

# NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

**Call to Annual Meeting 2020.** Today is our Annual Meeting! It is not too late to register: <http://bit.ly/FirstChurchAnnualMtg> (for internet users) or contact Kasey Kalchert ([kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org) / 330.253.5109 x112) This meeting will be held online via zoom and is scheduled to begin at 11:30am. Meeting documents can be found at [www.akronfcc.org/annualmeeting2020](http://www.akronfcc.org/annualmeeting2020) All absentee ballots must be submitted by 10:30am to [kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org)

**Wednesday Faith Enrichment.** Join Pastor Nanette for a study of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and a time of prayer as we ground ourselves spiritually in this fragmented season. Through September, we will meet on zoom from 7-8:30pm to center ourselves as we study and pray. Meetings will include study of Matthew chapters 5-7, inspirational readings, and an opportunity for guided meditation and prayer. To join, please RSVP to Kasey Kalchert ([kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org) / 330.253.5109 ext 112) by 5pm each Wednesday to receive the meeting link.

**Saturday Morning Bible Study.** Designed for those who identify with the masculine arc of the gender spectrum, this study led by Steven Savides invites participants to engage in interpretation of biblical texts as a primary source of Christian theology. On September 19, the group will meet on from 8-9am on zoom. As we continue to probe the problem of injustice, in September focus on the South African Kairos Document (1985) and Jesus' liberating ministry in Mark's Gospel. For September, participants are encouraged to read Mark in its entirety, but if pressed for time just chapters 14 and 15. The Kairos Document can be sourced online or from Kasey Kalchert ([kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org)) in the church office.

**zoom Youth Night** We invite all middle school and high school youth to join Pastor Antigone for a zoom Youth Night event on Friday, September 25 from 6pm-7pm. This month we will play Pictionary using the whiteboard feature on zoom. This is sure to be a night of great fun and laughter and we welcome any youth to invite a friend to join! To RSVP and receive a zoom meeting link, please send an email to Kasey Kalchert at ([kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org)) by 5pm on Thursday, September 24.

**World Communion Sunday.** Sunday October 4 is World Communion Sunday! This special service reminds us that we gather with Christians all over the world. Worship will be held at

9:30am on zoom. We encourage you to use this occasion as a time to create a multi-cultural and diverse space for your Communion by bringing in any elements from another cultures and places in the world and setting it out by where you have your bread and juice ready.

**Pet Blessing Sunday.** As part of the wrap to the Season of Creation series, on Sunday, October 4, we are celebrating Pet Blessing Sunday! If you would like to celebrate your pet with us during worship, please email a 30 second clip or photo and the name of your pet to [kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org) before October 1 to be included in a celebratory slideshow. Together, we'll give thanks for all our pets and the joy they bring into our lives.

**Boys & Girls Club of the Western Reserve is the September Mission of the Month.** The mission at the Boys and Club Western Reserve is "to enable young peoples, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. The funds will provide healthy meals and snacks to Club members. Families rely on the Club to provide meals to the members and the kids need the nutrition rich meals to enhance their learning and feed their growing bodies. Learn more about the Boys & Girls Club of the Western Reserve from Colette Taylor, Director of Community Engagement, in this [video](#). If you like to make a contribution, please make your check out the First Church with "BGWR" in the memo line or donate online at [www.akronfcc.org/donate](http://www.akronfcc.org/donate)

## **WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

### **Sanda Katila**

Sanda regularly attends the 11am Festival worship on Sunday mornings and Faith Enrichment on Wednesday evenings. She is an Associate Professor at Kent State University. Sanda is a mom to Max and Emily Katila. She lives with her life partner, David, her dog, Maggie, and cats, Diego and Sweetie Boy. In her spare time, Sanda enjoys gardening and hiking. She also volunteers at local animal shelters and helps to make sure shelter dogs get regular exercise!

### **Toby and Keith Leichty-Clifford**

Toby and Keith attend the 9:30am Celebrate! service on Sunday mornings and are enjoying getting to know the church community. Toby works as a teacher, while Keith is a School Administrator. They both enjoy traveling and home projects.

*If you'd like to extend a welcome to our newest members, please contact the church office for their contact information!*

## STAYING INVOLVED – WAYS TO VOLUNTEER AND DONATE DURING THIS TIME

**Patio Pollinator Garden Project.** The church patio at the Chapel entrance has been redone over the last six months, adding a new concrete foundation and a bike rack. This summer, the next step is to add a pollinator garden that will benefit the Feed My Sheep Garden. If you are interested in donating plants or getting involved, please contact Sarah Vradenburg.

**Seeking Garden Volunteers.** Are you looking for a way to stay busy during these uncertain pandemic times? Consider [volunteering](#) in the Feed My Sheep Garden! This opportunity gives you the chance to support our essential Food Justice ministry while staying active, and maintaining all social distancing and safety guidelines set forward by the Ohio Department of Health. [Register today](#) or contact Sam at [sam.phillips@letsgrowakron.org](mailto:sam.phillips@letsgrowakron.org) for more information.

**Food Pantry.** We are seeking volunteers to assist with our Tuesday morning food pantry distribution, currently an 8:30-11:30am shift. This opportunity gives you the chance to support our essential Food Justice ministry, while staying active, and maintaining all social distancing and safety guidelines set forward by the Ohio Department of Health. Contact Clay and Deb Canfield at [food.pantry@akronfcc.org](mailto:food.pantry@akronfcc.org) for more information.

### IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

We offer daily prayers for all who are struggling in body, mind, or spirit in our world. Within our community we pray for Jen M., Margaret P., Patty N., George K., Art W., and Doug W.

*If you would like a name added to our prayer list, please email [kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org) or speak with a pastor.*

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