



First United Church of Christ
 5808 Glenview Ave.
 Cincinnati, OH 45224
 513-541-7302



November 2021 Newsletter

The Pastor's Report

Pastor Dan Weyand-Geise

It's November - we remember. I'm pretty sure most would agree that the month of November sets our minds on the past. Maybe it is the turn in the weather; the darker days; memorial services; warm meals inside; or Thanksgiving dinner and gatherings with and without loved ones. It seems like we review the past year, harvest those summer memories and blessings, and enact the September and October routines as we prepare for the holidays and winter.

Like the family gatherings that begin to take place in November, I look forward to our reunion when I return from sabbatical at the end of the month. We will gather anew to hear and remember what have been the blessings, trials, and journeys of your life while I have been away. You will no doubt have lots to share. I can't wait to remember my learnings, experiences, and hopes that have taken place while I have been away. Yes, we will remember, but we also will look ahead to the sacred times and everyday moments that await us for 2022 and beyond.

November services will begin with a remembrance of loved ones on **November 7**. Jimmy Wiederhold and Tricia Lenhof have some special music and moments to honor sacred ones in our lives. For the final two weeks that I am away, we have the **Rev. Marty Westermeyer** and **Jonathan Bradner** returning to share the Word with the congregation. Both are trusted colleagues of mine and friends to the church.

May our month ahead be filled with remembrances of the faith, hope, and love that shape our lives every day.

With gratitude and thankfulness,
 Pastor Dan

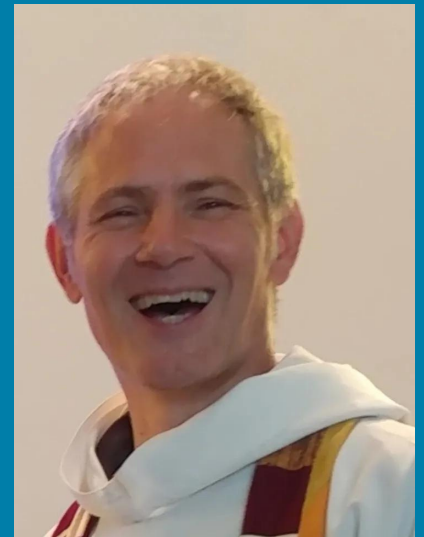


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www.firstunitedchurchofchrist.org



Jimmy Wiederhold

Director of Music, Media, and
Faith Formation

Musical Moment

Choir: Choir rehearsals are on Monday evenings at 7:00 in the choir room. Everyone ages 13 and up are welcome to join! The choir is preparing for a busy fall season of singing - and are already looking ahead to Advent and Christmas music!

Handbell Choir: Handbell choir rehearsals began September 13 and are off to a great start! Rehearsals are held at 6:00 p.m. in the choir room. All ages and music abilities are welcome! Either see Jimmy after the service or email him to inform him of your interest.

Soup & Share

The Church Board invites you to participate in a series of three monthly gatherings we're calling "Soup & Share" -- to intentionally pray and listen with the Spirit about our present, past, and future. While Pastor Dan and Amy take much-needed sabbatical time away this fall for renewal and reflection, this will be the congregation's opportunity to do the same. With food and fellowship, of course! (Many thanks to the Fishes & Loaves crew for providing simple meals of soup or chili for our evenings together.) The gathering on September 28th went very well! When asked to describe the evening in one word, answers included: grateful, togetherness, friendship, stories, enlightened, and community. The gathering on October 26th went very well, also. Not quite as many participated, however. We're hoping to have a larger group at the meeting in November.

Soup & Share "Homework" Reflections

In preparation for our next Soup & Share session on Tuesday, Nov. 16th, please reflect upon and answer the following questions. Email firstunitedchurchofchrist@gmail.com, drop off, or mail (5808 Glenview Ave. 45224) your responses to Kim Ogden in the church office by Sunday, Nov. 14th. Look forward to seeing you there!

- 1) What gifts and celebrations do you give thanks for in this season?
- 2) What is the good you want to hold fast to?
- 3) What challenges you most in this season?

Tuesday, Nov. 16th – Future.

First Church will celebrate 200 years as a congregation in 35 years. What will that look like? Where is the Spirit calling us?

The sessions will be facilitated by the Rev. Mary Laymon. Educated in the Lutheran tradition, Pastor Mary serves as executive director of Tikkun Farm in Mt. Healthy and as part-time pastor at St. Simon of Cyrene Episcopal Church in Lincoln Heights. All First Church members and friends are invited to participate. Meal and fellowship will begin at 6:30 p.m., with the program to follow from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Christine at caguillory@gmail.com or 513-312-9880.

Anniversaries

11/02 – Bob & Tricia Lenhof
 11/28 – Tom & Lisa Shelton
 11/29 – Jeff & Angela Rodenbeck



Birthdays

11/03 – Jenny Schumacher
 11/12 – Kim Ogden
 11/12 – Jeanne Phillips (organist)
 11/13 – Christine Guillory
 11/16 – Ron Beckman
 11/18 – Abigail Beckman
 11/19 – Raegan Keller
 11/20 – August Armstrong
 11/20 – Mary Day
 11/21 – Michelle Richards
 11/25 – Laura Hauck
 11/25 – Bob Lenhof
 11/26 – Hannah Steinhard
 11/27 – Jimmy Wiederhold
 11/29 – Estelle Armstrong

~Please Keep in Prayer~

Agnes Patterson (friend of Jackie Smith); Maxine Day (friend of Jackie Smith); Kameron Schuler (grandson of Bruce and Kathie Steinhard); Brenda (daughter of Ron Kirkman); Kaitlin (granddaughter of Ron Kirkman); Ginny Krebs; Cindy (friend of Ron Hayes); Jim (brother of Ron Hayes); Elizabeth and Lauren (granddaughters of Ron Kirkman); Nadine (niece of Kathie Steinhard); Larry, Carol Ann and Sandy Brzezinski; Patsy Koch; Shirley Henrich; Marilyn Blau; The Baldwin Family at the death of Ceil Fink (sister-in-law of Patty (Matt's sister) and aunt of Anna, Chris and Mason); Brian Kirkman (son of Ron Kirkman); Jeremy Richards (son of Michelle Richards); Tim Williams (friend of Jackie Smith); continued prayers for Deanna Bilz (Joe's mother) and cousins Linda, Vicki and Randall; Dan S. (friend of the Bilz); Chuck Parmenter (friend of First Church); Dan Stevens (friend of The Kirkman's); Trista Manigault (neighbor of Christine Guillory); Sarah M. Stinebuck (great-granddaughter of Jackie Smith); The Family of Vera Fleshman (Steve Copenhaver's mother-in-law); Rob Rabalais (uncle of Christine Guillory); Mary Tires (friend of the Kirkman's); Chrissy (friend of the Kirkman's); Jackie Smith and Family at the death of her son, Gary; Ron, Brian and Suwanna Kirkman; John Buelsing (son-in-law of Jackie Smith); Charlene Jones (sister of Jackie Smith); Donald Jones (brother of Jackie Smith); Janet Roland (niece of Jackie Smith).

Prayers for the Williams Family

Please keep Ralph and Lisa Williams (leaders at Christ's Community) in your prayers. They just lost their 19 year old granddaughter last week. She often helped with the food distribution at Christ's Community. No details are known as to what happened.

Congratulations!

To Rev. Barry Bordenkircher, who will be installed as pastor at St. John's Newport on November 7th.

Follow us!



@firstuuccincy

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Life of the Church

Memorial Gifts

Gifts to the Memorial Fund in Memory of Ester Roth, from:

Shirley Henrich

Bill Henrich

The Ladies Guild

Gifts to IHN in Memory of Ester Roth, from:

Milt Hauck and Laura Hauck

Darrell and Laura Copenhaver

Gift to the Flower Fund in Memory of Ester Roth, from:

David and Barbara Carl

Gift to the General Fund in Memory of Ester Roth, from:

Earl Mueller

Mark your calendars!

Thursday, November 18 will be the next Guild luncheon and meeting. A hot luncheon will be served at noon followed by a presentation titled "A Victorian Christmas" by Kathy Creighton, Executive Director of the Butler County Historical Society. All are welcome!

Phil's Place Dinner

Will take place the last Monday in November, the 29th.

Save the Date

The Mission Priority Board of the UCC is planning to have a ChoirFest here at First Church on Sunday, December 5th at 2 p.m. There will be a basket raffle, as has been the case at previous ChoirFests.



Life of the Church (cont.)

Food Donations for Thanksgiving and Christmas

Hello everyone, It's that time again. I am asking for the following food donations and \$200 to add to the purchase of turkeys. We would appreciate anything you can donate. We be serving 400 families for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We normally get help from McAuley for Thanksgiving, so we might not need as much for Christmas depending on what we have leftover. Our distribution dates are November 23 and December 21. Please send me the number of baskets your church will need. Thank you for your support and prayers during these trying times. Below are the food/numbers:

CHPC- 400- Sweet Potatoes/Cranberry Sauce
 St.Clare- 400- Cornbread/Gravy
 Bread From Heaven- 150- Cookie Mix/ Brownie Mix
 First United COC- 150- Cookie Mix/ Brownie Mix
 Consolation Baptist- 150- Stuffing
 New Life- 100- Stuffing
 Grace-100- Cookie Mix/ Brownie Mix
 Good News- 150- Stuffing

CCCH- Mashed Potatoes
 Mac N Cheese
 Green Beans
 Fruit

If anything becomes available at the foodbank, I will let you know.

Please pray for us and our family. We lost our 19 year old granddaughter last Wednesday. She is in the best hands now and we are at Peace knowing her earthly body is gone, but her spirit is always with us. GOD Bless!!

Ralph and Lisa

September 2021

Council Meeting Minutes

First United Church of Christ Meeting

Date: September 13, 2021—Zoom & In Person

Attendees: Kathie Steinhard, Bill Henrich, Christine Guillory, Travis Mandery, June Bronnert, Darrell Copenhaver, Margie Spatz, and Barry Jamison

Excused: Pastor Dan, Dave Krebs, Kendra Pressley, Dan Luken, and Sarah Bilz

Guest: n/a

- I. Call to Order: Christine called meeting to order online.
- II. Devotions: Margie lead the group in prayer.
- III. Acceptance/Approval of minutes from last meeting, financial secretary report, and treasurer reports
 - a. Review of August minutes:
 - i. Motion to accept: Travis
 - ii. Second to accept: Darrell
 - iii. All accepted: All in favor
 - b. Financial secretary report:
 - i. Motion to accept: Bill
 - ii. Second to accept: Darrell
 - iii. All accepted: All in favor
 - c. Treasurer report:
 - i. Motion to accept: Barry
 - ii. Second to accept: Margie
 - iii. All accepted: All in favor
- IV. Pastor's report:
 - a. Thanks to all who worked on green space
 - b. Thanks to all who worked on parking lot
 - c. On Sabbatical
- V. Committee Reports:
 - a. Facilities management:

September 2021

Council Meeting Minutes

- i. Lights look good
 - ii. Black top company: Work completed and looks good
 - iii. Green space update:
 - 1. Watering continues but overall progressing nicely
 - 2. Contractor will come out to reseed per contract.
 - 3. Still awaiting actual invoice from contractor and will forward to Endowment committee.
 - iv. Stove: Member mentioned smelling gas. Going to call Duke Energy to investigate.
 - v. Mt Airy Tree Service was called to trim a few trees.
 - b. Youth ministry: Youth met in August
 - c. Mission and service:
 - i. CAIN: continue to appreciate our involvement
 - ii. Camp Washington: Looking for additional tutors for Homework club
 - iii. Christ Community: continue to appreciate our involvement
 - iv. IHN: continue with hotels but we host diners. Fishes and Loaves deliver food on Wednesday's
 - d. Health ministry: n/a
 - e. Open and affirming team: n/a
 - f. Music: n/a
 - g. Nominating committee: Christine going to reach out to coordinate upcoming nominees.
 - h. Endowment: Still awaiting committee meeting to be scheduled.
 - i. Social media and communication committee: n/a
 - j. Others: n/a
- VI. Old business:
- a. Property transfer. Section of driveway by the neighbors to maintain. Still need to reach out to Hank M to draft a letter for

(continued on next page)

September 2021

Council Meeting Minutes

- gifting the property. Going to wait until Pastor Dan is back from Sabbatical.
- b. Soup and Share series underway.
- i. * **Tuesday, Sept. 28 – Present** – How are you? How has the isolation and disruption of Covid been for you? What do we celebrate? What are we anxious about?
- * **Tuesday, Oct. 26 – Past** – What do we remember and celebrate about our history as a congregation? What defines us?
- * **Tuesday, Nov. 16 – Future** – First Church will celebrate 200 years as a congregation in 35 years. What will that look like? Where is the Spirit calling us?
- c. Still waiting on information from Hummel to provide recommendations on church foundation. The project will continue to be monitored by the facility committee.
- d. Congregation meeting is scheduled for October 17th.
- VII. New business:
- a. Constitution and Bylaws review and suggested updates were presented to the council president. As new council members will be voted in October a subgroup will be formed in November. Motion made by Christine to table the formation of a group until the November meeting. Darrell second the motion. All accepted: All in favor
- VIII. Approval to pay current bills
- a. Motion to pay bills: Bill
- b. Second to pay bills: Margie
- c. All accepted: All in favor
- IX. Adjournment-prayer:
- a. Motion to adjourn: Barry
- b. Second to adjourn: Margie
- c. All accepted: All in favor
- X. Closed in Prayer

Our Covenant

We, the members of First United Church of Christ, welcome you:

If you are Asian, Black, Brown, Hispanic, Native American, or White;

If you are male, female, transgender, or gender non-conforming;

If you are 3 years old, 33 years old, or 103 years old;

If you are from just down the street, from across the country, or from another part of the globe;

If you grew up at Hoffner Church, were confirmed in the Catholic Church, got married in a non-denominational church, worshipped in a synagogue or mosque, or have never attended a religious service;

If you are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated, or partnered;

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or unsure of your sexuality;

If you are a Democrat, Independent or Republican, affiliated with another political party or no party at all;

If you have, or have had, addictions, phobias, or a criminal record;

If you own your home, rent, live with your parents, or are homeless;

If you were baptized at First Church, or are worshipping here for the first time;

If you attend services every week, once a month, or once a year;

If you have typical or atypical skills, no matter your abilities or disabilities.

However the rest of the world describes you, and however you describe yourself:

You are a beloved child of God and are welcome at First Church. Being fully welcome in our community here at First United Church of Christ means that as we keep the love of Christ at the center of all we do, our congregation will:

- **Always seek to affirm the person that you are with loving hearts and open minds.**
- **Follow the way of Christ Jesus with you in loving and being loved by both God and neighbor, with the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.**
- **Support and encourage you in your ongoing spiritual and religious journey.**
- **Love you for the person you are by living out our denomination's promise that "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at First United Church of Christ."**

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Pastoral Team:

Dan Weyand-Geise - Pastor, Ext. 17

Jimmy Wiederhold - Director of Music, Media, and Faith Formation, Ext. 11

Kim Ogden - Pastoral Administrator, Ext. 10

Church Board:

Ruth Beck

June Bronnert

Darrell Copenhaver

Christine Guillory

Milt Hauck

Bill Henrich

Travis Mandery

Kendra Pressley

Margie Spatz



*Keeping the love of Christ at the center of everything we do so that all members
will be empowered to become Spirit-Led Servant Leaders.*

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