

## July 2018

Pastor: Barbara Schnecker

937-372-7601 [office@fcum.org](mailto:office@fcum.org). [www.fcum.org](http://www.fcum.org)

### Sunday Worship

9:00-10:00 Sunday School

10:00-10:30 Fellowship Time

10:30-11:30-Worship in Sanctuary

### Worship Schedule

**July 1:** Mark 5:21-43

Holy Communion in pews

**July 8:** Mark 6:1-13

Coins for Missions

**July 15:** Mark 6:14-29

**July 22:** Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**July 29:** John 6:1-21

### Attendance

Date	Worship	S.S.
May 27	134	63
June 3	103	54
June 10	107	45
June 17	117	32

### From Pastor Barb

#### True Independence!

With July 4<sup>th</sup> in our minds...we will see parades, fireworks, displays of the American flag and families gathering to grill out and get together. The Fourth of July has

always been a time when my family got together for a cookout and swimming.

We share not only food but our lives with each other and of course we have fun! It's always exciting to encourage and see the younger children learn to swim independently.

But why is it that we celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July? It was on July 4, 1776, when the thirteen colonies claimed their independence from England, an event which eventually led to the formation of the United States. Each year on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, also known as Independence Day, American's

celebrate this historic event.

What does it mean to have true independence, spiritually? One example that comes to mind is found in 1 Samuel 25, where we see the contrast between vertical and horizontal decision making. King Saul thought the way to preserve his kingdom was to kill David. While in pursuit of him there were several occasions when David had the opportunity to kill Saul, but David chose to wait upon God's timing and await his own deliverance because he understood authority. David had such respect for those who had been put in authority by God over him that he would not take matters into his own hands.

Saul represents the exact opposite of this principle. He thought David was the problem and sought to get rid of him through force. As a result, he lost his kingdom because he chose to rule horizontally instead of vertically under God's rule in his life.

You see, many of us have been trained to make decisions and respond to problems in a horizontal way instead of vertical. Operating from a horizontal basis means that we try to fix the problem through our own self-efforts by bringing greater pressure upon any given situation through our own reasoning or skills. Operating from a vertical position means we are seeking God for the

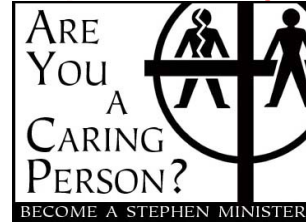
answer and waiting for him to impact the prob-

lem. Perhaps it is a spouse who fails to put their clothes away, it could be a child as well, or even an employee who is overly critical, or a family member that clashes with you. When we operate horizontally we attempt to shame or coerce the other party to change their ways.

God knows the solution to the problem before it ever exists. Our responsibility is to ask God for help in solving any problem and to rely on God for the outcome. The minute we take on the responsibility, God quietly stands by to let us experience failure until we decide to seek Godly answers. No matter what problem you or I may face today...let us stand vertical with God and become truly independent

as Christians who seek God's will above everything else...for that is where true spiritual independence comes.

### **Stephen Ministry**



**Are you the one friends  
call on  
When trouble comes  
their way?  
Are you the one who  
holds their hands  
During a hospital  
Stay?**

**Are you the one who  
gives support  
To those who are feel-  
ing blue?  
Accept that this is your  
spiritual gift  
And Stephen Ministry is  
for you.**

**By way of Christian**

caring  
You can administer  
God's grace and  
love  
Submit unto your  
calling  
And receive blessing  
from above.

(Shared by N. Branford,  
Friendship Church)

A new Stephen Ministry training class will starting in September.

For more information contact Becky Cultice at 937-376-5747 or [culticer@sbc-global.net](mailto:culticer@sbc-global.net).

## **VBS 2018 Rolling River Rampage**

This year's VBS was a week of learning, playing, crafting and singing. We are so grateful to the following people who made it all possible:

Carolyn Engle, Lynn Engle, Cait Hoskins, Samuel Johnson, Shelby Hughes, Michelle Kenney, Olivia Kenney, Kristy Christian, Luisa Christian, Mary Shumard, Molly Mossing, Carla Skaggs, Pam Colbrunn, Karen Mossing, Ian Ackenhausen, Chad Mossing, Judy Mahan, Evelyn Mash, Margaret Stidham, Sharon Boothe, Sandy Pramer, Margaret Hahn, Megan Ackenhausen, Sheila Fauble, Virginia Pinkerton, Moria Ackenhausen, Shannon Smith, Grace Smith, Bruce Pickleheimer, Pastor Barb, Rick Smith, Dick Montgomery, and Val Zimmerman.

We also want to thank those who contributed to the VBS offering, and provided

cookies and cupcakes.

With your contributions of time, effort, prayer, and funds this VBS was a wonderful week for all!

**\*\*Save the Date\*\***



Mark your calendar for **July 29th** for our fifth Sunday gathering in the fellowship hall following the 10:30 service.

We will be grilling hamburgers and hot-dogs. Please bring a side or dessert. Beverages and table settings will be provided. We would like to see you all there!

**United Methodist Women**

Thanks to all who purchased Carnations for Father's Day. We appreciate you!

**Circle Meetings**

Lydia: No July Meeting

Priscilla: No July Meeting

Dorcas: Tuesday, July 17, 1:00 pm in Parlor

**Men of Faith**

**CALLING ALL MEN: - THIS MEANS YOU !!**

The Men of Faith will meet on **July 16**. A meal will be served at 6:30 PM and the program will start at 7:00 PM in room #6. Come at 7:00 if you only want to attend the program.

The program will be a video of Dr. Kevin Watson, author of the book "THE CLASS MEETING". This was a

presentation at the GMUMM Gathering in Indianapolis, July 7-8, 2017.

Dr. Watson returns us to the Wesleyan tradition of meeting in small groups to hear each others' stories, helping one another to Holy living rooted in confession, accountability, community, testimony, and gentle shepherding. This is an excellent resource. John Sherer is willing to start an 8-week study of Dr. Watson's book "The Class Meeting". Come and learn more.

Please call William (Brownie) Brown (372-7373) if you plan to attend for the meal, so we can plan the quantity of food. All men are welcome and you can bring a friend.

## Potato Drop Results



Thanks to all who brought potatoes for the potato drop June 3rd. We collected 240 lbs. of potatoes and delivered 120 lbs. to the local Fish Food Pantry and another 120 lbs. to the meals for millions truck at Lakeside. One much smaller church in the Urbana area sent over one ton of potatoes to Lakeside. WOW. We could do better next year, don't you think? But thanks for those who participated.  
~~John Sherer,

## Talent Competition

The Xenia VOICE is holding a talent competition for Xenia teens, ages 13-18.

Auditions will be held September 7 and 8. Semi-finals will be Sept. 29 and finals will be October 13.

For complete rules, registration and to buy tickets: [www.xeniaact.org/xeniavoice](http://www.xeniaact.org/xeniavoice). All shows are open to the public in Menapace Auditorium, 1141 N. Monroe Dr., Xenia.

### **Thank You**

*Dear Members of Faith Community,*

*Thanks so much for giving me a scholarship. This money will be very helpful as I continue my education at the University of Dayton, where I intend to major in History. My family and I really appreciate your support.*

*Thank you,  
Samuel Johnson*

**Prayers and Sympathy** to family and friends of **Marjorie Menapace** on her passing.

### **Faith Community Achieves Platinum Partner Status in Blood Donations**

We recently received a letter from the Community Blood Center announcing that Faith Community has achieved the milestone of Platinum Partner in their Lifesaving Ambassador's Club. This means Faith has had 100% blood drive efficiency. During 2017 our church drive collected 82 units of blood, hosted 3 blood drives, and averaged 109% of our blood drive goal.

Thanks to all who participated and especially to John and

Marie Ford, who have been so instrumental in heading up this very important ministry since summer of 1992.

## **Stepping Stones Ranch Closing**

Dear Donors,

It is with sincere regret that I am informing you of the closing of stepping Stones Ranch Group Home. Our current girls are graduating high school this year and will move into a great independent living program. Please be in prayer for our girls as they move into their own apartments and start their journey toward their future.

We will continue to offer Equine Therapy and Equine Assisted Learning for children and youth. We will be expanding our program to reach additional

groups such as a Veteran's program.

I hope that you will continue to follow and support Stepping Stones Ranch during this transition into a full-time equestrian facility reaching at-risk youth, families and expanding demographics.

We are actively looking for a horse property or farm to move our equine program. If anyone knows of a place, please let me know. We have been so blessed by the property owners for their generosity in letting us use their property for the last few years.

Danielle Combs  
Danielle@steppingstonesranch.org  
937-289-0100

**Deadline for August Faith Links: July 16**