

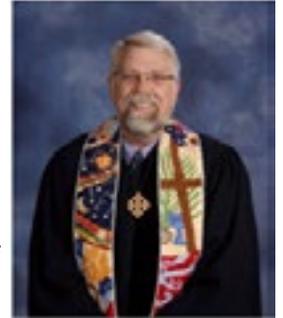


What Brings You Hope?

By Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” Hebrew 11:1

On September 13, I shared in the baptism of my grandson Benton Myles Ahrens. It was one of the happiest moments of my life. While I loved the whole experience, there was one moment that stood out. The practice of the Catholic Church in which I was co-celebrating Benton’s baptism with Fr. Tom Dragga was that every single person present made the sign of the cross on Benton’s forehead. As each person stepped forward, their eyes lit up as he and they locked into looks of love. Jesus tells us to become like little children as we enter the Kingdom of Heaven. I saw the promise of the Kingdom of Heaven unfolding before me as Benton’s family and friends were all blessed by him. Roles reversed and the ones bringing the blessings were actually “becoming like little children.” The Blessers were blessed!



Hope stepped forward and was embraced by Love.

What brings you hope? Perhaps the answer is simply – worshiping with my beloved friends and church family at First Church. I hope so. This will be a great month to practice Hope in worship. November will be filled with Hope Stepping Forward in Faith!

We begin on November 1 (remember to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night). It is All Saints’ Day. We will remember our beloved friends and members who have entered eternal life in the last year. They are: Jack Davis, Georgia Swinger, Marilee Schneider, Marie Pfeiffer, Jim Roehm, Bill Edwards, Gunter Garbe, Chuck Kelley, Amos White and Rev. Keene Lebold. During worship at 9 and 11 a.m., we also invite you to raise up the names of your family and loved ones who have passed away to eternal life in this last year.

We will also step forward with our 2016 tithes and pledges in church on November 1 as we “Step Forward in Hope.” Please pray about your generous commitments to First Church for the coming year and come ready to share your blessings for the mission and ministry of our beloved church. We know that Great Givers make a Great Church! Let’s be the greatest givers of all in 2016! My communion meditation is “Generous Resurrection.”

November 8 will bring us together for Veteran’s Day recognition. We will celebrate the men and women who serve our country and those who have gone before us in service to our nation. Looking at Ruth 4:16, my sermon title is “Naomi’s Baby Boy.”

November 15 is our day to bring non-perishable items for Thanksgiving! Here is the list of items to bring for those who are suffering from hunger in our community.

- Canned vegetables and fruit
- Pasta
- Rice
- Dried Beans
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Boxed meals such as Hamburger Helper
- Tuna
- Canned Meats
- Cereal
- Boxed Macaroni and Cheese Mix
- Soup
- Peanut Butter
- Spaghetti Sauce

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November 22 is the last day of the Christian calendar year. We call it the Reign of Christ Sunday. We will celebrate the presence of Christ as we sing to the glory of God! My sermon title is “Are You the King?”

November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent. We will step forward in Hope as we enter the season of reflection and celebration of Christ’s coming into our lives. Our Advent preaching series begins on this Sunday.

Step Forward in Hope this month. With five Sundays, we have a fantastic opportunity to worship and praise God together at First Church! I can’t wait to see you in Church.

Step Forward in Hope – Stewardship 2016

Dear Friends,

Thank you for being a vital part of the worship, life, and mission of First Congregational Church. Without your presence, your gifts and your generous support of the mission and ministry of this church, First Church would be much less than it is today. It is with gratitude that we again look to the future as God calls us to respond to the needs of our neighborhood and our community.

We stand at an exciting time in the life of the church. The Long-Range Planning Committee has presented its vision to Council and they will vote to accept that vision in November. This plan calls us to build and staff for the future, care for our church and engage with current and new members in new and exciting ways. With it, we celebrate a vibrant community of faith.

This year's stewardship campaign goal is \$805,000. Our goal addresses the increasing cost of health care coverage for our staff and families as well as the continued deferred maintenance needs of this building, (such as refurbishing the Broad Street steps and plaza, the refinishing the parish hall floor, and other much needed repairs). This goal calls us to Step Forward in Hope for the exciting ministry and mission that God is calling us to in the coming year and beyond.

First Church is a growing downtown church. Two-thirds of our revenue comes from your pledges. The other third comes from other sources, such as trustee funds, property rental, weddings and events. Your giving is crucial to both the spiritual and practical work of our congregation. Pledging helps the church responsibly plan for the sources of income in the upcoming year 2016.

There are several ways to pledge and give. You can pledge by returning a pledge card by mail, in person to the office, or during worship on November 1. Pledge cards were mailed out earlier in October, and are available in the office or pew racks. Additionally, you can pledge online at www.first-church.org/AnnualGivingForm.aspx. Or once again, you can give online through a service provided by FaithStreet which allows for one-time and recurring gifts using the web, mobile devices, or text. To set up your online giving, please go to www.faithstreet.com/church/first-congregational-church-of-columbus-columbus-oh/giving. All members of First Church are encouraged to use this service. It is a "green" and cost-saving solution for all that provides better information and more consistency in budget planning both for you as the donor and for First Church as the grateful recipient of your generous stewardship.

We hope that you'll consider making a pledge to support the mission and ministry of this church. If you have questions regarding this year's Stewardship Campaign, please contact Rev. Emily Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org.

With gratitude for you and your faithful giving to God, as we all Step Forward in Hope.

First Congregational Church Stewardship Team 2016: Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, Brian Cave, Cindy Conn, John Matchett, Kent Shimeall; Amy Wagner and Carol Gallagher (administrative support)

New Members Classes

If you are interested in becoming a member of First Church, please join us Monday, November 2 at 7 p.m. in the Parlor! You are invited to attend First Church's next New Member Class to explore a greater connection here. Those who wish to join First Congregational Church will be received in worship on Sunday, November 8. If you are not able to join us but are still interested in joining us, please let us know. We will be hosting another class Monday, December 7 from 7-9 p.m. with new members being welcomed in worship on Sunday, December 13.



Ecumenical Advocacy Days, April 15-18, 2016 Washington, DC

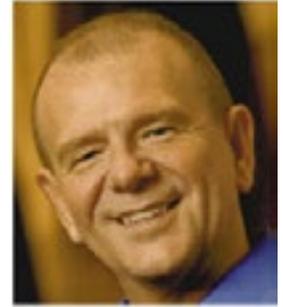
The Mission of Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) is a movement of the ecumenical Christian community, and its recognized partners and allies, grounded in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Their goal, through worship, theological reflection and opportunities for learning and witness, is to strengthen their Christian voice and to mobilize for advocacy on a wide variety of U.S. domestic and international policy issues.

EAD began in 2003 as a coalition of sponsor organizations holding an annual national Christian education and advocacy conference around timely social justice issues. Since then it has become the premier Christian advocacy event in the United States, bringing together 1,000 faith advocates each year to mobilize for action and to make a public witness on Capitol Hill. EAD has addressed such issues as food justice, economy and livelihood, poverty and hunger, immigration and refugees, climate change, national and international security, and issues especially affecting women and children around the world.

Visit us at AdvocacyDays.org/about to view resources and information from several past National Gatherings. Ask Rev. Emily Corzine if you are interested.

Education

By Mark S. Williams, Christian Education Director (mwilliams@first-church.org)



Adult Education in November

The Faith and Life Class will focus on Human Trafficking for three weeks. Each week will feature a guest speaker concerning this justice issue in central Ohio and across the country. On November 1, Jeanette Bradley from “2nd Chance Ministry”, will tell her personal story of being a victim of human trafficking. She will also have her book, “I’m Still Standing”, available for purchase for \$12.99 at the session. On November 8, Rebecca Walter, volunteer coordinator from Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition (CORRC), will present the work of their organization in central Ohio and will highlight volunteer opportunities. The November 15 session, presented by Nikki BASzynski, will focus on, “How do we plan to take action?” Theresa Flores’ book, “The Slave Across the Street”, will be for sale for \$14.0 during that session. We will be making plans to participate in the SOAP initiative for early winter. A guest speaker from Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) will present on November 22.

Our second track, the Opening the Word Class, does exactly that. Rev. Emily Corzine will lead 4 sessions on the topic “The Economy of Love” from the Work of the People organization. This study unpacks what the patterns of God’s kingdom look like compared to the patterns of our world. What is the value of enough, and how do we become more like the God who is close to the poor, the hungry, the meek and the merciful? “Economy of Love” will challenge individuals to join in community, journeying together as they being to consider a new standard of living – a personal economic threshold oriented not around the size of a monthly paycheck, but around the value of enough.

Youth Selling Fudge for Holidays

The First Church Youth Groups will be selling a variety of fudge again this year as a fundraiser during the holiday season. The fudge, either ½ pound or 1-pound boxes, will be on sale after each worship service and during office weekday hours beginning the end of November through December. This makes a perfect gift for the holiday season. Consider giving a box of fudge as gifts for your business/employees. Order forms will be available starting November 8. See Mark Williams (mwilliams@first-church.org) for more details regarding special orders.

Planning for Advent

Advent resources for children, families and adults will be available beginning Sunday, November 22, at the entrances to the worship space and in classrooms. An Advent children’s activities calendar and teen’s calendar will be available and is perfect to display on a refrigerator or a family bulletin board and an Advent paper chain. A variety of booklets for family prayers, scriptures and reflections for each day of Advent will be available. “Unto Us a Child is Born” by Henri J. M. Nouwen is an individual devotion booklet for the days of Advent. Please pick up a copy at either service or in the church office.

Each Sunday of Advent, several activities sheets will be available for the children that relate to our children’s time in worship. The activities sheets will be available for the 9 and 11 a.m. services. Sunday afternoon, December 20 at 4 p.m., there will be several activities available at the door for the younger children during the service of Lessons and Carols because they remain in the Sanctuary for the entire time.

Annual Cabaret is November 15

It’s Cabaret time again at First Church! If you never attended...you are missing a great and fun event! The First Church adults and youth will take the stage on Sunday, November 15, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall. There will be amazing acts to entertain every age, and lots of food and fun. A silent auction of wonderful and amazing themed gift baskets takes place during the event as well. Proceeds from the night will benefit the Youth Ministries 2016 summer mission trip to West Franklinton here in Columbus and to the UCC National Youth Event in Orlando.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. They can be purchased in the office, during Fellowship Hour, with your Sunday offering or at the door. Come celebrate the talent of First Church – and have a great time, too!



First Church Youth Groups and families at Boo at the Zoo

Education

Plan to Donate a Basket

The church-wide Cabaret is November 15 at 6 p.m. The youth will be auctioning themed baskets during the evening event. Please consider donating a themed basket from your committee or family. Here are some ideas: an Italian Dinner Basket, OSU Basket, Gardening Basket, Blue Jacket Basket, Chocolate Lover's Basket, Kitchen Tools Basket, Children's Summer Fun Basket, Music Lovers Basket, Family Emergency Weather Basket, Crew Basket, Children's Books Basket, Snack-Attack Basket and Cookout Basket. We know there are many more great ideas out there for a gift basket. Be creative and join the fun! We hope that all baskets will have a value around \$50. We would like to display all the baskets during Fellowship Hour on November 15. Please contact Mark Williams (mwilliams@first-church.org) if you choose a theme and are willing to donate.

Children's Christmas Play

Crisp apples, cool nights, nervous turkeys – that's right, it's autumn yet again. And that can mean only one thing: the Christmas Play is right around the corner. Rehearsals for this year's production, "A Christmas Castle Caper," get underway Sunday, November 1. Rehearsals as always are the supremely family-friendly time of 10 a.m. on Sundays (Education Hour, if you're counting) through the day of the play, Sunday, December 13. The only non-Sunday practice is the dress rehearsal the day before, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 12, in Parish Hall. Pre-K-1st children will tackle the roles of Mistletoe Marchers; 2nd graders will introduce the spectacle with their very own spotlight-stealing rhymes; and 3rd-5th graders will charm and disarm us with speaking parts to rival Shakespeare or SpongeBob. All are welcome; there are no tryouts or cuts. Questions? Melissa Kulwicki (molissabee@hotmail.com), Karen Mozingo (karen_mozingo@hotmail.com) or Kopano Marumo (kmarumo@gmail.com).

First Church's 2015 Ornament Now Available For \$18

First Church is continuing our exciting program in celebrating the history of the church through an ongoing keepsake ornament project. Each year, one of our beautiful stained glass windows is featured as a keepsake ornament. The 2015 collectible features the Friendship Window "Celebrating the Arts-Painting" panel. This series started nine years ago. The first ornament, issued in 2007, was the "Shepherd Window" that is located in the Gladden Chapel. The 2008 ornament was "The Light of the World" window, located in the sanctuary in the Parable Windows. The 2009 ornament was "Jesus Blessing the Children" panel from the Jeffrey Window, which is located above the Chancel. The fourth keepsake ornament from 2010 was the "Evangelists" from the Jeffrey Window. The fifth keepsake ornament issued in 2011 was the "Christ sitting on the Rainbow" from the Jeffrey Window and the 2012 keepsake ornament was the "Chi Rho" panel from the Rose Window. The 2013 collectible features the Music (Barnard) Window. The 2014 collectible features the Gladden Window "Charity and Justice" panel. All the keepsake ornaments, except 2007, are still available in limited quantity at \$10 each or you can purchase all the previous seven ornaments for a discounted price of \$45.

This year's ornament is here and will go on sale November 8 at the conclusion of the 9 a.m. service and during the Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall after the 11 a.m. service. It also will be available for purchase during the week in the church office. The 2015 ornament is \$18. Contact Mark S. Williams (mwilliams@first-church.org) for more information.

"And the Children will lead them...." First Laundry Love a Huge Success!

On October 27, nine volunteers poured detergent, inserted quarters and provided dryer sheets for 29 double/triple loads of wash and 54 double loads of drying for residents of West Franklinton, for a total cost of \$262.50.

Parents, children and youth of First Congregational Church invite you to join them in a year-long mission project called "Laundry Love", an initiative in partnership with individuals, groups and local laundromats throughout the U.S. The initiative helps to wash the clothes and bedding of individuals and/or families living in poverty. 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.



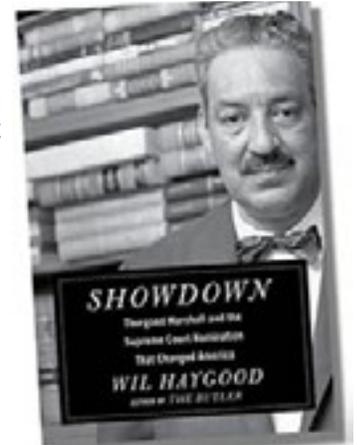
The Children and Youth are collecting quarters and donations of liquid laundry detergent and dryer sheets (no pods, please) from the congregation. We would love for members and friends to join us the last Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at WashLand Laundromat, 1469 West Broad Street in West Franklinton to serve those in need. Justice and Mercy Commission, Good Samaritan Fund and The Gladden House are also partnering with this important mission. This is the first step in connecting with the West Franklinton community as the youth prepare to serve the area on the 2016 Mission Trip. So start saving your quarters and donate to this worthy cause. The next Laundry Love day will be November 24. Come join us in serving those in need.

Education

Next Book Study Selection: “Showdown” by Wil Haygoode

Review from Barnes and Noble

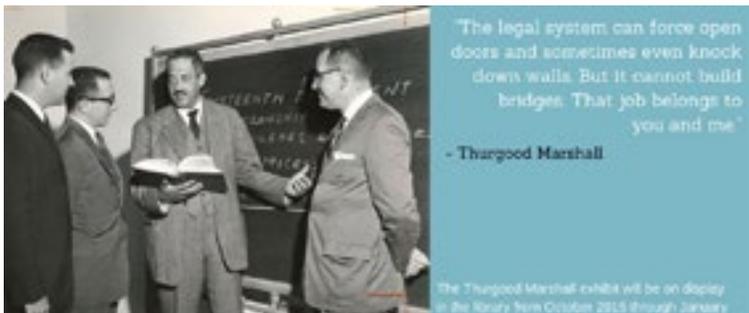
Thurgood Marshall brought down the separate-but-equal doctrine, integrated schools, and not only fought for human rights and human dignity but also made them impossible to deny in the courts and in the streets. In this stunning new biography, award-winning author Wil Haygood surpasses the emotional impact of his inspiring best seller “The Butler” to detail the life and career of one of the most transformative legal minds of the past one hundred years.



Using the framework of the dramatic, contentious five-day Senate hearing to confirm Marshall as the first African-American Supreme Court justice, Haygood creates a provocative and moving look at Marshall’s life as well as the politicians, lawyers, activists, and others who shaped—or desperately tried to stop—the civil rights movement of the twentieth century: President Lyndon Johnson; Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., whose scandals almost cost Marshall the Supreme Court judgeship; Harry and Harriette Moore, the Florida NAACP workers killed by the KKK; Justice J. Waties Waring, a racist lawyer from South Carolina, who, after being appointed to the federal court, became such a champion of civil rights that he was forced to flee the South; John, Robert, and Ted Kennedy; Senator Strom Thurmond, the renowned racist from South Carolina, who had a secret black mistress and child; North Carolina senator Sam Ervin, who tried to use his Constitutional expertise to block Marshall’s appointment; Senator James Eastland of Mississippi, the head of the Senate Judiciary Committee, who stated that segregation was “the law of nature, the law of God”; Arkansas senator John McClellan, who, as a boy, after Teddy Roosevelt invited Booker T. Washington to dinner at the White House, wrote a prize-winning school essay proclaiming that Roosevelt had destroyed the integrity of the presidency; and so many others.

This galvanizing book makes clear that it is impossible to overestimate Thurgood Marshall’s lasting influence on the racial politics of our nation.

The Book Study Group meets in the Parlor at 11 a.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of every month; the next meeting is Wednesday, November 4. This book will be available for purchase in the church office for \$21 on Tuesday, November 3.



Read the Book, then Visit CSSC’s Exhibit

The Columbus State Library is proud to present “Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court: 32 Arguments that Changed America,” in its second-floor gallery. The exhibit is free and open to the public, and will run through Jan. 29, 2016.

The exhibit focuses on the early career of Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American appointed as a justice to the Supreme Court. In his formative years as

a practicing attorney, Marshall argued 32 cases before the Supreme Court and won 29 of them. The exhibition highlights those cases, with a poster representing each case.

You may explore selected works in the exhibition using Aurasma, a special augmented reality app. To get started, download the Aurasma app for your IOS or Android device. Then you will be able to view the exhibition posters in a whole new way by accessing photos, videos, animations, and details of the cases that enhance the viewing experience.

Columbus State Community College’s library is located in Columbus Hall. Library hours are: Monday – Thursday: 7:30 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Sunday: closed.

Education

**The First Church Youth Group will be going to
West Franklinton on June 5 – 10, 2016
Gladden Community House Senior Referral Program and
Will attend the UCC National Youth Event
Lake Buena Vista, Florida July 26-29, 2016**

The Youth of First Congregational Church will serve the senior residents of West Franklinton in Columbus Ohio. The youth will work in conjunction with the Gladden Community House and their Senior Referral Program. The youth will work on several homes throughout the area with painting, gardening, cleaning and basic home repairs. The youth will be housed during the week in a local church and will assist with their meals during the week. Also, the week will include visits to the homeless camps in Franklin County and a night tour of the homeless through the Columbus Coalition for Homelessness.

NYE 2016 — to be held at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.— marks the first time the event is open to both UCC and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) youth. Due to the family-friendly environment, non-youth participants are invited as well.

“The event is still for youth, but families and non-youth participants are invited to attend worship and the day-long social justice immersion projects in the greater Orlando area, and to enjoy the fellowship day in the parks,” said Middleton.

The cost of NYE 2016 is \$549 per person, double occupancy plus transportation to Orlando. The fee is a subsidized cost for all attendees and includes:

- Five days and four nights accommodations at the resort, which includes free wi-fi.
- Local transportation to and from the airport and parks.
- Eight meals: Dinner Tuesday, all meals Wednesday and Thursday, and breakfast Saturday, plus snacks on those days. Meals on Friday, July 29, are not included, as that is the fellowship day in the parks for all attendees.
- A multiple-day hopper pass for access to all four Disney parks.
- Inspiring worship and keynote speakers.
- Workshops and service projects in the Greater Orlando area.
- Immersive social justice experiences.

The fee is the same for all attendees, including non-youth participants. While workshops and service projects are youth only, all are invited to participate in worship, meals, and the fellowship day in the park, as well as to sign up for the day-long, social justice immersion projects.

The NYE youth service projects will be coordinated through United Way of Orlando, and will include such activities as outreach with homeless persons and environmental clean-up projects. The day-long, social justice immersion projects are being coordinated by Edith Rasell, the UCC's minister for economic justice. Social justice venues will include visiting the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, among others.

Experiences like this would not be possible for our young people without financial support from our entire church family and friends.

Thank you for supporting us!

From the Minister of Music

By Kevin Jones, Minister of Music

(kjones@first-church.org)



The month of November brings several liturgical dates into focus. All Saints' Day is a fixed date every year – November 1st. This year, November 1st falls on a Sunday, and we will commemorate this day in worship as we remember those we lost since the last All Saints' Day and celebrate their lives. It was Pope Gregory IV who first made it a Holy Day in the Catholic Church in 837. The date of November 1st holds no particular significance, although it was probably chosen to counteract the Pagan Festival of the Dead that was held at the same time of year. Hallowe'en came to be because of All Saints' Day. "All Hallows Evening" was the night before All Saint's, hence October 31. We also celebrate the ending of the liturgical year each November. We all know that the church year runs from the First Sunday of Advent (in 2015, November 29) to the last Sunday in Ordinary Time, or, more recently, the Reign of Christ Sunday (in 2015, November 22). In "church time," this day wasn't established in the Catholic Church until 1925 – relatively recently. Likewise, we end the first year of the three-year cycle of lectionary readings, moving from Year B to Year C. Although this year's end is a time for looking back to the year and all the celebrations that have occurred, I've always felt it more as a time of preparation for the beauty of Advent and Christmas that is near at hand.

Choir News

Rehearsal/Liturgical Appearance Schedules

Treble Choir – Rehearsals November 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 9 a.m.

Sing in Worship November 15 at 11 a.m.

Teen Choir – Rehearsals November 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 9 a.m.

Sing in Worship November 15 at 11 a.m.

First Church Ringers – Rehearsals November 5, at 6:15 p.m.

Ring in Worship November 8 at 11 a.m.

First Church Choir – Rehearsals November 5, 12, 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Choral Evensong/Concert on November 1 at 4 p.m.

Sing in 11 a.m. Worship November 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

Heir of the Highest Heaven CD

The First Church Choir's professionally produced CD of Christmas music, Heir of the Highest Heaven is once again available for sale in the Church Office at \$12 each. These make terrific Christmas gifts and are wonderful mementos of First Church. The signature piece of the recording is the commissioned carol from the 2013 Festival of Lessons and Carols, "Heir of the Highest Heaven" by composer Peter Niedmann. Using parts of Washington Gladden's poem "Immanuel," Niedmann wove a jaunty, exciting carol for us to hear. Other highlights of the album include "Once in royal David's city," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "Adam lay ybounden," the evocative Lux Aurumque and many other favorites from last year's season of Advent and Christmas music. Rounding out the CD is Baroque organ music by J.S. Bach, Buxtehude and Johann Pachelbel played on the Beckerath organ. The recording engineer was Andrew MacGregor, who also edited, mixed and mastered the CD.



Music News

Concerts on the Horizon

Choral Evensongs continue on Sunday, November 1, at 4 p.m. The First Church Choir will sing Preces/Responses by Thomas Tomkins, the G Major Canticles by C.V. Stanford and the All Saints' anthem "And I saw a new heaven" by Edgar Bainton. The Rev. Nancy Livingston will be the officiant, and the choir will be accompanied by guest organist Mark Gallant. The 45-minute service of prayer and meditation is the perfect close to the day. We look forward to seeing you there.

Immediately following Evensong, the Choir will sing the inspiringly calming Requiem by John Rutter. This Requiem differs slightly from a traditional, Roman rite Requiem, insofar as it makes use of a more modern approach to a Requiem as a celebration of life and a thanksgiving for life. It not only uses the traditional Requiem aeternam, Kyrie, Pie Jesu, Sanctus, Agnus Dei texts; but it also weaves in Psalm 130 (Out of the depths) and Psalm 23, among others.

The Requiem will be presented in the small ensemble version featuring Randall Hester, flute; Michele Fiava, oboe; Victor Firlie, 'cello; Jeanne Norton, harp; Phil Shipley, timpani; Bill Lutz, glockenspiel; and Mark Gallant, organ.

Soprano Lynn Eustis, chair of the voice department at Boston University join the Choir as soloist for the Requiem.

**CONCERTS
AT FIRST CHURCH**

2015 2016

First-Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
444 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

**Choral Evensong and
Rutter *Requiem***

Nov
1

4pm

The First Church Choir sings Choral Evensong on
November 1 at 4 pm
Preces by Thomas Tomkins
Canticles by C.V. Stanford (G Major)
"And I saw a new heaven" by Edgar Bainton

Following Evensong, the choir is joined by soprano Lynn Eustis to
sing the ensemble version of John Rutter's beautiful *Requiem*.



The First Tuesdays series continues on Tuesday, November 3 at 12:15 with organist G. Dene Barnard. Mr. Barnard will play a program of the music of J.S. Bach, André Fleury, Zsolt Gardonyi, and Alec Wyton. No stranger to audiences at First Church, Mr. Barnard holds the post of Organist Choirmaster Emeritus.

Lunch is available in the Parish Hall at approximately 12:45 for a donation of \$5.

Justice and Mercy

Bethlehem on Broad Street (BOBS) News

- Look in the **December issue of Columbus Monthly!** Bethlehem on Broad Street is being featured in the Event Section.
- The **BOBS Advisory Committee** will meet on **Sunday, November 1 at 12:15 p.m.** in the Parish Family Room. Please bring a memory of a former Christmas. Lee Wetmore is making a new video on our celebrating Thirty Years at Bethlehem on Broad Street.
- The **planning committee of BOBS invites interested persons to a pizza party on November 10 at 6 p.m.** in the Large Conference Room. Please read our website at BethlehemonBroadStreet.org

Arlene Reynolds, coordinator and David Holt, FCC

BREAD Annual Assembly on Monday, November 16

Your BREAD team invites everyone in the congregation to come to the BREAD Annual Assembly on Monday, November 16 at 7 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church, located at 2777 E. Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43209. This is where we'll take the important step of deciding which topic to tackle leading up to the Nehemiah Action next year, deciding among "Crime", "Jobs and Economic Opportunity", "Education", and "Youth and Family". Additionally, BREAD will assess the success of the "Care, Not Crisis" program. We'd love to have you join us. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me (alexdietz@gmail.com).

Alec Deitz

Church News

Women's Retreat

Join us on Saturday, November 7 at the home of Ann Hudson from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for this year's Fall Women's Retreat. Please bring a dish to share for lunch. Rev. Mary Kay Beall Carter will be the facilitator; the topic will be "Why Pray When You Can Worry?" A sign-up sheet in the office and directions are available in the church office. Please bring paper / journal and pencil / pen, and a Bible if you wish.

Young Families Gatherings

Young families gathered in late September to play on the church playground and fellowship with one another. The coffee was good too. Look for more opportunities to fellowship together. If you have an idea for a family friendly activity for the church-let Emily Corzine know at ecorzine@first-church.org

Attention First Church Artists and Craftsmen

The Art Committee is planning a congregational art exhibition in the Church Parish Hall after Easter 2016.

Begin now to plan what you might exhibit and/or create something new. 2-dimensional and small 3-dimensional creations wanted! (remember, we have glass cases to protect some treasures). More details will follow. The congregational exhibitions always bring new connections for the members and JOY, so don't be shy! Direct questions to Deb Anderson at 235-9526



Church News

Deacons On the Move

As is stated in the constitution of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, "The Board of Deacons assists the ministers in the spiritual direction of the church, including pastoral care, worship, celebration of the sacraments, other special services, and oversight of ushers." As we reviewed our duties as deacons and our experience in worship, it was clear to us that we could become more effective in worship if we were to position ourselves in various areas in the sanctuary. In this way, we get to experience a worship service in the same way our membership does, from the front, the back and the sides. By being close to entrances to the sanctuary, we are able to welcome guests who may be late arriving to worship, engage with members seated in all areas of the sanctuary during Passing of the Peace, and be a familiar face to guests who may be looking for a new church home. We can also look for things that need repair or attention throughout the sanctuary and still be present in the front as we support our pastors and staff. It has been a time-honored tradition in the Congregational Church for deacons to be seated in the Deacons bench which, in our church, is the first row of pews, and we continue to proudly sit there as deacons have for many years.

By relocating to some additional areas of our sanctuary, we hope to become more effective in our service to our pastors and staff, our members and our guests. We look forward to greeting you on Sunday, no matter where you are seated or which door you enter.

Tom Kiesel, Senior Deacon, and Lynn Wallich, Senior Deacon Elect

First Church "Good Neighbor" Hospitality Team for the CMOA Grand Opening

Thank you to John Matchett, who spent most of Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25, at the church, leading our parking lot hospitality team in greeting visitors to the museum and church. He was joined by others who served two to four-hour shifts: Deana Armstrong, Joe Baszynski, Todd Jacobson, Tom Kiesel, Matt Myers, Alex Rodriguez, and Amy Wagner. Thank you to Rick Sayre, Alec Dietz, Sue Cook and Pat Liebchen who offered tours of our building and art work.



Thank You for Your Gifts

The Board of Trustees would like to thank all those who made gifts to the Endowment Funds on Legacy Sunday, October 4. Your loose offerings and designated checks for the Building Endowment Fund exceeded \$7,200. Additional gifts received on Legacy Sunday were designated for the Stained Glass Endowment Fund, the Barnard Music Fund, and the Legacy Fund. We are grateful to everyone who made Legacy Sunday's successful.

Statements Available

Third quarter pledge statements are now available in your church mailbox. This statement covers donations from January 1, 2015-September 30, 2015. If you would instead like your statement mailed or emailed please contact Sharon Leidheiser at Sleidheiser@first-church.org or 614-228-1741 ext. 11. If you have corrections or questions about your statement please contact Sharon Leidheiser, too. Blessings and thank you for donating to First Church's missions, programs and operating budget.

Church News

First Church Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: Teresa Polo and family, on the death of her brother, Carol and Frank Hussey; Ray Stutler; Robert Davis and his parents; Bill Faith and family, on the death of his mother Dottie; Tammy Alexander; Arlene Reynolds and Lou and Paul Flocken, on the death of Arline Finch, their sister-in-law and aunt; Tad and Nancy Jeffrey, on the death of their son-in-law; Emma Welsh-Huggins; Jorge Polo; Lucille Kropp; Grace Glaros; Bernie Martin; Van Barndt; Ray Pendell; Wib Smith; and for families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Wendell Smith, father of Sarah Lange; Deborah Ferguson, foster sister of Mary Kay Carter Beall; for the family of Margaret Watson; the family of Deborah Weiker; Ben Brewer and family, friend of Melva Fisher; and Jill Ford, friend of Mark Williams.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD: We pray for all those affected by Hurricane Patricia. We pray for the countries working to welcome and assimilate refugees. We pray for communities affected by racial tension, religious persecution and gun violence.

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 November 1:* Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda
- *Week of November 8:* Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Principe
- *Week of November 15:* Cameroon, Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea
- *Week of November 22:* Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger
- *Week of November 29:* Liberia and Sierra Leone

If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact the church office (awagner@first-church.org or 228-1741, ext. 10) or one of the ministers (ecorzine@first-church.org or 228-1741, ext. 21 or minister@first-church.org or 228-1741, ext. 13).

Recent Celebration Gifts to First Church

By Bill Johannes and Jane Werum

Given to the Remembrance Fund in celebration of the life of Evelyn Danneberger by Lori Scott

Given to the Stained Glass Endowment Fund by Deborah Anderson

Given to the Legacy Fund by Judy Smith in memory of Ben Bechtel

Given to the Jackie Owen Memorial Music Fund by Mr. and Mrs. Todd Cunningham

Given to the Building Endowment Fund by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Baszynski, Rev. Dr. Martha Baumer, Mr. & Mrs. David Ghose, Mrs. Jennifer Okezie-Watts & Mr. Terry Okezie-Watts, Mr. Kent Shimeall & Ms. Lisa Morris, Anonymous, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Brownfield, Mr. & Mrs. Bert Cook, Mr. & Rev. Jeffrey Corzine, and many more who will to be recognized in the next NEWS.

Have you included First Congregational Church in your estate plans? Please let Rev. Ahrens or a Trustee know so we may thank you. If you need more information about the Church's endowments, please visit the Church website at www.first-church.org/EndowmentFunds.aspx

Church News

Betsy Zahn: 2015 Outstanding Lay Leader

On November 22 during the 11 a.m. service and the following coffee hour, Betsy Zahn will be recognized as 2015 Outstanding Lay Leader.

Betsy and John Zahn joined First Congregational Church 60 years ago, in 1955, and since that time have been active in leadership and major participation in the history of our church. For those of us who were not here for as many decades, the history should be enlightening.

- Betsy was one of the first female deacons and was one of the first Steven Ministers.
- When we didn't have a salaried staff person for Christian Education, Betsy was chair of the youth education committee. She, accompanied with only one other adult, lead a youth mission trip to the Ozarks.
- The church had a women's guild which was declining in membership as more and more women entered the weekday work force. Betsy served a term as president of the guild. When it transitioned into three neighborhood groups Betsy served as one of the chairs of the east side fellowship.
- Betsy has been very much involved in welcoming strangers to America.
- During the Cuban refugee crisis she was involved in finding lodging and furniture for the Diaz family of 4, and for a brother-in-law, later.
- In 1972, when the Beckerath organ was being installed, the Zahns provided four months of room and board in their home for the German cabinet maker—who didn't know a word of English.
- At the University, Betsy volunteered through Church Women United for eight years to work with wives and families of foreign graduate students to help orient them to American life. Betsy annually recruited couples from our church to act as hosts for a program start-up picnic at the beginning of each academic year. A lot of our church volunteers have maintained an ongoing relationship with their students. After 50 years, Betsy still is still corresponding with former student families in Holland, Japan and India.
- The Zahns acted as "American family" for six years to a Rhodesian student in our church who was attending Capital University and later The Ohio State University.
- Then came the Cambodians, starting in 1981! Catholic Charities was leasing space in our Ed Wing to teach English to refugees when several Cambodian men asked Rev Coe if they could look at the rest of the building. This started a relationship between our church and up to 150 Cambodians in which Betsy and others in our church helped to identify family needs. Many church members participated in meeting the Cambodian needs including finding employment. Some of these family relationships continue to this day. On Betsy's 90th birthday Cambodians came from several states away to celebrate!
- Betsy's family and church family have been an important part of her life, and we particularly celebrate Betsy's faithful care of her husband John during his 12 year journey into Alzheimer's disease.

The Outstanding Lay Leadership award recipient (individual or couple) is selected by a committee of its previous recipients: Janice & Amos White, Natalie & Bill Wright, Arlene Reynolds, Sarah & Wally Giffen, Twink Starr, Jane Werum and Kathy & Tom Brownfield. Our church has many outstanding leaders and the honoring of any one should not be regarded, in any way, as diminishing the wonderful contributions of others. Then, "there is always next year."

Congratulations!

Church News

Creative Ways to Pay Your 2015 Pledge!

Now that we are in November it's time to make sure First Church reaches its pledge budget for 2015 of \$609,027. Many of you are on target to meet your pledge goal and First Church would like to thank everyone for their donations. For those of you that are behind you have until Thu, December 31st at 12 Noon to complete your pledge. Listed below are the many ways you can complete your pledge.

Stock, Bond, Mutual Funds and CD Transfers – We accept all of these forms of payment towards a pledge. If you have stocks, bonds, CD's that are not performing well and want to avoid possible capital gains you can instead transfer the security to our account at Charles Schwab to apply to your pledge.

Direct Deposit through Payroll Deduction at work – Many companies will allow you to make a payroll deduction from your paycheck. Church members find this way of paying their pledge easy because the company takes it out automatically every pay period. Each company has a different way of setting this deduction process up, contact your Human Resources representative or Payroll Specialist at your company to see if this is an option then have your company contact Sharon Leidheiser at the church for more information.

Personal Check – This form of payment is the most common at First Church. Write your check to First Church and indicate in the memo field PLEDGE so we know the money applies to your pledge. You can place the check in the Offering Plate at worship or mail it to the church.

Cash – We always accept cash! Please put the cash in an envelope and put your full name and amount on the line labeled PLEDGE. If you need envelopes because you pay with cash, please indicate this on your pledge card and we will put envelopes in your church mailbox. Please do not mail cash.

Bill Pay with your bank – Online banking is another alternative for you to pay your payment. You can set up the First Congregational Church as a payee or vendor in your list with payment to be automatically mailed to First Church as often as you'd like. Just indicate on the memo field: Pledge & Your Name so we can credit the check to the appropriate account. Contact your bank for more details since each bank is different.

Money Order or Cashiers Check – Please do not send money through the mail. If you do not have a checking account and the other payment options do not apply we recommend you send a money order or cashiers check with your full name written on the check and indication that it's to apply to your pledge.

Online Credit Card Giving – You can now pay online through our Faithstreet online. Simply go to our web site www.first-church.org click on Give and then click on Online Giving. You will need to set up an account. You can pay with your credit card or through your checking or savings account. The actual link is: <https://www.faithstreet.com/church/first-congregational-church-of-columbus-columbus-oh/giving>

Please contact Sharon Leidheiser for more information or for assistance 614-228-1741 ext. 11 or Sleidheiser@first-church.org.



Council News

By Elaine Warren, Moderator

Council meetings in August, September and October were full of reports on the activities of our church community. A few highlights follow.

Commissions reported their work in preparing and implementing the new program year, beginning with the September 13 Block Party on Celebration Sunday, which was a successful joint effort of Education, Church Growth and Church Vitality. The Education and Justice & Mercy commissions are also cooperating on various activities such as the “Laundry Love” offering in October. Education announced the theme for the year – “Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.” Church Growth invites us to get to know each other better. In October, they asked that we wear name tags. In November, they have asked that we sit somewhere different during worship. Church Vitality has worked on streamlining the Fellowship Hour duties of host committees. The Justice & Mercy Commission has begun work on the annual BREAD effort. House and Grounds has focused on cleaning and repairing gutters, installing a new compressor and winterizing the roof to prevent leaks, as well as volunteering 60 manhours to install carpet in the Education Wing. Administration has planned the fall Stewardship campaign.

The Board of Deacons has implemented a program for lay leaders to provide home communion for those who cannot attend church services. The deacons participated in one baptism – Caleb Thomas Frank. The deacons helped with three memorial services – Amos White, Anthony Emmers, and Tad Swan. The Senior Deacon, Tom Kiesel, announced two New Members classes to be held November 2 and December 7. The deacons have changed their seating pattern during the 11 a.m. worship service. Four deacons sit in front and four sit in the back in order to be more accessible to the entire congregation.

The Board of Trustees, chaired by Francille Firebaugh, planned and hosted Legacy Sunday on October 4 with the theme “Caring for My Church.” The offering for the Church’s Endowment Fund during worship on October 4 was \$7,200. At the luncheon that followed the food was provided by Tom Stewart, trustee, and Carrie Wise, trustee, showed a video she had put together of some of the needed repairs for our church.

Council received reports from several council appointed committees:

Refinancing of the West Lot Committee – David Holt has reported to Council on their progress in refinancing the mortgage on the West Lot before interest rates rise.

Fund Raising Ministry Group – Todd Jacobson reported on staffing the concession stand at Clippers’ games. They worked 36 games and cleared a little over \$8,000. Top volunteers (10 or more games) were Joe Baszynski, Jim Kyle, John Matchett, and Tom Worley. One team – Gerry and Marty Worth, Cindy Conn, and Jim Griffin – worked seven games. The survey done at the end of the season indicated that all enjoyed working together to help the church financially but found the hours too long and the buy too little.

National Register of Historic Places – Gerry Worth and Rick Sayre reported that the application includes written documentation of historical significance, property survey, and pictures. The report will go to the Ohio History Center and be reviewed by a panel. It will be six months to a year before we receive approval.

Long-Range Plan – Dan Clark and Steve Sterrett, co-chairs, have kept Council informed throughout the process. They presented their final draft to Council in October for comments and suggestions. It was positively received with most of the discussion was devoted to the plan’s implementation. It will be presented to Council for approval in November and to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting, January 31, 2016.

Actions of Council:

- Approved plan to be “good neighbors” during the CMA Grand Opening by providing free parking and hospitality on October 24 and 25.
- Approved Major Projects grants from Church Growth, Church Vitality, and Education for \$4,863.
- Approved the motion to have The Board of Trustees and Budget and Finance review the Major Projects definitions and guidelines and make any changes necessary.
- Approved both consolidated statement of financial position balance sheet and operating income and expense statement of the church’s finances as presented by David Holt, chair of the refinance committee for the west lot, and granted him permission to provide any additional information that the lending institution might request.
- Approved Justice & Mercy list of offerings through December.
- Approved monies from the Barnard fund be used to buy hand cases for some of our bells.

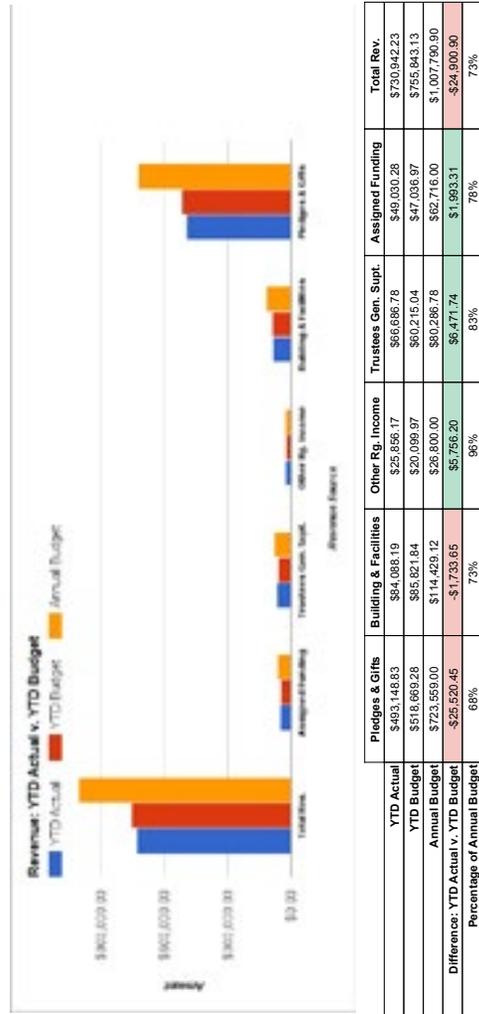
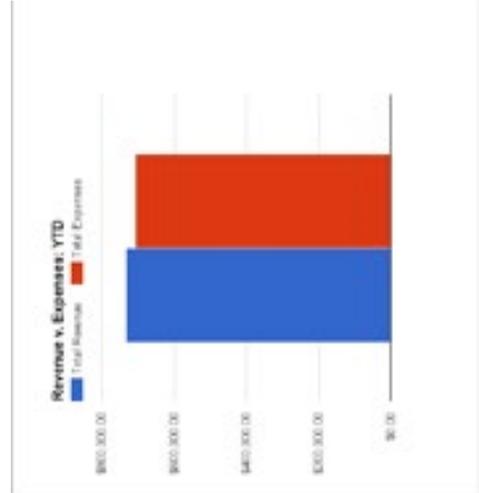
Council News

The Treasurer, Joe Baszynski, reported that pledges are a little behind but he expects that pledges will be caught up by the end of December when some people pay their full yearly pledge.

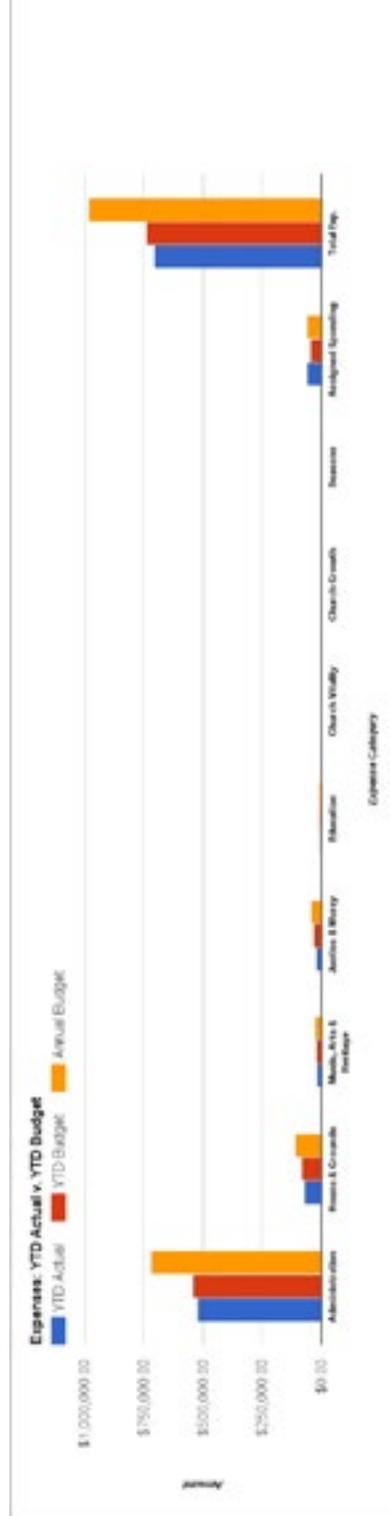
The monthly Council meetings are a good way to keep abreast of the activities of the church. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Budget Overview

Budget Overview: January - September



	Pledges & Gifts	Building & Facilities	Other Rg. Income	Trustees Gen. Supt.	Assigned Funding	Total Rev.
YTD Actual	\$493,148.83	\$84,088.19	\$25,856.17	\$66,686.78	\$49,030.28	\$730,942.23
YTD Budget	\$518,889.28	\$85,821.84	\$20,089.87	\$60,215.04	\$47,036.97	\$755,843.13
Annual Budget	\$723,559.00	\$114,429.12	\$26,800.00	\$80,286.78	\$62,716.00	\$1,007,790.90
Difference: YTD Actual v. YTD Budget	-\$25,740.45	-\$1,733.65	\$5,766.30	\$6,471.74	\$1,993.31	-\$24,900.90
Percentage of Annual Budget	69%	73%	96%	83%	78%	73%



	Administration	House & Grounds	Music, Arts & Heritage	Justice & Mercy	Education	Church Vitality	Church Growth	Deacons	Assigned Spending	Total Exp.
YTD Actual	\$522,147.36	\$72,051.00	\$16,795.23	\$22,770.73	\$5,145.06	\$653.20	\$1,075.35	\$1,162.80	\$63,945.00	\$705,755.73
YTD Budget	\$541,013.40	\$83,193.30	\$21,044.87	\$32,317.56	\$6,805.34	\$1,162.44	\$1,837.53	\$1,702.44	\$47,036.97	\$736,602.39
Annual Budget	\$721,351.37	\$110,924.50	\$28,060.00	\$43,090.09	\$9,075.00	\$1,950.00	\$2,450.00	\$2,270.00	\$62,716.00	\$982,136.96
Difference: YTD Actual v. YTD Budget	-\$18,866.04	-\$11,142.30	\$4,249.74	-\$9,546.83	-\$1,657.28	-\$509.24	-\$758.18	-\$535.64	-\$16,906.03	-\$30,846.66
Percentage of Annual Budget	72%	65%	60%	53%	57%	33%	44%	51%	102%	72%

November Calendar of Church Events

Sunday, November 1 – All Saints' Day and Stewardship / Commitment Sunday

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Christian Education – Ed Wing, Rooms C / D
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
4 p.m. – Choral Evensong and Congregational Concert: Rutter *Requiem* – Sanctuary
6 p.m. – High School Youth Group – Parish Hall

Monday, November 2

7 p.m. – Hebrew / Christian Scripture Study – Parish Hall
7 p.m. – New Members Class – Parlor

Tuesday, November 3

12:15 p.m. – *First Tuesdays* Concert featuring G. Dene Barnard – Sanctuary
12:45 p.m. – Lunch – Parish Hall
2:30 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
5:30 p.m. – Sacred Earth – Large Conference Room
6:30 pm – Christian Education Committee – Education Wing Room D
7p.m. – Justice and Mercy – Large Conference Room

Wednesday, November 4

11 a.m. – Book Study: *A God That Could Be Real* and *Showdown* – Parlor

Thursday, November 5

6:15 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J
7:30 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

Saturday, November 7

6 p.m. – BOBS Planning Committee – Large Conference Room

Sunday, November 8 – Veterans' Day Commemoration

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Christian Education – Ed Wing, Rooms C / D
10 a.m. New Members – Parlor
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
6 p.m. – Middle and School Youth Groups – Parish Hall

Monday, November 9

9 a.m. – Good Samaritan Day – Parlor / Large Conference Room
7 p.m. – Hebrew / Christian Scripture Study – Parish Hall
7 p.m. – Trustees – Parlor

Tuesday, November 10

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
7 p.m. – Executive Committee – Parish Family Room

Wednesday, November 11

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Large Conference Room

Thursday, November 12

7:30 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

Saturday, November 14

10 a.m. – First Church Quilters – Large Conference Room

Sunday, November 15 – Thanksgiving Sunday: Donations for Food Pantries

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Christian Education – Ed Wing, Rooms C / D
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
6 p.m. – Cabaret – Parish

Monday, November 16

7 p.m. – Hebrew / Christian Scripture Study – Parish Hall
7 p.m. – Personnel – Parish Family Room

Tuesday, November 17

1 p.m. – Celebration and Remembrance – Large Conference Room
2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room

Wednesday, November 18

11 a.m. – Book Study: *Showdown* – Parlor

Thursday, November 19

7:30 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

Friday, November 20

1 p.m. – Deadline for Newsletter submissions

Saturday, November 21

8:30 a.m. – House and Grounds – Parish Family Room
11 a.m. – Lebold Memorial Service – Sanctuary

Sunday, November 22 – Lay Leadership Awards

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Christian Education – Ed Wing, Rooms C / D
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
4 p.m. – High School Youth Meeting – Parish Hall

Monday, November 23

7 p.m. – Hebrew / Christian Scripture Study – Parish Hall
7 p.m. – Deacons – Education Wing Room D

Tuesday, November 24

2 p.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
6 p.m. – Laundry Love – Washland Laundromat, West Franklinton

Wednesday, November 25

9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting – Large Conference Room

Thursday, November 26 – Thanksgiving: Building Closed All Day

Friday, November 27 – Building Closed All Day

Noon – Faith Mission Meal Preparation – Kitchen

Sunday, November 29 – Advent 1

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Teen and Treble Choirs Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Christian Education – Ed Wing, Rooms C / D
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
6 p.m. – Middle and School Youth Groups – Parish Hall



Member Birthdays in November

11/1 Kemper Campbell
Melissa Erickson
Carrie Ghose
Barbara Glover
11/3 Tom Bishop
Sarah Garbe
Nikki Nwosu
11/4 Noah Kirker
11/5 Courtney Batchelor
11/6 Nathaniel Vogt
11/8 Emma Rau
11/9 Ben Allen
Brianna Burkett
David Leidheiser
11/10 Ann Aeschbury
11/12 Erin Dean
Don Streibig
11/13 John Aeschbury
Melanie Brown
Victoria Washington
11/16 Barbara Knox
Erin Murray
11/17 Joyce Oyler
Judy Smith
11/18 Sarah Reed
11/19 Paul Flocken
Larry Thorne
11/20 Schlelia Gray
John Matchett
11/21 Anita Babu
Charlie Knerr
Allison Palmer
Jayden Martin-Wynia
11/22 Kristen Blanks
Jane Weddle
11/23 Bill Wagner
11/24 Andy Rozmiarek
Scott Warrick
11/25 Sarah Ahrens
11/26 Eric Malmborg
Adam Wade
11/27 Beth Iannarino
Kevin Jones
Wayne Redenbarger
11/28 Nell Cole
Megan Kelly
11/29 Mitchell Dean
David Ghose

Member Anniversaries in November

11/4 Ann and Jeff Hunt
Stephanie and Mike Koscher
11/6 Becky and Troy Magaw
11/7 Amy Nicholson and Mohamed Obeid-Salim
11/8 Joanna and Jamie McWilliams
11/9 Susan Sitler and Tim Ahrens
11/10 Janette and Randy Hoffman
Lesley and Karl Schaab
Lynn Wallich and Mary Jo Hudson
11/15 Missy and Doug Zimmerman
11/21 Katie and Dean Mansfield
11/26 Kathie and R.Guy Cole
Sarah and Wally Giffen
Sandy and Michael Valinis
11/29 Janet and Rick Pfeiffer

November Fellowship Hour Schedule

November 1 Colossians
November 8 Corinthians
November 15 Daniel
November 22 Deuteronomy
November 29 Ephesians

November Acolyte Schedule

November 1 Trenton Helmer Finnegan Miller
November 8 Cassidy Hopcraft Erin Murray
November 15 Miriam Myers Samantha Myers
November 22 Alex Palmer Nick Boriin
November 29 Allysia Palmer Alaina Thompson

November Offering Schedule

November 1 UCC OGHS Syrian Refugee Relief
November 8 BREAD
November 15 Mid Ohio Food Bank
November 22 BOBS
November 29 UCC HIV & AIDS Network

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)



FIRST CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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.

DIACONATE

Senior Deacon Tom Kiesel

Deacons Kathryn Bamberger, Sandy Bennett, Kris Brant, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Sue Cook, Jacquelyn Dean, Alec Dietz, Dean Hafey, Anne Hudson, Paul Leidheiser, Mary Lightbody, Jonathan Miller, Hugh Schultz, Lynn Wallich

CHURCH STAFF

Business Manager	Sharon Leidheiser
Program Manager	Martha Worth
Office Manager	Amy Wagner
Building Manager	Thomas Santiago
Custodian	William Lee, Jimy Sibrian, Onofre Franco-Chavez
Wedding Coordinators	Janet Axt, Tori Stucke, Margaret Cipriani
Nursery Staff	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator	Elaine Warren
Moderator-Elect	Brian Cave
Treasurer	Joe Baszynski
Assistant Treasurer	Cindy Conn
Secretary	Deana Armstrong
Assistant Secretary	Nancy Braverman

COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Kent Shimeall
Administration-Elect	Allison Palmer
Church Growth	Scott Jones
Church Growth-Elect	Kim Hopcraft
Education	Todd Jacobson
Education-Elect	Jennifer Okezie-Watts
House & Grounds	Gary Leidheiser
House & Ground-Elect	Charlie Weaver
Justice & Mercy	Alex Rodriguez
Justice & Mercy-Elect	Tracy Ross
Music, Arts, Heritage	Marti Baumer
Music, Arts, Heritage-Elect	Al Waddell
Church Vitality	Melissa Kulwicki
Church Vitality-Elect	Denise Vogt
Nominating Chair	Frank Cook
Trustees	Francille Firebaugh
Member-at-large	Matt Myers
Youth-at-large	Merry Roach
Deacon Council Rep.	Lynn Wallich

TO:



**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

Web site: 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