



Practicing the Gospel

By the Rev. Dr. Janine Wilson, Associate Minister (jwilson@first-church.org)

How are you and I called to incorporate what we know in our hearts about God with things we learn in scripture and are called to live out every day?

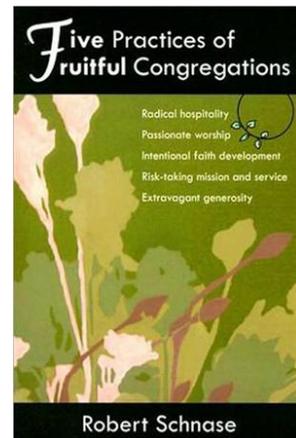
Learning and growing in faith takes practice. It is common, even ordinary for us, to allow faith to be “finitized” and to unwittingly attach God to things that are not of God. Self-limiting and even destructive forms of holiness can unwittingly harden into patterns that no longer allow the love of God to be as visible or viable. It’s an age old problem (see Isaiah 1:11 to catch a glimpse of this dilemma in earlier days).

What can change this? Faith itself has the ability to transform us again and again; the new community of faith (the church) plays a vital role – in fact that is part of our job description. We are called together to be interpreters and responders to the Gospel narrative. When we come together, we remember, proclaim and relate gospel to the challenges of the present person, place and time. We open the windows and let the breath of God enter anew.

I invite you to come together with others for just a few weeks this fall to pay special attention to some gospel practices that change lives. Come and let your shared experiences and views intermingle. Come and hear the gospel through the stories of others, being shared and explored.

This fall, First Congregational Church will have a six-week Wednesday evening discussion group to explore five spiritual practices (more detail below). I will lead the class and the work of author Robert Schnase (*Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*) will help focus our attention on five crucial practices: Radical Hospitality; Passionate Worship; Intentional Faith Development; Risk-Taking Mission and Service; and Extravagant Generosity.

(Continued on Page 3)



Index



Senior Minister	2
News.....	3-9
Music.....	4
Christian Ed.....	5
Anniversaries.....	9
Birthdays.....	9
Calendar.....	10
Prayers.....	11
Staff /Council.....	11

‘Church Night’ to debut September 15

By Jackie Dean (jdean@first.church.org)
Interim Christian Education Director

Have you ever asked a friend, a neighbor or co-worker to do something on a Wednesday evening only to be told, “Gee, I can’t. That’s my church night?” Ever wondered why? Well, wonder no more!! You are invited to be a part of a new and exciting ministry in the life of First Church, and we’re hoping to see you there!

Beginning Wednesday, September 15, we are going to experience our own “Church Night.” Church Night (or Agape Ministries) is a midweek opportunity for fellowship, spiritual growth and education. We will begin at 6 p.m. with a simple meal – \$3/person, \$10 max/family – and then move on to the night’s activity. The Rev. Dr. Janine Wilson will begin our experience by leading a six-week study on “Spiritual Disciplines.” As interest develops and leadership emerges, more opportunities will be added. And yes, child care will be provided.

From the Senior Minister

A Step Forward - Tsad Kadima

By the Rev. Timothy C. Ahrens, Senior Minister
(tahrens@first-church.org)

(These are two in a series of articles Rev. Ahrens is writing while on sabbatical. They can be found under Faith and Values on www.dispatch.com.)

For one week at Kibbutz Hannaton, I was blessed to share the dormitory and cafeteria with 32 young adults with Cerebral Palsy. In addition, over 25 adult staff and volunteers, plus their children, completed this glorious array of "The Children of Abraham." They are Christians, Muslims and a beautiful array of Jews. Most of all, they love one another.



Their days were filled with laughter, hugs, singing, high ropes, social activities and moving. They were always on the move! They call themselves "Tsad Kadima" (A Step Forward).

To me, they are my newest friends in Israel. They welcomed me as family to every activity and meal. I have rarely been so warmly welcomed by complete strangers. Meir, Michal, and Yair took me in. Michal is a lovely young woman who loves everyone. She is amazingly engaging. She would make a great actress. Meir is an athlete and loves conversation and interaction. He is also very funny! I met Yair singing Hip-Hop one night. Moreover, he writes and performs Hip-Hop. He has five of his own Hip-Hop songs on www.MySpace.com. You can find them if you go to MySpace and then cpmc1.

I have wonderful memories of our time together. But, my favorite memory of the group was watching those in wheelchairs and walkers get on to their feet and walk great distances throughout the day. Their training department leader, Yuval Tsur said it best, "They Step Forward with love." I would add, love plus patience, perseverance and presence.

In Palestine - What I Saw on the West Bank

Yesterday, I traveled to Hebron and Bethlehem. Both cities are in the Palestinian Territory. Each city has been in battleground of the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Before I went there, I had begun to see the trauma of this struggle from the Israeli perspective. Now I see it from the Palestinian perspective.

Throughout the day, I heard many things from our guide, from refugees, from Palestinians in each city. But, I will tell you what I saw with my own eyes.

I saw intense poverty. I saw beggars in the market who were missing limbs. I saw homes with no running water. I saw trash everywhere by the sides of the road and in the streets. I saw fields with wilting crops and scant irrigation. I saw graffiti on many walls with messages in English and Arabic. "To Exist is to Resist" was painted on one wall.

I saw homes occupied by Israeli soldiers only to learn their former occupants had simply been moved out and sent to "the new city" in Hebron.

I saw Israeli military throughout the city of Hebron. They were in fortifications on top of houses perched over the marketplace and the neighborhood. I saw large military vehicles rolling through the streets of Hebron as if in wartime. I saw military camps high on hills throughout the territory.

I saw children peddling armbands of the green, black and red Palestinian flag. When I said, "No thank you," they often asked "Why do you not help us?" One young man said, "You love Israelis and hate us."

I saw refugee camps in Bethlehem that had permanent buildings. These "camps" have been there for over 50 years. There was art work on walls portraying their struggle.

Worst of all, I saw an Israeli settler dump a wash bucket filled with dirty water on the heads of two Muslim children walking by. Soaking wet, the young children kept their eyes focused forward and they kept walking.

In eight hours on the West Bank, I saw despair. I saw poverty. I saw man's inhumanity to man.

*Read First Church Sermons
Online at
www.first-church.org*

Please join us for...

"Celebration Sunday"

September 12, 2010

Worship at 9
and 11 a.m.

10 a.m. Education
Hour
Classes for every age!

Special Event Marking
West Side Property
Purchase
And Launch of Our
Capital Campaign
After Worship



Sacred Earth Rummage Sale to be Held September 18

By Dawn George, Sacred Earth Committee

The Sacred Earth Committee is sponsoring a rummage sale on Saturday, September 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Parish Hall. A bake sale and raffle are included. We are asking for your donations to sell and for valuables to raffle. The proceeds will be used to complete the installation of solid state lighting ballasts in the Education Wing and for other energy saving improvements.



Suggested donations include: collectibles; books; jewelry; antiques; small furniture; luggage; knick-knacks; lamps; sporting goods; small appliances; toys; pet supplies; art work;

household items; and tools. **No Bedding, No Clothing, No Large Furniture.**

Items may be dropped off on Thursday, September 16, and Friday, September 17, in the afternoon in Room D in the Education Wing.

Baked goods may be left in the large conference room Friday, or brought to the sale on Saturday morning. To

volunteer to help with the bake sale, contact Abby Salak at abby.salak@gmail.com, or sign up in the office.

Volunteer opportunities include: Friday, pricing and set-up; Saturday, security and sales, a shift between 9-2, and laborers to clear the room at 2 p.m.; distribute flyers at your workplace and community. To volunteer, contact Sandra Geronimo at rwgeronimo@yahoo.com.

"Lend -A -Hand," a local 501C agency serving and employing disabled persons, will collect the unsold items after the sale. Visit them at www.lendahandcolumbus.com

(REV. WILSON, Concluded from Page 1)

His guidance has already participated in transforming the lives of thousands of searchers, seekers and believers; people new to the faith as well as those who've spent a lifetime living it out. Are you open to wondering if someone else needs to hear your story so that your faith might somehow inspire their own?

Whether you are a young adult, a senior adult or somewhere in between, the five practices are relevant in your life. Maybe it will be for you, or maybe you will be nudged by the Spirit to walk with someone else on their faith journey, Come check out *Church Night* – Wednesdays in the fall. Join us for a simple meal; laugh and pray with us as we Cultivate Fruitfulness together. I hope to see you there!

Summer Sermon Schedule



August 22 – Imam Hany Saqr
August 29 – Noreen Malone, O.P.

September 5 – Rev. Earl Fritz
September 12 – Rev. Mary Ann Goetz
September 19 – Rev. Dr. Janine Wilson
September 26 – Rev. Tim returns

*Stay in touch between
newsletters
Check out the
News page at
www.first-church.org*

Music

Music Notes

By James E. Bobb, Minister of Music
(jbobb@first-church.org)

August 2010

We are approaching that exciting time of year when the rhythm of ministries is renewed. Below is an outline of opportunities for music ministry in 2010-2011. It includes start dates and times for congregation choirs and details of our 37th season of Congregational Concerts, made possible through your generosity.



On Celebration Sunday, September 12, we will kick off the education and choir seasons, mark the anniversary of our Open and Affirming statement, and give thanks for the new property at 414 E Broad St. with majestic music for brass and choir. A festive procession will lead us from the nave to the west lawn as worship concludes and the ribbon-cutting takes place.

This year, I would like to find a regular time for a teen choir to meet, with the long-range goal of creating a comprehensive program for all ages. I hope you will contact me at 228.1741, ext.14, or at jbobb@first-church.org, with questions or if you would like to get involved.

Soli Deo gloria/To God alone be glory

First Church Choir

First Church Choir has an exciting year ahead. Rehearsals resume on Thursday, September 9, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. If you are interested in joining the choir, contact James Bobb to set up a meeting.

First Church Choral Society

On Sunday, November 21, the First Church Choral Society will perform J. S. Bach's Reformation Cantata BWV 79, *Gott der Herr ist Sonn' und Schild* (*Go the Lord is sun and shield*) with orchestra as part of a celebration of choral, organ and chamber music of J. S. Bach. The Choral Society welcomes new members and begins rehearsals on Thursday, October 7, from 7 to 8 p.m. After that, rehearsals will be Thursdays, 7:15 to 8 p.m. Contact James Bobb for information.

Treble Choir

The Treble Choir will have its first rehearsal on Sunday, September 19. This choir is open to all children and

young people in grades one through eight and provides an opportunity to receive musical training, participate fully in the worship life of this congregation, and learn the songs of our faith while building lifelong habits of service, fellowship and teamwork. Rehearsals are Sundays, 9-9:50 a.m. Contact Jamie Bobb for more information.

Gallery Ringers

If you read music and are looking for an opportunity to make music at First Church that does not necessarily require a year-round commitment or involve singing, the Gallery Handbell Ringers may be for you. We meet on Thursday nights at 6:15, starting September 16, and will work in six- to eight-week periods. You can ring all year long or commit to one block of time as arranged with the director. It's rewarding, challenging, good exercise and a good fellowship opportunity. Contact Jamie Bobb.

Congregational Concerts 2010-2011

September 26 at 4 p.m.

Minister of Music James E. Bobb opens the 37th season of concerts on the von Beckerath and Kimball organs with music of Bach, Duruflé, Reger, and Edwin Lemare's transcription of Saint-Saëns' *Danse Macabre*.

October 24 at 4 p.m.

Aya Hamada, harpsichord

Manhattan-based harpsichordist and pianist has given solo, concerto and chamber music concerts throughout the Americas and Europe, as well as her native Japan. She is principal keyboardist for the New York Symphonic Ensemble and ProMusica Chamber Orchestra of Columbus. Her program will include German and French solo repertoire and Bach's Concerto in C Minor, BWV 1060, for two harpsichords and chamber orchestra, with James Bobb at the second harpsichord.

November 21 at 4 p.m.

First Church Choral Society - Bach Festival

The themes of thanksgiving and praise are abundant in this celebration of the music of J. S. Bach. The First Church Choral Society and soloists perform the Reformation *Cantata Gott, der Herr, ist Sonn' und Schild*, BWV 79 with strings, oboes, trumpets and timpani. A select chamber choir will perform *Cantata Herz and Mund and Tat und Leben*, BWV 147 and a Bach motet. Each cantata contains a famous chorale (*Continued on Page 7*)

Christian Education

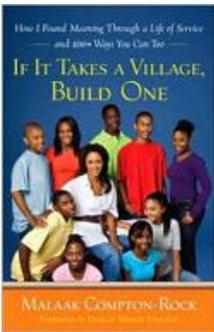
Here's Some Great Summer Reading

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

I know, I know it is the middle of August and many are getting ready to head back to school and all the fall activities. But here is a great book that you should read.



A good friend gave me a copy to read while I am going through my treatment. Now I must tell you, when you are going through the treatment it is sometimes hard to stay focused. This book kept my interest all the time. So what is the name of the book? *If It Takes a Village, Build One* by Malaak Compton-Rock.



You may not recognize the author, but you will know her husband, actor Chris Rock. Malaak was raised by her parents to live a life of service. Her mother was always quoting children's advocate Marian Wright Edelman (Children's Defense Fund), who said, "Service is the rent we pay for living."

This is an excellent book for all ages but particularly for parents and grandparents who are helping to raise children. It is also good for those who are looking to do mission work and support great organizations. It is a great, easy read with tons of information. I encourage you all to take a look at it. I am sure you can find it online, at your favorite bookstore or in the public library. Happy reading!

Church School Could Use Your Help

If you are interested in teaching or substituting for our church school, email either Mark Williams at mwilliams@first-church.org or Jackie Dean at jdean@first-church.org. Teaching could be for one quarter or two quarters, your choice. Call for more information about the wonderful curriculum we have for our children and youth. **Teacher orientation will be Sunday, August 22, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in the Education Wing.**

We also need volunteers for a short time period for some of our special programs during the year. There are helpers for the Christmas play, mission projects, music and other learning activities. Maybe this short-term project may work best for you. Let us know if you would like to help!

Dear Friends of First Church,

Thank you so much for your prayers and support during my recent surgery and treatment. The cards, notes, emails and food truly nourished my soul and body. Please continue to keep me and my family in your prayers as we continue chemo treatments and take on the next part of the journey with radiation.

To keep you up to date on my health condition, I created a CaringBridge Web site. You can follow my progress and show your support.

Visit my Web site in two easy ways: 1. Visit my CaringBridge site by clicking the link below. <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/markswilliams> 2. Enter my Web site name, markswilliams, at www.CaringBridge.org. **Show your support** • Visit and keep up to date. • Leave a message in my guestbook. • Receive e-mail notifications when my journal is updated.

- Mark Williams

UCC Retreat Set for September 14

The next "A Day with God and Self," a day-long retreat for educators, clergy and laity offering an opportunity for individual and group spiritual guidance, will be held September 14 at the Prettyman Center at the UCC's Pilgrim Hills camp. It begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m.

Leading the retreat will be Janet Burkhart, a licensed minister and the retired director of Christian Education at Trinity UCC in Wooster, and Shirley Weyrauch, Christian Education Coordinator at Christ Church UCC in Orrville.

The cost is \$30. If you plan to arrive the night before, there will be an additional \$40 charge for lodging. Please check with the Ohio Conference office about availability of breakfast on the date you have in mind. If breakfast is not available, you can bring and prepare your breakfast at the center.

Registration must be received two weeks before the retreat date. Call the Ohio Conference office at 800-282-0740 to request a brochure, or go online to www.ocucc.org for details and to print a registration form.

First Church News

UCC-wide prayers for Gulf of Mexico encouraged on Aug. 22

United Church News

Members of Florida's 100 UCC churches will gather for beach-side worship Sunday, August 22, to celebrate and reflect how individuals can play — and are playing — a role in protecting the Gulf of Mexico devastated by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.



The Florida churches also are asking UCC congregations across the country to join in prayerful solidarity on the same day. Throughout the United States, congregations are

asked to lift up "Disaster Relief Recognition Day" as a sign of support for those affected by the Gulf disaster.

The evening public worship service at the Pass-A-Grille (Fla.) Beach will feature music, speakers and a time of reflection prepared especially for the event, said the Rev. Kent Siladi, Florida Conference Minister.

"This will be a time of reflection as well as encouragement, as we recall our responsibility to be stewards of God's creation," Siladi said. Representatives from the UCC's national staff also will attend.

Siladi said the worship service hopes to address five expressed concerns: to identify and claim the church's source of all hope, to demonstrate the widespread concern of all UCC members, to declare the UCC's commitment to long-term recovery, to respond to people's anger and depression, and to strengthen resolve to end our dependence on oil.

Florence Coppola, the UCC's national disaster recovery coordinator, is encouraging UCC churches across the country to get involved and to send stories and photos of churches' creative support to coppolaf@ucc.org.

Calling All Gardeners!

By Jim Griffin, Sacred Earth Committee

The Sacred Earth Committee recently planted a late summer/early fall vegetable garden. Our community garden, which also includes an herb garden, is located next to First Church's education wing's west side.

In addition, the summer program, "Letting Kids Succeed," also has planted a vegetable garden adjacent to our community garden.

Sacred Earth is looking for volunteers to help with weeding and eventual harvesting of our efforts. The committee plans to donate our produce to Faith Mission and/or local food pantries. If you would like to help with the garden, contact Jim Griffin at 614-443-3249 or jgriffincmh@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Local Crop Walk Will Be Held October 10

The annual CROP Hunger Walk will take place October 10. This year's walk will again start in Genoa Park near COSI.



Donation and registration information can be found at www.churchworldservice.org. Watch for more information next month and on the Mission's Committee bulletin board.

For questions, feel free to contact Matt Stevens from Church World Service at 614-481-4416, or Patrick Keller, the First Church representative, at 614-732-4473.

Mailbox Alert

The church mailboxes are in process of being redone for this fall.

If you currently have a mailbox and would like any change to your name label and/or if you would like a special placement of your box (such as top or bottom of the rack rather than alphabetical), please email ovolunteer@first-church.org or leave a note in the church office.

Mailboxes are expected to be completed the week after Labor Day, Sunday, September 12, and the alphabet will start **left** of the elevator rather than on the right as in the past.

Church Women United Meets Sept. 17

The fall assembly of Church Women United will be held Friday, September 17, at 1 p.m. at Oakley Baptist Church, 3415 El Paso Dr. Speaker Peggy Burke will talk about her Haiti mission trip.

For more information, contact Arlene Reynolds.

First Church News

Welcome to Our Newest Members

First Church is welcoming four new members to its family. They are:



Linda Bozik, Robin and Raul Zendejas

Linda Bozik – Linda lives in Columbus, and is a photo studio manager with Lane Bryant.

Raul Zendejas – Raul also lives in Columbus, and is a computer manager with MJR Sales.

Robin Zendejas – Robin is Raul's daughter and is joining First Church as an associate member.

Chelsea Hartz – Chelsea, of Columbus, has a bachelor's degree in music, and has worked as a youth minister.



Chelsea Hartz

The four will join us in September. Please say hello and introduce yourselves when you see them!

(MUSIC, concluded from Page 4)

setting: *Now Thank we all our God* in BWV 79, and the movement known in English as *Jesu, joy of man's desiring* in BWV 147. Pre-concert talk at 3:40 p.m.

December 19 at 4 p.m.

Festival of Lessons and Carols

That glorious song of old is sung once more in the radiance of candlelight with this traditional service of scripture, carols and congregational song. Join First Church choirs, ringers and organs for this highlight of the Christmas season. Prelude begins at 3:30 p.m.

February 27, 2011, at 4 p.m.

Handbells Columbus

You won't want to miss this popular Columbus-based ensemble when they return to fill First Church with the jubilant sound of hand bells, organ, and piano in fascinating arrangements for six octaves of hand bells

and five octaves of hand chimes. This exciting group is a delight to see and hear for all ages.

March 27, 2011, at 4 p.m.

First Church Choral Society – English choral, organ, and art song treasures

Majestic standards and lesser-known gems of the English repertoire by Byrd, Gibbons, Parry, Stanford, Britten and Finzi. The audience will also join in a few soaring hymns from the cathedral tradition.

May 1, 2011, at 4 pm

Robert Bates, organ

Robert Bates (www.organists.net/bates.html), associate professor of organ at the Moores School of Music, University of Houston, concludes the season on both the Kimball and von Beckerath organs. Dr. Bates is a specialist in early French and Spanish organ repertoire, and in modern repertoire, being a composer whose works often include electronic and/or visual media. Dr. Bates has recorded the complete organ works of Brahms, Daquin and Correa de Arauxo. His three-CD set, *Viaticum*, contains eight of his own compositions. Herbert Huestis in *The Diapason* has written of Bates, "I discovered the genius of an artist committed to beauty and yes, the 'metaphysical' properties of this organ in our time. . . . This was a not-to-be-forgotten experience!"

Compline

Plan to join us for the evening service of Compline, offered the third Sunday of each month, except on Congregational Concert days, at 9 p.m. This 30-minute service of unaccompanied plainsong chant is illuminated by candlelight. It is a beautiful, peaceful, prayerful way to end the Lord's Day and provide a reflective oasis before the week begins anew. Compline at First Church will be September 19, October 17, January 16, February 20, March 20, April 17 and May 15. First Church coordinates the Compline schedule with St. Joseph Cathedral, which offers the service on the first Sunday of each month.

Tuesdays at First

October 5, 12, 19, 26; March 1, 8, 15, 22

Book study at 11 a.m.; a half-hour recital in the Sanctuary at 12:15 p.m., followed by a homemade lunch in the Parish Hall, \$5 donation.

First Church News

Recent Gifts to First Church

By Bill Johannes and Jane Werum



Given to the Remembrance Fund in celebration of the life of Karen Carpenter by:

Bert and Bev Cook
Frank and Carol Hussey
Joanne Morse
Debbie Anderson
Dennis and Linda Schlegel

Your gifts, payable to the First Congregational Church, are very much appreciated. Celebration Gifts may be designated to the Remembrance Fund or an Endowment Fund and given in honor of a particular moment in the life of friend or family member. The gold-colored Celebration Gift folders can be found in the pews and in the office.

A Big Thanks to Everyone

A belated thank you for your many prayers and kind words of hope, love and concern during my four-year struggle with kidney cancer, kidney failure and dialysis. When I was put on the transplant list I was told it would be at least three to five years before I would receive a new kidney. However, I was lucky enough to be selected after one-and-a-half years. I know nothing about the donor and my identity is kept confidential to the family, but I can contact them through Lifeline of Ohio with letters of "thank you."

I received my new kidney on Mother's Day, which is a very special day for me. My mother died of kidney failure, not quite the same diagnosis as mine, but she was sick during the early '60's when dialysis and transplants were not an option. I am very blessed that I could have both.

My transplant came through the efforts of Lifeline of Ohio. I encourage you to support them and consider becoming an organ donor.

I am doing well and almost back to feeling normal. The comfort I received from you then and now will always be appreciated.

Peace to you,
Jane Weddle

Organist Guild Recital is Sept. 12

The Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, a national not-for-profit educational organization, is hosting a recital by internationally-known organist/keyboards artist Hector Olivera on Sunday, September 12, at Mees Hall, Capital University at 4 p.m.

Olivera will play the Mees Hall Schantz pipe organ as well as the Roland Atelier. This will not be a traditional organ recital. Hector has a reputation of truly entertaining his audiences with his wit and dazzling displays of keyboard virtuosity. He often accompanies himself, simultaneously being the soloist and the orchestra. The Roland technology by itself is great enough to attract audio enthusiasts.

Tickets are available through www.ticketmaster.com. Adults are \$20; seniors (65 and older) \$15; and students \$10. You also may send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Sara Seidel, 204 Park Blvd., Worthington, Ohio, 43085. State the number of each type of ticket you want and include a check for the total amount made payable to: **Columbus Chapter AGO**.

Tickets will also be available at the door the day of the recital. Ticket sales at the door will be by cash or check only. Current members of the Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be admitted free with a picture ID.

A Saturday workshop (September 11) will be held in Mees Hall from 10 a.m. to noon (for the football enthusiasts). During the workshop, Hector will concentrate on artistic registration from the simple to the more complex. He will also share his approach to the art of transcribing keyboard and orchestral music for use on the organ. There is no admission charge for the workshop. All are welcome.

Mission Offerings Schedule

In September, the undesignated loose offerings will benefit the following missions that First Church supports:



September 5 - Downtowners
September 12 - Church World Service
September 19 - Gladden House
September 26 - United Church Homes



UCC's Lantern Fellowship Set For Sept. 17-19

The next Lantern Fellowship retreat of the Ohio Conference UCC will be held September 17 to 19 at the Pilgrim Hills Camp and Conference Center near Brinkhaven, Ohio. The cost is \$135.

Lantern Fellowship is an adult retreat offered to the women of the UCC Ohio Conference. It is a time when



women, ranging in age from 25 to 80 plus years, come together to enjoy good food, warm and friendly hospitality and the peaceful, quiet beauty of wooded hills and trails can renew the spirit.

The affirming and uplifting company of other women is quite inspiring. Lantern women have gathered away from home and church responsibilities for a time of community, worship, spiritual renewal and learning since 1928. For more information, go to www.ocucc.org.

Monthly Budget Update



July Current Pledge Income

Annual Budget	\$625,414
July Actual	\$30,770
YTD Actual	\$270,914
YTD Budget	\$364,826
Below Budget	\$93,912

July Mission Offerings

Kairos	\$757
Deep Griha	\$471.50
Good Samaritan	\$1,425.52
Faith Mission	\$478
BREAD Investment	\$2,190
Total Mission	\$5,322.02

Member Happy September Birthdays

2: Diane Cole	21: Shannon Washington
4: Marilyn Koetz	22: Bill Kutschbach
5: Christiana Bonito	22: Janette Hoffman
5: Elisa Batchelor	22: Molly Sass
6: Katie Kreimer	22: Alex Weaver
7: Dave Proctor	23: Victor John
7: Vince Papsidero	23: Stan Lange
7: Christen Coyle	24: Wayne Piper
8: Sallie Danneberger	26: Elizabeth Allen
9: Steven Ferris	26: Gerry Hudson
9: Kosby Carrico	26: Daniel Ahrens
10: Amy Jo Nicholson	27: Bernie Bouman
11: Julie Parsons	27: Ron Reiger
12: Bob Fowler	27: Chris Bickel-Armstrong
12: Linda Reiger	27: Pavan Peter
12: Matt Lazar	28: Tom Kuhn, Jr.
13: Lucille Kropp	29: Betsy Zahn
14: Doug Zimmerman	29: Pauline Fritz
14: Meredith Knueve	29: Cassie Reid
15: Richard Grieser	30: Robert Lucas II
16: Candy Schneider	30: Cami Curren
18: Christopher Washington	30: Janine Wilson
18: Deena Bowers	
19: John Bachman	
19: Tom Daniels	
19: Caroline Sanders	
20: Jim Gallagher	
20: David Mondiek	
20: Randy Hoffman	

Member Happy September Anniversaries

1: Betsy and John Zahn
1: Janice and Amos White
1: Melinda and Jon Anderson
3: Teri and Mike Ponzani
6: Elisa and and Andrew Batchelor
9: Diane and Kent Rambo
10: Elizabeth Drotleff and Eric Chambers
12: Lisa and Scott Warrick
13: Dayna and Michael McCrary
16: Lisa and Andy Thomas
16: Bev and Bert Cook
18: Peggy and Doug Buck
19: Jennifer and Michael Weaver
19: Marilyn and Ed Koetz
21: Suzie and Bill Rhoads
24: Leslie and David Fulford

Oops! Bob Lortz's birthday was May 19, while Karla Lortz celebrated her birthday on May 30. Their anniversary was June 15. Sorry we missed you, and congratulations!

If we miss your birthday or anniversary, contact Denny Mahoney at 228-1741, ext. 17, or dmahoney@first-church.org.

Church Calendar

Sunday, August 22

8:30 am – Teacher Orientation – Room D
9 am - Early Worship Service - PH
11 am - Worship Service – San
12 pm – Fellowship Hour – PH

Monday, August 23

6:30 pm – Stephen Ministers – Adult Library
7 pm – Capital Campaign Committee – PFR or PH

Tuesday, August 24

12 pm - Card Care Ministry – PFR
6:30 pm – Adult Education - LC
7 pm – Personnel Committee – PFR

Wednesday, August 25

7 pm – Adult Education – LC

Sunday, August 29

9 am – Early Worship – PH
11 am – Worship Service – San
12 pm - Fellowship Hour – PH

Monday, August 30

7 pm – Capital Campaign – PFR or PH

Tuesday, August 31

12 pm – Card Care Ministry – LC
7 pm – Nominating Committee – PFR

Wednesday, September 1

11 am – Book Study – Parlor

Sunday, September 5

9 am – Worship – PH
11 am – Worship – San
12 PM – Fellowship Hour – PH

Monday, September 6

(Labor Day, Office and Building Closed)

Tuesday, September 7

12 pm – Card Care Ministry – LC
6:30 pm – Children’s Education Committee – Ed Wing Rm D
7 pm – Deacons – LC
7 pm – Mission Committee – PFR
7:30 pm – Youth Ministry Team – Room C

Wednesday, September 8

7 pm – Budget and Finance – LC

Thursday, September 9

2 pm – Art Committee – PR
6:15 pm – First Church Ringers – Choir Room
7:30 pm – First Church Choir – Choir Room

Saturday, September 11

10 am – First Church Quilters – LC

Sunday, September 12 (Celebration Sunday)

9 am – Treble Choir – Choir Room
9 am – Worship – PH
10 am – Choir – Choir Room
10 am – Education Hour – Rooms C and D
11 am – Worship – San
12 pm – Fellowship Hour – PH
6 pm – Youth Groups – Parish Hall

Monday, September 13

6:30 pm - Trustees – LC
7 pm – Capital Campaign – PFR

Tuesday, September 14

12 pm – Card Care Ministry – LC
6 pm – Music Committee – PR
7 pm – Executive Committee – PFR

Wednesday, September 15

11 am- Book Study – PR
6 pm – Church Night – PH

Thursday, September 16

6:15 pm – First Church Ringers – Choir Room
7:30 pm – First Church Choir – Choir Room

Friday, September 17

3 pm – Rummage Sale Set-up - PH

Saturday, September 18

9 am – Rummage Sale – Parish Hall

Sunday, September 19

9 am – Treble Choir – Choir Room
9 am – Worship – PH
10 am – Choir – Choir Room
10 am – Education Hour
11 am – Worship – San
12 pm – Fellowship Hour – PH

Prayers

Prayer Request: Please let us know of a prayer concern for yourself, a family member or other church member by calling the Rev. Dr. Janine Wilson at 614.228.1741, ext. 21, by using prayer request cards found in each pew or by emailing jwilson@first-church.org.

Please pray for those who continue to walk through grief and loss, for those battling illness and addictions in their families, for all serving in Iraq and elsewhere and for others in need. Please offer prayers for those who are lonely, lost and hurting. Pray for our nation as we face all too much anxiety, fear and uncertainty with faith, hope and love. May God bless you in your giving and in your living in Christ's love and grace. Amen.

Deaths

Aubrey Cribb – August 4

Marriages

Kelly Weaver and Mitchell Dean – July 31

Megan Neff and Kyle Witucky – August 7

Brittani Casagrande and Mike Byce – August 14

Fellowship Hour Beverage Sales



Coffee and tea sales will be available on September 5 and 19 during Fellowship Hour. This is a UCC coffee project initiative and your participation is greatly appreciated.

**~ Remember Your Loved Ones ~
With a Dedication of Flowers**

Contact Marty Worth at 614.228.1741, ext. 12,
mworth@first-church.org

September Fellowship Hour

September 5: Acts

September 12: Amos

September 19: Colossians

September 26: Corinthians

September Acolyte Schedule

September 5: Cameron Wade and Adam Wade

September 12: Nick Warrick and Ben Allred

September 19: Katie Wagner and Katie Gies

September 26: Joe Spofforth

(Schedules online at www.first-church.org)

Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles Due: Monday, September 6, by noon

Worship CDs Available: We provide copies of worship services on CDs. The CDs are available in the literature rack outside the church office after worship. A \$1 donation for the CD can be left in a container on the church office counter.

Church Staff

Timothy C. Ahrens.....Senior Minister
Janine Wilson.....Associate Minister
James E. Bobb.....Minister of Music
Mark S. Williams.....Director of Christian Education
Jackie Dean.....Interim Director of Chr. Ed.
G. Dene Barnard.....Organist/Choirmaster Emeritus
Sharon Leidheiser.....Business Administrator
Martha Worth.....Program Manager
Bill Beckett.....Building Manager
Denny Mahoney.....Office Manager
Kelvin Murphy.....Custodian
Frank Wall, William Lee.....Custodians
Nikki Boop, Rosemary Pawandiwa.....Nursery
DeAndree Norris.....Nursery
Linda Mumford.....Wedding Coordinator
Jane Leidheiser.....Wedding Coordinator
Fran Panek.....Wedding Coordinator

Church Council

Melody Leidheiser.....Moderator
Sarah Reed.....Vice-Moderator
Trish Bishop, Judy Smith.....Secretary/Assistant
David Holt, Jim Fewlass.....Treasurer/Assistant
Frank Cook, Sandy Bennett.....Administration/Assistant
Wayne Piper.....Church Growth
Diane Cole, Priss Endo.....Education/Assistant
Wally Giffen, Vince Papsidero..House & Grounds/Assistant
Anne Hudson, Patrick Keller.....Mission/Assistant
Julia Myers.....Parish Life
Gerry Worth.....Senior Deacon
Kevin Butler.....Deacon
Jane Leidheiser, John Deliman..Music, Arts, Heritage/Ast.
Nancy Loy.....Nominating Chair
Jordan Knerr.....Member-at-large
Doug Buck.....Member-at-large

The First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
444 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3885

DATED MATERIAL - VERY IMPORTANT

Please Deliver: *Monday, August 23, 2010*

TO:

[Empty dashed rectangular box for recipient information]



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