

May 2022

Rev. Andy Wagner

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

Sunday Worship

9:00 Worship in Sanctuary

10:00 Sunday School

11:00 Worship in Community Center

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Attendance

	<u>9:00</u>	<u>11:00</u>	<u>S.S.</u>
March 27	78	30	37
April 3	80	32	30
April 10	101	43	36
April 17	131	44	---

From Pastor Andy

“Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.”
Hebrews 12:1

I used to hate running. Actually, that’s not entirely accurate. I didn’t exactly hate it; I just believed I couldn’t do it. I still remember junior high gym class where we were all supposed to run one mile. I don’t think I even made it a quarter of a mile before I was completely out of breath and worn out. I gave up and walked the rest of the way. (I wasn’t the first one in the class to do that; some kids didn’t even BEGIN to run!)

From that time on I told myself I could not run. My body wasn't made for it, my lung capacity wasn't right, whatever it was, I just couldn't do it. And I believed that for many years.

In fact, I believed that until I was 39 years old. When I was 39, someone challenged me to run a 10K. I was already trying to get in shape at the time so I decided to do it. I had never run more than a half a mile in my life, and here I was committing to run 6.2 miles! I started training like crazy for the next couple months, and you know what? I did it! In fact, not only did I do it, I loved it! Almost nine years later and I'm still running. I've even run a few Half Marathons. Running a full Marathon is still a dream for me. Sometimes I tell myself I could never do it. But then I remember how for the first 39 years of my life I told myself I couldn't even run one mile, and I think – maybe someday.

May 7, we're having a 5K starting and ending at our own church. We're hosting the **Rock Out for Mental Health Memorial 5K Walk/Run** in memory of Rock McColaugh. I'm excited to be running in it. If you're not signed up to run or walk, I hope that you will at least be a sponsor.

Rock McColaugh was a great guy. Most of you knew him better and longer than I did. None of us got to know him long enough. Some people get to a place where mentally they say to themselves, "I can't go on." I don't understand what all causes that, but I do believe that there are resources that can help a person overcome those moments. This Memorial 5K is going to provide funding for some of those resources so that more people can get the help they need when they feel like they can't go on in life.

Thank you to Rob Smith for dreaming up this event and putting it all together. Thank you to those who are supporting it in any way. Let us continue to pray for one another, to encourage one another, to support one another, and let us continue to run with perseverance the race that is set before us. –Blessings, Pastor Andy

Stephen Ministry

Smiling Costs Nothing But Reaps Rewards

Years ago, one of the assignments I gave my eighth grade students was to randomly smile at 5-10 people that they did not know and to observe what happened next. Inevitably they would report that the person might look confused, but that the other person usually smiled back. Can you remember a time when someone smiled at you and it made you feel better? Have you ever met someone who could make you feel good about life with a smile? Smiles are often unexpected and can have a profound influence on your day. Smiling is contagious. Joy is contagious. So are anger and negativity. But here's the difference—most of us would rather be joyful even if we won't admit it. One Swedish study reports that when researchers showed a picture of a smiling person to a group and asked them to frown, they smiled instead. They had to force themselves to frown!

Mother Teresa was known for her joy and her smile despite the deprivation she confronted every day in Calcutta, and she once said, "Everytime you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing."

Research also shows that good health and peace of mind are fringe benefits for people who smile. Smiling activates endorphins and serotonin, which help relax us, lower our blood pressure, and elevate our mood.

If you or someone you know needs a smile and more during a challenging time, contact Becky Cultice, 937-376-5747 or culticer@sbcglobal.net to learn more about Stephen Ministry. We have care givers who are ready to walk alongside those in need for as long as the need exists.

UMW

CARNATION SALE FOR 2022

Faith Community UMW will be taking orders for carnations for **Father's Day** beginning Sunday, May 29. Carnations will be red in honor of (living) or white in memory of (deceased) the individual(s). Cost will be \$1.50 per carnation. We will be following the same process for Father's Day that we did for Mother's Day. Order forms will be available for pick up in the Narthex, the welcome table in the Community Center and the church office as well as an insert in this newsletter. Orders are to be sealed in an envelope with payment of exact change or check made payable to Faith Community United Methodist Women (FCUMW) and returned to the church office or any of the boxes as listed above. Please mark the envelope UMW Carnation Sale. Orders and payment are to be returned no later than Sunday, June 12. Order forms and drop boxes will be available in the church office Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 3 PM. Last day to drop orders in the church office is Wednesday, June 15. Profits from this sale will go to missions locally, nationally, and internationally.

Circle Meetings

The Dorcas Circle of Faith Community would like to extend a warm welcome to any women of the church thinking about or would like more information about joining a women's circle. We are a service-oriented circle who service with a joyful spirit. We meet the third Tuesday of the month at 1 o'clock at the church. For more information, please call Donna McColaugh at 937-372-1068.

Current Circles: Women of Faith – Monday, May 16, 1-3pm-Room 15C and Dorcas – Tuesday, May 17, 1-3pm-Room 15A&B

UMM

ATTENTION ALL MEN: The Men of Faith will meet on Monday May 16th at 6PM in Room 16A&B (Community Center). All men are invited to join us. Each person will bring their own meal and beverage. We will have a social time during the meal. The program will be an update on Bridges of Hope by Pastor Will Urschel, Board President. A short business meeting will follow at 6:30PM. We hope to see you on the 18th!

Missionary

Sarah Putman, daughter of FCUM's former associate pastor, is serving as a missionary in Romania. The church she works for acquired a hotel in July and turned it into a Community Center for multiple non-profits to work together accomplishing various missions and visions. The facility is currently being used for transitional housing for Ukrainian refugees. The following is a list of prayers suggested by a Ukrainian mother:

- For the people suffering in the occupied cities of Ukraine
- For Ukrainians who have chronic diseases and do not have access to their treatments.
- For warm weather as the cold is complicating everything and causing more deaths.
- For single children fleeing on their own and for children who have become orphans due to this war.
- For the elderly and those with varying disabilities who feel stuck and alone.
- For protection of key people in Ukraine who may have an impact on the end of the war.
- That no parents would see their child die and no children would see their parents die.
- For every Ukrainian person currently separated from family and loved ones to be able to reunite with them and give them a hug once more.

- For means of communication to remain open so that those inside and outside the country can talk to one another and know they are currently safe.
- For continued peace in Romania, Moldova, Poland and our other neighboring countries where people have fled to safety.

A Voice for Environmental Stewardship-May 2022

I just discovered a new book, *The Book of Hope*, by Jane Goodall, the world's most well-known living naturalist. Jane is almost 90 years old (1934). She is most well known for her four decades of work with the wild chimpanzees in the rain forests of the Gombe National Park in Tanzania in East Africa. Dr. Jane Goodall, Ph.D. in Primatology, from Cambridge University, is the one of the scientists of her generation, and earlier generations, who discovered amazing truths about chimpanzees. After decades of living with wild chimpanzees, observing them, being accepted by them, and establishing

interspecies understanding with them, she discovered that they are socially, emotionally and creatively much like humans. She also discovered that they have compassion and empathy, at times much more humane than humans are when we act out our most barbarous behaviors. In the last couple of decades Jane Goodall has spent most of her time tirelessly

teaching and speaking to the U.N., adult organizations and groups of young people all over the world, seeking to remind US that we have a unique obligation to all the creatures with whom we share this planet Earth. To this day she is bringing the messages of peace and hope, and challenges us to make the world a better place for all living creatures. In this most recent book, *The Book of Hope-A Survival Guide for Trying Times*, co-written by Douglas Abrams, with Gail Hudson, she lays out her reasons for hope: The Amazing Human Intellect, The Resilience of Nature, The Power of Young People, and The Indomitable Human Spirit. She delves into the vital questions: How do we stay hopeful when everything seems hopeless? How do we cultivate hope in our children? What is the relationship between hope and action? Jane believes that we

can use our human intellect and our respect for the Earth in order to deal with the very real climate crisis which threatens us and all living things. (I believe that can only happen if we minimize our **IGNORANCE, GREED and UNCOOPERATIVE POLITICS**). In spite of the horrendous things that are happening today: unmitigated global warming and climate change, the inhumanity of what Vladimir Putin is doing to Ukraine and the Ukrainian people, and the alarming increase of animal species that are becoming extinct because of our human impact on them, there is still hope. If we as God's Children take our responsibility to seriously care for this Good Earth, using our amazing intellect and our **GOD-GIVEN COMPASSION**, we can lessen the impact of our human caused climate change and global warming. For me it is a **HUGE SPIRITUAL ISSUE**, that I cannot compartmentalize or blindly politicize but speaks loud and clear to me about **OUR** global warming. For me it is a **HUGE SPIRITUAL ISSUE**, that I cannot compartmentalize or blindly politicize. It is an issue that speaks loud and clear to me about **OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**.

Rev. Alan D. Barone

Prayer Chain

Rosi Mackey (937-902-9022) is our new prayer chain coordinator. We will continue to use the regular prayer chain email but if you call in a request, please contact Rosi. Many thanks to her for taking on this important mission.

Double Baby Shower

SHOWERS FOR BLESSINGS: Ladies, please mark your calendars for **Monday, May 16 at 7:00pm** in the Community Center for the next Showers for Blessings. We are excited to announce a **DOUBLE** Baby Shower. We will be honoring Lauren Kjersten whose baby will be born in June and Juliana Wickline who will be having a baby boy in August. All are invited to attend and if you have any questions, please call Sandy Pramer at 937-307-361

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Because we are part of such a generous and thoughtful congregation, we were able to send 68 seed packets and \$143.00 to the Jackson Area Ministries.

FCUM					
March 2022 Financials					
Monthly Income	\$26,606		YTD Income	\$ 115,737	
Monthly Expenses	\$30,191		YTD Expenses	\$ 89,374	
Difference	\$ (3,585)	-13.47%	Difference	\$ 26,364	22.78%

Deadline for June Faith Links: May 16

Remember those who sacrificed for our freedom.

Manley Proverbs

We think that forgiveness is weakness but it is absolutely not! It takes a very strong person to forgive.

(Submitted by Charles Manley)

VBS 2022



**We are preparing for 2022 VBS. Dates are
June 20-24, 9:30- 12:00.**

**We need many workers in a variety of areas:
Registration, Crafts, Snacks, Classroom Leaders,
Classroom Assistants, Nursery, Recreation,
Photographer, Music and Children to attend.**

**Call Betsy or Joyce if you can join in this
exciting adventure.**

937-372-8376, 937-372-6576

May 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9am-Traditional-Sanctuary 10am-Sunday School 11am-Contemporary- FCC 12-1pm-Educational Assistance Interviews- Parlor	2 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C 7-9pm-Stephen Ministry-Library	3 6-8:15pm-Girl Scouts-15A,B,C; 16 A-B 6:30-8:30pm-Disciple Bible Study-Room 6 6:30-8:30pm-Trustees-Room 8	4 12-1:30-Cancer Support-Parlor 6:15-7:15pm- Handbells-Music Room 7-9pm-Praise Band-FCC 7-8:30pm-SPRC-Library 7:30-9:00pm-Choir-San.	5 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 1:30-4pm-Women's Club of Xenia-Parlor	6 9am-12pm-Set up for Rock McColaugh 5K run/walk	7 9am- Rock McColaugh 5K run/walk
8 Mother's Day 9am-Traditional-Sanctuary 10am-Sunday School 11am-Contemporary- FCC	9 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	10 9am-12pm-Miami Valley Clergy Session-Online Girl Scout Leader Meeting-15-A	11 12-1:30-Cancer Support-Parlor 6:15-7:15pm- Handbells-Music Room 7-9pm-Praise Band-FCC 7:30-9:00pm-Choir-San.	12 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 12:30-1:30pm-Membership Care-Parlor 2-4pm-Grief Support-Par. 7-8:30pm-Christian Ed.-Room 8	13	14 12-4pm-Toward Independence Prom-FCC
15 9am-Traditional-Sanctuary 10am-Sunday School 11am-Contemporary-FCC	16 1-3pm-Women of Faith-15C 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15 A-B 6-8:30pm-Men of Faith-16A-B 7-8:30pm-Baby Shower-FCC 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	17 1-3pm-Dorcas-15 A-B 6-8:15pm-Girl Scouts-15A,B,C; 16 A-B 6:30-8:30pm-Disciple Bible Study-Room 6 (Final Class)	18 12-1pm-Cancer Support-Parlor 6:15-7:15pm-Handbells-Music Room 7-9pm-Praise Band-FCC 7:30pm-Choir-Sanctuary	19 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6:60-8:30pm-Ad Booard Council-Room 15C	20	21
22 9am-Traditional -Sanctuary 10am-Sunday School 11am-Contemporary -FCC	23 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15 A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	24	25 12-1pm-Cancer Support-Parlor 6:15-7:15pm-Bells -M.R 7-9pm-Praise Band -FCC 7:30-9pm-Choir-Sanctuary	26 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	27	28 5-9pm-Double I-15A
29 9am-Traditional -Sanctuary 10am-Sunday School 11am-Contemporary FCC	30 Memorial Day- Office Closed 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15 A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	31 6:30-8:30pm-Disciple Bible Study-Room 6				

THE UMW CELEBRATE THE MEN IN YOUR LIFE CARNATION SALE
RED IN HONOR OF THOSE LIVING
WHITE IN MEMORY OF THOSE WE HAVE LOST
COST: \$2.00 PER FLOWER

CHECKS PAYABLE TO FC UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Please fill out the form below and place it, **WITH PAYMENT**, in a sealed envelope marked **UMW Carnation Sale** and place in the boxes provided in the Narthex or the Community Center, Sunday mornings May 29, June 5 and 12. There will also be a box in the church office to deposit completed forms and payment; drop-off not later than Wednesday, June 15.

NAME OF PERSON ORDERING: (please print) _____

Please **print names below clearly** as they should appear in the Bulletin on Father's Day.

INDICATE/CIRCLE service you attend: 9AM Traditional 11AM Contemporary

In HONOR (Living-RED) _____

Total Red: _____ (Honor/Living)

INDICATE/CIRCLE service you attend: 9AM Traditional 11AM Contemporary

In MEMORY (Deceased-WHITE) _____

Total White: _____ (Memory/Deceased)

Total Number (Red & White) Carnations ordered _____

Total Amount paid _____ **Check** _____ **Cash** _____

Put the completed order form with exact change in a sealed envelope and deposit in the marked boxes. Forms also available in the church office Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM. Last day to order through the office is Wednesday, June 15. **Phone orders will not be accepted. Orders without payment will not be placed.** The carnations will be displayed at the worship services on Father's Day, June 19. The flowers you ordered may be picked up after the worship service you attend. **PLEASE DO NOT PICK THEM UP PRIOR TO THE SERVICE.**