

September 2022

Rev. Andy Wagner
937-372-7601 office@fcum.org www.fcum.org.
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship in Sanctuary
We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Attendance

	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
July 17	86	27
July 24	100	25
July 31	84	25
August 7	98	26
August 14	(Community Worship in the Park)	

From Pastor Andy

“I am the light of the world.” “I am the good shepherd.”

These are a couple of statements Jesus makes about himself in the Gospel of John. More than any other Gospel, the Gospel of John focuses on the divine nature of Jesus, the eternal identity of Christ as being one with God. Seven times in the Gospel, Jesus simply says of himself “I am, recalling the name that God gave for himself in the Old Testament, “I am who I am.”

We are currently in a sermon series on the “I am” statements of Jesus. The series will continue through the month of September. With each “I am” statement we learn a little more about who Jesus is and what he means to us. As we come to better understand his identity, we also come to better understand our identify in him. That is at heart what it means to be a Christian – to stay focused on who we are in Jesus. As we engage in difficult conversations, and as we struggle over issues that divide, may our church continue to keep our focus on Jesus.

Blessings, Pastor Andy

Fellowship Time

Faith Community is currently holding Fellowship time on the fourth Sunday of each month from 10:00 to 10:30. We need volunteers hosts to make it successful! In an effort to make this easy for the volunteers and to encourage participation, we are stressing **KEEP IT SIMPLE!** Coffee, juice, and water will be provided by the church. Snacks will be provided by the volunteer such as cookies, muffins, donuts, etc. Choose only a couple of options per fellowship time. Please consider volunteering as a Fellowship Time host. This can be a ministry team, a Sunday School class, a couple, a family, two families, or individuals working together. It is a great way to get to know folks. The more volunteers, the easier it makes for everyone! There will be a signup sheet on the table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Virginia Pinkerton (yap1222@att.net) or 937-766-5670) or Rhonda Cook (Rhonda.cook@startmail.com or 937-479-8019).

Family Night

Please plan to join us on Sunday, September 18 from 5:00-7:00 for our next Family Night. Family Night is for EVERYONE in the church – we are a church family! The theme is game night and will be a carry-in. We will provide the main dish. Please bring a side to share.

Stephen Ministry

Save the date for Alzheimer's Association Presentation
How many times have you read or seen something about a disease or illness, thought that's interesting, then dismissed it because it wasn't relevant at the time? I know I have. Later, there was a need for that information, but where was it?

Serving as a Stephen Minister involves many responsibilities. One of these is providing helpful information for individuals during stressful times. In the midst of a crisis there is rarely enough time or energy to research potential resources. That's where a Stephen Minister can help.

Twice a year the Greater Dayton Stephen Ministry Network sponsors in-service opportunities. The focus this fall is on the chal-

allenges of dealing with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. A representative from the Alzheimer's Association, Miami Valley Chapter, will offer two one-hour sessions: Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia and Effective Communication. The first presentation will offer information on the detection, causes and risk factors, stages of the disease, treatment, and much more. The second explains that communication is more than just talking and listening. It's also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions, and body language. As people with Alzheimer's and other dementias progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families and friends need new ways to connect. Explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's. Learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

All are invited to attend this free information session on Sunday, October 16 at Fairhaven, 637 Whipp Road, Centerville. Registration begins at 2:15 and the presentation will run from 2:30-4:30. Refreshments will be served. Reminders will follow closer to the time, but usually there is an opportunity to carpool. Please share word of this opportunity with all who are interested or impacted. You won't be disappointed. If you are unable to attend, the Alzheimer's Association provides an extensive number of resources including in-person and virtual support groups and a 24/7 Helpline (1-800-272-3900). Further information is available at www.alz.org. To learn more about this in-service opportunity or Stephen Ministry, Becky Cultice will be glad to talk with you – 937-376-5747 or culticer@sbcglobal.net.

UMW

WOF SPONSORING COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

It's time to begin looking for the "baby booties." Women of Faith is sponsoring a "community" baby shower. "Baby booties" are available for pick up in the Narthex. Each "bootie" will have a baby item for you to purchase and place in the appropriate baskets in the Narthex. One basket will be labeled "Boy," another will be marked "Girl", the third will be marked "Neutral." Items in the baskets will

be distributed to local charities that use such items, such as Family Promise of Greene County (formerly INH). The last day for items in the baskets will be Sunday, September 18.

**CIRCLES: Women of Faith – Monday, September 19, 1-3pm, 15C
Dorcas - Tuesday, September 20, 1-3pm, Parlor**

Men of Faith

ATTENTION ALL MEN: We will meet on Monday, September 19 at 6PM in Room 16-A&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. A short business meeting will follow at 6:30PM. We hope to see you on the 19th.

All Faith Community UMC Members and Friends

Many of you have helped with the Men of Faith Garage Sale in years past. Thank you for your help! We are short-staffed this year and could use your help again. If you have never helped but would like to this year, we would be delighted to have your help. Tasks can be as simple as talking to customers. We also need some strong backs to help with furniture and other heavy items.

Help is needed on Thursday Sept. 8th from 1PM - 8PM to move donations into the Community Center. Friday Sept. 9th from 9AM-6PM we need help with pricing and sorting. Friday evening from 6-9PM and Saturday morning from 9-Noon the Garage Sale will be open to the public. Help is needed with meeting customers, handling sales, and moving items for customers. We will also need help Saturday from Noon until about 2PM moving unsold items to Goodwill.

If you are available any of these times, please contact John Sherer at 937-372-2204 or ShererJW@aol.com or Wayne Cook at 937-470-8020 wlcCook47@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for your support!

Wayne Cook, President, MOF

A Voice for Environmental Stewardship

Almost all of my monthly articles have focused on the science of environmental stewardship and our responsibility to take care of our environment. I have not addressed the spirituality of environmental stewardship. Prayer is a major part of our spirituality. Our spirituality connects us with God, our inner-selves, others, and with nature. In our church we have many areas where we apply the practice of prayer, we have a prayer chain, a prayer tree where we have our private prayer requests hanging in little envelopes, prayer in worship, in our Sunday school classes, during our administrative meetings, and during our personal daily devotions. We pray for many things, but generally we do not think of praying for our stewardship of our Earth's environment. Somehow, for many of us, it doesn't seem like it is in the realm of our spiritual concerns, but from my perspective as a practicing Christian, a student of science, and a naturalist, it is a major spiritual concern.

With many of the things that are happening to the earth, many are caused by human activity. Climate change and global warming are being fueled by our addiction to burning fossil fuels in our vehicles, our current agricultural practices, our choice of food, and our never-ending demand for more and more material goods. These are spiritual concerns because they are directly connected to the daily choices that we make, and our daily choices are connected to our spirituality. Our prayer concerns are connected to our own actions and the actions of our leaders. There are consequences that stem from our behaviors and our behaviors affect our relationship with God. **PLEASE PRAY WITH ME:** Loving, generous and concerned God, help me to be more conscious of what I do every day and how it affects the health of our beautiful Earth, the well-being of other humans and other species that live on the Earth with us. Help me to change my actions and inactions so that I may be a **BLESSING** to our Creator and to our beautiful Earth. **AMEN.**

Rev. Alan D. Barone, B.A. in Science Education,
M.Div., Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist

Shoes for the Shoeless

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make Shoes for the Shoeless a huge success. We gave away 170+ pairs of shoes! Thank you to Priscilla Avery for making an entire rack full of beautiful dresses to give away. Whether you purchased shoes, volunteered your services by baking, measuring feet, fitting shoes, running to get shoes, handing out socks, underwear, bibles or snacks, or assisted in any way, your efforts are GREATLY APPRECIATED! We especially want to thank Sandy Pramer for her many, many hours of hard work and diligence putting the program together, overseeing every step, and running the program all year long. She is truly a blessing to our church.

50 YEARS!

This month Faith Community will be celebrating our 50-year anniversary in this building! For this occasion, Marlene Gifford, our church historian, has been collecting stories from church members. We would like to include a wide variety of stories from those who have been around since before the merger of First and Trinity, and who have come in more recent years. What brought you to Faith Community? In what areas have you been involved? What are some of your favorite experiences with the church? You can write your thoughts and send them to Marlene at mlg1036@yahoo.com or leave them at the church office to her attention.

Festival of Sharing

Ohio Festival of Sharing is September 17 from 9 am to noon. Please have your kits to the church by Sunday, September 11. We will have school kits in the Narthex with a list of items needed for each bag. If you have any questions, please contact Scott and Carol Jenkins at 937-372-1372.

Ladies Bridal Shower

All ladies are invited to a bridal shower for Caitlyn Hoskins (daughter of Crystal Hoskins) on Saturday, September 17, 2002, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Caitlyn is registered at Walmart and Target. Please RSVP to Sandy Pramer, 937-307-3619 or Deb Klaty 937-372-7601.

FCUM
July 2022 Financials

Monthly Income	\$24,422		YTD Income	\$ 235,065	
Monthly Expenses	\$30,209		YTD Expenses	\$ 208,388	
Difference	\$ (5,787)	-23.69%	Difference	\$ 26,678	11.35%

Passings

Prayers and condolences to Mary Ellen Warner and family on the death of her husband Robert Warner, to Tami (Brad) Montgomery) and family on the death of her father John Blair; to Bruce Spitler on the death of his uncle, Ronald Spitler, and to family and friends of Jack Gresham on his death.

Manley Proverbs

Within the power to change yourself is the power to
change the world around you.
(Submitted by Charles Manley)

Deadline for October Faith Links: September 15



UNITED METHODIST MEN'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE is scheduled for Friday, September 9th and Saturday, September 10th. 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, mowers, etc. Please no clothing, and please make sure electrical items are in working condition. Items may be dropped off at the Community Center Thursday, September 8th from 1 to 8 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 937-372-2204. Please list major items you plan to donate and put in the offering plate, turn in to 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 to local missions and MOF projects.

September 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 1:30-4pm-Women's Club of Xenia-Parlor	2	3
4 9:15-10:15- Sunday School-15C, Parlor 10:30-11:30-Worship-Sanctuary	5 Labor Day Office Closed 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	6 6-8:15pm-Girl Scouts-15A,B,C, 16A-B 6:30-8:30pm-Trustees-Room 8 7-8:30pm-SPRC-Lib.	7 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice Sanctuary	8 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 12:30-1:30pm-Membership Care-Parlor 2-4pm-Grief Support 7-8:30pm-Christian Ed.-Room 8	9 6-9pm-UMMM Garage Sale-FCC, FH 15A-C, 16A-C	10 9am-2pm-UMMM Garage Sale-FCC, 15 A-C, 16A-C
11 9:15-10:15- Sunday School-15C, Parlor 10:30-11:30-Worship-Sanctuary 4-5:30pm-Congregational Meeting-Sanctuary	12 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C 7-9pm-Stephen Ministry-Library	13 5:30-7pm-Magic Volley ball Girls practice-FCC	14 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice Sanctuary	15 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6:30-8:30pm-Ad Board Council-15C	16	17 4-6pm-Caitlyn Hoskins Bridal Shower-15A-B/Kitchen
18 9:15-10:15- Sunday School-15C, Parlor 10:30-11:30-Worship-Sanctuary 5-7pm-Family Night-15A-B/Kitchen	19 1-3pm-Women of Faith-15C 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 6-8:30pm-Men of Faith-16A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	20 1-3pm-Dorcas-15A-B 5:30-7pm-Magic Volley ball Girls practice-FCC	21 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice Sanctuary	22 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	23	24 6-8pm-Double I-15A& Kitchen
25 9:15-10:00- Sunday School- 15C, Parlor 10:00-10:30-Fellowship Time-15A-B 10:30-11:30-Worship-Sanctuary	26 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	27 5:30-7pm-Magic Volley ball Girls practice-FC	28 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice Sanctuary	29 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor	30	