

September 17, 2023

Please take a moment to sign our attendance register located in each pew.

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude Carol Stewart
"Jesus Loves Me" to the tune of Claire de Lune

**Call to Worship

Liturgist: Sing and rejoice! The Lord reaches out to you with healing love!

People: The Lord is our strength and our power!

Liturgist: Dance before the Lord, a dance of joy and hope!

People: The Lord brings us joy and lifts us up in hope.

Liturgist: Come, let us worship God who is always with us.

People: Let us celebrate the good news God brings to us each day.

**Opening Hymn

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" UMH #121

Opening Prayer (unison)

We sing and speak your praise, O God, grateful for the many ways in which you have healed us. Keep our hearts, our minds, and our spirits open to learn ways in which we can offer healing love for others. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH #206

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.

Worship Musician Recognition & Choir Director Introduction

Chad Mossing

Offering/Offertory "Jesus Loves Even Me" Carol Stewart

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

Savior God, you look at our world with compassion. You also look at our world with clarity and a zeal for justice. Use all we bring to life, and all we bring to you today, to fight for justice with mercy and compassion. Make us and our gifts part of the healing of the world. Amen.

Scripture Reading Romans 14: 1-12

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music "His Eye is on the Sparrow"
Wayne Cook, vocal solo; Gene Foiles, piano

Sermon "Faithfully United" Pastor Jeff Bandy

**Closing Hymn "Let There Be Peace on Earth" UMH #431

**Sending Forth

Postlude "Blest be the Tie That Binds" Carol Stewart
Hans G. Naegell



*The Altar Flowers are given by Sandy Pramer
in loving memory of family members.*

Scripture Reading – Romans 14: 1-12 (CEB)

Welcoming each other like Christ

14 Welcome the person who is weak in faith—but not in order to argue about differences of opinion. **2** One person believes in eating everything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. **3** Those who eat must not look down on the ones who don't, and the ones who don't eat must not judge the ones who do, because God has accepted them. **4** Who are you to judge someone else's servants? They stand or fall before their own Lord (and they will stand, because the Lord has the power to make them stand). **5** One person considers some days to be more sacred than others, while another person considers all days to be the same. Each person must have their own convictions. **6** Someone who thinks that a day is sacred, thinks that way for the Lord. Those who eat, eat for the Lord, because they thank God. And those who don't eat, don't eat for the Lord, and they thank the Lord too. **7** We don't live for ourselves and we don't die for ourselves. **8** If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to God. **9** This is why Christ died and lived: so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. **10** But why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you look down on your brother or sister? We all will stand in front of the judgment seat of God. **11** Because it is written,

*As I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow to me,
and every tongue will give praise to God.*

12 So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you and hope you will come back and worship with us again soon. We would love to get to know you, please take a moment to provide your information in the attendance register located in each pew.



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

September 17, 2023 - Worship Team

Ushers	Mike Tittle, Don Wolf, Butch Smith, Gary Allen
Greeters	Bob Whipp, Pam Whipp
Liturgist	Elaine Hughes
Organist	Carol Stewart
Bells Director	Jim McPeck
Choir Director	Melody Kelley



Monday 18	Women United Circle	1:30 pm	Parlor
	Men of Faith	6:00 pm	Rm 16 A
	Cub Scouts	6:30 pm	FH 15 A-B
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15 C
Tuesday 19	Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Dorcas Circle	1:00 pm	FH 15 A
	Private Event	6:00 pm	Narthex
	Girl Scouts	6:00 pm	FH 15 A,B,C, 16A-B
Wednesday 20	Handbell Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary
Thursday 21	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Ad Board Council	6:30 pm	FH 15 C
Friday 22			
Saturday 23	Double I	6:00 pm	FH 15 A, Kitchen
Sunday 24	Sunday School	9:00 am	Parlor, FH 15C, 11, 16A
	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	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.**

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 16 A, Leader Joyce Smith.

Preschool – Grade 5 Join the children in Rm 11 under the leadership of Kiley Fleming and Karen Mossier for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

Next Sermon – Sunday, September 24

"One Reward"
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Matthew 20: 1-16

September 17, 2023 Announcements

MEN OF FAITH: The Men of Faith will meet **on Monday, Sep. 18 at 6:00pm** in Room 16A –B (Community Center). All men are invited to join us. A meal will be prepared by Rhonda Cook. 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 are urged to attend. You can find more information in our Men of Faith pamphlet in the Narthex.

WOMEN'S GROUPS: DORCAS CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, Sep. 19 at 1:00pm** in FH 15A. WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, Sep. 18 at 1:30pm** in the Parlor. All women are welcome to attend either group.

SAME TIME - NEW TOPIC: Tuesday's Bible Study will be beginning a new topic on **Tuesday, Sep. 19 from 10-11:30 - To Live Is Christ: The Life and Ministry of Paul.** Beth Moore provides a guide to Paul through the study of Acts and Paul's epistles. All are welcome to join.

IT'S KIT TIME: Festival of Sharing time is here. There are directions for School Kits and Hygiene Kits in the Narthex. FCUM will supply the school bags. We will be collecting filled kits **now through Sunday, Sep. 24.** If you have any questions, please contact Scott or Carol (937) 372-1372.

ENNEAGRAM - DISCOVERING OUR PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES AND INTERNAL CORE MOTIVATIONS: Throughout the summer, we read through and reflected on the book, *The Gift of Empathy*. As a follow up, we are offering a seven-week course that will utilize a personality typology tool called Enneagram to help us discover how our personal perspectives and internal core motivations can often hinder our ability to offer empathy, compassion, and love to others. Suzanne Bandy, a Certified Enneagram and Spiritual Formation Coach, will lead us and offer scriptural references to guide and enhance our conversations. This group will meet on **Thursday evenings starting September 28, 2023, from 7 – 8:30 p.m.** This is open to anyone interested but may be of special interest to those who attended the summer empathy class. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex or call the office. Come join us!

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.

WE ARE STILL COLLECTING LOVE PACKAGES: Items collected are **Bibles:** New or used, any translation, New Testaments or other portions, individual gospel booklets; **Reference Material:** Bible dictionaries, concordances, commentaries; **Books:** All Christian books – adult or children, non-fiction; **Magazines and Daily Devotionals:** Any devotionals or magazine from a Christian publisher; **Sunday School Materials:** Adult quarterlies and all teacher manuals in any amount from all publishers; children's quarterlies with the teacher's manual and full student manuals; **CDs, DVDs, BluRay:** Music, movies, teaching from well-known speakers (Billy Graham, Swindoll, etc.); **Bible games, biblical puzzles** – anything that helps teach the gospel, especially to children.



Monday 18	Women United Circle	1:30 pm	Parlor
	Men of Faith	6:00 pm	Rm 16 A
	Cub Scouts	6:30 pm	FH 15 A-B
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15 C
Tuesday 19	Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Dorcias Circle	1:00 pm	FH 15 A
	Private Event	6:00 pm	Narthex
	Girl Scouts	6:00 pm	FH 15 A,B,C, 16A-B
Wednesday 20	Handbell Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary
Thursday 21	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Ad Board Council	6:30 pm	FH 15 C
Friday 22			
Saturday 23	Double I	6:00 pm	FH 15 A, Kitchen
Sunday 24	Sunday School	9:00 am	Parlor, FH 15C, 11, 16A
	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	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.**

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 16 A, Leader Joyce Smith.

Preschool – Grade 5 Join the children in Rm 11 under the leadership of Kiley Fleming and Karen Mossing for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

Next Sermon – Sunday, September 24

"One Reward"
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Matthew 20: 1-16

September 17, 2023 Announcements

MEN OF FAITH: The Men of Faith will meet **on Monday, Sep. 18 at 6:00pm** in Room 16A –B (Community Center). All men are invited to join us. A meal will be prepared by Rhonda Cook. 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 are urged to attend. You can find more information in our Men of Faith pamphlet in the Narthex.

WOMEN'S GROUPS: DORCAS CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, Sep. 19 at 1:00pm** in FH 15A. WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, Sep. 18 at 1:30pm** in the Parlor. All women are welcome to attend either group.

SAME TIME - NEW TOPIC: Tuesday's Bible Study will be beginning a new topic on **Tuesday, Sep. 19 from 10-11:30 - To Live Is Christ: The Life and Ministry of Paul.** Beth Moore provides a guide to Paul through the study of Acts and Paul's epistles. All are welcome to join.

IT'S KIT TIME: Festival of Sharing time is here. There are directions for School Kits and Hygiene Kits in the Narthex. FCUM will supply the school bags. We will be collecting filled kits **now through Sunday, Sep. 24.** If you have any questions, please contact Scott or Carol (937) 372-1372.

ENNEAGRAM - DISCOVERING OUR PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES AND INTERNAL CORE MOTIVATIONS: Throughout the summer, we read through and reflected on the book, *The Gift of Empathy*. As a follow up, we are offering a seven-week course that will utilize a personality typology tool called Enneagram to help us discover how our personal perspectives and internal core motivations can often hinder our ability to offer empathy, compassion, and love to others. Suzanne Bandy, a Certified Enneagram and Spiritual Formation Coach, will lead us and offer scriptural references to guide and enhance our conversations. This group will meet on **Thursday evenings starting September 28, 2023, from 7 – 8:30 p.m.** This is open to anyone interested but may be of special interest to those who attended the summer empathy class. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex or call the office. Come join us!

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.

WE ARE STILL COLLECTING LOVE PACKAGES: Items collected are **Bibles:** New or used, any translation, New Testaments or other portions, individual gospel booklets; **Reference Material:** Bible dictionaries, concordances, commentaries; **Books:** All Christian books – adult or children, non-fiction; **Magazines and Daily Devotionals:** Any devotionals or magazine from a Christian publisher; **Sunday School Materials:** Adult quarterlies and all teacher manuals in any amount from all publishers; children's quarterlies with the teacher's manual and full student manuals; **CDs, DVDs, BluRay:** Music, movies, teaching from well-known speakers (Billy Graham, Swindoll, etc.); **Bible games, biblical puzzles** – anything that helps teach the gospel, especially to children.