

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## DEPART TO SERVE

AUGUST 13, 2017



FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY

Please join us in Parish Hall after 11 a.m. Worship

**HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE SEATING MEETINGS** The Board of Deacons will be hosting two meeting today on handicapped accessible seating in the sanctuary: today at both 10 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. in the Ralph Fanning Room, located immediately across the hall from the Church Office.

**“THREE GREAT LOVES” – LOVE OF CHILDREN** Prayer buttons for our children and youth will be distributed at the doors at the end of the service. We ask you to prayerfully consider taking a prayer button and praying for the child listed throughout the year.

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL BREAKFAST DEVOTIONS** Several of our children and youth will start school this coming week. Start the new school year by adding God’s Word to your family’s breakfast menu. Like a good breakfast, incorporating this simple practice into your daily routine will help everyone start the day right! Back-to-school devotion worksheets are available at the entrance to worship.

**FIRST CHURCH SUPPER CLUB** The Fall Group begins with a Kick-Off Potluck on Tuesday, August 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall. Sign up in the church office or email Rev. Corzine at [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org). Deadline is August 15.

**“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, 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.

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING SERMON SERIES QUESTIONS** – Question cards are available in each pew pad for you to ask questions concerning the ONA Sermon Series. The questions will be used by the Christian Education Commission to identify resources and discussion sessions this fall. Please place the cards in the offering plate or baskets at the entrance of the worship space.

### 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** Don Erickson; Lindy Miller; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who mourn the loss of loved ones, especially the family of Frank Hussey upon his death this past week and the family of Sharon Leidheiser upon the death of her father, Joe Kufel.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY** Rev. Gretchen Sterrett, sister-in-law of Steve Sterrett; Dwayne Nelson; Thomas Justice, friend of Robert Reber; Joyce Marcum, sister of Betty Conn; Marjorie Kufel, mother of Sharon Leidheiser; Becky Liefield, sister of Kathy Reed; Tim Griffen, uncle of Jim Griffen; Ellen Strout; 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.

**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. We pray for the people of Venezuela.

**IN GOD’S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE** This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.

**MISSIONARIES** This week we pray for Olga Yan-Pardo, serving in Ecuador.

**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, August 13

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall  
10 a.m. – Deacon Open Forum - Sanctuary Seating – Ralph Fanning Rm  
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary  
12:15 p.m. – Deacon Open Forum - Sanctuary Seating –  
Ralph Fanning Room  
12:15 p.m. – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

### Monday, August 14

9 a.m. – Good Samaritan Day – Ralph Fanning Room  
7 p.m. – Trustees – Parlor

### Tuesday, August 15

11:30 a.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room  
12:30 p.m. – Congregational Care Task Force – Ralph Fanning Room  
7 p.m. – Council – Ralph Fanning Room

### Wednesday, August 16

11 a.m. – Book Study – Parlor

### Sunday, August 20

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall  
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary  
12:15 p.m. – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall



**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK** Today – Bobby Carrington, Valerie Conlin-Losinski; 8/14 – Caleb Frank; 8/15 – Chuck Atkinson, Laura Erickson; 8/16 – Will Fernald, Mary Kay Beall Carter; 8/17 – Jacques Washington; 8/19 – Emma Henderson, Melissa Kulwicki, Karen Sterrett, Henry Unkovic

**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** 8/14 – Barbara Mason and Rhonda Poirier; 8/16 – Lisa Morris and Kent Shimeall; 8/17 – Diane and Larry Dixon; 8/18 – Betty Sparhawk and Nazmi Anik

**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**

August 6 – \$693.00 – Making a Difference

#### **NEXT WEEK'S MISSION OFFERING**

Health Gives Hope

444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885

PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741

#### **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 Sibrain
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 Mazingo, 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

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