



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Depart to Serve

MARCH 25, 2018

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ALL HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 25

9:00 a.m. – Parish Hall

10 a.m. – Faith Formation Hour

11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary –

Gather on Broad Street Plaza in Front of the Steps

Maundy Thursday, March 29

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

7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service – Sanctuary

Good Friday, March 30

7:30 p.m. The Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday

Easter Sunday, April 1

7 a.m. Sunrise Service – Broad Street entrance steps

8:45 & 11 a.m. Easter Services – Sanctuary

10 a.m. Congregational Brunch – Parish Hall

WALKING THE LABYRINTH HOLY WEEK – MARCH 25 - MARCH 31 – A NEW LOCATION

A labyrinth is a tool to find yourself, your soul, the Spirit and God. Beginning today and continuing throughout Holy Week, a labyrinth is available in



Room B for our community of faith to walk and meditate. A brochure is available at the entrance of each worship space as well as on the church website and in the church office. The labyrinth will be open for all to walk during regular church office hours during the week and on Holy Saturday. We ask those walking through the First Floor in the Education Wing to observe the area as a “quiet zone.”

CHILDREN’S RESOURCES FOR HOLY WEEK We are providing resources for parents/grandparents with children to help them understand the importance of Holy Week and Easter. Purple folders containing information explaining Palm/Passion Sunday, walking the Labyrinth, Maundy Thursday Service, Good Friday Service and Easter Service are located at all worship entrances.

Washington Gladden Social Justice Park

Ceremonial Groundbreaking

Tuesday, March 27 at 11:00 a.m.

Corner of Broad Street and Cleveland Avenue

The congregation is invited and encouraged to attend!

LAUNDRY LOVE IS TUESDAY, MARCH 27 AT 6 P.M. Volunteers are needed; please contact Mark Williams at mwilliams@first-church.org.

MEAL FOR EDITH ESPINAL IN SANCTUARY AT COLUMBUS

MENNONITE CHURCH ON THURSDAY, MARCH 29 The Justice and Mercy and First Church supports Edith Espinal in Sanctuary at Columbus Mennonite Church. Anne Hudson is coordinating a meal this month on March 29; please contact Anne at annewshka@aol.com if you are willing to help with a portion of a meal on March 29 or in the future. Justice and Mercy hopes to provide a meal once a month.

ATTENTION ALL BOOK LOVERS! BOOK CLUB MEETING ON SUNDAY,

APRIL 8 Read something lately that has you bursting to discuss? If you love books, the First Church Book Club may be for you. The focus will be on fiction, with an occasional non-fiction thrown in at the group’s discretion. Meet Jackie Dean and Elaine Warren for a brief organizational meeting in the Parlor following the 11 a.m. service on April 8. Can’t make the meeting? Contact Mary Anne Jacobson at marytoddj@gmail.com with ideas, suggestions, and requests.

FORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR ADULTS ON APRIL 8, 15, 22 AT 10 A.M.

IN ROOM D Equality Ohio will present a series of courses on Becoming Faithfully Inclusive:

- **Faithful Kinship:** In this training we will explore the idea of “being an ally” and answer the question “who are my kin?”
- **Sanctuary: creating a welcoming space for the genderqueer community and their families:** In this training we will discuss the spiritual and physical characteristics of a faith community that is ready to serve as a sanctuary for those with gender-nonconforming identities.
- **Tending and Keeping the Soul:** What are the unique challenges to soul care that LGBTQ people face in the context of faith communities? How can a faith community begin to create a culture that cares for the souls of LGBTQ members? What about when our leader is also an LGBTQ person?

REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING RETREAT IS NOW ONLINE!

Go to www.first-church.org to register. The deadline is April 10.

SAFE CHURCH POLICY TEAM PLANS PRESENTATION AND DRILL ON

APRIL 15 The Safe Church Policy Team has been working for over a year on updating and improving safety procedures. On April 15, the team will give a presentation after each worship service to review Fire, Severe Weather and Interruption of Worship procedures. At the end of the presentation, the congregation will practice a Severe Weather drill.

FLOWER/VEGETABLE SALE FOR YOUTH THROUGH APRIL 15!

View the order form at www.first-church.org or place your order with any youth member.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Herb Goetz; Wally Giffen; Alaina Thompson; Nell Cole; Jude Gelfius; Don Streibig; Lindy Miller; Carl Miller; Virginia O’Neill; and families and friends who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Cindy Deliman, on the death of her uncle.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Dan Pendell; Andrew McGregor; Brooke Chute, cousin of Amy Wagner; Ben Brewer, friend of Melva Fisher; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including Susan Pusecker, on the death of her husband, Robert.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for the people and investigators in Austin, Texas after the recent package bombing. We pray for the people in the Northeast affected by another winter storm. We pray for an end to gun violence and we pray for those who contemplate acting on thoughts of violence. We pray for the victims and the community in Maryland after the most recent school shooting. We pray for the families of the girls recently abducted Boko Haram in Africa.

IN GOD’S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia.

MISSIONARIES This week we pray for Victor Makari serving in Israel/Palestine.

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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, March 25: Palm/Passion Sunday

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

9 a.m. – Exultate Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

9 a.m. – Jubilate Choir – Music Activities Room

10 a.m. – First Church Choir Warm Up – Choir Room

10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing, Room D

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

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

Labyrinth Open Weekdays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27

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

6 p.m. – Laundry Love – WashLand Laundromat,
1469 West Broad Street

Wednesday, March 28

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room

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

Thursday, March 29

6 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Dinner and Service – Parish Hall and Sanctuary

Friday, March 30

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

Saturday, March 31

Labyrinth Open from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Please enter through the North Education Wing Door.

Sunday, April 1: Easter Sunday

7 a.m. – Sunrise Service – Broad Street Steps

8:15 a.m. – First Church Choir Warm Up – Choir Room

8:45a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Sanctuary

10 a.m. – Easter Brunch – Parish Hall

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

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

PayPal

- **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

March 11 – \$1,044.40 – Youth Mission Trip

NEXT WEEK’S MISSION OFFERING

One Great Hour of Sharing

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK 26 – Cassidy Hopcraft, Catherine Kennedy; 27 – Julie DeVennish, John Firebaugh; 28 – Margene Whittenburg; 29 – Herb Cook, Jr., Will Kennedy, Thomas Mitchell; 30 – Ruth Allred, Mary Anne Jacobson; 31 – Katie Gies, Malini Gnanatheeban, Jennifer Newhous

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

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
Jubilate and Exultate 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	Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold, Miranda Brooks

DIACONATE

Senior Deacon	Janet Newcity
Deacons	Anthony Brown, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Bert Cook, Martha Fullerman, Shelly Gies, Todd Jacobson, Dayna McCrary, Karen Mozingo, David Nassau, Cori Page, Allison Lowery Palmer, Jorge Polo, Alex Rodriguez, James Velo

CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator	Joe Baszynski
Moderator-Elect	Lynn Wallich
Treasurer	Joe Hoffman
Assistant Treasurer	Matt Myers
Secretary	Nancy Loy
Assistant Secretary	TBD

COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Chris Glaros, Elect - Greg Kellison
Church Growth/Vitality	Tom Kiesel and Mary Anne Jacobson, co-chairs; Elect - Maria Brown and Lisa Fravel-Dean
Education	Chris Gelpi, Elect - Jennifer Provenzano
House & Grounds	Gary Leidheiser, Elect - Mark Brown
Justice & Mercy	Dawn George, Elect - Nicole Moss
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Joel Mathias, Elect - Drew Wade
Nominating Chair	Kent Shimeall
Member-at-large	Pavan Peter
Youth-at-large	Miriam Myers
Deacon Council Representative	Todd Jacobson

TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Chris Farquhar
Treasurer	
Trustees	Brian Cave, Tom Hadley, John Martin, Sheldon Taft, Keith White, Gerry Worth.

WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG



**“GET ME TO THE CHURCH ON TIME”:
UPDATES ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

We are striving to keep everyone informed on upcoming construction projects and schedules, how you can get into the church parking lots, and how you will access the building.

Driving to and from the Church:

From East, West and South, unchanged.

Coming from the north we recommend exiting I-71 South at Broad St. Take Broad St. to Ninth Street. Enter church parking from Ninth Street.

From I-670, take Cleveland Avenue to Long Street. Turn East on Long Street to Washington Avenue; south to Broad Street. Turn right at Broad St. west to Ninth Street. Enter church parking from Ninth Street.

Depart the North Lot using Ninth Street south to Broad Street (right turn only), or through the West Lot or alley. Depart the West Lot using Cleveland Avenue (right turn northbound only).

Gladden Social Justice Park

This church project will transform the south end of the West Lot along Broad Street and along the east side of Cleveland Avenue into a community green space with numerous special features and artwork.

Anticipated Completion: August 1, 2018

Current Activity:

March 27, 11 a.m. Groundbreaking ceremony.

Parking Access: The parking lot entrance from Broad Street to the West Lot is closed for the duration of project. The West Lot can be accessed from Cleveland Avenue, the alley north of the Carriage House, and from the North Lot via the alley. Access to the North Lot will be from Ninth Street northbound from Broad Street.

Building Access: From the North Lot, unchanged. From the West Lot, use the sidewalk at the center of the lot to come around the Park construction fence to the West or Broad Street doors.

Creative Campus Roadway Improvements

This City of Columbus project will upgrade the roadway, sidewalks, pedestrian safety, lighting and aesthetic elements of Cleveland Avenue, Gay Street, Ninth Street and Washington Avenue.

Anticipated Completion: October 22, 2018

Current Activity:

Gay Street now closed from Cleveland Avenue to Washington Avenue. Cleveland Avenue now northbound only. Entrances to the West Lot and alley will be maintained but one or the other may be closed at times. Ninth Street has been changed to two-way traffic.

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Building Exterior Restoration – Phase 1

This church project will be performed on the eastern ‘Parish House’ part of the building and will include removal and rebuilding of all windows, replacement of steel lintels, and tuck pointing all mortar joints. Offices and meeting spaces will be relocated during this time. Scheduling for all meetings and use of the building is mandatory.

Construction Start: April 3, 2018

Current Activity:

Spirituality Network Offices are now moved to Classrooms C & D. Except for Sunday mornings, these rooms are for their exclusive use. The Church Office will be moved to the Ed Wing after Easter.

Anticipated Completion: August 31, 2018

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Church Electrical Service Underground Installation

This project, paid for by the City of Columbus, will install new electrical transformers near the Carriage House. Underground ducts will be installed to connect the electrical feed from the transformer to the existing underground feeders coming into the church building. Once operational, telephone poles along the alley will be removed.

Anticipated Completion: 4 weeks

Parking Access: As noted above.

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