

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## DEPART TO SERVE

July 23, 2017



### LOOKING FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE 11 AM SERVICE?

Coffee and Fellowship will return on July 30. We hope that you will be able to find a few minutes to come downstairs, meet someone new, and catch up with those who you know.

Some of you may be wondering what the plan is for Fellowship following our 11 a.m. service. We currently have 10 working groups who are available to host our Fellowship. Given the time constraints of these groups, we are currently planning one Fellowship event/month utilizing these existing groups. In addition to these groups, the Church Vitality Committee is opening up dates for individuals or small groups to host additional Fellowship events on available weekends. A sign-up sheet with open dates is posted on the Church Vitality bulletin board across from the office for those who would like to volunteer for this Sunday ministry. If you are interested in hosting Fellowship, being a part of a Fellowship Hosting Group, or simply finding out more about this ministry, please contact Mary Anne Jacobson either through email at [marytoddj@gmail.com](mailto:marytoddj@gmail.com) or via text/phone at 612-718-9834.

**NEXT LAUNDRY LOVE DATE IS TUESDAY, JULY 25** The children and youth of First Congregational Church invite you to join them in a year-long mission project called “Laundry Love”, an initiative in partnership with individuals, groups and local Laundromats throughout the US. The initiative helps to wash the clothes and bedding of individuals and/or families living in poverty. We would love for members and friends to come and volunteer. This mission is solely dependent on your generous giving. Laundry Love from 6 to 7 p.m. at WashLand Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street in West Franklinton.

**TEMPORARY NURSERY WORKER POSITION** First Church is seeking a Temporary Nursery worker for the months of September through December. The position will work at least two Sundays per month. Please contact Mark Williams at [mwilliams@first-church.org](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org) for more information.

**“EXTRAVAGANT LOVE AND WELCOME: UNITING ALL IN ONE COMMUNITY” BY REV. DR. TIM AHRENS** To be “extravagant” is to do much more than is necessary or wise (by the world’s standards). When we are extravagant, we exceed the bounds of reason, actions, demands, opinions or passions as we feel called to give more, spend more. Do more and extend more than others do. Extravagance is often looked down on by others. They want to know, “Why are you spending so much?” or “Why are you so outgoing in your words on my behalf?” “Why did you do SO MUCH when so much was not required?” To be extravagant in our love and welcome of others is to follow the way of Jesus – the model of Extravagant Love and Welcome! That is a good thing!

15 years ago, on September 8, 2002 First Congregational UCC, Columbus, Ohio became an Open and Affirming Church. On that day, by a 98% vote of approval, we decided welcome ALL people. We committed ourselves to welcoming all people of ALL ages, races, sexual orientations, ethnic and national backgrounds, mental and physical abilities and different socioeconomic, political and theological backgrounds.

So, how have we done as a community of faith for the last 15 years? How have we been a truly open and affirming congregation? What have we done well? How could we have done better? More personally – how have you done as an open and affirming Christian? When was the last time you were “extravagant” in your love and welcome for another person? Where are areas of growth for you as you seek to live into your own extravagant love and welcome of other people?

For five consecutive Sundays, beginning, August 6, I will reflect on what it means to be open and affirming. I will share some areas of growth we have experienced, some areas where we could improve and a future vision of becoming MORE extravagant in our love and welcome to our community of faith and beyond. I hope you join me on this journey. Here are the sermon titles. In addition, through prayers, music, and more, we will open ourselves to God’s love and welcome in our community of faith in new and beautiful ways. I look forward to seeing you in church.

### Sermon Titles:

August 6 – “Micah 6:8: DO Justice, LOVE Kindness, WALK Humbly with God”  
August 13 – “Loving and Welcoming ALL Ages and Races”  
August 20 – “Loving and Welcoming ALL Sexual Orientations and Ethnic and National Backgrounds”  
August 27 – “Loving and Welcoming ALL with a Range of Mental and Physical Abilities”  
September 3 – “Loving and Welcoming ALL with Different Socioeconomic, Political and Theological Backgrounds”

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

**MEMBERS** Frank Hussey; Don Erickson; Lindy Miller; Ron Cook; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY** Joseph and Marjorie Kufel, parents of Sharon Leidheiser; Becky Liefield, sister of Kathy Reed; Karen Davis, cousin of Judy Smith; Tim Griffen, uncle of Jim Griffen; Ellen Strout; Diane Hymans; Patrick Prendergast, father of Melissa Prendergast; Paul Avona; Rev. Louis Dorsch; Rev. Roger Miller; Abbas H. Al-Qaraghuli; and Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including William Lee, on the death of his brother Ronald Lee; and Eamonn Coyle and Jeff Worth, son of Marty and Gerry Worth, on the death of Eamonn’s sister, Anne Coyle.

**THROUGHOUT THE WORLD** We pray for the political unrest in Yemen. We pray for an end to the famine in South Sudan. We pray for those affected by wildfires. We pray for those who are risk of deportation. We pray for the victims of gun violence on our streets.

**IN GOD’S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE** This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda.

**MISSIONARIES** This week we pray for Scott Couper, serving in South Africa.

**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 one of 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, July 23

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Planned Giving Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room

### Monday, July 24

6 p.m. – Deacons' Meeting – Parish Family Room

6 p.m. – Budget and Finance Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room

### Tuesday, July 25

11:30 a.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room

### Wednesday, July 26

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

### Sunday, July 30

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

# Celebrate!

**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** Today – 7/23 Nicole Moss and Shari Unxapher, Lissa and Drew Wade; 7/26 – Catherine and Todd Cunningham

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK** Today – Jim Kyle; 7/24 Linda Gieseke, Hector Gonzalez; 7/25 – Nancy Braverman, Earl Fritz, Frederick Hunker, Sarah Welsh-Huggins; 7/26 – Joanne Morse; 7/27 – Courtenay Gregory; 7/28 – Steve Sterrett; 7/29 – Andrea Gonzalez, Jason Bryant

**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** 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.*



#### OFFERING TOTAL FOR LAST WEEK'S MISSION

July 16 – \$495.19 – NAMI

#### NEXT WEEK'S MISSION OFFERING

Laundry Love

#### 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, Francille Firebaugh, Tom Hadley, Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Keith White, Gerry Worth

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