September 7, 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

"Be Thou My Vision" arr. by Marilynn Ham

**Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 139:7-12)

O God, where could we go to escape your presence?

Wherever we go, God knows our name.

If we were to go up to heaven, or down to the grave...

You, O God, would be there with us.

If we were to have wings and fly to the far side of the ocean...

Lord, even there, your hand would guide and protect us.

If darkness surrounded us and we lost our way...

Lord of Light, in you there is no darkness at all and you will light our way.

**Opening Hymn "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" (v. 1,2,3,5) UMH #295

Opening Prayer (unison)

All-knowing God, We gather together with praise and thanksgiving for who You are, and for all that You have done for us. You know us better than we know ourselves—all our thoughts and actions—and yet You love us. We praise You for Your love and Your faithful presence in our lives. May Your Spirit move in our hearts and minds as we worship together—examine our attitudes and actions, lay bare the things we need to confess, challenge us with Your Word, and guide us on to paths that lead to life. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Change My Heart, O God" (Repeat 1x - see insert)

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 Carol Stewart

"More About Jesus Would I Know" John R. Sweney

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, you have blessed us beyond measure; you have entrusted us as partners to care for your world. Bless these gifts and our very lives. Transform everything we are in this life into offerings that bring your love to the world. Amen.

Ministry of Music Pam Colbrunn, vocal solo

"In This Very Room" Ron & Carol Harris

Scripture Reading Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Sermon "God Knows Us" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Sacrament of Baptism/Welcoming New Members UMH #33-39

Baptisms: Sara Gardner, Logan Gardner,

Dessa Retherford, and Kelan Cramer

Reaffirmation of Faith: Tracy Bradford and Deborah Swigart

Transfer from UMC: Jack & Janet Westfall

Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Closing Hymn "In Christ There Is No East or West" UMH #548

**Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart

"More Like the Master" Charles H. Gabriel



The Altar flowers are given by Bruce & Debbie Spitler in honor of their children and grandchildren.

Scripture Reading - Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (CEB)

139 LORD, you have examined me.

You know me.

² You know when I sit down and when I stand up. Even from far away, you comprehend my plans.

³ You study my traveling and resting. You are thoroughly familiar with all my ways.

⁴ There isn't a word on my tongue, LORD, that you don't already know completely.

⁵ You surround me—front and back. You put your hand on me.

⁶ That kind of knowledge is too much for me; it's so high above me that I can't reach it.

¹³ You are the one who created my innermost parts; you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I give thanks to you that I was marvelously set apart. Your works are wonderful—I know that very well.

¹⁵ My bones weren't hidden from you when I was being put together in a secret place, when I was being woven together in the deep parts of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes saw my embryo, and on your scroll every day was written that was being formed for me,

before any one of them had yet happened.

¹⁷ God, your plans are incomprehensible to me! Their total number is countless!

¹⁸ If I tried to count them—they outnumber grains of sand! If I came to the very end—I'd still be with you.

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
Like and Follow us on Facebook @ FCUM.Xenia

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Sunday, September 7, 2025 Worship Team

Ushers Mike Tittle, Don Wolf

Butch Smith, Rick Smith

Greeters Kirk Henning, Jane Henning

Liturgist Mike Engle
Organist Carol Stewart
Chancel Choir Director Glen Shaw
Handbell Choir Director Jim McPeek



Monday	Mary & Martha Gathering	10:00 am	Parlor
8	Cub Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15A-B
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15C
Tuesday	Tuesday Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
9	Stephen Ministry Training	1:00 pm	Library
	Girl Scouts Leaders	6:00 pm	FH 15C
Wednesday	Handbell Choir Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
10	Chancel Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Chapel /Sanctuary
Thursday	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
11	Scouts District Council	6:30 pm	FH 15A-B
Friday			
12			
Saturday	Mary & Martha Mini Retreat	9:00 am	FH 15 A-B
13			
Sunday	Sunday School	9:00 am	Rm 8, 11, CC 16A, Parlor
14	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I will meet in Rm 8, Leader Lucy Parsons, for a detailed study of the **"Book of Amos"**.

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study of "Slaying the Giants in Your Life" by Dr. David Jeremiah.

Grades 6-12 will meet in CC 16A-B, Leader Lynn Engle.

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, September 14

"Identifying As Sinner" Scripture Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy 1 Timothy 1:12-17 (CEB)

September 7, 2025 Announcements

SOMETHING TO CONSIDER: If you have thought about becoming a Stephen Minister or are curious about just what that may involve, any of our Stephen Leaders will be happy to talk with you about what has been a life-changing experience for each of us. **A new training class will be starting in September**. To learn more, contact Judy Mahan, 937-416-4015; Lynn Engle, 937-409-0667; Mike Engle, 937-409-6610; or Becky Cultice, 937-768-8086.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CHOIR VOICES: All you need is a voice and the HEART to praise the Lord with a joyful song. We practice on Wednesdays at 7:30pm and warm up ½ hour before church service on Sunday. At this time we sing on average two Sunday's a month. If you have any questions contact Glen Shaw at (937) 789-3400.

MARY & MARTHA GATHERING: An heirloom is a treasured item with sentimental value, passed down through generations in a family. On Monday, Sep. 8, 6:00-8:00pm in FCC, we'd love for you to bring an heirloom and share its story with us. To ensure everyone has a chance to speak, we kindly ask that each person keep their sharing to one minute. We look forward to hearing your stories! As always, bring a dish to pass, maybe from a recipe that has been passed down through generations! If you have any questions, call Laurie Krakowiak at 937-694-8114 or the church office at 937-372-7601.

MARY & MARTHA WOMEN'S MINI-RETREAT: This mini-retreat will be held on **Saturday, Sep. 13, 9:00am-3:00pm in FCC** and include a continental breakfast, music, 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. For further information, please contact Suzanne Bandy (740) 412-2195.

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

MEN OF FAITH: The Men of Faith will meet on **Monday, Sep. 15 at 6:00pm in CC 16A**. All men are invited to join us. Dinner will be served. We will have social time during the meal followed by a Bible devotional. We are lining up a presentation that will help us all in aging needs and understanding of services. After that we will focus on the results of the Community Garage sale and the final weeks needed at the Garden Project. Both are a huge success this year with many Men of Faith to thank. Watch your email for more information. The email will come from ballcardkirk@gmail.com so look in your spam if you don't see anything by Saturday, Sep. 13th.

AUTUMN'S BLESSINGS BRUNCH: Dorcas Circle will be hosting a brunch on **Saturday, Sep. 20 at 11:00am** for a \$10 donation. Barbara Mills will be the Guest Speaker on Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. **Tickets will be sold in the narthex on Sunday, Sep. 7 and Sep 14.** If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Murray (937) 768-1143.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING NEEDS 3 KITS THIS YEAR: Please consider filling a "kids" kit by filling a cloth bag with school supplies, or fill a 1 gallon bag with "hygiene" or" period" supplies. Last year, many of the kits were delivered following Hurricane Helene providing much needed supplies and a "gift of hope" after a disaster. Look for the kit lists and bags on the table in the narthex. Please return filled bags by **Sunday, September 21**. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Murray (937) 768-1143.

JOBS AVAILABLE AT FAITH COMMUNITY: We are accepting applications for the following positions: • **Director of Music • Director of Outreach**. Contact Pastor Jeff at pastorjeff@fcum.org for a full job description and information on applying.

SHAWNEE ELEMENTARY MENTORING: Please pray and consider being a mentor volunteer 1 hour a week. Fill out the form on the table in the narthex and place in the provided basket or church office. We will get back to you with more information.



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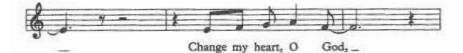
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Change My Heart, O God

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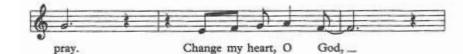




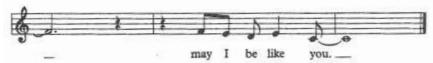




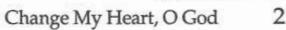








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