



WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 171 years our Covenant has been: We covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ and one another, and bind ourselves in the presence of God to live together in all God's ways as revealed to us by the Holy Spirit and holy scripture. The church acknowledges that all members have the right of individual interpretation of the principles of the Christian faith and respects them in their honest convictions. In accordance with the teaching of our Lord, the church recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.*

LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S LITURGY

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *preacher*

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson, *liturgist*

Gregory Duncan, *liturgist*

Melissa Kulwicki, *worship leader*

Malcolm Gillies, *crucifer*

Joshua Stafford, *organist and director*

Aran Cunningham, *livestream ministry*

Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve. Please use this time for quiet preparation for worship.

'We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of your temple.' (Psalm 48:9)

PRELUDE

A Little More Faith In Jesus

John W. Work III, 1962

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Gregory Duncan

Leader: Blessed be God, Light of the world, bright Morning Star, and Spirit of love.
Please stand as you are able. (indicates congregation standing)*

Leader: Beautiful are the works of God.

People: Beautiful also are the skins of God's people!

Leader: Beautiful is the mind of God!

People: Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!

Leader: Beautiful is the heart of God!

People: Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!

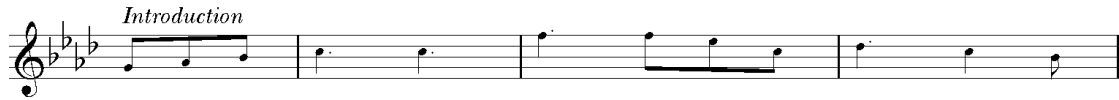
Leader: God made the heavens and the earth!

People: To God be the glory for the things God has done.

—from the UCC Book of Worship, Trinity UCC, Chicago

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN
"Lift every voice and sing"

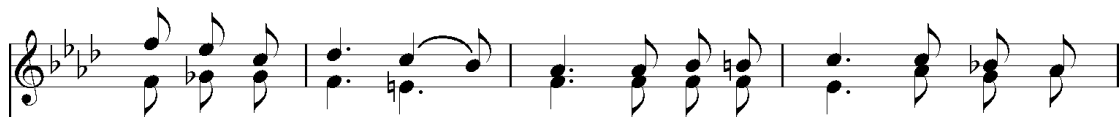
Lift Every Voice, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1905
James Weldon Johnson, 1900



1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing till earth and hea - ven ring, ring with the
2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast



har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise
days when hope un - born had died; yet, with a stead - y beat,
brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might



high as the lis - tening skies; let it re - sound loud as the
have not our wea - ry feet come to the place for which our
led us in - to the light; keep us for ev - er in the



roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
 par - ents sighed? We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we

taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has
 wa - tered; we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the
 met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for -

brought us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new
 slaugh - tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we
 get thee; sha - dowed be - neath thy hand may we for

day be - gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 ev - er stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

*Invocation

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Almighty God, by the hand of Moses your servant you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your Church, following the example of your prophet Martin Luther King, Jr., may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

** When you return to your seat, please find the blue Welcome notebook at the end of the pew, sign it and pass it on to your neighbor so you may greet them by name.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Melissa Kulwicki

During the sermon time, the young children are welcome to participate in "Sunday Stories" with Melissa Kulwicki and Jacqueline Dean.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Mr. Duncan

Leader: A reading from the First Book of Samuel, the third chapter.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

arr. William L. Dawson, 1944

There is a Balm in Gilead

Jeremiah 8:22, traditional African-American Spiritual

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus, and say, "He died for all."

THE EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Mr. Duncan

Leader: A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians, the sixth chapter.

"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." But anyone united to the Lord becomes

one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*THE GOSPEL HYMN

Precious Lord, George N. Allen, 1844

“Precious Lord, take my hand”

Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me
 2. When my way grows— drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger
 3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws—

1. stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 2. near, When my life is al - most gone;
 3. near, And the day is past and gone;

1. — Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the
 2. — Hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand, lest I
 3. — At the riv - er I stand, Guide my feet, hold my

1. light, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.
 2. fall, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.
 3. hand, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.

Leader: A reading from the Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Highway of Our Lord"

Dr. Ahrens

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Samuelson

Leader: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

All: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

To give online, please scan this QR code, or see additional instructions in the Depart to Serve leaflet:



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Samuelson

Cash and designated gifts go to support **MLK Kitchen for the Poor**. Located in Toledo, the kitchen was established in 1969 by Reverend Harvey Savage Sr. It feeds more than 200 people each day including homeless, school age children, and elderly. In addition, they provide meal delivery to elderly and disabled. They provide ingredients for food stamp recipients needed to prepare meals at home. Throughout the year they provide counseling, clothing, and toys to people in need. We selected this mission to honor The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

“We shall overcome”

arr. Tom Trenney, 2016
American Freedom Song

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday.

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
that we shall overcome someday.

We'll walk hand in hand...

We are not afraid...

God will see us through...

*DOXOLOGY

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all creatures here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Samuelson

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Melissa Kulwicki

Leader: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

People: Thanks be to God.

*CLOSING HYMN

“I want to walk as a child of the light”

Houston, Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at
3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and
Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

Refrain

star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on “We shall overcome”

Carl Haywood, 2012

Please be seated for the Postlude.

Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found peace and grace here and invite you to return often. If you would like more information or have any questions about First Church, please ask one of our pastors or anyone wearing a name tag. We would be delighted to assist you.

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and with gratitude to all those participating in our Healthy Congregations sessions by Amy Wagner.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS

Rev. Ahrens — Narthex (Broad Street entrance)

Rev. Samuelson — East Door (Ninth Street entrance by the Church Office)

Ms. Kulwicki — West Door (Cleveland Avenue entrance by the Chapel)

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2024 NOMINATING SLATE

Officers

Moderator: Greg Halbe
Moderator Elect: Sarah Reed
Treasurer: James Velo
Treasurer Elect: Ramona Moenter
Secretary: Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen
Secretary Elect: Martha Wilson

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Church Vitality Commissioner Elect:
Faith Formation Commissioner:
Faith Formation Commissioner Elect:
House & Grounds Commissioner: Eric Klintworth
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Music, Arts, & Heritage Commissioner: Jim Griffen
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Personnel Commissioner: David Hogrefe
Personnel Commissioner Elect:
Stewardship Commissioner: Janice Taft
Stewardship Commissioner Elect: Mariner Taft
Technical & Communications Commissioner: Mike Kennedy
Technical & Communications Commissioner Elect:

At-Large Members

Adult Member At-Large: Jacquelyn Dean
Youth Member At-Large:

Nominating Chair

Sarah Reed

Trustees

Co-Chair: selected by Trustees
2-year term: Todd Jacobson
4-Year term: Frank Cook

Deacons

Senior Deacon: Tom Kiesel
Senior Deacon Elect: elected by Deacons
1-year term: Heather Jones
3-year term: Thom Smith
3-year term:
3-year term:
3 year term: Andy Verhage Smith (Substitute)

Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

January 14, 2024

This Week at First Church

Sunday, Jan. 14

- 9 a.m. Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
(Parish Hall & Virtual)
- 10 a.m. Bible Study on 1 Corinthians
(Classroom C)
- Sunday School for Children & Youth
(Various Classrooms)
- 11 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary & Virtual)
- 12:30 p.m. Healthy Congregations Workshop
(Parish Hall)

Monday, Jan. 15

The Church and Church Office will be closed in honor of
The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, Jan. 16

- 7 p.m. Council Mtg (Classroom C & Zoom)

Wednesday, Jan. 17

- 10 a.m. Largest Table Food Prep and Delivery
(Kitchen)
- 10:30 a.m. Book Study (Classroom C & Zoom)
- 1:15 p.m. New Members (Fanning Rm)
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Group (Fanning Rm)

Thursday, Jan. 18

- 4:30 p.m. Choristers (Choir Rm)
- 7:15 p.m. First Church Choir Rehearsal
(Choir Rm)

Saturday, Jan. 20

- 10 a.m. Family Organ Day (Sanctuary)

Sunday, Jan. 21

- 9 a.m. Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
(Parish Hall & Virtual)
- 10 a.m. Bible Study on 1 Corinthians
(Classroom C)
- Sunday School for Children & Youth
(Various Classrooms)
- 11 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary & Virtual)
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour & Coffee Sales
(Parish Hall)
- 12:30 p.m. Confirmation Class (Classroom C)
- 4 p.m. Choral Evensong (Sanctuary)

The Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 28

**One Worship Service at 10 a.m.
Meeting at 11 a.m.**

Everyone is encouraged to attend this very important yearly event in the life of our church. Childcare will be provided during worship and the annual meeting.

Voting Members are active members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio. Voting Members must be present to vote. Non-Voting Members are Associate Members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, and guests.

The Annual Meeting will be recorded but will not be accessible through Zoom or Live-Stream.

First Serves January

Diaper Drive

Sunday, January 21

10-10:45 a.m.

All are invited to participate in our intergenerational First Serves Activity for January. We will be having a Diaper Drive to benefit Little Bottoms Free Store. We will be collecting and assembling packs of size 4,5,6 diapers, baby wipes, and boxes of gallon-sized Ziplock bags. If you would like to participate by donating these items, please visit the Giving Tree located in the Education Wing Breezeway to choose a "diaper" with one of these items. Donated items can be returned to the baskets under the tree on or before January 21 at 10 a.m. when we gather to assemble the packs.

Little Bottoms Free Store is located near Franklinton and provides diapers, wipes, and baby clothes to families in the Central Ohio area for children 0-3 years old.

Coffee Hour This Week

There is no Coffee Hour this week due to the Healthy Congregations Workshop.

Save the Date Family Organ Day Saturday, January 20, 2024 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Our first Family Organ Day will be held on January 20. This is a not-to-be-missed opportunity for children of all ages to get up close and personal with the Kimball and Beckerath organs of First Church. There will be an organ demonstration, a brief concert, and even an opportunity for children to try playing the organs.

Upcoming Mission Offerings

January 15	MLK Kitchen for the Poor
January 21	Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW)
January 28	The Knight Perry Fund
February 4	The Largest Table

Lunch Bunch

East Market

Thursday, January 25, 11:30 a.m.

Join us for Lunch Bunch on Thursday, January 25 at 11:30 a.m. at the East Market, 212 Kelton Avenue, Columbus. The East Market has transformed the historic West Car Barn of the old "Trolley Barn" property into a modern mix of the best local and independent businesses and restaurants. Register by clicking the QR Code below and enjoy a fun and unique dining and shopping experience!



Rev. Tim's Wednesday Book Study

**Wednesday, January 17,
10:30 a.m.**

Join us on Wednesday, January 17 at 10:30 a.m. in Classroom C or on Zoom as we begin a new year and a new book study on *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman.

Please note our new Zoom link and meeting times for the Book Study.

January 17, 2024 10:30 a.m.

February 7, 2024 10:30 a.m.

February 21, 2024 10:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627149619?pwd=QjJhbGp0NlYvcC9NeU9jajJkUTkxZz09>

Meeting ID: 816 2714 9619

Passcode: 984584

Keep in Prayer

Members Janice Taft; Hugh Schultz; Ann Eidson; Steve Anderson; Dene Barnard; Tim Holt; Connie Johnson; Sarah Ahrens Stadie; John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter; Marilyn Potts; Dan Axt; Karl Schaab; Rick Sayre; Anne Morganstern; Martha Huey; Twink Starr; Janice White.

Family and friends Gary Glover and Greg Duncan's friend, Barb Wilson; Mary Ann Jacobson's nephew, Peter Poppleton; Diane Kutschbach and Emily Kutschbach Schmitt's aunt and great aunt, Lola, and Diana and Bob Kutschbach's cousin, Carson Samples; Melissa Kulwicki's mother-in-law, Bev Kulwicki; Susie Loik's grandson, Alex Glover and his parents, Kristen & Wes; Evin Hatch's grandmother, Shirley Hatch; Annie Hatch's extended family member, Ranae Walters; Wayne Piper; Hugh Schultz's friend, Barbara Van Riper; Arevena Nirote's sister and brother-in-law, Marlene and Gary Gallion; Melva Fisher's sister, Mary Bittle; Jill Hultin's sister, Gail Nelson; Fran and Bruce Panek's friends, Richard and Beverly Cicenias; Victor John, his parents, Charles and Mary Jane, and sister; Lorraine Quinichett; Martha Huey's sister, Stephanie Childs and cousin, Martha Dieckmann; Melody Leidheiser's niece and husband, Kathy and Mick Clark; Amy Brooks' father, Michael Hamlin; and Karl and Sallie Danneberger's friend, Ron Kendzier.

We keep Stephen Ministers in prayer as they care for our church members.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we pray for the people and churches in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. We also pray for our UCC partner in mission, the Ecumenical Foundation for Peace and Justice (House of Hope) in Haiti.

Give

At First Church, our financial resources enable us to "Enter to worship, depart to serve." You can support the mission and ministry of First Church now by using Realm, EasyTithe or PayPal, by visiting <https://www.first-church.org/give/>, or by sending your offering directly to First Congregational Church, 444 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. For more information, please contact Annette McCormick at amccormick@firstchurch.org.

Cash and designated gifts go to support **MLK Kitchen for the Poor**. Located in Toledo, the kitchen was established in 1969 by Reverend Harvey Savage Sr. It feeds more than 200 people each day including homeless, school age children, and elderly. In addition, they provide meal delivery to elderly and disabled. They provide ingredients for food stamp recipients needed to prepare meals at home. Throughout the year they provide counseling, clothing, and toys to people in need. We selected this mission to honor The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Thank you for your generosity.

Pastoral Care

If you are in need of pastoral care please contact Rev. Tim Ahrens tahrens@first-church.org or Rev. Joanna Samuelson jsamuelson@first-church.org.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry offers skilled, confidential, one to one spiritual and emotional caregiving for those who are experiencing difficult times in their lives. Our purpose is to be vessels of God's love and grace, and to create a safe space for people to share their struggles and find solace in their faith. Contact our Stephen Ministry at stephen-ministry@first-church.org.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, D.Min., M.Div.

Designated Minister: Rev. Joanna Samuelson, M.Div.

Minister of Music: Joshua Stafford, M.M.

Administrative Manager: Amy Wagner

Communications Manager: Melissa Kulwicki

Office Assistant: Pat Patterson

Business Administrator: Annette McCormick

Building and Grounds Superintendent: Quang Pham

Custodians: Alexis Wayne, Bob O'Brien

Wedding Coordinators: Amy Wagner, Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani

Nursery Staff: Miranda Brooks, Shelly Gies, Celecia Smith

Commissioned Minister for Social Justice: Tom Brownfield

Commissioned Minister for Spiritual Formation and Direction: Jacquelyn Dean

Stephen Leader and Stephen Ministry Program Coordinator: Gary Glover

Stephen Leader and Stephen Ministry Training Coordinator: Wendy Kennedy

Stephen Leader and Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator: Susie Loik

Senior Deacon: Martha Wilson

Senior Deacon-elect: Tom Kiesel

Deacons: Nan Kreimer, Gail Lowe, James Lowe,

Allison Lowery Palmer, Fran Panek, Joel Mathias, Dayna McCrary,

Matt Myers, Lynn Wallich, Hank Wilson, Martha Worth

CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Moderator: Gregory Halbe

Moderator-elect: Sarah Reed

Treasurer: James Velo

Treasurer-elect: Ramona Moenter

Secretary: Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen

Secretary-elect: Martha Wilson

Nominating Chair: Sarah Reed

COMMISSIONERS

Administration: Thomas Brownfield

Administration-elect: David Hogrefe

Church Growth: Steve Sterrett

Church Growth-elect:

Church Vitality: Wendy Kennedy

Church Vitality-elect:

Education: Janice Taft

Education-elect: Mariner Taft

House & Grounds: Mike Kennedy

House & Grounds-elect: Eric Klintworth

Justice & Mercy: Kris Brant

Justice & Mercy-elect: Janet Miller

Music, Arts & Heritage: Melissa Kulwicki

Music, Arts & Heritage-elect: Jim Griffin

Members-at-Large: Jacquelyn Dean

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson: Sue Cook

Trustees: Cindy Conn (Treasurer), Greg Halbe, Elizabeth Iannarino, Todd Jacobson, Victor John, Melody Leidheiser, Janet Miller, Judy Smith, (Secretary), Hugh Schultz

WELCOME STATEMENT

You are welcomed, affirmed, and loved here; our faith informs us that you are a child of a loving God. Your characteristics and gifts will enrich our congregation. In this community, you will be celebrated, embraced, and honored, no matter how you identify or how your identity may evolve. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join us in our diverse yet united experience.

FIRST CHURCH IS A FAITH COMMUNITY

† Called together by God, the Creator and Sustainer of life, to worship, pray and serve;

† Led by Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior, to learn the faith and welcome all God's children;

† Empowered by the Holy Spirit to witness God's love and justice between ourselves, and throughout the world.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, welcome and affirm all. We believe we are all created in God's image and called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, called to unite all people in God's love. We are a community seeking God's presence and love in our lives. We seek to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, sexes, gender identities and expressions, family structures, mental, intellectual and physical conditions, economic circumstances, political, theological and faith backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)

—Adopted September 8, 2002 by the congregation
Revisions adopted January 27, 2019 by the congregation



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