

October 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

Sunday Participation

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
August 21	114	19
August 28	117	30
September 4	95	25
September 11	105	30
September 18	118	42

From The Pastor

We just celebrated fifty years of Faith Community United Methodist at 100 Country Club Drive this past month! In worship on September 18, we remembered that first worship service held on September 17, 1972 when Bishop Ensley preached and the building was consecrated. Historical records state that seven hundred people attended that day in 1972. We didn't have quite that many this year. But how cool it was to see at least a dozen members stand who were also present at that consecration 50 years ago and have been members ever since! It is my prayer that United Methodist ministry will continue through our congregation for many generations to come.

For those of you who were present on September 18, 2022 and will still be around in September 2072, this is my charge to you – figure out exactly where all of the time capsules are buried so that they can all be excavated and opened for the centennial celebration!

There has been much discussion at the church over the last several months about whether Faith Community will remain as a United Methodist Church or will disaffiliate from the UMC and join

another denomination. In addition to discussions at several Administrative Board meetings, we also held a couple of congregational meetings to inform the congregation of the issues that are a concern to many.

At the September Administrative Board meeting, the Board decided to table any further discussions related to disaffiliation. This may come as a surprise to many of you who expected that we would soon have a congregational vote. I can tell you that the decision was arrived at prayerfully and carefully and following the clear guidance of the Holy Spirit. The consensus that this is where God is leading us right now was nearly unanimous, with 0 no votes and only 1 abstention.

Those of you who have been following the issue know that disaffiliation requires a two-thirds vote of the congregation. Our Administrative Board, in addition to carefully studying the issues involved, also speaks and listens to you, the congregation. It is clear that there is simply not a large enough desire for disaffiliation within the congregation to justify prolonging what could become an ugly and divisive debate.

The decision to table means that we will not consider the issue any further at this time. It could be brought up for discussion again in the future, but only when the Administrative Board agrees that conditions have changed such that a renewed conversation would be fruitful. For now, it is clear that God is leading us to set this aside and renew our focus as a congregation on offering Christ to our community and to the world.

I said at our second congregational meeting that I was going to lean on the wisdom of the Administrative Board as to where we go from here. It is good to serve with a group of such dedicated Christians who are committed to doing what is best for our church and following God's lead. I truly believe they have done that throughout this entire process. I want to thank all of them, and thank you, the congregation, for the respectful and prayerful manner in which you have handled this most difficult time in our church.

This congregation has been through a lot over the past fifty plus years. You should be proud of the resiliency and faithfulness of this congregation, the way that you always come together to meet any challenge. That is the spirit that will carry this congregation into even better days in the next fifty plus years. More importantly, it is God's

goodness to us that carries us through every challenge. Let us remember to always be grateful to God for the blessing of our church family.

Blessings, Pastor Andy

Stephen Ministry

Save Date for Alzheimer's Association Presentation–Part Two

I am not usually a person who deals with numbers and statistics, but the following caught my attention as I was revisiting information from the Alzheimer's Association.

- In 2021, 6.5 million Americans over 65 were identified with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's. By 2050 that number is projected to reach 12.7 million.
- The projected increase in Alzheimer's patients from 2020-2025 is expected to increase 17.4%-22.6% in Ohio alone.
- 1 in 9 Americans 65 and older has Alzheimer's. Almost $\frac{2}{3}$ of these are women.
- 83% of care comes from family members.
- 30% of caregivers are over 65. Approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ of caregivers are women and over $\frac{1}{3}$ are daughters.
- Most caregivers live with the person they are caring for.
- $\frac{1}{4}$ of caregivers are part of the sandwich generation caring not only for a parent but also for at least one child.
- In 2021 family members and friends provided more than 271 billion dollars in unpaid care. In Ohio, 421,000 caregivers provided 614 million hours of unpaid care estimated to be the equivalent of \$10,051 million.

On an airplane, when they give the lecture about the oxygen mask, we're told to put on our own mask before helping a young child. Caregivers need to remember this. Caregivers have to take care of themselves first. Caregiving is stressful, but caring for someone with Alzheimer's is especially so. Some suggested resources to assist caregivers include:

- The Greene County Council on Aging, www.gcco.org, 937-376-5486.

- “Partners in Caregiving Radio Show,” Real Roots–WBZI,100.3 FM/1500 AM on Thursdays at 6:05. Past programs are listed on the www.gccoa website.
- Alzheimer’s Association, www.alz.org, and free 24/7 Helpline, 1-800-272-3900.
- www.seniorlink.com

All are invited to attend a free information session sponsored by the Greater Dayton Stephen Ministry Network on Sunday, October 16th. Representatives from the Dayton Branch of the Miami Valley Chapter of the Alzheimer’ Association will offer two one-hour presentations–Understanding Alzheimer’s and Dementia and Effective Communication. Registration begins at 2:15 and the presentation will run from 2:30-4:30. Refreshments will be served. Fairhaven is hosting–637 E. Whipp Road, Centerville. 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.

United Methodist Women

**CIRCLES: Women of Faith – October 17, 1-3pm-15-C
Dorcas – October 18, 1-3pm – 15-A,B**

Men of Faith

The Men of Faith will meet on Monday, October 17th 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. A short business meeting will follow at 6:30PM. We hope to see you on the 17th!

A Voice for Environmental Stewardship Herbicides and Pollinator Extinction

Perhaps you have heard about the huge problem that insect pollinators (bees, butterflies, moths, wasps and beetles) and hu-

mans are facing related to the use of a certain herbicides in U.S. agriculture. Pollination is the process by which flower producing food crops can produce a fruit or a nut that we consume as food. As an organic vegetable gardener, I see honeybees, native bees, butterflies, and moths visiting my tomato, green bean, melon, and sunflower flowers. When they visit a melon flower in order to get nectar, for instance, the body hairs of a bee collect pollen. When the bee visits another melon flower in order to feast on its nectar, it inadvertently deposits that pollen on the female part of the flower. Pollinations complete. The pollen on the female part (the pistil) sends a tube down to the base pistil to the ovary and it reaches the ovule. If it works properly, the ovule will grow into a delicious melon. Did you know that 75% of human food crops depend on pollination of some kind in order to produce the food crop that people need. Some crops are wind pollinated like corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye. Some crops depend on a combination of insect and wind for pollination. As agriculture in the U.S has become more dependent on chemicals to maximize crop yields, some farmers have used a herbicide (a weed killer) named Roundup. This particular herbicide is very effective in killing weeds that grow among their crops, but it also kills many pollinators, especially honeybees. Roundup when sprayed on a crop has a sticky substance that will suffocate the honeybee. Also, Roundup contains glyphosate that will kill honeybees and other pollinators. A new study of human blood has shown that 80% of the U.S. population has glyphosate in their bodies. The international Agency for Research on Cancer lists glyphosate as a probable CARCINOGEN. Monsanto Company makes Roundup and It is used in 160 countries of the world as a weed killer. In the U.S. there are a huge number of lawsuits against Monsanto because thousands of people who have used Roundup have developed a variety of cancers after using Roundup. Some of the cancers that have been reported are non-Hodgkins, lymphoma, b-cell lymphoma, leukemia and other forms of cancer. Monsanto has stated in their advertising that Roundup is safe to use. They have falsified documents and concealed information indicating that glyphosate is dangerous to humans and environmental health. Bayer has bought Monsanto and now faces 125,000 lawsuits related to Roundup.

Let us ask God to give us wisdom and courage to hold corporations accountable for the harm that they do.

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

Recital

Dr. John W.W. Sherer (son of John & Sharon Sherer) will perform an organ recital at Westminster Presbyterian church, 125 N. Wilkinson St., Dayton, Ohio 45407. The recital will begin at 12 noon Thursday, October 13th and end at 1 PM with a light lunch provided after the recital for a small donation.

Dr. Sherer grew up in Faith Community UMC and practiced on the FCUMC organ in his high school days. Dr. Sherer is a graduate of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, obtained dual Masters degrees on organ performance and the school of Divinity from Yale, then went on to receive a Doctorate degree from Juilliard School of Music. He is completing his 28th year as Organist and Choral Director at Fourth Presbyterian Church located on the famed Michigan Avenue in Chicago. The recital is free and open to the public.

College Crew

It is Fall Semester for all our college students here at Faith Community and don't you think that they each would love to receive a care package made especially for them from their church family? *We will collect donations for Care Packages on October 9th and 16th and then send them to all 10 of our college students.* It is my experience that students are very appreciative of anything that we would send them in a care package – pop tarts, chips, cookies, chewing gum, crackers, peanut butter, nuts, gift cards, candy... really ANYTHING! Whatever you would like to donate would be most appreciated and if you want to make a monetary donation instead, I will take those and shop for you for some nice treats. Do you want to learn a little more about our College Crew? Well... here is a list of our college students along with a list of areas of study. They just aren't in order. Next month, I will line them up for you, but in the meantime, can you guess the major for each college student?

Ian Ackenhausen - Exercise Physiology
 Megan Ackenhausen - Biochemistry
 Sarah Creona - Exercise Science/Athletic Training/Physical Therapy
 Alexandra Fellie - Mechanical Engineering
 Jacob Fox – Agribusiness with Applied Economics
 Ciara Horney - Nursing
 Kayla Horney - Middle Childhood Education
 Grant Smith - Games and Animation
 Isabel Wickline - Business/Marketing
 Wesley Wickline - Accounting/Finance

Blessings to our FCUM College Crew. –Julie Wickline

Family Night

Please plan to join us for our next family night on October 30th at 5:00 p.m. Weather permitting, we'll be grilling hot dogs and making smores. We'll also have chili. This event will have a Halloween-based theme. Stay tuned to the weekly bulletin for more details.

Passings

Prayers and condolences to family and friends of Janet Borton, to Marcia (Corey) Adams, daughter of Betty Troute, and Janese (Richard) Brooks on the death of her father Adrian Marchant.

FCUM August 2022 Financials

Monthly Income	\$35,254		YTD Income	\$ 270,319	
Monthly Expenses	\$26,679		YTD Expenses	\$ 235,067	
Difference	\$ 8,575	24.32%	Difference	\$ 35,252	13.04%

Thank You Notes

On behalf of the Men of Faith community, 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, and those who stepped up to help, sharing their time and talents in pricing and organizing the items. I am happy to report that we cleared just over \$4,000. In addition, we donated several pick-up truck & trailer loads of items to Goodwill in Xenia. We also sold \$2,642.00 on Market Place with still a couple items remaining to sell. To God be the glory as we use these funds to further His Kingdom through missions and projects here on earth.

Sincerely,

John W. Sherer, Chair MOF Garage Sale



A huge thank you to all who donated items for the community baby shower. Your participation is very much appreciated.



Thanks to everyone who provided kits for Festival of Sharing. We collected 36 hygiene kits and 100 school kits.



I would like to thank everyone who has helped with the History Project. Thanks to Joan Baxter, Debbie Klaty, Crystal Hoskins, Joyce Smith and Betsy Murray. Also thanks to Pastor Andy who met with me several times. To those who submitted their history with the church or provided other information, a big thank you. To everyone else, we are still waiting for your input. Please consider sending your information as soon as possible. ~~Marlene Gifford



Deadline for November Faith Links October 17

Manley Proverbs

Let's be cautious about relying so much on material things that we have no energy left for the spiritual aspects of our lives.

(Thanks to Charles Manley for sharing.)

October 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>2 9:15-10:15- Sunday School-15C, Parlor 10-10:30-Fellowship 10:30-11:30-Worship</p>	<p>3 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15-C 7-9pm-Stephen Ministry-Library</p>	<p>4 5:30-7pm-Magic Volleyball practice 6:30-8:30pm-Trustees-Room 8 7-8:30pm-SPRC-Lib</p>	<p>5 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary</p>	<p>6 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 1:30-4pm-Women's Club of Xenia-Parlor</p>		1
<p>9 9:15-10:15- Sunday School-15C, Parlor 10-10:30-Fellowship 10:30-11:30-Worship</p>	<p>10 Columbus Day 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15-C</p>	<p>11 5:30-7pm-Magic Volleyball Girls practice-FCC</p>	<p>12 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary</p>	<p>13 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 2-4pm-Grief Support-Parlor</p>		15
<p>16 9:15-10:15- Sunday School-15C, Parlor 10-10:30-Fellowship 10:30-11:30-Worship</p>	<p>17 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</p>	<p>18 1-3pm-Dorcas-15A-B 3:30-4:30pm-Mission Outreach Team-Room 8 5:30-7pm-Magic Volleyball Girls practice-FCC 6-8:15pm-Girl Scouts-15ABC; 16A-B</p>	<p>19 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary.</p>	<p>20 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6-8pm-XHS Football Sr. Dinner-FCC</p>		22 6-8pm-Double 1-15A& Kitchen
<p>23 9:15-10:00- Sunday School- 15C, Parlor 10:00-10:30-Fellowship Time-15A-B 10:30-11:30-Worship</p>	<p>24 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C</p>	<p>25 5:30-7pm-Magic Volleyball Girls practice-FC</p>	<p>26 6:15-7:15-Handbell practice-Music Room 7:30-9pm-Choir Practice-Sanctuary</p>	<p>27 11-12pm-Prayer Shawl-Parlor</p>		29
<p>30 9:15-10:00- Sunday School- 15C, Parlor 10:00-10:30-Fellowship Time-15A-B 10:30-11:30-Worship 5-7pm-Family Night</p>	<p>31 Halloween 6:30-7:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A-B 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C</p>					