

*Enter to Worship*  
**Depart to Serve**

December 6, 2020

**This Week at First Church**

12/6  
 9 a.m. Advent II Worship  
 9:45 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour  
 11 a.m. Advent 2 Worship  
 12 Noon Virtual Coffee Hour  
 12:30 p.m. Confirmation  
 6:30 p.m. Youth Connections

12/7  
 7 p.m. New Members Class

12/8  
 7 p.m. Executive Committee Mtg

12/9  
 5:45 p.m. Personnel Committee Mtg  
 7 p.m. Service of Remembrance and Hope

12/10  
 7 p.m. Security Team Mtg

12/12  
 8:30 a.m. House & Grounds Committee Mtg

*Home for Christmas*

Advent & Christmas 2020 at First Church

Sunday, November 29  
 9 and 11 a.m. Advent I  
 "It's Sufficient"  
 Rev. Corzine

1 p.m. Advent in a Bag

Sunday, December 6  
 9 and 11 a.m. Advent II  
 "Comfort Found at Home"  
 Rev. Ahrens

Wednesday, December 9  
 7 p.m. Blue Christmas:  
 A Service of Remembrance and Hope

Sunday, December 13  
 9 and 11 a.m. Advent III  
 "Candlelight from our Windows"  
 Rev. Ahrens

12:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Play

Sunday, December 20  
 9 and 11 a.m. Advent IV  
 "Rich Promises"  
 Rev. Corzine

4 p.m. The Christmas Festival  
 of Lessons and Carols

December 24  
 3 p.m. Christmas Eve  
 Family Christmas Eve Service  
 7:30 p.m. "Returning Home"  
 Rev. Ahrens

11 p.m. "Opening the Doors to our Hearts"  
 Rev. Ahrens



*Blue Christmas:  
 A Service  
 of  
 Remembrance and Hope*

Wednesday, December 9  
 7 p.m.

## Faith Formation

Faith Formation is online with great lessons and fun as we grow in our faith. The PreK–5th grades will have a Wednesday Connections video lesson posted each Wednesday for families to view at their convenience.

The Youth Connections (6th–12th) will meet each Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. The link for the youth will be sent out through email.

## Some Favorites Cancelled

The pandemic and the rise of cases has caused us to cancel our annual keepsake ornament this year. We hope to reinstate the program next year.

Also, our youth will not be able to make and sell our famous fudge due to Covid restrictions.

We appreciate all your support, and we look forward to our spring flower sale.

## Children's Christmas Play

The pandemic cannot get in the way of our children and sharing the good news of Christ's birth. Our Mistletoe Marchers will present the ABCs of Christmas and our older elementary children will present "O Zoom All Ye Faithful" on **Sunday, December 13 at 12:30 p.m.** It will be online so watch for details on the links and be sure to share with grandparents, uncles, and aunts.



## Health Care Workers Notes of Appreciation

We are partnering with OhioHealth to give words of encouragement to health care staff during this challenging time. Hold them in your daily prayers. Anyone can participate (crayons, pictures, stickers, etc). Offer words of kindness, wish them patience or courage, or thank them for their sacrifice during this difficult time.

Address your note: Health Care Worker, c/o First Congregational Church, UCC, 444 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Rev. Emily has more information if you need, [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org). There is no deadline, as we will be collecting these on an ongoing basis through the winter months!

## The Power of the Plate: Love in Generosity 2021 Annual Campaign Update

The Annual Stewardship Campaign committee is pleased to report the total pledge revenue as of 12/2 is \$684,424. We have 180 of 276 known giving units received. So far, 110 have increased their pledges over 2020. We stand at 65% of our Giving Unit Goal. We have 96 giving units that have not pledged for 2021. Of the 96 units that have not pledged we have \$191,993 outstanding over last year's pledges. We invite everyone to participate in getting us to 100% participation.

If you haven't pledged before and you wish to support the ministry and mission of First Church, we invite you to do so through this link:

<https://www.first-church.org/Stewardship.aspx>

If you have not already submitted your intention for 2021, please inform the church office, [Amccormick@first-church.org](mailto:Amccormick@first-church.org). We invite you to participate in the mission and ministry of First Church.



## Join the Virtual Coffee Hour!

Immediately following each Worship Livestream.

**9 a.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L-014R1dIdmE4UzIUNdlnZkZ4ZURldz09>

**Meeting ID: 865 2790 7526**

**Password: 601438**

**11 a.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88494216574?pwd=cDN-VS0dKaEdvTGhMcVoZc0twU2pyZz09>

**Meeting ID: 884 9421 6574**

**Password: 693317**

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## 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 **614-733-4547** and leave a message. Someone will return your call as needed.

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## Pastoral Visits

Rev. Emily has office hours at 10 a.m. on Thursdays. This could be a time to chat, discuss pastoral concerns or have prayer. These are 20 minute blocks beginning at 10 a.m. Contact Rev. Emily for a time slot at [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org).

## Keep In Prayer

Rev. Herb Goetz, diagnosed with COVID, and Mary Ann Goetz; Pat Liebchen; Mary Kay and John Carter; Dana Navin Schultz; Lindy Miller; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz.

Judy Burkholder, friend of Donice Wooster; Olive Weller, grandmother of Gretchen Weller; Strick Strickland, nephew of Pat Patterson; Jonathan and Will Nirote, son and grandson of Bill and Arevena Nirote; Bob Prickett, friend of Steve Ferris; Michael Swift, son of Jilda Swift; Tom and Susan Murrell; Erna Temple, mother of David Temple; Dwight Elaine Holt, parents of David Holt; and Jane Mead, mother of Cindy Deliman; Letina Reda, the mother of Million, who is very concerned about her father and brother in a refugee camp in Ethiopia/Eritrea.

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen on the loss of her brother Jim Reuchlin; Gretchen Weller on the loss of her grandmother Betty Norman; family and friends of former staff member, Bruce Vaughn; and Kathy Reed on the loss of her 97-year-old, WWII veteran uncle Don Detmer from COVID19; and those who suffer from COVID19 including Glen Halbe, father of Greg Halbe; Andrew Gatton, nephew of Amy Wagner; the Fred Williams family, cousins of Mark Williams with their entire family and grandchildren; Johanna Guerrero, daughter of Antionette Koolemans-Beynen; Robert Reber; Ashley Warner, who is 6 months pregnant and friend of Melva Fisher; and Kathy Milia, aunt of Mel Prendergast.

## 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 presented below, using either EasyTithe or PayPal, by visiting [www.first-church.org/give.aspx](http://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](mailto:amccormick@first-church.org).



Cash and designated checks go to **The Downtowners**, an ecumenical ministry serving the Columbus downtown campuses, whose mission is to be a caring presence to the students and faculty in downtown colleges and universities. This is accomplished through service and programs that enhance the quality of life and answer the call of the Gospel to make life sacred for all people. Thank you for your generosity

To learn more about The Downtowners visit <http://www.downtownersministry.org>

## Upcoming Mission Offerings

December 13 Bethlehem on Broad Street (BOBS)  
December 20 Columbus Coalition for the Homeless  
December 27 J. Jireh Development Corp

## 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  
**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 Farquhar, 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