

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## DEPART TO SERVE

NOVEMBER 27, 2016



### ADVENT RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES

AND ADULTS will be available beginning Sunday, November 27, at the entrance to the worship space and in classrooms. An Advent children's activities calendar and teen's calendar, an Advent paper chain, a booklet for family prayers, scriptures and reflections "From Heaven to Manger" and "Peace, Hope- Light" by C. S. Lewis, an individual devotion booklet for the days of Advent, will all be available. Please pick up a copy at either service or in the church office.

**NEXT SUNDAY IN FORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR ADULTS** Discover the meaning of the season with *O Come, O Come Emmanuel: Reflections on Four Seasonal Hymns*. Written by Mary Louise (Mel) Bringle and Beverly Howard, this four-session adult study looks at the meaning of four popular Advent and Christmas hymns. Featured hymns include "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus;" "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence;" "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel;" and "In the Bleak Midwinter." This curriculum will encourage adults to discuss the importance of the hymns, explore the meaning of the featured text, and learn more about the hymn writers. Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston and Rev. Mary Kay Beall Carter will lead these sessions at 10 a.m. in Room D of the Education Wing.

**NEED A HOSTESS GIFT OR A GIFT FOR FRIENDS OR FAMILY?** Sacred Earth has options for you! We will offer chocolate, coffee, and tea baskets with fair trade items plus an appropriate accessory which coordinates with each theme (i.e. a tea strainer, tea bag rest, etc.) and a mug for \$15. Please sign up in the church office, indicating which option and date you prefer. Baskets will be available during Fellowship Hour on the first and third Sundays of December. If you need a basket for another time, please call Sarah Giffen at 614-471-9665.

**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 ½ pound or pound boxes, will be on sale after each worship service and during office weekday hours. This makes a perfect gift for the holiday season. Consider giving a box of fudge as gifts for your business/employees. Order forms will be available beginning on November 27 after each worship service in the

Parish Hall. See Mark Williams [mwilliams@first-church.org](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org) for details regarding special orders.

**LUNCH AND CONVERSATION WITH AUTHOR ROBERT JONES** *The End of White Christian America* author Robert Jones will visit First Church on Thursday, December 1 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Ralph Fanning Room for lunch and conversation. Please plan to join us!

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE NEXT LAUNDRY LOVE** on Tuesday, November 29 from 6-7 p.m.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MEETING TONIGHT** at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**SACRED LISTENING CIRCLE** will meet on Saturday, December 3 at 1 p.m. in the Parlor.

### FIRST CHURCH'S 2016 ORNAMENT NOW AVAILABLE FOR \$18

First Church is continuing our exciting program in celebrating the history of the church through an ongoing keepsake ornament project. Each year, one of our beautiful stained glass windows is featured as a keepsake ornament. The 2016 collectible features the Clerestory Windows of the Nave. All the keepsake ornaments, except 2007, are still available in limited quantity at \$10 each or you can purchase all the previous eight ornaments for a discounted price of \$50. This year's ornament presale begins November 27 and the ornaments will be available for pickup after December 9 after the 9 a.m. service and during the Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall after the 11 a.m. service. It also will be available for purchase during the week in the church office. Contact Mark S. Williams, ([mwilliams@first-church.org](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org)) for more information.



### GET IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT WITH A FESTIVE TOUR!

Saturday, December 3, 2016, 2-5:30 p.m. Tour begins at Broad Street United Methodist Church, 501 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215; Tickets: \$15

Members/\$20 Non-Members: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/great-hallelujah-holiday-tour-of-churches-tickets-29110348837>

Downtown Columbus is home to many historically and architecturally significant churches representing the finest in craftsmanship and ecclesiastical design. Please join us for a walking tour of four stalwart churches – enjoy seasonal music at each, and learn their rich histories and how they work to meet the needs of their dynamic congregations and the greater neighborhood, while being caretakers of some of Columbus' most important buildings.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

**MEMBERS** Alex Cole; Steven Ferris; Nicole Moss; Alyssa Dean; Betsy Zahn; Julie Stewart; Ron Cook; Jane Weddle; Sharon Walquist; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including Anne Hudson, on the death of her brother.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY** Anne Huser, niece of Andrew MacGregor; Jackie Miller, grandmother of Melissa Kulwicki; Jim Smith, brother of Thom Smith; Linda Bowers; Kampsee Weber, friend of Amy Wagner; Gayle Maloch, sister-in-law of Francille Firebaugh; Clyde and Jenny Fravel, friends of Lisa Fravel Dean; Daisy, aunt of Tracy Ross; Jenny Lukens, friend of Sharon Leidheiser; Mark Kinley, friend of Sharon Leidheiser; Shirley Graf, sister of Lynn Wallich; Lois Beery, friend of Mary Kay Beall Carter; Gidget, family member of Bill Johannes and Barb Clapham; Joe and Marjorie Kufel, parents of Sharon Leidheiser; Frankie Williams, mother of Mark Williams; Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

**THROUGHOUT THE WORLD** We pray for the children killed and injured in the school bus crash in Chattanooga.

**IN GOD'S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE** This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.

**MISSIONARIES** This week, we pray for Nikotemo Tapeko, serving in Fiji.

**NEED PRAYER?** If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact the church office ([awagner@first-church.org](mailto:awagner@first-church.org) or 614-228-1741, ext. 10) or one of 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-Beth Iannarino, Kevin Jones, Wayne Redenbarger; 28-Nell Cole; 29-Mitchell Dean, David Ghose; 12-1-John Rau; 2-Aubrey Schmitt; 3-Bernie Martin

**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** 29-Janet and Rick Pfeiffer; 30-Eric and Bonnie Klintworth

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

### Sunday, November 27: Advent 1

- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
- 10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing, Rooms C and D
- 11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
- Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
- 6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups – Parish Hall

### Monday, November 28

- 6 p.m. – Budget and Finance Meeting – Parish Family Room
- 7 p.m. – Interfaith Bible Study – Parish Hall

### Tuesday, November 29

- 2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
- 6 p.m. – Laundry Love – WashLand Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street
- 7 p.m. – Deacons – Ralph Fanning Room

### Thursday, December 1

- 11:30 a.m. – Lunch and Conversation with author Robert Jones – Ralph Fanning Room
- 6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J
- 7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal– Parish Hall

### Saturday, December 3

- 1 p.m. – Sacred Listening Circle – Parlor
- 2 p.m. Columbus Landmarks Foundation Great Hallelujah Holiday Tour of Churches – Begins at Broad Street United Methodist Church

### Sunday, December 4: Advent 2

- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
- 10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing, Rooms C and D
- 11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
- Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
- 12:30 p.m. –Confirmation Class – Education Wing Room C
- 6 p.m. – High School Youth Group – Parish Hall

**A CHRISTMAS APPEAL** At Christmas, Gladden Community House staff provide gifts to families in Franklinton who struggle with poverty. \$20 gift cards from Walmart are given to teens and seniors who are known to be in need. Leave gift cards in the church office until December 19, or checks may be written to the church with “Gladden Christmas” in the memo. Thank you from Justice and Mercy.

**THANK YOU!** Thanks to First Church members who helped entertain the hundreds of children who attended the Gladden Community House Halloween Party. A good time was had by all. Thanks for donating treats.

**MORE THANKS!** First Church members were again mindful of those who experience food insecurity. The Harvest Sunday food collection was abundant and was delivered to the three pantries which we support year-round: Broad Street Presbyterian Pantry, Gladden Food Pantry, and Groceries-To-Go for persons with HIV/AIDS and persons with active cancer. Thank you for your generosity.

**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 those envelopes, 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**  
<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, etc.*

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444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885  
PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741  
[WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG)

## 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, Amy Wagner, Katie Wagner
Nursery Staff	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

## DIACONATE

Senior Deacon	Lynn Wallich
Deacons	Sandy Bennett, Kris Brant, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Sue Cook, Alec Deitz, Dean Hafey, Anne Hudson, Paul Leidheiser, Mary Lightbody, Dayna McCrary, Janet Newcity, Jorge Polo, Alex Rodriguez, Hugh Schultz

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator	Brian Cave
Moderator-Elect	Kent Shimeall
Treasurer	Cindy Conn
Assistant Treasurer	Joe Baszynski
Secretary	Nancy Braverman
Assistant Secretary	Pat Patterson

## COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Allison Palmer, Elect - Sue Cook
Church Growth	Matt Myers, Elect - Kent Rambo
Education	Jennifer Okezie-Watts, Elect - Helen Ninos
House & Grounds	Charlie Weaver, Elect - Eric Klintworth
Justice & Mercy	Tracy Ross, Elect - Al Glover
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Al Waddell, Elect - Sharon Ferguson
Church Vitality	<i>Chair and Elect Currently Vacant</i>
Nominating Chair	Elaine Warren
Member-at-large	Mary Kay Beall Carter
Youth-at-large	Eddie Anderson IV
Deacon Council Representative	Alec Deitz

## TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Francille Firebaugh
Treasurer	Bill Johannes
Trustees	Patricia Groseck, Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Charlie Weaver, Keith White, Gerry Worth

## COOKIE MISSION ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11



Help those less fortunate and shut-in members of First Church enjoy some cheer by providing Christmas cookies and/or candies on Sunday, December 11. Christmas is a time for giving to others, and this is one way church members can give back to the community and shut-in members. You can bake, help prepare packages for delivery or deliver.

Please indicate below how you would like to participate:

\_\_\_\_\_ I can bake 4 dozen cookies/candies and deliver them by 10 a.m. to the Ralph Fanning Room.

\_\_\_\_\_ I can package cookies for delivery  
(meet between 8 - 10 a.m. in the Ralph Fanning Room.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to deliver cookies to a shut-in  
(after 11 a.m. service).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or Email: \_\_\_\_\_



### TWO OPPORTUNITIES:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 AT 12:30 P.M.

OR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 AT 7 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes! Sign me up for the class! Sunday\_\_\_\_\_ Monday\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Not at this time, but please contact me for the next class

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Telephone # to reach me is: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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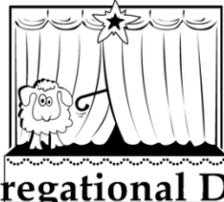
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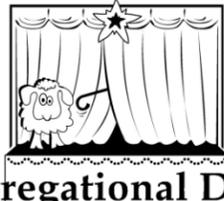


**Congregational Dinner  
and  
Children's Play**

**DECEMBER 11 at 5:30 p.m.  
in Parish Hall**  
We'll welcome the Mistletoe Marchers, a festive parade of children from pre-K through first grade; the Christmas Chorus, a merry band of second graders

introducing the production; and the First Church Christmas actors. The play will be preceded by a pot luck dinner. Please bring a dish to share according to last name: **A-H bring a side or salad. I-P bring a casserole or entree; R-Z bring a dessert.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Will attend \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children  
Family name \_\_\_\_\_

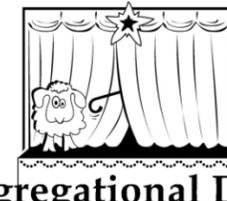


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**Two Opportunities for Christmas Dedications**

- **POINSETTIAS** for the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve. The flowers may be taken after the 11 o'clock service.
- **PROVIDE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC** for Christmas Eve worship.



Complete this order form (*indicate the dedication*) and return with payment to the church office or place in the offering plate with payment (check or cash). **The deadline for ordering is December 18.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ at \$10.00 each =Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Music \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to *First Congregational Church*; please write *Christmas Dedication* on memo line.

In Celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

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