

August 2019

Rev. Andy Wagner Rev. John Guliano
937-372-7601 office@fcum.org www.fcum.org
Sunday Worship
9:00-10:00 Sunday School
10-10:30-Coffee and Fellowship

that church. We are an itinerate ministry. Who knows where I will be next? So I like to envision what it would be like to live and serve wherever I happen to be passing through.

10:30-11:30-Worship in Sanctuary Attendance

Date	Worship	Sun. School
June 23	133	41
June 30	155	43
July 7	138	43
July 14	125	46

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

One of the things I do as a United Methodist clergy person is, whenever I'm driving through a town and see a United Methodist church building, I take a good look at the building and the town around it and imagine myself as the pastor of

I remember a number of years ago visiting Xenia on a couple of occasions. Once to ride the bike trail with one of my sons. Once to take both of my boys to the train show. I always thought Xenia was a nice town and would be a great place to live and serve. I also remember back in the day when I saw Rev. Brad Olson's announcement that he was being appointed to Xenia. I think I was a bit jealous. I know, pastors aren't supposed to get jealous of one another, but there it is.

So I guess it should have come as no surprise to me that as I was driving into town for my first meeting with the Staff Parish Relations Committee it felt like coming home. And now it *is* home!

You all have been so wonderful in welcoming me and my two boys, Nathan and Zachary. Xenia will kind of be a second home to them. They will continue to live in and attend West Carrollton School during the school week, but they are with me most weekends so this will certainly be their church home. And I could not have asked for a better family of faith to bring them into.

Please be patient with me as I continue to struggle with names. You have been patient and understanding thus far, and I promise, I will get it eventually. And don't hesitate to let me know whenever someone needs a visit or a prayer. I love visiting with people, hearing their life journeys, and knowing how I can best be in prayer and of service for them and for you.

I'm very excited about the future of Faith Community Church and I'm thankful that I get the privilege of being on this journey together with you.

Blessings, Pastor Andy



Stephen Ministry

Why Are We So Reluctant to Ask for Help?

"I can do it myself!" An angry toddler screamed and pushed away her parent who was trying to help her. "I can do it myself!" How many of us have observed a similar scenario? How many of us may have even been the screaming toddler? As adults we can still have this stubborn attitude of "I can do it myself." Over the many years I have been a part of Stephen Ministry, I have witnessed more than a few refusals of help—polite refusals—but refusals nevertheless. The refusal often comes as "I don't want to be a burden," "You must have people who need help much more than I do," or "It's not so bad; I'll be fine."

What is behind this reluctance? Pride, fear of losing control, or shame might be part of the reason even when the help is needed and certainly could be beneficial. Maybe we can do it ourselves, but why should we when we don't have to?

We have all heard the expression that it is better to give than to receive. I believe the reverse is true more often than we might realize. As my neighbor reminds me if I am the least bit reluctant to accept something she's offered, "Don't take away my blessing." It is important for us to be gracious receivers as well as gracious givers.

It takes courage and humility to ask for help. We are called to be a blessing to others. It is not a one-way street. When we accept care we are engaging in God's work too. We are honoring the one offering help. Relationships develop and deepen. There are times when all of us need help and then there are times when we can offer support.

At Faith Community we have many opportunities to give and to receive. Stephen Ministry is one. Stephen Ministry provides confidential, Christian, one-on-one care for as long as is needed. To learn more about Stephen Ministry and how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, contact Becky Cultice, 937-376-5747.

As part of our desire to care for one another, we want to know if you or someone you know would appreciate a visit. If there is someone in the hospital, nursing home, or unable to get to church, please let the church office know—937-372-7601. Our Nursing Home Visitation contact person is Sharon Sherer—937-372-2204. Have you heard about our Casserole CARE-a-van? It's a meal ministry that's been launched recently. Contact person: Julie Wickline—937-207-8289 or wicklinecasa@aol.com. Grief Support meets the second Thursday of every month at 7 in the church parlor. Contact person: Sandy Pramer—937-307-3619.

In each of these cases, there is an opportunity to give as well as to receive. We all have seasons in our lives when we can share our time and our talents. If you are in a position to

help in any of these areas, we would welcome hearing from you. We are family and as family we want to support one another as much as we can. As the song by Jars of Clay suggests, “They’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love”—the love we receive as well as the love we give.

United Methodist Women

Faith Community United Methodist Women invites all the ladies ages 5 and over for an afternoon tea party to celebrate the 150 years of United Methodist Women. So put on your party clothes, don your hat, find your gloves and boas and join us on Saturday, September 14 from 3 to 5 pm in Fellowship Hall. Obtain your ticket at no cost by calling Carol Sykes at 937-825-1916, Dolores Strous at 937-372-5078 or Ann Ledbetter at 937-372-5733. Reservations close Sept. 4.

COME ONE COME ALL AUGUST 19, 2019 PICNIC / CARRY-IN – SPONSORED BY THE MEN OF FAITH AND UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Men of Faith and the United Methodist Women’s August 19th event will be a cookout at the Historical Society beginning at 6:30 PM. The men will furnish the hamburgers, hot dogs, paper plates and plastic ware. The women will furnish the drinks and condiments. We are inviting all the members of the Church to attend. Bring a dish to share and come and enjoy the evening with us. Tour of the facility will also be available. Please call William (Brownie) Brown (372-7373) if you plan to attend, so we can plan the quantity of food for the meal. Everyone is welcome and you can bring a friend. Hope to see you on the 19th.

The MOF garden is growing well. It is laid away until harvest of tomatoes and corn. If you are interested in helping to harvest, let me know. We will be picking 3 days a week and all produce goes to Xenia Fish Pantry or Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). If interested in helping, call John Sherer at 372-2204 or email at shererjw@aol.com.

The Men of Faith are considering a Lake Erie fishing trip sometime between mid September and mid to late October. Yellow Perch fishing will be at it's height during this time period. The trip can be three days or shorter if that is what the majority wants. Lodging costs during the week will be minimal. The house is on the lake and has 7 beds. Location is the Port Clinton/Oak Harbor area. Two boats will be available for those who sign up first; others could use charter boats. If interested contact Fred Whitican [937/272-1889.

Mission Moments

Fish Food Pantry will be hosting their First Fund Raiser, Friday, Aug. 9,2019 from 5-7 at the Adult Rec Center. Menu will include Spaghetti, Mexican Chicken, Salad, Garlic bread, Melon Salad and Homemade Desserts all for a donation.

HOW Can FCUMC help? VOLUNTEER!! Servers will be needed as well as clean up and people to help carry trays for those needing help.

MAKE HOMEMADE Desserts such as: cakes, pies, cookies, or brownies. All desserts need to be at the Rec Center between 3-4 on Friday, August 9th.

For more information contact: Cinda Elliott 937-884-7020; Gail Matson 937-219-3628 (Fish Board President) Mike Reeves 614-361-9504

Current Needs at Xenia Fish Food Pantry: Mayo, Oil-vegetable or canola, Flour, Sugar, Ketchup (kids are requesting).

Sunday School Kick Off

Mark your calendars for Sunday September 8 for our Sunday School Kick Off. We will begin with a breakfast which will be served from 8:45 to 9:15. Plans are a bit sketchy right now but we will need help preparing the breakfast and clean up. If you can volunteer please contact Virginia Pinkerton or Joyce Smith. Plan to invite some one to this special day.

Coffee Time

A huge thank you to Janie Williamson, Diane Cushwa, Bev Smith, Vicki Beegle, and Nancy May for serving as hostesses in June. Nice job, Ladies. July was hosted by the Priscilla Circle, and August will be the Stephen Ministers of our church. We are so blessed to have so many willing workers. If you have never been to our coffee time come down the hall to the fellowship rooms at 10:00 each Sunday and meet some new people. Thank you to all who are making this a success. Questions? Call Virginia Pinkerton

Faith Community Preschool

There are still a few spots left for our 2019/2020 school year. If you know anyone looking for a preschool have them either fill out the forms on www.fcum.org or call the preschool at (937)372-8757. There will be an Open House Tuesday, August 27, 10am-2pm and 6pm-8pm. Come meet the teachers and check out the classrooms!!!!

Bridges of Hope

Bridges of Hope is now open. They need the following items which can be placed in the basket under the bulletin board in the church entry: bottled water, sugar, breakfast foods (e.g. bars, cereal, etc.), coffee. They are also requesting fast food meal cards (\$5 each) they can use for rewards. Please see Char Lee or Cheryl Vahle to donate cards or money. Nightly meals can be donated using Sign Up Genius

and volunteers for assembling bunk beds and other activities, as well as overnight hosts are needed.

Greene County Adult Concert Band

Sunday August 4, 3:00 P.M. in the sanctuary
everyone invited. No charge

Ev-

Thank You

We need to pause a moment to thank Joyce Smith and Betsy Murray for all their hard work and dedication in preparation for Bible School. It was a blessing to many. They worked for weeks to put together a great VBS.

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The Trustees would like to thank all those who in any way helped to prepare the parsonage for Pastor Andy's arrival. Whether you are a trustee or not, your physical or monetary help was greatly appreciated. Through your prayers and support, many hands made the work lighter.

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Thank you so much for your part in making the Care-A-Van happen. The meal provided when I got home from the hospital was so much appreciated and also delicious! Thank you for my "family of Faith." ~~ Elaine Hughes

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Dear Faith Community,

FISH Food Pantry thanks you for your contribution. Whether your gift was food items or monetary donations, it was welcomed and put to good use. Each dollar provides 5 lbs. of food and helps an increasing number of families in need.

Dear FCUM,

Thank you very much for your donation to Bridges of Hope. Your gift allows us to reach out to those in need and provide a safe place for them.

Many Blessings, Amanda Bailey, Shelter Admin.

Passings

Prayers and Sympathy to Bill and Sally Brown on the passing of Bill's sister-in-law; family and friends of Elwood Baker on his passing; family and friends of Bonnie Payton on her passing.

FCUM Financial Standing

June Income	\$45,826		Year-to-Date Income	\$244,908	
June Expenses	\$29,876		Year-to-Date Expenses	\$217,459	
Difference	\$15,950	34.81%	Difference	\$27,449	11.21%

**Deadline for September Faith Links:
Friday, August 16**



Best wishes for a happy and successful
2019-2020 School Year!

Ohio Festival of Sharing

September 14 from 9:am to Noon.

Please have your kits in the church by September 11. There is something new this year as 50 school kit bags have been placed in the Narthex. There will be a printed paper attached with the needed contents for each bag. Carol and Scott Jenkins [FOS board members] will be taking the kits to the Festival. If there are any questions please contact them at 937-372-1372.

School Kits

*One pair of blunt scissors removed from the pkg. (rounded tip, only)

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

*One 30-centimeter / 12" ruler

*One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the pkg.

*One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)

*Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers, removed from the package

*One box of 24 crayons (only 24)

*One 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with handles (solid color or kid-friendly fabric, no logos, reusable shopping bags or backpacks) **50 bags have been placed in the Narthex.** \$2.00 processing fee per bag.

Hygiene Kits

*One hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber)

*One washcloth

*One wide-tooth comb removed from the package

*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

\$2.00 processing fee per bag.

Shoes 4 the Shoeless

Dear Faith Community,

Once again we have an opportunity to serve our community with the Shoes 4 the Shoeless outreach ministry. Over the years, this ministry has provided new gym shoes, new socks, and Bibles to over a thousand children through your giving and service. Thank you God. We are now planning for our fall outreach. If you would like to be a part of it here are some dates to keep in mind:

August 3, 9 am – Devotions; 10-12 Noon – Measuring

August 4 – Names of children needing shoes available in Narthex

August 11 – Return shoes purchased for a blessing during worship.

August 16 – Set up for August 17 Fitting Day.

August 17 – 9am Devotions; 10-12 Noon – Fitting Day

If you unable to work with the children and would like to help, please consider one of these options:


*Sponsor a child by purchasing shoes. Take a child's name, buy the gym shoes during the week and return shoes by August 11.

*Financial donations are used to purchase Bibles and fulfill special needs. Every dollar benefits the children. Checks are made payable to the church marked Shoes 4 the Shoeless.

Questions – contact Sandy Pramer 937-307-3619



August 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 1:15-3pm-Planning Committee-15A 6	2 9am-11am-Set up for Shoes 4 Shoeless-FCC	3 9am-Devotions 10-Noon-Measuring for Shoes 4 the Shoeless-FCC
4 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary 3pm-Greene County Concert Band-Sanctuary	5 6:30-8:30-Cub Scouts-15A&B, #5,11,12 7-8:30 -Boy Scouts-15C 7-9pm-Stephen Ministry-Library	6 4:30-6pm-SPRC-#6 8:30pm-Trustees-#6	7 Bulletin Deadline	8 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 12:30-1:30pm-Membership Care Meeting-Rm. 6 7-9pm-Grief Support-Parlor	9	10
11 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary Shoes4theShoeless Blessing	12 6:30-8:30-Cub Scout Mtg.-15A,B,rms. 5,11,12 7-8:30 -Boy Scouts-15C	13 4-5pm-Worship Design Team-Pastor John's Office 6pm-8:45pm-Girl Scouts Leader Meeting-15A&B	14 Bulletin Deadline	15 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 7-8:30pm-Common Cup Council-15A	16 Faith Links Deadline	17 9am-Devotions 10-12Noon-Fitting of Shoes
18 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	19 6:30-8:30-Cub Scout Mtg.-15A,B,rms. 5,11,12 7-8:30-Boy Scouts-15C 6:15pm-MOF & UMW Picnic at Historical Society	20 9am-8pm-2019 MIV 1-On-1 Host Churches-Parlor 6:15-7:15pm-Mission Outreach Team-Library	21 Bulletin Deadline	22 10-11:30 -Bible Study-P 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	23	24 5-9pm-Double I-15A
25 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	26 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A,B,C 7-8:30-Boy Scouts-15C	27 6:30-9:30pm-Ad Board Council-Room 6	28 Bulletin Deadline	29 10-11:30 -Bible Study-P 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	30	31