

February 2017

Senior Pastor: Barb Schneckner Associate: Deacon: Rick Tettau

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 Traditional in Sanctuary

11:00 spirit.fire in Community Center

9:30 Sunday School

Worship Notes

Feb. 5: How Do I Let My Light Shine for Christ? Matthew

5:13-20 – Holy Communion

New Members

Pastor Barb

Feb. 12: Walk in the Ways of the Lord & Live! Matthew 5:21-37

Pastor Barb

Feb. 19: Going the Extra Mile

Matthew 5:38-48

Pastor Rick

Feb. 26: Transformed!

Psalm 99; Matthew 17:1-9

Pastor Barb

the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or

weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

There have been moments in my life that I would like to freeze and make it last a lifetime.

There are also moments that I have lived through that I wish would have been different and I would not have had that experience. How about you? Been there?

Change is part of life. We can embrace it or fight it. There are some people who enjoy change and live for it. Others dig their heels in and ultimately become prisoners of old habits – good and bad. When it comes to change, we have a decision to make. Change is a sign of growth and life and health.

God may be asking you to step out in faith and make

Attendance

Date	Worship	S.S
Dec. 24	287	----
Dec. 25	156	----
Jan. 1	164	63
Jan. 8	214	101
Jan. 15	204	110

“Let’s Take Just One Tiny Step of Faith”

Rev. Barbara Schneckner

Isaiah 40:28-31 – “Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God,

changes in your life. Jesus has already been where you have been and he has already gone to prepare the way for all of us. We might be afraid and we might feel like we are unworthy, but God is aware of where you are and he is asking for you to trust him. God might be asking you to forgive yourself, someone else, to take better care of the body that you have been given, eliminate destructive habits or any number of things.

God is waiting for you to take one step! Faith in God does not come all at one time. Faith is a step by step process that begins with one small step and increases as we go.

In November of 2016, the Faith Community Leadership Team voted on a mission statement that describes our church and spiritual life. ***The mission of Faith Community is to connect people to Jesus by worshipping together, growing together, and serving together.*** The mission of our church is not one or the other parts of the mission statement, it is all three together. How do we offer Jesus Christ to others? When was the last time you have led someone to Christ? When have you been part of the disciple making process for yourself or someone else? It all starts with one tiny step of faith. It is good to remember that the Israelites camped on the bank of the Jordan River. Forty years

earlier, they had escaped from Egypt and had been wandering around the wilderness. God met every need in their lives. They experienced miracle after miracle and they could see Canaan, the Promised Land, but there was a problem. There was a huge river between them and the Promised Land and there was no way around that river. God told the people that he would make a dry path through the river, but the priests had never seen that happen. In fact, they hadn't even been born when the Red Sea was parted and there were no reruns of the 10 Commandments at the local theatre. The priests couldn't swim, as a matter of fact, they had never even been around water in this capacity. Imagine their fear! It becomes easier to understand their questions. God was asking them to step out in faith as never before. I don't imagine the Israelites had a great deal of faith in God at that moment, but they had just enough faith to take that first step. And that was enough!

Joshua 3:15-17 – “During the harvest the Jordan overflows its banks. When the priests carrying the Ark came to the edge of the river and stepped into the water, the water upstream stopped flowing. It stood up in a heap. So the people crossed over.” Notice, God did nothing until those toes touched the water. That first step was all God

needed to see. It is a good reminder for us...Don't wait until you believe it all, don't wait until you can see it all, don't wait until you understand it all...trust God and step out in faith. God will meet you there.

Let's continue to pray at 6:10 am or pm for God to breakthrough at Faith Community so we can do God's will and build his kingdom right here as we take our step of faith.

Walk by Faith,
Pastor Barb

Henderson Settlement Mission Trip

We were blessed last year to have Rev. Mike Feely speak to us in worship about the ministries at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, KY. As a follow up to his message and to support our ongoing partnership with Henderson Settlement, the church is planning a spring mission trip.

Our spring mission trip to Henderson will be Sunday, April 30 - Wednesday, May 3. We will leave after church on April 30 and return about 2 pm on Wednesday just in time for Common Cup. The cost is \$100 which covers food, lodging, and registration fees. Pastor Rick will drive the church van. Scholarships are available. This is a Common Cup mission trip. Please register by February 12, 2017. As preparation for the mission trip our group will read

the book *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. We will discuss the book in the spring before we leave on our trip (date to be determined). Bill and Ruthanne will join us on a conference call from Henderson to be a part of our conversation. For more information about the trip, please contact Pastor Rick Tettau or Bill and Ruthanne Lamb.



Stephen Ministry
Review for Cancer Now
What? Taking Action,
Finding Hope, and Navi-
gating the Journey
Ahead by Kenneth C.
Hauck, Ph.D

February of 2017 marks ten years since my surgery for breast cancer. This book brought mixed emotions as I (and two other Faith Community folk) worked on pre-publication reviews. Just before it went to press the writer and editors sought feedback from current cancer patients, survivors, families and caregivers, particularly asking us to watch out for "clunkers," jarring, harsh or unsettling ways of saying things that might limit the book's effectiveness in reaching out to those with a new cancer diagnosis. I thought of where I was in those first months of an unexpected twist on my path: of my fears, my disorientation, and my fumbling for reassurance. Even

though I had a strong support crew, lots of medical personnel among family and friends, comfort around medical discussions, and a willingness to ask questions, this book would have been a great help to me. It is a joy, ten years later, to have been a small part of bringing it to those who find themselves where I was then.

Cancer Now What? has been published under the auspices of the Stephen Ministry organization with the thoroughness they bring to their work. Dr. Hauck, a clinical psychologist who lived this struggle as his wife battled cancer, gathered additional insight from a broad range of medical and social service professionals, from cancer patients, their families, caregivers and friends. The structure of the book lets you either read through it or find a specific topic you need to know about *now*. There are twelve parts (examples: "What do I do now?" "Dealing with the Emotional Dimension of Cancer," "Working with and Relating to Your Medical Team," "Defining and Caring for Yourself," "Additional Support," and "Spiritual Matters." Each part has subtopics listed in such a way that you can focus on issues that arise for you.

If you or someone you love has been swept into this new life, *Cancer Now What?* offers guidance, practical advice

and hope. It is a general resource, addressing "cancer," but not any specific variety of cancer. The book is available in the Stephen Ministry section of the church library.

Barb Thompson

CLM Corner

Happy February! Hopefully we have left the flu season behind us! I trust you are all well. I look forward to the new year as I settle into taking care of myself and finding the balance I need to serve my Lord and others put into my path.

It is a joy to be part of the Confirmation process as a mentor. I also have found a sweet joy to be in fellowship with my small group at Legacy Assisted Living. We will be reading and praying the Lectionary passages on Tuesday's at 3:30 pm should any care to join us.

I am thankful for the foresight Jeannie Mills had when she stocked our curriculum shelves with The Story Bible Lessons. At least three of our adult Sunday School groups have enjoyed or will enjoy this study!

The study of James by Beth Moore is off to a good start on Wednesday evenings with almost 20 ladies engaging in that group.

New Members will be joining our fellowship here at Faith Community in early February as another class wraps up.

Although the Bridges of Hope will not be housed in the old Simon Kenton Building, it will be good to see how the Lord leads this ministry. Some of our number have engaged in helping out at the Living Stones while they open the doors to the homeless when temperatures drop below 20 degrees. There is room for you should you want to help!

The Martin Luther King combined community service was also a great blessing. It is a joy to be part of the diversity of Xenia coming together.

I am thankful for healthy foods, for the YMCA, a place to exercise. I am thankful to be fearfully and wonderfully made! (Ps. 139) And you know, you are also fearfully and wonderfully made! Let's take care of ourselves and serve our Lord!

Stephanie Blackburn

Leadership Team

As we all know, the year 2016 was marked by transition and change for Faith Community, and, for the Leadership Team, that will continue in the month of January, 2017. We started by welcoming new members to the Leadership Team and welcoming others back to continue their terms. Your Leadership Team members for 2017 are: Barb Moll, Bob Steen, Sandy Pramer, Bill Vahle, Jim Osburn, Diane Ohde, Lucy Parsons, Chad

Mossing, Wayne Cook, Joyce Smith, Bruce Pickleheimer, Nancy Wellman, Mike Murray, and Carol Sykes.

One of the things the 2016 Leadership Team did was to rewrite the mission and vision statement as follows: *Connecting people to Jesus by worshipping together, growing together, serving together.* Yes, we know that this is not very different from the previous version, but we felt that version was a good start, we only added a clearer means for how we, as a church, will achieve the mission of connecting people to Jesus. You will be seeing the vision statement (worshipping together, growing together, serving together) in bulletins and in other places throughout the church.

At the Church Conference in November, we set a number of goals for Faith Community. It is our desire to ensure that Faith Community meets or exceeds these goals. So that you, as a church, may help us meet these goals, you need to know what they are. They are as follows: Take in 15 new members by profession of faith. Have 10 baptisms. Increase the number of small groups meeting weekly to 16, with an average attendance of 172 and with 70% of weekly worship attendees in small groups. Have an average number of 37 in mission/outreach activities each week. Increase the average weekly giving to-

ward the annual budget to \$8768. These are lofty goals, but if we, as a church body, work at the mission and vision statement of connecting people to Jesus by worshipping together, growing together, serving together, I feel certain that we can meet these goals and that God will bless all of us in astounding ways. Blessings to all of you,

Carol Sykes
2017 Leadership
Team Chair

Sunday School

First, we want to thank the parents and children who performed in the 11 am service on Sunday Dec 18. We realize it takes some dedication to get the children to Sunday School at 9:30 each Sunday morning and also to the occasional practices when we have them. The children performed well and we are thankful for their message and their talents.

Second, we want to thank all the teachers who make Sunday School happen. I wish you had the opportunity to walk the halls during Sunday School time and hear the teaching that is going on in each class. It is encouraging and restores my faith in our Sunday School program.

Third, I want to thank those who attend each Sunday as a student. It is amazing what we can learn from each other as we

interact within the classrooms.

Finally, I notice there are several people who are at church during Sunday School time but are not in class. I encourage you to find a class and be a part. We also want all the children and youth to be in a Sunday School class. We have some very good teachers who have had extensive experience in dealing with children who are afraid or nervous about attending a class. Usually, a few weeks of regular attendance is all it takes to make children feel welcome.

Please pray for our Sunday School programs as we learn together how to share God's love.
- Virginia Pinkerton

Jr Church

Rhonda Cook is our teacher of Jr. Church. She is dedicated to helping the children learn about the bible and the workings of the church services to prepare them for church services as adults. She is looking for 3 or 4 men or women who will take turns assisting her once a month with this process. If you would like to work with our children and Rhonda, please call the church office and volunteer or call me at 937-766-5670. Your time would be greatly appreciated.

Blessings to you all,
Virginia Pinkerton

CALLING ALL MEN: - THIS MEANS Y O U !!

The Men of Faith will be meeting on the third Monday of each month in 2017. Meetings will be held in room #6. Start time is 6:30 PM and a meal will be served. The program will start at 7:00 PM. We will meet on February 20th. Come at 7:00 if you only want to attend the program.

The program will be a video of West Ohio Conference Bishop Gregory V. Palmer at the United Methodist Conference at Lakeside this past year. Please call William (Brownie) Brown (372-7373) if you plan to attend for the meal, so we can plan the quantity of food needed. All men are welcome and you can bring a friend. Hope to see you on the 20th.

(Please see Men of Faith activities for 2016 on pgs. 9 & 10)

**United Methodist Women
COMING SOON! WOMEN'S
PRAYER BREAKFAST- SATURDAY,
MARCH 11, 2017**

The Priscilla Circle invites all women to attend the Women's Prayer Breakfast. Spend the morning in fellowship and prayer with other women of faith as we eat a delicious meal and enjoy a presentation by Pastor Barb Schneckner. The breakfast begins at 9:30AM on Saturday, March 11, 2017. Tickets will be available for a donation of \$5.00 on Sunday mornings at the church

before and after services beginning on February 19; and at Common Cup on Wednesday evenings. You may also obtain them from a member of the Priscilla Circle.

Circle Meetings

Lydia: Wednesday, February 8, 7 pm in the Parlor

Dorcas: Tuesday, February 14, 1pm in the Parlor

Priscilla: Monday, February 20, 7pm in the Parlor

Showers for Blessings

Ladies, I have heard just lately that there are two people whom we could recognize at Showers for Blessings but I have not contacted them as yet.

Please check the bulletin each Sunday for updates. The date for Showers for Blessings is **Feb 23**. The time will be at 6:30 in the chapel. We will let you know more via the church bulletin.

Thank you,
Virginia Pinkerton

Thank You

Dear Faith Community,

I was overwhelmed with the generosity of all the members that donated little treats and gifts to not only myself, but also to other college students from FCUM. I am sure I share the same gratefulness as the other college students of our loving, caring family at Faith Community. In the darkest hours of fi-

nals week, the care package served as a light and morale boost to finish the semester strong. Thanks to all.

Hunter Ratliff

The West Ohio Conference thanks you for sharing the story concerning Imagine **No More Malaria** and contributing \$7,536.80 to this important mission. Thank you for all that you do locally as well as supporting mission and ministries through our United Methodist connections.

Warm Regards,
Bishop Gregory V. Palmer

Dear Faith Community UM,
Thank you to whoever gave me the gift card for Groceryland. I appreciate it and am grateful that you thought of me.
Jill Larcomb

On behalf of staff and the Board of Directors at Interfaith Hospitality, we thank you for the gifts and making our clients' Christmas a joy! God bless you.
Pat Hobbs, Coordinator

Passings

Prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of **Ida Fleming** on her death. Address for John & Mona Fae Middleton: 3411 U.S. Rt. 68 S., Xenia;
To Pennapa Steen on the death of her grandmother, **Suan Thammapatheep** of Thailand. Address: Bob & Pennapa Steen:

3466 Willowcreek Dr., Beaver-creek 45432.

Recital

Dr. John W.W. Sherer, son of John & Sharon Sherer will present a full organ recital at Westminster Presbyterian Church , 125 N. Wilkinson St., Dayton, Ohio, February 12th at 4 PM. The public is invited to this free recital.

Faith Community Preschool

We are still looking for subs. Also if anyone would like to donate money to the preschool to help us buy materials and/or help families that are struggling paying tuition, that would be greatly appreciated.

Preschool Activities:

*Valentine's
Day
Parties



*Trip to the Bowling Alley



**Deadline for March F.L.:
Feb. 13**

Men of Faith Donations for 2016	Approved 2016
General Commission UMM Dues for 2016	\$ 85.00
Interfaith Hospitality Network - IHN	\$ 400.00
Boy Scout Troop #362	\$ 100.00
Cub Scout Pack #362	\$ 100.00
Boy Scout Strength for Service	\$ 100.00
The CLEFT	\$ 480.00
Disaster Relief	\$ 200.00
Xenia FISH	\$ 400.00
St. Andrews/Meals for Millions	\$ 100.00
Red Cross - Xenia	\$ 100.00
4 Paws for Ability	\$ 100.00
Stepping Stones Ranch	\$ 400.00
The Jeremiah Tree	\$ 400.00
FCUM Pre-School Scholarship 2016	\$ 100.00
TOTALS	\$ 3,065.00

OTHER PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

March – Served and cleaned up at the Women’s Prayer Breakfast.

March – Volunteers did a cleanup of the garage to allow the van to be garaged.

March – Volunteers worked on chairs that needed attention.

April – Fairgrounds Road Cleanup from St. Brigid to Hawkins Rd.

April – Showed free “Woodlawn” movie in FCUM Community Center

April – Men of Faith Garage Sale – our yearly fund raiser

May – Cooked, served & cleaned up for the Mother/Daughter Banquet.

May – Took a tour of 4 Paws for Ability facility in Xenia.

June – Father’s Day – lead the worship service.

June – Showed free “War Room” movie in FCUM Community Center

July – Showed free “Woodlawn” movie in FCUM Community Center

July – Church-wide carry-in with model train displays running

July – Volunteers worked on chairs that needed attention.

August – MOF/UMM picnic/cookout at Historical Society

August – Showed free “War Room” movie in FCUM Community Center.

September – Showed free “Woodlawn” movie in FCUM Community Center.

September- Helped with chairs for Worship in the Park.

October – Volunteers cleaned windows outside and a large closet.

November – Showed free “War Room” movie in FCUM Community Center.

April through November

Raised a garden and donated produce to FISH Pantry, IHN, One Bistro. Donations from the garden totaled 2302 pounds of vegetables.

Did painting and lawn care at the UTS properties on Salem Avenue in Dayton. 202 man hours were spent on this project.

Collected over 500# of Christian Books and material for Love Packages.

Collected 3-4 large trash bags of pill bottles for Matthew 25 Ministries.