

February 25, 2024

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
"He Leadeth Me" William Bradbury/Albin C. Whitworth

**Call to Worship

In promise and covenant, God calls.

In hope and trust, we respond.

In love and faithfulness, God saves.

In gratitude and joy, we come.

Let us worship and praise God's holy name.

**Opening Hymn "The God of Abraham Praise" UMH #116

Opening Prayer (unison)

Lord of presence and power, be with us on this second step of our Lenten journey to the Cross. Help us to make a commitment of our lives, our spirits, our hearts to be in ministry in your name. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Where He Leads Me" (v.1,2,4) UMH #338

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

"Seek Ye First"

Carol Stewart
Karen Lafferty

**Doxology

UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

God of ancient days and futures not yet seen, bring your eternal wisdom to our time of offering. Bring your ancient faith and faithful love to the gifts we now bring. Transform the past with the promise of your future, that together our gifts may merge with your Spirit to bring transformation and hope to your world. Amen.

Ministry of Music

"Seek & You Will Find"

Chancel Choir
Natalie Sleeth

Scripture Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sermon

"Covenant to Relationship"

Rev. Jeff Bandy

**Closing Hymn

"Lord of the Dance"

UMH #261

Sending Forth

Postlude

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

Carol Stewart
Arthur H. Mann/John Innes



*The Altar Flowers are given by Jim Osburn
in celebration of his wife, Joyce Osburn's birthday.*

Scripture Reading – Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (NIV)

17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. **2** Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

3 Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, **4** "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. **5** No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. **6** I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. **7** I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

15 God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. **16** I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

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

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We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

February 25, 2024 - Worship Team

Ushers	Micah Fleming, Eric Fleming, Jim Osburn, Don Wolf
Greeters	Bill Sykes, Carol Sykes
Liturgist	Suzanne Bandy
Organist	Carol Stewart
Bells Director	Jim McPeek
Choir Director	Melody Kelley



Monday 26	Cub Scouts Boy Scouts	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	FH 15 A-B FH 15 C
Tuesday 27	Bible Study Winter Guard Practice Magic Volleyball Practice	10:00 am 4:00 pm 6:00 pm	Parlor FCC FCC
Wednesday 28	Handbell Practice Special Olympics Basketball Choir Practice	6:15 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room FCC Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday 29	Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Parlor FCC
Friday 1	Winter Guard Practice	4:00 pm	FCC
Saturday 2			
Sunday 3	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Parlor, 8,11, 16A Narthex Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I meet in Rm 8, Leader Wayne Cook, study of **"Ecclesiastes, Chasing After Meaning"** by **Bill and Teresa Syrios**.

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer study of **"Ten Women of the Bible"** by **Max Lucado**.

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

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

Next Sermon – March 3, 2024

"Relationship to Intimacy"
Scripture Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Psalm 19 1-14 (NRSV)

February 25, 2024 Announcements

SAVE-THE-DATE:

Monday, Mar. 11 6:00-8:00pm - Please join us for our next Mary & Martha gathering when our potluck theme will be "Heirloom recipes".

Saturday, Mar. 16, 10:00-11:00am - Proactively Planning for Your Future—March Session on advance care planning, end-of-life care, and our wishes after death.

Monday, Mar. 18 at 6:00pm - The Men of Faith will have an animated social time during a pizza meal followed by a devotional from "God Calls You to More."

SHAWNEE PARK EASTER EGG HUNT: Faith Community has the opportunity to contribute to the Easter Baskets that will be given away at the city wide egg hunt held at Shawnee Park on March 30. About 1,500 children are expected to attend this event with their families. This is a wonderful time for us to share the love of Jesus! If you would like to contribute, here are some popular items to purchase: Easter candy, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, coloring books/crayons, board books for preschoolers, sticker books for older children, bouncy balls, play dough, character band aids, sunglasses, toy cars, stuffed animals, fruit snacks, puzzles, frisbees, Bibles for children, Welcoming notes for each basket from our church. Place your items in the basket in the narthex **now through Sunday, Mar. 24.**

LENTEN OFFERING FOR VBS: During the season of Lent through **Easter Sunday, Mar. 31**, the church will be collecting a special offering to support Vacation Bible School. Your gift will help provide for children participating in this year's program. The cost is approximately \$30 per child and our goal is to raise \$3000. VBS Offering Envelopes will be available on the table in the narthex or in the office. Please mark your check VBS. Thank you for your prayers and support as we prepare to explore God's goodness.

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION: Please join us for an Easter Celebration **Sunday, Mar. 31**. A light breakfast will be served from 9:00 –10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. At 10:00 am there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids. Worship service begins at 10:30 am. (Please note there will be no Sunday School classes.)

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT-LARGE LAITY NEEDED - If you are interested in attending Annual Conference from **May 29 – Jun. 1** to learn about the business of the conference and represent the Great Miami River District with voice and vote, please contact Pastor Jeff to submit a form to the district.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE: Guidelines and application forms are available in the narthex and church office. This year assistance will be offered to graduating high school seniors who are contemplating entering a college or technical school in the fall of 2024 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. These forms must be completed and returned to the church office by **Sunday, Apr. 14.**

SPRING IS ARRIVING SOON! It's time to think about helping the Jackson Area Ministries with their seed project again. The "JAM" program provides garden plants and seeds for the residents in need so they can provide veggies and fruits for their family. Please consider making a donation (mark checks J.A.M. project) and place in the offering plate or drop seed packets into the basket in the narthex **Sunday, Mar. 3 - Sunday, Apr. 7.**



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