



## **The New Social Gospel – A Six Part Sermon Series begins July 29**

**By Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens**

Through the past 18 years, I have presented a sermon series in August. It has always been my belief and experience that “people are in town in August – just not in church.” I have been right! Through the years, sermon series have brought great numbers out for August worship. I have presented sermon series on topics like – Open and Affirming, Mental Illness, The 12 Steps of AA, Super Heroes and Bible Heroes, Perspectives of Faith from the Abrahamic Traditions, and more.

Beginning Sunday, July 29, we will have a six-part sermon series with some great preachers presenting the New Social Gospel. As you know, the Social Gospel was a movement of Christianity which swept through our land at the turn of the 20th century and found its continuing presence and power in the Civil Rights movement at mid-century.

Where and how is the Social Gospel Alive and impacting the church and society today? In the next six weeks we will find out!

We have some great preachers on social justice coming to First Church to open the Gospel word for this new day for all of us. They will look at the ways in which the Social Gospel is impacting our world and the church right now.

**July 29** – I will preach. My sermon is entitled *The Prophet of the Social Gospel*. I will explore the roots of the social gospel movement at the turn of the 20th century which happened in our congregation under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, our pastor from 1882-1918.

**August 5** – The Rev. John Aeschbury, the Executive Director of DART Center in Miami, Florida will preach. His sermon is entitled *Forward to Freedom*.

DART stands for Direct Action Research Training Center. Started in 1977, DART is the umbrella organization for 21 strong and growing congregation-based community organizations in eight states. Rev. Aeschbury is also the founding organizer of BREAD (Building Responsibility Equality And Dignity) started in 1995. John is an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ for the past 33 years. He is also a member of First Church.

**August 12** – The Rev. Dr. Renee P. Wormack-Keels, Executive Director, of the Spirituality Network will preach. Her sermon is entitled *What Does God Require?...Really*.

Renee is an ordained minister in the American Baptist tradition. She brings a wealth of pastoral, management, planning, development, and advocacy experience. Her leadership style is based on the servant-leadership model with shared decision making to ensure that all members are heard and invested in a kingdom-building agenda. She is also a passionate quilter. Her passion for ministry and the art of quilting and surface design power her commitment to helping faith-based groups and organizations experience the power of God as they change to enhance the Kingdom.

**August 19** – Our own Rev. Emily Corzine will preach. Her sermon is entitled *Burning Daylight*.

**August 26** – The Rev. Dr. J. Bennett Guess, a civil liberties activist and minister, is the new Executive Director of the ACLU of Ohio will preach. His sermon title is *Fulfilled in Your Hearing*.

Ben is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. For 17 years, he was in executive and senior-staff roles with the national headquarters of the United Church of Christ, based in Cleveland. He has been deeply involved in the UCC’s advocacy for racial, social, gender, and economic justice. He also was pastor of Zion UCC, in Henderson, KY, one of the first LGBTQ-affirming churches in the state. He was the founding co-chair of the Kentucky Fairness Campaign, the state’s leading LGBTQ advocacy organization. He currently serves on the board of the National LGBTQ Task Force in Washington, D.C. If you want to read more about Ben go to the Website for the ACLU.

**September 2** – I will preach to conclude the series. My sermon title is *The New Social Gospel for a New Day!*

Come to worship for the next weeks. Bring friends, family, neighbors and colleagues. Prepare to be inspired! Prepare to be called to action for our time.



## Confirmation Class 2019 Getting organized!

By Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens

On Sunday, August 19 at 10 a.m. in the Parlor, we will have an organizational meeting for the 2019 Confirmation class. It will be a “meet and greet” time in which we will go over schedules, books, and much, much more for the 2019 Class. I actually have a book to share with everyone which I think you will find helpful and illuminating.

I am excited that the Confirmation class for 2019 is forming right now. I love teaching Confirmation. As the years go by, I have now taught 30 classes of Confirmands – over 375 young people have come to affirm their baptismal vows in the various churches I have served. What fun!

On July 20, 2016, the 46th anniversary of the Moon Landing, my mom and I visited Trinity UCC in Upper Sandusky, Ohio where my grandfather, The Rev. Hugo Carl Kellermeyer confirmed the first man on the moon, the late Neil Armstrong on June 13, 1943. Perhaps one of our 2019 Confirmands will be the first man or woman on Mars. Who know! We have famous writers, dancers, musicians and more come through confirmation at First Church.

Speaking of Neil Armstrong, the important part of Confirmation is the exploration of our faith. For some of the teens, it seems like a trip to the Moon – or Mars.

They have rarely opened their Bibles. They have no working knowledge of the Christian story. While they can tell you why they believe Rihanna rocks or what the music of Taylor Swift means to them personally, they have no clue who Peter and Paul are (no, they are not two of the four Beatles). Confirmation becomes a true exploration into ancient lands, ideas, and timeless values and beliefs. What about their faith? What do they believe? So many questions and answers and a year of discovery are coming.

In Confirmation, eighth and ninth grade teens explore their faith, learn the church’s history, meet people of other faiths, and spend time growing in relationship to God and one another. They have an adult mentor who walks through the process with them. They learn the Bible, church history, how our denomination works, how God, and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit interact with each of them and as our Triune God. Confirmation is a wonderful exploration of life with God!

Often, we see Confirmation as something for our church’s children only.

I love the story of Leslie Thornton. Let me tell you about Leslie. Years ago, Leslie walked through the doors of North Congregational Church with her friend Becky Hufferberger. Leslie had no church background. She hadn’t been to worship too often. She just wanted to learn about Jesus Christ and his Christians. She signed up for Confirmation. Leslie read everything I gave her! She studied her Confirmation books. She answered all the questions. She was a beautiful, receptive and completely engaged member of our Confirmation class. On Confirmation Sunday, I baptized and confirmed Leslie. You don’t have to be a member to be in Confirmation! Friends and others are welcome to join us, too! Bring your grandchildren and neighbors. There are many teens hungering for meaning. Confirmation is part of that search.

We have as many as 14 young men and women who are eligible for Confirmation this coming year! I will have one or two co-teachers. More on that soon! We hope they all join with us for this fun journey! If you have a friend, a grandchild or neighbor, they can come, too!

Blessings!

Tim



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# Education

by Dr. Karen Mazingo, Sabbatical Replacement Christian Education Director ([karen.mazingo@first-church.org](mailto:karen.mazingo@first-church.org))

## Confirmation Meeting Planned

An informational meeting will be held August 19 for those invited youth and their parents interested in Confirmation. We will meet in the church parlor at 10 a.m. prior to the 11 a.m. service. In Confirmation, eighth and ninth grade teens explore their faith, learn the church's history, meet people of other faiths, and spend time growing in relationship to God and one another. They each have an adult mentor who walks through the process with them. They learn the Bible, church history, how our denomination works, how God, and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit interact with each of them and as our Triune God. Confirmation is a wonderful exploration of life with God!



## Blessings of the Backpacks on August 26

During both services on Sunday, August 26 we will have the "Blessings 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 for the blessing. We will also have a special prayer for all those connected to educating our children and youth.

## Volunteers Needed for Christian Education

As we prepare for the fall program, we need volunteers to help prepare materials and classrooms for the fall while having lots of laughs and good conversation. Contact Karen Mazingo ([KarenMazingo@first-church.org](mailto:KarenMazingo@first-church.org)) if you can spare a morning or afternoon to help.

## Updating our Files

Parents/Grandparents of First Church: Periodically we need to update our records/class list for Sunday School at First Congregational Church. This year we are doing it online! We hope that you will complete the information so that we have the most current and accurate information. This will be sent out the beginning of August. Be sure to let us know if you did not receive the email. It is very important for us to know the best technology to contact you.

## Sunday School Begins September 9

The Christian Education year begins on September 9, with the Faith Formation hour starting for all ages at 10 a.m. This year's theme is "BUILD" based on 1 Corinthians 3:9 – "For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building." More information will be in the September newsletter, on the Web site and on our Facebook page.

## Celebrating our Legacy – September 23

Save the date when First Church will celebrate Legacy Sunday! This event will be an "Open House" for our congregation and neighbors to learn about the legacy of First Church. The West Lawn will be filled with fun activities and food after the morning worship services. The event will be from 12:30 – 2 p.m. More details will be coming in the September newsletter.



# From the Minister of Music

By Kevin Jones, Minister of Music

([kjones@first-church.org](mailto:kjones@first-church.org))



## Choir Pilgrimage a Great Success!

The Choir's recent pilgrimage to the United Kingdom was a great success, with the choir leading the musical worship at Norwich and Lincoln Cathedrals in mid-July. In addition, the choir got to sing choral evensong at an historic Norwich parish church, St. Peter Mancroft (<https://www.stpetermancroft.org.uk>). This evensong was an added bonus for the choir and came about because of a scheduling glitch at Norwich Cathedral. The foundation of St. Peter Mancroft was laid in 1075, actually pre-dating the Cathedral. The building is one of the finest examples of Perpendicular architecture in Norfolk. It was a treat to be with the fine people there, and worship together. Thank you to all who helped make this trip a possibility. If you weren't able to follow our blog, there's still time! Find this blog at <https://norwichlincolnchoirtrip2018.wordpress.com>.

## Choirs Start in September!

Our choirs will commence rehearsals early in September: First Church Choir begins on Thursday, September 6, at 7:15 p.m.; Jubilate Choir will begin its season on Saturday, September 8, with a retreat day from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.; Exultate Choir begins on Sunday, September 9, at 9 a.m. The First Church Ringers will start in November once Kevin Jones returns from sabbatical leave. All choirs have room for additional singers. If you are interested in becoming a member of any of the choirs, please contact Marty Worth, Program Manager, at [mworth@first-church.org](mailto:mworth@first-church.org), or 614-228-1741, x14.

Children in grades two through five are encouraged to join the Jubilate Choir. Please contact Sandra Mathias, Director, for more information. The Jubilate Choir rehearses Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Music Activities Room. Dr. Mathias may be reached at [sjmath5659@gmail.com](mailto:sjmath5659@gmail.com). The Jubilate Choir will hold its Fall Retreat Day on Saturday, September 8, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Youth in grades six through twelve are invited to join the Exultate Choir. They rehearse Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Choir Room. During Kevin Jones' sabbatical leave, this choir will be directed by Dr. Robert Delcamp.

All choir schedules (rehearsals and liturgical appearances) for the year are posted on the individual choir pages on the First Church website. Simply navigate to <http://www.first-church.org/Choirs.aspx> and follow the links on the left to find your choir. There are embedded Google calendars for each choir on each of their pages, as well as links to subscribe to the calendars if you so wish. I invite you to make use of these pages of information often. Anthem lists are also posted on these pages.

Happy Summer. See you in September.

## From the Minister of Music Sabbatical Replacement

by Robbe Delcamp ([rdelcamp@first-church.org](mailto:rdelcamp@first-church.org))

Greetings!

Back in January I received an email from someone named Kevin Jones inquiring about my availability as a sabbatical replacement, having gotten my name from a former student. Being a native of Cincinnati, I was familiar with First Church, having come up to concerts a couple of times while an undergraduate at CCM back in the 1960s. I was very intrigued with this possibility and decided to take him up on his offer. After my visit over the concert weekend in May, attending Sunday morning service and Evensong, hearing the wonderful choirs, splendid organs, and receiving a friendly and gracious welcome from everyone I met, I am glad that I did!



It will be a great joy to be a part of your worship life during Kevin's sabbatical and I look forward to a period of renewal, refreshment and energy in the weekly preparations to glorify God through great music. I keep in mind the prayer for Church Musicians and Artists:

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I'll see you on September 2.



## Concerts at First Church

Please save the date for the first Choral Evensong on Sunday, September 16, at 4 p.m. as the First Church Choir with organist Tyler Robertson present music of Kenneth Leighton, Stephen Caracciolo, and William Mathias in this first of monthly evensongs. Also in September, young virtuoso Monica Czausz plays an organ recital on Sunday, September 30, at 4 p.m. offering music of Praetorius, Bach, Guy Bovet, Parry, Seth Bingham, and Paul Creston on both Beckerath and Kimball organs.

# CONCERTS

## AT FIRST CHURCH

### 2018-2019

First Congregational Church • United Church of Christ  
444 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[www.concertsatfirstchurch.org](http://www.concertsatfirstchurch.org)

## Choral Evensong



4 pm



THE FIRST CHURCH CHOIR  
EASTER 2015

The First Church Choir sings Choral Evensong with organist Tyler W. Robertson  
Responses: Kenneth Leighton  
Psalm 84, chant by Parry  
Canticles: Stephen Caracciolo  
Anthem: William Mathias, "Make a Joyful Noise"



# CONCERTS

## AT FIRST CHURCH

### 2018-2019

First Congregational Church • United Church of Christ  
444 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[www.concertsatfirstchurch.org](http://www.concertsatfirstchurch.org)

## Monica Czausz organist



4pm



Young concert artist Monica Czausz performs on First Church's two great instruments!

"Monica Czausz is already causing a stir in organ circles."  
Scott Cantrell, *Dallas Morning News*, October 2016



The Concerts at First Church website, <http://www.concertsatfirstchurch.org> contains complete information on all 2018–19 concerts. Please visit the website to see the entire season. The yearly brochure is available and the annual appeal for donations is in full swing. If you are not on the mailing list, but would like to be, please contact Marty Worth, Program Manager, at [mworth@first-church.org](mailto:mworth@first-church.org), or 614-228-1741, x14. Thank you to volunteers Jim Fewlass, Barbara Clapham, Carol Gallagher, and many others who helped stuff envelopes, address and send the large mailing of the brochures.

# Church News

## Book Club

### Current fiction and nonfiction

By Mary Jacobson, Church Vitality, Jackie Dean and Elaine Warren

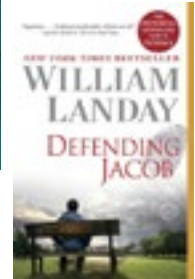
We would like to announce our next meeting dates and selected titles:

**Monday, August 9**, at 7 p.m. in Room A in the Education Wing.

We will discuss *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel

**Monday, September 10**, at 7 p.m. in Room A in the Education Wing.

We will discuss *Defending Jacob* by William Landay.



There will be light refreshments. Join us for a lively discussion and bring with you any recommendations for future selections.



### Sunday Construction Progress Tours: August 5 and September 2

Join the Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens for a brief tour to get an overview of the progress of the construction projects occurring both inside and outside of First Church. After the 9 a.m. service, meet Rev. Tim at the entrance of the Ralph Fanning Room, located on the first floor immediately across from the original church office. After the 11 a.m. service, the tour will begin at the chancel steps. The tours will last no more than 30 minutes.

## Help Restock the Good Samaritan Cupboards

By Marty Worth, Program Manager

Good Samaritan Fund is an ongoing mission of First Church. Utility needs are great as people try to catch up with utility payments so they are eligible for assistance going forward into the heating season. A big thank you to the congregation for the contribution of personal hygiene items. They are really appreciated. Our supply is running low again. We find the most desired items are:

- Men's and women's shampoo and body wash.
- Men's and women's deodorant is very much in demand.
- We have had members ask their dentists for donations of toothpaste and toothbrushes. The response has been positive, so if you are going to your dentist in the near future you might ask for such a donation. We are happy to write a letter acknowledging the donation.
- Disposable razors and shaving cream
- Feminine hygiene products
- Bars of soap

A good source for these items in full sizes are the various dollar stores. Please leave your donations in the brown bin outside the church office in the main hallway.

## Reorganization of Mailboxes

Mary Day Fewlass will be reorganizing the church member mailboxes soon. She will incorporate all new member mailboxes in alphabetical order.

# Justice and Mercy News

## Refugees Resettlement

By Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen

Recently the Justice and Mercy Committee of First Congregational Church invited all interested members to a meeting in the Fanning Room to discuss the possibilities of sponsoring a refugee family for resettlement in our community. More than 25 people showed up for a lively discussion with Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), represented by Tyler Reeves, their outreach coordinator.

In fact, refugee resettlement is not new to First Church. Betsy Zahn recalls having worked with a refugee family from Cambodia many years ago, and even before that with ESL (English as Second Language) tutoring for a Cuban refugee family in the Education Wing of our Church.

The first Cambodian families arrived in Columbus in the mid-nineteen-seventies. They came to First Church because of job opportunities that were offered by some Church members in a factory they owned, and since most of the refugees did not speak English, an assembly line type job was perfect for them.

Later, through official channels, a Cambodian family of a Dad and a Mom and seven children arrived and were warmly received by members of our congregation. A tragedy occurred when the father was killed in an automobile accident. Help and support were immediately offered to the bereft family, and close ties resulted. As the years went by, numerous graduation parties and even wedding invitations filled Betsy's life, and her husband complained later that he lost track of how many Cambodian weddings he and Betsy attended.

After all these years Betsy still fondly remembers how rewarding that experience had been, both for the community as well as for her personally.

## Send Help When Disasters Strike



Church World Service C(W.S) needs Personal Hygiene Kits, a gallon size bag containing toiletries which can be given to persons in crisis. Each kit's value is \$15 plus \$2 for shipping. The first step is our offering on August 5 for CWS. Justice and Mercy members will purchase the items for the kits and, on September 9, in fun and joy, adults and children will assemble the kits following both the 9 a.m and 11 a.m. service. Education Hour will be devoted to telling of CWS work around the world.

## Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment, and Rehabilitation Amendment

The Ohio Safe and Healthy Communities Campaign sent their appreciation for collecting signatures to qualify the Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment, and Rehabilitation Amendment for the November ballot. They reported delivery of more than 700,000 petition signatures to the Ohio Secretary of State's Office. The goal had been 300,000.

# House and Grounds News

## Women's and Family Restroom Project

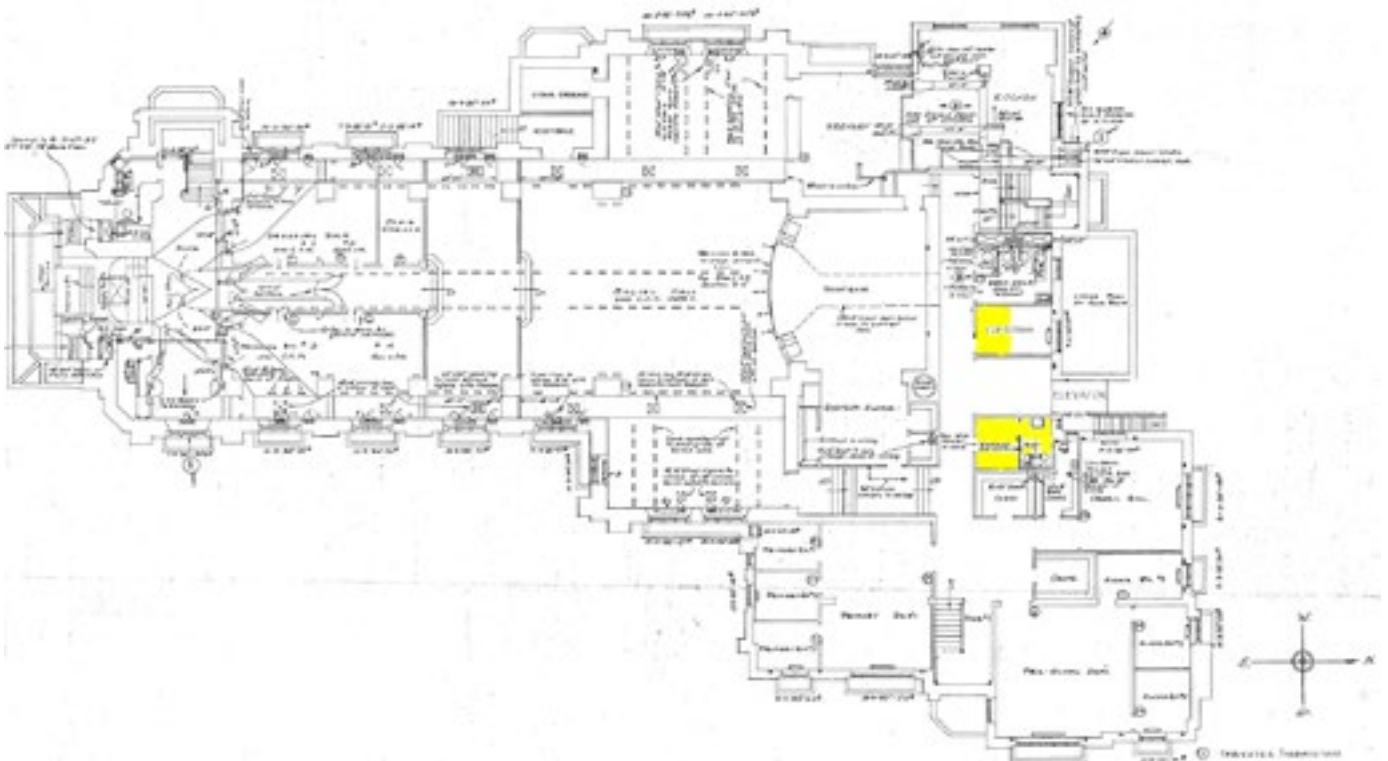
By Eric Klintworth, Project Manager

Construction began July 30 on the Women's and Family restroom project. If all goes well, the work should be finished by approximately Labor Day. The basement Women's restroom will be completely out of service during the construction.

The scope of the project is to 1) completely refurbish the basement Women's restroom and 2) build a new Family restroom in south half of custodian's office. Eric Klintworth is managing the project; Kyle Wingler is the general contractor. North (the rear of the building) is to the right in the drawings below.

### **History and Motivation**

- Women's restroom project initiated by Francille Firebaugh and Gail Johannes in 2016 due to the poor condition of the facilities and clumsy placement of the sink
- Making women's restroom fully ADA accessible would have required expensive moving of walls and would serve only women
- Family restroom addresses multiple needs:
  - ADA accessible facilities on ground floor available to both genders
  - Companion can accompany a disabled person, regardless of their gender
  - Parent can accompany a child, regardless of gender
  - Inherently gender-neutral for transgender persons, etc.
  - Adds toilet capacity for events
- Design completed by Schooley-Caldwell architects in 2017, paid from Firebaugh/Johannes donations





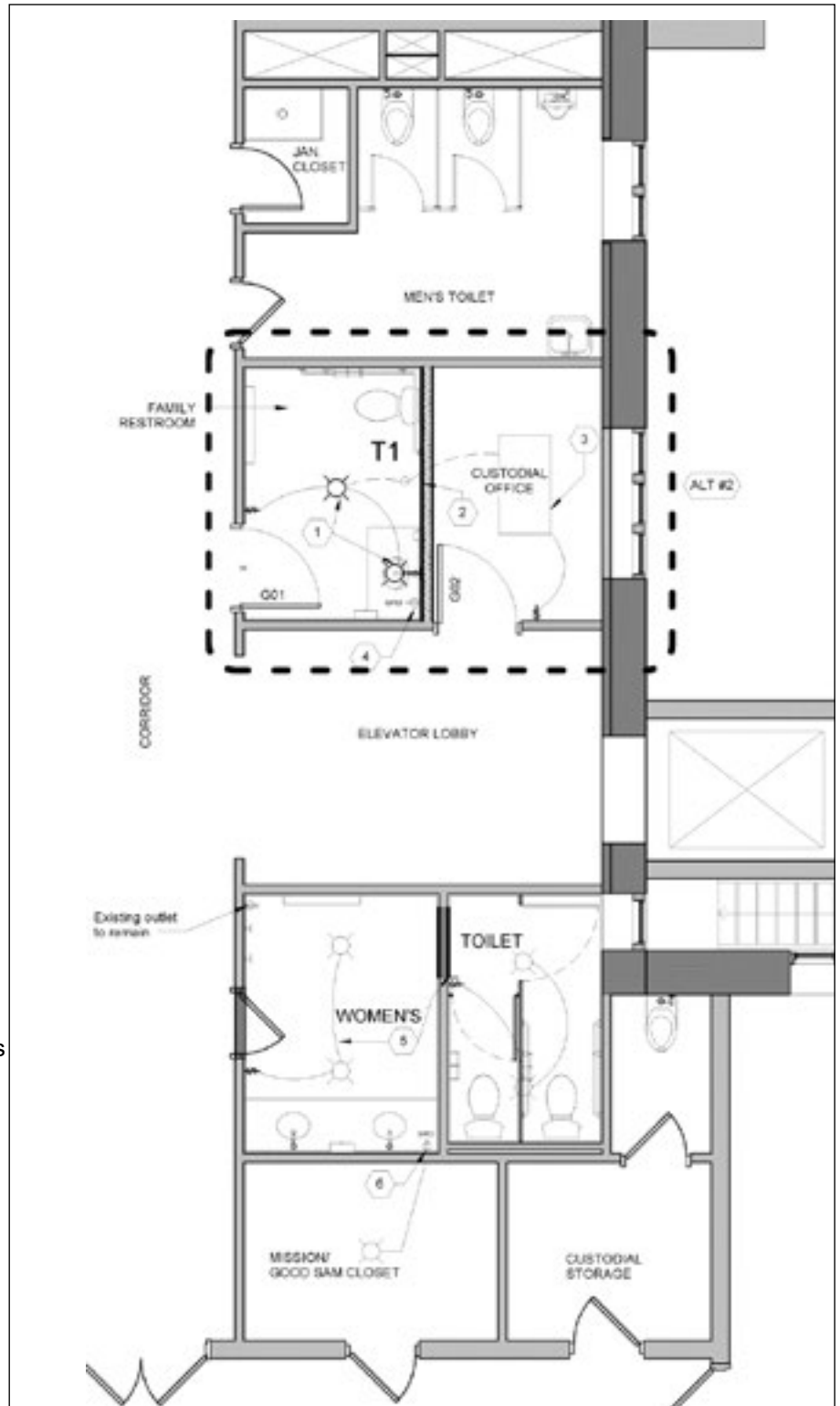
## Women's and Family Restroom Design Details

### Women's Restroom

- Remove existing sink in toilet room
- Add new countertop with double sinks on east wall of anteroom, accessible faucets
- Replace toilets with ADA height, high efficiency flush
- Replace partitions, reconfigure rear stall to full width of room
- Add handrails to make rear stall ambulatory (for those using cane or crutches)
- Add basket weave floor and subway wall tile in anteroom to match toilet room
- Replace floor and wall tile in toilet room with like tile (preferred to patching)
- Replace local plumbing lines
- Repair hallway door
- Remove toilet room door, retain frame
- Reuse baby changing station

### Family Restroom

- Occupies south half of custodian's office, new wall splits room in two
- Easy to find, between Men's and Women's restrooms, adjacent to elevator lobby
- Enlarge existing doorway to ADA size, new red oak door to match existing doors
- New, fully ADA accessible restroom with 5' diameter wheelchair turning area
- ADA height toilet with grab bars
- ADA height sink with accessible faucet
- Adequate room for a companion or parent
- Baby changing station
- Tiled floor and walls to match existing bathrooms
- New plumbing supply and drain lines and tie-ins in sub-basement
- Cut new doorway in elevator lobby for the new, smaller, office in north half of room
- New ADA size door with window for north half



# Ohio Conference UCC News

## Central Southeast Ohio Association Welcomes New Administrative Minister Rev. Jim Nolan



Please welcome the Central Southeast Ohio Association's new Administrative Minister, Rev. James Nolan! The Personnel Committee and the Association Council are excited about the gifts and energy Jim brings to this position.

A native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, he is happily married to his high school sweetheart, Cami. Between them they have seven children and 18 grandchildren. Jim is a graduate of Indiana University (and still a diehard Hoosier basketball fan) with a bachelor's in journalism, an MBA from Colorado State and a master of divinity from Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania.

He spent nearly four decades as an award-winning journalist/editor and publishing executive at big city newspapers (Miami, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Denver) before trading in pen for pulpit as a United Church of Christ pastor. Before relocating back to Columbus, Jim served churches in Fairview Heights, IL and Wadsworth, OH. Between his experience in business, his love of the church and his eagerness to take on new challenges Jim has much to offer the Association. We are grateful his journey has led him here.

Jim started with the conference on July 16. During the week, Jim will be available Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. He may be reached by email at jimn@ocucc.org., through the main Association number, 614-885-0722, ext 212 or on his cell, 614-716-8519. After he settles into his new duties, Jim plans to be available for guest preaching requests.

## Meet Our New Transitional Conference Minister: Rev. David Long-Higgins



Your Board of Directors held a special meeting on June 11 in which we approved Rev. David M. Long-Higgins as our new Transitional Conference Minister. He will begin his ministry with us on September 1.

Rev. Long-Higgins graduated from Heidelberg University in Tiffin, and from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. He is currently the Senior Pastor at David's United Church of Christ in Canal Winchester, Ohio, where he has served since 1996. He has been active in the wider church, most notably serving on the Global Ministries Board for the past nine years, three years on the Wider Church Ministry Board, and two years on the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ. He has also been active

within Central Southeast Association and the Ohio Conference.

The Search Committee was impressed with Dave's passion, spirituality, and a deep understanding of the current reality within the Ohio Conference. It was also impressed with his communication skills, both in person and in writing, and felt these would be critical as the conference considers the recommendations from the Vision Team.



Family to Family is a free class for family members, caregivers, and partners of individuals living with mental illness. Contact: Karen Cousins (614) 501-6264 or karen@namifc.org.

We are offering two classes for the balance of 2018:

**Sunday, August 12-September 23, 2018** (no class September 2). This a 6-week class; it covers the same material as the standard 12-week class. Time: 1:00-5:30 p.m. Location: NAMI Ohio, 1225 Dublin Road, Suite 125, Columbus 43215.

*NOTE: Registration is full for the August 12 Family-to-Family class. However, you can submit a registration form to be added to the wait list or register for the 12-week class beginning September 13.*

**Thursday, September 13-December 6, 2018** (no class November 22).

Time: 6:30-9:00 p.m. Location: Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center, 420 North James Road, Columbus 43219.

Registration form: [http://www.namifranklincounty.org/uploads/3/4/9/5/34955003/f2f\\_2018\\_registration\\_form.pdf](http://www.namifranklincounty.org/uploads/3/4/9/5/34955003/f2f_2018_registration_form.pdf)

# First Church Joys and Concerns

**MEMBERS** Celeste Feather; Melissa Kulwicki; Jude Gelfius; Martha Loy; Jane Weddle; Mary Kay Beall Carter; John Carter; Wayne Redenbarger; Andrew MacGregor; Wally Giffen; Lindy Miller; and Carl Miller; and those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Malini Gnanatheeban, on the death of her mother Dorothy Sushlia.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY** Ben Wiant; Caleb Secor, grandson of Dennis Secor; Joyce Marcum, sister of Betty Conn; and Brooke Chute, cousin of Amy Wagner; and those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Thalia Lewis, on the death of her brother, Josh Lewis.

We offer special prayers for Mark Williams, Director of Christian Education, who is on sabbatical through August 21, and for Kevin Jones, Minister of Music, who begins his sabbatical on August 6.

We continue to pray for the Vision Team of the Ohio Conference UCC.

**THROUGHOUT THE WORLD** We pray for those who feel the threat to democracy around the world. We pray for immigrants and refugees fleeing violence and abuse around the world. We pray for those affected by natural disasters around the world. We pray for those who suffer from brain diseases and their caregivers.

**IN GOD'S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE:** This month in the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we pray with and for the following people and churches:

- *Week of August 5:* Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea
- *Week of August 12:* Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger
- *Week of August 19:* Liberia, Serra Leone
- *Week of August 26:* Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bussau, Senegal

**MISSIONARIES** This month we pray the following missionaries:

- *Week of August 5:* Bosela and Brigitte Eale serving in Kenya
- *Week of August 12:* Loren McGrail serving in Israel/Palestine
- *Week of August 19:* Carmelo Alvarez serving in Venezuela
- *Week of August 26:* Mishan Bakalian serving in Lebanon

*If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact the church office ([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 [minister@first-church.org](mailto:minister@first-church.org) or 614-228-1741, ext. 13).*

# August Calendar

## Wednesday, August 1

11 a.m. – Book Study – Nursery

## Sunday, August 5

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion  
– Parish Hall

10 a.m. – First Church Choir Warm Up – Choir Room

10:10 a.m. – Tim's Construction Progress

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

12:15 p.m. – Tim's Construction Progress

## Monday, August 6

Noon – Care Ministry Meeting – Ralph Fanning Room

7 p.m. – Book Club – Nursery

## Tuesday, August 7

11:45 a.m. – Stewardship Meeting – Children's Library

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room

5:30 p.m. – Sacred Earth – Ralph Fanning Room

7 p.m. – Justice and Mercy – Ralph Fanning Room

## Wednesday, August 8

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Children's Library

## Thursday, August 9

7 p.m. – Security Team – Ralph Fanning Room

## Saturday, August 11

8:30 a.m. – House and Grounds – Ralph Fanning Room

10 a.m. – First Church Quilters – Parish Family Room

## Sunday, August 12

9 a.m. – Worship : Morning Prayer and Holy Communion  
– Parish Hall

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

## Monday, August 13

9 a.m. – Good Samaritan Day – Ralph Fanning Room

6:30 p.m. – Christian Education Meeting –  
Mark Williams' Office

7 p.m. – Trustees – Ralph Fanning Room

## Tuesday, August 14

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Children's Library

7 p.m. – Executive Committee – Nursery

## Wednesday, August 15

11 a.m. – Book Study – Nursery

## Sunday, August 19

9 a.m. – Worship : Morning Prayer and Holy Communion  
– Parish Hall

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

## Monday, August 20

**Deadline for Newsletter Articles**

## Tuesday, August 21

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room

7 p.m. – Council – Nursery

## Wednesday, August 22

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Children's Library

## Thursday, August 23

10 a.m. – CCAD Move In Welcome – North Parking Lot

## Sunday, August 26

9 a.m. – Worship : Morning Prayer and Holy Communion  
– Parish Hall

11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall

## Monday, August 27

7 p.m. – Deacons Meeting – Education Wing Room D

7 p.m. – Personnel Meeting – Parish Family Room

## Tuesday, August 28

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room

6 p.m. – Laundry Love – WashLand Laundromat,  
1469 West Broad Street

## Wednesday, August 29

10:30 a.m. – CCAD Student Involvement Fair –  
CCAD Campus

## August Fellowship Hour Schedule

August 5	Hosea
August 12	<b>Currently no host</b>
August 19	Romans
August 26	Kings

## August Mission Offering Schedule

August 5	Church World Service Hygiene Kits
August 12	Gladden Community House
August 19	Sanctuary
August 26	ACLU Ohio Foundation

## August Acolyte Schedule

August 5	Jack Patterson	Matty Provenzano
August 12	Sammy Myers	Maggie Myers
August 19	Grace Glaros	Lincoln Glaros
August 26	Matty Provenzano	Ruby Holt

## Member Birthdays in August

8/1 Isabella Kirker  
 8/2 Helen Spears  
 8/3 Lourdes Henderson  
 Melody Leidheiser  
 Nancy Livingston  
 8/4 Dayna McCrary  
 Bill Rhoads  
 8/5 Deb Anderson  
 Ellen Boriin  
 Barb Clapham  
 8/6 Meg Rhoads  
 Denise Vogt  
 8/7 Patrick DeSabato  
 Miguel Gonzalez  
 8/8 Donna Vogt  
 8/9 Dan Harkins  
 8/10 Gabrielle Boykin  
 Bill Faith  
 Fraylee Williams  
 8/11 Greg Buzzell  
 8/12 Madellyn Collins  
 Lesley Schaab  
 Mary Weaver  
 8/13 Bobby Carrington  
 Valerie Conlin-Losinski  
 8/14 Caleb Frank  
 8/15 Chuck Atkinson  
 Laura Erickson  
 8/16 Mary Kay Beall Carter  
 Will Fernald  
 8/17 Jacques Washington  
 8/18 Dennis Secor  
 8/19 Melissa Kulwicki  
 Karen Sterrett  
 Henry Unkovic  
 8/20 Amy Trace  
 8/21 Chris Glaros  
 Janice White  
 8/22 Chutney Anderson  
 Duan Cannon  
 Isabella Collins  
 Mark Sholl  
 Alaina Thompson  
 8/23 Peter Spofforth  
 Lissa Wade  
 8/24 Charles Drummond  
 Susan Henry  
 Tom Stewart  
 8/25 Dan Axt  
 Christy Carlson  
 8/26 Michael Kasler  
 Jean Wetmore

8/27 Sue Cook  
 8/28 Russ Kelm  
 Anna Rhoads  
 Jim Velo  
 8/29 Rebecca Baird  
 Finnegan Miller  
 8/30 Andrew Batchelor  
 Emma Bhatt  
 Brian Holt  
 Grace Johnson  
 Melissa Mitchell  
 Mia Provenzano  
 8/31 Karen Mozingo  
 Brad West



## Member Anniversaries in August

8/3 Margaret and Lyle Barkhymer  
 8/4 Mary Kay Beall Carter and John Carter  
 8/7 Loretta and Joe Hoffman  
 Catherine and Steven Kennedy II  
 8/8 Holly and Bill Heer III  
 Cynthia and Alex Throckmorton  
 Geoff and Andy Smith-Verhage  
 8/11 Amy and Chris Brooks  
 8/14 Barbara Mason and Rhonda Poirier  
 8/15 Lauren Muscott and Josh Carter  
 8/16 Lisa Morris and Kent Shimeall  
 8/17 Diane and Larry Dixon  
 8/18 Betty Sparhawk and Nazmi Anik  
 8/20 Karen and Steve Sterrett  
 8/21 Dana and Hugh Schultz  
 8/24 Joyce and Dan Ward  
 8/25 Chris and Tom Farquhar  
 8/27 Melanie and Mark Brown

## Please let us know...

if you have a new address, telephone number or email address, or if we've missed your birthday or anniversary. We strive to keep our database as accurate as possible, but we need your input to keep us up-to-date.

Thank you!

*Amy Wagner, Office Manager (awagner@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. <i>(on sabbatical June 21-August 21)</i>
Sabbatical Replacement Director of Christian Education	Karen Mozingo, Ph.D.
Commissioned Minister for Social Justice	Tom Brownfield
Commissioned Minister for Spiritual Formation and Direction	Jacquelyn Dean
Organist/Choirmaster Emeritus	G. Dene Barnard
Jubilate and Exultate Choir Director	Sandra Mathias, Ph.D.
Business Manager	Sharon Leidheiser
Program Manager	Martha Worth
Office Manager	Amy Wagner
Building & Grounds Superintendent	Mark Dahnke
Custodians	Ross McNarry, Jimy Sibrian
Wedding Coordinators	Janet Axt, Margaret Cipriani, Diana Chandler, Amy Wagner, Katie Wagner
Nursery Staff	Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold, Miranda Brooks

## **DIACONATE**

Senior Deacon	Janet Newcity
Deacons	Anthony Brown, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Bert Cook, Martha Fulleman, Shelly Gies, Todd Jacobson, Dayna McCrary, Karen Mozingo, David Nassau, Cori Page, Allison Lowery Palmer, Jorge Polo, Alex Rodriguez, James Velo

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Moderator	Joe Baszynski
Moderator-Elect	Lynn Wallich
Treasurer	Joe Hoffman
Assistant Treasurer	Matt Myers
Secretary	Nancy Loy
Assistant Secretary	Jim Griffin

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Administration	Chris Glaros, Elect - Greg Kellison
Church Growth/Vitality	Tom Kiesel and Mary Anne Jacobson, co-chairs; Elect - Maria Brown and Lisa Fravel-Dean
Education	Chris Gelpi, Elect - Jennifer Provenzano
House & Grounds	Gary Leidheiser, Elect - Mark Brown
Justice & Mercy	Dawn George, Elect - Nicole Moss
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Joel Mathias, Elect - Drew Wade
Nominating Chair	Kent Shimeall
Member-at-large	Pavan Peter
Youth-at-large	Miriam Myers
Deacon Council Representative	Todd Jacobson

## **TRUSTEES**

Chairperson	Chris Farquhar
Treasurer	Cindy Conn
Trustees	Brian Cave, Tom Hadley, John Martin, Sheldon Taft, Elaine Warren, Keith White, Gerry Worth



FIRST  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH

**The First Congregational Church, UCC**

444 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741

Email: [home@first-church.org](mailto:home@first-church.org)

Web site: [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Closed Major Holidays

**“An Open & Affirming Faith Community”**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS**

Worship at 9 a.m. ~ Parish Hall

Worship at 11 a.m. ~ Sanctuary