



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Depart to Serve

NOVEMBER 25, 2018

**HOLIDAY DECORATING TONIGHT FROM 6-9 P.M.** Get into the Christmas Spirit by decorating First Church for the holidays. We provide the pizza dinner, you help us hang up our decorations. No skill required. All ages and families welcome! Register to get your fill of pizza and holiday spirit! Registration is limited to 40 people. Registration: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=vta6sivab&oeidk=a07efunmfr4f443d78>



**VOLUNTEERS FOR LAUNDRY LOVE NEEDED THIS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 AT 6 P.M.** at WashLand Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street in West Franklinton.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY** Rehearsals for "Jimmy Grabbage and the Utterly Cool Key to the Universe" are 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, with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 8 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Pre-K-1st children will tackle the roles of Mistletoe Marchers; 2nd graders will introduce the play; and 3rd-5th graders will charm and disarm us with speaking parts. Children in grades 2-5 will practice in Parish Hall, and toddlers through 1<sup>st</sup> grade will practice in their classrooms. Questions? Melissa Kulwicki at [mbkulwicki@gmail.com](mailto:mbkulwicki@gmail.com) and Karen Mozingo at [karen\\_mozingo@hotmail.com](mailto: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. Half pound or pound boxes will be on sale after each worship service and during office weekday hours. See Mark Williams or contact him at [mwilliams@first-church.org](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org) for more details regarding special orders.

**FAIR TRADE GIFT BASKETS AVAILABLE ON DECEMBER 2** Do you need a hostess gift or a gift for that 'hard to buy for' person on your list? Sacred Earth will be offering coffee, tea, and chocolate Fair Trade baskets for \$15 each on Sunday, December 2 during Fellowship Hour in Parish Hall. Each basket will have tea, coffee or chocolate items along with a mug, scone mix or cookies in them. Hope to see you on December 2!!

**"A MASON JAR ADVENT"** We hope this little resource will deepen and enrich your Advent journey. Day by day, week by week, prayer by prayer, action by action, together we will count down to that holy night when God slips into the world. • GET PRAYING: blue ribbons (each Sunday of Advent) • GET MOVING: green ribbons • GET CONNECTED: red ribbons • GET SOCIAL: gold ribbons. The mason jar will be distributed at the end of the worship service. One per family. Big thank you to Carol Gallagher, Barb Clapham and Margaret Cipriani for assembling this project.

**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 in the church office.

**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** Al Glover; Donald Dunn; Arlene Reynolds; Celeste Feather; Barbara Knox; Andrew MacGregor; Lindy Miller; Carl Miller, and those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Charlie Weaver and family, on the death of Mary; Kent Rambo, on the death of his father; the family of Nancy Jeffrey; 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.

**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. 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 Brunei, Malaysia, and Singapore.

**MISSIONARIES** This week we pray for Maria Bakalian serving in Lebanon.

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

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK** Today – Sarah Ahrens; 26 – Eric Malmborg, Gillespie Shimeall-Evans, Adam Wade; 27 – Beth Iannarino, Kevin Jones, Wayne Redenbarger; 29 – Xavier Dean, David Ghose; 30 – Ruby Holt; December 1 – John Rau

**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** Today – Kathie and Guy Cole, Sandy and Michael Valinis; 29 – Janet and Rick Pfeiffer; 30 – Eric and Bonnie Klintworth

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

### 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. – Play Practice – Parish Hall Stage
- 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

### Monday, November 26

- All Day – Fudge Making – Kitchen
- 7 p.m. – Deacons Meeting – Education Wing Room D

### Tuesday, November 27

- All Day – Fudge Making – Kitchen
- 2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Children’s Library
- 6 p.m. – Laundry Love – WashLand Laundromat,  
1469 West Broad Street
- 7 p.m. – Senior Minister / Member Advisory Board –  
Rev. Ahrens’ office

### Wednesday, November 28

- All Day – Fudge Making – Kitchen
- 9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room

### Thursday, November 29

- 6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J
- 7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

### Saturday, December 1

- 9 a.m. – Fudge Making – Kitchen
- 2 p.m. – Great Hallelujah Holiday Tour of Churches – Sanctuary

### Sunday, December 2

- 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. – Play Practice – Parish Hall Stage
- 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
- 2:30 p.m. – Weaver Memorial Service – Sanctuary and Parish Hall
- 6 p.m. – High School Youth Group – 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](http://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**  
**PayPal**



- **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 18 – \$ 897.00 – Gladden Community House Christmas Fund

**NEXT WEEK’S MISSION OFFERING** Mid-Ohio Workers



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 Mozingo, 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 Favel-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](http://WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG)