



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Depart to Serve

APRIL 22, 2018

FORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR ADULTS AT 10 A.M. IN ROOM D

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

- **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?

FIRST QUARTER PLEDGE STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE First quarter pledge statements are now available in your church mailbox. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Leidheiser at 614-228-1741 ext. 11 or Slleidheiser@first-church.org.

LAUNDRY LOVE volunteers are needed this Tuesday, April 24.

SABBATICAL INFORMATION Mark Williams, Director of Christian Education, will be on Sabbatical May 21 through August 21. A brochure is available at all entrances of worship explaining the Sabbatical and how the congregation can support the ministry during this time of learning and rest.

THE FIRST CHURCH GOLF LEAGUE will tee up starting Thursday, April 26, and continue for 10 weeks every Thursday at 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome — from beginners to those looking to sharpen their skills. The only competition is you trying to improve on your game. Keeping score is optional. The League plays at the 9-hole Gahanna Municipal Golf Course, 220 Olde Ridenour Road, Gahanna, with tee offs between 5 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. Rounds usually last about two hours. Cost is \$11 per round (\$9 for seniors) for 10 rounds for a total of \$110 (\$90 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, or by phone at 614-288-5260. If you have questions, call Frank.

ORDINATION FOR ABIGAIL PRENDERGAST – SATURDAY, APRIL 28 AT 1 P.M. You are cordially invited to attend the Ordination to Christian Ministry in the United Church of Christ for Abigail Prendergast here at First Church. A reception will follow. If you are able to help host the reception (2-5 p.m.), please contact Rev. Emily Corzine [@ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org).

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING – SUNDAY, APRIL 29 AT 12:15 P.M.

The Congregational Care Team and nurses are hosting a free Blood Pressure screening in the Parish Family Room, which is located directly to the left of the elevator on the first floor. Screenings will be performed on a walk-in basis. This initiative is part of the growing care ministry of the Congregational Care Coordinating Team.



SUNDAY, APRIL 29 AT 4 P.M. – INTERFAITH MARCH FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE Mark your calendar to join in the second annual Interfaith March for Peace and Justice on Sunday, April 29 in downtown Columbus at Genoa Park, 303 W. Broad Street. Join others around the country and world to build a community with dignity

for all, regardless of religion, race, or place of origin. For more information, go to www.interfaithmarch.com or facebook.com/interfaithmarch.

TEACHER/CONNECTIONS BREAKFAST MAY 6 The Christian Education Department will host a Teacher and Worship Connections appreciation breakfast on Sunday, May 6 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Children's Library. All teachers and Worship Connection leaders will be recognized in both services that day.

NEHEMIAH ACTION ON MONDAY, MAY 7 B.R.E.A.D. is preparing for its big Nehemiah Action which will take place on Monday, May 7 at the Celeste Center. Most of the research has been wrapped up and officials have been invited to attend. First Church Justice Ministry network members are contacting members of the congregation to join this effort to improve the lives of our less privileged neighbors. If you have not yet received an invitation, please contact Barbara Glover, Robert Reber, Antoinette Beynen (614) 451-9947), or any one of the 48 network members listed on the posters on the east wall of Parish Hall. Tickets and further information is available in Parish Hall today. You can also get tickets in the church office during the week.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Barbara Clapham; Rick Henderson; Andrew McGregor; Herb Goetz; Wally Giffen; Nell Cole; Jude Gelfius; Don Streibig; Lindy Miller; Carl Miller; and families and friends who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Kelley Dean, on the death of her grandfather; and Heather Biggers, on the death of her mother, Billie.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Joyce Marcum, sister of Betty Conn; Kenneth Tucker, cousin of Melva Fisher; Joan Corzine; Jim Fletcher, cousin of Paul and Gary Leidheiser; Brooke Chute, cousin of Amy Wagner; Ben Brewer, friend of Melva Fisher; Missy, a young mother fighting cancer; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for the victims of the brutal toxic gas attack on the Syrian city of Douma. We pray for all who work for social justice in this community, nation and world. We pray for an end to gun violence and for those who contemplate acting on those thoughts of violence. We pray for peace in the Middle East. We pray for political tensions around the world to end. We pray for all the children of the world. We pray for immigrants and those seeking safety and peace for their families.

IN GOD'S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

MISSIONARIES This week we pray for Elena Huegel serving in Mexico.

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.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK Today – Emma Welsh-Huggins, Thomas Welsh-Huggins; 23 – Emma Dean, Malcolm Giffen; 24 – Kathryn Bamberger, Arjun Bhatt, Noah Brooks, Wally Giffen; 25 – Lori Buehler, Dean Hafey, Samantha Myers; 26 – Ben Horne; 27 – Chris Farquhar; 28 – Neal Brower, Frank Cook III; 29 – John Martin

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, April 22: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Spring Retreat –Templed Hills Camp and Conference Center

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

Monday, April 23

7 p.m. – Deacons – Education Wing Room D

Tuesday, April 24

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

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

Wednesday, April 25

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

7 p.m. – Congregational Care Coordinating Team –
Ralph Fanning Room

Thursday, April 26

6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J

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

Saturday, April 28

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

1 p.m. – Abby Prendergast Ordination and Reception –
Sanctuary and Parish Hall

Sunday, April 29: Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

12:30 p.m. – Confirmation – Education Wing Room D

4 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups/Congregation –
Interfaith March for Peace and Justice –
Genoa Park, 303 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio

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

April 15 – \$805.53 – Church World Service

NEXT WEEK’S MISSION OFFERING

Ohio Conference UCC Outdoor Ministries
Campership Fund



Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people - your family, friends, and coworkers, and even strangers you meet along the way.

- Barbara Bush

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 Fulleman, Shelly Gies, Todd Jacobson, Dayna McCrary, Karen Mazingo, 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	Cindy Conn
Trustees	Brian Cave, Tom Hadley, John Martin, Sheldon Taft, Keith White, Elaine Warren, Gerry Worth

WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG