

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

FEBRUARY 26, 2017



MARCH 4-6: GLADDEN LECTURE SERIES Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund, author of *Blessed are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence about Mental Illness, Family and Church*, will be our Gladden Lecturer. On Saturday morning, March 4 from 9 a.m. – noon in Parish Hall, Dr. Lund will discuss *Mental Illness and Families*. On Sunday morning, Dr. Lund will preach on *Jesus and Mental Illness* at both the 9 and 11

a.m. services, and will lead a question and answer session during Faith Formation time at 10 a.m. Then, at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary, she will present her Gladden Lecture entitled *Spirituality and Mental Illness: Does God Make Mistakes?* We hope you can join us for one of the many events during our Gladden Weekend Series.

PANCAKE DINNER TICKETS ON SALE NOW! The First Church youth will host a pancake dinner on Tuesday, February 28, 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 \$7 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. This is always a great event.

H.M.S. PINAFORE OR “THE LASS THAT LOVED A SAILOR” The very popular Gilbert & Sullivan comic opera *H.M.S. Pinafore* will be performed in a concert setting (but with full dialogue) this afternoon at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The performance will feature eight principal singer/ actors; chorus and a 19-piece orchestra.

FIRST CHURCH CHOIR PASTA SUPPER AND SILENT AUCTION TONIGHT! Join us in Parish Hall tonight after *H.M.S. Pinafore* for dinner, fellowship, and silent auction to support the First Church Choir. Tickets are only \$15 per person and can be purchased in advance from any choir member. Come at 6 p.m. and survey a fantastic collection of silent auction items. Dinner is served beginning at 6:15 p.m. The entertainment begins at 6:45 p.m. and the Silent Auction concludes at 7:10 p.m., with winners announced at 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 28 AT 6 P.M.: LAUNDRY LOVE Laundry Love ministry needs liquid detergent, dryer sheets and large garbage bags; place donations in the laundry baskets at each entrance. *Since the Pancake Dinner and Laundry Love are both on February 28, additional*

volunteers are needed this month since youth and parents will be splitting their time and efforts between the two events.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES ON MARCH 1 First Church will hold Ash Wednesday services at noon and 7:30 p.m. next Wednesday.

FIRST TUESDAYS CONCERT – TUESDAY, MARCH 7 AT 12:15 P.M. Minister of Music Kevin Jones will play a harpsicord recital featuring the music of J.S. Bach.

IT’S TIME FOR CAMP REGISTRATION! The Outdoor Ministries summer camp tentative schedule has been posted, so can spring be far behind? Forms are available in the church office. Camp schedule and descriptions are available online at: <http://www.journeythehills.org>. Once you've decided on a camp, just click one of the "Register Online" buttons to complete your registration and make your payment. Thanks to the generosity of longtime member Alma Keeler, we can offer a 50% camp scholarship on the registration fee (after the \$75 deposit) to any First Church child or youth who wants to go to camp. *A request for these funds must be made by the parent / guardian. This is not automatic as in the past.*

To take advantage of this scholarship you must do several things:

- 1.) Decide which camp you want to attend.
- 2.) Send in your \$75 deposit *as soon as possible* with the 2017 camp registration form.
- 3.) Send the remaining amount owed to the Ohio Conference at least two weeks prior to your camp;
- 4.) Have a wonderful time!

First Church also will offer additional scholarships for those families who need extra help. Any child who wants to go to camp should not be stopped due to financial concerns of the family. For more information about camp, please contact Mark S. Williams at mwilliams@first-church.org. **Deadline for early registration and First Church campership request is March 31.**

DEEP GRIHA SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING It's time again to celebrate the impact that the Sponsorship Program has had on many, many lives of orphaned children living at Deep Griha's City of Child in Pune, India. The annual fundraiser for Deep Griha – at which *Rev. Ahrens* will be the main speaker and *Pavan Peter* will M. C. – is on March 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the North Campus of First Community Church, 3777 Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio.

MARK THE DATE! LENTEN SMALL GROUPS Begin the week of March 13, for four consecutive weeks. In addition to our traditional neighborhood groups, we hope to have a virtual group and a group which will meet at the church. Interested? Please email Marty Worth @ mworth@first-church.org.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Tim Ahrens; Bert Cook; Jennifer Flocken; Don Streibig; Grace Glaros; Julie Stewart; Ron Cook; Jane Weddle; Sharon and Larry Walquist; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones including: Sam Spofforth and Betsy Hubbard and family, on the death of Sam's mother, Sarah Tate; and Sarah and Bill Lange and family, on the death of Sarah's father, Wendell Smith.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Rena Finch, sister-in-law of Arlene Reynolds; James Baker, brother of Allen Baker; Joanie Krohn, sister of Melanie Brown; Cindy Catlett, sister of Bill Lange; Patricia Smouse and family; Kathie Daniels, daughter of Gleva Stephens; Cassie Linger; Brenda Butt; Ruby Smith, mother of Sarah Lange; Lois Beery, Joe and Marjorie Kufel, parents of Sharon Leidheiser; Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including Joe Bellissimo and Kevin Jones, on the death of Joe's aunt, Bunita Weiner.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for those along the horn of Africa who face famine and political unrest. We pray for countries that feel increasing pressure from neighboring political powers.

IN GOD'S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands.

MISSIONARIES This week, we pray for Kristin Wolf, serving in Thailand.

NEED PRAYER? If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact the church office (awagner@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 10) or one of 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, February 26

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen/Treble Choirs – Choir Room and Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation – Education Wing, Room D/Fanning Room
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
12:15 p.m. – Confirmation Field Trip to Noor Islamic Cultural Center
4 p.m. – Congregational Concert: *H.M.S. Pinafore* - Sanctuary
6 p.m. – Choir Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction – Parish Hall

Monday, February 27

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

Tuesday, February 28

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
5:30 p.m. – Pancake Dinner – Parish Hall
6 p.m. – Laundry Love – WashLand Laundromat,
1469 West Broad Street

Wednesday, March 1

10:30 a.m. – Book Study – Parlor (*note time change*)
Noon – Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary
7:30 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Service – Sanctuary

Thursday, March 2

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

Saturday, March 4

9 a.m. – Gladden Lecture Series Workshop – Parish Hall

Sunday, March 5: Lent 1

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen/Treble Choirs – Choir Room and Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation – Education Wing, Room D/Fanning Room
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
12:30 p.m. – Confirmation Class – Education Wing Room D
4 p.m. – Gladden Lecture – Sanctuary
6 p.m. – Middle/High School Youth Groups – Parish Hall

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK Today-Joel Mathias; 27-Kim Hopcraft; 28-Connie Johnson, Melva Fisher; 29-Tammy Alexander; 3/1-Emily Kutschbach-Schmidt; 2-Sheldon Taft; 3-Bruce Panek, Mitchell Gelpi; Julie Roth-Alexander, Andrea Rower, Alana Thompson

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK 27-Denny and Carmen Wojtanowski; 3/1-Ellen and Peter Boriin; 3-Debbie Yontz and Keith White

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 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.*

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885
PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741
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, Diana Chandler, Amy Wagner, Katie Wagner |
| Nursery Staff | Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold |

DIACONATE

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Senior Deacon | Alec Deitz |
| Deacons | Sandy Bennett, Kris Brant, Anthony Brown, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Bert Cook, Martha Fulleman, Dean Hafey, Todd Jacobson, Karen Mazingo, David Nassau, Janet Newcity, Jorge Polo, Alex 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, Tom Hadley, Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Keith White, Gerry Worth |

NEW MEMBERS CLASS – MONDAY, MARCH 6 AT 7 P.M.



If you are interested in becoming a member of First Church, Rev. Corzine and other church leaders will be hosting a new member class for you to learn more about our community of faith. New Members will be received into the life of the church at both 9 and 11 a.m. services on Sunday, March 12.

____ Yes! Sign me up for the class!

____ 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 614-228-1741, ext. 10 to let us know how many children to expect.



FIRST CHURCH SUPPER CLUB KICK-OFF MEETING

SATURDAY MARCH 11 AT 6 P.M. IN PARISH HALL

Come and join a dinner group that is starting at First Church! The First Church Supper Club will begin with a potluck dinner on March 11 at 6 p.m. in Parish Hall. At this organizational meeting, individuals and couples will be placed into groups which will meet for three consecutive months, in April, May and June at locations chosen by each group.

Join others. Get to know other people at First Church. Enjoy good food.

Contact Rev. Emily Corzine at 614-228-1741, ext. 21 or ecorzine@first-church.org if you have any questions.

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____ Call me as a substitute!

I can't commit to three months, but I could fill in for supper sometimes.

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