

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Depart to Serve

NOVEMBER 18, 2018

MUSIC FOR ORGAN AND ORCHESTRA TODAY AT 4 P.M. Concerts at First Church, along with the Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, presents Music for Organ and Orchestra, featuring organist Todd Wilson, strings and brass.

FORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR ADULTS: SUNDAYS AT 10 A.M.

Opening the Word – Searching the Scriptures: November 18 and 25 in the Ralph Fanning Room on the first floor Join us for a three-week study on the book of I John. This study will be held in the Fanning Room on the first floor. The sessions will be led by Anthony Brown.

Open and Affirming Task Force: Sunday, November 18 and 25 in Classroom D. The First Church ONA Task Force will review the revised and updated Opening and Affirming Statement.

HANGING OF THE GREENS: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 6 -9 P.M.

Come for fellowship and help prepare the church for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. All ages can participate. Many hands make light work. Come and share in the fun.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PLAY Rehearsals for this year’s production, “Jimmy Grabbage and the Utterly Cool Key to the Universe” are underway held at 10 a.m. on Sundays through the day of the play, Sunday, December 9 after the Christmas dinner at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The only non-Sunday practice is the dress rehearsal the day before, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 8, in the Parish Hall. Pre-K-1st children will tackle the roles of Mistletoe Marchers; 2nd graders will introduce the spectacle with their very own spotlight-stealing rhymes; and 3rd-5th graders will charm and disarm us with speaking parts to rival Shakespeare or SpongeBob. Children in grades 2-5 will practice in Room B in the Education Wing, and toddlers through 1st grade will practice in their classrooms. All are welcome; there are no tryouts or cuts. Questions? Melissa Kulwicki at mbkulwicki@gmail.com and Karen Mozingo at karen_mozingo@hotmail.com.

YOUTH SELLING FUDGE FOR HOLIDAYS The First Church Youth Groups will be selling a variety of fudge again this year as a fundraiser during the holiday season. The fudge, either half pound or pound boxes, will be on sale after each worship service and during office weekday hours beginning the end of November through December. This makes a perfect gift - consider giving a box of fudge as gifts for your business or employees. See Mark Williams or contact him at mwilliams@first-church.org for more details regarding special orders.

ANNUAL COOKIE MISSION: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 from 8:30-11 a.m.

First Church’s Annual Cookie Mission is calling for volunteers, cookies and candies. First Church volunteers will assemble the tins in the large conference room and then, after the 11 a.m. service, deliver filled tins to First Church members shut-in or needing holiday cheer. Opportunities to help with this mission include:

- Donate cookie tins. Please bring to church office by December 1.
- Donate 3-4-dozen Christmas cookies or candies. Please bring to church the day of the event.
- Help fill tins with goodies on December 9.
- Deliver to First Church shut-ins the week of December 9-16.

To register for any of the above volunteer opportunities, please call the church office or sign up.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS NEEDED Volunteers are needed to host Fellowship Hour on **Sunday, November 25** and **Sunday, December 9**. Please contact Mary Anne Jacobson at marytoddj@gmail.com.



THE GOOD SAMARITAN FUND Our cupboard of personal care items is bare. We hope you will consider donating items over the next weeks to restock our shelves for Good Samaritan Day on December 10. We recommend any of the Dollar Stores, especially ones where everything in the store is \$1.00. Please consider bringing 1 or several of the following items:

- Men or Women Shampoo
- Men or Women Body Wash
- Men or Women Deodorant
- Toothpaste – full size tubes
- Disposable razors & shaving cream.
- Feminine hygiene products

Place them in the bin outside the church office.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Mary Weaver; Al Glover; Donald Dunn; Arlene Reynolds; Celeste Feather; Deb Kelly; Barbara Knox; Andrew MacGregor; Lindy Miller; Carl Miller, and those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Kent Rambo and family, on the death of his father; the family of Nancy Jeffrey; Bert and Bev Cook, on the death of their daughter, Jan Cook; and Tom Brownlee, on the death of his father, John David Brownlee.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Phil Bensing, brother of Andy Bensing; Chuck Comfar, friend of Thom Smith; Gene Dahnke, father of Mark Dahnke; Marjorie Kufel, mother of Sharon Leidheiser; Chris Collaros; Joyce Marcum, sister of Betty Conn; and Brooke Chute, cousin of Amy Wagner; and those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Natalie Wright, on the death of her husband Bill.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for the people of Yemen who face political and humanitarian crisis. We pray for the victims of gun violence in this country, especially those of the 307 mass shootings in this year to date. We pray for the communities in California affected by wildfires. We pray for tensions in the Middle East to cease.

IN GOD’S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE This week we pray with and for the people and churches of East Timor, Indonesia, Philippines.

MISSIONARIES This week we pray for Victoria Peagler serving in Botswana.

NEED PRAYER? If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact Amy Wagner, Office Manager, at awagner@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 10 or the ministers: ecorzine@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 21, or tahrens@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 13.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, November 18

- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
- 9 a.m. – Exultate/Jubilate Choirs – Choir and Music Activities Rooms
- 10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing Room D and Ralph Fanning Room
- 11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
- Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
- 12:30 p.m. – Confirmation – Education Wing Room D
- 4 p.m. –AGO Centennial Concert and Reception – Sanctuary

Monday, November 19

- 7 p.m. – Personnel –Parish Family Room

Tuesday, November 20

- 1 p.m. – Deadline for Newsletter
- 2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Children’s Library

Wednesday, November 21

Building Closed All Day

Thursday, November 22 – Thanksgiving

Building Closed All Day



Friday, November 23

- 1 p.m. – Faith Mission Meal Preparation – Kitchen

Sunday, November 25

- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
- 9 a.m. – Exultate/Jubilate Choirs – Choir and Music Activities Rooms
- 10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing Room D and Ralph Fanning Room
- 11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
- Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
- 6 p.m. – Hanging of the Greens – Sanctuary
- 6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups – Parish Hall

ABOUT YOUR OFFERING TODAY All our offerings support the Ministry of First Church through its programs, outreach and related groups as we witness to God’s love together. Thank you for your gifts.

- **Offertory envelopes** are provided in the pews.
 - **Submitting a pledge?** Please use an envelope found in the pew, marking the “Pledge” box.
 - **Church Support:** Checking this box directs your gift to general ministry support.
 - **Mission:** Please specify today’s mission so your gift is distributed correctly.
 - **Online Giving:** Go to our web site www.first-church.org click on **Give** or <http://www.first-church.org/give.aspx> and then click or copy the link into your browser to set up an account and pay with your credit card or through your checking or savings account.
- easyTithe**  
- **Other Gifts:** Please designate your intention: *Memorials, flowers, fund raising projects, music, education, Building Endowment, House and Grounds Special Projects, etc.*



OFFERING TOTAL FOR LAST WEEK’S MISSION

November 11 – \$1,919.30 – Gladden and Broad Street Food Pantries

NEXT WEEK’S MISSION OFFERING – Mid-Ohio Workers

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK Today – Caitlin Graham; 19 – Paul Flocken, Larry Thorne; 20 – Schlelia Gray, John Matchett; 21 – Allison Palmer; 22 – Natalie Barker, Kristen Blanks, Madeline Helmer, Jane Weddle; 23 – Bill Wagner; 24 – Mike Bukach, Andy Rozmiarek, Scott Warrick

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Minister	Timothy C. Ahrens, D. Min.
Associate Minister	Emily Krause Corzine, M. Div.
Minister of Music	Kevin Jones, M. M.
Director of Christian Education	Mark S. Williams, M. Ed.
Commissioned Minister for Social Justice	Tom Brownfield
Commissioned Minister for Spiritual Formation and Direction	Jacquelyn Dean
Organist/Choirmaster Emeritus	G. Dene Barnard
Jubilate Choir Director	Sandra Mathias, Ph.D.
Business Manager	Sharon Leidheiser
Program Manager	Martha Worth
Office Manager	Amy Wagner
Building & Grounds Superintendent	Mark Dahnke
Custodians	Allen Cornwell, Jimmy Sibrian
Wedding Coordinators	Margaret Cipriani, Diana Chandler, Amy Wagner, Katie Wagner
Nursery Staff	Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold, Miranda Brooks

DIACONATE

Senior Deacon	Janet Newcity
Deacons	Anthony Brown, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Bert Cook, Martha Fulleman, Shelly Gies, Todd Jacobson, Dayna McCrary, Karen Mazingo, David Nassau, Allison Lowery Palmer, Jorge Polo, Alex Rodriguez, James Velo

CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator	Joe Baszynski
Moderator-Elect	Lynn Wallich
Treasurer	Joe Hoffman
Assistant Treasurer	Matt Myers
Secretary	Nancy Loy
Assistant Secretary	Jim Griffin

COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Chris Glaros, Elect - Greg Kellison
Church Growth/Vitality	Tom Kiesel and Mary Anne Jacobson, co-chairs; Elect - Maria Brown and Lisa Fravel-Dean
Education	Chris Gelpi, Elect - Jennifer Provenzano
House & Grounds	Gary Leidheiser, Elect - Mark Brown
Justice & Mercy	Dawn George, Elect - Nicole Moss
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Joel Mathias, Elect - Drew Wade
Nominating Chair	Kent Shimeall
Member-at-large	Pavan Peter
Youth-at-large	Miriam Myers
Deacon Council Representative	Todd Jacobson

TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Chris Farquhar
Treasurer	Cindy Conn
Trustees	Brian Cave, Tom Hadley, John Martin, Sheldon Taft, Elaine Warren, Keith White, Gerry Worth

WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG

YEAR-END IRA REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS Members and friends of First Church, age 70 ½ and older, may now transfer up to \$100,000 tax-free directly from an IRA to the charity of their choice. Please consider making a direct transfer to the Trustees, First Congregational Church, to support the Endowment of your favorite ministry or the Building Endowment Fund. The significant benefits are:

- No federal or state income taxes are paid on the distribution from your IRA
- Your gift counts toward the required minimum distribution from your IRA
- Your gift will make a long-lasting impact at First Church

A description of each Endowment Fund can be found on the First Church website at www.first-church.org/EndomwmentFunds.aspx or you can talk with Rev. Tim Ahrens, Rev. Emily Corzine, Business Administrator Sharon Leidheiser or one of the First Church Trustees. Now is the time to talk with your financial institution to make a timely transfer. *IMPORTANT: When you talk with your financial institution, please ask them to send a check or wire transfer directly to First Church. This is necessary to assure that the gift is deductible.*

TRANSFERS OF HIGHLY-APPRECIATED SECURITIES By contributing long-term appreciated securities such as stocks, bonds or real estate to First Church, donors can avoid the capital gains taxes they would have incurred by selling the assets. Subject to new federal tax deduction limits, Donors may also receive a charitable deduction for the fair, full market value of the donated assets. Consult your tax professional for advice. We are blessed as a Congregation with a beautiful and historic Church building; passionate, energetic and committed Staff; and wonderful arts and music, education programming and a historic dedication to missions and social justice. The First Church Trustees appreciate the support of members and friends over the years and into the future to enhance and maintain our legacy. Thank you!

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**“GET ME TO THE CHURCH ON TIME”:
UPDATES ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

Driving to and from the Church

Ninth Street is CLOSED until further notice.

From East, West and South, use Cleveland Avenue to access West and North Lots. Coming from the north we recommend exiting I-71 South at Broad Street. Take Broad Street to Cleveland Avenue. **Enter ALL church parking from Cleveland Avenue.**

From I-670, take Cleveland Avenue south. Turn left at Gay Street and then right into the alley on the west side of the North Lot. You may also continue south on Cleveland Avenue and turn left into the alley by the Carriage House which will lead to the North Lot or turn right into the West Lot. Look for directional signs.

Building Access for All Projects

Weekday access will be thru the North Education Wing Entrance. On Sunday this door will be locked shortly after the 11 a.m. service begins. The elevator, Broad Street and West Lot doors will still be available.

Creative Campus Roadway Improvements

This City of Columbus project will upgrade the roadway, sidewalks, pedestrian safety, lighting and aesthetic elements of Cleveland Avenue, Gay Street, Ninth Street and Washington Avenue.

Ninth Street will close Friday November 2 for 3 – 4 weeks. Access for delivery vehicles to CMOA only. No other traffic permitted. Ninth Street entrance to the church will be closed due to replacement of the sidewalk and other construction work.

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