

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## DEPART TO SERVE

January 31, 2016

**SPECIAL ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH** During the Annual Congregational Meeting today, the children and middle school youth will enjoy the talents of Candace Mazur-Darman from the award winning Dramatic-Impact Theatre Company. For more than 30 years Candace has been a successful teaching artist in central Ohio. She is the founder of Dramatic Impact, a nationally acclaimed children's theatre company. Candace has brought her dynamic story play to classrooms around Ohio and venues such as the Columbus Arts Festival, Dublin Irish Festival, First Night Columbus, COSI, Delaware Arts Castle and Franklin Park Conservatory, just to name a few. As a teaching artist for Very Special Arts Ohio and the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education, Candace works in inclusive classrooms to enhance teaching and learning through arts-integrated residencies and differentiated curriculum. Her career has reached thousands of children providing a safe and nurturing environment from which imaginations can explore and grow. The children and youth will perform her original work, "How the Animals Do God's Work."

**WELCOME ALL RETIREES** The Second Thursday Fellowship will meet on Thursday, February 11 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor to hear Frank and Sue Cook talk about their travels in Ethiopia and Japan.

### NEW MEMBER CLASS: SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21

**12:15-2P.M. (LUNCH PROVIDED)** If you are interested in learning more about life and membership at First Congregational Church, you are invited join us for our New Member Class on SUNDAY, February 21 from 12:15-2 p.m. Those who are interested in joining the church will do so the following Sunday, February 28 during the worship services. Please respond to Amy Wagner in the Church office at [awagner@first-church.org](mailto:awagner@first-church.org) by Wednesday February 17. Please indicate if you need a vegetarian or gluten free option for lunch.



If you are interested by not available on these dates, our next class will be in the springtime. Please contact Rev. Emily Corzine at [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org) or 614-228-1741 ext. 21 with questions.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR** The youth will be selling Valentine's Day Fudge and Pancake Dinner tickets the next two Sundays.

**IT TAKES A VILLAGE (CONGREGATION) TO RAISE (ORDAIN) A MINISTER** The Giffen family is grateful for all the work, support and love of the many people who made possible Heather's recent ordination to Christian ministry on January 17. From her baptism, Sunday school, youth programs, confirmation, mission trips, higher education and pastoral internships many have been there for her—or at least enquired "How's Heather doing?" This past month church staff, office holders, visitors and volunteers have been especially busy with the mosaic of large and small tasks that constitute the ordination event. With God's help you made it happen. **THANK YOU, ALL!** *Wally, Sarah, Malcolm & Heather*

**TOILETRIES FOR GOOD SAMARITAN DAY** The next Good Samaritan Day is Monday, February 8. Thank you for the contribution of personal hygiene items; they are really appreciated. Currently, the cupboard is bare. We are in need of the following items: Men's shampoo and/or body wash; Women's shampoo and/or body wash; Women's deodorant; Men's Deodorant; Disposable razors and shaving cream; and Toothpaste and toothbrushes. A good source for these items in **full sizes** are Dollar Stores where everything in the store is \$1. Please leave your donations in the bin outside the church office. Thank you for your continued support of this vital outreach to the community.

**HUGE SUCCESS FOR LAUNDRY LOVE** Over 21 triple/double loads of wash and 32 double dryer loads were provided this past week during the Laundry Love mission project in Franklinton. The total cost to provide clean clothes for those attending was \$177.25. That means our volunteers placed **709 quarters** in the machines and provided detergent/dryer sheets as well. We always welcome anyone to come and volunteer. This mission is solely dependent on your generous giving. Please continue to save your quarters, which currently our biggest need.

**SEVENTH ANNUAL PANCAKE DINNER TICKETS AVAILABLE** We invite everyone to attend the pancake dinner at First Church. Making pancakes was a good way to use up all the fat, cream and eggs in the house before Lent fasting began. This old tradition inspired the term "Fat Tuesday" or in French, "Mardi Gras." It also inspired the pancake dinner that many congregations hold today. First Church Youth will host a Pancake Dinner **Tuesday, February 9 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. You may purchase tickets in advance after each service or at the door. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. This will be a great event.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

**MEMBERS:** Nell Cole, on the death of her brother; Carol Rodriguez and family, on the death of Carol's mother, Joan Shade; Gerhard Wolff; Alyah Dean; Mike Rippel, on the death of his aunt; Sarah Giffen, on the death of her father; Sandy Bennett and family, on the death of her mother, Vesta Williams; Lucille Kropp; Grace Glaros; Bernie Martin; Van Barndt; Ray Pendell; Wib Smith; and for families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** CCAD faculty, staff and students and the family and friends of Denny Griffith, who died January 18; Betty Johnson's aunt and uncle, Raleigh and Brenda Amburgey, on the death of their daughter; Manuela Abad, aunt of Thomas Santiago; Hannah and Jazlynn Szlapak, friends of Katie Gies; Carolyn Spellman, mother of Loretta Hoffman; and Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams.

**THROUGHOUT THE WORLD:** We pray for those suffering from the impact of the blizzard, especially those whose lives were lost.

**IN GOD'S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE** This week in the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we pray with and for the people and churches of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

**MISSIONARIES:** This week, we pray for Gloria Vicente Kanu, serving in Guatemala.

*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 228-1741, ext. 10) or one of the ministers: [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org) or 228-1741, ext. 21, or [tabrens@first-church.org](mailto:tabrens@first-church.org) or 228-1741, ext. 13.*

- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1 AT 7 P.M.** –Interfaith Scripture Study in the Parish Hall
- **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 AT 12:15 P.M.** – First Tuesdays Concert featuring organist David Crean, followed by lunch in the Parish Hall
- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT 9 A.M.** – Good Samaritan Day
- **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9 AT 5:30 P.M.** – Pancake Dinner in the Parish Hall
- **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT 10:30 A.M.**– Second Thursday Fellowship meeting in the Parlor



## THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

### Sunday, January 31 – Youth Sunday / Annual Meeting

9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir and Music Activities Rooms

9 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

11 a.m. – Annual Meeting – Sanctuary

12:15 a.m. – Annual Chili Cook Off – Parish Hall

### Monday, February 1

7 p.m. – Interfaith Scripture Study – Parish Hall

### Tuesday, February 2

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room

6:30 p.m. – Christian Education – Education Wing Room D

7 p.m. – Justice and Mercy – Large Conference Room

### Wednesday, February 3

11 a.m. – Book Study: *Without Buddha I Could Not Be Christian* – Parlor

### Thursday, February 4

6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J

7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

### Sunday, February 7 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall

9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir and Music Activities Rooms

10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

10 a.m. – Christian Education – Ed Wing; Adult Ed – Rooms C / D

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Meetings – Parish Hall

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK** 2-Nathan Bennett, Sophia Polo; 3-Braden Baird, Devon Baird; 4-Randy Hoffman, Grace Gelpi, Vanessa Gonzalez; 5-Jeff Corzine, Ann McIsaac, Anne Morganstern, Lynn Wallich, Debbie Yontz, Rachel Catus; 6-Abby Salak; 7-Jane Carter; 8-Jonah Ewing

**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** 5-Kris and Richard Brant

**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:** Simply go to our web site [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org) click on **Give** and then click on **Online Giving**. You will need to set up an account. You can pay with your credit card or through your checking or savings account. You may use the QR link or:



<https://www.faithstreet.com/church/first-congregational-church-of-columbus-columbus-oh/giving>

**Other Gifts:** Please designate your intention: *Memorials, flowers, fund raising projects, music, education, etc.*

**PREPARING FOR LENT** During the season of Lent, we will focus on Prayer. We welcome everyone to send your favorite prayer(s) or ones which you have written to share with the congregation. Please send them to Mark Williams [mwilliams@first-church.org](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org) by January 24.

## SANCTUARY FLOWER DEDICATIONS

There are opportunities available to celebrate a special event or remember a loved one through dedicating the sanctuary flowers on Sunday morning throughout the year. We have had flowers to celebrate baptisms, special anniversaries and special events here at First Church, for example. Did you know the Sanctuary flowers on Sunday are part of the ministry of First Church? Each Sunday, the Deacons make bouquets from the arrangement to deliver to those on the prayer list. If there has been a dedication, a bouquet is given to the family. The cost of the flowers is \$65, which covers what the church is charged by the florist. It is possible for a group of people to share the cost and dedicate the flowers on a specific Sunday. If you would like to dedicate flowers for Sunday 11 a.m. worship, please sign up on the flower chart during Fellowship Hour today, during the week on the bulletin board outside the church office, or by contacting Marty Worth ([mworth@first-church.org](mailto:mworth@first-church.org)) and specify date or dates requested.



## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

### LEADERSHIP

<i>Senior Minister</i>	Timothy C. Ahrens, D. Min.
<i>Associate Minister</i>	Emily Krause Corzine, M. Div.
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Kevin Jones, M.M.
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	Mark S. Williams, M. Ed.
<i>Commissioned Minister for Social Justice</i>	Tom Brownfield
<i>Commissioned Minister for Spiritual Formation and Direction</i>	Jacquelyn Dean
<i>Organist/Choirmaster Emeritus</i>	G. Dene Barnard
<i>Treble Choir Director</i>	Sandra Mathias, Ph.D.

### DIACONATE

<i>Senior Deacon</i>	Tom Kiesel
<i>Deacons</i>	Kathryn Bamberger, Sandy Bennett, Kris Brant, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Sue Cook, Jackie Dean, Alec Dietz, Dean Hafey, Anne Hudson, Paul Leidheiser, Mary Lightbody, Jonathan Miller, Hugh Schultz, Lynn Wallich

### CHURCH STAFF

<i>Business Manager</i>	Sharon Leidheiser
<i>Program Manager</i>	Martha Worth
<i>Office Manager</i>	Amy Wagner
<i>Building Manager</i>	Thomas Santiago
<i>Custodian</i>	William Lee, Jimmy Sibrian, Onofre Franco-Chavez
<i>Wedding Coordinators</i>	Janet Axt, Margaret Cipriani
<i>Nursery Staff</i>	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

We encourage you to carefully review the many opportunities of programs, meetings and ministries this week and in coming weeks here at First Church through today's *Depart to Serve* Leaflet, Facebook page, Twitter, Website or Newsletter.