

## August 2020

Rev. Andy Wagner

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 Coffee and Fellowship

10:30-11:30 Worship in Sanctuary

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

### From The Pastor

What a great month it has been at Faith Community! Being together on Sunday mornings once again has been a tremendous blessing to me. I pray it has been a blessing for all of you who have been able to return thus far. I think our return to in-person worship has gone as well as we could possibly have hoped. Thank you to everyone who has spent so much time and effort making preparations. And thank you to all of you who have been so cooperative about our distancing policies and our need to wear masks at this point. Your willingness to make some personal sacrifices for the sake of one another and of worshipping in community is a testament to Christian love.

Having two services on Sunday mornings has allowed us to have space for everyone. Over this next month, we will look at how we can accommodate even more people on Sunday mornings as more and more people are ready to come back, or to join us for the first time! It has been a wonder to me how evenly the congregation has divided between the 9:00 and 11:00 services. We do want to keep in mind, though, that while we worship at two separate hours, we are still one congregation, one faith community.

During the month of August we will continue to enhance the Sunday morning services and begin having discussions about the next stages of opening back up. Things such as reintroducing a Sunday school hour, children's ministry, and moving back into the sanctuary will be items for discussion. Please be patient with us, though, as we move through these times. We need to be especially attentive as schools reopen next month and we see what the impact will be and how these things can best be done in the safest manner possi-

ble. My prayer is that our congregation will be a model to our community of both faith and prayerful discernment.

Please continue in prayer for one another, especially for those who worship at a different hour or continue to worship at home. Continue in prayer for those who continue to be isolated through these troubling times. Continue in prayer for our schools, our teachers, and our families, all facing difficult decisions this fall. Continue in prayer for me and for all of our church leaders as we seek to be faithful servants and to spread the gospel throughout Xenia and beyond.

Blessings, Pastor Andy

### Online Services

For those who have not yet returned for in-person worship, or for those who like to share our worship with others, the Sunday morning service is posted each week on-line. It takes a few hours to edit and post, but is usually available by late Sunday afternoon. You can find the service by going on YouTube.com and searching Faith Community United Methodists. It is also posted on the church website, [www.fcum.org](http://www.fcum.org).



### Stephen Ministry

a While it may be summer and some groups are taking it little slower, know that your Stephen Ministers aren't. We are available as always to walk alongside you during a difficult time. We never are "on vacation." If you or anyone one you know needs a compassionate listener to help you get through a challenging time, please contact Becky Cultice at 937-376-5747.

While you may not feel the need for the one-on-one care of a Stephen Minister at this time, you or someone you know may benefit from the resources available in the Stephen Ministry section of the adult library. Check them out—literally and figuratively.

For further information about Stephen Ministry or requests for specific types of resources, contact Becky Cultice, 937-376-5747.

### Thank You!

The Trustees would like to thank the almost 25 people who showed up to help begin the process of clearing the area to the North of the parking lot. Many returned on Tuesday for day two and several have committed to continue coming on Monday mornings

until the job is done. A special thank you to the Fleming family who provided several pieces of equipment as well as their physical help. We could not have done it without them. In addition, Joyce Smith and Betsy Murray took care of getting everyone fed. If anyone is interested in helping on Monday mornings, contact Scot Jenkins or Margaret Stidham for information. Again thanks for the support.

The Trustees would also like to thank the people who donated to the purchase of the new door mats. It took a while to get them ordered but the end product was worth the wait. It is our intent that by having them we will make entrance into our building more welcoming and also they will serve as another way to help protect the new carpet which we had laid last summer. We hope you will notice them the next time you enter the building.

### **Shoe Program**

Yes, there is going to be a shoe program, No it's not going to be the same! On August 15, 2020 Kris Horlocker is coming with shoes, socks and volunteers to help us measure and fit children who arrive needing shoes. We will provide the Bibles. Because of Covid 19 restrictions we will not be having snacks, clothes or cards for the kids to make. We will be wearing masks and have cleaning materials to use between fittings. Nine to noon are the times for anyone interested in volunteering for this event. Please contact Sandy Pramer at 937-307-3619 if you can help on that day. Parents are being asked to come from ten to eleven. They will stay in their cars until it's time for them to come in, one or two families at a time.

We are excited about being able to provide this mission service thanks to the help of Kris and her volunteers. Faith Community still has a "shoe closet" which is giving shoes to those in need throughout the school year. If you wish to make a donation to the Shoes4theshoeless program you can still do that.

Thanks,  
Sandy Pramer

### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar each Sunday enhance the worship experience and remind us of the beauty of God's world. Many of you have signed up to provide these flowers for our worship services throughout the year. We were not in session for approximately

twelve Sundays. If you had signed up to provide flowers for one of the Sundays that we were not in session, and would like to choose another Sunday there are dates still available this calendar year.

We also are accepting donations for the flower fund which supplies the flowers on Sundays that have not been sponsored. You can simply put flower fund in the memo line of your check. Please contact the office if you would like to select a Sunday.

## Passings

Prayers and Sympathy to Blan and Evelyn Mash on the death of their son-in-law, Harold Price; to Jeannette (Tom) Esterline on the death of her father Lewis Anderson; and to family and friends of Marti Supp on her death.

## United Methodist Women

Dorcas Circle will meet Tuesday, August 18, 1pm- Room 15-A

## United Methodist Men

**ATTENTION ALL MEN - YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US**

The typical August meeting is a cook out/carry-in at the Historical Society with the MOF and UMW. Due to the current situation it has been cancelled. We will have our regular meeting instead on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The meeting time will be 6:00 PM in rooms 16 A&B. Each person will bring their own meal and beverage. We will have a social time during the meal. The short business session will start at 6:30 PM followed by the program presentation that is a video of Dr. David Watson's speech from the Wesleyan Covenant Association Conference last year. Dr. Watson is a New Testament professor at United Theological Seminary. All men are welcome and you can bring a friend. REMINDER: Masks are required inside the church building. Hope to see you on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Festival of Sharing-ShareYour Love

It is time to think about Festival of Sharing Kits. Our collection provides kits here in Ohio and across the nation to respond to the Covid19 pandemic, tornadoes and floods, the Ohio Food Bank, floods in Michigan, tornadoes in Nashville and our own Memorial

Outbreak last year. The need for school kits beyond our local schools is great this year.

Our Festival is the only one occurring this year and it is projected to provide half of the needed items for the Church World Service.

The sales for school items are beginning. We have bags that have been sewn by a special lady here in our own church. Please do not forget about the health kits. They are simple to do and are very important to those who receive them in emergencies.

If you would prefer to donate funds we would be very willing to shop for you. Please contact Scott or Carol Jenkins 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 pgs. (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" (gertip), 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.

## A Voice for Environmental Stewardship August 2020

During this historic time in America and throughout the world, there is unprecedented opportunity for progress in our relationships with each other and with the Earth! All of us have been impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic directly or indirectly. Our daily lives have changed. As Ohio Governor Mike DeWine has said many times, “We have the responsibility to take care of each other, as we take care of ourselves.” And, as Jesus has said, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Both this pandemic and the conditions of our environment are invisible enemies. We can't see the coronavirus except through the powerful microscopes of medical scientists, but we can see our declining environment with our own eyes, if we have eyes to see it. We can also see the decline in our environment through the lens of the observations and research of climate scientists all around the world.

How we respond to both of these developments in our history is a matter of personal responsibility. If we ignore our responsibility by claiming our rights as Free Americans to do what we have always done, we do so to the serious detriment of EVERYONE.

If we believe the scientific facts of this pandemic and of our deteriorating environment, and take timely, live-saving action, we are on road to recovery. What will we do?

Rev. Alan D. Barone

B.A. Science Education, M. Div., Ohio Certified  
Volunteer Naturalist

## Congratulations to our High School Graduates

Faith Community has six members who all recently graduated from high school. All six are continuing their education. Please keep them in your prayers for good experiences, healthy choices, and constant connectivity to the Trinity as they continue to grow and develop as children of God.

- Ian Ackenhausen -- Plans to attend Ohio Northern University and major in Sports Management

- Megan Ackenhausen – Plans to attend Indiana Wesleyan University and major in Biology
- Jacob Fox – Plans to attend Ohio University and major in Information Technology
- Reese Skaggs – Plans to attend Hobart Institute of Welding Technology to prepare him to be a welder
- Grant Smith – Plans to attend The Ohio State University and major in Mechanical Engineering
- Wes Wickline – Plans to attend The Ohio State University/ATI and major in Agribusiness

Congratulations to all of you. We are excited to keep connected so please keep us updated on how you are adapting to post-high school life.

## Prayer Chain

**WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO BE ON OUR PRAYER TEAM?** We have a Prayer Request link on our website and have prayer requests from the congregation and from the community that are submitted for prayer. The prayer requests are confidential within the prayer team. Everyone on the team is asked to pray for those requests for seven days. The information is emailed to the prayer team so that everyone gets the same information and can pick it up daily at their convenience. If you are willing to try it just go to the church website ([fcum.org](http://fcum.org)), click on the Prayer Request link, then put in your name and email address. In the space for prayer requests you can say that you want to be added to the PRAYER TEAM, then click the SEND MESSAGE button and we will add your email address to the team. You can also email your request to join the team to: [prayer-chain@fcum.org](mailto:prayer-chain@fcum.org). If you don't have access to the internet you can be put on our phone prayer team by calling Bruce Pickelheimer at 937/376-2361

**FCUM**  
**June 2020 Financials**

Monthly Income	\$38,029		YTD Income	\$214,086	
Monthly Expenses	\$29,432		YTD Expenses	\$177,553	
Difference	\$8,598	22.61%	Difference	\$36,533	17.06%

**Deadline for September Faith Links**  
**Monday August 17**

**UNITED METHODIST MEN'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE IS SCHEDULED** for Friday, September 18 and Saturday September 19. Many have already responded with items for the garage sale and we are so appreciative of your support. If you are planning on donating significant items, it would be helpful if you would list those items below. Typical items donated are dishes, glassware, pots, pans, electrical items, pictures, games, toys, bikes, clocks, radios, TV's, garden tools, tools, mowers, & etc. Please no clothing, and please make sure electrical items are in working condition. If you have a garage sale prior to ours and have items left over, call us and we'll arrange to pick up left over items. **Items may be dropped off at the Community Center Thursday, September 17 from 1 to 8 PM, or Friday September 18 from 9 AM -11 AM.** The sale runs from 6 to 9 PM Friday evening and will continue Saturday morning 9 AM to 12 noon. **Pick up of items may be arranged by calling John Sherer at 372-2204.** We have storage for early pickups. Please list major items you plan to donate and put in the offering plate, turn into the church office, or give to John Sherer.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_

**If pick up**

**needed, check this box ( )**

**Your support is greatly appreciated!! Proceeds go for UMM missions and projects.**

## August 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1  10:30-4pm-Directory Photos-FCC
2 9am & 11am Worship-FCC	3  7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C  7-9pm-Stephen Ministry-Library	4  4:30-6:30pm-SPRC-Library  6:30-8:30pm-Trustees-FH-15C	5	6 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor  11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	7	8
9 9am & 11am Worship-FCC.	10  7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	11  8:30-10am-XACCM Meeting-FCC  4-5pm-Worship Design Team-Library	12	13 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 12:30-1:30pm-Membership Care Meeting-16 A-B 7-9pm-Grief-16 A-B	14  9-10am-Shoes 4 Shoeless set up-FCC	15  9-11am-Shoes Shoeless Measure and Pick-up-FCC
16 9am & 11am Worship-FCC	17  6-8:30pm-Men of Faith- 16A&B  7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	18  1-3:30pm-Dorcas Circle-15-A  6:15-7:15pm-Mission/Outreach-FH-15 A&B.	19	20 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor  11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	21	22  5-9pm-Double I Dinner-FH A,B
23 9am & 11am Worship-FCC  30 9am & 11am Worship-FCC	24 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C  31 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	25 6:30-8:30pm-Ad Board-FCC	26  6:30-8:30pm-Ad Board Council-FCC	27 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	28	29