



**MAUNDY THURSDAY | MARCH 24**

Candlelight Choral Service of Holy Communion and Tenebrae  
**8 pm South Campus, 1320 Cambridge Boulevard**

Led by the Members of the Clergy with readings by members of the Diaconate  
 Choral Music by the Chancel Choir

Ronald Jenkins, *Minister of Music & Liturgy*; Robert Griffith, *Organist*

A choir candlelight procession fills the sanctuary with light. Hear the story from the Last Supper to the garden, trial, crucifixion, and burial. With each step the shadows of our human faithlessness deepen and gradually blot out the light. The Christ candle returns with a solitary light as a sign of hope.

**GOOD FRIDAY | MARCH 25**

A Service of Worship and Music with Chamber Singers and Orchestra  
**12 pm at the North Campus, 3777 Dublin Road**

With portions of Handel's *Messiah* as well as music of Bach, Ferguson, John Rutter, and Barber's *Adagio for Strings* presented by members of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and the First Community Church Chamber Singers

Ronald Jenkins, *Minister of Music & Liturgy*  
 Robert Griffith, *Organist*; Daniel Stein, *tenor*

Dr. Richard A. Wing, *Senior Minister*, delivering a meditation  
 Worshipers are invited to walk the outdoor Labyrinth before or after the service.

**EASTER SUNDAY | MARCH 27**

**South Campus | 1320 Cambridge Blvd.**

**8:30 am** - Holy Communion in Burkhart Chapel  
 The Reverend Mr. Paul E. Baumer, *preacher*; Carol Hofer, *organist*

**10 & 11:30 am** - Sanctuary  
 The Reverend Dr. Richard A. Wing, *preacher*  
 Ronald Jenkins, *Minister of Music & Liturgy*; Robert Griffith, *Organist*  
 Chancel Choir with brass and tympani

**North Campus | 3777 Dublin Road**

**8:30 am** - Grace Hall  
 The Reverend Dr. Richard A. Wing, *preacher*  
 Ronald Jenkins, *Minister of Music & Liturgy*; Sally R. Beske, *Organist*  
 Chancel Choir with brass and tympani

**9:45 am** - Grace Hall  
 The Reverend Dr. Deborah C. Lindsay, *preacher*  
 Sally R. Beske, *Organist*; Emily N. Rogers, *mezzo soprano soloist*

**Mission Council Garage Sale Needs You**

■ By Beth Hanson

Mission Council's 21st Annual Garage Sale is appearing on the horizon. Please mark your calendar for Friday, May 13 & Saturday, May 14 (the weekend after Mother's Day).

Since last June, the hale and hearty pick-up crew has ventured all over town braving the heat, cold, rain and snow to gather donations. They've hunted down street numbers on pitch black streets, wrestled all-things-ungainly out of basements and second floors, sometimes even having to remove doors to create access and then schlepping them out lower level doors into hilly backyards in the wet grass. (It's always an adventure....but I digress.)

We have already filled our 1,700-square-foot storage unit with every possible item you can imagine. Fortunately, we have just been offered another smaller storage space that we hope will tide us over until May.

The Garage Sale raises money for the many missions that our church helps support, such as: the local Habitat for Humanity, local homeless shelters, our church's youth mission trips to Mexico and the Dominican Republic, Mid-Ohio Foodbank, Rafiki (in Kenya), Tandana (in Mali), the Shalom Zone (on the west side), Freedom a la Carte, and our own Heart to Heart.

It takes an entire week to set things up and get ready to sell all of the treasures we have collected. Last year, over 350 volunteers pitched in to help. Starting on May 8 and continuing through the week from 9 am to 9 pm, we will need as many helpers as we can possibly

(Continued, Page 2)



**REALIZE**

**THE ALL-MEMBER PHASE OF CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDRAISING HAS BEGUN**

See Page 9

# Try



**Dr. Richard Wing**  
Senior Minister

"Try" is a word we use with others in order to look good while lying. "I'll try to get to your party," is the phrase that people use to look good while having no intention of going to the party. Kind of sad.

"Try" is a lie we use on ourselves also. When it comes to health, alcohol consumption, an abusive relationship, it is not a good idea to lie to yourself. Very sad when you see it.

Whether to others or ourselves, it is not good to lie. Soon we will not know the difference between the truth and a lie. A fact noted by Native Americans and Jesus, who said, "Let your 'yes be yes,' and your 'no be no' - everything else comes from evil."

"Try" is the barrier to many things we would like to experience but can't because we try too hard. This includes hitting a tennis ball or writing or painting or composing a song.

I paraphrase Charles Bukowski: "Somebody asked me: 'How do you write, or create?' You don't, I told them. You don't try. That's very important not to try. You wait. If nothing happens, you wait some more. It's like a bug high on the wall. You wait for it to come to you." True for writing and prayer.

I am grieved to know that when asked if they are an artist, 100% of the kids in the first-grade raise their hands. In the fourth-grade only one or two are left to raise their hand. We too easily kill creativity in our culture by the insistence that our children *try harder*, and *achieve* rather than allow their creative gifts to come forward.

When Easter comes, (as it will early this year), *give up trying to get what can only be received*. Resurrection happens by letting God do in you what only God can do after you get out of the way by your insistent trying.

*Jack*

# Garage Sale

(Continued from Page 1)

rustle up. But even if you don't have time to volunteer, there are still many ways to participate in this gigantic, fantastic undertaking. Here are some additional ways to help:

- 1) Start saving items to donate.
- 2) Donate supplies such as masking & packing tape, all sizes of Ziplock bags, shopping bags, paper grocery bags, Sharpie pens, mailing labels, paper plates and cups, etc. that we use during the sale.
- 3) Donate food to sell at our refreshment stand such as cans of pop, home-made baked goods, donuts, bottled water, coffee and creamer. Or donate snacks or a Donato's gift card to help feed the hard-working volunteers.
- 4) Make a financial contribution to help us defray expenses. As our sale has grown to such mammoth proportions over time, we have eventually needed to rent more tents, tables and portable storage units, and pay for advertising, printing, security, gasoline for the truck, credit card fees, etc. Money donated for Garage Sale expenses would free up more of our profits to go directly to the worthy and carefully-studied missions our church supports. Last year we raised a whopping \$54,997, our highest earning year ever, but our expenses climbed to 15%. Financial or in-kind donations will help the Gigantic Garage Sale do the work it was created to fulfill. For anyone interested, I would be happy to provide a detailed list of our expenses.

We will begin accepting donations at North Campus on Sunday, May 8 (Mother's Day) from 2-6 pm. Additional information such a list of items we do and do not take is posted on the church website under the "Missions" tab.

If you have questions, please contact Beth Hanson at 614 488.6526 or bethhanson@wowway.com. Starting in April, Mission Council will also have a Garage Sale information table after church services where you can sign up to volunteer.

# Heart to Heart Food Pantry Totals

Heart to Heart offers a helping hand and caring heart in times of need.

## Donation Needs for March:

Shelf Milk

<u>January 2016</u>	<u>Month</u>
Households	443
Individuals	1,264
Children	384
Adults	684
<u>Seniors</u>	<u>196</u>
Total Meals	11,376

Unique Volunteers 44

**Please Note:** The Governing Board will meet Tuesday, March 29 at 7 pm in Room 115, North Campus. This is a change in the regular schedule.

## firstnews Articles

Include the date, contact person's name, phone number and/or e-mail address with all submissions. Submit to:  
 email - news@FCchurch.com  
 fax - 614 488.2763  
 phone - 614 488.0681

We reserve the right to edit all submissions.

**The deadline for all submissions is 12 pm on the 15th of each month.**

firstnews is a communications mission of First Community Church, published for church members and the community to share insights, educate and inform.

Editor: Michael Barber  
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 Admin. Assistant: Emily Rogers

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## Bollywood & Barbeque

■ By Kitty Rohrer

Come join us at the 4th Annual Bollywood & Barbeque dinner to benefit the Deep Griha Society in Pune, India.

The fun, festivities, fellowship and feast take place on Sunday, March 6, from 5 - 7:30 pm. There will be delicious food from City Barbeque featuring favorite meats as well as various vegetarian offerings. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. Online registration is available at [FCchurch.com/bollywood](http://FCchurch.com/bollywood) and tickets will be sold at coffee hours after church services.

Pre-dinner activities will include Henna Painting, the delightful Dr. Jitan Ruparel talking on the topic of "What Can One Accept as Real?", opportunities to explore the musical instruments of India, crafts for young children and the possible creation of a colorful mandala for all who are young-at-heart. Post-dinner entertainment will feature several musical numbers by Randy Rocke as well as several Indian dances by the young dancers of Disha.

The Deep Griha Society was founded in 1975 by the Reverend Baskar and Dr. Neela Onawale when they returned to India from their study in the USA and developed an outreach program in the slums of Pune. First Community Church has been there from the beginning providing monetary support for development and operating expenses as well as hands-on volunteers and sponsorships. In addition to the initial offering of much-needed health care to slum residents, Deep Griha has always focused on education of young people as a means of improving their life opportunities.

If you would like to help a child in Pune by becoming a sponsor, please visit [deepgrihausa.org](http://deepgrihausa.org)

## Mexico Mission Trip

■ By Linda Larrimer

The Mexico Mission trip is a week-long spring break experience in which high school students, in addition to college and adult leaders, build houses for under-privileged families in Tecate, Mexico. First Community Church has worked with Amor Ministries for several years to build hundreds of homes and plans to return to Mexico again from March 18 - 26.

This year, the trip includes 18 adults and 46 high school students. By traveling to another country, the students are able to immerse themselves in an environment that may look nothing like what they have seen. Participants are encouraged to step out of their comfort zones, both physically and emotionally.

The group will camp near the site where they will build homes. As the location is mountainous, the weather conditions are variable. It is not uncommon for the group to experience cold temperatures, rain and even snow. While often not optimal conditions for camping, let alone building houses, the staff from First Community and Amor Ministries know how to handle even the most challenging situations.

The participants also meet the families for whom the houses are built and are able to welcome family members to their new homes once completed. The goal of the trip is to ease the burden of poverty on families we serve, while also instilling in trip participants a sense of perspective, humility and gratitude about their own lives at home. Many find this to be a life-changing experience.

While participants are required to pay for their travel expenses, fundraising takes place during the year to help defray some of the costs. The Pasta Dinner, held on February 16, was a fund raising effort to support the Mexico Mission Trip. Your donation can also help to reduce the cost for this important and valuable experience.

Support the Mexico Mission trip by contributing to the special offering Sunday, March 13.

## Finding Your Sanctuary With Terry Hershey

**Spiritual Searcher Weekend**  
Friday, April 8 – Sunday, April 10

Rev. Terry Hershey is an inspirational speaker, humorist and ordained minister, who returns April 8-10 as our 2016 *Spiritual Searcher* with the publication of his new book, *Sanctuary: creating space for grace in your life*.

This follows his last visit with us, when Terry shared his perspective on the need to create a reflective and contemplative life based on his work in *The Power of Pause: Becoming More by Doing Less*.

The theme for our 2016 *Spiritual Searcher* weekend is *Finding Your Sanctuary: Create Places of Rest, Renewal and Refuge*. We invite you be part of this exciting weekend of events. Terry Hershey's presentation schedule is as follows:

**Friday, April 8, 7-8:30 pm** - Keynote Presentation: *Why Do We Need Sanctuary In Our Lives?*

**Saturday, April 9, 9-11:30 am**  
Workshop: *Finding & Creating Your Sanctuary*

**Saturday, April 9, 1-3 pm** - Workshop: *Becoming Sanctuary for Others*

**Sunday, April 10** - Rev. Hershey will preach at 9:45 am North Campus and 11 am South Campus Worship.

**Special Event Sunday, April 10, 2-5 pm at Spagio Wine Lounge 1295 Grandview Avenue**  
Wine tasting and appetizers with Terry Hershey, a fundraiser for *Spiritual Searcher* ministry.

Details and registration at discounted rates for Friday and Saturday presentations open online at [FCchurch.com/Hershey](http://FCchurch.com/Hershey). Register online also for the Sunday Wine Tasting. You can also register for all events before and after Sunday worship services at both campuses beginning March 13, or at the door. All events open to the public.

## Parish Register

*We share the joys and sorrows of our church family in our prayers.*

**As of February 18, 2016**

### BIRTHS

Adler Richard Chard 12/22/15  
*Son of Karleya & Brian Chard  
 Grandson of Carole (Dick) Turner*  
 Cora Lynn Jacobs 1/24/16  
*Granddaughter of Linda & Bill Ryan*  
 Samuel William Rogers 2/8/16  
*Son of Janelle & Emily Rogers*

### HOSPITALIZATIONS

Sarah Hahn  
 Mary Kuhner  
 Diane Roller  
 John V. Schmidt  
 Barb Tingley  
 Cheryl Van Deusen

### DEATHS

Jim Rook 1/21/16  
*Father of Janice Rook  
 Father of Jim Rook, Jr  
 Father-in-law of Sharon Kessler*  
 Carl Hollinger 1/23/16  
*Father of Mark (Mary) Hollinger*  
 Ruth Ann Green 1/27/16  
*Sister of Sally Patton*  
 Barbara Leighner 2/4/16  
 Marilyn Kellough 2/10/16  
*Wife of Steven Kellough  
 Mother of Debbie (Jerry) Sayre*  
 Richard Bull 2/13/16  
*Husband of Shirley Bull  
 Father of Leslie (William) Junk*  
 Abby Ruby 2/14/16  
*Grandniece of Mike (Laura) Elliott*  
 Chet Hawley 2/18/16  
*Father of Philip (Jody) Hawley  
 Grandfather of Lauren (John) Norelli*  
 Charles Baxley 2/21/16  
*Husband of Tricia Baxley  
 Father of Kevin & Ryan Baxley*

*Please send notifications of Weddings, Births, Hospitalizations or Deaths to prussell@FCchurch.com or 614 488.0681 ext 228.*

*Our Pastoral Care staff is available if you desire a visit or call during an illness, hospitalization or time of need.*

## Shalem Institute Reception

On Saturday, March 5 from 5-6:30 pm in Brownlee Hall, First Community Church will be hosting a reception for the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation's new Executive Director, Dr. Margaret Benefiel. This event is for those interested in meeting Margaret, learning more about the Shalem Institute and for all who long to deepen in relationship with God and one another. Light refreshments will be provided.

## Parenting Connections

■ By Kara Alexander Stearns

Join us as we explore strategies in positive parenting.

**Thursday, March 17, 7-8:30 pm**  
 Room 115, North Campus

*Parenting Connections* is an open group for support, guidance and fellowship as we strive for purposeful and intentional parenting. The group will meet the third Thursday of each month through April.

## Kroger Rewards

April is the month to reenroll your Kroger Plus Shoppers Card in their Community Rewards program. Go to [kroger.com/communityrewards](http://kroger.com/communityrewards), enter your card number and choose organization number 80293 (First Community Church).

All of the proceeds earned through this program go directly to the Heart to Heart food pantry. In 2015, we earned nearly \$8,000 with 266 households participating by the end of the year. It is our goal to earn \$13,000 per year or have 500 participating households.

## Warm Welcome

■ By Donice Wooster

This new group welcomes knitters and crocheters to make hats, mittens and scarves for refugees coming into Columbus. We are coordinating with Mission Council to get them to new neighbors who need warm accessories.

The group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 1-3 pm in the Wicker Room at South Campus. (This is a slightly revised time.) Our dates in March are March 8 and 22. You are welcome to join us any time, or to make items on your own. We are using washable wool or washable wool blends, for warmth and easy care. Contact Donice Wooster at [dwooster6@att.net](mailto:dwooster6@att.net) with questions, or to arrange to drop off items.

## Foundation

■ By Walter Neff

First Community Foundation welcomes four new Trustees: Ralph Talmage, Dr. Karl Klamar, Nancy Evans, and Ben Dickens. We also thank our outgoing Trustees: Doug Covell, Nancy Donaldson, Lee Vescelius, and David Quelette for their wisdom and service.

Recently we approved a grant of \$8,000 to support expenses of the High School Mexico Mission Trip. The money from this grant will be funded by monies from the Elizabeth Riley Memorial Fund, the Howard Skip Brehmer Jr Memorial Fund, and the James Coon Endowment Fund.

To establish a Fund in the Foundation we have some guidelines and policies. A "non-endowed" named Fund must have total gifts of \$5,000 or more within 5 years of the initial gift. An "endowed" Fund must have total gifts of \$25,000 or more within 5 years of the initial gift. If you would like further information, contact Darian Torrance at the Foundation or Bruce Pontious through the Church.

All gifts received by First Community Foundation are honored as requested and appreciated.



## Refugee Task Force

■ By Jennifer Short

On Sunday, March 27 a special Easter offering will be collected on behalf of the Refugee Task Force and the Rafiki Children's Center. The Task Force is responding to an increase in immediate needs requests, particularly requests involving health and disability issues in addition to sponsoring a new refugee family in 2016.

The Refugee Task Force has been actively involved with assistance to refugees since 1983. In recent years, the Task Force worked with \$5,000 to \$6,000 per year to assist refugee families. This amount is no longer adequate to meet the many requests for immediate assistance. Through the Special Offering, the Refugee Task Force requests your help to reach our goal of \$10,000.

Consider this request from Ali. She is a pregnant, single mother of a seven-year-old daughter. Her daughter currently lives in Ethiopia and she is working to bring her to Columbus. Her request for baby supplies such as a crib, clothes and diapers was granted by the Task Force.

Other requests are to cover gaps that other agencies are unable to provide, such as medical equipment (wheelchairs), rental deposits, driving lessons or car repairs.

Refugees come to Columbus from all over the world. They are individuals who meet the UN criteria of having a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons such as race, religion or nationality. They are screened by UNCHR and the U.S. Government in a 21-step process before they are sent to Columbus under strict rules for resettlement.

The Refugee Task Force has worked closely with one of the receiving agencies, Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), for several years, both in sponsorship and emergency financial assistance.

Please help us continue our legacy of commitment to refugees when you reflect on your Easter offering.

## Rafiki Continues to Grow

■ By Connie Hieatt

The Rafiki Children's Center in Kikuyu Town, Kenya continues to develop and flourish. The Rafiki Academy now educates 300 students, a 30% growth over last year. This comes with gratitude for the new school bus, which will be paid off this month through generous donations from members of First Community Church. In addition, completion of the music and art schools, computer lab and three new classrooms on the second floor of the Clinic building have taken place.

Rafiki delivers the best of educational offerings in the region, educating and feeding kids. The academy benefits not just the Rafiki kids (one-third of the students) but also the larger community (two-thirds of the students). The first candidates from the Rafiki Academy excelled in the testing for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE).

The KCPE is a certificate awarded to students after completing the approved eight-year course in primary education in Kenya. Thanks to all the teachers for their hard work under Head Teacher Barnard. In the words of John Nganga, "Watch out 2016, we are coming!"

Dr. Terry Davis will be going to Kenya in early March to witness first-hand all of the recent growth and to spend time with the staff and children of Rafiki. Upon his return, he will bring back fresh data, information, pictures and stories.

The Special Offering on Easter Sunday, March 27, will support the Rafiki Children's Center and the Refugee Task Force. Your generous contribution will help continue this exceptional ministry.

To learn more about Rafiki and its many other programs and projects, visit [RafikiChildrenCenter.org](http://RafikiChildrenCenter.org)

## March Readings

*These Bible readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings. In general, readings on Thursday, Friday and Saturday are selected to prepare for the Sunday reading; readings on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are selected to reflect the Sunday lectionary.*

1	Ezek. 17:1-10	Rom. 2:12-16
2	Num. 13:17-27	Luke 13:18-21
3	Josh. 4:1-13	2 Cor. 4:16-5:5
4	Josh. 4:14-24	2 Cor. 5:6-15
5	Exod. 32:7-14	Luke 15:1-10
6	Josh. 5:9-12	2 Cor. 5:16-21
	Ps. 32	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
7	Lev. 23:26-41	Rev. 19:1-8
8	Lev. 25:1-19	Rev. 19:9-10
9	2 Kings 4:1-7	Luke 9:10-17
10	Isa. 43:1-7	Phil. 2:19-24
11	Isa. 43:8-15	Phil. 2:25-3:1
12	Exod. 12:21-27	John 11:45-57
13	Isa. 43:16-21	Phil. 3:4b-14
	Ps. 126	John 12:1-8
14	Exod. 40:1-15	Heb. 10:19-25
15	Judg. 9:7-15	1 John 2:18-28
16	Hab. 3:2-15	Luke 18:31-34
17	Isa. 53:10-12	Heb. 2:1-9
18	Isa. 54:9-10	Heb. 2:10-18
19	Lev. 23:1-8	Luke 22:1-13
20	(Palm/Passion Sunday)	
	Ps. 118:1-2, 19-29	Luke 19:28-40
	Isa. 50:4-9a	Phil. 2:5-11
	Ps. 31:9-16	Luke 22:14-23:56
21	Isa. 42:1-9	Heb. 9:11-15
	Ps. 36:5-11	John 12:1-11
22	Isa. 49:1-7	1 Cor. 1:18-31
	Ps. 71:1-14	John 12:20-36
23	Isa. 50:4-9a	Heb. 12:1-3
	Ps. 70	John 13:21-32
24	(Maundy Thursday)	Exod. 12:1-14
	1 Cor. 11:23-26	Ps. 116:1-2, 12-19
	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	
25	(Good Friday)	
	Isa. 52:13-53:12	Heb. 10:16-25
	Ps. 22	John 18:1-19:42
26	(Holy Saturday)	
	Job 14:1-14	1 Peter 4:1-8
	Ps. 31:1-4, 15-16	Matt. 27:57-66
27	(Easter Sunday)	
	Acts 10:34-43	1 Cor. 15:19-26
	Ps. 118:1-2, 14-24	John 20:1-18
28	Josh. 10:16-27	1 Cor. 5:6b-8
29	Judg. 4:17-23, 5:24-31a	Rev. 12:1-12
30	2 Sam. 6:1-15	Luke 24:1-12
31	1 Sam. 17:1-23	Acts 5:12-16

## Easter Flowers

■ By Lois Zook

Help decorate First Community Church for Easter Sunday with lilies and other spring flowers. Stop by the Worship & Arts table after worship services on Sundays through March 20 or send a check for \$10 for each plant to:

The Worship & Arts Council  
First Community Church  
1320 Cambridge Blvd.  
Columbus, OH 43212

Donations may also be made at FCchurch.com on the home page under giving/music. Place your order by Palm Sunday, March 20. Flowers paid for may be picked up following the 10 am service at the North Campus or the 11 am service at the South Campus on Easter Sunday.

## Quest Singles

**Thursday, March 3, 6:30 pm**

Dinner at Houlihan's  
3150 Tremont Road, Kingsdale Center

**Thursday, March 17, 6:30 pm**

Dinner at Spageddies Italian Kitchen  
3873 Park Mill Run Drive

**Sunday, March 20, 5:30 pm**

Book Discussion - *Book title is undecided.*

**Thursday, April 7, 6:30 pm**

Dinner at Hunan Lion Gourmet Chinese  
2038 Bethel Road

**Sunday, April 17, 5:30 pm**

Book Discussion - *Book title is undecided.*

**Thursday, April 21, 6:30 pm**

Dinner at Plank's Café and Pizzeria  
743 Parsons Avenue

We singles enjoy meeting new people, so please join us. Most of us are in our fifties, sixties, and up, but we welcome all ages. We communicate primarily via email, so if you are not on our email list, contact Nancy Dunn at ndunn1975@gmail.com or call 614 771.4869 to verify the current plans. If you have an idea for a fun activity, let Nancy know.

## Volunteer Spotlight

■ By Kathy Tagliaferri

*First Community Church programs, events and outreach opportunities are only successful because of the enthusiastic work of our dedicated volunteers. Thank you to all of our volunteers who each week give their time and energy to making the mission and vision of First Community Church a reality.*

### Our Volunteer of the Month for March is Christy Caine

Christy's involvement in the Adult Learning Council at First Community Church gives her the opportunity for a deeper understanding of her faith beyond theology through meaningful discussions. By meeting with others to talk about thought-provoking books and movies, she leads herself and other church members through a more meaningful faith journey.

"We encourage those who enjoy lifelong learning and reading to join us," Christy said. One of a small committee, she writes agendas, develops concepts and ideas for classes, and helps choose study materials.

**What Rev. David Hett, Minister of Religious Life & Learning has to say about Christy:** "Christy is not only a great leader for our Adult Learning Council and the inspiration behind many of our most creative programs, but she is one of the best critical thinkers and lay theologians I know—and all of this is even more impressive as the mother of young children who donates hours of her valuable time to enrich our church's adult education and spiritual formation ministries.

"In addition to serving as a member of the Council since 2012, as vice chair in 2013-14, and our chair for the past two years, she is also a member of the Center for Spiritual Search Steering Committee. She is a gift to us all."

*Do you know an outstanding volunteer? Please contact Kathy Tagliaferri at kmtaglia@gmail.com to submit a nomination.*

## New Member Seminar

Our Membership Seminars are an opportunity to hear about the history, programs and inclusiveness of First Community Church and become acquainted with clergy, staff and congregation members.

Whether you are ready to become a member or would simply like to learn more about our church, we invite you to join us for our upcoming Membership Seminar, on Sunday, April 10 at our South Campus, Brownlee Hall from 12:30 - 3 pm. Lunch is provided.

Childcare will be provided as requested. RSVP by contacting Kristy Glaser, Coordinator of New Member Engagement, at KGlaser@FCchurch.com or at 614 488.0681 ext. 161.

## Lenten Promises

■ By Rebecca Wolfe

Some people give up bad habits during Lent, others take on positive challenges during this time. No matter which way you go, the object is to think about your relationship with God and channel new energies in that direction.

I sometimes open storage containers, finger items inside and close them up again. I have to ask, "Why am I keeping these things that I haven't done anything more than look at for several years? Why am I storing these things that my family will get rid of some day? Should I just take a picture for my memory instead of keeping all this stuff?"

Maybe you would like to join me in a positive Lenten experience - a good spring cleaning. It might sound overwhelming and tiresome before you even get off the couch, but think of the catharsis that comes when you have purged your life of all those things that only serve to bog you down. Also think of the way your unneeded things can provide for someone else through the Tri-Village Trading Post and the money that will be generated for other ministries. I am going to start in my basement feel free to hold me accountable.

# This Month in Church History

■ Compiled by Jackie Cherry

Mar. 14, 1910 - Initial meeting to organize a church

Mar. 6, 1919 - Request granted to withdraw from the Congregational Church

Mar. 19, 1919 - Formal resolution to become First Community Church of Grandview

Mar. 12, 1943 - First minstrel show by Men's Glee Club of First Community Church, now known as Vaud-Villities

Mar. 21, 1943 - Dedication of Zell Chapel by Rev. Fred Brownlee

Mar. 1, 1959 - "Golden Sunday" fiftieth anniversary service at Veterans Memorial Auditorium with special guest, Rev. Oliver Weist

Mar. 3, 1963 - WRFD initiates live broadcast of 11 am worship service

Mar. 1987 - Nearly 1,400 people, including former President Richard Nixon, pack the church for the memorial service of OSU Coach Woody Hayes

Mar. 1995 - First mission trip to Mexico

# Baptism Sunday

Our next baptisms during worship will be Sunday, March 6 at both the North and South Campuses. Private baptisms throughout the year can also be arranged. To schedule a baptism or for more information, contact Paula Russell, Director of Congregational Care, at prussell@FCchurch.com or 614 488-0681 ext. 228.

If you are scheduling a baptism for the first time at First Community Church, there will be a baptism class on Tuesday, March 1 from 7-8 pm in the Wicker Room, South Campus. Rev. Jim Long will explain the meaning and practice of baptism, what occurs during the baptism and what our church offers to families with children.

# Women's Guild

■ By Jill Eliot

*"Each day opens a new place in our hearts where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity." — Henri Nouwen*

On Tuesday, February 9 the members of the Women's Guilds celebrated the entire wonderful church staff with the 37th annual *We Love You Luncheon*. Homemade salads and desserts accompanied lasagna and pizza that warmed the hearts and souls of the hardworking staff. Over 100 members of the Guild Groups contributed in some way for this celebration. Some of the words shared at the luncheon follow:

"You have created an environment where church members sense that there are all-time, invisible, loving vouchers that say that we can come to you for whatever we need. Whether it's a listening ear, a hand to hold, the answer to a question, advice about a tough life issue or a simple detail about one of the remarkable programs here at First Community. You all are treasures."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Group Q is hosting Shared Hope International, a human trafficking organization on Wednesday, April, 27 in Brownlee Hall. The group is inviting women from all Guild Groups, the Executive Board and the Adult Learning Council to attend the program. Learn about the trafficking problem in the Columbus area and what we can do about it. The acclaimed short film, *The Chosen*, will be shown. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jill Eliot, jeliot@columbus.rr.com. Jill is an Ambassador of Hope within the SHI organization.

The Spring Luncheon is at 11:30 am on April 23 at the Boat House, 679 W Spring Street at Confluence Park off Dublin Road. *The Notes* from Columbus Retired Teachers Association will be performing some familiar and unique songs with a few singalongs. It is open to all women, not just Guild members.

# Members Elected

At our January 31, 2016 Annual Meeting, the following people were elected:

## Governing Board (Three-year term)

Joy Barney	Jamie Greene
Erin Byrne	Judy Reinhard
Mark Catalano	

## Board of Deacons (Three-year term)

Bruce Crouthamel	April Howe
Jeff DeRoberts	Linda McGuire
Brian Gillespie	Kevin Satterfield
Mary Gossard	Donice Wooster

## Nominating Committee (Two-year term)

Marianne Anderson	Kris Kipp
Ron Arledge	Mandy Levell
Amy Barger	Joe Lotozo
Bob Eberhart	Joan Talmage
Brad Griffith	Sherri Whetzel
Laura Helland	Mollie Zook

The newly-elected Nominating Committee members join 12 others who were elected last year. The nominating process begins early fall with nominations from the congregation and results in the slates of candidates for the Governing Board and Board of Deacons that will be presented at the 2017 Annual Meeting.

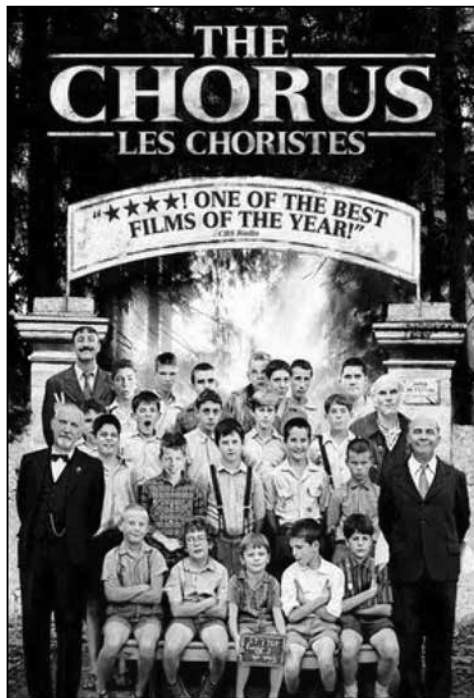
firstcommunity Church  
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 614 488-0681 FCchurch.com January 1 - 31, 2013 Vol. 59 No. 1

Deep Cuts Page 7  
 Heart to Heart Events Services Page 13  
 Camp Akita Rejuvenation Page 15

**Bridging Generations**  
 Early Childhood Ministry Provides Lasting Family Legacy

**Celebration of Giving** (See Page 20)

**E-EDITION**  
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## Film Group

**Friday, March 11**  
 Wicker Room, South Campus  
 6 pm - social and pizza  
 6:30 pm - movie begins

We all love stories about school teachers helping disadvantaged students to rise above their environment and achieve success. *The Chorus* follows in this tradition. Set in post-World War II France in 1949, this film tells the story of children displaced by the war and living in a correctional house, L’Fond de L’Etang, (which translates literally to ‘Rock Bottom’). A new teacher, mild-mannered Clement Mathieu, joins the school staff and sees potential in the students, struggles against the prison-like atmosphere of the school and uses music to connect with the children.

This is a delightful and inspiring film, ranked among the world’s top movies, and, though the dialogue is in French, the subtitles are nice and clear. Most of the children were selected from residents of the town in which the film was made. This film was nominated for Best Foreign Language Film and Best Original Song in the 2005 Academy Awards and won numerous international awards.

RSVP to [jnickel@columbus.rr.com](mailto:jnickel@columbus.rr.com) (614 529.9930) by March 10 or visit [FCchurch.com/film-discussion-group](http://FCchurch.com/film-discussion-group)

## Weekly Adult Learning Groups

Classes are free except where noted and open to the public. For information on books, registration or financial aid, contact Natalia at [njones@FCchurch.com](mailto:njones@FCchurch.com) or 614 488.0681 ext. 151 (voicemail only).

For more details, visit [FCchurch.com/adult-learning](http://FCchurch.com/adult-learning)

<p><b>Sunday Morning Seminar</b> - In the book, <i>Reinventing Paul</i>, professor John Gager of Princeton offers insights based on newer scholarship that looks at Paul in his ancient context and offers new options for understanding this important figure in Christian history. New study continues in March with Adult Education Coordinator, Walter Watkins.</p>	<p><b>Sundays</b>  <b>9:30 – 10:45 am</b>                  Wicker Room, SC</p>
<p><b>Tuesday at Ten</b> - In March the group will continue to work with our comparative religion study based on Stephen Prothero’s book <i>God is Not One</i>. The first two weeks we will be thinking and talking about Buddhism with Paul Numrich as our Dialogue Partner, before we move on to a consideration of Hinduism. At the end of the month, we start with the African-based religion Yoruba. Full schedule at <a href="http://FCchurch.com/tuesday-at-10">FCchurch.com/tuesday-at-10</a></p>	<p><b>Tuesdays</b>  <b>10 – 11:30 am</b>                  Wicker Room, SC</p>
<p><b>Men’s Study Group</b> - During March, the Men’s Study Group will continue reading and discussion of <i>Christianity After Religion</i> by Diana Butler Bass. Contact Price Finley at 614 361.6567 or <a href="mailto:price.finley@gmail.com">price.finley@gmail.com</a>, or Craig Sturtz at 614 481.9060 or <a href="mailto:craig.sturtz01@gmail.com">craig.sturtz01@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Wednesdays</b>  <b>7 – 8 am</b>                  Wicker Room, SC</p>
<p><b>Wednesday Morning Fellowship</b> - Presentations and discussion of leading-edge topics.</p>	<p><b>Wednesdays</b>  <b>7 – 8 am</b>                  Brownlee Hall, SC</p>
<p><b>Women Living the Questions</b> - The group welcomes any woman who wishes to explore in a safe environment any aspects of the spiritual life. Currently we are viewing the videos of Richard Rohr and James Finley, <i>Following the Mystics Through the Narrow Gate</i>. For more information, contact Linda Baldeck at <a href="mailto:lbaldeck927@gmail.com">lbaldeck927@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Wednesdays</b>  <b>9:30 – 11:30 am</b>                  Wicker Room, SC</p>
<p><b>Wednesday Evening Bible Study</b> - The group will be studying 2 Corinthians. This Bible Study is led by the Reverend Jim Long.</p>	<p><b>Wednesdays</b>  <b>7 – 8:15 pm</b>                  Conference Room, NC</p>
<p><b>Contemplative Way Group 1</b> - A time of sacred reading—Teresa of Avila’s <i>Interior Castle</i>; 30-minute meditation time; reflection &amp; discussion. Facilitated by Rev. David Hett and other spiritual directors. Free-will offering.</p>	<p><b>Thursdays</b>  <b>11:45 am – 1 pm</b>                  Wicker Room, SC</p>
<p><b>Faith &amp; Reason</b> - This class repeats the same material as the Sunday Morning Seminar. Please see description above.</p>	<p><b>Thursdays</b>  <b>7 – 8:15 pm</b>                  Room 111, NC</p>



## Rohr Webcast: Authentic Transformation

A Richard Rohr Webcast Replay  
**Saturday, March 12, 9:30 am – Noon**  
*Brownlee Hall, South Campus*

Watch and discuss Richard Rohr's latest webcast on the meaning and process of true transformation.

Contemplative teacher and Franciscan Richard Rohr suggests there are three key components to spiritual transformation:

**The Necessity of a Foundational Conversion** — An experience of the Absolute, a radical change of consciousness, an initiating experience, Twelve-Step work, or ego and shadow work

**The Sign of Spiritual Conversion** — A never failing movement toward the edge, the bottom, the suffering and the simple

**A Practice for Staying Open** — Some form of quieting, meditation, contemplation, solitude and silence

Register at [FCchurch.com/Rohr](http://FCchurch.com/Rohr).  
 Questions? Contact Natalia at [njones@FCchurch.com](mailto:njones@FCchurch.com) or leave a message at 614 488.0681, ext. 151.

A free will donation will be accepted online or at the door to support the Center for Spiritual Search.

## 'Wisdom Jesus'

Thursday, March 17, 7 – 8:30 pm  
*Wicker Room, South Campus*

Rev. David Hett will lead discussion on Cynthia Bourgeault's *The Wisdom Jesus: Transforming Heart and Mind—a New Perspective on Christ and His Message*.

"This book presents a picture of Jesus that will appeal to spiritual searchers from any tradition," says Rev. Hett, "and I was enthralled when I first discovered it in the bookstore of a Buddhist university (Naropa) in Boulder. As Episcopal priest Bourgeault writes here, 'Jesus comes as a master of nondual consciousness—probably the first that Western civilization had ever seen—calling people to a radical transformation of consciousness.' This is a Jesus for the here-and-now world, and for the work of growth needed by 21<sup>st</sup> century peoples."

Cynthia Bourgeault is a masterful guide to Jesus' vision and to the traditional contemplative practices you can use to experience the heart of his teachings for yourself. In our March discussion we will focus on the first two-thirds of the book describing this "wisdom" vision of Jesus' teachings.

Reading the book ahead of time is not required, but strongly recommended. The church has copies of the book at a discounted \$12.

Register at [FCchurch.com/wisdom](http://FCchurch.com/wisdom).  
 Questions? Contact Natalia at [njones@FCchurch.com](mailto:njones@FCchurch.com) or leave a message at 614 488.0681, ext. 151.

## Spong's View of Jesus

Saturday, March 26 10 am-Noon  
*Guild Room, South Campus*

What could be more appropriate on Holy Saturday than to freely discuss Bishop John Spong's understanding of Jesus as he explores the second of his "12 Theses for a New Reformation," the theme of his weekly columns during 2016.

Bishop Spong, our 2015 Spiritual Searcher left a powerful impression upon us during his visit and his 12 Theses are building blocks to what he is calling "A New Christianity for a New World." Spong's 12 Theses mirrors Martin Luther's "95 Theses" posted 600 years ago that began the original Reformation. Spong's Theses will chart a new revolution that asks entirely different questions.

Here's his basic premise for thesis #2: **Jesus – the Christ:** If God can no longer be thought of in theistic terms, then conceiving of Jesus as "the incarnation of the theistic deity" has also become a bankrupt concept.

Rev. David Hett facilitates the discussion. Register online at [FCchurch.com/12Theses](http://FCchurch.com/12Theses). Contact Natalia at [njones@FCchurch.com](mailto:njones@FCchurch.com) or leave a message at 614 488.0681 ext. 151. The columns, in document form, will be emailed to participants.

Free-will offerings will support the work of Spiritual Searcher.

## It Starts With a Vision

From the early 1900s when Lincoln Chapel was built to the construction of South and North Campuses, the congregation of First Community Church has steadfastly prepared a path for future generations.

This is our time to build. *Our 20/20 Vision* includes Capital Projects necessary to ensure the vitality of our church's ministry.

The Projects total \$15 million. They include a sanctuary for North Campus

(\$12.13 million), Welcome Center for South Campus (\$750,000) and improvements to Camp Akita (\$1.12 million).

We have secured \$9.0 million in commitments with another \$2 million in discussion. Our goal for all Projects combined is \$15 million. With your help, we will realize this goal.

As a special incentive, every dollar you give will be equally matched by three anonymous donors, up to \$1.5 million.



Additionally, naming opportunities exist for those who wish to be acknowledged for specific elements of the North Campus Sanctuary.

Look for your pledge packet in the mail during the month of March.

***The long-awaited Capital Projects are now within reach.***

# A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

<b>6</b>	<b>BAPTISM SUNDAY</b>	(C)
8:30 am • Burkhart Chapel, SC - Dr. Lindsay preaching 8:30 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Wing preaching 9:45 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Chamber Choir 11 am • Sanctuary, SC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Choir		
<b>13</b>	<b>MEXICO COMMISSIONING</b>	(A)
8:30 am • Burkhart Chapel, SC - Rev. Long preaching 8:30 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Wing preaching 9:45 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Chamber Choir 11 am • Sanctuary, SC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Choir, Whitechapel Ringers		
<b>20</b>	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	(B)
8:30 am • Burkhart Chapel, SC - Dr. Lindsay preaching 8:30 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Wing preaching 9:45 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Chamber Choir 11 am • Sanctuary, SC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Choir		
<b>27</b>	<b>EASTER</b>	(C)
8:30 am • Burkhart Chapel, SC - Rev. Baumer preaching 8:30 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Choir with Brass & Tympani 9:45 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Lindsay preaching Soloist 10 & 11:30 am • Sanctuary, SC - Dr. Wing preaching Chancel Choir with Brass & Tympani		
<b>3</b>		(A)
8:30 am • Burkhart Chapel, SC - Rev. Long preaching 8:30 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Lindsay preaching 9:45 am • Grace Hall, NC - Dr. Lindsay preaching Chancel Chamber Choir, Youth Bell Choir 1, Junior Choir 11 am • Sanctuary, SC - Dr. Lindsay preaching Chancel Choir		
<b>For additional information:</b> (A) <i>Usher assignments.</i> <b>Click:</b> FCchurch.com <b>Email:</b> info@FCchurch.com <b>Call:</b> 614 488.0681 <b>Visit:</b> The Welcome Centers		

*It is with gratitude that First Community Church accepts the following gifts.*

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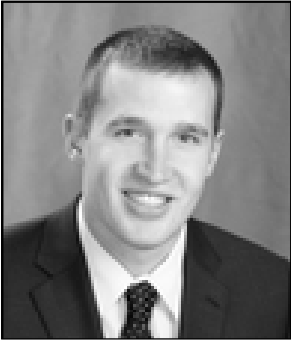
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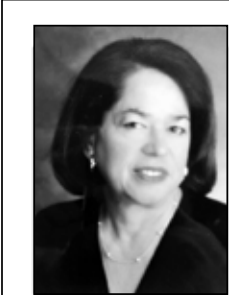
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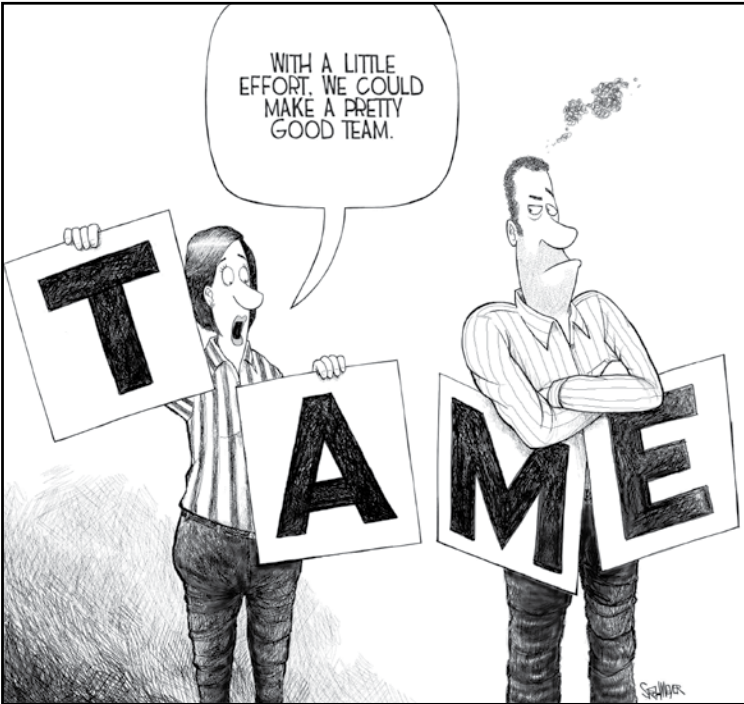
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## Enough Already

*Enough Already* is published by Faith and American Politics, Inc. Faith and American Politics is a program created by First Community Church members in 2004 to respond to growing incivility about American politics and religion.

Political cartoons depict six scenarios where we can change the conversation by using communication tools to calm the rhetoric and find out how others arrive at their political and religious beliefs. *Enough Already* is ideal for group and family discussion.

## firstnews Monthly


News articles and photos for *firstnews Monthly* must be submitted to [news@FCchurch.com](mailto:news@FCchurch.com) by the 15th of each month. Direct questions to Editor Michael Barber at [mbarber@FCchurch.com](mailto:mbarber@FCchurch.com)

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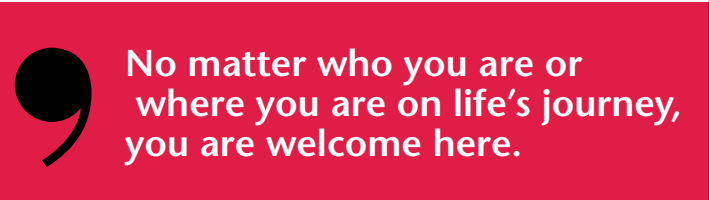
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