

Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

August 23, 2020

This Week at First Church

8/30

9 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Zoom Chat
11 a.m. Worship
12 Noon Virtual Coffee Hour

8/31

12 noon Grief Support Group
7 p.m. Book Club

9/1

7 p.m. Justice & Mercy Mtg

9/2

2:30 p.m. Live Stream Task Force Mtg
6 p.m. Christian Education

9/5

10:30 a.m. Sacred Earth

First Church Book Club

All are invited to join the First Church Book Club!
The group meets next on Monday, August 31 (on Zoom)
at 7 p.m. The book selection for the meeting is *Rust: A
Memoir of Steel and Grit* by Elise Colette Goldbach.

The two final selections for 2020 are:

The Lost Family, How DNA Is Upending Who We Are by
Libby Copeland
The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

If you have question or would like
more information please email
communications@first-church.org

Volunteer Opportunity

We are making lunches and helping for
THE LARGEST TABLE at St. JOHN'S the
third Wednesday of each month, through the
end of the year.

The next date is September 16.
9:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. Making Lunches
Volunteers are needed. Masks are required.
Contact Rev. Emily Corzine for information.

**Family Camping at Templed Hills
through Labor Day**

(Reservations from now through September 7)

If you'd like to bring your family camping
anytime between now and September 7,
the Heartland Conference of the UCC are
sponsoring family camping at Templed Hills
Camp. All reservations from now through
September 7 to reserve a cabin or tent site.
Visit [http://www.heartlanducc.org/all-project-
list/templed-hills-partial-re-opening-in-july/](http://www.heartlanducc.org/all-project-list/templed-hills-partial-re-opening-in-july/)
for more information!

How to be an Antiracist Book Study

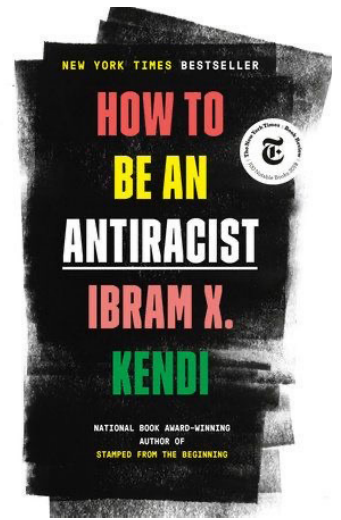
Beginning in mid-September, Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens will lead both a mid-week, mid-morning and a Monday evening class on Ibram X. Kendi's book, *How to Be An Antiracist*. Starting Wednesday morning, September 16 at 10:30 a.m. and then again on Monday night, September 21 at 7 p.m., Dr. Ahrens invites the entire church community and any friends of First Church to join in the study of this important book. Wednesday classes will be held September 16 and 30, and October 7 and 21 from 10:30 - 11:45 a.m. The Monday night classes will be held September 21, October 5, and October 19 from 7-8:30 p.m.

This book is a "must read." Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's concept of antiracism is reenergizing and reshaping the conversation about racial justice in America. He points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. Instead of working with the policies and system we have in place, Kendi asks us to think about what an antiracist society might look like, and how we can play an active role in building it.

In his memoir, Kendi weaves together an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science--including the story of his own awakening to antiracism--bringing it all together in a cogent, accessible form. He begins by helping us rethink our most deeply held, if implicit, beliefs and our most intimate personal relationships (including beliefs about race and IQ and interracial social relations) and reexamines the policies and larger social arrangements we support.

How to Be an Antiracist is an essential book for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step of contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society.

Information on signing up for this study will be coming soon. The book is available on Amazon.com, and a recorded version is available on audible.com. If you would like to show your support by purchasing the book from an Independent Black Owned Book store, you can find a list of several options here: <https://lithub.com/you-can-order-today-from-these-black-owned-independent-bookstores/>



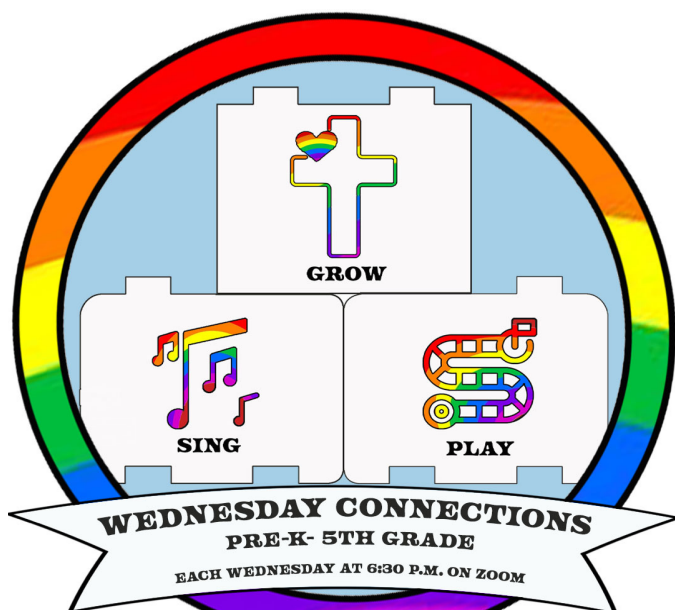
Online Faith Formation Classes will begin in Mid-September.

Children ages Pre K-5th grade will meet with our teachers each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., for 30 mins. on Zoom. There will be singing, games, and a Bible lesson.

Youth 6th grade and up will meet online for an hour each Sunday for combination of Sunday school and Youth Group.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Williams (mwilliams@first-church.org)

Join us to strengthen your Child's church friendships and grow in their faith!



2020 Summer Sermon Series



“For Such a Time As This: Seven Lessons for Living Through Pandemic Times” Based on Esther 4:14

We are living in trying times. These times are like nothing most of us have ever experienced. There are confluences of pandemics of with COVID-19, racism, economic hardship, and poverty all in the midst of a Presidential Election Cycle create challenges like we have never seen. How do we find our spiritual balance in times such as these?

Over the next seven weeks, we will engage a seven-part sermon series entitled, For Such a Time As This: Seven Lessons for Living Through Pandemic Times. Based on the story of Esther, Rev. Emily Corzine and I will present seven lessons for life in these times.

Please join us every Sunday on YouTube or Facebook Live. Also, share these lessons with others. Spread the word of God and the reflections we share to get us through times like these.

Blessings and love to you,
Tim

Sermon Titles for 2020 Summer Sermon Series

July 26 – “Get Into ‘Good Trouble’”

August 2 – “Learn from the Past and Don’t Repeat it”

August 9 – “Make Your Life Matter”

August 16 - “Use the VOTE intelligently, conscientiously and Prayerfully”

August 23 – “Live in and out of Murky Waters”

August 30 – “Give Yourself Permission”

September 6 - “Remember, Restore, Renew”

Virtual Coffee Hour



Sundays on Zoom
Immediately Following the Service Livestream

**Join the Virtual Coffee Hour,
immediately following each
Worship Livestream.**

9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/86527907526?pwd=L014R1dldmE4U-
zlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L014R1dldmE4U-zlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09)

Meeting ID: 865 2790 7526

Password: 601438

11:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/88494216574?pwd=cDNVS0dKaEdvT-
GhMcVoZc0twU2pyZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88494216574?pwd=cDNVS0dKaEdvT-GhMcVoZc0twU2pyZz09)

Meeting ID: 884 9421 6574

Password: 693317

As the November 3, 2020 election quickly approaches, visit the Ohio Secretary of State at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-ballot/>. There you will find information on voter registration, update your voting information, request an absentee ballot, any any other questions about voting in Ohio. You must register or update your voter registration no later than 30 days prior to an election. Don't miss your chance to make voice heard!

Keep in Prayer

Tim Ahrens; Kelly Dodd; Betsy Zahn; Dana Navin Schultz; Lindy Miller; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz, Larry Walquist.

Pamm Greene, former First Church member; Reid Bender, friend of Jen Provenzano; Talia Cook, granddaughter of Frank and Sue Cook; Jeffery Collins, father of Will Zimmerman's girlfriend, Kalee Collins; Brent Hatch, father of Annie West's partner Evin Hatch; Dwight and Elaine Holt, parents of David Holt; Susan Gatton, sister of Amy Wagner; Caleb Creech, brother-in-law to Sarah Ahrens Stadie, to be deployed to Afghanistan; Jane Mead, mother of Cindy Deliman; Will Nirote, grandson of Rev. Bill and Arevena Nirote; Tito Sanchez, friend of Dayna McCrary; and Amy Smith, sister of Sarah Lange; Calvin Roth, father of Julie Roth; Erna Temple, Mother of David Temple.

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including LJ Cooks and Gretchen Weller on the death of their brother-in-law and Alexi and Kylie's uncle.

Emergency Pastoral Care Line

If you need to be in touch with Rev. Ahrens or Rev. Corzine, for emergency pastoral care or name a prayer request, please call this number **614-733-4547** and leave a message. Someone will return your call as needed.

Give

At First Church, our financial resources enable us to “Enter to worship, depart to serve.” You can support the mission and ministry of First Church now by scanning the QR Code, using either EasyTithe or PayPal, by visiting www.first-church.org/give.aspx, or by sending your offering directly to First Congregational Church, 444 E Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. For more information, please contact Annette McCormick at amccormick@first-church.org or Rev. Emily Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org.

Cash and designated checks go to Equitas Health. Equitas Health whose mission is to be a gateway to good health for those at risk of or affected by HIV/AIDS, and for the LGBTQ community, and for anyone seeking a welcoming healthcare home. to learn more visit <https://equitashealth.com/locations/columbus-clintonville/>

Thank you for your generosity.



Upcoming Mission Offerings

- August 30** Equitas Health
September 6 Mid Ohio Workers
September 13 Celebrate One
September 20 Good Samaritan
September 27 Trustee Choice: Legacy Sunday

Church Leadership

Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, M.Div., D. Min.

Associate Minister Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, M.Div.

Minister of Music Kevin Jones, M.M., M.S.E.

Director of Christian Education Mark S. Williams, M.Ed.

Administrative Manager Amy Wagner

Office Assistant Pat Patterson

Communications Consultant Melissa Kulwicki

Business Administrator Annette McCormick

Financial Assistant Pam Mantor

Building and Grounds Superintendent Mark Dahnke

Building and Grounds Assistant Darrell Cross

Custodian Jimmy Sibrian

Wedding Coordinators Amy Wagner, Janet Newcity, Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani, Katie Wagner

Nursery Staff Miranda Brooks, Norma Secor, Blessing Weekly, Miranda Gumbita

Senior Deacon James Velo

Deacons Carol Ernst-King, Shelly Gies, Sarah Giffen, Scott Graham, Greg Halbe, Lanier Holt, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen, James Lowe, Dayna McCrary, Allison Lowery Palmer, Mark Sholl, Andrew Smith-Verhage, Al Waddell, Marty Worth

Church Council Leadership

Moderator Lynn Wallich; **Moderator-elect** Alec Deitz;

Treasurer Dennis Secor; **Treasurer-elect** Matt Myers;

Secretary Jim Griffin; **Secretary-elect** Peter Murray

Board of Trustees

Chairperson Brian Cave **Trustees** Allen Baker, Sue Cook, Cindy Conn, Kevin Cubick, Christine Farquar, Tom Hadley, Jim Kyle, Elaine Warren

Commissioners

Administration Andy Bensing; **Administration-elect** Brad West; **Church Growth** Cheryl Hoskinson; **Church Growth-elect** Elisha Hardekopf; **Church Vitality** Fran Panek; **Church Vitality-elect** Lee Kiesel; **Education** Stacie Sholl; **Education-elect** Margaret Graham; **House & Grounds** Victor John; **House & Grounds-elect** Eric Klintworth; **Justice & Mercy** Lauren Muscott; **Justice & Mercy-elect** Kaye Martin; **Music, Arts & Heritage** David Mailer; **Music, Arts & Heritage-elect** Scott Jones; **Members-at-Large** Mel Prendergast & Mia Provenzano; **Nominating Committee Chair** Joe Baszynski