

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

TODAY IN FORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR ADULTS – 10 A.M. First Church member Chris Gelpi will lead us on the topic “Debating in Good Faith.” As people of faith, we need the tools to be able to discuss topics with others with whom we may disagree. Chris will guide us on how to be faithful in our discussions with others in a manner of compassion and grace.



INCREASE YOUR GIFT! The Justice and Mercy Commission has agreed to match the Laundry Love Offering on September 18 up to \$750. Justice and Mercy are looking for ways to help sustain this life-changing ministry for those in need. First Congregational Church UCC will be

providing free laundry service for the residents of Franklinton 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 need. From the infant to the aged, and across a broad spectrum of ethnicity, culture and personal story, Laundry Love seeks to nurture the well being of each person through intentional networking and friendship. The church will provide 2 free loads of washing and 4 loads of drying, laundry detergent and dryer sheets. This opportunity will be the last Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Wash Land Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street in West Franklinton to serve those in need. No one will be admitted after 7 p.m. *The next Laundry Love date will be Tuesday September 27.*

BLOCK PARTY SEPTEMBER 25 – 12:30-2 P.M. ON THE WEST LAWN

First Church will provide chicken, a vegetarian option, water and lemonade.

Last Names – A-H: bring sweets

Last Names – I-P: bring a salad

Last Names – Q-Z: bring a side dish

Remember to bring large portions to feed our neighbors!

Block Party Games * Super Games

TUESDAYS AT FIRST NEEDS VOLUNTEERS to help set up and clean up for the Tuesday at First lunch on October 4 and November 1. Please call Gerry Worth at 614-288-3065 for details.

BREAD HOUSE MEETINGS COMING SOON! Our congregation is committed to building stronger relationships with each other and talking about things that really matter. Our congregation’s justice ministry will be hosting a series of house meetings in September and October to do just that! We are just one of 40 faith communities throughout Franklin County who will be holding such meetings. We hope to make this a great time of inspiration as we hold sacred conversations in our congregation to hear the cries of our people and take part in God’s story to win justice! Won’t you join us? Mark your calendars:

- Church parlor – October 3 at 7 p.m.
- Robert and Wendy Reber - October 5 at 7:30 p.m.
- Pat Leibecken (facilitating) and Dawn George (hosting) – October 6 at 7:30 p.m.
- Tom and Kathy Brownfield – October 11 at 7 p.m.
- Al and Barbara Glover – October 11 at 7:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER MISSION OFFERING SCHEDULE

September 18	Laundry Love
September 25	Trustees: Building Legacy Fund

SEPTEMBER FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

September 18	Hosea
September 25	Celebration/Legacy Sunday Meal: Jeremiah, Kings, Micah, Numbers

SEPTEMBER ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

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.

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

BLESSINGS TO NEWLY MARRIED COUPLES We extend our blessings and congratulate Natalie Bevilacqua and Dominic Rosselli married here yesterday.

MEMBERS Jane Weddle, Madeline Helmer; Heather Biggers, as she continues her work with FEMA; Sharon Walquist; Grace Glaros; 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: Allison Lowery Palmer and her husband Gary, on the death of Gary’s son, Matt.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Lois Beery, friend of Mark Kay Beall Carter; Bob Tschannen-Moran; Barbara Nicholson; Latoya Myers; Nevaeh Summers and family; Bob Childs, brother-in-law of Martha Huey; Ruth Klinger, aunt of Tim Ahrens; Paul Zimmerman, father of Doug Zimmerman; Beverly, mother of Kent Rambo; 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.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for the ongoing humanitarian efforts in Syrian during recent and challenging ceasefire. May we bring needed relief to those in need. We pray for the surrounding countries to Syria who have welcomed refugees. We pray for the tension which escalates along the Korean Peninsula and in the South China Sea. We pray for all those affected by natural or man-made disasters 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 Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania.

MISSIONARIES: This week, we pray for Kristin Wolf, serving in Thailand.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, September 18

- 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
- 6 p.m. – High School Youth Group – Parish Hall

Monday, September 19

- 7 p.m. – Personnel – Ralph Fanning Room

Tuesday, September 20

- 1 p.m. – Newsletter Deadline
- 2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
- 7 p.m. – Church Council – Ralph Fanning Room

Wednesday, September 21

- 9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room
- 6:45 p.m. – Lincoln/Norwich Planning Committee – Parlor

Thursday, September 22

- 2 p.m. – BREAD Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room
- 6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J
- 7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

Friday, September 23

- 1 p.m. – Faith Mission Meal Preparation – Kitchen

Sunday, September 25 – Celebration of Legacy Sunday

- 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
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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.

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES 20-Aubrie and Brian Hasselbusch; 21-Susan and Bill Rhoads

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS Today-18 Christopher Washington; 19-John Bachman, Ava Leidheiser; 20-Jim Gallagher, Randy Hoffman, Keith Kulwicki; 21-Shannon Washington, 22-Janette Hoffman; 23- Victor John, Stan Lange

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

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

Interfaith Bible Study: Year #2 Beginning Soon!

Year #2 of the Two Year Bible Study will begin on November 7, 2016. The class will meet from 7-8:30 p.m. on Monday nights in the Parish Hall. The class will be taught in three blocks: November 7 – December 6, 2016; January 23 – February 27, 2017; and April 24 – May 22, 2017. Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens and Rabbi Dr. Misha Zinkow will serve as co-teachers. Please return this sign-up sheet so we can order a sufficient number of books for the class. The book will be available for purchase in the church office for \$20.

_____ **Yes! Sign me up for the class!**

Name: _____

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Best Telephone # to reach me is: _____

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Columbus Interfaith Trip to Israel and the Holy Land: June 18-28, 2017

Led by Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens and Rabbi Misha Zinkow

Registration is underway for the Interfaith Trip next June. You do NOT need to be a participant in the Bible Study to go on this trip. If you are interested, please sign up online:

https://makor.formstack.com/forms/columbus_interfaith_trip

20 Participants	30 Participants	Single Supplement
\$2925	\$2905	\$1,425

Land Costs per person in a double room*

(*with airfare, projections are that total cost of the trip will be approximately \$5000 per person)

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