

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

APRIL 10, 2016

ORGANIST JASON ROBERTS IN RECITAL TODAY AT 4 P.M. Jason Roberts, Associate Director of Music, Organist and the Director of the Boy and Girl Choristers at the famed St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City, presents an organ recital at First Church on Sunday, April 10, at 4 p.m. as part of the Congregational Concerts series. His program will include the music of Marcel Dupré, Duruflé, Mozart, and Bach, as well as a grand improvisation to close the concert.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR "PRAY & PLAY" SPRING RETREAT APRIL 15-17



Our Spring Retreat is this Friday evening, April 15, through Sunday morning, April 17. 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. **Deadline for registration is today.** We have space for 70 people—let's fill it! Brochure and registration forms are available in the church office and on the Website. Contact Mark S. Williams at mwilliams@first-church.org for information.

THIS SUNDAY IN ADULT EDUCATION Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens will lead a discussion on the importance of the "Good Samaritan" for our everyday lives. The session will be held in Room D.

ADULT EDUCATION APRIL 17 – MAY 8 Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston will lead the "Porch Sessions" in Room D. Biblical Theologian and Old Testament professor, Walter Brueggemann and community developer and author, Peter Block engage in conversation about the broad narrative of faith and community that has immediate implications in our particular neighborhoods and churches. This series of films demonstrates that the ideas of Brueggemann and Block do not come from untested ideology but the richness of the relationship that they share, as lives lived in community. In Room C, Rev. Emily Corzine will explore the different translations and differences we find in the many Bibles on the market today and in the past.

THE FIRST CHURCH GOLF LEAGUE Starting Thursday, April 28 and running every Thursday for 10 weeks, the First Church Golf League will tee up at 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome – from beginners to those looking to sharpen their skills. The only competition is you trying to improve your game. (Keeping score is optional.) The league plays at the 9-hole Gahanna Municipal Golf Course, 220 Olde Ridenour Rd., Gahanna, with tee offs between 5 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. Rounds usually last about two hours. Cost is \$10 per round (\$8 for seniors) for 10 rounds for a total of \$100 (\$80 for seniors), due on the first Thursday that we play, April 28. Players must have their own clubs, balls and bag. Push carts are available for \$2 per week and electric carts are also available. A sign-up sheet is in the Church Office, or contact Frank Cook, league representative, at fhc2@aol.com, or by phone at 614-933-0012.

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. We are making great progress towards our goal. Thank you for your generosity!

FLOWER/VEGETABLE SALE FOR YOUTH ONGOING! The youth groups of First Church will be taking orders for their spring flower sale now through April 15. You may place your order with any youth member or after worship during the Fellowship Hour; view the order form online on the church Website. There are many varieties of flowers and hanging baskets, as well as several varieties of tomatoes, vegetables and peppers. They come in small plants for your garden or in planters for your patio or deck. The flowers and vegetables are supplied by Strader's Greenhouse of Columbus. Payment is due at the time of ordering. The flowers will be available for pick up on May 14-15.

SUMMER SOFTBALL TEAM – STILL NEED 3 MEN AND 2 WOMEN

Thanks to the 10 people who responded to playing Softball on Sunday afternoons. If you are interested in playing for the summer of 2016, please contact Rev. Ahrens ASAP. Registration closes April 15. Contact me at tahrens@first-church.org or call, 228-1741, ext.13.

THE NEHEMIAH ACTION ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY, MAY 9 Over 2,500 people from 54 congregations of the BREAD Organization will gather at The Celeste Center on the Ohio State Fairgrounds to lift our voices for social justice. This will be the largest gathering of interfaith witness for justice in Ohio in 2016. The First Congregational UCC Justice Ministry Network is reforming now to identify our commitments and bring people that night. Let's bring our friends, co-workers, family

and neighbors. Let's mark our calendars for the BREAD Nehemiah Assembly on May 9. Registration begins at 6:15 p.m. and the event runs from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. Childcare will be available.

DEATH PENALTY LOBBY DAY APRIL 12 Ohioans To Stop Executions (OTSE) will hold a Lobby Day at the Ohio State House on Tuesday, April 12. The program begins around 9:30 a.m. and the Faith Leader letters presentation is the closing activity - probably around 10:30 a.m.. Register using this link: <http://lobbyday.otse.org/>.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS: Lucille Kropp; John Carter; Arlene Reynolds; Madeline Helmer; Wib Smith; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including Rev. Emily and Jeff Corzine, on the death of their nephew, Holden Corzine; Eric Klintworth, on the death of his uncle; Gretchen Weller, on the death of her mother, Marcia Smith; and the family of Ralph Hughes.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Joe Kufel, father of Sharon Leidheiser; Penny Montgomery, niece of Betty Johnson; Diane Norris, cousin of Tim Ahrens; Len Weaver, brother of Charlie Weaver; Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams; and the family and friends of Joe LaBute.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD: We continue to pray for refugees from around the world and the various aid organizations providing them care. We pray for the people of the war torn country of Central African Republic who face continued violence. We pray for peace in the Middle East.

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 East Timor, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

MISSIONARIES: This week, we pray for Paul Turner, serving in the Republic of Congo.

If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact the church office (avagner@first-church.org or 228-1741, ext. 10) or one of the ministers: ecorzine@first-church.org or 228-1741, ext. 21, or tahrens@first-church.org or 228-1741, ext. 13.

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK 13-Natalie and Scott Barker; 14-Rachel and Peter Unkovic

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, April 10 – Third Sunday of Easter

- 9 a.m. – Treble Choir Rehearsal – Music Activities Room
- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
- 9 a.m. – Teen Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 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
- 4 p.m. – Congregational Concert: Jason Roberts, Organist – Sanctuary, and Reception – Parlor
- 6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups – Parish Hall

Monday, April 11

- 9 a.m. – Good Samaritan Day – Sanctuary and Large Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. – Trustees Meeting – Parlor
- 7 p.m. – Hebrew Scripture Study – Parish Hall

Tuesday, April 12

- 2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
- 7 p.m. – Executive Committee – Parish Family Room

Wednesday, April 13

- 9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Large Conference Room
- Noon – Bible Study Make-Up Session – Large Conference Room
- 6 p.m. – Music Committee – Parlor

Thursday, April 14

- 10:30 a.m. – Second Thursday Fellowship Group – Parlor
- 6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J
- 7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

Friday, April 15

- 7 p.m. – Spring Retreat Begins – Pilgrim Hills

Saturday, April 16

- All Day – Spring Retreat – Pilgrim Hills
- 8:30 a.m. – House and Grounds Committee – Parish Family Room

Sunday, April 17 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
- 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
- Noon – Spring Retreat Ends– Pilgrim

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** and then click on **Online Giving**. Set up an account and 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.*

APRIL FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

April 10	Galatians
April 17	Haggai
April 24	Hosea

APRIL ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

April 10	Alex Palmer	Trenton Helmer
April 17	Tori Lute	Madeline Helmer
April 24	Allysa Batchelor	Alaina Thompson

APRIL OFFERING SCHEDULE

April 10	Outdoor Ministries
April 17	Sacred Earth
April 24	National Youth Event

APRIL CRUCIFER SCHEDULE

April 10	Adam Wade
April 17	Dylan Hopcraft
April 24	Will Zimmerman

BIRTHDAYS 11-Jan Kevan, Merry Roach; 12-Marcy Essig, Rick Pfeiffer; 13-Jennifer Weaver; 14-Jacquelyn Lowery; 15-Tammy Anderson, David Holt; 16-Julia Trace, Katherine Trace, Nina Zimmerman

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, S.M.M.
<i>Treble Choir Director</i>	Sandra Mathias, Ph.D.

DIACONATE

<i>Senior Deacon</i>	Lynn Wallich
<i>Deacons</i>	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

<i>Chairperson</i>	Francille Firebaugh
<i>Trustees</i>	Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Charlie Weaver, Keith White, Carrie Wise, Gerry Worth
<i>Moderator</i>	Brian Cave
<i>Treasurer</i>	Bill Johannes

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
<i>Wedding Coordinators</i>	Janet Axt, Margaret Cipriani
<i>Nursery Staff</i>	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

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444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885

PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741

WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG