

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

# NEWS & NOTES

**Coming Out Christian.** TONIGHT, from 6-7pm, members of the LGBTQ+ community can come together online to explore Christianity and the possibility of understanding faith in new ways as we reclaim and explore our faith journeys. Join us as we rethink God's love toward LGBTQ+ Christians! If you would like to join the discussion, please RSVP to Kasey at [kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org](mailto:kasey.kalchert@akronfcc.org) by 5pm TODAY. You will receive a zoom link in your email to join the conversation.

**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.

**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.

**Acme Community Cashback!** Be sure to save your Acme receipts! We welcome you to mail them to the church office at 292 E Market Street, Akron, 44308, or when we reopen for in person worship, please drop them off in the office. After the Cashback period ends, the receipts are submitted to Acme, who will then make a donation to First Church based on the totals from the collected receipts. Every receipt counts – in 2019 we earned \$579! Please contact [janis.worley@akronfcc.org](mailto:janis.worley@akronfcc.org) if you have any questions.

**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. 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 to First Church with "BGWR" in the memo line or donate online at [www.akronfcc.org/donate](http://www.akronfcc.org/donate)

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

**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.

**Donate on Social Media.** A quick easy way to contribute to the many ministries at First Church is now through social media. Both our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/FCCofAkron](http://www.facebook.com/FCCofAkron)) and our new Instagram page (@firstchurchakron) are now equipped to seek donations!

## **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 Mildred A., 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.*

**First Congregational Church of Akron  
292 East Market Street  
Akron, OH 44308  
www.akronfcc.org  
330.253.5109 [church@akronfcc.org](mailto:church@akronfcc.org)**