



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE - SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

OUR FAITH OUR VOTE “Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!” – Isaiah 58:1

First Congregational Church UCC is joining the UCC’s Our Faith Our Vote campaign to register voters, educate ourselves on important issues at stake in the election and encourage voter participation. The Our Faith Our Vote committee will hold a voter registration table at church this Sunday, September 25 during the “Celebration of Our Legacy Party” on the west lawn. Please come by the table to register yourself and learn more about the importance of voting. If you have not voted in a general election since 2012, you need to register. If you would like to volunteer to help next Sunday after morning services, please contact Mark Williams (mwilliams@first-church.org). To learn more at www.ucc.org/ourfaithourvote.



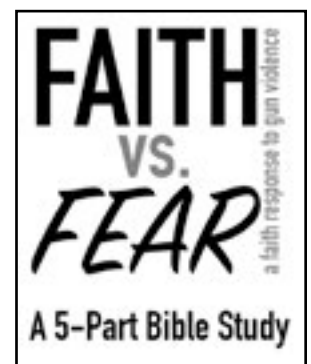
SAVE THE DATE First Tuesdays concert series commences on Tuesday, October 4, at 12:15 p.m. with organist/choirmaster emeritus G. Dene Barnard. Mr. Barnard will play music of the British Isles, including composers Ralph Vaughan Williams and Percy Whitlock. Lunch will be available in the Parish Hall at approximately 12:45 p.m. for a donation of \$5.

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

NEXT SUNDAY IN FORMATIVE DISCUSSION FOR ADULTS Beginning on Sunday, October 2, at 10 a.m. two great sessions will be offered.

Rev. Mary Kay Beall Carter will be teaching a class on angels entitled: *Angels: Messengers, Guardians, Signposts of Hope*. We will look at both Old Testament and New Testament accounts of angelic appearances as well as artistic and musical creations based on angelic themes and will include some testimonies from individuals who believe they have experienced an angelic intervention or visitation, etc. If you have an experience you would like to share with the class please call Mary Kay at 614-444-5610 or e-mail her at mkbnjc@aol.com. This class will meet for the first four Sundays of October.

Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston will lead a five-week session on the UCC “Faith vs. Fear” Bible Study – a faith response to gun violence. Each week will focus on the scriptures and how we as a people of faith respond to the gun violence that is happening in our city, state and country.



FIRST CHURCH JOYS AND CONCERNS

BLESSINGS TO NEWLY MARRIED COUPLES We extend our blessings and congratulate Kristin Laskowski and Adam Pensyl, 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; Gidget, family member of Bill Johannes and Barb Clapham; 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 victims of last week's attacks in New York, New Jersey and in Minnesota. We pray for the communities of Charlotte, North Carolina and Tulsa, Oklahoma. We pray for the ongoing refugee crisis around the world. We pray for the tensions among nations involved with the Syrian crisis to subside.

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 Belarus, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine.

MISSIONARIES This week, we pray for Paul Turner, serving in the Democratic Republic of Congo. 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 (tahrens@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 13 or ecorzine@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 21).

Celebrate!

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES Today-James Gaugh and Roland Weller

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS Today-Jordan Gies; 26-Gerry Hudson, Daniel Ahrens; 27-Ron Reiger, Pavan Peter; 28-Tom Kuhn; 29-Pauline Fritz, Betsy Zahn, 30-Cami Curren, Scott Hamman, Melissa Prendergast; 10/1-Nicole Moss

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.

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 for the meeting which is most convenient for you to attend:

Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. – Church parlor

Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. – Robert and Wendy Reber –
340 W. Goodale Street #304, Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-353-8371, robert.reber1@gmail.com

Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m. – Pat Leibecken (facilitating) and
Dawn George (hosting) –
1043 S. Roosevelt Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43209
614-338-0507, dawngeorge16@gmail.com

Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. –Tom and Kathy Brownfield –
5580 Washington Street, Canal Winchester, Ohio
43110, 614-783-8753, tbrownfield1943@gmail.com

Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. – Al and Barbara Glover
– 202 Saint Jacques Street, Worthington, Ohio
43085, 614-396-6243, glover.albert@yahoo.com

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: _____

Email address: _____

Best Telephone # to reach me is: _____