



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
NOVEMBER 3, 2024
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! For more than 172 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.

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson, *preacher and co-celebrant*
The Rev. Ronald W. Botts, *worship leader*
Allison Lowery Palmer, *liturgist*
Melissa Kulwicki, *worship leader*
Matt Bendick, *crucifer*
Gregory Duncan, *verger*
Joshua Stafford, *organist and director*
The First Church Choir
Peter Murray, *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
Sine Nomine

John Weaver, 1995

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Allison Lowery Palmer

Leader: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Please stand as you are able. (indicates congregation standing)*

Leader: On our pilgrimage of faith, in a changing and uncertain world –

People: we do not walk alone: the Lord is with us.

Leader: We remember all those who taught us faith –

People: that cloud of martyrs whose examples burn bright in our memory.

Leader: God of grace, by whose love the world exists –

People: show us your face once again and reveal to us your glory.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN
"For all the saints"

Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
William Walsham How, 1864



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might;
3 O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!
4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,
5 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
We fee - bly strug - gle; they in glo - ry shine; yet
steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, and
gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
all are one in thee, for all are thine.
hearts are brave a - gain, and arms are strong.
sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

INVOCATION

The Rev. Ronald W. Botts

Leader: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

People: **Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.**

WITNESSING STEWARD: GROWING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

Kathy Reed

*WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson

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 we many greet one another 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 Leslie Fulford.

Leader: A reading from the book of Revelation, the second chapter.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL HYMN

Grand Isle, John Henry Hopkins, 1940

"I sing a song of the saints of God"

Lesbia Scott, 1929



1 I sing a song of the saints of God, _____
2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and _____
3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, there are



pa - tient and brave and true, who _____ toiled and _____ fought and _____
his love _____ made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right, for _____
hund - reds of thou - sands still, the _____ world is _____ bright with the



lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And _____
Je - sus' sake, the _____ whole of their good lives long. And _____
joy - ous saints who _____ love to do Je - sus' will. You can



one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a shep -
one was a sold - ier, and one was a priest, and one was _____ slain
meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains,



herd - ess on the _____ green: they were all of them saints of _____
by a fierce wild _____ beast; and there's not an - y rea - son -
or in shops, or at tea, for the saints of _____ God are just



God - and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.
no, not the least, why I should - n't be one too.
folk like _____ me, and I mean to be one too.

THE GOSPEL

John 11:32-44

Rev. Samuelson

Leader: A reading from the gospel according to John, the eleventh chapter.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

"The Gifts of Grief"

Rev. Samuelson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Samuelson and Rev. Botts

A Great Cloud of Witnesses

The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey W. Rowthorn, 2007

Leader: We give thanks to you, O God, for all your servants and witnesses of time past.
For Abraham, the father of believers, and Sarah his wife:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Moses, the lawgiver, and Aaron, the priest:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Miriam and Joshua, Deborah and Gideon:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Samuel with Hannah his mother:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Isaiah and all the prophets:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Mary, the mother of our Lord:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Peter and Paul and all the apostles:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Mary and Martha, and Mary Magdalene:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For Stephen, the first martyr:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For all the martyrs and saints in every age and in every land:

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: In your mercy, O God, give us, as you gave to them, the hope of salvation and the promise of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first-born of many from the dead.

All: Amen.

*HYMN

“In our day of thanksgiving”

St. Catherine's Court, Richard Strutt, 1925

William H. Draper, 1916

1 In our day of thanks-giv - ing one psalm let us of - fer
2 In the morn - ing of life, and at noon, and at eve - ning,
3 These stones that have ech - oed their prais - es are ho - ly,
4 Sing praise, then, and thanks that God's love here has found them

for the saints who be - fore us re - ceived the re - ward;
they were gath - ered to heav'n from our wor - ship be - low;
and dear is the ground where their feet have once trod;
whose jour - ney is end - ed, whose per - ils are past;

when the shad - ow of death fell up - on them, we sor - rowed,
but not till God's love, at the font and the al - tar,
yet here they con - fessed they were strang - ers and pil - grims,
they be - lieved in the light; and its glo - ry is round them,

but now we re - jice that they rest in the Lord.
had clothed them with grace for the way they should go.
and still they were seek - ing the cit - y of God.
where the clouds of earth's sor - row are lift - ed at last.

Please remain standing for the Necrology.

*THE NECROLOGY

Rev. Samuelson

Robert W. Saari
James A. Monsul
James Borling
Barbara Jane Sterrett
John D. Firebaugh
Tim Holt
G. Dene Barnard
Richard M. (Rick) Sayre
James Kyle

April 15, 1947–December 8, 2023
September 18, 1939–January 23, 2024
July 23, 1963–February 9, 2024
March 14, 1027–March 23, 2024
March 27, 1934–June 5, 2024
July 3, 1951–August 1, 2024
October 17, 1932–August 10, 2024
May 5, 1943–August 25, 2024
July 23, 1941–September 21, 2024

CLOSING PRAYER

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend these your servants. Acknowledge, we humbly pray, these sheep your own fold, lambs of your own flock, children of your own redeeming. Receive them into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

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



MISSION INVITATION

Jim and Gail Lowe

Designated gifts go to support **World Central Kitchen (WCK)**. Since 2010, World Central Kitchen has often been first to the frontlines when natural disasters and human calamities have struck, providing fresh meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises. Over the 14 years since then, WCK has served over 400 million meals, on every continent and in every corner of the world, including nearby communities that were devastated by tornadoes or floods, like Dayton, Ohio, Gaylord, Michigan, and Ashville, Kentucky. Today, WCK is at work helping the survivors of wildfires in the west, hurricanes in our southern states, and the humanitarian crises in the Middle East. Food is essential to life every single day, everywhere, but it is more important than ever in the wake of a crisis. A thoughtful, freshly prepared meal is one less thing someone has to worry about, but it is also a reminder that you are not alone, someone is thinking about you, and someone cares. Mobilizing immediately when a crisis occurs, volunteer chefs team up with local culinary workers and other volunteers onsite to use their culinary knowledge and talent to help. The WCK teams are guided by local food preparation practices, respecting the traditions that will fit the needs of the people being served, while helping to ease the emotional impact of a crisis. For World Central Kitchen, it is not just about feeding hundreds or thousands of people, it is about listening, learning, and cooking side by side with the people impacted by the crisis. This is the real meaning of comfort food, and it's the core value that drives WCK. Your gifts to WCK will be felt and appreciated by people in crisis around the world. Please give generously.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ernest Bulloock, 1925

“Give us the wings of faith”

Isaac Watts, 1709

Give us the wings of faith to rise within the veil and see
the Saints above, how great their joys, how bright their glories be.
We ask them whence their victory came; they, with one united breath,
ascribe the conquest to the Lamb, their triumph to his death.
They marked the footsteps that he trod, his zeal inspired their breast;
and, following their Incarnate God, they reached the promised rest.

*DOXOLOGY

Old 100th

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

Genevan Psalter, 1551

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We practice open communion: Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at the Lord’s table.

*INVITATION

Revs. Samuelson and Botts

Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. This table is for all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God’s people.

*SURSUM CORDA

Plainsong

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Leader and the second for the People. The third staff is for the Leader and the second for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise."

*COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust by the breath of your being. We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none. We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel, and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith. We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you and all people everywhere and that you remain faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless. We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of sacrifice and victory.

We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, whom you sent, in the fullness of time, to be the good news. Born of Mary, our sister in faith, Christ lived among us to reveal the mystery of your Word, to suffer and die on the cross for us, to be raised from death on the third day, and then to live in glory. And now we give you thanks for the hope to which you call us in your Son, that following in the faith of all your saints, we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us, and with them receive the unfading crown of glory. We bless you, gracious God, for the presence of your Holy Spirit in the church you have gathered. With your sons, daughters, and all children of faith in all places and times, we praise you with joy.

*SANCTUS

The Sewanee Mass, Malcolm Archer, 2010

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 might, hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The congregation may be seated.

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, recalling Christ's suffering and death, rejoicing in Christ's resurrection, and awaiting Christ's return in victory. We spread your table with these gifts of the earth and of our labor. We present to you our very lives, committed to your service on behalf of all people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us. Strengthen your universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in all the world. Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives for ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

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.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Please come forward as directed by the deacons to receive the common elements for communion.

Receive the bread and grape juice at one of the stations. You are invited to consume the elements as you receive them.

Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the tray. Place empty cups in the baskets on the tables by the transepts.

If you are worshipping online, you are invited to gather elements of communion in your home.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

John Tavener, 1993

Song for Athene

Luke 23:42; Orthodox Funeral Service; William Shakespeare
compiled by Mother Thekla

Alleluia. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

Alleluia. Remember me, O Lord, when you come into your kingdom.

Alleluia. Give rest, O Lord, to your handmaid who has fallen asleep.

Alleluia. The Choir of Saints have found the well-spring of life and door of paradise.

Alleluia. Life: a shadow and a dream.

Alleluia. Weeping at the grave creates the song:

Alleluia. Come, enjoy rewards and crowns I have prepared for you.

Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Samuelson

Leader: Let us pray.

People: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Ms. Kulwicki

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

*CLOSING HYMN
 "Ye watchers and ye holy ones"

Lasst uns erfreuen, Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623
 Athelston Riley, 1909

Unison

1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - a - phs, cher - u -
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems

Harmony *Unison*

bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry
 ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou
 pro - phets blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye
 ech - o - ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To

out, do - min - ions, prince - doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'
 bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the
 ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the
 God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in

Harmony

choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Lord, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 song, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 One, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Unison

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Samuelson

POSTLUDE

Toccata from Suite No. 1 for Organ

Florence Price, 1942

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 honor of All Saints Day in memory of beloved family and friends from the Farquhar Family.

† COFFEE HOUR THIS MORNING is hosted by the Gleeful Neighborhood Care Circle.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS

Rev. Samuelson and Rev. Botts — Narthex (Broad Street entrance)

Ms. Kulwicki — East Door (Ninth Street entrance by the Church Office)

Mrs. Fulford — West Door (Cleveland Avenue entrance by the Chapel)

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Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

This Week at First Church

Sunday, November 3

- 9 a.m. Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
(Parish Hall & Virtual)
- 10 a.m. Bible Study (Classroom C)
Sunday School (Various Classrooms)
Sunday Morning Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)
- 11 a.m. Worship Service & Holy Communion
(Sanctuary & Virtual)
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour & Coffee Sales (Parish Hall)

Monday, November 4

- 11 a.m. Stewardship Mtg (Fanning Rm)
- 12 Noon Card Care Ministry (Fanning Rm)
- 6 p.m. Beginners Bell Choir Rehearsal (Bell Rm)
- 6:30 p.m. House & Grounds Mtg (Classroom C & Zoom)

Tuesday, November 5

- 7 p.m. Communications & Technology Mtg (Zoom)
Justice & Mercy Mtg (Classroom C & Zoom)
Personnel Mtg (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 6

- 12:15 p.m. Music at Midday (Sanctuary)
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministers Monthly Mtg (Off Campus)
- 7 p.m. Book Club (Zoom)

Thursday, November 7

- 4:30 p.m. Choristers (Music Activities Rm)
- 6 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:15 p.m. First Church Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)

Friday, November 8

- 10 a.m. Full Circle Connections (Parlor)

Sunday, November 10

- 9 a.m. Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
(Parish Hall & Virtual)
- 10 a.m. Bible Study (Classroom C)
Sunday School (Various Classrooms)
Transition Team Listening Circle (Classroom D)
Sunday Morning Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)
- 11 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary & Virtual)

November 3, 2024

Music at Midday:

Owen Reyda,

organ

Wednesday,

November 6,

12:15 p.m.

Join us for a midday treat! This 45-minute program will feature both the Kimball and Beckerath organs of First Church. Owen Reyda is a second-year organ performance major at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, studying with Jonathan Moyer. In the summer of 2024, Owen worked with First Church minister of music Joshua Stafford as an organ scholar at Chautauqua Institution. He has played for local churches in his hometown Westfield, NY, as well as participating in summer organ events and academies. Owen also enjoys playing the piano, singing in choirs, and accompanying musicals. Owen plays for St. Paul Lutheran Church in Amherst, Ohio.

Save the Date

Hanging of the Greens
Monday, November 25, 6 p.m

New Member Class
Saturday, November 16
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Visitors and friends interested in joining our faith community should register for our new member class on Saturday, November 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church.

The class is an opportunity to meet our minister and lay leaders, to learn our church's history, and to see how you might serve and grow spiritually through our activities and programs. The class includes a boxed lunch. Potential new members also are invited for a special tour of our historic church building on Sunday, November 17, from 10 to 10:45 a.m.

You may register for the new member class by noting your interest on the pew pad, by calling the church office at (614) 228-1741 or by sending an email message to home@first-church.org. Please register by Wednesday, November 6.

First Church Book Club
Wednesday, November 6, 2024
Tom Lake
On Zoom

Come enjoy lively conversation and fellowship this November with the First Church Book Club.

Questions? Want to receive book club emails? Please call Kathy Reed, 614-442-7742.

Healthy Congregations
Sunday, November 17

Register by scanning the QR Code below!



Full Circle Connections
Friday, November 8, at 10 a.m.
In the Church Parlor

This Friday's topic in Full Circle Connections is "Change and How We Grow With It." If you can't make it this time, be sure to mark your calendar for our next gathering. We meet for an hour on the second and fourth Fridays every month. All are welcome and bring a friend! Reach Jan Hamilton on Realm or by email (hamiltonjan30@yahoo.com).

Expanding Our Crucifer Pool

Ever grateful for our high school crucifers, we would like to expand our crucifer ranks to include adults who would be interested in serving in this capacity. Being a crucifer is a wonderful way to participate in worship leadership, and the bonus (at least for some of us) is that it does not require public speaking! For those who are interested, there will be a short training session offered immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service in the near future. Please consider this opportunity to be of service to the congregation. You may reach Greg Duncan at 404-401-8363 or interpret@earthlink.net to express your interest in participating.

Calling All Archives
Supporters!

We need many willing hands to help file important documents from our church history into the appropriate year boxes. We will work on November 12 from 10 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.—come as little or as long as you like and feel free to bring your lunch, if you choose. The work session will start in the Adult Library at 10 a.m.; if you come later, please go straight to the Lower Narthex which will be the main staging area. Please let Greg Duncan know of your availability (interpret@earthlink.net) OR if you are able to lend a helping hand at the last minute, just come!

Keep in Prayer

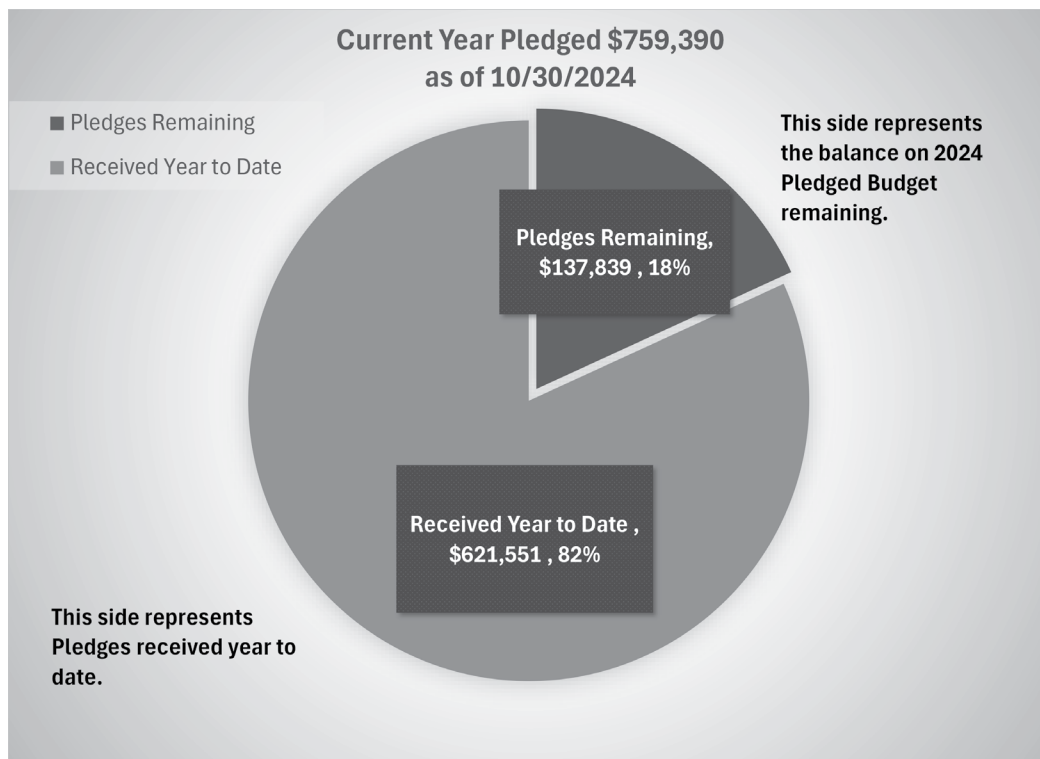
Members Sarah Giffen; Steven and Katie Deliman's daughter, Caroline; Malcolm Gillies; Mike Weddle; Elaine Warren; Twink Starr; Victor John; Janice Taft; Ashton Smith; Margot Connor and John Anderson; Francille Firebaugh; Pauline Fritz; Nancy Burba; Mary Kay Beall Carter and John Carter; Carol Lowy; Clinton Brown; Dan Axt; Anne Morganstern; Martha Huey; and Janice White.

Family and friends Sharon Reed; Leslie Fulford's sister-in-law, Donna Fulford; Gail and Jim Lowe's daughter and family, Andrea, Ben and Sam Sebastian, for Ben's mother, Nancy Lemke; Joshua Stafford's mother, Lori Stafford; Jennifer Provenzano's friend, Anita Wright; Pat Patterson's brother, Dan Stone; Linda Patten; George Ferzli's family, Tanios, Julie, Maher, Michel, Cynthia, Gabriel, and Lynn; Bob and Lorraine Quinichett's daughter, Susan Webster; Rose and David Kandel's friend, Lou Kline; David Hogrefe's mother, Linda Hogrefe; Tim Ahrens' mother, Lorene Ahrens; Melva Fisher's daughter, Susan Wood, and her sister and brother-in-law, Velma and Jamie Christy; Annette McCormick's father, Charles McCormick; Janet Axt's mother, Alice Paugh; Jill Hultin's brother, Ken Hultin; Diana and Bob Kutschbach's cousin, Carson Samples; Susie Loik's grandson, Alex Glover and his parents, Kristen and Wes; Arevena Nirote's sister and brother-in-law, Marlene and Gary Gallion; Fran and Bruce Panek's friends, Richard and Beverly Cicenas; and Victor John's cousin, Devin Endlick, and his parents, Charles and Mary Jane, and sister.

Those who mourn David Wyatt on the death of his friend, Karen Eubanks; and Melissa Kulwicki's cousin, Sandy Anschutz on the death of Sandy's husband Bob.

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 Canada, and the United States of America. We also pray for our UCC partner in mission, the Asian Rural Institute in Japan.



CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Designated Minister: Rev. Joanna Samuelson, M.Div.
Minister of Music: Joshua Stafford, M.M.
Interim Director of Faith Formation: Leslie Fulford
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, Bill McCabe, Bob O'Brien
Wedding Coordinators: Amy Wagner, Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani, Denise Vogt
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: Tom Kiesel
Deacons: Allen Baker, Heather Jones, Brian Kemp, Nan Kreimer, Allison Lowery Palmer, Dayna McCrary, Matt Myers, Fran Panek, Andy Smith Verhage, Thom Smith, Lynn Wallich, Martha Worth
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Chairperson: Frank Cook
Trustees: Greg Halbe, Elizabeth Iannarino, Todd Jacobson, Victor John, Melody Leidheiser, Janet Miller, Judy Smith, (Secretary), Hugh Schultz

CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Moderator: Gregory Halbe
Moderator-elect: Sarah Reed
Treasurer: James Velo
Treasurer-elect: Ramona Moenter
Secretary: Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen
Secretary-elect:
Nominating Chair: Sarah Reed
COMMISSIONERS
Church Stewardship and Church Growth:
Church Stewardship and Church Growth-elect:
Church Vitality: Pat Patterson
Church Vitality-elect:
Communications and Technology Commission: Mike Kennedy
Communications and Technology Commission-elect: Stefan Duga
Faith Formation Commission: Mariner Taft
Faith Formation Commission-elect: Cami Curren
House & Grounds: Eric Klintworth
House & Grounds-elect:
Justice & Mercy: Janet Miller
Justice & Mercy-elect:
Music, Arts & Heritage: Jim Griffin
Music, Arts & Heritage-elect: Cheryl Hoskinson
Member-at-Large: Jacquelyn Dean
Personnel: David Hogrefe
Personnel-elect: Sandra Mathias
Youth Member-at-Large: Sebastian Kulwicki

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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