

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## DEPART TO SERVE

APRIL 17, 2016

**ADULT EDUCATION TODAY THROUGH 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. 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](mailto:fhc2@aol.com), or by phone at 614-933-0012.



### 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.

**KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS** Did you know that you can make contributions to First Church simply by doing your grocery shopping at Kroger and using your Kroger Plus Card? First Church is enrolled in Kroger's Community Rewards Program which will link purchases made with your Kroger's Plus Card so that a portion of the sale is donated back to First Church. A portion of your qualifying purchases will be donated to your choice of the following:

- **First Congregational Church #84966** – Church Council has allocated – 50% towards the annual Youth Mission Trip and 50% towards operating costs.
- **First Church Choir #81813** - proceeds used to support choir activities.
- **Your enrollment expires every March 31 so be sure to re-enroll each year.**
- **Enrollment step by step instructions (re-enrollment starts at step 3):**



1. Enter **customer.kroger.com** into your web browser.
2. If you do not already have an online account, then click “**Get started Sign up today**” (at the bottom right). **Enter your email address** and **create a password**, follow the on-line instructions and options. Kroger will send you an email message, to activate your account **click on the link in the message** or cut and paste the address into your browser.
3. Once you have an activated online account, go back to **customer.kroger.com** (or **krogercommunityrewards.com**) to sign in.
4. Select **My Account/Account Settings**, select **Community Rewards**, and select **Edit Community Rewards Information**.
5. Find your organization by entering your organization's name or NPO number (**#84966-First Congregational Church** or **#81813-First Church Choir**), then click “**Search**”.
6. Be sure to click on the circle to the left of your organization so that it becomes highlighted. Click “**Select Your Organization**”.
7. Click “**Save Changes**.”
8. You are all set for helping First Church to earn free donations towards the budget! THANK YOU!

Please sign up or re-enroll by April 30 or you will not be eligible to give donations through Kroger.

**“SOUP AND SOLAR”** In celebration of Earth Week, the Sacred Earth mission invites you to "Soup and Solar" on Tuesday, May 3 at 5:30 pm. This event pairs food and fellowship with earth care education. Soup and Solar attendees will learn about many facets of solar energy including feasibility, function, principle, affordability, and site assessment. Both the dinner and seminar are free and open to the public.

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Paul Caldwell, friend of Jeff Worth; Wendell Smith, father of Sarah Lange; Penny Montgomery, niece of Betty Johnson; Don Norris, cousin of Tim Ahrens; David Kellermeyer, uncle of Tim Ahrens; Frankie Williams, mother of Mark Williams; Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams; the Santiago family, for improved health; Carlitos Hanke, nephew of Tom Santiago; Lisa Hanke, sister-in-law of Tom Santiago; Crucita Viruet, mother of Tom Santiago; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including the family of Officer Steven Smith.

**THROUGHOUT THE WORLD:** We pray for all those who experience mental illness. We pray for God to lift their burdens, calm their anxiety, and quiet their fears. We pray that they may be surrounded with God's healing presence that they may know that they are not alone.

**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 Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Taiwan.

**MISSIONARIES:** This week, we pray for Karen Campbell Nelson, serving in Indonesia.

*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.*

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

### 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

### Monday, April 18

7 p.m. – Personnel Committee – Parish Family Room  
7 p.m. – Hebrew Scripture Study – Parish Hall

### Tuesday, April 19

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room  
7 p.m. – Church Council – Parish Hall

### Wednesday, April 20

11 a.m. – Book Study: *Without Buddha I Could Not Be A Christian* – Parlor  
Noon – Deadline for Newsletter

### Thursday, April 21

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

### Saturday, April 23

9 a.m. – Faith Mission Meal Preparation – Kitchen

### Sunday, April 24 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion  
9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir Room & Music Activities 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  
12:15 p.m. – Deacons Meeting – Large Conference Room  
6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups – Parish Hall

**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** 18- Christina and David Kirker, Sharon and Gary Leidheiser, Joyce and Craig Oyler; 19-Heather and Mark Whaling; 20-Laura and Hamish Baird, Mary Anne and Todd Jacobson; 21-Cathy and Wayne Redenbarger

**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](http://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.*



**CHORAL EVENSONG ON SUNDAY, MAY 1 AT 4 P.M.** The First Church Choir will sing the final Choral Evensong of the 2015-2016 season on next Sunday afternoon. Music featured will be the “Gladden” Preces and Responses by Kevin Jones (newly composed for this occasion), and the Canticles by American composer Lee Hoiby. The Easter anthem, “Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem” by C.V. Stanford will round out the music for this liturgy. Immediately following the evensong, the Choir will present Bernstein's joyously exuberant *Chichester Psalms*.

### **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 have reached 60% of our goal. Thank you for your generosity!

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS** 19- Christopher Gelpi; 20-Alex Rodriguez; 21- Gretchen Fleurant, Kim Kutschbach; 22-Emma Welsh-Huggins, Thomas Welsh-Huggins; 23-Emma Dean, Malcolm Giffen; 24-Kathryn Bamberger, Noah Brooks, Wally Giffen

## 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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[WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG)

**APRIL FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE**

April 17 Haggai

April 24 Hosea

**APRIL ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

April 17 Tori Lute Madeline Helmer

April 24 Allysya Batchelor Alaina Thompson

**APRIL OFFERING SCHEDULE**

April 17 Sacred Earth

April 24 National Youth Event

**APRIL CRUCIFER SCHEDULE**

April 17 Dylan Hopcraft

April 24 Will Zimmerman