

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

AUGUST 21, 2016

SERMON SERIES: MENTAL ILLNESS: THE JOURNEY IN, THE JOURNEY

OUT For five weeks of Sundays, beginning on August 7, Rev. Ahrens will lift up hope in the midst of the darkness of “brain diseases.” For too long, we in the church have hidden away from dealing with brain diseases. While we openly lift up prayers, tell stories and engage in care for those with various cancers, heart and lung diseases and more, we hide from the needs of family, friends and members with various brain diseases or Mental Illness. Please bring anyone you know whose life has been touched by brain diseases to this sermon series. Bring friends, co-workers, family, neighbors, and those with brain diseases or those affected by them who have been forgotten, forsaken, and left out of church.

Here are the titles of the five sermons:

August 7: *“When Mental Illness Hits: Out of the Depths I Cry to You” – Psalm 130*

August 14: *“Depression: From the Pit of Despair We Can Rise in New Life” – Psalm 40:1-3*

August 21: *“Family Struggles with Mental Illness: Finding Our Way Home” – Luke 15:11-32*

August 28: *“The Resurrected Mind: No Death Today” – John 20:1-18*

September 4: *Communion Meditation: “Hope for Today and Tomorrow: Not Easy But Not Impossible” – II Corinthians 4:18*

Immediately following worship each week during this sermon series, our own Jonathan Miller, Ed.M., LPCC-S, a New Albany-based psychotherapist in private practice, will join Rev. Ahrens to lead further discussions on issues raised in the sermons. Please meet in the choir room located on the second floor at the top of the staircase by the Ninth Street entrance.

MINDFUL: EXPLORING MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH

ART You are invited to visit the Ohio Craft Museum, 1665 W. 5th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio to see their MINDful exhibition, which runs through today. This powerful exhibition offers an opportunity to understand mental health issues through fine craft. The museum’s hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. weekdays, and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call 614-486-4402 or visit www.ohiocraft.org.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOSPITALITY AND OUTREACH Join us in welcoming Columbus College of Art and Design students and faculty back to campus on Move-In Day, Thursday August 25. We’ll be in the North Parking Lot from 11a.m. – 1p.m. grilling hot dogs, greeting new students, and welcoming back returning students and faculty. Come and be part of the fun. Get to know families and students. Get to know one another. Share First Church with our neighbors. Contact Rev. Emily Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org if you can help in any way.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS During both services on Sunday, August 28, we will have the “Blessing of the Backpacks” for all of our children and youth. We encourage our students heading back to school to bring their own backpack to church. We will also have a special prayer for all those connected to educating our children, youth and young adults.

WOMEN’S RETREAT ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2016 9 A.M. – NOON

A “Sacred Listening Circle” is a spiritual practice where individuals have an opportunity to connect more deeply with others in a non-judgmental and confidential setting. It is a way of becoming more aware of the leading of the spirit of God in our daily lives through faith sharing and listening. Margene Whittenburg and Jackie Dean, both Wellstreams graduates in Spiritual Formation and Directions, will be the facilitators. Bring a brunch item to share. Beverages will be provided. It is our hope that this introduction will lead to ongoing women’s listening groups here at First Church. If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Dean at 614-868-0485. Sign up in the church office.

WEEKLY SERMONS ARE AVAILABLE:

- Online on our website: <http://www.first-church.org/Sermons.aspx>
- In the information racks located outside the church office and at the Ninth Street entrance
- Podcasts of the sermons are posted online at <http://www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx>.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE, TEA AND CHOCOLATE ARE ON SALE TODAY in the Parish Hall after worship. You can purchase packages of ground or whole bean coffee for \$8, tea for \$4, and cocoa for \$6. Fair Trade ensures sustainable labor practices and protects the environment. By choosing Fair Trade, you help small-scale farmers support themselves, their families and the environment. In addition, Equal Exchange contributes to its Faith partners for their efforts to improve the lives of small farmers.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Grace Glaros; Arlene Reynolds; Rick Henderson; Lou Flocken; Mike Petras; Janice White; Abby Salak and Melissa Prendergast and their daughter, Ruth Eloise; Bernie Martin; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones, including Laurie Maynell, on the death of her father; Dayna McCrary, on the death of her father, Moses Murray; Martha Fulleman, on the death of her mother; and Al Waddell and Allen Baker, on the death of Al’s father, Arvil Waddell.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Michael Cromartie, friend of Tim Ahrens; Gidget, family member of Bill Johannes and Barb Clapham; Mark Plescia; Rose Shoemaker, grandmother of Jean Wetmore; Bob Childs, brother-in-law of Martha Huey; Zach, son of Lori Buehler, for health issues; Rosalie Owens, friend of Susan Sitler; Shari Veleba, friend of Pat Liebchen; Lois Beery, friend of Mary Kay Carter; Paul Hunt, cousin of Mary Kay Carter; Jason Wood, grandson of Melva Fisher; Joe and Marjorie Kufel, parents of Sharon Leidheiser; Frankie Williams, mother of Mark Williams; 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 all those struggling with any form of mental illness. We pray for victims of violence and terrorism around our world. For the victims of the train attacks in Switzerland and Germany this week. For the victims of flooding in Louisiana and wildfires in the Western United States. We pray for peace Syria and South Sudan. We pray for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking around the world.

IN GOD’S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE This week in the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we pray with and for the people and churches of The Pacific Islands: Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Western Samoa and the French Overseas Territories of New Caledonia (Kanak) and French Polynesia (Tahiti).

MISSIONARIES: This week, we pray for Scott Nicholson, serving in Mexico.

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 tabrens@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 13.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, August 21

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
10 a.m. – Book Study – Ralph Fanning Room
10 a.m. – Confirmation Meeting – Parlor
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
Noon – Discussion about Sermon Series – Choir Room

Monday, August 22

6 p.m. – Budget and Finance – Parish Family Room
7 p.m. – Deacons Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room

Tuesday, August 23

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
7 p.m. – Senior Minister Member Advisory Committee – Rev. Ahrens' office

Wednesday, August 24

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

Thursday, August 25

8:30 a.m. – Trinity Lutheran Seminary New Student Orientation
11 a.m. – CCAD Move In Welcome Event – Rear Parking Lot

Saturday, August 27

9 a.m. – Women's Retreat – Ralph Fanning Room

Sunday, August 28

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
10 a.m. – Book Study – Ralph Fanning Room
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
Noon – Discussion about Sermon Series – Choir Room

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS Today-Chris Glaros, Janice White; 22-Chutney Anderson, Duan Cannon, Alaina Thompson, Roland Weller; 23-Lissa Wade; 24-Charles Drummond, Tom Stewart; 25-Dan Axt, Christy Carlson, Steve Kennedy; 26-Jean Wetmore; 27-Sue Cook



MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES Today- Dana and Hugh Schultz; 23-Cindy and Betty Conn; 24-Joyce and Dan Ward; 25-Chris and Tom Farquhar, Jessica Underwood and Mars Robinson; 27-Melanie and Mark Brown

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** and then click on **Online Giving**. Set up an account and pay with your credit card or through your checking or savings account. You may use the QR link or:



<https://www.faithstreet.com/church/first-congregational-church-of-columbus-columbus-oh/giving>

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

AUGUST FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

August 21 Deuteronomy
August 28 Ephesians

AUGUST ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

August 21 Matty Provenzano Mia Provenzano
August 28 Cassidy Hopcraft Finnegan Miller

AUGUST MISSION OFFERING SCHEDULE

August 21 Spirituality Network
August 28 Star House

We encourage you to carefully review the many opportunities of programs, meetings and ministries this week and in coming weeks here at First Church through today's *Depart to Serve* Leaflet, Facebook page, Twitter, Website or Newsletter.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885
PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741
WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG

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
Interim Building and Grounds Superintendent	Milt Allen
Custodians	William Lee, Jimmy Sibrian
Wedding Coordinators	Janet Axt, Margaret Cipriani, Amy Wagner, Katie Wagner
Nursery Staff	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

DIACONATE

Senior Deacon	Lynn Wallich
Deacons	Sandy Bennett, Kris Brant, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Sue Cook, Alec Deitz, Dean Hafey, Anne Hudson, Paul Leidheiser, Mary Lightbody, Dayna McCrary, Janet Newcity, Jorge Polo, Alex Rodriguez, Hugh Schultz

CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator	Brian Cave
Moderator-Elect	Kent Shimeall
Treasurer	Cindy Conn
Assistant Treasurer	Joe Baszynski
Secretary	Nancy Braverman
Assistant Secretary	Pat Patterson

COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Allison Palmer, Elect - Sue Cook
Church Growth	Matt Myers, Elect - Kent Rambo
Education	Jennifer Okezie-Watts, Elect - Helen Ninos
House & Grounds	Charlie Weaver, Elect - Eric Klintworth
Justice & Mercy	Tracy Ross, Elect - Al Glover
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Al Waddell, Elect - Sharon Ferguson
Church Vitality	<i>Chair and Elect Currently Vacant</i>
Nominating Chair	Elaine Warren
Member-at-large	Mary Kay Beall Carter
Youth-at-large	Eddie Anderson IV
Deacon Council Representative	Alec Deitz

TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Francille Firebaugh
Treasurer	Bill Johannes
Trustees	Patricia Groseck, Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Charlie Weaver, Keith White, Gerry Worth



Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Parlor

Want to know more about First Church? Interested in seeing what makes First Church live out God's mission for Justice and Mercy in Columbus and in the world? Seeking to deepen your spiritual life?

Learn how you can be a part of this vibrant community of faith. Come to our church information session and new member class on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. If you are interested in joining or just want to learn more – come and get to know more about us. New members will be received into membership at the worship services on Sunday, September 18.

Contact Rev. Emily Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org or by calling the church office at 614-228-1741.

Yes! Sign me up for the class!

Not at this time but contact me for the next class

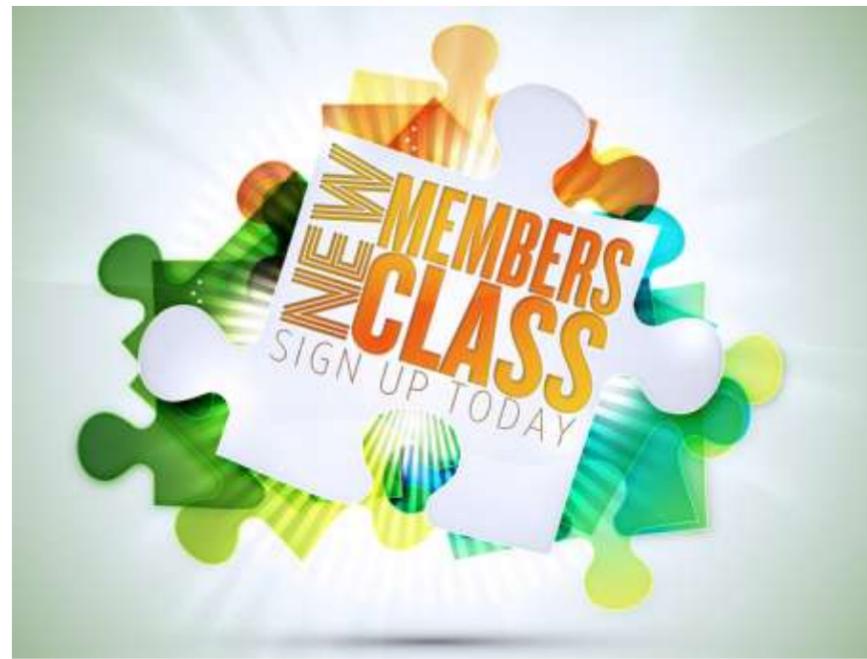
Name: _____

Email address: _____

Home Address: _____

Best Telephone # to reach me is: _____

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