

September 2018

Pastor: Barbara Schnecker
937-372-7601 office@fcum.org. 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

Sept. 2: Communion

by Intinction, Mark 7:1-8, 21-23

Sept. 9: Mark 7:24-37

Sept. 16: Mark 8:27-38

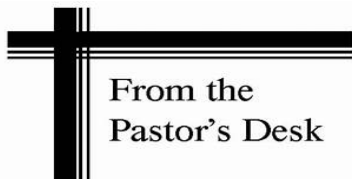
Sept. 23: Worship in the Park (TBD)

Sept. 30: Baptism of Amelia Burgess

Carry-in Following Worship

Attendance

Date	Worship	SS
July 29	93	41
Aug. 5	104	39
Aug. 12	124	46
Aug. 19	106	47



From the
Pastor's Desk

Philippians 4:19, "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Jesus Christ."

I don't know if you have ever gone through a time of complete dependence on God for your physical or material needs...but I have had that experience when an unexpected injury occurred in my own life. For others, perhaps you lost a

job and didn't have income. You might have gotten sick and were unable to work. Bottom line, there are circumstances in our lives that put us in a place of dependence on God.

When God brought the people of Israel out of Egypt through the desolate desert, they had no ability to provide for themselves. God met their needs by providing manna from heaven each day but the Sabbath. This was a season in their lives to learn not only dependence on God, but just how faithful God was as a provider. Eventually they entered the Promised Land. When they did, God's provision was no longer required. "The manna stopped the day after they ate the food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate of the produce of Canaan." (Joshua 5:12). In both cases God was the provider of their needs.

For most of us, we derive our necessities of life through our work. Like the birds of the fields we are commanded to go out and gather what God has already provided. It is a process of participation in what God has already provided. Sometimes it appears that it is all up to us; and sometimes it appears like it is all up to God. In either case we must realize that the Lord is our provider; our work is only an instrument of his provision of gifts and blessings that is given to us. He requires our involvement in either case.

"You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But it is good to remember the Lord your God, for it is God who gives you the ability and gifts to produce an income, and confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today." (Deuteronomy 8:17-18)

When we come to worship, fellowship, or study God's word, it is a time of gratitude and praise God for all the blessings we are given. Why? Because God provides for our every need if we seek him and God is faithful.

It is time to look for the blessings God has given to us and remember all the times that God has been faithful even

in the midst of pain and hardships. Be the change that you want to see in others, for we may be the only bible that anyone ever reads. ~~~Pastor Barb



**Stephen
Ministry
Just Sit with Me**

When we learn of someone's suffering or need, often we can help. We might prepare a meal and deliver it. We can purchase shoes for the Shoes 4 the Shoeless program. We can participate in a mission trip to Henderson Settlement. There is joy to be experienced in the doing. As a congregation, we collectively have innumerable skills, a wide range of interests and passions, sufficient time and energy, and abundant love for our sisters and brothers in our community.

Sometimes, what is needed is quieter, simpler. A child in the midst of a nightmare wants a parent to sit nearby until peaceful sleep returns. An individual facing a frightening medical procedure or diagnosis wants a loving companion during the ordeal. Someone experiencing the breakup of a relationship or family wants someone to lean on. A family facing an unimaginable loss or grief wants to be sustained by the presence of caring friends.

God promises to be with us during times of trouble:

“But now, this is what the Lord says—

he who created you Jacob,

he who formed you Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters,

I will be with you;

And when you pass through the rivers

they will not sweep over you

When you walk through the fire
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.
For I am the Lord your God.”

(Isaiah 43:1-3)

And God expects us to provide comfort to others:

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.” (2 Corinthians 1:3-5)

Being able to provide comfort to someone who needs it is a blessing. To have somewhere to turn in times of trouble is a blessing.

Faith Community’s Stephen Ministers are specially trained to provide Christ-centered comfort to those struggling with life’s challenges. We’re a quiet, confidential ministry of presence and prayer. If you, or someone you know, could use this type of sustaining comfort, call Becky Cultice , 376-5747.

United Methodist Women

Circle Meetings

Lydia: Wednesday, September 12, 7:00 pm - Parlor

Priscilla: Monday, September 17, 7 pm

Dorcas: Tuesday, September 18, 1:00 pm - Parlor

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

The Men of Faith will be meeting on the third Monday of each month in 2018. 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 SEPTEMBER 17.** Come at 7:00 if you only want to attend the program.

The program will be enjoying our social time and fellowship together and talking on any topic that emerges. Please call William (Brownie) Brown (372-7373) if you plan to attend for the meal, so we can plan the quantity of food for the meal. All men are welcome and you can bring a friend. Hope to see you on the 17th.



Shoes 4 the Shoeless

The Shoes 4 the Shoeless program was a huge success. 275 children received shoes, socks, underwear and Bibles!! Praise the Lord! This program can only be that successful because of the over 50 volunteers and the generosity of all who purchased shoes or made a donation so that we could purchase all of the above items. God has truly blessed this program. We are blessed to be a blessing to all those families.

Thank you so very much, from the bottom of a very humble heart.

Sandy Pramer



Prayers and Sympathy to:

Jim (Ann) Huston and family on the death of Jim's father, **Don Huston**;

to Becky Cultice and family on the death of her mother; **Virginia Massey**;

and to Bill and Sally Brown on the death of their son **Neal Brown**.

From Virginia Pinkerton

Acolytes needed

Have you ever thought of being an acolyte for the Sunday Worship Service? We are looking for young people and adults to help us this year. Anyone from the third grade on is invited to be an acolyte. There will be an acolyte sign-up notebook in the narthex near the entrance to the chapel. If you need training, we will be glad to assist you as you become comfortable with your new responsibility. What a great way to serve our church. Call me if you have any questions. 937-766-5670 or vap1222@att.net.

Common Cup

Did you enjoy the fellowship time during our Common Cup Meals? Wednesday, September the 26th at 5:30 p.m. there will be a carry-in dinner and all are invited. Details are skimpy as this goes to print but keep an eye on the bulletins for more details in the next few weeks. Blessings to you all.

Sunday School

Have you ever considered being a teacher or a teacher's helper during Sunday School time? If so, now is the time to sign up. We are short of teachers and we have some teachers that will be out of town for 3 or 4 months so we could surely use some assistance. If you like little children and want them to know about God, this is the opportunity for you to serve the Lord.

Rhonda Cook has also served as the teacher of Junior Church and she needs an assistant each Sunday Morning. Junior church will begin again on September 9. We need 4 people to sign up for once a month and 2 more to volunteer as needed.

Your help will be appreciated so much. Blessings to all.

Organ Recital - By Dr. John W.W. Sherer, son of John & Sharon Sherer will be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 125 Wilkenson Street, Dayton, Ohio. This is a noon time recital on Thursday, October 25th. Immediately following the recital there will be a box lunch provided for a fee. Dr. Sherer is organist and Director of Music at Fourth Presbyterian church in Chicago, Illinois, and has his doctorate in organ performance from Juilliard and masters degrees on organ and religion from Yale. The organ recital is free and open to the public. For further information or a ride call John Sherer at 372-2204.

Important Announcement!

Attention All Key Holders:

Please be informed that some changes will be made in the security and access to the church. We will be changing **ALL** access codes for the church and if you are on the authorized code list, you will receive a **NEW CODE**. After a successful changing of the codes, all authorized people will be given a new key for the church. We feel that there are some who might have a code that is not on the current list, so if you are not issued a new code number, please do not attempt to use any old code. Your key may work but your alarm code **will not!**

A date will be announced as to when the new code will be in effect and all old codes will be deleted. A short time after that announcement, new keys will be issued. All new keys will be numbered and unable to be duplicated.

If you have questions about the new codes or keys, please contact Dick Strous.

Disciple Bible Study

Thanks to all who signed up for the Disciple Bible study class. We held our first (orientation) meeting on August 23.

The study continues for 12 weeks until mid-November. If you have any questions please contact Bill or Cheryl Vahle (374-2150).

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you are interested in learning or being part of a Prayer Shawl Ministry, started by Betty and Mark Merrill, we will meet in the parlor, **Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. for 1 hour.** You will need a “K” crochet hook and 4 skeins of yarn (preferably *Lion Brand/Homespun Yarn*) and a spirit of cooperation and charity. Hope to see you there.

Thank You

Thanks for supporting the Xenia High School marching band! The students, directors, and booster members are grateful to have friends like you in the Xenia community. We are looking forward to a great season. Go Bucs!

Thanks to everyone who donated school supplies for Shawnee School. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Looking Ahead:

√September 30 – Worship in the Park

√October 16 – I Believe in the Church Event –
pre-register now

√October 28 – Trunk or Treat – 6 p.m.

√November 9 & 10 – Fall Bazaar (For more information call Nancy Wellman at 937-305-0649, email whatif2636@sbc-global.net or leave a message in the office.)

**Deadline for October Faith Links is
Thursday, September 13**

Faith Community Preschool



Where Learning is FUN!

Faith Community Preschool has been in operation as a ministry of the church for nearly 40 years. The Preschool would like to offer the opportunity for you to be a part of this early educational experience. Please consider making a donation to support and assist the Pre-school program. Your donation will make it possible to provide our students with a jumpstart on their educational journey. For more information please contact the Preschool director, Michelle Holtvogt at 372-8757.

We are still accepting REGISTRATIONS for the 2018/2019 school year!!

Children from 3 years old to entering kindergarten

School starts on **Tuesday, September 4** and **Wednesday, September 5.**

Festival of Sharing

If you would like to donate from the following lists, items are needed no later than September 9. They may be placed in the baskets in the Narthex.

Hygiene Kits

✓ One hand towel measuring 15"x28" to 16"x32" (no fingertip, dish towel or micro-fiber)

✓ One wash cloth

✓ One wide-toothed comb removed from the package (found at discount dealers like Salleybeauty.com)

✓ One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package (either one is acceptable)

✓ One bath size bar of soap in the original package

✓ One toothbrush in the original package

✓ Ten standard size Band-Aids
All items need to fit in a one-gallon Ziploc type bag. Remove the excess air from the bag and seal before boxing. Search for "wide-tooth combs" to see an example of combs that meet the kit requirements.

School Kits

✓ One pair blunt scissors removed from package (rounded tip only)

✓ Three 70 count notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper)

✓ One 30 centimeter, 12" ruler

✓ One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from package

✓ One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)

✓ Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers. Please remove pencils from the package.

✓ One box of 24 crayons

✓ One 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with handles (solid colors or kid-friendly fabric, no logos, reusable shopping bags or backpacks. All items must be inside the bag.