



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Depart to Serve

APRIL 8, 2018

**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?

### ATTENTION ALL BOOK LOVERS! BOOK CLUB MEETING TODAY

Read something lately that has you bursting to discuss? If you love books, the First Church Book Club may be for you. Meet Jackie Dean and Elaine Warren for a brief organizational meeting in the Parlor following the 11 a.m. service.

### REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING RETREAT IS NOW ONLINE!

Go to [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org) to register. *The deadline is April 10.*

### THE FIRST-EVER CHILDREN’S CHOIR FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY,

**APRIL 14 AT 4 P.M.** Congregational Concerts will present a Children’s Choir Festival on Saturday, April 14, at 4 p.m. in the First Church Nave. Envisioned and organized by First Church Jubilate Choir director Dr. Sandra Mathias, the Children’s Choir Festival will gather nearly 100 treble voices from around the Central Ohio region to work with renowned choral master Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, formerly music director of the American Boychoir, and the newly-appointed artistic director of the Los Angeles Children’s Chorus. The concert is free and open to the public. Please come, invite your family and friends, and bring a young singer who may be inspired by experiencing this amazing festival of young voices!

### 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](http://www.first-church.org) or place your order with any youth member.



### 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. The march kicks off behind COSI and then continues to the Gavel sculpture on Front Street. Afterwards, the marchers will enjoy a rally with stories, performances and speakers. For more information, go to [www.interfaithmarch.com](http://www.interfaithmarch.com) or [facebook.com/interfaithmarch](https://facebook.com/interfaithmarch).

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK** Today – Liz Cook, Mitchell Dean, Katherine Erickson, Nancy Loy, Amy Mailer, Amanda Mason, Anna Rambo; 9 – Becky Taft, Lisa Morris; 10 – Emily Cave, Loretta Hoffman, Jane Werum; 11 – Jan Kevan, Merry Roach, Janice Taft; 12 – Marcy Essig, Rick Pfeiffer; 13 – Sarah Frank, Jennifer Weaver

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

### OFFERING TOTAL FOR LAST WEEK’S MISSION

April 1 – \$2,506.54 – One Great Hour of Sharing

### NEXT WEEK’S MISSION OFFERING

Church World Service



### JOYS AND CONCERNS

**MEMBERS** Nancy Jeffrey; Rick Henderson; Andrew McGregor; Herb Goetz; Wally Giffen; Alaina Thompson; Nell Cole; Jude Gelfius; Don Streibig; Lindy Miller; Carl Miller; and families and friends who mourn the loss of loved ones.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY** Joan Corzine; Jim Fletcher, cousin of Paul and Gary Leidheiser; Dan Pendell; 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 the family and friends of Stev Guyer, friend of Mark Dahnke; and Susan Pusecker, on the death of her husband, Robert.

**THROUGHOUT THE WORLD** 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 the community of Sacramento, California after the shooting of Stephon Clark. We pray for peace in the Middle East. We pray for political tensions around the world to end. We pray for those affected by storms and tornados in Ohio and across the Midwest. 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 Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania.

**MISSIONARIES** This week we pray for Chimiste Doriscar serving in Haiti.

**Need Prayer?** If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact Amy Wagner, Office Manager, at [awagner@first-church.org](mailto:awagner@first-church.org) or 614-228-1741, ext. 10 or the ministers: [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org) or 614-228-1741, ext. 21, or [tahrens@first-church.org](mailto:tahrens@first-church.org) or 614-228-1741, ext. 13.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

### Sunday, April 8: Second 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. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing Room D  
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary  
12:30 p.m. – Safe Church Leadership Training – Sanctuary  
12:30 p.m. – Book Club Organizational Meeting – Parlor  
12:30 p.m. – Schumacher Committee – Ralph Fanning Room  
6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups Meeting – Parish Hall

### Monday, April 9

9 a.m. – Good Samaritan Day – Ralph Fanning Room  
6 p.m. – Music Committee – Parlor  
6:30 p.m. – Christian Education – Mark Williams' Office

### Tuesday, April 10

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

### Wednesday, April 11

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room  
12:15 p.m. – Rev. Ahrens' Lenten Small Group – Ralph Fanning Room

### Thursday, April 12

7 p.m. – Security Team – Ralph Fanning Room  
7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir – Parish Hall

### Friday, April 13

5 p.m. – Children's Choir Festival – Nave and Parish Hall

### Saturday, April 14

10 a.m. – First Church Quilters – Parish Family Room  
11 a.m. – Children's Choir Festival Rehearsal – Nave and Parish Hall  
4 p.m. – Children's Choir Festival Concert – Nave

### Sunday, April 15: Third Sunday of Easter

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall  
9 a.m. – Exultate Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room  
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Warm Up – Choir Room  
10 a.m. – Safe Church Presentation Drill – Parish Hall  
10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing Room D  
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary  
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall  
12:30 p.m. – Safe Church Presentation Drill – Sanctuary  
12:30 p.m. – Hymnal Supplement Committee – Choir Room  
12:30 p.m. – Confirmation – Education Wing Room D  
6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth Groups – Parish Hall

**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](http://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.*



### 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 Favel-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, Gerry Worth

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

**Driving to and from the Church:** From East, West and South, unchanged. Coming from the north we recommend exiting I-71 South at Broad Street. Take Broad Street to Ninth Street. Enter church parking from Ninth Street.

From I-670, take Cleveland Avenue to Long Street. Follow the Cleveland Avenue detour signs: Turn East on Long Street to Washington Avenue; south to Broad Street. Turn right at Broad Street 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).

**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:***

Construction fencing, and scaffolding have been set up. Preliminary work on walls in courtyard area is occurring. The Church Office will be moved to the Education Wing soon.

***Anticipated Completion:*** August 31, 2018

***Parking Access:*** The West Lot can be accessed from Cleveland Avenue northbound from Broad Street only, 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, enter through the North Education Wing Doors. Ninth Street doors will not be open during the week. Elevator access will be maintained throughout the project. Follow signs.

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.

**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:***

Trees now on site, more plantings to follow. Excavation for concrete work to begin soon.

***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

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**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:***

Curbs and center dividers on Cleveland Avenue. Underground piping along Gay St.

***Parking Access:*** The West Lot can be accessed from Cleveland Avenue northbound from Broad Street only, and from the North Lot via the alley. Access to the North Lot will be from Ninth Street northbound from Broad Street.

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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:*** 3 weeks

***Current Activity:*** Transformers have been set in place. Primary wires being pulled in place.

***Parking Access and Building Access:*** As noted above.

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.

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