



July  
2013  
Vol. 161,  
No. 7

# First Church News

First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Columbus, Ohio

*“Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve”*

## Compassion Fatigue

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

**The Compassion Fatigue Awareness Project has named something at which we should all take a look – “Compassion Fatigue.”**

*What is Compassion Fatigue?*

Here is what they write on their web site:

*Studies confirm that caregivers play host to a high level of compassion fatigue. Day in, day out, workers struggle to function in care giving environments that constantly present heart-wrenching, emotional challenges. Affecting positive change in society, a mission so vital to those passionate about caring for others is perceived as elusive, if not impossible. This painful reality, coupled with first-hand knowledge of society's flagrant disregard for the safety and well-being of the feeble and frail, takes its toll on everyone from full-time employees to part-time volunteers. Eventually, negative attitudes appear.*



*Compassion Fatigue symptoms are normal displays of chronic stress resulting from the care giving work we choose to do. Leading traumatologist Eric Gentry suggests that people who are attracted to care giving often enter the field already compassion fatigued. A strong identification with helpless, suffering or traumatized people or animals is possibly the motive. It is common for such people to hail from a tradition of what Gentry labels other-directed care giving. Simply put, these are people who were taught at an early age to care for the needs of others before caring for their own needs. Authentic, ongoing self-care practices are absent from their lives.*

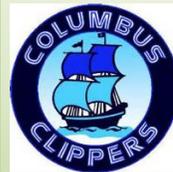
*If you sense that you are suffering from compassion fatigue, chances are excellent that you are. Your path to wellness begins with one small step: awareness. A heightened awareness can lead to insights regarding past traumas and painful situations that are being relived over and over within the confines of your symptoms and*

*behaviors. With the appropriate information and support, you can embark on a journey of discovery, healing past traumas and pain that currently serve as obstacles to a healthy, happier lifestyle.*

*Many resources are available to help you recognize the causes and symptoms of compassion fatigue. Healing begins by employing such simple practices as regular exercise, healthy eating habits, enjoyable social activities, journaling, and restful sleep. . . . Accepting the presence of compassion fatigue in your life only serves to validate the fact that you are a deeply caring individual. Somewhere along your healing path, the truth will present itself: You don't have to make a choice. It is possible to practice healthy, ongoing self-care while successfully continuing to care for others.*

I would encourage each member of First Church, whom I know to be caring and compassionate people, to take some time to rest, rejuvenate and recharge this summer. Prayer, laughter and love are all important for your well-being. God bless you in these days of July.

## First Church is Going to the Clippers!



**Saturday, August 24  
7:05 p.m. at  
Huntington Park**

Contact Rev. Janine (228-1741, ext. 21,  
or [jwilson@first-church.org](mailto:jwilson@first-church.org))  
For details

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### What do 'Church Growth,' 'Church Vitality' Mean to You?

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

Here at First Congregational these phrases come to us in a variety of ways - each with **depth, hope and joy**. I look forward to hearing the first words you hear, but until then, I will share part of what they mean to me.



First, I discovered not long ago that every time I think about Church Growth and Church Vitality, I smile. These two phrases bring joy, playfulness, community, friendship and energy to mind for me. I have the joy and of being the staff liaison to both Church Growth & Church Vitality Commissions (formerly called Parish Life.) They are separate commissions and both are open to newcomers. I encourage you to come to one of the monthly planning, dreaming and implementing meetings.

The spirit of both of these groups is lighthearted and relaxed. (If you have ever dreaded going to a meeting, come join us for a CG or CV meeting and let us turn that around for you. There is always a spirit of gentleness and joy the first Monday night when they meet!)

Second, I enjoy the hope that comes with growth and vitality. We are not only looking and listening for our still speaking God, but we also have the opportunity to prepare ourselves to listen and experience the hope of new directions and opportunities. As commissions, we work to offer events for building community and friendship.

And last, Church Growth and Church Vitality are phrases of depth. We are called by God to be the church of the Risen Christ – the One who gave us life and provides the ways and means for us to reach out with care and love to one another when things are difficult, when they are wonderful and when we are in the messy middle of everydayness.

So, if you have ever wondered if being part of a FCC Commission is more than “just another meeting,” my reply is a definite – “Yes, much more’.” All of our commissions seek to be avenues for growing our vital faith.

I encourage you to consider adding a little extra depth, hope and joy to your life this summer and fall. Come

and be part of the Church Growth or Church Vitality Commissions! I look forward to your call.

Rev. Janine

### 'What a Difference Jesus Makes'

By the Rev. Timothy C. Ahrens, Senior Minister

A few weeks ago, I sat in the Sanctuary and looked up. With the Jeffrey Window gone, all I could think of was how much I missed Jesus. I thought how much I missed the windows and their powerful message of the love and hope of Jesus Christ. I started thinking what life on our planet would be like without Jesus. If Jesus had never been and if he were gone from our lives today, what would faith and life on earth look like? What gifts and values come from Jesus that we need desperately today and for all time?



As you know, each year I deliver a sermon series in August. Last year, the series focused on the Christian Virtues displayed in our Rose Window on Broad Street (see the web site – [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org), go to the sermon files). This summer, as we prepare for the return of the Jeffery Window in the Chancel of the sanctuary and our glorious celebration on September 29, I would like to reflect on the meaning of the window that has been gone from view for the past seven months.

I asked you all for help. Over 40 people responded. I have been blown away! This sermon series is dedicated to the people of First Church. You have answered the questions: 1. *When you hear Jesus' name, what comes to your mind?* 2. *Whatever your response to the "name of Jesus," how has your answer made a difference in your life?*

As I preach your words and stories – all told anonymously unless you indicated otherwise – will be shared as they are woven in with texts and stories of Jesus. Here is the lineup of sermon titles and Sundays:

#### "What a Difference Jesus Makes"

**August 4** – “Jesus is Living Proof”

**August 11** – “Jesus is Teacher and Healer”

**August 18** – “Jesus is Protector and Hope”

**August 25** – “Jesus is Resurrected Life”

**September 1** – “Jesus is Love and Grace Everywhere”

## Celebrating Justice

By Greg Halbe, Justice Ministry Team Member

The work of justice calls our attention not only to wrongful suffering, but to celebrate the life to which God calls us. Summertime, when life springs forth in lush, beautiful abundance, is as good a time as any for such a celebration.

So our community gathered recently to celebrate the lives of our gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered brothers and sisters. The beauty and vitality of that celebration are also powerful witnesses against the violence this community still suffers, reminding all of us that God's voice of justice is still speaking.



So, too, BREAD, the city-wide interfaith justice community that we have pledged ourselves to, is celebrating the fruits of justice this summer. We will gather at Temple Israel for dinner and to celebrate what we have accomplished in God's name in our community on July 8 at 6 p.m. Our church's Justice Ministry team is extending personal invitations to this celebration, even as we organize ourselves for the coming year. If, in the haste of those preparations, our invitation hasn't reached you, and if you would like to learn more about BREAD's work in our community, please contact Greg Halbe, Jackie Lowery, Jane or Dane Chavers, Anne Hudson or Rev. Ahrens for details about the BREAD Celebration.

Our covenant with BREAD calls us to join with the 53 other member congregations to support its ministry. Beyond our powerful presence at the Nehemiah Gathering, we are called to give a portion of our treasure as well. Our budgeted annual donation, along with our occasional loose offerings, fulfills part of that obligation. Each summer, we are called as well to consider what we can give as individuals to the work and ministry of BREAD. Our Justice Ministry team is soliciting pledges, and can answer your questions about the work of BREAD and its annual budget.

Finally, our Justice Ministry team will begin a new year of advocacy and ministry on August 5 with a dinner and brief program here at First Church. We invite you to join us as we discern God's call on us for the coming year, as a member of BREAD and as an individual church with our own vision of justice. Details will follow in our orders

of worship, weekly epistles and in next month's newsletter.

## Wednesday Book Study Group Offers Some Reading Ideas

By the Rev. Timothy C. Ahrens, Senior Minister

Recently, we finished our latest book in our Wednesday Book Study Group, which meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month. After several months on *Occupy the Bible*, we closed the book on this wonderfully provocative text.

Now, our group is headed into summer break during July. We start up again on August 7 with our new book from Marcus Borg, *Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power and How They Can Be Restored*. It is a great book – very readable and relevant.



As we head to summer break, we agreed to share the list of books our 15+ members have been reading and recommend for others. Here they are:

*And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini; *A Week in Winter* by Maeve Binchey; *American Nations* by Colin Woodward; *Cutting for Stone* by A. Verghese.

*Dag Hammarskjöld: A Life* by R. Lipsey; *Jesus* by Marcus Borg; *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn; *Maisie Dobbs* by Jacqueline Winspear; *Saving Jesus from the Church* by Robin Meyers; *Swamplands* by Karen Russell; *That Night* by Alice McDermott.

*The Great Inversion* by Alan Ehrenhalt; *The Oath* by Jeffrey Toobin; *The Presidents' Club* by Michael Duffy (Michael grew up in First Church!); *The Wife* by Meg Wolitzer; *What Money Can't Buy* by Michael Sandel; *Who Owns the Future* by Jaron Lanier.

Happy Reading. Join us August 7 at 11 a.m. in the Parlor for Borg and tons of fun!

### Next Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles for the August *First Church News* is July 22 at noon. It will be published Thursday, August 1.

## First Church Youth Ready For 2013 Mission Trip

By Abby Salak, Sabbatical Interim in Christian Education

Hello my friends,

It's Youth Mission Trip time! This year, in case you haven't heard, we are heading to the Camp Washington neighborhood of Cincinnati July 7-12. We will be working with Washington United Church of Christ in a few of their community outreach programs.

Washington UCC has a vision statement that describes their partnership with the Camp Washington neighborhood (of which they are a part) as an opportunity to "create a community that is safe and clean, where people have enough food, decent housing, opportunities for education and work, and live in an environment that nurtures all families." We are so blessed to join them on this journey!

It's important for us to know a little about the community we are encountering, so here are some statistics provided by Washington UCC about Camp Washington residents:

- 53% have never graduated from high school
- 40% of households have an annual income of less than \$15,000
- 35% live below the federal poverty level

The programs of Washington UCC work with residents to face these challenges and help to meet their human needs. The youth of First Church will spend their week working with children in a summer program, designed to keep kids engaged in learning while not in school. In addition to the education piece, the kids have time to play and socialize as well as take field trips around the city. Our youth will be with them for all of it!

One our way to Camp Washington, we will stop at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center to learn about the Underground Railroad in Ohio! This holds a special place for us, because of our abolitionist history here at First Church!

We invite everyone to join us at the 11 a.m. service July 7 as the mission trip participants are recognized and sent on their way. Even if you cannot be at that service, please keep us in your prayers as we travel and experience a new community.

Blessings be upon you,

Abby Salak

## Wanna Go to Kings Island?

At the end of the mission trip, the First Church youth are going to Kings Island. We bought a few too many tickets and we'd like to invite church members to purchase them. Each ticket is \$34, which is \$3 off the online ticket price and \$13 off the gate ticket price. They are good for the whole season. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets, please contact Abby, [asalak@first-church.org](mailto:asalak@first-church.org) or 228-1741, ext . 15.

## First Church Gardens Need Some TLC

Surrounding the majesty of our neo-Gothic cathedral are gardens of flowers, trees, shrubs, herbs and vegetables. Just as our beautiful building demands our stewardship, so do these gardens

Watering, weeding, pruning and harvesting are the simple gifts we can offer to sustain these gardens. If you're a "Grumpy Old Gardener" like me or Gerry Worth, you may prefer to do this work in quiet solitude. You can bring your own tools, or use what we have in our tool shed, and you're welcome to pitch in any time. Just consult with me or Nancy Burba beforehand..



If you're like Nancy, and enjoy the company of others while you do this work, please join her any Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning when she shows up to water, weed, or whatever needs to be done. You can also join us on Saturday, July 20, and Saturday, August 17, 9 a.m. to noon, for a morning of gardening, followed by brunch at Hills Market. – **Greg Halbe**

### July Sermon Titles

#### Rev. Ahrens

July 7 - Communion Meditation -  
"On a Mission From God"

#### Rev. Nancy Livingston

July 14 – TBA

#### Rev. Wilson

July 21 – "Getting it Right"  
July 28 – "Taking Captives"

## Music and Liturgy Notes July 2013

By Kevin Jones, Minister of Music  
([kjones@first-church.org](mailto:kjones@first-church.org))

In the past few months, several congregants have asked me how I go about choosing organ music for worship services. I don't think the question was meant to indicate dissatisfaction, but rather to show genuine interest in "how it's done." Since the question has come up more than once, I thought I might write a brief article about my process. I claim no level of expertise here, I merely want to share my own thoughts and the methods that I've developed in more than 34 years as a professional church organist. (Can it be that long?)



Choosing music for worship is a multi-faceted thing. There are many factors to consider – liturgical season; time of year; mood of service; special occasion; composers of anthems chosen; heritage of textually appropriate music; and, here, which organ is going to be used primarily. I employ any, some or all of these considerations when choosing music.

I am a planner. I have found that I do my best work when there is ample time for revision. I have also found that when I'm "behind the 8 ball" I tend not to be at my best. I go into survival mode, which can lead to panic. Perhaps some people thrive on this kind of adrenaline rush. I, however, do not. So, I tend to work a full liturgical season ahead. For example, as I write this we are in the beginning of Ordinary Time (see last month's rambling article for an explanation of Ordinary Time). Right now I'm full into planning for September and even into Advent/Christmas.

Because we are a church that follows the three-year cycle of readings known as the Lectionary, scripture readings are laid out for us. The Lectionary readings consist, generally, of an Old Testament reading, a Psalm, a New Testament reading and a Gospel reading. The clergy use these readings when they are planning sermons and when the worship planning team is working together as well. Most churches that employ the lectionary use the Revised Common Lectionary, which began as an ecumenical project to provide greater unity of the Church.

My first step in planning music for worship is to consult these readings. This, then, leads me to my next step, which is choosing the choir anthems to reflect, enliven or expand those texts. (This is not always true. Sometimes textual heritage trumps daily readings. For example,

singing a *Te Deum* on Trinity Sunday or a *Kyrie eleison* for Lent.) After this has been penned, I work at choosing hymns and other service music for the congregation. Then I am ready to look at organ music. It's the last stop on the train. For me, everything stems from the texts first.

Many times, organ music can tie the disparate musical elements together. For example, several weeks ago, the Choir sang an introit by Hugo Distler, "Praise to the Lord." You may have noticed, then, that the prelude was Distler's Organ Sonata. Playing of that sonata was the aural preparation for the choral introit. In that case, I took it one step further and repeated the thematic and textual material in the Processional Hymn, "Praise ye the Lord."

Other times, an abstract piece of organ music can just seem to suit the festivity of the day. Take the Easter Day postlude, for example. The brilliant *Toccata* by Charles-Marie Widor seems to say "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" better than any other organ piece I know. You'd be hard-pressed to say that the Widor *Toccata* has any **liturgical** relation to the readings of Easter, but it certainly suits the mood of the most important day in the Christian year.

This coming Sunday (as you read this we will be well past June 23), however, I've chosen to use a particular chorale for the choir anthem, "If thou but suffer God to guide thee" (*Wer nur den Lieben Gott lässt walten*) sing that chorale as the Closing Hymn, and then play three short chorale preludes by J.S. Bach on that hymn as the postlude. Again, using the same melody arranged in three different modes helps make the liturgy a complete sentence.

I consider a lot of variants when I program organ music and I hope that this brief article has helped shed some light on my process. It's certainly not the only way, but it's at least one way of choosing music to the glory of God – our highest duty in worship.

### Concerts at First Church

The 2013-2014 season of concerts is planned and will be announced later in July via the yearly, mailed concert brochure. If you do not normally receive a brochure but would like to receive one, please email Marty Worth ([mworth@first-church.org](mailto:mworth@first-church.org)) or telephone (614.228.1741, x14) and she will happily add your name to the mailing list.

Our web site is up and functioning! Go to [www.concertsatfirstchurch.org](http://www.concertsatfirstchurch.org) to see what we have planned. The first concert is Sunday, September 29, 2013, at 4 p.m. with Kevin Jones playing an organ recital. The music of J.S. Bach, César Franck, Vincent Persichetti and Herbert Howells will showcase both the Kimball and Beckerath organs.

**Church Council  
June 2013**

Church Council had a very full agenda at its June meeting. Council adopted budget adjustments and reductions of \$14,177.68. Pledging revenue is down by \$32,000 and wedding revenues are down due to the Jeffrey Window's restoration.

Council increased wedding fees by \$100 for both members and non-members. (Wedding fees had not been increased in nine years.) Council also approved creating a Memorial Garden fund, a Capital Campaign project.



Council authorized Catherine Hope-Cunningham to spend up to \$10,000 for the acquisition and installation of playground equipment that Columbus State is removing as it closes its child-care facility.

Commission Reports:

**Administration** – Personnel is in the process of reviewing staff position descriptions. Staff anniversaries will be included in the newsletter and bulletin. Stewardship has started planning the upcoming pledging campaign. Council is encouraged to attend Budget & Finance meetings.

**Trustees** – Legacy Sunday planning is continuing. A new fund to maintain our stained glass windows is being created.

**Deacons** – Individuals seeking financial assistance on Sundays will be told about the Good Sam program and how to apply. Memorial books will be purchased to be used at memorial services. A letter of endorsement for Greg Halbe, who plans to become a licensed minister.

**Church Growth** – Deb Thompson is stepping down as chair due to new job responsibilities. The committee reported on its involvement in the Pride Parade, Comfest and a "Bike to Church" campaign.

**Church Vitality** – Plans include the annual Harvest Party on October 6. Additional activities include dinner at Spaghetti Warehouse in September and attending a Clippers game in August.

**Christian Education** – Abby Salak has begun serving as interim director during Mark Williams' sabbatical. Adult education curriculum is currently being finalized. Fundraising has begun for future mission trips to

Pittsburgh and Biloxi, Miss.

**House & Grounds** – Fencing is being installed on the west side of the building. The committee plans to plant four trees along Broad Street. Removal of diseased trees in the parking lot is being planned.

**Justice & Mercy** – Mission offerings through early September were presented and approved.

**Music, Art & Heritage** – Fundraising letters for the anthem commissions were recently mailed.

Submitted by Jim Griffin, Secretary

**The Member Minister Advisory Group** for Kevin Jones will meet Tuesday, July 23, at 6 p.m. in the Choir Room. Members of Kevin's MMAG are:

Class of 2014

**Knerr, Charlie**

614.389.0747

[charlie@ICFTcolumbus.com](mailto:charlie@ICFTcolumbus.com)

**Weaver, Mary**

614.476.8728

[mw313476@hotmail.com](mailto:mw313476@hotmail.com)

Class of 2015

**Gallagher, Jim**

614.891.0444

[igall0444@yahoo.com](mailto:igall0444@yahoo.com)

**Hopcraft, Kim**

614.286.0177

[kimsings2@aol.com](mailto:kimsings2@aol.com)

Class of 2016

**Deliman, John**

614.804.5579

[jdelmusic@wowway.com](mailto:jdelmusic@wowway.com)

**Smith, Judy**

614.239.7187

[jsmith@capa.com](mailto:jsmith@capa.com)

If you have anything to pass on to Kevin's advisory group, please do so before July 23. The next meeting of his group is October 29.

## Plans for Fall Conference Events

Don't miss these Ohio Conference events scheduled during cooler weather! Save the dates; details will be coming soon.

**Fall Lantern Women's Retreat at Pilgrim Hills - September 20-22**

**Senior High Fall Youth Event, Pilgrim Hills - November 16-17**

There also will be a Fall Youth Event Reunion November 9-11 at Pilgrim Hills. Come and meet with old friends, worship with Andra Moran and share in a typical FYE weekend. All young adults and FYE participants are welcome. For more information, go to [www.ocucc.org](http://www.ocucc.org).



## Missions Offering Schedule

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

- July 7 – Youth Mission Trip
- July 14 – Church World Service – Tornado Relief
- July 21 – Deep Griha Scholarship Fund
- July 28 – Gladden Community House

## New Members Class is July 29

Interested in becoming a new member? If so, contact Rev. Janine Wilson at 614-228-1741, ext. 21, or [jwilson@first-church.org](mailto:jwilson@first-church.org). A new class is forming for July 29, 7-9 p.m. Child care is available by request.

## Fellowship Hour Beverage

Coffee and tea sales will be available July 7 and 14 during Fellowship Hour. This is a UCC coffee project and your participation is greatly appreciated.



## Member Happy July Birthdays

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1: Larry Walquist       | 16: Shelly Gies         |
| 1: Roger Fox            | 17: Todd Jacobson       |
| 3: Laura Hadley         | 18: Michael Hopcraft    |
| 4: Cori Rowley          | 18: Nicky McLaughlin    |
| 5: Nancy Evans          | 19: Bev Cook            |
| 5: Susie Heer           | 19: Betsy Trace         |
| 7: Kathy Brownfield     | 19: Thomas Trace        |
| 8: Joyce Campbell       | 20: Dale Ann Gray       |
| 8: Sandra Geronimo      | 20: Karen Clay          |
| 8: Mike Rippel          | 21: Debra Hadley        |
| 9: Joan Lebold          | 22: Janice Cook         |
| 9: Scott Sass           | 22: Eric Chambers       |
| 11: David Bowers        | 23: Jim Kyle            |
| 12: Karen Behm          | 23: James Borling       |
| 13: Carol Lowy          | 24: Stan Myers          |
| 13: Logan Browne        | 24: Kristi Thompson     |
| 14: Jack Davis          | 24: Linda Gieseke       |
| 15: Francille Firebaugh | 24: Fred Hadley         |
| 15: Kirk Marker         | 25: Earl Fritz          |
| 16: Twink Starr         | 25: Nancy Braverman     |
| 16: Steve Brandehoff    | 25: Fred Hunker         |
| 16: David Magers        | 25: Sarah Welsh-Huggins |
| 16: Mark Brown          | 26: Joanne Morse        |
| 16: Sharon Leidheiser   | 27: Courtenay Gregory   |
| 16: Elizabeth Drotleff  | 28: Steve Sterrett      |
|                         | 28: Katelyn Hoffman     |
|                         | 29: Andrea Gonzalez     |
|                         | 29: Jason Bryant        |
|                         | 30: Fran Panek          |
|                         | 30: Kent Shimeall       |
|                         | 30: David Temple        |
|                         | 31: Carolyn Watkins     |
|                         | 31: Leon Axt            |

## Member Happy July Anniversaries

- 1: Sharon and Larry Walquist
- 1: Robyn and Mike Petras
- 7: Trisha and Tom Bishop
- 7: Kerry and Rob O'Leary
- 8: Denise and Nate Vogt
- 9: Mary Ann and Herb Goetz
- 11: Murley and Alan Miller
- 11: Shelly and Thomas Gies
- 12: Cindy and John Deliman
- 12: Devon and Barry Bastian
- 13: Julie and Tom Stewart
- 14: Christen Coyle and Jason Holton
- 15: Anne and Gerry Hudson
- 15: Sarah and Erik Mitchell
- 17: Carol and Jim Gallagher
- 17: Natalie and Tristan Setty
- 18: Molly and Eric Van Gorden
- 23: Lissa and Drew Wade
- 26: Catherine and Todd Cunningham
- 31: Kelley and Mitchell Dean

**OOPS!** If we miss your birthday or anniversary, contact Denny Mahoney at 228-1741, ext. 17, or [dmahoney@first-church.org](mailto:dmahoney@first-church.org).

# Calendar

## **Monday, July 1**

6:30 pm – Church Growth – Parlor/PFR  
7 pm – Deacons – LC

## **Tuesday, July 2**

Noon – Care Ministry – LC  
2 pm – Worship Planning – PFR  
7 pm – Justice and Mercy Committee – LC

## **Thursday, July 4 (Independence Day)**

*Building and Office Closed*

## **Sunday, July 7**

9 am – Worship – PH  
10 am – Summer Choir – Choir Room  
11 am – Worship – San  
Noon – Fellowship Hour – PH

## **Monday, July 8**

Good Samaritan Day  
7 pm – Trustees – LC

## **Tuesday, July 9**

Noon – Care Ministry – LC  
2 pm – Worship Planning – PFR  
5:30 pm – Sacred Earth – LC  
7 pm – Executive Committee – LC

## **Wednesday, July 10**

9:30 am – Staff Meeting – LC  
6 pm – Music Committee – Parlor

## **Saturday, July 13**

10 am – First Church Quilters – LC  
11 am – Ardis Postle Memorial Service – San

## **Sunday, July 14**

9 am – Worship – PH  
10 am – First Church Summer Choir – Choir Room  
11 am – Worship – San  
Noon – Fellowship Hour – PH

## **Monday, July 15**

7 pm – Personnel – LC

## **Tuesday, July 16**

Noon – Care Ministry – LC  
2 pm – Worship Planning – PFR

## **Saturday, July 20**

8 am – Men's Breakfast – LC

## **Sunday, July 21**

9 am – Worship – PH  
10 am – First Church Summer Choir – Choir Room  
11 am – Worship – San  
Noon – Fellowship Hour – PH

## **Monday, July 22**

7 pm – Budget and Finance – LC

## **Tuesday, July 23**

12 pm – Care Ministry – LC  
2 pm – Worship Planning – PFR  
6 pm – Kevin Jones Advisory Group – Choir Room

## **Wednesday, July 24**

9:30 am – Staff Meeting – LC

## **Friday, July 26**

6 pm – Faith Mission Meal – Kitchen

## **Sunday, July 28**

9 am – Worship – PH  
10 am – First Church Choir  
11 am – Worship – San  
Noon – Fellowship Hour – PH

## **Tuesday, July 30**

Noon – Care Ministry – LC  
2 pm – Worship Planning – PFR

### Upcoming Events



**July 7-12 - Youth Mission Trip**

**August 24 – Columbus Clippers game, 7 p.m.**  
Fireworks after game.

**August 25 – Church Picnic after 11 a.m.**  
worship. Shade tents, volleyball, cakewalk and  
sprinklers on for kids to enjoy!

**September 6 – Spaghetti dinner with family and  
friends, Spaghetti Warehouse. Time TBA.**

Check out the Church Vitality Calendar  
on the bulletin board across from the church  
office! You can add your name to the sign-up  
sheets.

### Thanks to all at First Church

On behalf of my family, I would like to thank everyone at First Church for the kind words, cards and flowers that we received following the recent death of my brother. The support you provide to families during times of grief means a great deal. – **Denny Mahoney**

*The First Church Congregation is Invited  
To the Wedding of*

*Timothy W. Carsey  
and Mark S. Williams*

*July 6, 6:30 p.m.  
in the Sanctuary*

*Reception to follow in Parish Hall*

# Prayers

## Prayers

**Prayer Request:** Please let us know of a prayer concern for yourself, a family member or other church member by calling the Rev. Timothy Ahrens at 614.228.1741, ext. 13, by using prayer request cards found in each pew or by emailing [tahrens@first-church.org](mailto:tahrens@first-church.org).

### Births

Wyeth Archer Rowley, son of Cori and Ben Rowley – June 5

### Baptisms

Tiana Rae Daines and Victoria Rose Daines – June 16  
Eddie Mykl Anderson and Nihcollette Ann Anderson – June 23

### Deaths

John Zahn – June 2

### Weddings

Kate Finney and Derek Van Dyke – June 8  
Allison Stoshak and David Wallace – June 15  
Colleen Brown and Brandon Merrill – June 22  
Brooke Bedelvsky and Chris McAndrew – June 29  
Elizabeth Winner and Jim Gledhill – June 29

## July Fellowship Hour

July 7           Holiday  
July 14          Ruth  
July 21          Samuel  
July 28          Zechariah

## July Acolyte Schedule

July 7           Alaina Thompson and Miriam Myers  
July 14          Courtney Batchelor and Nina Zimmerman  
July 21          Miriam Myers and Victoria Washington  
July 28          Mia Provenzano and Anna Rambo

(Schedules online at [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org))

**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*  
Kevin Jones.....*Minister of Music*  
Mark S. Williams.....*Director of Christian Education*  
Abby Salak.....*Sabbatical Interim in Christian Education*  
G. Dene Barnard.....*Organist Choirmaster Emeritus*  
Sharon Leidheiser.....*Business Administrator*  
Martha Worth.....*Program Manager*  
Denny Mahoney.....*Office Manager*  
Thomas Luff.....*Building Manager*  
Kelvin Murphy.....*Custodian*  
William Lee.....*Custodian*  
Rosemary Pawandiwa-Priore.....*Nursery*  
Summer Petras.....*Nursery*  
Anne Abbott-Merriman.....*Nursery*  
Linda Mumford.....*Wedding Coordinator*  
Jane Chavers.....*Wedding Coordinator*  
Fran Panek.....*Wedding Coordinator*  
Lisa Dean.....*Wedding Coordinator*

### Church Council

Sarah Reed.....*Moderator*  
Frank Cook.....*Moderator-elect*  
Jim Griffin/Melissa Prendergast.....*Secretary/Assistant*  
Ken Salak/David Holt.....*Treasurer/Assistant*  
Jim Fewlass.....*Administration*  
Deb Thompson/Catherine Cunningham.....*Church Growth/Ast.*  
Deana Armstrong/Julia Meyers.....*Education/Asst*  
Rick Sayre/Nancy Burba.....*House & Grounds/Assistant*  
Matt Allen/Chris Glaros.....*Mission/Assistant*  
Anne Hudson.....*Church Vitality*  
Greg Halbe/Sharon Walquist.....*Music, Arts, Heritage/Asst.*  
Gerry Worth.....*Nominating Chair*  
Christopher Washington.....*Trustees*  
Alfred Fields.....*Member-at-large*

~ Remember Your Loved Ones ~  
With a Dedication of Flowers

Contact Marty Worth at 614.228.1741, ext. 14,  
[mworth@first-church.org](mailto:mworth@first-church.org)

**The First Congregational Church**  
United Church of Christ  
444 E. Broad St.  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3821

**Please Deliver By: Friday, July 5, 2013**  
**TO:**



**The First Congregational Church, UCC**

444 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741  
Email: [home@first-church.org](mailto:home@first-church.org) Web site: [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org)  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Closed Major Holidays

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

**SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS**

Worship at 9 a.m. ~ Parish Hall  
Worship at 11 a.m. ~ Sanctuary

