

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

Attendance

Date	Worship	Sun. School
July 21	172	47
July 28	134	44
August 4	142	54
August 11	130	47
August 18	140	41

From the Pastor

Some of you have heard a rumor about me, and I am pleased to announce that the rumor is true. I am engaged to be married! (If there are other rumors floating around about me I categorically deny them.)

Some of you have had the opportunity to meet Lora, my fiancée. She has attended worship here at Faith Community a couple of times. She hasn't been able to be here every Sunday because she currently lives on the west side of Cincinnati, almost an hour and a half drive away. But she looks forward to moving into the parsonage with me following our wedding and becoming an active part of this community.

Lora has two sons, John (14) and Adam (12). They will continue in their current schools and will be here in Xenia with us on the weekends, just as my two boys are. She also

has an adult daughter, Mina, who lives in Columbus and is a graduate of The Ohio State University.

Our wedding will be on Friday, November 29, 2019. Yes, the day after Thanksgiving. We'll be getting married at Rolling Meadows Ranch in Lebanon, with Lora's pastor conducting the service. Lora is a committed Christian and has been very active in her current church, so we are pleased that her pastor of many years will be marrying us.

One of the things that I love most about Lora is the strength of her faith. Actually there are too many things that I love about her for me to list, but truthfully, her faith is first and foremost. I know she is going to be a great partner to me not just personally but also in my calling and as a part of this church. So next time she's able to be here with us, I hope you will greet her warmly, just as so many of you already have.

Blessings, Pastor Andy



Stephen Ministry

“Stephen Ministry is Christ caring for people through people.”

Well-meaning friends and family members rally around us to help when they sense they are needed. When painful feelings surface over the loss of a loved one, a divorce, news of an unexpected diagnosis, or feelings of hopelessness with life experiences overwhelm us, these very dear, well-meaning friends and family members may offer advice.

Words of a sympathetic friend: “I know just how you feel.”

YOUR THOUGHTS: “NO, I DON'T THINK SO.”

Advice from a family member: “Isn't it time you move on?”

YOUR FEELING: “BUT I CAN'T.”

Advice from a dear friend: “Forget about it. Just let it go.”

YOUR RESPONSE: “I TRY AND TRY BUT I JUST CAN'T!”

Eventually those friends and family members are ready for you to just get on with living, but you are still experiencing feelings of loss, despair, or anxiety.

When life events put a strain on you and you need someone to listen to you, to pray with you, and to be with you, consider partnering with a Stephen Minister. A Stephen Minister and you will meet regularly, usually weekly. A Stephen Minister does not give advice but provides Christian support. Challenges are part of life. In Romans, Paul provides hope and reassurance.

*If God is for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31
For I am sure that neither life nor death, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8: 38-39*

Consider the benefit of Christian support.

Faith Community UMC has Stephen Ministers available to be present with you if you need someone to walk along with you on your journey, to share a burden with which you are struggling, or to provide a listening ear. Take the first step. Just reach out to our pastors or our referrals coordinator, Becky Cultice, 937-376-5747.

Renovations Coming!

Due to renovations in the chapel, narthex and office area there will be limited access to the church the week of September 9th. Hopefully the office will open by Thursday of that week. All messages left on the recorder will be addressed and/or forwarded accordingly. If you have activities or programs that week, please check with the person in charge as to if or where you will meet. The Trustees thank you for your cooperation.

United Methodist Women

Faith Community United Methodist Women invite 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.

CIRCLES

Lydia: Wednesday, September 11, 7-8:30pm, Parlor

Dorcas: Tuesday, September 17, 1-3:30pm, Parlor

Priscilla: Monday September 16, 7-8:30pm – Parlor

Men of Faith

ATTENTION ALL MEN: The Men of Faith meet on the third Monday of each month in 2019. Meetings will be held in youth room B. 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 16th.** Come at 7:00 if you only want to attend for the program.

The program for this meeting will be a report by John Sherer on the outcome of the Lakeside Conference that was held in June.

Nursery Care

Faith Community is in need of volunteers to staff the nursery when Katie Smith (current nursery care provider) is not available. The SPRC is not asking for anyone to volunteer for a fixed schedule but rather to be willing to fill in as needed. To this end, we would like volunteers to be on a “call

list” in the event that nursery support is needed. If help is needed, we will contact you to determine if you are available. Volunteers may be asked to help only a few times each year if at all. If you would be willing to be on a nursery care “call list” please send your name and contact information to anyone on the SPRC or to Wayne Cook; in person or by voice or text at 937-479-8020 or email at wlcook47@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for your support!

Preschool

Preschool will start after Labor Day!! Tuesday September 3rd for our Busy Bears and Super Stars, and Wednesday September 4th for our Learning Leopards.

Sunday School Kick Off Breakfast

Sunday, September 8 will be our Sunday school Kick off. We will be serving breakfast from 8:45 until 9:30 am. We want you all to join us for a breakfast of baked eggs, bacon, breads, cereal and juice. Following breakfast, the children will be dismissed to their class for a short Sunday school, Adults May go to class or stay and visit in the dining area. There will be no coffee time from 10 to 10:30 that day. We will be happy to serve you breakfast.

Confirmation Classes

Classes for Middle School and High School students will begin this fall. Please call Debbie in the church office 937-372-7601 to be put on the list. We will create a schedule once we know how many students we will have.

Bazaar

The Mission Committee is beginning to plan for the Bazaar which is November 8-9. We will need help in setting up, making ham loaves, baking cookies, pies, advertising, gathering donations and other activities the weekend prior and through the Bazaar. If you are interested in helping with any activities or want more information, please contact Char Lee at 937-974-1002.

Fish Food Pantry

The following are FCUM donations to Fish food pantry:

January	10 lbs
February	64 lbs
March	21 lbs
April	19 lbs
May	14 lbs
June	0
July	211 lbs
Total	399 lbs to date

Keep up the good work. Items can be placed in the tub in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

Sharon Sherer

(For the month of September they are in need of salad dressings: Ranch, Italian, French or 1000 Island. Also need flour, sugar, oil to help with baking needs for fresh vegetables that are being collected.)

Bridges of Hope homeless shelter in Xenia is in desperate need of water for their guests. Their air conditioning is not yet working and it is very hot at the facility. There is space under the bulletin board in the church entrance where you can leave donations or contact Char Lee at 937-974-1002.

FCUM Financial Standing

July Income	\$26,758	Year-to-Date Income	\$271,667
July Expenses	\$40,185	Year-to-Date Expenses	\$257,644
Difference	(\$13,427) -50.18%	Difference	\$14,023 5.16%

Passings

Our church family extends prayers and sympathy to family and friends of Laura McMillan; to family and friends of Kaleigh Spahr; to family and friends of Mary Alice Bird; and to Sally Brown on the death of her husband, William (Brownie) Brown.

Ohio Festival of Sharing

September 14 from 9:am to Noon.

Please have your kits in the church by September 11, There are school bag kits in the Narthex with a list of items needed for each bag. Questions? Call Carol and Scott Jenkins at 937-472-1372.

Will You Need Help Outside Your House This Fall?

Alex Staub has been mowing the church property this summer. He attends college but is looking for more work. Possible things he could do are mowing, leaf cleanup, gutter cleanout, etc. He would charge for his service. If you or someone you know might be interested, call or text him at 937-901-5954 to discuss the job and price.

Shoes 4 the Shoeless


Many thanks to all who helped with providing shoes, socks, bibles, and other items to 288 children during our recent outreach ministry. We appreciate those who served by measuring, fitting, providing snacks, purchasing shoes, and/or making monetary donations.

What a blessing this mission is to not only the children of our community but to our church as well.

**Deadline for October Faith Links:
Monday, September 16**



September 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	2 LABOR DAY Office Closed 6:30-8:30-Cub Scouts-15A&B, #5,11,12 7-8:30 -Boy Scouts-15C 7-9pm-Stephen Ministry-Library	3 4:30-6pm-SPRC-#6 6-8:45pm-Girl Scouts-FH, A-C, Youth room 16-A 8:30pm-Trustees-#6	4 Bulletin Deadline 4:30-6pm-SPRC-#6 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells 7-8:30pm-Chancel Choir-Sanctuary	5 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 1:15-3pm-UMW Planning Committee Mtg.-15A	6	7
8 9-10:15am-Sunday School Kickoff Breakfast-Fellowship Hall 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	9 Carpet Installation- All Week 6:30-8:30-Cub Scouts-15A&B, #5,11,12 7-8:30 -Boy Scouts-15C	10 6pm-8:45pm-G.S.Leader Mtg.-FG15A,B	11 Bulletin Deadline 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells 7-8:30pm-Chancel Choir-Sanctuary 7-8:30pm-Lydia-15A	12 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 12:30-1:30pm-Membership Care-Room 6 1:15-3pm-UMW Planning Comm.-15A7-9pm-Grief Support-Parlor	13 9-12pm-Tea Setup-FH	14 3-5pm-UMW Tea Fellowship Hall 
15 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	16 Faith Links Deadline 6:30-8:30-Cub Scout Mtg.-15A,B,rms. 5,11,12 6:30-9pm-Men of Faith-Room 16B 7-8:30 -Boy Scouts-15C 7-9pm-Priscilla-Parlor	17 1-3:30pm-Dorcas-Parlor 6pm-8:45pm-Girl Scouts-FH15A-C, 16A 6:15-7:15pm-Mission Outreach Team-Adult Lib.	18 Bulletin Deadline 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells 7-8:30pm-Chancel Choir-Sanctuary	19 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	20	21
22 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	23 6:30-8:30-Cub Scout Mtg.-15A,B,rms. 5,11,12 7-8:30-Boy Scouts-15C	24 6:30-9:30pm-Ad Board-Room 6	25 Bulletin Deadline 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells 7-8:30pm-Chancel Choir-Sanctuary	26 10-11:30 -Bible Study-P 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	27	28 5-9pm-Double I-15A
29 9-10-am-Sunday School 10-10:30am-Fellowship & Coffee 10:30-11:30am-Worship-Sanctuary	30 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A,B,C 7-8:30-Boy Scouts-15C			