:30am*

During the March Vision Weekend, many expressed the desire to do more than just put a “Band-aid” on community problems. In response, the Outreach Committee will host a forum consisting of a panel discussion with AHCC agency partners who provide food for our Asylum Hill neighbors and the Greater Hartford community.

With Thanksgiving approaching, the Committee felt that hunger and food insecurity were important issues to address. This will be an opportunity to learn more about the needs of our neighbors, the kinds of things that have happened in their lives to land them in situations of food insecurity, and ways in which we might put our faith into action to help address this issue with our Asylum Hill neighbors. For more information, please contact Director of Discipleship Rev. Mia Douglas at [mdouglas@ahcc.org](mailto:mdouglas@ahcc.org) or 860.216.9834.

### Puerto Rico Mission Trip

*November 11-17, 2018  
and April 7-13, 2019*

The recovery from Hurricanes Maria and Irma continues in Puerto Rico. AHCC, Immanuel Congregational Church, and UCC Disaster Ministries, will work together with Puerto Rican partners on rebuilding projects, focused mostly on housing.

The United Church of Christ and Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico are teaming up and have been assigned to more than 90 homes. As part of this effort, AHCC members and friends will travel to Puerto Rico in November and April. The church has committed funds collected after the storms to help support this important work, which may include repairing cement roofs, light carpentry, metal and wood roofing repair, and painting interior ceilings and walls. Most of the work will be done in the Humacao city area, the hardest hit area in Puerto Rico.

Because the UCC Camp Yuquiyu still does not have power for the dormitory and kitchen, we will be staying at Elemental Eco Retreat.

The cost of the one-week work trip is approximately \$800 which will cover airfare, ground transportation, food, and lodging. Space is limited.

You may register by submitting your payment to AHCC’s front office. Please write “Puerto Rico Mission Trip” in the memo line of your check. For questions and/or information contact Rich Grobe at [rrgrobe@aol.com](mailto:rrgrobe@aol.com) or 860.306.5394.

## Children & Families

### Teachers & Classroom Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday school program, Spirit Hill, this fall.

Spirit Hill teachers teach lessons to children in grades K-5. Teachers make a commitment to teach a full unit, which is 2-3 Sundays (we supply the lesson and materials). Teachers are essential to the success of our Spirit Hill program and we truly appreciate the time given.

Units for this fall are:

Adam & Eve (Oct. 7 - 21)

The Burning Bush (Nov. 4 - 18)

Advent/Christmas (Dec. 2, 9, and 23)

Classroom volunteers are also needed in every class to assist teachers with lessons. Volunteer duties include taking attendance, passing out materials, playing games, and helping to manage students. This is a great way to volunteer your time with our future young members. Please email Mrs. Kyle Cannon [kcannon@ahcc.org](mailto:kcannon@ahcc.org) or Marcie Jackson [mjackson@ahcc.org](mailto:mjackson@ahcc.org) if you are interested in volunteering on Sunday mornings with our young children.

### Christmas Pageant Sign-ups Continue in October

This event is for children in grades K-2 with leadership roles for children in grades 3-5. The pageant will be held at the 10:15am service on Sunday, Dec. 16 with a mandatory rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 15. Parent volunteers are needed. Last day to sign up is October 7. Contact Kyle Cannon at [kcannon@ahcc.org](mailto:kcannon@ahcc.org) for more information or questions.

## Spirit Hill Lessons This Fall

Children in grades K-5 will continue to enjoy lessons from our Spark Rotation curriculum this fall. Units are three weeks long and focus on the Old Testament.

Preschoolers will continue to use our new curriculum called Frolic, which teaches young children about God, using storybooks and central themes such as how to pray, asking for help, dealing with anger, etc.

We continue to need church members to serve as Spirit Hill teachers and classroom assistants. Please email Kyle Cannon, [kcannon@ahcc.org](mailto:kcannon@ahcc.org), if you are interested in giving your time to teach or help.

## Children's Sunday

*Sun, Oct. 28, 10:15am worship*

On Children's Sunday, the children of AHCC lift their voices in song and scripture as the congregation celebrates its youngest members. Third graders will be presented with a congregational gift of the Holy Bible during this service.

## Save the Date: Movie Night featuring Coco!

*Fri, Nov. 16, 6:00pm  
Twichell Room, Reel to Real*

Join members of the Children & Family Ministries Committee for a night of music, food, fellowship, and the showing of a new favorite, *Coco* (2017). All are welcome. Stay tuned for more details.

## Youth & Teens

### Middle School

*Sundays, 10:15 - 11:30am  
Youth Lounge & Classroom*

Saturday, October 20: Special hang out activity. Parents check in for more info. on this activity designed just to have some fun together!

The purpose of our Middle School Youth Group is focused and simple: provide tools to better understand faith in the context of everyday life. Our symbol for this semester is a three leaf clover reminding us that "God is love, God is everywhere, God is with us." We are also laying the groundwork for future participation in High School Youth Group.

We work toward those goals by encouraging basic navigation skills regarding the Bible, church, and spirituality, creating fun hang out opportunities to establish closer friendships with other "church

kids," and providing simple service opportunities to broaden caring for others.

What can a Middle Schooler expect on a Sunday morning? Our usual format begins with a two minute explanation of what we are doing that day. Then we do an ice breaker game together. We follow with a 15 minute interactive lesson, usually taught within the context of a team building game. After that, we take a few minutes to provide a simple way of being still with God through personal prayer. Then we have a 20 minute active game time, and wrap up with a snack and hang out until parents come for pick up. We plan and rely on parents or Youth Committee members helping as adult chaperones to aid in the flow of the group meeting.

We include candy prizes and breakfast snacks, so if your Middle School student has allergy concerns,

please let the Youth Director, Tobey Aubert know. Any other questions, please feel free to contact Tobey at [taubert@ahcc.org](mailto:taubert@ahcc.org) or 860.216.9835.

### Confirmation Class

*Sundays, 5:30 - 6:45pm  
Youth Classroom*

Friday, October 12, 7:30pm: Inter-faith visit: Congregation Beth Israel

The Confirmation Program offers eighth graders an opportunity to explore their faith in a safe and supportive environment. Throughout the year, young people are challenged to consider their beliefs about Christianity, the Trinity, the Bible, and the Church. Through class participation, attendance in worship, visits to other faith institutions, service opportunities, reading, reflection, and prayer, it is our hope that together we will learn, grow, and be transformed!

*More on back page*

## High School

Sundays, 7:00 – 8:30pm  
Youth Lounge, Drew Hall

October 7 is the last Sunday of **Section One** of the fall schedule, purpose and team building gatherings. Our vision is for social and spiritual wellness.

**Section Two** (November) is focused on action through service in the greater Hartford area. **Section Three** (December) is focused on connecting our action and personal values with a Christmas emphasis.

On October 14, we begin taking action in service in our community by serving a meal to the homeless in Hartford in cooperation with Center Church.

October 21: Deliver handmade decorations to seniors with special consideration.

October 28: Bring holiday fun to local children through the Halloween Carnival at AHCC.

## Homecoming Sunday – You Belong Here!

