

July 30, 2023

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude Carol Stewart
"Blessed Assurance" Phoebe Knapp/Norman Johnson

**Call to Worship

Liturgist: Sing God's praise.

People: Give thanks to the Lord above.

Liturgist: Seek the Lord and trust God's strength.

People: Proclaim God's wonderful works.

Liturgist: Live in the Spirit of love and grace.

People: Give thanks for Christ's marvelous love.

**Opening Hymn "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" UMH #540

Opening Prayer (unison)

Our gracious and ever loving God, we come in the midst of summer looking for refreshment. We rest in the knowledge of the wonderful works you have done for us, and of the deep and abiding love you have for us and for all people. Search our hearts. Fill our soul with your Spirit who whispers to our soul that all will be well if we but trust in you. Shine your light before us, that we may see our path to you and to your kingdom on earth. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Seek Ye First" UMH #405

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.

Offering/Offertory Carol Stewart
"I Asked the Lord" Johnny Lange and Jimmy Duncan

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

God, you bless us with gifts of love and moments of grace and mercy. For this earth and its bounty, we give you our thanks. For our lives and for the opportunity to share them with those we love, we offer you our praise. Bless the gifts we lay before you, that they may be signs of your loving kingdom to a world awaiting good news. Amen.

Scripture Reading Romans 8:26-39

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music Wes Wickline, vocal solo
"Living Hope"

Sermon "God Intercedes" Pastor Jeff Bandy

**Closing Hymn "O Day of God, Draw Nigh" UMH #730

**Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart
"Majesty" Jack Hayford/Keith Christopher



*The Altar Flowers are given by Don & Ann Wolf in memory of their parents.
"May we always show the love they taught us."*

Scripture Reading – Romans 8:26-39 (NIV)

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. ²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

More Than Conquerors

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting with us today, please take a moment to sign our attendance register located in each pew. We welcome you and hope you will come back and worship with us again soon.



Rev. Jeff Bandy

Office Hours M, T, TH 9:00am-3:00pm & by Appt.

Office: (937) 372-7601 ext. 13

pastorjeff@fcum.org ♦ www.fcum.org

Like and Follow us on Facebook @ FCUM.Xenia

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

July 30, 2023 - Worship Team

Ushers

Gerald Mahan, Chad Mossing,
Gary Allen, Will Mossing

Greeters

Jackie Foster, Janet Schellin

Liturgist

Chad Mossing

Organist

Carol Stewart



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Monday 31	Magic Volleyball Practice Boy Scouts	9:30 am 7:00 pm	FCC Rm 16 C
Tuesday 1	Bible Study Private Event SPRC	10:00 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Parlor FH 15C Library
Wednesday 2	Showers for Blessings	7:00 pm	FH 15 A-B, Kitchen
Thursday 3	Prayer Shawl Woman's Club of Xenia	11:00 am 1:30 pm	Parlor Parlor
Friday 4			
Saturday 5			
Sunday 6	Sunday School Worship Service	9:15 am 10:30 am	16A, FH 15C Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I meet in 15C, Leader Wayne Cook, study of "A Bible Study on "The Screwtape Letters."

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer study of "Vanishing Grace" by Philip Yancy.

Next Sermon – Sunday, August 6

"Caring and Sharing"
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Matthew 14: 13-21

July 30, 2023 Announcements

TEE SHIRT SALE: Would you like to order a t-shirt with FCUM on it? Short sleeved shirts are \$10 and long sleeved shirts \$15. XXL and larger would be slightly more. Shirts come in black or red. Last day to order with Margaret Stidham (937-768-4503) is **Sunday, July 30.**

SHOES 4 THE SHOELESS: We measured the children's feet yesterday and they will return on Saturday, August 12, 9:30-10:30am to pick up their new shoes. If you wish to participate, you can take a footprint with the child's name and shoe size available in the narthex **TODAY, Sunday, July 30.** Please bring the shoes back to church on **Sunday, August 6** for a blessing of these shoes. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions please call Sandy Pramer at (937) 307-3619.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A SHOPPING PARTY AT SHOE CARNIVAL!: We will have our very own Special 20% Off Sale at the Beavercreek Shoe Carnival **Friday, August 4 – Monday, August 7** for all Faith Community Members and Family. Just say you are with Faith Community at checkout. This special event ties in perfectly with our Shoes 4 the Shoeless event and is for shoes of all sizes. (This is also Ohio Tax Free Weekend!)

TRIPLE BABY SHOWER!: Surprise! We actually have 3 babies to celebrate. Please join us for a baby shower for Erica Stone, having a boy; and Kara Paredes (Pastor Jeff & Suzanne's daughter), having a girl; and the new addition is Jaylynn Greene who just had a baby girl on July 4th. We will celebrate on **Wednesday, Aug 2 at 7:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there.

XENIA CITYWIDE WORSHIP IN SHAWNEE PARK: On **Sunday, August 20 at 10:30am in the Pavillion**, FCUM, along with several other churches in Xenia, will be suspending our regular Sunday morning activities in order to worship together in the park. This is an opportunity for us to witness to the Xenia community about our oneness in Christ. The guest speaker will be Kevin Jones from Cedarville University. There will be chairs set up in the pavilion. If you prefer to bring your own lawn chairs, please set them up outside of the pavilion. Please contact the office and give your name and phone number if you are interested in being a part of the "choir" or if you have a golf cart that you would be willing to use for a shuttle service.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY: Thank you to everyone who participated in the Food Drive. We collected 400lbs of food and \$275 for the Xenia area Fish Food Bank.

VBS CONTINUES TO SPREAD GOD'S LIGHT: Thank you again to everyone who participated in VBS this year by volunteering their time or donating money. This year the children donated \$231 and the congregation donated \$269, that's \$500 that will be going to Wings of the Morning! **A special THANK YOU to Joyce Smith and Betsy Murray for all of their hard work and dedication for another fun, rewarding, and successful VBS week!**

LIONS CLUB: We are still collecting Eye Glasses, Glasses Cases, Hearing Aids, and Cell Phones for the Lions Club. Please put them in the drawer marked Lions Club in the plastic storage cabinet in the narthex.



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