

## September 2017

Senior Pastor: Barb Schneckner      Associate: Deacon Rick Tettau

### Sunday Worship

9:00 Traditional in Sanctuary

10:15 Sunday School & Fellowship

11:15 Contemporary in Community Center

#### Worship Schedule

Sept. 3: Pastor Barb

Matthew 16:21-28

Sept. 10: Pastor Rick

Matthew 18:15-20

Sept. 17: Pastor Barb

Matthew 18:21-35

Sept. 24: Worship

in the Park, 11am

John 17:21 "Better Together"

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#### Attendance

| Date    | Worship | SS |
|---------|---------|----|
| July 23 | 158     | 77 |
| July 30 | 153     | 59 |
| Aug. 6  | 189     | 46 |
| Aug. 13 | 203     | 27 |
| Aug. 20 | 168     | 74 |

### Temptations: Where the Wild Things Are Pastor Barb Schneckner

School has begun and for many we remember some of our favorite things. There was a book that my children loved for me to read and then later read themselves. The book was, "*Where the Wild Things Are*," by Maurice Sendak. The similarity in this book and a quote from Saint Augustine, "*Our life in this world is tempting be-*

*cause it accommodates us to its order...A disordered, fasting on lowest goods makes us fall from higher goods, from the highest of all, you my God, my lord, your truth, your law,"* help us to understand that temptations are all around us. So what temptations or "wild things" are you facing or have you faced?

Sendak tells the story of Max, who wore his wolf suit and made so much mischief around the house that his mother called him "Wild Thing." When Max's mother sent him to bed one night without his supper, Max's room became a forest from which Max's imagination sailed off. Max's journey took him no further than his bedroom, but what about us, what is reeling about in our thoughts or life?

I am sure that Sendak didn't have the New Testament in mind while writing his children's book, but if we examine Matthew, Mark, and Luke we see something interesting. The turning point in Jesus' life was his journey into the wilderness of temptation, where according to Mark 1:13, "he was with the wild beasts."

Wilderness is more than just a place where we uncover the scars that life has left, it is a place in our very soul. Wilderness is a place where critical decisions about who we are and where we are going in light of who God is calling us to be. One thing is true, we all face temptations sooner or later, and we are broken by our temptation, or as Charles Wesley called it, “our bent to sinning.” The journey toward redemption always goes through the wilderness where we wrestle with the beasts and with God.

Have you ever wondered how temptation stories made it into the Gospels? It is very clear that Jesus was alone in the wilderness. So, the only way this story could have been passed down to us would be for Jesus to have shared it. Much the same way, Jesus showed the scars on his hands and side to the disciples allowing us to enter the wilderness struggle with him.

In the wilderness, Jesus teaches us several things that are important for us to remember. First, Jesus teaches us to remember who or whose we are. Matthew’s accounts of two of the three temptations begin with the words, “If you are the Son of God.” It is no accident that Matthew places this story immediately following Jesus’ baptism, when Jesus heard a voice from heaven saying, “You

are my Son, the Beloved, in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17). The basic temptation Jesus faced was to believe a lie about his own identity. We face that same temptation! Jesus knew that being the Son of God meant being faithful to God’s purpose. We must be faithful followers and know that Jesus brings purpose to our lives as well. When we face struggles it helps us to remember who we are; sons and daughters of God, marked by the watery sign of baptism and claimed by the Holy Spirit.

John Wesley published in 1733 the *Collection of Forms of Prayer for Every Day of the Week*. Wesley said that prayer begins with “a thorough conviction that we are God’s, because Jesus died for all.” We are to make God’s will align with what is going on in and around us.

The second thing that Jesus teaches us is to live in God’s Word. Jesus responds to every temptation by drawing on his memory of scripture. The devil quotes scripture too, twisting it to serve his own purpose, and even we are capable of doing that as well. James 1:21 challenges us to “welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.” Allow God’s word to become part of who you are and use God’s word to help you throughout times of temptation.

The third thing that Jesus teaches us is to remember that we are not alone. Both Matthew and Mark recorded that angels came and waited on Jesus. (Matthew 4:11 & Mark 1:13). The grace that leads us toward mending the broken places in our lives meets us in territory that is largely held captive by the devil. Hold on to the knowledge that even though there are wild things and temptations, there are also angels who will help us find our way back home to God.

When the temptations were over for Jesus, he returned to his hometown and began his ministry. It is important for all of us to remember...the wild beasts will come, just like they came for Max in Maurice Sendak's book, but we know that there is a place where we can return to the One who loves us best of all, the place where angels wait on us and lead us so that the Father will welcome us. Claim the power over temptations and fear through a faith in God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Son, and the power of the Holy Spirit!

### **Faith Community Current Opportunities**

Do you or someone you know love to coordinate and help with weddings? We are looking for a wedding coordinator!

Has God given you skills such as the ability to change light bulbs, work on sink faucets, or other repairs that could be used to keep our facilities properly functioning? The Trustees could use your help! We currently have 3 trustee openings on this team. The Trustees could even use some helping hands with various projects even if you aren't on the Trustees.

Got musical talents or know someone who loves the Lord and would enhance our music ministry? We are in need of a keyboard player, guitarists, drummer, or those who love to sing!

Please contact Pastor Barb (pastorbarb@fcum.org) if you or someone you know would be interested in these amazing opportunities to serve the Lord!

### **Your Feedback is Needed!**

The Leadership Team is looking for your feedback concerning the worship services at Faith Community. Summer hours are coming to a close and we are looking for ways to engage in healthy and authentic worship as the body of Christ. Those on the Leadership Team are: Carol Sykes, Lucy Parsons, Barbara Moll, Bob Steen, Sandy Pramer, Bill Vahle, Diane Ohde, Jim Osburn, Chad Mossing, Wayne Cook, Joyce Smith, Bruce Pickel-

heimer, Nancy Wellman, and Pam Colbrunn.



## Stephen Ministry Grief Resources

“There is no way around the pain that you naturally feel when someone you love dies. You can’t go over it, under it, or around it. Going through it is what will help you heal.” Therese Rando - *How To Go on Living When Someone You Love Dies*

The days, weeks, and months following the death of a loved one can often be difficult. While everyone’s grief experience will be uniquely personal, knowing what might be within the range of “normal” is often reassuring. Unnecessary suffering can be prevented through accurate information and realistic expectations. We at Faith Community have access to resources that may be helpful to you or those you know who are dealing with loss.

\*Every month Sandy Pramer leads a grief support group that meets on the second Thursday at 7 p.m. in the church parlor.

\*We have numerous books, pamphlets, and periodicals in our adult library. Our newest addition is *The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief*.

\*Kenneth C. Hauck, the founder of Stephen Ministry, has written a four-part series of booklets, *Journeying through Grief*, which assist with what one might anticipate at various times during the first year after the death of a loved one. More than any other resource this is mentioned most often as having been helpful.

\*Care Notes are available in the narthex. Sample titles include: *Losing Someone Close, Making a Plan for the Toughest Times After a Loss, Six Things a Parent’s Dying Can Teach Us, “Who Am I Now That My Loved One is Gone?”, Handling Grief as a Man, When Nothing You Do Seems to Ease Your Grief, and Time Alone—An Essential Part of Grieving.*

\*Pathways of Hope on the campus of Hospice of Dayton offers professionally trained and licensed social workers or counselors who have had additional training and expertise related to grief and loss. Not only is this free service available to the bereaved who have been serviced by them but also to anyone in our community. A call to Pathways of Hope will connect you to caring, compassionate support whether your concerns are for yourself or for someone you love.

\*Our own trained Stephen Ministers are available as well. It isn’t easy to lay our burdens down and welcome help. God

knows we all need to be heard, understood, affirmed, and cared for. Jesus promised us that He would not leave us comfortless, that He would come to us in Spirit, and care for us through others. Stephen Ministers are privileged to walk alongside another during difficult times for as long as is necessary in a one-on-one confidential relationship as a Christian friend. Men are paired with men, women with women.

For additional information about any of these options, please contact Becky Cultice at 376-5747 or email [culticer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:culticer@sbcglobal.net).



Starts Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday September 6<sup>th</sup>

### Higher Education

Dear Lord,

As they head back to their colleges and universities, they will bring their bags filled with clothes and their boxes filled with books. But you see what

they bring in their hearts – anticipation, adventure, love, re-

gret, anxiety, motivation, and hope.

As he looks for a fresh start, remind him of your faithfulness.

As she looks for community, remind her you are always with her.

As he looks for adventure, remind him how you walk on water, turn water to wine, feed thousands from just a few pieces of bread. Remind him how you bring life straight up out of death, beauty straight out of ashes.

May she have the patience to believe even when she doesn't see results.

May he know the greatest adventures are found in your presence, the greatest love comes from your heart, the greatest hope is that you've made his heart your home.

When insecurity, comparison, disappointment and failure knock on her dorm room door, may she turn to you with her questions rather than run the other way.

May they not fear failure, rather may they thrive in the midst of it.

May they not be quick to judge, rather may they be patient and curious.

Help them to find true friends and be a true friend in turn.

Help them find their voice and to use it to be an advocate for themselves and for others.

May your grace surprise them kindly.  
Amen.

### Showers for Blessings,

The next Showers for Blessings is to be held on Oct 26th but so far we do not have any knowledge of new babies on the horizon. Please check your October Faith Links for more information. Thank you to all who have participated in the past. Virginia Pinkerton, 937-766-5670.

### Children's Summer Sunday School

We had a busy and interesting summer with the children in Sunday School this summer. Thank you to moms and dads who got their children to Sunday School. We learned about several Bible characters thanks to 11 people in our church who portrayed those characters. They were Clarence Dinnen who portrayed Abraham, Mike Murray who was Jacob, Bill Vahle who served as Joseph, Carla Skaggs, who was Ruth, Rick Tettau who was David, Julie and Lauren Wickline who told us about Esther, Melissa Vietor who served as Mary the mother of Jesus, Jesus was portrayed by Steve Brodsky, John the Baptist was by John Pyles, Wayne Cook was Peter, and Paul served as Paul the apostle. Each story was followed by a craft, and music was

also a part of the Summer schedule. A special thank you to Joyce Smith and Betsy Murray who helped out beyond belief. Thank you to all who made it so interesting.

### Common Cup

It is hard to believe that Common Cup will be starting up again on Sept 6. Of course, we will have ham loaves to start out the year. Thank you to all who have returned your work preferences. I will begin scheduling this week. While it will be different to eat together just once a month, I do feel this might give some of us more time for Bible Study and other volunteer opportunities that may come our way. We hope to see you all Sept 6 at 5 pm.~ Virginia Pinkerton

### Fall Sunday School~ Children

Our Sunday School will begin in full swing on Sept 3rd with music followed by classes for pre-school, kindergarten to second grade, Grades 3-5 and 6-12 for youth. We surely hope your children can be a part as we learn about the bible in each class. ~Virginia Pinkerton

### Feeding the Football Team

Thursday, Oct 19 Faith Community United Methodist Church will feed the Xenia Buccaneers Football Team and Cheerleaders. We will need some help. In addition to help-

ing with serving, we would like church members to eat and visit with the football team. What a nice opportunity to get a free meal and meet young members in our community. If you can assist in any way, please send me an email at [vap1222@att.net](mailto:vap1222@att.net). Thanks in advance in helping with this adventure.~ Virginia

### United Methodist Women

Lydia Circle: Wednesday, September 13, 7-9pm

Dorcas Circle: Tuesday, September 19, 1-3:30pm

Priscilla: Monday, September 18, 7-9pm-Parlor

### Men of Faith

We will meet on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Meal at 6:30. Come at 7:00 if you only want to attend the program which will be a video from the National United Methodist Men's conference in Indianapolis, IN this past July. It will be Bishop James E. Swanson's opening address at that conference.

Please call William (Brownie) Brown (372-7373) if you plan to attend for the meal, so we can plan the quantity of food needed. Hope to see you on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Guatemala

The Mission Team would like to thank everyone who helped support our team through donations, the flapjack fundraiser, the purchase of

ham loaves, and your prayers. Our team consisted of 16 team members from the Xenia/Cedarville area and from Indianapolis. We funded and worked on a new two room elementary school made of cement block to replace the wooden plank and dirt floor school they are currently using. We played soccer with the children and did crafts and shared Bible stories with them. On the last day, we handed out backpacks with school supplies to the 54 students in the school. They were so excited and thrilled! Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the Guatemalans and a difference in our lives as well. We all came back changed in some way.

### Baptism

August 13, 2017, Johannes Paul Zerling, son of Emily & Georg Zerling, grandson of Michael & Betsy Murray

### Passings

Prayers and sympathy to Justin and Brook Lodge on the passing of their daughter, Mia Jo Lodge. Address: 1119 Woodland Dr., Xenia OH 45385-1444;

Evelyn Mash on the passing of her sister Helen Stephens. Address: 224 Country Club Dr., Xenia OH 45385,

Clarence Dinnen on the passing of his wife, Marjorie

Dinnen. Address: 3283 Bales Rd., Jamestown, OH 45335,  
Lorraine Crawford on the passing of her sister, Marjorie Crawford. Address: 695 Wycliffe Dr., Xenia 45385

### Thank You Notes

Faith Community UMC,

Thank you very much for supporting the Scouts this season. We really appreciate you feeding both teams after the game. We continue to keep Faith Community in our prayers, and thank you again.

Dave Gnau, Scouts Baseball Athletes in Action

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Dear Friends at Faith Community,

Thank you so much for the scholarship money. Your continued support is truly a blessing in my life! I look forward to coming back to my church family during my breaks.

Thanks for your continued blessings.

Carolyn Engle

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Faith Community Family,

I am so grateful for the kindness shown to my family and myself at the recent baby shower. Thank you for showing us with so much love and thoughtfulness. It was such a blessing.

Christian Martindale

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Dear Virginia,

This is long overdue but I wanted to thank you and the church for the very thoughtful gift of a blanket for our new family member, Jamie. It is such a lovely gesture. We were happy to be at FCUM on Easter Sunday and hopefully more times in the future.

Andrea Whitan

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Dear People of Faith Community U.M. Church,

We send thanks for all your help. Thanks to: Pastor Rick for leading Marjorie's service, and Pastor Barbara for prayer and words of encouragement, choir, men's trio, and Carol Stewart, pianist. To Port William UMC and Pastor Virgil Hawkins for use of their facility. To Port William Senior Center and the "lunch girls" for help with the meal.

Blessings to you all!

Clarence Dinnen & Family


### Address Change

Marcella (Marti) Helgeson  
100 Willow Brook Way South  
Delaware, OH 43015

**Please Note:** The Xenia Lion's Club is now also accepting hearing aids as well as glasses.



September 2017

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                             | MONDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | TUESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | FRIDAY                                                                                                 | SATURDAY                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.</i><br/> <b>Matthew 5:16 NIV</b></p>                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p><b>1</b><br/>           7:30-8:30pm-Worship<br/>           Arts Team Meeting-<br/>           #6</p> | <p><b>2</b></p>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>3 Communion</b><br/>           9-10am-Traditional<br/>           10:15-11am-Sunday<br/>           School &amp; Fellowship<br/>           11:15-12:15pm-Con-<br/>           temporary-FCC</p> | <p><b>4</b></p>  <p><b>Church Closed</b></p>                                                                                                                                     | <p><b>5 Preschool Starts</b><br/>           6-8pm-AL ANON-Parlor<br/>           6-8:30-G.Scouts-FH-<br/>           A,B,C<br/>           7pm-Trustees-Room 6</p>                                                                                                                           | <p><b>6 Preschool Starts</b><br/>           Bulletin Deadline<br/>           11:15-12:15-Staff<br/>           Meeting-Pastor's Of-<br/>           fice<br/>           5:00pm-Common Cup<br/>           Food Court</p>                             | <p><b>7</b><br/>           10-11:30am-Bible<br/>           Study-Parlor<br/>           7-10pm-Praise Band-<br/>           FCC</p>                                                                                                                                             | <p><b>8</b></p>                                                                                        | <p><b>9</b></p>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>10 COINS</b><br/>           9-10am-Traditional<br/>           10:15-11am-Sunday<br/>           School &amp; Fellowship<br/>           11:15-12:15pm-Con-<br/>           temporary-FCC</p>    | <p><b>11</b><br/>           6:30-8:30pm-Cub<br/>           Scouts-15A&amp;B;<br/>           #5,11,12<br/>           7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-<br/>           15C</p>                                                                                                   | <p><b>12</b><br/>           9:45-11:45am-Gr. Co.<br/>           Council on Aging-Par-<br/>           lor<br/>           6-8pm-AL ANON-Par-<br/>           lor<br/>           6:30-8:30pm-G.S.<br/>           Leader Mtg.-FH-A&amp;B</p>                                                   | <p><b>13 Bulletin Deadline</b><br/>           11:15-12:15-Staff<br/>           Meeting-Pastor's Of-<br/>           fice<br/>           6:30pm-Pastor Rick's<br/>           Bible Study<br/>           7-9pm-Lydia Circle-<br/>           Par.</p> | <p><b>14 10-11:30-Bible</b><br/>           Study-Parlor<br/>           6:30-7:30pm-Worship<br/>           Design Team-Pastor<br/>           Barb's Office<br/>           7-9pm-Grief Support-<br/>           Parlor<br/>           7-10pm-Praise Band-<br/>           FCC</p> | <p><b>15</b><br/> <b>Deadline for Octo-<br/>           ber Faith Links</b></p>                         | <p><b>16</b><br/>           8:30-3pm-WOC UMW<br/>           Team Meeting-Room<br/>           8</p>                                                               |
| <p><b>17</b><br/>           9-10am-Traditional<br/>           10:15-11am-Sunday<br/>           School &amp; Fellowship<br/>           11:15-12:15pm-Con-<br/>           temporary-FCC</p>          | <p><b>18</b><br/>           6:30-8:30pm-Cub<br/>           Scouts-15A&amp;B;<br/>           #5,11,12<br/>           7-8:30p-Boy Scouts-<br/>           15C<br/>           6:30-Men of Faith-#6<br/>           7:00pm-Priscilla Cir-<br/>           cle-Parlor</p> | <p><b>19 1-3:30pm-Dor-<br/>           cas Circle-Parlor</b><br/>           6-8pm-Leadership<br/>           Team-Room 6<br/>           6-8pm-AL ANON-Par-<br/>           lor<br/>           6-9pm-Heisey Club-#8<br/>           6-8:30-G.Scouts-FH-<br/>           A,B,C</p>               | <p><b>20 Bulletin Deadline</b><br/>           11:15-12:15-Staff<br/>           Meeting-Pastor's Of-<br/>           fice<br/>           6:30pm-Pastor Rick's<br/>           Bible Study</p>                                                        | <p><b>21</b><br/>           10-11:30am- Bible<br/>           Study-P<br/>           7-10pm-Praise Band-<br/>           FCC<br/>           7-9pm-Common Cup<br/>           Council Meeting-FH-<br/>           C</p>                                                            | <p><b>22</b></p>                                                                                       | <p><b>23</b><br/>           All Day Biking Event-<br/>           Parking Lot/Bike<br/>           Path<br/>           5-9pm-Double I-<br/>           15A/Kit.</p> |
| <p><b>24</b><br/> <b>11:00-Worship in<br/>           the Park</b><br/>           Biking Event</p>                                                                                                  | <p><b>25</b><br/>           6:30-8:30pm-Cub<br/>           Scouts-<br/>           15A&amp;B,5,11,12<br/>           #5,11,12<br/>           7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts</p>                                                                                                | <p><b>26</b><br/>           6-7pm-Mission Out-<br/>           reach Team Meeting-<br/>           Library<br/>           6-8pm-AL ANON-Par-<br/>           lor<br/>           7-8:30pm-Church<br/>           School Teachers and<br/>           Workers Meeting-<br/>           Room 6</p> | <p><b>27 Bulletin Deadline</b><br/>           11:15-12:15-Staff<br/>           Meeting-Pastor's Of-<br/>           fice<br/>           6:30pm-Pastor Rick's<br/>           Bible Study</p>                                                        | <p><b>28</b><br/>           10-11:30am- Bible<br/>           Study-P<br/>           7-10pm-Praise Band-<br/>           FCC</p>                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>29</b></p>                                                                                       |                                                                             |