

October 2020

Rev. Andy Wagner

937-372-7601 office@fcum.org www.fcum.org

Sunday Worship

9:00-9:45 Worship in Community Center

10:00-10:45 Sunday School

11:00-11:45 Worship in Community Center

We are a [Stephen Ministry Congregation](#)

Attendance

	<u>9:00</u>	<u>11:00</u>
August 16	44	34
August 23	43	49
August 30	51	44
September 6	42	51
September 13	60	50
September 20	40	47

From The Pastor

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk about them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Deuteronomy 6:5-7 (ESV)

I love to study. I love to read. I love to learn about God's Word. I often get the opportunity to do this on my own. (Actually we ALL get that opportunity if we make the time to do it.) What we don't always get is the chance to study together in community and fellowship. I miss that. I know a lot of you do as well.

It's been six months now (half a year!) since we had to close the church, including worship and Sunday school, due to

COVID19. Three months ago we resumed in-person worship (masked and socially distanced) in the Community Center. You all have been wonderful about following the restrictions that have been in place. We have not had any issues at the church and I believe that everyone who has returned thus far has felt safe. Because of that, we are now ready to take the next step in reopening.

THE RETURN OF SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Sunday school classes for all ages (except for Nursery) are set to resume on Sunday, October 4th, at 10:00AM. By having Sunday school at 10:00AM, folks from both worship services will be able to attend class together, reminding us that we are one church body. October 4th is also World Communion Sunday, so we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion in unison with our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world. What a wonderful morning it will be!

Classes will meet in their normal rooms, but please be mindful to remain socially distanced, just as you do during worship. And masks are required at all times during the classes. Let's continue to be mindful of health concerns and take all the precautions we can to keep each other safe. And let us also follow God's command to build one another up in love, in Christian community, in faith and in knowledge, as we study God's Word together.

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.



Stephen Ministry

**“I will not leave you comfortless. . . .
I will come to you.” John 14:18**

“God won’t give you more than you can handle.” Most of us have heard or said that at some time or another. It is statements such as this that are included in Adam Hamilton’s *Half Truths* which is available in our church library.

According to Hamilton, when one says, “God won’t give you . . .” the implication is that God is responsible for the challenging things that happen to us. God doesn’t give us bad things. While we will face adversity in our lives—things that are more than we can handle, these things are not sent by God but are instead part of the human experience. God walks through them with us.

Hamilton further suggests that scripture doesn’t promise that we won’t go through hard times. What is promised, however, is that God wants to be our help and strength through both the good times and the bad times. Sometimes we face circumstances that are truly more than we can handle. Hamilton contends that if we can move beyond the half truth of “God won’t give you more than you can handle,” it’s more accurate to say, “It’s not that God won’t give you more than you can handle, but that God will help you handle all that you’ve been given.” Sometimes we face circumstances that are truly more than we can handle, and that’s why we may turn to others for help. That help may come in the form of a doctor, counselor, pastor, family member, or friend. Sometimes that help can come in the form of a Stephen Minister. We do not have to experience the tough times alone. Sometimes God brings others into our lives. It isn’t easy to lay our burdens down and ask for help. God knows that we all need to be heard, understood, cared for, and affirmed. Jesus promised that He would not leave us comfortless, that He would come to us in Spirit, and that He would care for us through others.

If you or someone you know is carrying heavy burdens alone right now, consider learning more about having someone

who will walk with you through your hard time—supporting, encouraging, affirming, and praying. For more information about Stephen Ministry, contact Becky Cultice at 937-376-5747.

Care Packages for our College Crew

Did you know that Faith Community currently has 10 college students? Would you like to be involved in providing each of them with a college care package? We will place a collection bin by the doorways of the Community Center to collect any donations that you would like to contribute to this cause and will thankfully take your donations on October 4th and 11th. Some suggested items include crackers and cheese, apples, microwave popcorn, chewing gum, stick-it notes... really anything that would make a college student happy. I could also use some financial donations to purchase additional items, the shipping boxes, and to pay for the mailing. Let's see if we can all work together to remind this crew that their church family is rooting for them, praying for them, and thinking of them while they are at college during the weirdest year in their lives. Questions... call or text Julie Wickline at 937-207-8289. Thank you.

A Voice for Environmental Stewardship

There are many effects of global warming, including record breaking temperatures happening regularly in many parts of the world. In the news right now, new record temperatures of 100 degrees F to 120 degrees F are being frequently reported in our western states, and this phenomenon is happening well before the peak of the wildfire season. California, especially, has been experiencing a 5 year drought, along with record breaking temperatures. It is true that 90% of wildfires are started by people, but the drought adds to the frequency and severity of fires. Fire experts are saying are that inadequate

forest management is contributing to the huge wildfire disaster, but climate change is making the problem much worse.

If we watch television we have seen how many communities have been burned to the ground by the very fast moving fires. People who cannot escape from the flames fast enough are dying.

This is happening right now, but there are long term effects of climate change that we are hearing about. As the ice pack in the Arctic Ocean is melting, the glaciers around the world are melting, the ice shelves in eastern Antarctica are breaking off and becoming massive icebergs in the Southern Ocean, sea levels are rising. Many low elevation island nations are experiencing loss of their land to the sea at an alarming rate.

Continents are not immune to long term sea level rise. Ice scientists are predicting that the world ocean will rise up to 6 feet, sooner than later and will threaten coastal cities around the world, e.g. New York City, Miami, Boston, all the Gulf Coast, Seattle, Mumbai India, and Venice Italy. If you are concerned at all about climate change and its destructive effects, and what we can do about it personally, please get the book *Falter* by Bill McKibben. He is a world renowned educator and environmentalist, who has been writing about climate change for 20 years. He is also a Trustee of United Theological Seminary in Dayton, United Methodist Seminary.

Rev. Alan D. Barone, B.A. in science education, M.Div., an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist

Greetings to All Church Members from the Ad Bd Council

Your church Administrative Board did not meet in August but by the time you receive this message we will have had our Sept 22 meeting. Good news is that Sunday School is returning on October 4th. It will be at 10:00 between the two services. We hope you will join us.

We are hopeful you spent some time this past month remembering other members of the church or friends with cards or phone calls. I did hear a report that about 30 people volunteered with the men's garage sale. Wow! I had another commitment and could not be there but many of you were great helpers and the garage sale was a huge success. Thank you all. I encourage you all to stay safe and walk with Christ.

Sincerely, Virginia Pinkerton

United Methodist Women

Priscilla: Monday, October 19, 7-8:30pm- 15 A & B

Dorcas: Tuesday, October 20, 1-3:30pm – 15 A-C

United Methodist Men

Our regular meeting of the Men of Faith will be on October 19th. 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. Business portion will be naming a Nomination Committee and reports on other new and old business. The program will start at 6:30 PM with a presentation by John Sherer on the Bonner graveyard and reports on the garden and MOF garage sale followed by fellowship. **ALL MEN ARE WELCOME AND YOU CAN BRING A FRIEND.** Hope to see you on the 19th.

REMINDER: MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN THE CHURCH BUILDING.

FCUMM Thanks You For Garage Sale Success

On behalf of the Faith Community United Methodist Men, I want to thank everyone who donated items or gave their time & talents to make our garage sale a success. A special thanks to all the ladies who stepped up to help us men, sharing their time and talents in pricing and organizing the items. We had over 30 volunteers. While at this writing, the preliminary profits for the garage sale is \$3,202.64 and we sold \$2,049.00 worth of furniture over Market Place and Home to Home for a total

income of \$5,251.64. In addition we donated 5 trailer loads and 3 pickup truck loads to Good Will in Xenia. Estimated donations to Good Will is \$1,000+. To God be the glory as we use these funds to further His Kingdom through missions and projects here on earth. For a copy of missions supported with these funds, contact me at shererjw@aol.com.

Sincerely,

John W. Sherer, Chair FCUMM Garage Sale

Passings

Prayers and sympathy to family and friends of Barbara Eckstrand on her death; to family and friends of Mary Lee Holmes on her death; to Carolyn Knight and family on the death of her husband George Knight; and to Marrietta Kolozsi on the death of her husband Richard Kolozsi. (Marrietta is a faithful member of Oldtown UMC and was very involved in Common Cup).

Thank You

As chair of the Memorial Committee of Newark Central Christian Church, I want to thank the FCUM chancel choir for the \$25.00 check you sent us in memory of JoAnn McPeek. She was a long-time member of Central and was always very active in our music programs.

Cynthia Rarick

Dear Faith Community,

Thank you so much for my educational scholarship. It is a blessing to have your support. I am continuing my 2nd year at CO School of Mines studying Biochem. This year I am a freshman Resident Advisor (RA).

Blessings, Alexandra Fellie

Thank you for your example of love, kindness, devotion and inspiration. You have forever blessed my life.

Betty Merrill

I would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers and condolences during the time of my sister's illness. She passed away at Hospice of Dayton with her loving family with her. It has been a terrible ordeal to go through. Thank you again.
Beverly Walton

Deadline for November Faith Links: October 16


A moment of anger can destroy a lifetime of work; whereas a moment of love can break barriers that took a lifetime to build.
 (Submitted by Charles Manley)

**FCUM
 August 2020 Financials**

Monthly Income	\$31,142		YTD Income	\$269,205	
Monthly Expenses	\$28,037		YTD Expenses	\$241,808	
Difference	\$3,105	9.97%	Difference	\$27,397	10.18%



October 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 10-11:30 -Bible Study-16A,B 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-16A,B	2	3
4 9-9:45-Worship-Community Center 10-10:45-Sunday School 11-11:45-Worship-Community Center	5 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	6 4:30-6pm-SPRS-Library 6:30-8:30pm-Trustees-15-A-C	7	8 -11:30 -Bible Study-16A-B 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-16A-B 12:30-1:30pm-Member-ship Care-16A-B 3pm-prep. XHS Football Dinner-FCC & Kitchen 7-9-Grief Support-Narthex	9	10
11 9-9:45-Worship-Community Center 10-10:45-Sunday School 11-11:45-Worship-Community Center	12 ColumbusDay 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	13 4-5pm-Worship Design Team-Library 6-8:45pm-G.S. Leader Meeting-15A	14	15 10-11:30 -Bible Study-16A-B 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-16A-B	16 Faith Links Deadline	17
18 9-9:45-Worship-Community Center 10-10:45-Sunday School 11-11:45-Worship-Community Center	19 6-8:30pm-Men of Faith- 16A&B 7-8:30pm-Priscilla-15-A&B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	20 1-3:30pm-Dorcas-15A-C 6:15-7:15pm-Mission Outreach-15A-C	21	22 10-11:30 -Bible Study-16A-B 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-16A-B	23	24 5-9pm-Double I-15A & Kitchen
25 9-9:45-Worship-Community Center 10-10:45-Sunday School 11-11:45-Worship-Community Center	26 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C Faith Links Printing	27	28 Faith Links mailing 6:30-8:30pm-Ad Bd-FCC	29 10-11:30 -Bible Study-16A-B 11:30-12:30pm-Prayer Shawl-16A-B	30	31 Halloween