

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

NOVEMBER 26, 2017

ADVENT RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND ADULTS will be available beginning Sunday, November 26, at the entrance to the worship space and in classrooms. An Advent children's activities calendar will be available and is perfect to display on a refrigerator or a family bulletin board. New this year is an Advent Cards that contains a daily meditation for the season of Advent. This resource comes from the SALT Project and we are happy to provide this wonderful resource to **each household**. Of course, we will also have a variety of individual devotion booklets for the days of Advent. Please pick up a copy at either service or in the church office.

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 1-pound or ½-pound boxes, will be on sale after each worship service and during office weekday hours beginning the end of November through December. Order forms are available in the office. Contact Mark Williams at mwilliams@first-church.org for more details regarding special orders.

FIRST CHURCH'S 2017 ORNAMENT NOW AVAILABLE First Church is continuing our exciting program in celebrating the history of the church through an ongoing keepsake ornament project. The 2017 collectible features the Clerestory Windows of the Nave and is \$18. All ornaments, except 2007, are still available in limited quantity at \$10 each, or you can purchase all the previous nine ornaments for a discounted price of \$50. This year's ornament is available after the 9 a.m. service and during the Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall after the 11 a.m. service, as well as in the church office. Contact Mark S. Williams, (mwilliams@first-church.org) for more information.

HANGING OF THE GREENS: NOVEMBER 26 FROM 6-9 P.M. Come at 6 p.m. for pizza and fellowship and help us prepare for Advent. People of all ages and skill levels can participate. From hanging wreaths to tying bows to stringing lights on the tree in the Nave, many hands make light work. Please respond to the church office if you can attend.

LAUNDRY LOVE IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28 Please contact Mark Williams at mwilliams@first-church.org if you can volunteer this Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at WashLand Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street in West Franklinton.

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 – WOMEN'S RETREAT – *An Advent Journey*, from 9 a.m.-Noon in Room D of the Education Wing.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10: COOKIE MISSION - SPREAD THE JOY!

Christmas is a time for giving to others and this is one simple way church members can give back to the other members in need and in our church community. You can bake, help prepare packages for delivery or deliver. If interested simply call the office at 614-228-1741. Here's how you can help:

- Bake 4-dozen cookies/candies and deliver to the Ralph Fanning Room between 8:30–11 a.m.
- Prepare cookies tins for delivery; meet at 10 a.m. in Ralph Fanning Room
- Deliver cookies after 9 and 11 a.m. services; address and phone number provided.



INTERFAITH PRAYER GATHERING AND POTLUCK

DINNER: *Welcoming the Stranger with Our Heads,*

Hearts, and Hands Sunday, December 10,

Interfaith Association of Central Ohio (IACO), in collaboration with Community Refugee and Immigration

Services(CRIS) will host a prayer service at 5 p.m. at Broad Street Presbyterian Church, 760 E. Broad Street and a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. in the Dining Room. Bring a covered dish to share (with ingredients listed on an index card). RSVP by December 8 to office@iaco.org. Justice and Mercy Commission is supporting this event and encouraging you to come along with them. Please come join us!

NEED A HOSTESS GIFT OR A GIFT FOR FRIENDS OR FAMILY? Sacred Earth is offering holiday chocolate, coffee, and tea baskets with fair trade items for just \$15. Baskets will be available starting Sunday, December 3, during our Fellowship Hour and again on Sunday, December 17 (the first and third Sundays of December). Please look for a sign up in the church office where you can indicate which option you would like and date you prefer. If you need a basket for another time, please call Sarah Giffen at 614-471-9665.

THANK YOU for completing the 2017-2018 Communications Survey! We are grateful for your participation. Three winners were selected by the Survey Group for an Amazon Gift Card. Congratulations to Shelly Gies, Lynn Wallich, and Denny Wojtanowski.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Herb Goetz; Sophie Baird; Virginia O'Neill; and families and friends who mourn the loss of loved ones, including: Mark Williams, on the death of his sister-in-law, Nancy Williams; and Geneva Rice, on the death of her sister, Becky Appleyard.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Dave Belcastro and Debbie Anderson; the O'Rourke Family; Alice Anderson, mother of Eddie Anderson and sister of Duan Cannon; Marjorie Kufel, mother of Sharon Leidheiser; Rev. Roger Miller; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for those affected by the attack on a mosque in Nigeria. We pray for the victims and families of the mission Argentine Naval submarine. We pray for peace and stability in Zimbabwe and Kenya.

IN THE UNITED STATES We pray for those who are affected by sexual violence and sexual assault. We pray for the city of Columbus and those affected by gun violence on our streets. We pray for those who face deportation.

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 Anil Henry, serving in India.

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.

COPIES OF TODAY'S SERMON can be found in the office or at the Broad Street entrance to the Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, November 26: Reign of Christ Sunday

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Exultate Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
9 a.m. – Jubilate Choirs – Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Warm Up – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing, Room C
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
12:15 p.m. – Congregational Care Coordinating Team – Ralph Fanning Room
6 p.m. – Hanging of the Greens / Pizza – Room C and Sanctuary
6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth – Parish Hall

Monday, November 27

7 p.m. – Deacons Meeting – Education Wing Room D

Tuesday, November 28

11:30 a.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
12:15 p.m. – Yoga – Sanctuary
5:45 p.m. – Yoga – Sanctuary
6 p.m. – Laundry Love – WashLand Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street

Wednesday, November 29

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room
4 p.m. – Building and Office Close

Thursday, November 30

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

Saturday, December 2

9 a.m. – Youth Fudge Making – Kitchen
9 a.m. – Women’s Retreat – Education Wing Room D
2 p.m. – Columbus Landmarks Foundation Hallelujah Tour – Sanctuary

Sunday, December 3: Advent 1

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Exultate Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
9 a.m. – Jubilate Choirs – Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Warm Up – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing, Room D
10 a.m. – New Members Class – Education Wing, Room C
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
12:15 p.m. – Confirmation – Education Wing, Room D
12:150 p.m. – New Members / Connecting with Our Vision Lunch –Room C
6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth – Parish Hall

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK Today – Eric Malmborg, Gillespie Shimeall-Evans, Adam Wade; 11/27 – Beth Iannarino, Kevin Jones, Wayne Redenbarger; 11/28 – Nell Cole; 11/29 –Xavier Dean, David Ghose; 12/1 – John Rau; 12/2 – Aubrey Schmitt

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK Today – Kathie and R. Guy Cole, Sarah and Wally Giffen, Sandy and Michael Valinis; 11/29 – Janet and Rick Pfeiffer; 11/30 –Eric and Bonnie Klintworth

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

- **Offertory envelopes** are provided in the pews for members or visitors.
- **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

<http://www.easytithe.com/dl/?uid=Firs444421>

PayPal

<https://www.paypal.com/signup/accountCreate>

- **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 19 – \$1,020.60 – Mid Ohio Workers

NEXT WEEK’S MISSION OFFERING

UCAN – World Aids Fund



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
Treble Choir Director	Sandra Mathias, Ph.D.
Business Manager	Sharon Leidheiser
Program Manager	Martha Worth
Office Manager	Amy Wagner
Building & Grounds Superintendent	Mark Dahnke
Custodians	William Lee, Jimmy Sibrian
Wedding Coordinators	Janet Axt, Margaret Cipriani, Diana Chandler, Amy Wagner, Katie Wagner
Nursery Staff	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

DIACONATE

Senior Deacon	Alec Deitz
Deacons	Kris Brant, Anthony Brown, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Bert Cook, Martha Fullemann, Dean Hafey, Todd Jacobson, Karen Mozingo, David Nassau, Janet Newcity, Jorge Polo, Alejandro Rodriguez, Hugh Schultz

CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator	Kent Shimeall
Moderator-Elect	Joe Baszynski
Treasurer	David Holt
Assistant Treasurer	Joe Hoffman
Secretary	Pat Patterson
Assistant Secretary	Nancy Loy

COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Sue Cook, Elect - Chris Glaros
Church Growth/Vitality	Kent Rambo and Mary Anne Jacobson, co-chairs; Elect - Tom Kiesel and Mary Anne Jacobson
Education	Helen Ninos, Elect - Chris Gelpi
House & Grounds	Eric Klintworth, Elect - Gary Leidheiser
Justice & Mercy	Al Glover, Elect - Dawn George
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Sharon Ferguson, Elect - Joel Mathias
Nominating Chair	Brian Cave
Member-at-large	Neal Brower
Youth-at-large	Joe Spofforth
Deacon Council Representative	Janet Newcity

TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Lisa Morris
Treasurer	Bill Johannes
Trustees	Chris Farquhar, Francille Firebaugh, Tom Hadley, Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Keith White, Gerry Worth

444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885

PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741

WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG

The Annual Christmas Dinner and Children's Play is coming up soon (**Sunday, December 10!**) and Church Vitality and Growth is seeking out volunteers to help make this a delightful and delicious time for all.



Specifically, we are seeking help for three shifts:

1. **Set up:** Immediately following the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, December 10. Tablecloths and decorations are provided.
2. **Service:** Arrive between 5:30 and 5:45 p.m. to set up coffee, water, lemonade and receive pot luck dishes. Assist people in line. Replenish items in buffet line as needed. Finish around 6:30 p.m.
3. **Clean up:** Beginning around 6:30-6:45 p.m., bus tables as needed. Clean up. Finish around 7:30 p.m.

Please contact Mary Anne Jacobson at marytoddj@gmail.com if you are available to help. Providing hospitality for our church family and our guests at this event is a blessing to all!

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NEW MEMBERS CLASSES If you are interested in becoming a member of First Church, Rev. Corzine and other church leaders will be hosting a series of new member classes on Sunday morning at 10-10:45 a.m. for three consecutive Sundays.



Sunday, December 3: 10-10:45 a.m. Class and 12:15-1:30 p.m. Lunch (meet and greet)
Sunday, December 10: 10-10:45 a.m. Class
Sunday, December 17: 10-10:45 a.m. Class and New Members join in worship services (9 or 11 a.m.)
Welcome reception during Fellowship Hour.

Sign me up! _____ **Please contact me for the next class** _____

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Dietary Restrictions for December 3 lunch: _____

Best Telephone # to reach me is: _____

Childcare will be available; please call the church office at 614-228-1741, ext. 10 the Wednesday prior to the class to let us know how many children to expect.

Connect with our Vision Luncheon
December 3 after the 11 a.m. worship

Connect with our Vision Luncheon is for prospective new members and recent new members who have joined First Church since 2014; you are invited to join in this discussion about our greatest values and living a life that matters.

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