



Happy Halloween - October 31, 2021

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Prelude "My Jesus, I Love Thee" arr. by David Hegarty

Greeting/Life of the Church Pastor Andy Wagner

**Call to Worship

L: Listen and hear, all you people of the book! There is one God who created all time and space.

P: Our hope is in God who made heaven and earth. All creatures of the land and sea come from God.

L: You shall love God with all your heart and soul. You shall honor God with all your mind and strength.

P: We will praise God as long as we live. We will sing of God's glory all through our lives.

L: A second commandment is like the first: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: God watches over strangers and widows and orphans. We honor God by honoring these, our sisters and brothers.

**Opening Hymn "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" UMH#569

Opening Prayer (unison)

Reigning God, we have viewed the work of your hands. Where there is justice for the oppressed, we sense your presence. Where the hungry are fed, we know the providers are working with you. You set prisoners free and open the eyes of the blind. You lift up those who are bowed down and sustain the righteous with your love. We worship a God who is living and active. We give thanks that you call us to join the action, to love you and one another more than the rituals of our religion or the satisfaction of our successes. Focus us now on all that is worthy of our praise. Amen.

Prayer Hymn "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" UMH#361

Prayers of the Faithful & the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Worship with Tithes and Offerings Carol Stewart

Offertory "I Love You, Lord" Laurie Klein/Keith Christopher

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication Pastor Andy Wagner

Receive from us, O God, the best we have to give. All we have comes from you. We return a portion with joy to accomplish the work we intend to do together in your name. We bring ourselves as well, to be blessed by you, so that while we are apart our words and deeds will continue to be a significant offering. May our lives praise you! Amen.

Ministry of Music Gene Foiles, piano

Men's Quartet: Pastor Andy Wagner, John Sherer, Wayne Cook, Glen Shaw

**Gospel Lesson Mark 12: 28-34

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sermon "Almost There" Pastor Andy Wagner

**Closing Hymn "The Old Rugged Cross" UMH#504

**Sending Forth

**Postlude "Lovest Thou Me?" Bill Gaither



Monday 1	Cub Scouts	6:00 pm	Rm 15 A-B
	Stephen Ministry	7:00 pm	Library
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	Rm 15C
Tuesday 2	Girl Scouts	6:00 pm	Rm 15A,B,C 16A-B
	Disciple Bible Study	6:30 pm	Rm 6
	Trustees	6:30 pm	Rm 8
Wednesday 3	Cancer Support	12:00 pm	Parlor
	Disciple Bible Study	2:00 pm	Rm 6
	Handbell Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Praise Band Practice	7:00 pm	FCC
	SPRC	7:00 pm	Library
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary
Thursday 4	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Woman's Club of Xenia	1:30 pm	Parlor
	Stephen Ministry Class	6:30 pm	Library
Friday 5			
Saturday 6	Missions Committee	9:00 am	Kitchen
Sunday 7	Traditional Worship	9:00 am	Sanctuary
	Sunday School	10:00 am	Rm 11, 15 C, 16A, Parlor, Library
	Contemporary Worship	11:00 am	FCC
	Boy Scouts Troop 140	5:00 pm	Rm 15 A

Sunday School Studies

Explorers meet in Room 6, Leader Char Lee, study of **"The Jesus You May Not Know" by David Jeremiah.**

Double I meet in 15C, Leader Wayne Cook, 11 week study of **"Romans Chapters 9-16 - Part 2: A New Lifestyle."**

Open Doors meet in Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer study **"The Book of Proverbs."**

Friends & Followers meet in the Library, Leader Chad Mossier.

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 16 A-B, Leader Joyce Smith.

Preschool – Grade 5 Join the children in Rm 11 under the leadership of Kiley Fleming and Karen Mossier for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

ALMOST THERE



Thou art not far from the
kingdom of God.

— Mark 12:34

FAITH
Community

Sharing Faith, Building Community

Rev. Andy Wagner

(937) 372-7601 ext. 13

pastorandy@fcum.org ♦ www.fcum.org

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We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

October 31, 2021

Worship Team

Ushers	United Methodist Women
Liturgist	Sandy Pramer
Acolytes	Will Mossier, Micah Fleming
Organist	Carol Stewart
Bell Director	Jim McPeck
Choir Director	Bob Colaner

Gospel Lesson – Mark 12: 28-34

The First Commandment

²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³² Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; ³³ and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,' — this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Announcements

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE: TREE REMOVAL - HELP NEEDED: The Trustees have made arrangements to remove 3-4 trees on **Monday, November 1**, weather permitting. We are looking for help with this project. If you have a chain saw that is great. If not, your presence and help would still be appreciated. Please contact Margaret Stidham at (937) 768-4503 or mstid1950@woh.rr.com if you are able to help. I will keep you updated as the date gets closer.

CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS: The first Sunday in November is when Daylight Saving Time ends in most areas of the U.S., so we'll "fall back" one hour and return to Standard Time on Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 2 a.m. Be sure to set your clocks **BACK** one hour before you go to bed Saturday night!

BLOOD DRIVE: We will have a blood drive in the Community Center on Monday, November 8, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. You can make a reservation for your preferred appointment time to donate by going to www.donortime.com or (937) 461-3220. Remember that your donation can save as many as THREE lives!

HAM LOAF SALE – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Mission Outreach Committee has decided not to have a Fall Bazaar this year. However we will be selling ham loaves. Orders are being taken now through November 4 for delivery after church on Sunday, Nov. 14. Price is a package of 6 loaves for \$10. Drop your order forms in the box in Narthex or Community Center or Church office or call Char Lee at 937-974-1002. If you would like to help make, package or distribute the ham loaves, please contact Char Lee at 937-974-1002.

BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER: We have had a request for a Birthday Card Shower for Shirley Strous to celebrate her birthday on November 16. Please send Shirley a birthday card to 1533 Marvin Dr., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. Thank you!

CHURCH CONFERENCE: Our annual Church Conference will be held on **Thursday, November 18, at 6:30pm** in the Community Center. The Church Conference is an opportunity for us to review where we are as a congregation and where we are headed. Church Conference will elect the leadership positions and committee members for the upcoming year. All members of Faith Community UMC are invited to attend and have both voice and vote at the Church Conference.

PRAYER SHAWL REQUEST: If there is someone near and dear to your heart undergoing a most difficult time or serious health problem, you may request a prayer shawl for them. Forms will be available in the Narthex and Community Center. Drop a completed form in an offering plate or in the office mail box.

Next Sermon – All Saint's Day - Sunday, November 7

"Transferred Into the Kingdom"
Scripture Lesson

Pastor Andy Wagner
Colossians 1: 3-14

Gospel Lesson – Mark 12: 28-34

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