

July 9, 2023

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude Jim McPeek

**Call to Worship

Liturgist: Come to the Lord, all you people!

People: We come, seeking God's healing love.

Liturgist: Make your hearts ready to discover God's power in your lives.

People: We open our hearts and spirits to receive God's loving gifts.

Liturgist: Hallelujah!

People: Hallelujah and AMEN!

**Opening Hymn UMH #400

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Opening Prayer (unison)

You have walked many miles with us, O God. You have comforted and strengthened us along the way. Keep us on your path, for we easily lose our way. As we learn to live in your ways, help us choose the cause of justice and righteousness. Amen.

Children's Moments

Scripture Reading Romans 7:15-25a

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayer Hymn "Lead Me, Lord" UMH #473

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 Jim McPeek

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, may these gifts celebrate your name in our communities. May the lives we live celebrate your name for all time and all generations. Receive these offerings as signs of our praise, both now and forevermore. Amen.

**Gospel Reading Matthew 11: 16-19; 25-30

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music Wayne Cook, vocal solo; Gene Foiles, piano
"The Lighthouse" Ronny Hinson

Sermon "Finding Rest" Pastor Jeff Bandy

**Closing Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" UMH #384

**Sending Forth

Postlude Jim McPeek



*The Altar Flowers are given by Jim and Joyce Osburn
in honor of their 60th Wedding Anniversary.*

Scripture Reading – Romans 7:15-25a (NRSV)

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Matthew 11:16-19 (NRSV)

¹⁶ "But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷ 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' ¹⁸ 'For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

Matthew 11:25-30 (NRSV)

Jesus Thanks His Father

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."



Rev. Jeff Bandy

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

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We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

July 9, 2023 - Worship Team

Ushers	Gerald Mahan, Chad Mossier, Gary Allen, Will Mossier
Greeter	Dick Montgomery, Sandy Pramer
Liturgist	Sandy Pramer
Guest Organist	Jim McPeck



Monday 10	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15C
Tuesday 11	Bible Study Private Party	10:00 am 6:00 pm	Parlor FH 15C
Wednesday 12			
Thursday 13	Prayer Shawl Membership Care Grief Support	11:00 am 12:30 pm 2:00 pm	Parlor Parlor Parlor
Friday 14	Magic Volleyball Practice	5:30 pm	FCC
Saturday 15			
Sunday 16	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"."

Summer Sunday School will meet in Rm 16A-B, Leaders Lynn Engle and Becky Cultice, study of "The Gift of Empathy."

Next Sermon – Sunday, July 16

"Word Wise"
Scripture Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Psalm 119: 105-112

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.

July 9, 2023 Announcements

TODAY IS COINS FOR MISSIONS SUNDAY: Coins will go to the following Ministries supported by the FCUMC mission and outreach team: Bridges of Hope, Fish Pantry and Family Promise.



VBS NEEDS YOU!: We still need 1 classroom teacher and assistant and help decorating on **Thursday, Jul 13, and Friday, Jul 14.** If you are able to help, please contact Betsy Murray at gmama9875@aol.com or (937) 768-1143 or Joyce Smith at jes1129@aol.com or (937) 372-6576.

MEN OF FAITH: The Men of Faith will meet on **Monday, Jul 17 at 6 PM** in Room 16A & B (Community Center). All men are invited to join us. PIZZA will be provided so you will not need to bring a meal. We are continuing our study, Rooted: Grow Deep. Live Strong, followed by a meeting discussing the garden and garage sale projects, and other activities. All men especially those who may be participating in upcoming projects are urged to attend.

WOMEN'S GROUPS: WOMEN UNITED will meet on **Monday, Jul 17, at 1:00pm** in the Parlor. DORCAS CIRCLE will not meet in July but will in August. All women are welcome to attend either group.

FOOD DRIVE: Let's help our neighbors. The Missions Team will be having a food drive on **Sunday, Jul 23.** Please consider making a monetary donation for the Xenia area Fish Food Bank or bringing in non-perishable foods. More details will be coming shortly.

SHOES 4 THE SHOELESS: The children will come in to be sized on **Saturday, Jul 29, 9:30-10:30am** and return on **Saturday, Aug 12, 9:30-10:30am** to pick up their new shoes. This gives our congregation a chance to get involved by purchasing the shoes. We will have a "shoe tree" in the narthex on **Sunday, Jul 30** and any shoes purchased can be brought to church on **Sunday, Aug 6.** If you would like to volunteer on either of those Saturdays or have any questions please call Sandy Pramer at (937) 307-3619.

BABY SHOWER: We have 2 babies on the way. Please join us for a baby shower for Erica Stone, having a boy; and Kara Paredes (Pastor Jeff & Suzanne's daughter), having a girl. We will celebrate on **Wednesday, Aug 2 at 7:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there.

WE NEED GREETERS: Would you like to be a greeter on Sunday mornings? We have a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex and you can choose the days you would like to greet. Thank you for your service to the Lord.



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