

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2016

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

OUT Today, we complete our five-week sermon series to lift up hope in the midst of the darkness of brain diseases. Today's Communion Meditation is: *"Blessed Are the Stigma Busters – II Corinthians 4:18*. Immediately following worship, 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.

FAITH FORMATION TIME BEGINS! On September 11, please join us for Faith Formation Time (Christian Education) at 10 a.m. There will be opportunities for expanding faith for all ages.

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERT: MOZART'S REQUIEM Please save the date for the First Congregational Concert on Sunday, September 11, at 4 p.m. as the First Church Choir, soloists and orchestra present Mozart's powerful Requiem in commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of September 11, 2001. Also on the program will be J.S. Bach's Concerto in d minor for harpsichord and strings. Please make plans to be present for this important commemoration.

YOUTH MEETINGS BEGIN SEPTEMBER 11 Both the high school and middle school youth groups will kick-off this fall with a potluck dinner for the youth and their families on September 11 at 6 p.m. The dinner and fun time will be at the West Lawn of the church. If there is bad weather the event will be held in the Parish Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. The youth will discuss plans for the year (including how our youth will be involved), and they will have fun times playing games, including sand volleyball.

NAMI PROGRAMS FOR COPING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Franklin County is offering free educational programs for families to cope with brain diseases. The first program will run from September 18-October 23, 2016 from 1-5:30 p.m. at NAMI Ohio, 1225 Dublin Road, Suite 125, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Another program will be held here at First Church on Sunday afternoons from 1-5:30 p.m. for five weeks from January 15-February 19, 2017 in Room D of the Education Wing. For more information, please contact: Karen Cousins at 614-501-6264.

MARCHING FOR MORE ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

Tradition Matters. From the passionate rumble of the beat of a drum to an organization whose strength marches on as a supporting cadence within our community, nothing compares to the richness of a sacred tradition. You are invited to join The Ohio State University Marching Band, the world's largest all-brass and percussion band, and Gladden Community House, a local non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and strengthening the well being of the Franklinton community, as they come together for an unforgettable evening – striking a chord together through tradition, music, and meaning. Enjoy a premier performance from the OSU band as they triumphantly support Gladden Community House and March for More at the 'Shoe'. For more information, please visit www.MarchingForMore.com.

SEPTEMBER MISSION OFFERING SCHEDULE

September 4	Mid Ohio Workers
September 11	Good Samaritan
September 18	Laundry Love
September 25	Trustees: Building Legacy Fund

SEPTEMBER FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

September 4	Galatians
September 11	Haggai
September 18	Hosea
September 25	Celebration/Legacy Sunday Meal: Jeremiah, Kings, Micah, Numbers

SEPTEMBER ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

September 4	Mae Hubbard	Alania Thompson
September 11	Nick Boriin	Peter Spofforth
September 18	Alyssa Batchelor	Alania Thompson
September 25	Erin Murray	Nina Zimmerman

NEED PRAYER? If you are in need of prayer and wish someone to prayer with you or for you, a minister will be available in the Gladden Chapel following worship this morning. The Chapel is located through the Education Wing Door on the Pulpit side and down the hall on the left, immediately at the top of the stairs from the Education Wing.

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.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF CELEBRATION for the sainthood of Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

MEMBERS Sharon Walquist; Grace Glaros; Arlene Reynolds; Rick Henderson; 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: Jean Wetmore, on the death of her grandmother; Allison Lowery Palmer and her husband Gary, on the death of Gary's son, Matt; Laurie Maynell, on the death of her father; Dayna McCrary, on the death of her father, Moses Murray; and Martha Fulleman, on the death of her mother.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Ruth Klinger, aunt of Tim Ahrens; Paul Zimmerman, father of Doug Zimmerman; Beverly, mother of Kent Rambo; Michael Cromartie, friend of Tim Ahrens; Shandi and Charles; Father Jim Ragnoni and his family and the St. Anthony Parish in Akron; Connor and Grant Orendorf and their parents, Karen and Harrison; Gidget, family member of Bill Johannes and Barb Clapham; Mark Plescia; 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, including Ed and Ruth Shoener and family, on the death of Katie Shoener; and the family of Tim Jones.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for all those struggling with brain diseases. We pray for victims of earthquakes in Italy and Myanmar. For the victims of flooding in Louisiana and wildfires in the Western United States. We pray for peace in Syria and Turkey.

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 Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia.

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

LIFE SAVERS NEEDED! Caring volunteers are needed to answer the 24-Hour Suicide Prevention Hotline, operated by North Central Health Service. Each new volunteer receives approximately 50 hours of training, and the next class starts on September 27 at 7 p.m. Call Susan Jennings, Volunteer Coordinator, at 614-299-6600, ext. 2004 or Mary Brennen-Hofmann at ext. 2073.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, September 4

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

Monday, September 5 – Labor Day – Building Closed

Tuesday, September 6

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
6 p.m. – New Members Class – Parlor
7 p.m. – Justice and Mercy – Ralph Fanning Room

Wednesday, September 7

11 a.m. – Book Study: *The End of White Christianity* – Parlor
12:15 p.m. – BREAD Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room

Thursday, September 8

7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

Saturday, September 10

9 a.m. – Treble Choir Fall Retreat – Choir Activities Room
10 a.m. – First Church Quilters – Ralph Fanning Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Mozart Dress Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Sunday, September 11

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
9 a.m. – Teen Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
9 a.m. – Treble Choir Rehearsal – Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
4 p.m. – Congregational Concert – Mozart's Requiem – Sanctuary

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS Today-Kinsley Schmitt; 5-Elisa Batchelor; 6-Alice Panek; 8-Sallie Danneberger; 9-Steven Ferris; 10-Amy Nicholson

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES 5-Carrie Wise and Jonathan Craft; 6-Elisa and Andrew Batchelor; 9-Diane and Kent Rambo; 10-Elizabeth Drotleff and Eric Chambers



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>.

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.*

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
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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: _____

Childcare will be available; please call the church office at 228-1741, ext. 10 to let us know how many children to expect.



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