

Welcome to the
First Church in Oberlin,
United Church of Christ

Sunday Worship

10:00 AM

June 7, 2026

Second Sunday after Pentecost

David Hill, Pastor

Thomas Bandy, Director of Music & Organist

Linda Slocum, Liturgist

www.firstchurchoberlin.org

No matter who you are or where you are on
life's journey, you are welcome here.



Welcome to Worship!

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this United Church of Christ congregation. We invite you to become a part of our community of faith, to grow spiritually, to encounter God's inclusive and effusive grace in worship and fellowship, and to work and witness for greater justice and peace in our world.

- Large-print bulletins and hearing-assist devices are available, ask an usher.
- If you are moved to express gratitude or appreciation during the service, please respond by saying, "Amen!"
- Please remember to silence your cell phones as you enter worship.
- Our Wi-Fi network has the name "FC Guests" and the password is "CGFinney".

Children in Worship

We strive to welcome children - and their occasional restlessness - in worship. Materials are in the hallway outside the worship space for children who would like a quiet activity during worship. Nursery care is available for young children in the James Brand wing if parents would enjoy some quiet time. Please see an usher if you need directions or more information.

Children of kindergarten age or older are invited to join Storytime during the worship service. They will leave for Room 3 after the Front Row Moment.

Are you interested in receiving our electronic newsletter—"First Things First"? Please contact the church office and we will add you to our mailing list.

Miranda Schaum: office@firstchurchoberlin.org
David T. Hill: pastor@firstchurchoberlin.org

Building and Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, with additional appointments as needed.
Our staff will gladly make arrangements to meet with you at other times.
Please call (440) 775-1711 to schedule an appointment.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
June 7, 2026
Second Sunday after Pentecost



Opening Music

Come Down, O Love Divine - Chester Alwes

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

***Congregational Song #461** *Let Us Hope when Hope Seems Hopeless*

***Call to Confession**

***Confession and Assurance (Unison)**

Holy God, loving Friend, before we even admit our sins to ourselves, your mercy is waiting for us. Before we confess to you in words, the love of Christ Jesus has prepared a new start for us. Overlook our hesitancy and help us to boldly yet humbly accept your loving kindness, and take up the challenge of each unfolding moment with new faith and vigor. Through Christ Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.

***The Peace**

One: May peace be with you

All: And also with you.

Front Row Moment

The Word in Music

From *12 Danzas españolas* (1890) - Enrique Granados
XII. *Bolero* - Arabesca

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 9:9-13

One: A Word of God that is still speaking,

People: And we are still listening. Thanks be to God.

Reflection

**The asterisk invites all who are able to rise in body and/or spirit*

Prayers

Gymnopédie No. 3 (1888) - Eric Satie

During the musical offering you are invited to share joys and concerns via the prayer pad in your pew, FB chat, or email (prayers@firstchurchoberlin.org)

Announcements

Offering

One: As we prepare ourselves to encounter the presence of Christ in the sacrament of communion, what shall we offer in gratitude for God's love and care?

All: **As followers of Jesus, we seek to minister to one another, our community, and the world. To this ministry we bring our time, talents, and other resources as we are able, asking God's blessing as we come together to share this sacred meal.**

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Remembering

Blessing

Lord's Prayer

You are invited to use whatever language for God best fits your understanding of God. Some options are provided in the prayer.

**Our Creator/Mother/Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom/Kin-dom/Realm come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the Kingdom/Kin-dom/Realm,
the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Sharing

Prayer of Thanksgiving (**Unison**)

O God, together we trust in this moment of transformation which is made possible by You. Give us the strength to continue on the journey and to set tables that are welcoming and full of mercy, pardon, and life. Amen.

***Blessing**

Closing Music

*Fantasia on "Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott" BWV 651 - J. S. Bach
(Pentecost text based on Acts 2)*

*Come, Holy Spirit, Lord God,
fill with the goodness of your grace
the heart, spirit and mind of your believers,
kindle in them your ardent love!
O Lord, through the splendour of your light
you have gathered in faith
people from all the tongues of the world;
so that in your praise Lord, may there be sung
Halleluja! Halleluja!*

Call to Worship, Confession and Assurance, written by Bruce D. Prewer
bruceprewer.com

*You are welcome to remain for the Closing Music or to leave quietly for
fellowship on the patio (weather permitting) or in Fellowship Hall.*

Summer Storytime Sign-up! Come get to know the church's wonderful kids - by reading a story to them during the sermon portion of worship this summer! Stories will be provided, or you can bring your own, and our wonderful childcare workers will be there to lend a hand. A sign-up sheet is in the gallery. Thanks in advance for taking the time to get to know the children of the church!

Join us to extend First Church's Open & Affirming welcome!

We are hosting a table/booth at Oberlin PRIDE on Saturday, June 27 from 12-4pm at Oberlin College Science Center (119 Woodland St) rain or shine!

Help us convey this welcome to all!

We are seeking volunteers to host a shift at our table! The shifts will be as follows: 11-12 (help set-up), 12-1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4 (break down). We will have copies of our new O&A flyer, bumper stickers, candy and other goodies to hand out. Come prepared to have fun and extend our radical welcome message and affirm in person that First Church is truly open and affirming to all God's children. Please sign up at the welcome table after worship on Sunday or email to Barbara and Scott Reed (barscoreed@aol.com).

Jeanne McKibben Memorial Service and Reception: Sunday, July 12, 2:00 PM, The First Church in Oberlin, UCC. Details to follow

Ever Wanted to Play the Steel Drum? O Steel, Oberlin College's steel drum band, will be offering an ExCo course this fall. The ExCo or Experimental College is run by college students and offers a variety of free classes that are led by students, faculty, and community members. Registration is not until early September but you can contact O Steel for more information by emailing either sgorby@oberlin.edu or osteel@oberlin.edu. to learn more this summer. O Steel recently performed at First Church as part of our Spring Festival.



**Donate from
your smart phone**

The First Church in Oberlin now offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader or go to www.firstchurchoberlin.org and click "Donate Online."

Mission Moment - June 7, 2026

Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the UCC and author of today's Mission Moment

The Call of Abram (6/7/2026)

Genesis 12:1-9

Corrie Ten Boom once said, "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." It was that belief in God's protection that gave her the courage to hide Jewish families during the World War II German occupation.

It's amazing what we can do when we trust our next steps to God. Sadly, many of us never get the chance to be awed by this great God because we prefer the safety of what we are familiar with rather than risk any new beginning.

Yet throughout the generations the stories overflow of those who dared to say "yes" to God's invitation to step off the beaten path. Abram is one of those who can tell such a tale. Although Abram was beyond the dreaming big stage, as we often believe we enter as we age, God told him to leave kindred behind. It was time to go to a land where God would make Abram's name great. It would be a place Abram's offspring would inhabit and keep multiplying in.

Abram couldn't pass up this offer. It was too enticing, especially since he and his wife, Sarai, were childless. Could there still be a chance to leave a legacy?

They packed their belongings and set forth. And God did not disappoint. Abram, whose name was changed to Abraham, signifying the new thing God was doing in his life, had descendants as numerous as the stars in heaven. Sarai's name was also changed to Sarah.

I've always been enamored by Abram's call story, as it has bolstered my fainting heart when daring to step into an unknown future. But before you applaud my faith, let me point out that my Abram moments happened when I was filled with youthful ignorance.

Now that I'm older, I find myself hesitant to go in any direction without first asking God, "Does the journey come with a pension and health care?" I had always hoped my faith, not my fear, would grow stronger as I aged.

It's one thing to heed God's call in our youth, but who among the AARP card carriers would be excited for such a journey? Our golden years should be ones of rest and comfort, not unknown adventures. Yet God doesn't worry about the fire hazard those numerous candles on our birthday cakes have turned into. God still wants to blaze a glorious future for us.

Who will dare to have the faith of old Abram? I pray I will. I pray you will. For we all have a call story still waiting to be told.

God of amazing adventures and divine protection, may this day we tell our fears to be gone. May faith overflow in our hearts, helping us to trust our unknown futures to a God who we do know: the God of love who never lets us down. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

FIRST CHURCH EVENTS (June 7, 2026 - June 14, 2026)

Sun. (6/7)	10:00 AM	Worship Service	Meeting House
Sun. (6/7)	12:00 PM	Baby Shower	Fellowship Hall
Mon. (6/8)	10:00 AM	Worship Committee	JFO Room
Mon. (6/8)	1:00 PM	Finance Committee	JFO Room
Mon. (6/8)	3:00 PM	Office Staff Meeting	Office
Thurs. (6/11)	4:00 PM	Grief Support Group	Room 4
Thurs. (6/11)	6:00 PM	Line Dancing	Fellowship Hall
Fri. (6/12)	12:30 PM	Buckeye Harvest	JFO Room
Sat. (6/13)	10:45 AM	OHC Tour	Meeting House
Sat. (6/13)	12:00 PM	Graduation Party	Fellowship Hall
Sun. (6/14)	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service	Meeting House
