

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

APRIL 23, 2017

LAST CONGREGATIONAL CONCERT OF THE SEASON Handbells Columbus returns to the First Church stage for the final concert of the 2016-2017 season on April 23 @ 4 p.m. Handbells Columbus is a community handbell ensemble formed in 2006 to provide advanced ringing opportunities for Central Ohio handbell ringers, several whom were members of the former Symphonic Handbells of Columbus. This year, they welcome composer and organist Karen Buckwalter.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS The following dates are available for flower dedications: July 9, 23, 30 and October 1. If any of these dates are significant to your family, consider dedicating the flowers for Sunday worship. Contact Marty Worth mworth@first-church.org for further information.

2017 SOFTBALL NEWS: CO-ED TEAM FORMING Please contact Rev. Ahrens at tahrens@first-church.org or call 614-228-1741, ext.13. Last year we had a great team that made the playoffs and never forfeited a game! But, there is room on the roster for more players, especially women! If you are interested, we would love to welcome you!

FIRST QUARTER STATEMENTS are in the member mailboxes by the elevator. Please pick up your statement to save us the cost of postage for mailing. Thank you!

JOIN US THIS TUESDAY, APRIL 25 FOR LAUNDRY LOVE We would love for members and friends to join us the last Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at WashLand Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street in West Franklinton to serve those in need. Justice and Mercy Commission, Good Samaritan Fund and The Gladden House are also partnering with this important mission. This mission is solely dependent on your generous giving. Come join us in serving those in need.



THE NEHEMIAH ACTION ASSEMBLY

On Monday Night, May 1, more than 3,500 people from 50+ congregations of the BREAD Organization will gather at The Celeste Center on the Ohio State Fairgrounds to lift our voices for social justice. The First Congregational UCC Justice Ministry Network made up of 28 people has commitments from over 200 people. Let's celebrate our church's 165 years of justice efforts in Columbus. We need to bring our friends, coworkers, family and neighbors. Come and make a difference in our work for Justice.



You can pick up your ticket after both worship services today just outside of the church office, or in the office during the week. Let's make this a great celebration for justice. Contact Robert Reber (robert.reber1@gmail.com), Barb Glover (bglover202@gmail.com) or one of these Justice Ministry Network members to sign-up: John Aeschbury, Tim Ahrens, Anita Allen, Deborah Anderson, Kristen Blanks, Anthony Brown, Kathy Brownfield, Tom Brownfield, Penny Casey, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Emily Corzine, Alec Deitz, Kris Deppen, Sarah Dryer, Sarah Giffen, Al Glover, Barb Glover, Greg Halbe, Anne Hudson, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen, Joan Lebold, Pat Liebchen, Nancy Livingston, Nicole Moss, Robert Reber, Wendy Reber, Merit Rutland, and Stacie Sholl.

ACOLYTES NEEDED FOR 11 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE!

There will be a 20-30 minute training session in the Narthex after the 11 a.m. worship service on May 7. Any interested 4th-7th grader is invited to participate. Contact Celeste Feather at 614-789-0516 or celeste@pandc.org for more information.



TEACHER/CONNECTIONS BREAKFAST MAY 7

The Christian Education Department will host a Teacher and Worship Connections appreciation breakfast on Sunday, May 7, in the Children's Library. All teachers and Worship Connection leaders will be recognized in both services.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Kaye and John Martin; Scott Barker; Madeline Helmer; Valerie and Phil Stichter; Julie Stewart; Ron Cook; Jane Weddle; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including Jim Griffen, on the death of his friend, Danny McNeeley; and Kristen Blanks, on the death of her grandfather, Dominick Maimone.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Verlie Rich, friend of Melva Fisher; Tom Amos, friend of Melva Fisher; Donna, mother of Neal Brower; Holly Reed, sister of Kathy Reed; Laelynn Hope LaRosa and family, friend of Brittanie Logel; Betty Garrison, mother of Kim Hopcraft; Dick Kevan, husband of Jan Kevan; Ronald Lee, brother of William Lee; James Smith, Joe and Marjorie Kufel, parents of Sharon Leidheiser; and Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams; and Rich Stopek and family, on the loss of his mother.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for the family Robert Godwin. We pray for those affected by famine in South Sudan. We pray for churches of Egypt. We pray for individuals and families who face immigration and deportation challenges.

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 Magyolene Rodriguez, serving in Nicaragua.

NEED PRAYER? If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact the church office (awagner@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 10) or one of 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, April 23

- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen/Treble Choirs – Choir Room and Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation – Education Wing Rooms C/D
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
4 p.m. – Congregational Concert: Handbells Columbus – Sanctuary

Monday, April 24

- 1:30 p.m. – BREAD Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room
6 p.m. – Budget and Finance Meeting – Parish Family Room
7 p.m. – Interfaith Bible Study – Parish Hall

Tuesday, April 25

- 11:30 a.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
6 p.m. – Laundry Love – WashLand Laundromat,
1469 West Broad Street

Wednesday, April 26

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

Thursday, April 27

- 6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J
7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir – Parish Hall

Sunday, April 30

- 9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen/Treble Choirs – Choir Room and Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation – Education Wing Rooms C/D
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups Meeting – Parish Hall

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Today-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; 30-Susan Sitrler

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** 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

<http://www.easytithe.com/dl/?uid=Firs444421>

PayPal

<https://www.paypal.com/signup/accountCreate>



- **Other Gifts:** Please designate your intention: *Memorials, flowers, fund raising projects, music, education, etc.*

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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
Treble 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	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

DIACONATE

Senior Deacon	Alec Deitz
Deacons	Kris Brant, Anthony Brown, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Bert Cook, Martha Fullemann, Dean Hafey, Todd Jacobson, Karen Mozingo, David Nassau, Janet Newcity, Jorge Polo, Alejandro Rodriguez, Hugh Schultz

CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator	Kent Shimeall
Moderator-Elect	Joe Baszynski
Treasurer	David Holt
Assistant Treasurer	Joe Hoffman
Secretary	Pat Patterson
Assistant Secretary	Nancy Loy

COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Sue Cook, Elect - Chris Glaros
Church Growth/Vitality	Kent Rambo and Mary Anne Jacobson, co-chairs; Elect - Tom Kiesel and Mary Anne Jacobson
Education	Helen Ninos, Elect - Chris Gelpi
House & Grounds	Eric Klintworth, Elect - Gary Leidheiser
Justice & Mercy	Al Glover, Elect - Dawn George
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Sharon Ferguson, Elect - Joel Mathias
Nominating Chair	Brian Cave
Member-at-large	Neal Brower
Youth-at-large	Joe Spofforth
Deacon Council Representative	Janet Newcity

TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Lisa Morris
Treasurer	Bill Johannes
Trustees	Chris Farquhar, Tom Hadley, Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Keith White, Gerry Worth