

February 2019

Pastor: John Guliano
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

Sermon Schedule

February 3: "Chosen: God Chooses Us"
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
February 10: "Changed: "We Are Changed by Him"
February 17: "Complete: We Are Complete in God"
February 24: "Called: He Calls Us"

Date	Attendance	
	Worship	S. School
Dec. 16	166	52
Dec. 23	173	65
Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve)	205	—
Dec. 30	154	47
Jan. 6	154	51

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank all of you who have participated in any way in making our Christmas season at Faith Community so special this past year. Your support and participation in the life of our church is truly a blessing. As I write this, I cannot believe that a month in the year 2019 has already passed. With the advent of this new year, come new challenges and visions for the ministry of Faith Community.

Our church continues to grow in number and in spirit. It is always an honor to welcome people whom God has led to Faith Community. Our congregation is continually blessed with a diversity of people who love the Lord Jesus Christ and want to share that faith through its ministry.

During the month of February, I will be preaching a four-week sermon series entitled, “Chosen-What would happen if you reminded yourself of the Gospel every day?” There’s something about being chosen: to play on a team, to be part of a club, for a promotion, or for a special role. The truth is, each and every one of us are chosen in the most important way possible. We are chosen by the God of the universe to belong to Him. We will never know who we are if we don’t know whose we are. We are chosen by God.

I cannot express how much gratitude I have for God’s blessings upon Faith Community. You are all a tremendous part of that blessing. If we remain faithful to his ministry our church will continue to flourish with his goodness and blessing. Never doubt the love and power that Jesus provides for us to share in his church. Together we continue to make disciples for Jesus Christ as we labor to do his will through our special connection. Be blessed this month of February! Let the love of Jesus continue to warm our hearts.

Blessings – Rev. John



Stephen Ministry

Recipe for Healing: Forgiving is an essential ingredient

On one of my frequent visits to the Greene County Library the following title caught my eye: *When Life Hands You Lemons, Make Lemon Meringue Pie: Seven Recipes for Living (and Thriving) with Cancer.* JoAnna M. Lund was diagnosed with a particularly aggressive form of breast cancer. She shares her “recipes” for support, comfort, faith, joy, and peace that kept her going through her journey after first deal-

ing with the shock of hearing ‘It may be cancer.’” One of these recipes for healing and hope involves forgiveness.

Lund suggests that when we face a health crisis, we can’t always control what’s happening to our bodies, but we can control how we react to what’s happening. This includes remembering that we have the power within us to decide how we will feel about what others say and do. In order to live without the dead weight of anger, disappointment, bitterness, and loneliness, she suggests that we need to practice forgiveness in all kinds of ways. We need to forgive the comments of family and friends who think they are being sympathetic or helpful but whose words cause pain. It’s harder but equally important to find a way to forgive someone who suggests that we have done something to cause our illness or make it worse. It takes precious time and energy to let these comments get to us, especially when we need all the energy we can muster to deal with the health challenges we’re facing. Christ offers us an example when he asks, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” Doesn’t that seem like an appropriate response to negative, hurtful, tactless, and insensitive remarks or deeds?

Not only do we need to forgive others, but we also need to learn how to forgive ourselves. Particularly when we face a serious illness or other crisis in our lives, it’s common to reflect and ask ourselves lots of questions. The “could of,” “would of,” “should of”, while understandable, are rarely helpful. Lund realized early on that she had to set these concerns aside and forgive herself for anything that she might have done to cause or prevent her cancer. Even if there was nothing that she could have done differently, she forgave herself and directed her focus to working with her medical team to do the best that she could to fight her disease and to live her life as fully as possible.

Forgiveness is a gift we give to ourselves and to others. Forgiveness generates positive energy that can overpower the negative energy of anger, disappoint, regret, and guilt. Lund recommends that as we thank God for the gift of a new day

each morning, we add forgiveness to our gratitude. Decide to forgive those who have hurt us—whether it was intentional or accidental.

All of this is easier said than done. If you or someone you know is struggling with learning how to forgive or any of the many other challenges life brings us and are interested in having Christian support, contact Becky Cultice at 376-5747 or culticer@sbcglobal.net. Our Stephen Ministers want to walk alongside you on your journey.

College Connections

Do you pray for the college students of Faith Community? If not, I invite you to do so. Here is a listing of their names and a bit about them to help get you started.

Carolyn Engle – 2016 XHS graduate – attending Indiana State University and majoring in Speech and Language Pathology

Juliana Erwin – 2014 graduate of Southeastern High School – attending Columbus State and majoring in Community Leadership/Extension Education

Emma Horney – 2015 graduate of Cedarville High School – attending the University of Kentucky – on track to graduate this May with a degree in Animal Science and a minor in Agriculture Economics.

Samuel Johnson – 2018 XHS graduate – attending the University of Dayton – majoring in History

Dean Ohde – Dean is attending Ohio University and is in the DPT (Doctorate of Physical Therapy) program.

Hunter Ratliff – 2015 graduate of Cedarville High School
– Studying Aerospace Engineering at the University of Cincinnati

Brant Wickline – CHS graduate (2015) – on track to graduate from The Ohio State University this May with a degree in Agronomy

Do you know of any other college students connected to FCUM? If so, I would love to hear about them.

Julie Wickline, Coordinator
FCUM College Crew – 937-207-8289

Seeking Musicians

Pastor John is looking for musicians as well as singers who may be interested in forming an acoustic Praise Band. If you are interested in this ministry area please let him know by calling the office or emailing him at johng133@aol.com.

United Methodist Women

Priscilla: Monday, February 18, 7pm - Parlor

Lydia: No February meeting

Dorcas: Tuesday, February 19, 1pm - Parlor

Save the Date: Saturday, March 16 for the Women's Prayer Breakfast. Tickets will be \$6 and on sale beginning February 24.

Men of Faith

ATTENTION ALL MEN: The Men of Faith meet on the third Monday of each month in room #6. A meal is served at 6:30 pm. followed by the program at 7:00 pm. We will meet on February 18. Come at 7:00 if you wish to attend only the meeting, which will be approving the budget, program topics and activities for 2019. We will also show a short video by Carlos Alarcon who spoke at the Wesleyan Conference in At-

lanta Georgia. 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 may bring a friend. Hope to see you on the 18th.

Recipients of Profits from our 2018 Garage Sale

Men of Faith Approved Budget Spending	2018
GCUMM Recertification for 2019	\$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 - Hurricane Florence	\$200.00
Xenia Fish	\$400.00
Bridges of Hope	\$300.00
St Andrews / Meals for Millions	\$100.00
Donnellan Shelter of Greene County	\$100.00
4 Paws for Ability	\$100.00
The Jeremiah Tree	\$200.00
FCUM Pre-School Scholarship	\$100.00
Living Well Clinic	\$100.00
UMM Life Membership Award	\$250.00

TOTALS	\$3,115.00

In addition, the MOF supported the Mother Daughter Banquet, The Women's Prayer Breakfast, The August Women's and Men's joint picnic, Fairground Road clean up, one family night out to the local rodeo, and provided the UMM Sunday Worship Service. We also raised a vegetable garden and the produce from it was donated to Xenia "Fish" Food Pantry, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Bridges of Hope and One Bistro.

This year's harvest allowed us to give away 479 pounds of tomatoes and 26 dozen ears of corn.

Your support makes all this possible. Many thanks!

Prayers and Sympathy

Vicki Beegle and family on the death of her husband Paul Beegle;

Friends of John Ziegenhagen on his death;

Jean Wellman and family on the death of her husband Homer Wellman;

Family and friends of Enid Cradit on her death;

Sally (Bill) Brown on the death of Sally's sister Betty June Hyatt;

Family of Doris Dumford, sister of the late Paul Beegle;

Dr. Richard Byers, Jr. and family on the death of his father, Richard Byers, Sr.

Thank You Notes

I would like to thank all of you for the cards, calls, and concern when I was hospitalized and recuperating the last few months. We have a very caring congregation at Faith Community.

~~ Dolores Strous

Dear Faith Community United Methodist Church,

We have so much to thank you for over the past 2 years. All the prayers you sent for Paul. The meat/cheese tray, salad and buns helped so much.

A special "Thank you" to Pastor John for calling me on the phone and praying with me.

A special "Thank you" to John Shearer for coming to the house and praying with Paul and all of us. Paul accepted Jesus Christ that day with John. John sang a song for all of us.

A special "Thank you" to the visitors that came to the hospital from the church and prayed with us.

Your kind words and deeds remind us how lucky we are to have you in our lives.

~~The Family of Paul Beegle - Vicki, Greg, Charlene King, Tracy Titcomb, Kelly Hiles, Jason Criswell, Justin Criswell

Nursery and Child Care Providers

Faith Community is seeking child care providers for Sunday worship, Wednesday choir rehearsals, and special events. These persons will be paid \$10/hour and must have AED and CPR training and pass a background check. Interested persons should contact the church office or Wayne Cook (937-479-8020 or wlcook47@gmail.com).

Confirmation Class

Pastor John will be leading a confirmation class for those students in grade 8-12 who would like to profess their faith and dedication to Jesus Christ and his church. This is the first time in a while that a Confirmation Class is being offered. If you or your child are interested in Confirmation, please contact the church office for registration and further details. Classes will begin in early March.

Winter Weather Church Closure

If we are experiencing a severe storm and you are wondering if our worship service is cancelled, please check the Church Website and Facebook Page as well as the local television station. Please know that even though worship may be cancelled, our weekly tithe is needed. Feel free to place it in the offering plate the next Sunday or mail/bring it to the church treasurer in the main office. Thank You for your faithful stewardship.

Welcome

We welcome Mary Lou Adair as a member of Faith Community. On January 8, 2019. Pastor John led Mary Lou with communion at her home and presented her with a membership certificate. Mary Lou recently turned 96 years old. Please extend a welcome and Happy Birthday to Mary Lou with a note or card to 1551 Stone Road. Xenia, OH 45385.

Coffee Time Help Needed

Did you know we have a coffee time at 10 am each Sunday morning? It is located in Fellowship A near the kitchen. Join us for a light snack, coffee or tea and a time for fellowship. All are welcome. Help is needed to host. We are hoping Sunday School Classes and Committees or groups of families or friends will host for a month at a time. Set up is well organized and cleanup is minimal. We hope you or your committee or friends would be willing to sign up.

Give Virginia a call at 937-766-5670 for more information.

2019-2020 Educational Assistance

Thanks to the generosity of members past and present, Faith Community is able to offer educational assistance each year to graduating high school seniors who plan to attend a college, university, or technical school in the fall of 2019 as well as to upper classmen who are already enrolled in a college, university or trade school.

These funds come from designated gifts and the amount varies from year to year depending upon how many individuals apply and on the amount of money available for distribution.

Guidelines and application forms for FCUMC's 2019-2020 Educational Assistance are available in the narthex and the church office. These forms must be completed and returned to the church office by the April 14, 2019 deadline.

In addition to the general educational assistance funds available for distribution is the Jan Sandifer Scholarship. This scholarship is to be awarded to a female Faith Community United Methodist Church member who is graduating from high school. This individual must be actively attending and participating in the life of the church and have been accepted into a college, university, or trade school.

Jan, a long-time, active member of our church, chose to endow a \$25,000 scholarship fund. The scholarship is to be awarded from the interest on the initial investment. The amount of the award and the frequency will be determined by the return on this account which must not go below \$25,000. Born August 28, 1942, Jan was the Vice President of Commercial Loans at Security National Bank in Xenia before her retirement. She was active in many civic organizations including the Xenia Area Chamber of Commerce, the Greene County Development Board, Xenia Old Fashioned Days, Blue Jacket outdoor theater, Business and Professional Women's Association, Beta Sigma Phi, Optimist Club Auxiliary, and the American Legion Auxiliary. An avid golfer, she also volunteered at Faith Community United Methodist Church and Greene Memorial Hospital. She died March 28, 2014.

As a church family we appreciate our youth and want to support them with our prayers as well as with financial assistance as they seek to further their education. Help us get the word out to these young people about the assistance available and remind them of the April 14th deadline to apply.

Sunday School

Karen Mossing and Kylie Fleming will be teaching the youngsters in Sunday School during February and March. These two have worked together for two years providing valuable lessons to our young people. All children are welcome. There are classes for teenagers, parents and grandparents also. Please join us and learn Bible lessons and fellowship with each other.

Do you teach Sunday School? If so, thank you for sharing Christ with others. Jesus calls us to be in fellowship with each other and Sunday School is a great opportunity to do just that. Please pray for the welfare of our Sunday School programs here at Faith Community that they may encourage us to learn about living like Christ. Join us.

Acolytes

We are looking for third graders and older to serve as Acolytes. Call Virginia Pinkerton at 937-766-5670 if you would like to help.

Please Note

The Lions Club collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids. If you have any to donate, please place them in the container in the narthex hallway. Thank you

Weekly Giving Envelopes

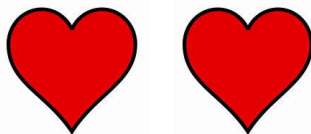
If you have not already done so, please check for your envelopes in the Narthex. If you do not find yours, please contact Finance@fcum.org or call the church office at 937-372-7601. Thanks for your faithfulness in giving.

Blood Drive – February 18, 2019



The next blood drive at Faith Community will be on Monday, February 18, 2019, 2 PM to 6 PM. You can make a reservation to donate by going to www.donortime.com. This website is not overly user friendly unless you can remember your donor number and password. However, I will be happy to make an appointment for you. Call John Ford at 372-6641 or e-mail jford@woh.rr.com. Ask for your preferred appointment time. I will confirm your appointment if you leave a telephone number or e-mail address. Mark your calendars and plan to donate. Our drives here at FCUM are scheduled approximately 8 weeks apart from those at St. Brigid which makes it convenient to stay on schedule for donations at these two locations. Remember that your one-time donation can save as many as three lives.

Deadline for March Faith Links

Friday, February 15



February 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 No Preschool	2
3 9-10am-Sunday School 10-10:30a-Fellowship and Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	4 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-Rm. 5,11,12 7-9pm-Stephen Ministry-Library 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	5 6-8pm-Girl Scouts-15ABC, 16A Youth Rm. 6-9pm-Magic Volleyball-FCC 6:30-8:30pm-Trustees-Room 6	6 10 AM- Bulletin DL 6-8pm-CUSA Soccer-FCC 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells-Music Room 7:30-8:30pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary	7 10-11:30am-Bible-P Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6-7:30pm-Fast Track Bible Study-15-C 6-9pm-Volleyball-FCC 7-9pm-Grief Support-P	8 5:55-7pm-Volleyball-FCC	9
10 9-10am-Sunday School 10-10:30a-Fellowship and Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	11 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-Rm. 5,11,12 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	12 Lincoln's B.D. 1-2pm-Presch.Mtg.-#4 6-9pm-Magic Volleyball-FCC 6:30-8:30pm-G.S. 15A,B,C, 16-A 6:30-7:30pm-Worship Design Team- Pastors Office	13 10 AM- Bulletin DL 6-8pm-CUSA Soccer-FCC 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells-Music Room 7:30-8:30pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary	14 Valentine's Day 10-11:30am-Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6-7:30pm-Fast Track Bible Study-15-C 6-9pm-Volleyball-FCC 7-9pm-Grief Support-P	15 Faith Links Deadline	16
17 9-10am-Sunday School 10-10:30a-Fellowship and Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	18 Presidents' Day No Preschool 2-6pm-Blood Drive-FCC 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-Rm. 5,11,12 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C 7-9pm-Priscilla Circle-P 6:30-9pm-MOF-Room 6	19 1-3:30pm-Dorcas-Par. 6-8pm-Girl Scouts-15-A,B,C-Youth Room 16A 6-7pm-Mission Outreach Team-Library 6-9pm-Magic Volleyball-FCC	20 10 AM- Bulletin DL 6-8pm-CUSA Soccer-FCC 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells-Music Room 7:30-8:30pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary	21 10-11:30am-Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6-7:30pm-Fast Track Bible Study-15-C 6-9pm-Volleyball-FCC	22 Washington's B.D. 5:55-7:30pm -Volleyball-FCC	23 9am-2pm-Cub Scout Derby-FCC 5-9pm-Double I-FH-A/Kitchen
24 9-10am-Sunday School 10-10:30a-Fellowship and Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	25 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-Rm. 5,11,12 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	26 6-9pm-Magic Volleyball-FCC 6:30-8:30pm-Leadership Meeting-Room 6 6:30-9:30pm-Ad Board Council-Room 6	27 10 AM- Bulletin DL 6-8pm-CUSA Soccer-FCC 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells-Music Room 7:30-8:30pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary	28 10-11:30am-Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6-7:30pm-Bible Study-15C 6-9pm-Volleyball		