

# April 7, 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  
"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Jim McPeek  
John Carter

\*\*Call to Worship

It is good for God's people to gather together in unity.

**We are here at the invitation of God.**

In this place, God's love and grace flow into our lives.

**In this place, God's blessings abound.**

Praise be to God!

**Praise be to God!**

\*\*Opening Hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (v.1-3) UMH #302

Opening Prayer (unison)

**Holy One, we gather with grateful hearts to remember the blessings of your light and love as they flow through our lives each day. In this moment, open our hearts to your Holy Spirit. Open our minds to the truths of your story. Open our hands to welcome the risen Christ among us. And open our eyes to your glory—a glory reflected in the faces around us. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" (v.1,2) UMH #301

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

"As the Deer"

Jim McPeek  
Douglas Wagner

\*\*Doxology

UMH #95

\*\*Prayer of Dedication

**Abundant God, we are grateful for all your blessings, especially for the presence of the risen Christ. Bless these gifts, that they may help bring your love and light into our community and our world. Amen.**

\*\*Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

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

**P: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Ministry of Music

"You'll Never Walk Alone"

A.J. Trent, vocal solo  
Rodgers/Hammerstein

Sermon

"How Shall We Live"

Guest Speaker, Victor Hess

\*\*Closing Hymn

"Breathe on me, Breath of God"

UMH #420

\*\*Sending Forth

John 3:16

**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

Postlude

"Lord of the Dance"

Jim McPeek  
Sydney Carter



*The Altar Flowers are given by Bob & Amy Schalle  
in honor of their 36<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.*

# Gospel Reading – John 20:19-31 (NIV)

## Jesus Appears to His Disciples

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

<sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

<sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

## Jesus Appears to Thomas

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them off. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

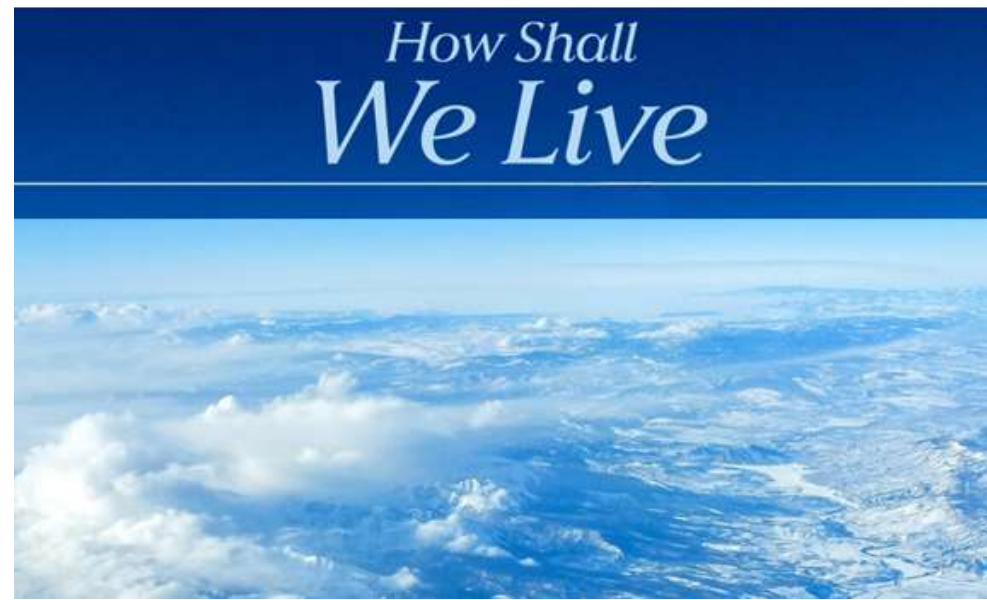
"Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

## The Purpose of John's Gospel

<sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

### 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](mailto:pastorjeff@fcum.org) ♦ [www.fcum.org](http://www.fcum.org)

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**We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation**

## April 7, 2024 - Worship Team

Guest Speaker	Victor Hess
Ushers	Chad Mossier, Gerald Mahan, Will Mossier, Jim Osburn
Greeters	Bruce Spittler, Debbie Spittler
Liturgist	Mike Engle
Guest Organist	Jim McPeek
Bells Director	Jim McPeek
Choir Director	Melody Kelley



Monday 8	<b>OFFICE CLOSURES EARLY</b>	12:00 pm	
	Cub Scouts	6:30 pm	FH 15 A-B
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15 C
Tuesday 9	Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Girl Scouts Leaders	6:00 pm	FH 15 A,B,C, 16 A
Wednesday 10	Handbell Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday 11	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Grief Support	2:00 pm	Parlor
	Magic Volleyball Practice	6:00 pm	FCC
	Christian Education	7:00 pm	Rm 8
Friday 12			
Saturday 13			
Sunday 14	Sunday School	9:00 am	Parlor, 8,11, 16A
	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary
	SPRC Training Seminar	2:00 pm	FCC

### 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 "Luke" by Adam Hamilton.

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

### Next Sermon – Sunday, April 14, 2024

"Honest Healing"  
Gospel Lesson

Guest Speaker, Rev. Jennifer Lucas  
Mark 8: 22-26 (CEB)

### April 7, 2024 Announcements

**JACKSON AREA MINISTRIES SEED PROJECT ENDS TODAY:** 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.

**BRING YOUR COINS NEXT WEEK:** Coins for missions Sunday is **Sunday, Apr. 14.** Coins will go to the following Ministries supported by the FCUMC mission and outreach team: Bridges of Hope, Fish Pantry and Family Promise.

### April 7, 2024 Announcements continued...

**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 entering a college or technical school in the fall of 2024 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. The forms must be completed and returned to the church office by **Sunday, Apr. 14.**

**NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES : Sunday, Apr. 14** affirms the sacredness of indigenous people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world. Offerings support vital ministries and churches in Native American communities and allows them to partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Half of the funds remain in each local Annual Conference to focus on local native ministries.

**THE ART OF LISTENING:** Dave Ringhiser, Pastoral Care Pastor at Fairhaven, will be speaking on "The Art of Listening" on **Sunday, Apr. 14 from 2:30-4:30 at Fairhaven, 637 E. Whipp Road, Centerville.** Registration begins at 2:15. All are welcome to this free program sponsored by The Greater Dayton Stephen Ministry Network. Everyone can benefit from learning more about this important skill. Refreshments will be served.

**WOMEN'S GROUPS:** WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, Apr. 15 at 1:30pm** in the Parlor. DORCAS CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, Apr. 16 at 1:00pm** in FH 15 A.

**MEN OF FAITH:** The Men of Faith will join the Mary and Martha event on **Monday, Apr. 15 at 6:00pm in the Community Center.** Our very own Xenia High School Jazz Ensemble has agreed to share their musical talents for a toe tapping, joy inspired evening of entertainment. You can find more information about our group in our Men of Faith pamphlet in the Narthex.

**MARY & MARTHA GATHERING:** All women, men and children are welcome to join us for this extra special evening sponsored by the Mary & Martha gathering and jointly supported by the Men of Faith. The Xenia High School Jazz Ensemble has agreed to share their musical talents for a toe-tapping, joy-inspired evening of entertainment on **Monday, Apr. 15 at 6 pm in the Community Center.** Potluck, as always, will be provided by the women - with a return of our signature church ham loaf! Let's show our support for these talented young people in our neighborhood while reminding ourselves of the loving community here at FCUM. Questions, call Laurie Krakowiak at (937) 694-8114 or Barbara Mills at (937) 414-4108.

**PROACTIVELY PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE—THE ADVANTAGES OF ESTATE PLANNING:** The Unbroken Circle Committee invites you to the next in our series, Proactively Planning for Your Future, on **Saturday, Apr. 20, from 10-11 in CC16A-B.** Attorney Peter D. Stephan will be speaking on "The Advantages of Estate Planning." Mr. Stephan is an Attorney at Law in the areas of Probate Law, Estate Planning, Real Estate Planning, Real Estate and Corporate Law. We encourage you to come and bring along family and friends. There will be an opportunity to ask questions.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** We will have a blood drive in the Community Center on **Monday, Apr. 29, 2:00pm to 6:00pm.** You can make a reservation for your preferred appointment time to donate by going to [www.donortime.com](http://www.donortime.com) or (937) 461-3220. Remember that your donation can save as many as THREE lives!

**LOST/FOUND:** Somehow, I have the wrong black/tan rain coat with the brand name Fleet Street. It is possible that I have had this coat for a while, due to winter. If you also have one, check and see if the one you have is yours, if not, call Debbie Spittler (937) 545-9879.



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