

Laity Sunday, October 15, 2023

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

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church Victor Hess
Prelude Handbell Choir
"For All the Saints" Ralph Vaughn Williams/Andrew Birling

**Call to Worship

Liturgist: Praise the LORD!

People: Give Thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

Liturgist: Proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord!

People: The Lord is worthy of praise; declare his honor and glory!

**Opening Hymn "The Church's One Foundation" (v.1,2,5) UMH #546

Opening Prayer (unison)

Holy God, we come before you this day with praise on our lips and songs of joy in our hearts. May we never forget who you are and who we are in you. When we abide in your kingdom and live to your glory, good triumphs over evil, love is stronger than hate, and truth wins the day. Focus our hearts and minds on things that are worthy of praise, and bless us with a peace that passes all understanding. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Fairest Lord Jesus" UMH #189

Prayers of the Faithful & the Lord's Prayer Victor Hess

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.

Leader: As recipients of God's steadfast love and grace, let us offer gifts of gratitude in our tithes and offering.

Offering/Offertory Carol Stewart
"Jesus is All the World to Me" Will L. Thompson

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication Victor Hess

God of steadfast love, your bounty knows no bounds. For the abundant gifts in our lives, we thank you. Receive the gifts we bring you this day, and help us stay focused on things that are excellent and admirable, holy and just, righteous and pure. Amen.

Scripture Reading Exodus 32:1-14

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music Handbell Choir
"This Little Light of Mine" arr. by John A. Behnke

Sermon "Identity Crisis" Suzanne Bandy

**Closing Hymn "My Hope is Built" UMH #368

**Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart
"The Solid Rock" William B. Bradbury/Don Hustad



*The Altar Flowers are given by Robert and Amy Schalle
in honor of and gratitude to Carol Stewart.*

Scripture Reading – Exodus 32:1-14 (NRSV)

The Golden Calf

32 When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, “Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” ² Aaron said to them, “Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me.” ³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD.” ⁶ They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel.

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Identity Crisis



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

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We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Laitry Sunday

October 15, 2023 - Worship Team

Ushers	Rhonda Cook, Sandy Pramer, Julie Wickline, Joyce Osburn
Greeters	Dr. Paul Dillaplain, Elaine Hughes
Liturgist	Chad Mossing
Host	Victor Hess
Organist	Carol Stewart
Bells Director	Jim McPeek
Choir Director	Melody Kelley



Monday 16	Women United Circle	1:30 pm	Parlor
	Men of Faith	6:00 pm	Rm 16 A-B
	Cub Scouts	6:30 pm	FH 15 A-B
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15 C
Tuesday 17	Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Dorcas Circle	1:00 pm	FH 15 A
	Missions (moved to 10/24)	3:30 pm	Parlor
	Girl Scouts	6:00 pm	FH 15 A,B,C, 16 A
Wednesday 18	Brian Stephan Visitation	10:00 am	Narthex
	Brian Stephan Service	1:00 pm	Sanctuary
	Handbell Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary
Thursday 19	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Private Event	6:00 pm	FCC
	Enneagram Course	7:00 pm	Library
Friday 20	Magic Volleyball Practice	5:45 pm	FCC
Saturday 21	Private Event	12:00 pm	FH 15 A-B
Sunday 22	Sunday School	9:00 am	Parlor, FH 15C, 11, 16A
	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary
	Fall Fun Night	5:00 pm	FH 15 A-C, Kitchen

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 **"God Never Gives Up On You" by Max Lucado**

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 Mousing for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

Next Sermon – Sunday, October 22

"Going Deeper"
Scripture Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Exodus 33: 12-23

October 15, 2023 Announcements

MEN OF FAITH: The Men of Faith will meet on **Monday, Oct. 16 at 6:00pm** in Room 16A-B (Community Center). All men are invited to join us. Pizza will be served. 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: WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, Oct. 16 at 1:30pm** in the Parlor. DORCAS CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 1:00pm** in FH 15A. All women are welcome to attend either group.

BISHOP PALMER IS COMING TO THE DISTRICT: Join Bishop Palmer on **Thursday, Oct 19 at Faith Community UMC West Chester at 6:30 PM** as he travels to each district in the West Ohio Conference for the Grace Upon Grace Fall Tour. These gatherings will be a time of teaching on the Means of Grace and organizing the work of the new districts. All are welcome to each gathering, which will include a Reaffirmation of Our Baptismal Vows and Celebration of Holy Communion. No registration is needed.

FALL FUN NIGHT: Let's all get together on **Sunday, Oct. 22, 5:00-7:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall for Games, Food & Fun! (Food will be served at 5:30). All are welcome to come join the fellowship and festivities.

MARY & MARTHA GATHERING: We have yet to meet a woman, of any age, who doesn't crave just one night away from home ... a night filled with FRIENDS in FAITH, FUN and yummy FOOD! And so, we are excited to announce the start of the "Mary & Martha" gathering, the second Monday of EVERY month, here at Faith Community in the Community Center, from 6-8 pm. YOU deserve it! Our first gathering will be **Monday, Nov. 13, 2023**; *open to all *childcare provided *potluck meals to share *anonymous prayer concerns AND *women encouraging/supporting women. Join us at our soon to be Facebook Page. Reach out to Laurie Krakowiak at (937) 694-8114 or Barbara Mills at (937) 414-4108.

VOLUNTEER RECEPTIONIST NEEDED: Would you like to be more involved with the daily activities at the church? We need a receptionist in the church office on **Friday mornings from 9:00am to 12:00pm**. Daily duties include answering phones, greeting guests and stuffing bulletins. If you are interested or know of someone, please call Deb Klaty, Office Administrator at (937) 372-7601.

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.



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