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## ***For Immediate Release***

### ***FIRST CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL HOLDS THE 41<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL ARTISAN FAIR***

*September 30, 2023—10:00 AM-4:30 PM*

**Redding, CT:** On Saturday, September 30, the First Church of Christ Congregational will hold its 41st Annual Artisan Fair from 10 AM to 4:30 PM, rain or shine. Since 1982, First Church has welcomed visitors from Redding and the surrounding communities to their campus to peruse works by over 40 local Artisans, meander through one of the area's largest Tag Sales, enjoy homemade pies, freshly made soup and food, and listen to live music. Plus, take a chance to win one of over 50 valuable prizes by entering our Great Raffle.

### ***Artisan Exhibitors***

One highlight of the fair is the collection of talented artisans who are gathered in the center of the town to share their beautiful and eclectic handcrafted wares. According to Kara Morgan, Church Vice Chair and Artisan Coordinator, "This year we have 46 talented artists and craftsmen joining us, many of which are new to our event." To learn more about the Artisan click to see our exhibitors [here](#).

### ***Giant Tag Sale***

The **Tag Sale**, located in the Fellowship Hall, includes valuables to collectibles from housewares to children's fun things to seasonal offerings. Other specialty areas include the **Jewelry Boutique** which offers an eclectic collection of both vintage and one-of-a-kind fine jewelry, as well as fun jewelry, scarves, and purses. In addition, collectors and art enthusiasts can stroll through a variety of antiques and specialty furnishings at the Barn Sale in our **Studio**, an 18<sup>th</sup>-century carriage workshop across the

way. For those who would like to get an early start, the church offers early bird admission starting at 9 AM for \$10 to enter the Tag Sale and Jewelry Boutique or for \$15 will include the Studio as well.

### ***Food and Entertainment***

A variety of food prepared by church volunteers is one of the event's hallmarks. Enjoy a piece of fresh-baked apple pie or a cup of Congregational soup ladled straight from the kettle. Purchase pumpkins, mums, and cornstalks while listening to area bands play familiar tunes. Stroll with your lemon swizzle or popcorn while you listen to the band. This year's performers are [the Kurt and Helen Band](#), country rock from 11 AM-12:30PM and The Hooligans, a high-energy cover band performing from 1-3 PM. Sit and relax while you eat a delicious grilled burger, our fabulous pulled pork, hot dog, sausage & peppers, fries, or veggie burger served up to order along with a cold drink by our Fellowship Committee.

The event also offers a whole gated area for children's activities, games and playground. According to Kathie Cyr, Chair of Church Council, "The Artisan Fair is something we look forward to year after year. It's a community favorite event that brings out most of Redding. Proceeds from the Fair allow us to continue our important fellowship and outreach efforts in the community and beyond."

### ***Sponsors***

We are grateful for this year's sponsors: **Santa Energy**, Silver level and our Bronze Level Sponsors: **Caraluzzi's Market, Elite Limo, Professional Water Systems** of Ridgefield.

**Parking** for the Fair is available at Redding Elementary School, 33 Lonetown Road, Redding, CT 06896. A convenient shuttle bus (2 minute ride) will take you to the Fair on the Church grounds. [For directions to the church click here.](#)

**About First Church:** The First Church of Christ, Congregational of Redding first gathered as a congregation in 1729. According to the Reverend Dr. Dean Ahlberg, "We are a welcoming place of worship, where anyone can find spiritual nurture and grow as a Christian." While claiming no infallible doctrinal standards, the Church affirms an adopted Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ and worship services are held on Sundays at 10 AM.

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