



PRIDE SUNDAY

10:00 AM WORSHIP

JUNE 28, 2026

Pastor – David Hill

Music- Marian Thomas

Liturgists – Barbara & Scott Reed

**WE SEE
YOU!**

First Church in Oberlin, UCC - OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT:

We know that as the Church we are many members but are one body in Christ. Each bringing individual pieces and gifts, only together do we find completion. With Christ we affirm that we are called to love our neighbors as ourselves, and that we are called to act as agents of reconciliation and wholeness within the world and within the church itself.

Recognizing the presence of ignorance, fear, and hatred in the wider church and in our culture toward specific members of Christ's body:

- We pledge to welcome people of all races, ages, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, abilities, socioeconomic levels, and sexual orientations into the full life and ministry of the church.
- We seek actively to include and support those who because of fear and prejudice find themselves in exile from a spiritual community.
- We commit ourselves to caring and concern for all.

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 28, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Opening Music

Peace Descends - Rick Sowash

George Cyphers, clarinet; Marian Thomas piano

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

We Welcome All

John Kalbfleisch

One: Beloved, some of us came here tired, or carrying grief.

All: But we are still here.

One: Some of us came with joy in our bones and rainbows in our spirit.

All: And we are still here.

One: In a world that tries to erase queer stories,

All: We shall not be moved.

One: In a time when trans and nonbinary lives are targeted,

All: We shall not be moved.

One: When fear tells us to be silent,

All: We shall not be moved.

One: When shame tries to pull us from the truth of who God made us to be,

All: We shall not be moved.

One: We are rooted in love.

All: We are rooted in justice.

One: We are rooted in affirmation.

All: We are rooted in God.

One: Like trees planted by living water,

All: We shall not be moved.

One: Come, let us worship the God who sees the vulnerable,
strengthens the weary, and calls the church into holy courage.

**All: Rooted in love, justice, and affirmation, we worship with joy.
We worship with courage. We worship together.**

***Congregational Song**

Part of the Family

***Opening Prayer**

***The Peace**

One: May peace be with you

All: And also with you.

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

Front Row Moment

The Word in Music

Adagio from *Clarinet Concerto* - W. A. Mozart
George Cyphers, clarinet; Marian Thomas piano

Scripture Lesson: Jeremiah 17:5–8

One: A Word of God that is still speaking,
People: **And we are still listening. Thanks be to God.**

Reflection

Bill and Frankie Long, David Hill

Affirmation of Faith

First Church Open and Affirming Statement
(see bulletin cover)

Prayers

Peace - Jessie Montgomery
George Cyphers, clarinet; Marian Thomas piano
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)

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.**

Announcements

Offering

One: As we conclude our worship, 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 go out to love and serve.

*Congregational Song

Joshua Danced on Holy Ground
("Dancing at the Wall")

*Blessing

Closing Music

Bethena: A Concert Waltz - Scott Joplin, arr. M. King
George Cyphers, clarinet; Marian Thomas piano

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

Today's Offering: In worship this Sunday we will be taking a special Open and Affirming (ONA) PRIDE Sunday offering to support the work of the national UCC Open & Affirming Coalition to enable their commitment to LGBTQ+ affirmation and justice. Of the 1,955 Open and Affirming churches across the country, only 114 made a financial contribution to The Coalition last year. Your support helps The Coalition resource churches, train leaders, equip congregations, advocate publicly, and continue building a stronger, braver, more affirming church for LGBTQ+ people. ONA matters to our congregation here at First Church in Oberlin, UCC. We invite you to invest in helping this movement grow.

Pastor Out of the Office: The Pastor will be hosting out of town family and taking some time out of the office Monday, June 29 through Wednesday, July 1. He will remain available for pastoral emergencies and can be contacted on his cell phone: (440) 935-3398.

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

Fourth of July: The office will be closed on Friday, July 3rd for Independence Day. We will be back in the office on Monday, July 6th.

COFFEE HOUR THROUGH THE SUMMER We've been loving after-church coffee hours! Good fair trade coffee, packaged cookies or home made and great conversation. Simple is best. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. If you want

to sign-up but need to learn how to make coffee and set up, let Alana Kelley know and she can help you. It's easy peasy. Promise! OR if you want to help out by delivering 2 dozen homemade cookies or pastries packed for the freezer in the kitchen, we will happily accept those donations! Thank you in advance!

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!

Mission Moment - June 28, 2026

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

Holy Welcome (06/28/2026)
Matthew 10:40-42

When I first began living on my own, my mother would ask if my kitchen was stocked with treats for those who dropped by unexpectedly. Was there coffee? Tea? Cream and sugar for the coffee and tea? Cookies?

My answer was always “no,” to which she would sigh in exasperation, “But you have to have cookies.”

I was living on an assistant editor's salary in Manhattan. The thought of spending money on “extravagant” extras for those phantom guests was ludicrous to me. Even more ludicrous was my mother thinking that any stash of cookies would survive uneaten in my cupboards.

Perhaps it was that missing Martha Stewart gene in me that kept my cupboards empty of treats for others. Perhaps it was my mom's deep-seated generational belief that good manners meant feeding someone at the spur of the moment.

Whatever it was, I do not deny that hospitality is important — and biblical. For in the breaking of the bread, humanity's differences give way to a truth that connects us all:

We are hungering for belonging, which begins with a welcome.

Mission Moment - June 28, 2026 (cont.)

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

Jesus once told his friends that whoever welcomes them, welcomes him. And so, welcoming is a powerful, holy act that we often fail to see as such.

Think about a time when your schedule was interrupted by an unexpected visitor. You probably felt annoyed. But afterward you realized how that encounter was a blessing, turning your day — and attitude — around.

Now think back to a time when you called on someone without notice and were given a chilly hello and swift good-bye. How did that make you feel?

The reality is that we are all standing on proverbial welcome mats praying that the door before us opens to a place of acceptance — a place that tells us in the welcoming, that we are not only seen, but that our existence matters.

Such a welcome doesn't have to be extravagant. It doesn't even require having coffee and cookies on hand in the pantry. (Sorry, mom.) A simple cup of cold water to one of God's little ones is meaningful, Jesus points out.

St. David of Wales had a motto in life and that was "do the little things." On his deathbed in the 6th century, he reminded his monks to keep offering small acts of love, for those are the acts make the world a better place.

Our holy welcomes are acts of love we can show others. And the good news is that our spiritual pantries are already stocked. We have the presence of ourselves to give both stranger and friend.

Loving God, at the very start of creation You saw that humans should not be alone. We were meant to be there for one another, to slow down and show up for the one who is needing to know they are not invisible. May today we find those holy moments to connect with our siblings. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



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FIRST CHURCH EVENTS (June 28, 2026 - July 5, 2026)

Sun. (6/28)	10:00 AM	PRIDE Worship Service	Meeting House
Tues. (6/30)	10:00 AM	Kitchen Renovation	JFO Room
Wed. (7/1)	4:00 PM	City Fresh	Outside/Hallway
Thurs. (7/2)	6:00 PM	Line Dancing	Fellowship Hall
Fri. (7/3)	All Day	Office Closed	Whole Church
Fri. (7/3)	12:30 PM	Buckeye Harvest	JFO Room
Fri. (7/3)	2:45 PM	OHC Tour	Meeting House
Sat. (7/4)	All Day	Independence Day	U.S.A.
Sun. (7/5)	10:00 AM	Worship Service	Meeting House
Sun. (7/5)	After Worship	UU Summer Institute	Meeting House, Reading Room, Lawn, Rooms 1, 2, 3, & 10



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