

January 5, 2025

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

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude "Star Medley" Carol Stewart
arr. by Marilyn Ham

**Call To Worship

We bring our gifts and we bring our love
to honor the King of love.

We bring our worship and we bring our praise
to pay homage to Christ Jesus, our King.

**Opening Hymn "We Three Kings" (v.1-4) UMH #254

Opening Prayer (unison)

Gracious God, we come into your presence with joy and praise, grateful for the gift of Christ Jesus in our lives. As we celebrate this gift in our service of worship, fill our hearts with Christmas joy and our spirits with the gift of your Holy Spirit. With joy and gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" UMH #251

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 "March of the Kings" Carol Stewart

**Doxology "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" UMH #204

**Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, thank you for the gift of Jesus. Thank you for the gifts of Christmas. Thank you for inviting us to bring gifts to your world. Bless the gifts we bring, that they may become vessels of Christ's light and love in the world. Amen.

**Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1-12

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music Erika Stone, vocal solo & guitar
"Wise Men" Erika Stone

Sermon "Epiphany!" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Closing Hymn "There's a Song in the Air" UMH #249

**Sending Forth

Postlude "The Christmas Drummer" Carol Stewart
arr. by Marilyn Ham



*The Altar Flowers are given by Debi Hall
in memory of her husband, Byrd*

Scripture Reading – Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV)

The Magi Visit the Messiah

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. **5** "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. **8** He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. **11** On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

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

January 5, 2025 - Worship Team

Ushers	Mike Tittle, Jake Van Schagen, Will Mossier, Chad Mossier
Greeters	Bill Sykes, Carol Sykes
Liturgist	Julie Wickline
Organist	Carol Stewart
Chancel Choir Director	Melody Kelley
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeck

January

Monday 6	Special Olympics Basketball Boy Scouts Cub Scouts Stephen Ministry	6:45 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B Library
Tuesday 7	Tuesday Bible Study Winter Guard Practice Girl Scouts Magic Volleyball Practice Trustees	10:00 am 3:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Parlor FCC FH 15 A,B,C, CC16A FCC Parlor
Wednesday 8	Handbell Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday 9	Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Parlor FCC
Friday 10	Winter Guard Practice	3:30 pm	FCC
Saturday 11			
Sunday 12	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Rm 8,11,CC16A, Parlor Narthex Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I will meet in Rm 8, Leader Lucy Parsons, study of "Colossians and Philemon" by Martha Reapsome.

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study of "Troublesome Bible Passages" by Douglas E. Wingeier and David Lowes Watson.

Grades 6-12 will meet in CC 16A-B, Leaders Vic Hess 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, January 12

"Affirmations of Baptism"
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 (NIV)

January 5, 2025 Announcements

BRING YOUR COINS NEXT WEEK: Coins for missions Sunday is **Sunday, Jan. 12.** Coins will go to the following Ministries supported by the FCUMC mission and outreach team: Bridges of Hope, Fish Pantry and Family Promise.

MARY & MARTHA GATHERING: Please join us for the first gathering of 2025, on **Monday, Jan. 13, 6:00-8:00pm in FCC** for a "super fun time"! Please wear some comfy clothes and shoes for an activity that will be fun for everyone. Also, if you would like to bring a "super fun pie" to share, it can be any type from fruit to meat! If you have any questions, please contact either Laurie Krakowiak at (937) 694-8114 or Barbara Mills at (937) 414-4108 (RSVP for childcare with Laurie).

WOMEN'S GROUPS: WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will not meet in January. DORCAS CIRCLE will not meet in January.

MEN OF FAITH: The Men of Faith will meet on **Monday, Jan. 20 at 6:00 pm in CC 16A-B.** All men are invited to join us. Dinner will be served. We will have a social time during the meal followed by a Bible devotional. We will then discuss 2025 projects. Watch your email for more information.

CASSEROLE CARE-A-VAN: Do you know of someone connected to our church who could benefit from our Casserole Care-a-van providing them with a few meals? If so, get with me so that I can let you know the information that I will need to get this set up with our amazing Casserole Care-a-van volunteers. Julie Wickline (937) 207-8289.

LIONS CLUB COLLECTIONS: 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. If you have any questions please call Michelle Surgenor (937) 818-3096.

CLOSING DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER: If the church is going to be closed during the week or for Sunday Worship Services it will be listed on WHIO (TV7, 1290AM/95.7FM), WDTN (TV2,CW26), WKEF/WRGT (ABC22/FOX45) and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/FCUM.Xenia.

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO BE ON OUR PRAYER TEAM? If you would like to join our team: go to our website (fcum.org), click on the Prayer Request link, then type ADD TO PRAYER TEAM with your name and email address. You can also email your request to join the team to: prayerchain@fcum.org, or call Rosi Mackey at (937) 902-9022.

SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS: We still have openings for January & February if you would like to sign up for altar flowers. If you have any questions please call the office or Joyce Smith (937) 372-6576 or Betsy Murray (937) 372-8376.

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