



## Journey's Ended, Journey's Begun

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

*"Journey's Ended, Journey's Begun to go where we have never been, to be beyond our past, moments of lifting up transcending death, rising in transparent light to the fullness of God's presence."*

-- From "Journey's Ended, Journey's Begun," the Monks of Weston Priory

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! It has been 100 days since I have written these scriptural words of salutation to each of you. It feels so good to say them to you again.

**Journey's Ending . . .** I return to Columbus and will be back with you on September 20. My journey through Spain, Morocco, Israel, the Palestinian territories, and Egypt has come to end. If you have not done so, I encourage you might want to read the 70+ blogs found at [http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/faith\\_values/Tim-Ahrens.html](http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/faith_values/Tim-Ahrens.html).

In the journey now ending, I have visited 24 mosques, 24 synagogues and more than 60 churches from every imaginable part of the Christian church. I have worshipped with Muslims 14 times, Jews 15 times and Christians more than 30 times in 14 different languages. I have read the Qur'an and spent hours of study and prayer in the scriptural texts of our Bible. I have had meaningful times of prayer and conversation with hundreds of "children of Abraham" in multiple daily settings, plus monasteries, a kibbutz, mosques, cathedrals, synagogues and in table fellowship among all the children of Abraham.

So much has happened. So many stories. So many memories. So much inspiration and enlightenment.

I have seen the absolute horrors of poverty and the unabashed joy of the faith. I have been with Children of Abraham in their highest moments of celebration and their daily rituals of prayer. I have spent many days in the desert and seen the  
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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual First Church Pet Blessing

**Saturday, October 2**  
**11 a.m. on the East Lawn**  
**All Pets and Their Proud Owners**  
**Are Welcome!**



# From the Pastors

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## The Music of God's Hope

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

*I love to tell the story of unseen things  
above,  
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His  
love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis  
true;  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else  
can do.*



Are you humming? Were you raised on this hymn as I was? As it floats across your mind what instrument do you hear? Is it a piano, an organ, maybe a guitar? Does it move quickly into words or do you hear the music filling the air first?

When I stopped to let it in just now I was surprised how many different instruments and voices surfaced. It's only recently I learned that this hymn (*I Love to Tell the Story*) was inspired by a 50 stanza poem by Arabella Katherine Hankey in 1866.

Katherine was a banker's daughter and was part of the Clapham Sect. I'd never heard of them, but discovered the group was mainly known for its positions of anti-slavery, prison reform, education and pro-missionary work. (They sound like great UCCers don't they - we are connected by music and actions!) As inviting as the words are, they may well have remained just an interesting and heartfelt poem were it not for the pairing of music and lyrics. So I also give thanks to God for William G. Fischer, who composed the familiar tune.

When I listen closely, I can hear my mother playing the tune on the upright piano in my grandmother's parlor in Litchfield, Ill., where I visited each summer for the first half of my life. I can hear the small organ in the  
**(Continued on Page 3)**

**(REV. AHRENS, Concluded from Page 1)**

sunrise on Mt. Sinai. From quiet words spoken by Muslims and Christians fearing reprisal to joyous laughter of prisoners witnessing to their Christian faith; from imams filled with Allah's spirit, to rabbis singing the songs of Zion; from priests and friars in solemn prayer to young Christians raising their hands to Jesus in praise of Him, I have been changed by what I have witnessed and experienced.

**While I was away . . .** I am so thankful for the staff and lay leadership who carried the ball forward throughout the summer of 2010. Under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Janine Wilson, the staff stepped up and worked wonders! I am humbled to be part of such an amazing group of Christian leaders. Every staff person of First Congregational Church is gifted and committed to the ministry and mission of our congregation.

In addition, I know our moderator, Melody Leidheiser, and our lay leadership has toiled through the summer season to keep the church moving forward in faith. We are blessed by outstanding leadership in our Church Council, the Trustees, the Deacons, all the committees and commissions and voluntary leadership of First Church. Thanks be to you and thanks be to God for all you and all you have done so far in 2010.

**Journey's begun . . .** Now I return to you. My journey forward in faith is just beginning.

I am eager to leap into the fall program and join with you in paving the pathway to future ministry and mission. I am excited to return to the new look on the corner of Broad and Cleveland – the NEW address of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio! I am excited by the fall program of which I am a small part. But I feel like I am entering the on-ramp at I-71 north on a bicycle with traffic flying by. I will do my best to "get with the program." Please be patient with me as I adjust to the flow of the fall.

The journey ahead will be a blessing from God. I know this to be true. Each day over the past three months, I have risen with prayers of thanksgiving for each one of you. Each day I have asked God's blessing to open my eyes so I may behold God's glorious wonder. God has richly blessed me each day. God has expanded my vision and opened my mind. With this same spirit, I return to serve you. I cannot wait to embrace you once again and serve you with gladness.

As our journey is beginning all over again, let us live into the words of Hebrews 12:1-2:

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding the shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."*

# First Church News

## First Church Members Invited to Capital Campaign Parties

By Neal Brower, Capital Campaign Committee

The Future's Broadening Way capital campaign officially kicked off with Celebration Sunday on September 12.



THE FUTURE'S BROADENING WAY

In addition to celebrating the beginning of the church school year, the return of the choir to the 11 a.m. service, and the eighth anniversary of First Church's open and affirming statement, those in attendance were heralded by a brass quintet as they recessed to our property at Broad and Cleveland through the newly-accessible west narthex doors and across a new sidewalk linking the west lawn to the former Byers Lot.

Outside, there was a brief ceremony featuring campaign chairman Tom Stewart, CCAD President Denny Griffith  
**(Continued on Page 7)**

**(REV. WILSON, Concluded from Page 2)**

Moravian church in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., where I learned not to touch the foot pedals and to make sure I learned the stories of the Bible. I also hear the acoustic guitar of Alan Jackson, from two Easters past, rising in my soul.

And now, along with you, I also hear the mastery of our choirs, amazing musicians and the two organs here at First Church. I hear the music, the lyrics, the preachers and the people who sat (and sit) near me in the pews. I feel the choir robes that were scratchy and remember the boys tugging at their ties.

I remember more than the hymn. Remembering the hymn brings me to an instant experience of faith and the faithful. All of the memories are enveloped in the faith of people who taught me to connect the dots between the Bible, the music, the people and how we choose to live. How amazing it is that God knows us and trusts us to enter into, and some days even become, part of the music and the lyrics of God's hope. May we sing together with integrity and thoughtfulness as we pass God's story between us and to others, this day and all days.

*I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems  
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;  
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.*



## Rummage Sale!

**When: Saturday, Sept. 18**  
**9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Where: Parish Hall**

**Free ice cream!**  
**Everyone welcome!**

## Upcoming Sermons

### October 3 - World Wide Communion Sunday

Habakkuk 1:1-4,2:1-4; Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

"The Mustard Seed and St. Simeon"



### October 10

Jeremiah 29:1,4-7; ; 2 Timothy 2: 8-15; Luke 17:11-19  
"Living with Gratitude in Garbage City"

### October 17

Jeremiah 31:27-34; II Timothy 3:14 -4:5; Luke 18:1-8  
"Itching Ears and Just Hearts"

### October 24

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-22; Luke 18:9-17  
"The Spirit of Children: God's Kingdom Is Coming"

### October 31 - All Saint's Eve

Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31  
"In Christ All Things Are Possible!"

# Music

## Music Notes

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

### September 2010

I am still reveling in the joy of Celebration Sunday last weekend. But I know we have many more opportunities ahead. Congregational Concerts begin on September 26 at 4 p.m. with my organ recital of music by Bach, Reger, Duruflé and Saint-Saëns. On October 24 at 4 p.m., harpsichordist Aya Hamada plays a recital on our Bechtel harpsichord, concluding with a Bach concerto for two harpsichords and strings. I join her for that work with my own von Nagel harpsichord.



I am happy to announce that our midday Tuesdays at First concert series will be offered in October. Half-hour recitals at 12:15 p.m. are followed by a homemade lunch (\$5 donation). A book study is offered before the recitals at 11 a.m. Jim Wallis's latest book, *Rediscovering Values (on Wall Street, Main Street and Your Street)* will be the subject of that study group. More information about the book study is on Page 5. Here are the artists that will appear at Tuesdays at First:

**October 5** – Harpsichord recital by James Bobb

**October 12** – Horn recital by Matthew Annin, Assistant Principal Horn, Cincinnati Symphony

**October 19** – Organ recital by Sara Siedel, Organist and Director of Music, St Alban's Episcopal Church

**October 26** – Organ recital by G. Dene Barnard, Organist Choirmaster Emeritus

Please save these dates for other upcoming concerts in our series:

**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

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.

### 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. 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.

## 2010-2011

### Congregational Concerts

Here is my/our support for the Concert Series:

_____	\$50-99	Donor
_____	\$100-249	Patron
_____	\$250-499	Sponsor
_____	\$500-999	Benefactor
_____	\$1000 +	Sustainer

I wish my name to be listed in the program as:

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks out to First Church marked Concert Fund. Your support is greatly appreciated. The Congregational Concert Series is funded entirely by donations of its patrons. Thank you.*



# Christian Education

## It's a Full Plate for Fall Adult Education Hour

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



Here is the lineup for this fall's Adult Education Hour, held Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.:

### 9/19-10/10

Energy - *Powering the Planet in the Age of Global Warming* – Presented by Hugh Schultz and Andrew-Welsh Huggins

### 9/19

*After the Gulf Oil Spill* - The leaking BP well drove home once again our need to seek out alternative energy sources as we enter what's been called the "peak oil" age and an end to easy access to petroleum. Sam Spoffoth, executive director of CleanFuelsOhio and First Church member, outlines the current efforts to rethink where we get energy from and whether there's a particular response we as church goers should be considering.

### 9/26

*Energy and Faith: A Prayerful Partnership?* - A discussion of questions raised at last session.

### 10/3

*Unsung Alternatives* - An industry expert discusses the pros and cons of alternative energy options.

### 10/10

*Topping the Tank* - Where has our discussion of energy led us as Christians, and what are the hard questions we should be asking of ourselves and our policy makers? A wrap-up discussion.

### 10/17-10/31

*Sharing the Journey* – The Rev. Tim Ahrens, our senior minister, will share the events and insights from his summer sabbatical.

### 11/7-11/21

*Peacemakers in a World of War* - Featured speaker is The Rev. Dr. James Childs, professor of systematic theology at Trinity Lutheran Seminary.

### 11/28-12/19

*Hallelujah!* - Led by the Rev. Dr. Janine Wilson. Explore the Advent related scriptural texts of Handel's *Messiah*, including:

\* Comfort, Comfort My People

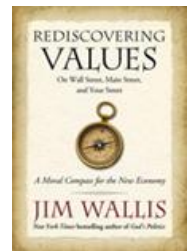
- \* Who Shall Abide the Day of His Coming?
- \* For Unto Us a Child Is Born
- \* Glory to God in the Highest

## Wallis Book to be Studied During Tuesdays at First Series

Tuesdays at First begins October 5 with a book study at 11 a.m., followed by a concert and lunch.

In the book study, there will be a discussion of the Rev. Jim Wallis' latest book, *Rediscovering Values (on Wall Street, Main Street and Your Street)*.

Described as a moral compass for the economy, the book identifies reasons behind the reasons for the "great recession" and asks people of all faiths to reconsider their ideas about work, money, investment and value. Wallis maintains that we need to stop asking when the crisis will end and start asking how the crisis will change us.



Wallis is CEO of Sojourners and a well-known speaker and preacher. He is author of the New York Times best-seller *God's Politics*.

The Columbus Public Library has 21 copies of *Rediscovering Values* and there will be a limited number of copies for sale at a discounted price in the church office (\$12). Please sign up in the office, read the Introduction and Chapter 1 and join us in the large conference room on the first floor October 5.

## Children's Newsletter Online

The September issue of the Children's Newsletter is now online on the church Web site, [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org). Great tips for parents are provided in this issue about starting school and the craziness of scheduling our children for everything. Check it out!

**Mark Your Calendars:** The **Annual Women's Retreat** will be held the weekend of November 12-14. Details will follow. **Upcoming Youth Group Meetings** – September 12 and 26, October 10 and 24. Meetings are from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, beginning with dinner at 6 p.m.

# First Church News

## Listening Process Begins at BREAD House Meetings

By Priss Endo

Everyone is invited to attend a house meeting hosted and led by members of the First Church BREAD team this fall.

All participants will discuss problems in their communities and decide as a group which problem they feel is the most critical in central Ohio. The results of these meetings are reported at the BREAD annual assembly, where all participants decide on one problem for BREAD to work on in 2011.



BREAD house meetings present an opportunity for you to engage in stimulating conversation with 5-10 people and expand relationships with members at First Church. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and end at 8:30.

Five house meetings have been scheduled:

**September 30** - Host - Dawn George, meeting at First Church in the parlor

**October 7** - Host - Nancy Evans, 2506 East Livingston Ave.

**October 14** - Host - Jackie Lowery, 79 S Ardmore Rd, Bexley

**October 19** - Host - Jim Fewlass, 1620 East Broad St.

**October 19** - Host - Elaine Warren, 232 Rocky Fork Dr. S, Gahanna

Choose a date that works for you and give the host a call. All are listed in the church directory. It is crucial for BREAD to get the input of many members of all congregations! We look forward to seeing you at a house meeting.

## As Seasons Change

By Duan Cannon, Stephen Minister Team

It is now the beginning of autumn and the leaves are just about to start their change into the glorious colors we look forward to seeing each year.

Often in life, we experience the changing of the seasons and the challenges and opportunities that come with those changes. When we address those challenges, it is often helpful to have someone with whom we can share the journey and walk these new paths that are presented to us.

It is the role of a Stephen Minister to be one such person who can walk with you as you learn to navigate new or unexpected roads in life. A Stephen Minister is a trained listener who can be there as a sounding board, a confidant and a neutral party whose only interest is in being present with you as life's events present themselves to you in new ways. A Stephen Minister is a friend and fellow traveler that will journey with you until the paths of life become clear and your direction for the future better understood. A Stephen Minister will be available to offer a specifically Christian friendship of support and prayer that can provide that extra caring life calls for in times of change.

We are blessed here at First Congregational Church to have a team of such fellow travelers, one of whom could join you on such a time of transition. If you know of someone who could perhaps benefit from the partnership of such a friend, please contact the church staff or deacons. Beginning such a relationship could be just a phone call away. We are here to walk with you on the roads yet to be traveled.

## Local Crop Walk to be Held October 10

CROP Hunger Walks help children and families worldwide – and right here in the U.S. – to have food for today, while building for a better tomorrow.

Each year, some 2 million CROP walkers, volunteers and sponsors put their hearts and soles in motion, raising over \$16 million to help end hunger and poverty around the world and in their own communities.



This year's CROP Hunger Walk will take place October 10. The walk will again start in Genoa Park near COSI. Donation and registration information can be found at [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org). You will also be able to sign up and sponsor walkers during our fellowship hour.

For questions, contact Matthew Stevens from Church World Service at 614-481-4416, or Patrick Keller, the First Church representative, at [pakeller@mtu.edu](mailto:pakeller@mtu.edu), or 614-732-4473.

Read Sermons  
at [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org)

# First Church News

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## 'A Taste of Jamaica' to Help CATALYST Students

By Heather Biggers

"A Taste of Jamaica" will be held in the Parish Hall after each worship service on Sunday, October 24, to benefit the CATALYST program.

For \$5 you will get: 2 pieces of Jerk Chicken (not too spicy); rice and peas ( a Jamaican staple, we will use brown rice and the "peas" are actually small kidney beans); and Jamaican lunch vegetables (cabbage, carrots and onions)

The lunches will be sold "to go," so whether you attend the 9 or 11 a.m. service, you will be able to enjoy! Please sign up in the church office if you are interested in buying a lunch so we will have an idea of how much to prepare.

CATALYST is a mission relationship between the First Congregational Church and the people of the garrison communities of Kingston, Jamaica, and the Grace and Staff Community Development Foundation. CATALYST serves the many exceptional secondary and college students found in these violent and impoverished areas.

CATALYST is the designated offering on October 17 and 24. We need to raise \$2,570 by the end of the 2010.

What our students need money for..

\* **Secondary Scholarships** Eighteen of our CATALYST students are still in secondary school and require assistance with school fees. \$75 per scholarship for 18 students totals \$1,350.

\***SAT/PSAT guides** Twelve of our CATALYST students, as well as many of the other students, will need an SAT or PSAT guide. One guide will be used by numerous students. 6 SAT/PSAT guides at about \$20, online plus shipping, totals \$240.

\***SAT and PSAT Test Fees** Twelve CATALYST students will be taking the SAT and PSAT. That's \$40 for 12 students at a cost of \$480.

\* **Study Guides** Our college students need help with their subjects, especially chemistry, differential equations and psychics. We will use Schaum's or Barron's study guides on these and other subjects. The cost is \$250.

\* **Books and food** Our college students in Jamaica are

having difficulty getting money for books and food. Most students are using the textbooks in a library, sharing or going without. Many of our students only have one meal a day at lunch. If they don't eat at school, they don't eat at all! While there are programs to feed younger children, nothing exists to help those in college. Lunch costs about \$3 per day. The total is \$250.

## Rev. Ahrens to Teach OWLS Course



Senior Minister the Rev. Timothy Ahrens will be teaching a course "Children of Abraham: A Journey into the Heart of Three Faiths" in October as part of the Older Wiser Lifelong Scholars program.

The course will be Thursday, October 21, and Friday, October 22, at Westminster-Thurber Community, 645 Neil Ave., from 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. Rev. Ahrens will be discussing his recent trip abroad during his sabbatical. For registration information, contact Pat Dineen at 614-464-1914 or Phyllis Meadows at 614-228-7466.

## (CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, Concluded from Page 3)

and a ribbon-cutting by moderator Melody Leidheiser and Victoria Washington. The event culminated with the demolition of the Byers used car sign. Once the sign had been lowered, church members and guests enjoyed cake, lemonade and a beautiful late summer afternoon together in the knowledge that they had been party to First Church history.

The next phase of the capital campaign will focus on presenting a series of forums to address members' questions about the campaign. More than 30 "pre-decision parties" will begin this month and run through mid-October. Every First Church member will be invited to attend one of these events, which will be hosted by fellow members in their homes. Please respond to your invitation when you receive it. If you are unable to attend, Jan Wade and her pre-decision hospitality committee will gladly arrange for you to be invited to attend another party on a different day. One of the guiding principles of this campaign is that *everyone* in the First Church family be fully included and well informed.

Please join your fellow members in learning more about *The Future's Broadening Way* capital campaign by attending a pre-decision party.

# 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:

**Gleva Stephens  
Kurt and Gayle Miller  
Elaine Warren**



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

**David and Ardis Holt**

*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.*

## Spirituality Network Plans Fall Series

Our cultural heritage gives us images of the Divine that are overwhelmingly masculine. How do women recognize and claim that they, too, are created in God's likeness? Join us on the second Tuesday of each month as we explore a variety of topics that help us to connect to uniquely feminine aspects of the Divine..

Spirituality Network, 444 East Broad St.  
**In order for us to plan accordingly, please preregister at: 614-228-8867, or spiritnetwk@hotmail.com.**  
Suggested donation: \$5

**October 12, 2-4 p.m. – *Where the Heart Is: Symbols and Stories of Feeling At Home***, led by Amanda Stone Cushing. To continue our spring theme of memoir, we will be sharing stories and symbols of what it means “to be where our hearts are.”

**November 9, 2-4 p.m. – *What's for Dinner? Co-creating a Theology of Hospitality***, led by the Rev. Dr. Janine Wilson, associate minister of First Congregational Church. Is “southern” the first word that you pair with “hospitality,” or maybe even the only word? Join us for a time of study, reflection and the shared creation of a theology of hospitality – a meeting place of faith and life.

**November 30, 2-4 p.m. – *Creating an Advent Wreath***  
Registration fee \$25 (this session only). Bobbi Gill will lead a session on creating an Advent wreath.

**Book Available:** Sister Maxine Shonk, O.P., has written *Blessing Upon Blessing, a book of blessings*. It contains 150 blessings that readers can take into their hearts and bestow on others. Contact the Spirituality Network for ordering information.

## Thursday Fellowships to Meet in October

The First Thursday Fellowship (North Side) will have its first fall meeting on Thursday, October 7, at Arlene Reynolds' home, 273 Erie Rd., in Clintonville at 10 a.m.

The Second Thursday Fellowship will meet in the church parlor on Thursday, October 14, at 10 a.m. Tom Brownfield will speak to the group on the conference he attended in Schwerte, Germany, on child poverty, where he represented the Ohio Council of the UCC. Refreshments will be served.

Everyone is welcome to both fellowships.

## Tutors Needed For Beginning Readers

Columbus City Schools has eliminated the formal tutoring program this year but individual principals are welcoming volunteers for their students.

Men and women may assist kindergartners and first graders at Ohio Avenue and Fairwood schools. Tutoring at Ohio Avenue will be once a week on Thursday, 11 a.m.-Noon. Contact Nancy Evans (235-6997) for information. At Fairwood, tutoring will be on Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m. Contact Dawn George (338-0507) for information. If the distance is too great to these schools, visit a school near you to offer your help.

## Mission Offerings Schedule

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



**October 3 - Neighbors in Need**  
**October 10 - Crop Walk**  
**October 17 - Catalyst**  
**October 24 - Catalyst**  
**October 31 - Our Church's Wider Mission**





## North Broadway UMC to Host Immigration Workshop Oct. 2

North Broadway United Methodist Church, 48 E. North Broadway, is hosting a daylong workshop on immigration October 2.

“Immigration and Christian Ethics: A Constructive Conversation” begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch. To register, go to [www.north-broadway.org](http://www.north-broadway.org).



**Dr. Miguel De La Torre**

The guest speaker will be Dr. Miguel De La Torre, a Cuba native and professor of social ethics at Iliff School of Theology in Denver. De La Torre is the author of *Trails of Hope and Terror*.



### Monthly Update

#### Current Pledge Income

Annual Budget - \$587,779  
 August Actual - \$47,803  
 YTD Actual - \$372,431  
 YTD Budget - \$391,856  
 Below Budget - \$19,425

### August Mission Offerings

Back Bay Mission - \$476.68  
 Deep Griha – 267.01  
 Crossroads for Youth – 284.64  
 Mid Ohio Food Bank - \$459.26  
 Good Samaritan - \$1,330.70  
 Total - \$2,818.29

### Cum Christo Weekends Coming Up

Two weekends of Christian learning and renewal are set for this fall by Cum Christo. The men’s weekend is October 14-17 and the women’s November 4-7. Applications currently are being taken for both. Contact Paul Flocken at 403-4910 or [arlene@aol.com](mailto:arlene@aol.com) for information.

Have a new email or phone number?  
 Let us know at 228-1741  
 or [home@first-church.org](mailto:home@first-church.org)  
 so we can keep in touch

## Member Happy October Birthdays

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1: Melinda Ann Anderson | 20: Nancy Bouman      |
| 2: Craig Oyler          | 20: Hadley Bachman    |
| 2: Peter Murray         | 21: Reggie Cannon     |
| 2: Lauren Glaros        | 21: Gary Leidheiser   |
| 3: Tim Carsey           | 21: Jennifer Dean     |
| 4: Charlie Weaver       | 22: Alan Miller       |
| 5: Ed Koetz             | 22: Carter Rodriguez  |
| 5: Keith White          | 23: Betsy Hubbard     |
| 5: Jessica Catenacci    | 24: Sharon Walquist   |
| 6: Andrew Welsh-Huggins | 24: Celeste Feather   |
| 6: Tammy Wharton        | 25: Murley Miller     |
| 8: Marian Whitney       | 25: Kevin Carrico     |
| 8: Bert Cook            | 25: Matt Zeiger       |
| 8: Deana Armstrong      | 25: Michael Warrick   |
| 9: Dawn George          | 26: Gail Johannes     |
| 9: Pam Welsh-Huggins    | 26: Kathie Cole       |
| 9: Jennifer Bryant      | 26: Heather Biggers   |
| 10: Nate Weygandt       | 26: Barbara Mason     |
| 12: Harry Campbell      | 27: Mary Ann Goetz    |
| 12: Mary Day Fewlass    | 27: Shawn Finley      |
| 12: Hugh Schultz        | 27: Carl Miller       |
| 12: Barbara Poppe       | 27: Summer Petras     |
| 14: Drew Wade           | 28: Greg Halbe        |
| 15: Kathleen Ferguson   | 28: Stephanie Koscher |
| 16: David Wyatt         | 28: Eddie Anderson    |
| 17: Dene Barnard        | 29: Rebecca Hess      |
| 17: Jackie Dean         | 30: Geoff Dean        |
| 17: Nicole Baas         | 30: Mark Knueve       |
| 18: Carol Rodriguez     | 30: Vanessa Coterele  |
| 18: Gayle Henderson     | 31: Martha Huey       |
| 19: Mike Knerr          | 31: Mike Bockbrader   |
| 20: Frank Hussey        |                       |

## Member Happy October Anniversaries

- |   |
|---|
| 1: Lucille and Walter Kropp                   |
| 3: Michelle and Scott Winberry                |
| 5: Barb Poppe and Bill Faith                  |
| 7: Kathryn Bamberger and Steve Brandehoff     |
| 7: Lauren and Chris Glaros                    |
| 7: Valerie Conlin-Losinski and David Losinski |
| 9: Carrie and David Ghose                     |
| 11: Cori and Ben Rowley                       |
| 11: Jan and Richard Kevan                     |
| 13: Amber and Joe Lane                        |
| 14: Priscilla and David Mondiek               |
| 14: Jenny and Joe Provenzano                  |
| 18: Amy and Scott Fulton                      |
| 21: Kathy and Tom Brownfield                  |
| 27: Christa and Eric Ewing                    |

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).

### Thanks for Helping Those in Need

The Good Samaritan program would like to thank all those in our First Church family for their support of our monthly assistance effort. Because of your generosity, we were able to help a significant number of people in need this month. Your kindness is greatly appreciated!

# Church Calendar

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## **Sunday, September 19**

9 am – Treble Choir – Choir Room  
9 am - Early Worship Service - PH  
10 am – Choir – Choir Room  
10 am – Education Hour – Rooms C and D  
11 am - Worship Service – San  
12 pm – Fellowship Hour – PH  
9 pm – Compline- San

## **Monday, September 20**

7 pm – Capital Campaign Committee – PFR

## **Tuesday, September 21**

12 pm - Card Care Ministry – LC  
7 pm – Church Council – LC

## **Wednesday, September 22**

6 pm – Church Night – PH  
7 pm – Adult Education – LC

## **Thursday, September 23**

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

## **Friday, September 24**

6 pm – Faith Mission Men’s Meals

## **Sunday, September 26**

9 am – Treble Choir – Choir Room  
9 am – Early Worship – PH  
10 am – Choir – Choir Room  
10 am – Education Hour – Rooms C and D  
11 am – Worship Service – San  
12 pm - Fellowship Hour – PH  
4 pm – Congregational Concert – San

## **Monday, September 27**

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

## **Tuesday, September 28**

12 pm – Card Care Ministry – LC  
7 pm – Personnel – PFR

## **Wednesday, September 29**

11 am – Book Study – Parlor  
6 pm – Church Night – PH

## **Thursday, September 30**

6:15 pm – First Church Ringers – Choir Room  
7 pm - BREAD Meeting – PR  
7:30 pm – First Church Choir – Choir Room

## **Saturday, October 2**

11 am – Pet Blessing – East Lawn

## **Sunday, October 3**

9 am – Treble Choir – Choir Room  
9 am – Early Worship – PH  
10 am – Choir – Choir Room  
10 am – Education Hour – Rooms C and D  
11 am – Worship Service – San  
12 pm - Fellowship Hour – PH

## **Monday, October 4**

6:30 pm- Technology Committee – LC  
7 pm – Capital Campaign Committee – PFR

## **Tuesday, October 5**

11 am – First Tuesday Book Study – LC  
12:15 pm - First Tuesday Concert – San  
12:45 pm – First Tuesday Luncheon – PH  
1:30 pm – Card Care Ministry – LC  
6:30 pm – Children’s Education Committee – Ed Wing Rm D  
7 pm - Budget and Finance – LC

## **Wednesday, October 6**

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

## **Thursday, October 7**

10 am – First Thursday Fellowship – A. Reynolds’ Home  
6 pm – Choral Society – PH  
6:15 pm – First Church Ringers – Choir Room  
7:30 pm – First Church Choir – Choir Room

## **Saturday, October 9**

10 am – First Church Quilters – LC

## **Sunday, October 10**

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, October 11**

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

## **Tuesday, October 12**

11 am – First Tuesday Book Study – LC  
12:15 pm - First Tuesday Concert – San  
12:45 pm – First Tuesday Luncheon – PH  
1:30 pm – Card Care Ministry – LC  
12 pm – Card Care Ministry – LC  
6 pm – Music Committee – PR

## **Wednesday, October 13**

11 am- Book Study – PR  
6 pm – Church Night – PH  
7:30 pm – Budget and Finance – LC

## **Thursday, October 14**

10 am – Second Thursday Fellowship – PR  
2 pm – Art Committee – PR  
6 pm – Choral Society – PH  
6:15 pm – First Church Ringers – Choir Room  
7:30 pm – First Church Choir – Choir Room

## **Saturday, October 16**

9 am – House and Grounds - PFR

## **Sunday, October 17**

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  
9 pm – Compline - San

### **The Importance of Genesis**

#### **Columbus Museum of Art**

**Thursday, November 18, 7 p.m.**

Join our senior minister, the Rev. Timothy Ahrens, Rabbi Michael Ungar and Imam Hany Saqr for a discussion about the meaning of the Book of Genesis to the major Abrahamic religions.

Admission is free

# 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](mailto: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.*

## Marriages

Emily Bass and Frank Glinski – August 28  
Annol Satiani and Sonu Varghese – September 4  
Keri Kegler and Robby Slatzer – September 11

## Fellowship Hour Beverage Sales



Coffee and tea sales will be available on October 3 and 17 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](mailto:mworth@first-church.org)

## October Fellowship Hour

October 3: Daniel  
October 10: Deuteronomy  
October 17: Ephesians  
October 24: Galatians  
October 31: Haggai  
(Schedule online at [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org))

## Next Newsletter Deadline

**Articles Due:** Monday, October 11, 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 Chavers.....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 Chavers, 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 By: Monday, September 20, 2010*

TO:

[Empty dashed 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](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