

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**DEPART TO SERVE**

**MARCH 20, 2016**

**DON'T MISS THE EASTER BRUNCH**

**NEXT SUNDAY**, March 27, 2016 at 9:45

a.m. in Parish Hall! Last names beginning with A – H: Please bring muffins or bagels. Last names beginning with I – P:

Please bring fruit. Last names beginning with R – Z: Please bring a breakfast dish. Please contact Marty Worth at [mworth@first-church.org](mailto:mworth@first-church.org) if you are able to help with the brunch.



**LOVELY EASTER BASKETS** containing Fair Trade chocolate eggs are for sale today at Fellowship Hour. Boxes of 55% dark chocolate eggs, coffee, and tea are also on sale today in Parish Hall. Fair Trade ensures sustainable labor practices and protects the environment. Proceeds fund Sacred Earth projects.

**SHOE BOXES NEEDED** Have an empty shoe box at home? We could use them to decorate for our butterflies. Bring them to Mark Williams or the church office.

**“PRAY & PLAY” SPRING RETREAT APRIL 15-17** Join the First Church family as they head toward the hills – Pilgrim Hills that is. Our Spring Retreat, “Pray & Play,” is Friday evening, April 15 through Sunday morning, April 17. Please mark your calendars

and plan to bring your whole family or just yourself. Our weekend will include hiking, nature talks and activities, devotions, basketball, fishing, a folk dance for all ages, a campfire with s'mores, crafts, singing and worship at camp Sunday morning. *All* First Church children and youth are able to attend at no cost thanks to an Alma Keeler grant.

Adults are \$95 each, which includes food, lodging and program costs. Brochure and registration forms are in the church office and on the Web site. **Deadline for registration is April 10.** We have space for 70 people– let's fill it! Brochure and registration forms are available in the church office and on the Web site. Contact Mark S. Williams at [mwilliams@first-church.org](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org) for information.



**THE OUTDOOR MINISTRIES SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE** has been posted, so can spring be far behind? 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. Forms are now available in the church office. First Congregational Church has always been a strong supporter of the Outdoor Ministries Summer Camp Program by encouraging participation and by offering scholarships for campers. Thanks to the generosity of longtime member Alma Keeler, we are able to 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:

- Decide which camp you want to attend.
- Send in your \$75 deposit as soon as possible with the 2016 camp registration form.
- Send the remaining amount owed to the Ohio Conference at least two weeks prior to your camp;
- 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](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org). **Deadline for early registration and First Church campership request is March 31.**

**APPEAL FOR FIRST CHURCH AND TREBLE CHOIR VESTMENTS**

Funds are needed to replace aging choir robes for these two ensembles. If you would like to contribute, forms are available in the Main Office. Thank you for your generosity.

**REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT TOPIC IN ADULT EDUCATION**

First Community Church member Mary Buzby will speak about how their congregation has resettled refugees in the past and how they are preparing to resettle a family this year. Come to Adult Education on April 3 at 10 a.m.: bring your questions!

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO AND PRAYERS FOR** Abby Salak and Melissa Prendergast, who are expecting a baby in September.

**MEMBERS:** Mary Anne Jacobson, on the death of her father; Loretta Hoffman, on the death of her mother; Bert Cook, on the death of his father; Arlene Reynolds; Madeline Helmer; Darla Luebbe; Wib Smith; Sandy Bennett; Lucille Kropp; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and for families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Matt Thomas; Barb Clapham; Ron, brother-in-law of Kim Hopcraft; Joe LaBute and his family and friends; Mary Johnston, daughter of John Carter; baby Cameron Barrow; Marcia Smith, mother of Gretchen Weller; Wendell Smith, father of Sarah Lange; Joyce Wood, friend of Melva Fisher; Marjorie Kufel, mother of Sharon Leidheiser; and Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams.

**THROUGHOUT THE WORLD** We pray for those in our country affected by natural disasters: flooding and tornados. We pray for victims of gun violence and communities that are torn apart by such violence. We pray for refugees and those in the cycle of human trafficking.

**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 Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

**MISSIONARIES:** This week, we pray for Loren McGrail, serving in Israel/Palestine.

*If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact the church office ([avagner@first-church.org](mailto:avagner@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.*



**LENTEN COLORING POSTERS** Coloring has always been a big hit with the young but now it has regained popularity with adults as a form of meditation and prayer. During the season of Lent a series of Lenten Coloring Posters will be located in the Parish Hall for “Children of ALL Ages” to come together and color. The Lenten themed posters are large enough for many of ALL AGES to gather and color.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

### Today – Palm/Passion Sunday

Labyrinth Open All Day – Room D

9 a.m. – Worship – 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 Groups – Parish Hall

### Monday, March 21

Labyrinth Open All Day – Room D

### Tuesday, March 22

Labyrinth Open All Day – Room D

### Wednesday, March 23

Labyrinth Open All Day – Room D

7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

### Thursday, March 24

6 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Dinner and Holy Communion – Parish Hall

7:30 p.m. – Tenebrae Service – Sanctuary

### Friday, March 25

Labyrinth Open All Day – Room D

Church Office Closes at Noon

7:30 p.m. – Good Friday Service – Sanctuary

### Saturday March 26

Labyrinth Open All Day – Room D

### Sunday, March 27 –Easter Sunday

7 a.m. – Sunrise Service – Front Steps of the Columbus Museum of Art

8:45 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

10 a.m. – Easter Brunch – Parish Hall

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK** 22-Malik Dean, Debbie Kelley,  
James Powell; 24-Jessica Underwood, Amy Wagner; 26-Morgan Bonito,  
Cassidy Hopcraft, Catherine Kennedy; 27-Julie DeVennish, John  
Firebaugh; 28-Margene Whittenburg

**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** 26-Anne and Rick Bennett;  
28-Diane Cole and John Rau

**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](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.*

### **MARCH FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE**

March 20 Amos

March 27 Easter: Colossians, Corinthians, Daniel and Deuteronomy

### **MARCH OFFERING SCHEDULE**

March 20 Good Samaritan

March 27 One Great Hour of Sharing

### **MARCH CRUCIFER SCHEDULE**

March 20 Joe Spofforth

March 27: **8:45 a.m.** Eddie Anderson IV; **11 a.m.** Dylan Hopcraft

### **MARCH ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

March 20 Chutney Anderson

March 27: **8:45 a.m.** Erin Murray Ethan Murray  
**11 a.m.** Alyssa Batchelor Chutney Anderson

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.

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

### LEADERSHIP

*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, S.M.M.

*Treble Choir Director* Sandra Mathias, Ph.D.

### 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

### TRUSTEES

*Chairperson* Francille Firebaugh

*Trustees* Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft,  
Charlie Weaver, Keith White, Carrie  
Wise, Gerry Worth

*Moderator* Brian Cave

*Treasurer* Bill Johannes

### CHURCH STAFF

*Business Manager* Sharon Leidheiser

*Program Manager* Martha Worth

*Office Manager* Amy Wagner

*Building Manager* Thomas Santiago

*Custodian* William Lee, Jimmy Sibrian,

Onofre Franco-Chavez

*Wedding Coordinators* Janet Axt, Margaret Cipriani

*Nursery Staff* Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson,

Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

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