

# February 23, 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 Carol Stewart  
"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" Peter Scholtes/Mark Hayes

\*\*Call to Worship

In these uncertain times, we come together, searching for peace.

**We will be still before the Lord and wait patiently.**

We will open our hearts and minds, that the Lord may show us mercy.

**When we trust the Lord, we can live with one another in peace and security.**

The Lord is our refuge in all our days.

**We come to worship to grow in faith and love.**

\*\*Opening Hymn "Hymn of Promise" UMH #707

Opening Prayer (unison)

**Holy One, we come together to pause, pray, and praise. Be with us in this place, that we may touch your mercy. Help us claim the power of your love for our lives. Help us to measure out grace and forgiveness to give them to others as you gave to us. Amen.**

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "For the Healing of the Nations" (v.1,2,4) UMH #428

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

"What Wondrous Love Is This" Carol Stewart  
Samuel Barber/Marilynn Ham

\*\*Doxology UMH #95

\*\*Prayer of Dedication

**Holy God, we bring this offering of our money, prayer, and labor to advance your work of mercy. We willingly and joyfully celebrate your generosity, by sharing our abundance with the church, our community, and the world. Bless these gifts, as they go forth to do good in your world without judgment or prejudice. Amen.**

\*\*Gospel Reading Luke 6:27-38

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

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

Ministry of Music

"The Gift of Love" Chancel Choir  
Al Hopson

Sermon "5 Love Languages" Pastor Jeff Bandy

\*\*Closing Hymn "Pass it On" UMH #572

\*\*Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart

"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" Thomas Williams/John Innes



*The Altar Flowers are given by Jim Osburn  
in honor of Joyce Osburn's birthday.*

## Scripture Reading – Luke 6:27-38 (NRSVUE)

### Love for Enemies

<sup>27</sup> “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup> “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup> Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

### Judging Others

<sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

#### 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.



# 5 Love Languages



### 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**

## February 23, 2025 - Worship Team

Ushers	Jim Osburn, Jake Van Schagen, Micah Fleming, Eric Fleming
Greeters	Laurie Krakowiak
Liturgist	Julie Wickline
Organist	Carol Stewart
Chancel Choir Director	Melody Kelley
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeck



Monday 24	Special Olympics Basketball Boy Scouts Cub Scouts SPRC	6:45 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B Library
Tuesday 25	Tuesday Bible Study Winter Guard Practice Magic Volleyball Practice	10:00 am 3:30 pm 6:00 pm	Parlor FCC FCC
Wednesday 26	Handbell Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday 27	Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Parlor FCC
Friday 28	Winter Guard Practice	3:30 pm	FCC
Saturday 1			
Sunday 2	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 Alan Barone, study of "Life Lessons from ACTS" by Max Lucado.

**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, Erika Stone 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, March 2

"Glorious Change"  
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy  
Luke 9:28-36 (CEB)

## February 23, 2025 Announcements

**MARY & MARTHA WOMEN'S MINI-RETREAT:** When Moses encounters God for the first time, he asks, "Who am I...?" This profound question resonates with each of us as we grapple with our own sense of value and worth. Join us for a day of exploration as we delve into our human desires and uncover the distinction between self-confidence and self-worth. This mini-retreat will be held on **Saturday, Mar. 15, 9:00am-3:00pm in FCC**. The day will include a continental breakfast, worship led by Mary Fry (of Melody Road), a creative project, lunch, and scripture reflection. The cost is \$25 per person and reservations are required. Open to all women regardless of any church affiliation. Registration forms are available in the narthex and in the office. **Deadline to register is Saturday, Mar. 1.** If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the church office at (937) 372-7601. (**Please Note:** There will **NOT** be a Mary & Martha gathering on March 10.)

**VIOLENCE FREE FUTURES NEEDS YOUR HELP:** They need Auction and Raffle gift baskets donated by **Friday, Mar. 28** for their Spring Fling at the Greene County Expo Center Friday, Apr. 11 at 6:00pm. This event is not just a celebration of the season but also a crucial fundraiser that helps them continue their vital work in our community to provide hope and healing for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. If you are able to donate, there are forms on the table in the Narthex or you can contact Amy Erisman (937) 426-6535.

**MEN OF FAITH GARAGE SALE CONTINUES:** The Men of Faith are still collecting large items to sell online throughout the year. Funds received from the Garage Sale will be distributed to local Xenia charities. If you have donations, please call Bob Whipp at (937) 956-6002.

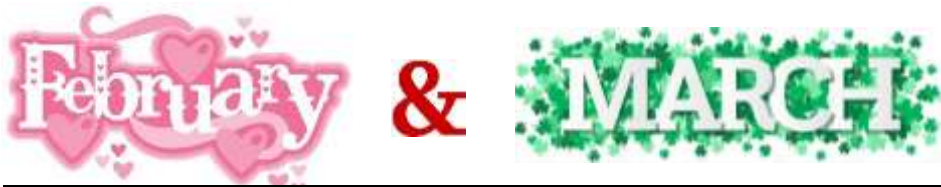
**SUNDAY NURSERY WORKER NEEDED:** Candidates must be 18 or older and must have a background check as well as receive Safe Sanctuary training. The nursery worker is expected to be available Sundays from 8:45-11:45am. If you are interested or have any questions, please talk to Chad Mossing or Pastor Jeff or send an email to [pastorjeff@fcum.org](mailto:pastorjeff@fcum.org).

**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 DONATIONS:** 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.

**WE ARE COLLECTING LOVE PACKAGES:** Items collected are Bibles, Reference Material, Books, Magazines, Daily Devotionals, Sunday School Materials, CDs, DVDs, BluRay, Bible games, biblical puzzles – anything that helps teach the gospel, especially to children. You can bring your items into the office or place them in the blue bin in the Narthex by the Education Wing.

**WOULD YOU LIKE US TO PRAY FOR YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONE?** To place a prayer request you can go to our website ([fcum.org](http://fcum.org)) and click on the Prayer Request link. You may also email [prayerchain@fcum.org](mailto:prayerchain@fcum.org). If you don't have access to the internet, phone requests can be made by calling Rosi Mackey at (937) 902-9022.



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	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary

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