

**Annual Meeting
Sunday**

**FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE**

Congregational 1633-1636
United Church of Christ
Garden and Mason Streets
Cambridge, Massachusetts



WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

*Grounded in God
Growing in Community
Acting in Love*

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, we are thankful that you are with us today, and we hope that you will stay for a bit after worship for refreshments and conversation. First Church is an open and affirming, just peace congregation of the United Church of Christ. If you'd like to know more about us, please introduce yourself to one of the ministers after church and explore our website at www.firstchurchcambridge.org.

**Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available.
Please ask a greeter for assistance.**

New to First Church in Cambridge?

*Please take the time to fill out one of the pew cards
and place it in the offering basket during the service.*

Name tags are available at both the front and back entrances of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship. Picture books, children's Bibles, and activity packets can be found in the Children's Book Corner located by the door to the parish building (to the right of the chancel). Children may visit the Book Corner at any point during worship. Nursery care for infants and toddlers is located through that door and down the hallway (up four stairs to the door on the right). Fussy babies and their caregivers are invited to the Hastings Room, just across the hall from that same door, where the service is broadcast through speakers.

Would you like to give to First Church in Cambridge? Here are easy ways to do it:

*Give by Text:
Text \$ __ to 617-841-8044*



First Church Pledge



First Church Give

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC
January 29, 2017
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY

Trio in C Minor

Johann Tobias Krebs

*HYMN C-25

Let There Be Life in This House

*GREETING

Jennifer Peace

- L: Come, hoppers and seekers, builders and dreamers,
come to the dawning of God's light.
- C: The light of healing; the light of mercy and grace.**
- L: Gather from north and south, from east and west:
- C: Come be at peace in this place where all belong.**
- L: Come, children of light:
The world needs what we have come to find.
- C: We will sing the light together, pray the light together,
do the works of light together for the world God loves.**

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Lobt Gott mit Schall

Heinrich Schütz

Text: Psalm 117

CONFESSING

INVITATION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Let us pray for strength, courage, and wisdom.
- C: God of Justice, whenever we settle for the way things are
instead of the way you would have them to be, forgive us.
Whenever we are paralyzed by fear or limited in vision,
increase our trust in you.
Whenever we offer charity, but fail to work for justice,**

**You are invited to stand. Hymns preceded by a "C" are found in the beginning section of the hymnal. This section contains hymns written and composed by current and past members of First Church in Cambridge.*

**show us what your love requires.
Whenever we tire of the struggle
and tomorrow feels overwhelming,
restore our hope and renew our courage
In the name of Jesus, our brother, Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 380

We Are Not Our Own

All children from Preschool to 6th grade are now invited to leave for a creative arts project. Sarah Higginbotham and parent volunteers will accompany the children to Margaret Jewett Hall. Parents can meet their children in Margaret Jewett Hall after worship.

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

Micah 6:1-8

RESPONSIVE PSALM 15

- L: O God, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
C: **Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;**
L: who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
C: **in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear God; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**
L: who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

READING

Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON

Dan Smith

RESPONSE OF FAITH

United Church of Canada Statement of Faith

- L: We are not alone, we live in God's world.
C: **We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make us new,**

**who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church, to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our Judge and our Hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karin Case

PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

Kate Layzer

L: God be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray....(*silence, intercessions and the Lord's Prayer*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Please pray this prayer and address God in words most meaningful to your heart.)

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Karen McArthur

OFFERTORY

Prayer of St. Patrick

Mark Schweizer

*DOXOLOGY

**To God, all glorious heav'nly light,
To Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God, the Spirit, now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise! Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING FORTH

*HYMN 237

How Firm a Foundation

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Benediction

Beverly Taylor

The Word is flesh and dwells among us! Glory to God in the highest!

VOLUNTARY

Trio No. 2 in D Major

Johann Ernst Rembt

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preaching Today

Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*

Liturgist

Jennifer Peace, *First Church Member*

Directing the Choir/Playing the Organ

Lee Ridgway

Leading Worship

Karin Case, *Minister*

Karen McArthur, *Minister of Stewardship & Finance*

Kate Layzer, *Minister of Street Outreach*

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

- * For God's wisdom, justice, and love to prevail in our nation and world. We pray especially for any who are feeling vulnerable, afraid, or alone. May God's presence bring strength and a renewed commitment to Christ's way of inclusive love.
- * All those forced to flee their home countries as a result of war and terrorism, and we pray for clarity in responding to immigration crises around the world. For a spirit of strength and resistance as the new president and administration enact policies that are contradictory toward our Christian values of care of our creation, hospitality to strangers, and justice for all.

IN THIS SPACE we share personal, congregational, national, and global prayer requests. If you would like us to include a prayer request, please contact Dan Smith, Karin Case, or Kirsten Manville by Wednesday morning, or fill out a prayer request card found in your pew.

Portions of the **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** section of the bulletin are omitted in the online version to protect the privacy of those mentioned. To find out who we are praying for this week, please contact the church offices at parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org or by calling 617-547-2724.

A SPACE BETWEEN

We have introduced a place for healing prayers. A space between is...

A space between us and God,

A space between us and each other,

A space between the world as it is and the world as it should be,

A space for silence and centering

A space for prayer and meditation

The table and chairs under the dome at the front of the sanctuary are intended for prayer. Please feel free to use this space at any point during the week when the sanctuary is unoccupied to pray whatever might be on your heart: prayers for yourself, prayers for another, prayers for the world. If you wish, write down a concern, prayer, or prayer request. Take it with you or leave it in the basket. Prayers will be collected regularly and lifted up by members of our First Church community.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

2017 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON Today, at 12:30 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall Come one and all to the 382nd Annual Meeting of First Church on Sunday, January 29, following Morning Worship! A delicious luncheon will lead into our meeting. We will celebrate another very full year of ministry, honor and thank one another for gifts discerned and shared, celebrate our outgoing and incoming leaders, and share plans and visions. We will also pray and sing!

RELIGIOUS PLURALISM AND EXTENDING SANCTUARY Today and Sunday, February 5 ay 10:00 a.m., Hastings Room The designation of a place as one of "sanctuary" has historically served to distinguish it as set apart from other places in the world, as a special site of worship, protection, and refuge. In this context our religious identities may determine our ability to extend or receive sanctuary: Indeed, the faith we profess may dictate whether we are in need of sanctuary or, on the other hand, in a position to offer sanctuary. Join Denson Staples as we consider the unique role of Christians and Christian communities in the United States in the work of extending sanctuary across religious differences. In contemporary US society this involves a particular focus on building sanctuaries that can bridge Muslim and Christian religious communities.

OUR WHOLE LIVES Today at Old South Church in Copley Square, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Our 7th and 8th graders continue with OWL at Old South Church today.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary Join us for these contemplative and spiritually transporting candle-lit experiences of choral literature, ancient and contemporary chant, and instrumental music. There is no spoken word, no sermon—just the opportunity to experience the Divine through music, being still, and silent meditation. Tonight: Gregorian chant from the Liber Usualis, Cantabo Domino by G.P. da Palestrina, 6 part motet, Psalm 57, set by Patricia Van Ness for male voices. Hymn: Te lucis ante terminum, plainchant, arr. by Daryl Bichel for treble voices. Alma Redemptoris Mater by Jean L'Heritier, 5 part motet. Instrumental improvisations. Soprano: Harriet Bridges, Cindy Liu, Beth Spaulding. Alto: Alison Larosa Montez (cantor), Michael Terranova. Tenor: Jason Connell. Bass: Daryl Bichel, Simon Chase. Piano: Ben Schwendener.

FIRST CHURCH HAPPENINGS

FAMILY NIGHT Tuesday, January 31, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., Sage Hall Families with young children are warmly invited to our biweekly pasta-and-potluck suppers in Sage Hall, our indoor play space. We gather to share a meal and share a bit of our lives as the kids play and the parents try for a bit of grown-up conversation. Our Family Nights in Epiphany will remain informal and “un-programmed,” but look forward to a Lenten series of Family Nights in March and April, when we will meet weekly for five sessions with an adult program component in the Well.

MEN’S BREAKFAST Saturday, February 4 at 8:00 a.m., Hastings Room Join us for a hearty breakfast and even heartier conversation about topics that connect our faith to our lives and our world. Mark your calendars now, and plan to join us regularly. The breakfasts are in the Hastings Room, 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. One-time visitors, friends, and newcomers are always welcome. Questions? Contact David Torrey, davidtorrey@comcast.net. If you'd like to sign up for the Men's Breakfast e-mail list to receive monthly reminders, contact Kirsten Manville, parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org.

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY! Pick up a few items this week for your neighbors with food insecurity. Make a resolution to donate every first Sunday in 2017 and put it in your calendar!

MICROAGGRESSIONS WORKSHOP SUNDAY February 12, 12:30 - 3:00 p.m., Hastings Room Join First Church friends for an afternoon workshop on microaggressions, with guest facilitator Rev. Cody Sanders! Lunch will be provided and childcare can be arranged by contacting Karin Case, karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org. All are welcome. “Microaggressions” are the subtle, often unconscious and unintentional slights, insults, and indignities communicated to persons targeting their race, gender, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, etc. This workshop will present the social scientific theory of microaggressions, develop an understanding of the ways religious and theological language and narratives intensify the power of microaggressions to harm, and help participants consider ways of reducing the perpetuation of microaggressions in congregational life.

CENTERING MEDITATION Every Monday night, 6 - 7:00 p.m. in The Well (Room 22)

Are you looking for a place to settle in for some quiet reflection in the midst of a hectic week? Interested in exploring a variety of meditation practices or deepening your current practice? Whether you're experienced or simply curious, all are welcome. For more information, contact Hilary Hopkins, hopkinsjh@verizon.net, or Karin Case, karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org.

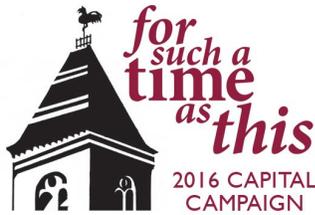
PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR VALUABLES Please be reminded that First Church is a very public building, with people in and out all the time. Although we wish it wasn't the case, petty theft does occur here. Please do not leave your wallets, phones, and other valuable items unattended, even for a short period of time. If you do notice anything out of the ordinary or a person acting suspicious, please notify the sexton on duty. If the sexton is not readily visible, s/he can be reached by phone at 617-642-3980. If you find anything of value left in the building, please turn it in to the sexton. Thank you.

SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES

GBIO ACTION Thursday, February 2, 6:30 p.m., Bethel AME Church, 40 Walk Hill St., Jamaica Plain Join the First Church Cambridge delegation for an important GBIO (Greater Boston Interfaith Organization) gathering. We will dig into four priority issues that GBIO is focusing on: criminal justice reform, which will be in the spotlight; affordable housing; healthcare; and gun safety. No expertise necessary, your presence will make a big statement to elected officials who will be part of the program. Rides are available from First Church on Feb. 2. Contact Will Erickson, will.erickson@theshareunion.org, or Ann McCann, ann.mccann44@gmail.com, for more information. Please let them know you'll be attending and whether you will need a ride. All are welcome.

CONVERSATIONS ON RACE POTLUCK DINNERS You are invited into someone's home for dinner, connection, and honest and heartfelt conversation on racism and anti-racism. Building the Beloved Community [aka BBC] is in the process of organizing potluck dinners in January and February for the purpose of engaging the wider First Church Community. We will focus on our experiences of racism, and how we understand white privilege. Members of the BBC will facilitate the discussions, using in part the recently produced resource "White Privilege - Let's Talk." check out this source, go to <http://privilege.uccpages.org>. Please sign up for a dinner on to be held February 3 or February 9. If you have questions, please speak to Linda Ziebell or Dave Kidder, or email lindaziebell@comcast.net or david.e.kidder@gmail.com.

TALK SAVES LIVES — AN INTRODUCTION TO SUICIDE PREVENTION **Sunday, February 19, 12:30 p.m., Hastings Room** Shamera Simpson, of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, will be with us to offer a 45-minute presentation. The workshop will cover the general scope of suicide, the research on prevention, and what people can do to fight suicide. Attendees will learn the risk and warning signs of suicide, and how together we can help prevent it. Join us on February 19 at 12:30 p.m. in the Hastings Room.



CAMPAIGN & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

- The pre-construction phase is far along, and we are on track to complete construction documents at the end of this month. Early next month we will begin the sub-contractor bid process.
- The team at Sea-Dar Construction, our general contractor, has been busy examining the building renovation areas and meeting with Rob Olson to develop their construction planning. Rob has completed 95% of the construction documents; this week he received comments from both Sea-Dar and us.
- We are communicating with Newtowne and the Shelter Committee on the renovation designs and schedules in order to minimize disruption to their operations.
- \$882,380 — about 50% of the amount pledged—has already been paid. This enables us to pay bills coming up soon and lessens the amount we need to borrow.
- If you haven't made your Capital Campaign pledge, or would like to increase it, pledge cards are available at both entrances to the sanctuary. Place your pledge card in the collection basket, mail it to the church, pledge online, or contact Lindsay Miller, lindsaymiller984@gmail.com, or Ann McCann, ann.mccann44@gmail.com.

GOAL for individual gifts: \$1.9 million
RAISED To Date: \$1.761 million
NEEDED TO COMPLETE CAMPAIGN: \$139,000

MUSLIM-LED TEACH-IN

WHAT ALLIES SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE
TARGETING OF OUR COMMUNITIES



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST
6:00 - 8:00 P.M.
UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
HARVARD SQUARE
66 WINTHROP STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

Join a teach-in led by the Muslim Justice League (MJL), a Boston-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization advocating for human and civil rights and civil liberties that are threatened under national security pretexts.

Topics will include:

- The anticipated “Muslim registry”
- What the new Administration may do to try to silence and criminalize Muslim civil society
- What existing policies and campaigns have targeted and harmed Muslim communities for years
- Actions allies can take to meaningfully challenge state persecution of Muslim communities

Admission is free, but attendees are asked to register in advance at bit.ly/teach-in to ensure adequate space.

Old Cambridge
Baptist Church



University
Lutheran Church

January 29, 2017
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
The Vision Beautiful
Matthew 5:1-12

mission
M O M E N T S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

You might remember the “Love” postage stamp. It had a few bright paint swatches of color and the word “LOVE” on it. It cost 22 cents and by 1985 over 700 million had been sold. The creator of the stamp was an artist named Corita Kent. During the 60s and 70s, as a Sister of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, she gained fame for her colorful serigraphs that often carried themes of justice and hope. For years she ran the art department of the Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles. In 2014, one of her pieces, a large banner-like painting called *The Beatitudes*, was discovered stored at the offices in Cleveland of the United Church of Christ.

The painting had been created for the 1964 World’s Fair in New York. Painted with bright blocks of color and bold lettering it is covered with words from the Beatitudes and quotes from figures famous in the 60s – John F. Kennedy, and Pope John XXIII. Nobody is quite sure how the UCC came to be in possession of the painting. The United Church Press had published some of her work. Her themes of justice and peace were consistent with our core values. It would have been natural for this painting to end up as part of our denomination’s archives.

The painting was displayed at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Cleveland as part of a traveling exhibition of Corita Kent’s work. The theologian Harvey Cox and a friend of hers had this to say about her work: “She could pass her hands over the commonest of the everyday, the superficial, the oh-so-ordinary, and make it a vehicle of the luminous, the only, and the hope filled.” Luminous and hope filled are qualities of these beatitudes of Jesus, taking mercy and mourning and hunger and persecution, and turning them upside down into a vision of a new world ordered very differently from ours.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, January 29

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Formation with Denson Staples, Hastings Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Dan Smith, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Creative Arts
- 12:30 p.m. Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon, MJH
- 3:30 p.m. Capital Campaign Appeal Team, Dan Smith's office
- 1:00 p.m. Our Whole Lives, Old South Church in Boston
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

Monday, January 30

- 10:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Lead Gifts, Dan Smith's office
- 6:00 p.m. Centering Meditation, the Well
- 6:00 p.m. Deacons Transition Dinner, Parsonage (44 Garden St)

Tuesday, January 31

- 5:30 p.m. Family Night, Sage Hall

Wednesday, February 1

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's Office
- 6:00 p.m. Muslim-led Teach-in, University Lutheran Church (66 Winthrop St, Cambridge)

Thursday, February 2

- 6:30 p.m. GBIO ACTION Bethel AME Church, 40 Walk Hill St., Jamaica Plain
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

Friday, February 3

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café, MJH

Saturday, February 4

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Hastings Room

Sunday, February 5

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Formation with Denson Staples, Hastings Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Multigenerational Holy Communion, Karin Case, preaching
(a time for healing prayer offered immediately following service)
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Outdoor Church Offering
- 1:00 p.m. Our Whole Lives, Old South Church in Boston
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Group Meeting, Somerville Escape Room, Meet in Church Lobby
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister	Rev. Dr. Karin Case 617-547-2724, ext. 26 karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister of Stewardship & Finance	Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 karenmc@firstchurchcambridge.org
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Director of Creative Worship & Arts	Sarah Higginbotham, 617-547-2724, ext. 42 shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org
Staff Composer	Patricia Van Ness www.patriciavanness.com
Poet-in-Residence	Jean-Dany Joachim jeandany@gmail.com
Shelter Director	Jim Stewart, 617-661-1873 jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org
Parish Administrator	Kirsten Manville, 617-547-2724, ext. 21 parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org
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Sextons	Douglas Casey, Tina Quimby, George Williams, Kimel Williams, 617-642-3980



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ

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