

March 1, 2026

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

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude
Mary Ann Spahr, harp solo
"Beach Spring" arr. by K. DeWild

**Call to Worship

God calls us to set out in faith.

The love of God leads us home.

Christ blesses us that we might bless others.

The blessings of Christ heal our world.

The Holy Spirit strengthens us for the journey.

The power of the Spirit sustains and supports us.

The One who made heaven and earth meets us here.

**Opening Hymn

"When in Our Music God Is Glorified" UMH #68 (v.1,4,5)

Opening Prayer (unison)

O Living Word, we lift up our eyes to the hills, wondering from where our help will come. As we encounter the written word today, may we be attentive to the movement of your Holy Spirit. Bring us to know of your loving purposes through the reading and hearing of the word. Come and help us. We need you. Amen.

Special Music
Mary Ann Spahr, harp solo
"Pie Jesu" arr. by S. Woods

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "To God Be the Glory" UMH #98 (v.1,2)

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

"I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" Carol Stewart
Ira F. Stanphill

**Doxology "What Gift Can We Bring" UMH #87 (v.4)

**Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, just as you blessed the saints of old when they ventured forth in faith, so now bless us in our living and in our giving. Transform our gifts and offerings into blessings for a weak and weary world, that all may touch your great love. Amen.

**Gospel Reading John 9:1-9

Special Music
Suzanne Bandy, Beth Latella, vocal duet
"Be Still and Know" Steven Curtis Chapman

Sermon
Pastor Jeff Bandy
"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of the Unknown"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Prayer After Communion

Lord Jesus, in a spirit of gratitude we give thanks for this time at your Holy Meal. This time at the Table filled us with strength, knowing that as we continue on this Lenten journey, we will find your peace surrounding us. Amen.

**Closing Hymn "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" UMH #452 (v.1,2,3)

**Sending Forth

Postlude
"I Know Whom I Have Believed" Carol Stewart
James McGranahan



*The Altar flowers are given in appreciation
of our Caring Congregation.*

Gospel Reading – John 9:1-9 (NIV)

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

9 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. **2** His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. **4** As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. **5** While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

6 After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. **7** “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

8 His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” **9** Some claimed that he was. Others said, “No, he only looks like him.”

But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”



Rev. Jeff Bandy

Office Hours M, T, TH 9:00am-3:00pm & by Appt.

Office: (937) 372-7601 ext. 13

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Like and Follow us on Facebook @ FCUM.Xenia

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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.

March 1, 2026 - Worship Team

Ushers	Doug Wickline, Bruce Spitler, Don Wolf, Bob Whipp
Greeter	Kim Nelson
Liturgist	Chad Mossing
Organist	Carol Stewart
Director of Music	Teri Gray
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeck



Monday 2	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 OFFSITE
Tuesday 3	Walking Tuesday Bible Study Stephen Ministry Training Winter Guard Practice Congregational & Community Engagement Magic Volleyball Practice Girl Scouts Trustees	9:00 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	FCC Parlor Library FCC Parsonage FCC FH 15A,B,C, CC 16A Parlor
Wednesday 4	Handbell Choir Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 5	Walking Prayer Shawl Woman's Club of Xenia Magic Volleyball Practice	9:00 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor Parlor FCC
Friday 6			
Saturday 7	Bishop's Day In the Districts	9:00 am	Mason UMC
Sunday 8 	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Rm 6, 11, FH 15C, Parlor Narthex Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Lenten Study will meet in FH 15C, Leader Suzanne Bandy, study of **"Removing Barriers to Engagement"**. All are welcome; Double I will join this study.

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study of **"The History and Archaeology of the Bible"** by Jean-Pierre Isbouts, DLitt

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 6, Leader Carla Skaggs.

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.

March 1, 2026 Announcements

DAYS IN THE DISTRICTS: Clergy and Laity are invited to join Bishop Jung on **Saturday, Mar. 7 at Resurrection Mason UMC, 6315 S. Mason Montgomery Rd., Mason. Clergy Gathering will begin at 9:00am.** Worship will be at 9:30am, followed by Bible Study. **Laity will begin at 11:00am** for a special training on leadership skills. Lunch will be served at noon, from 1:00-3:00pm the bishop will lead a discussion on the Five Strategic Pillars of the Ohio Episcopal Area Missional Direction and closing worship. Register by **TODAY, Sunday, Mar. 1** at <https://www.westohioumc.org/conference/event/srd-and-gmd-bishops-day-district>.

BRING YOUR COINS NEXT WEEK: Coins for missions Sunday is **Sunday, Mar. 8.** 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 on **Monday, Mar. 9, 6:00-8:00pm in FCC.** In PREPARATION of Lent, we will bring to you other activities to be PREPARED for in your life. As always, bring a dish to share—one that you have PREPARED. If you need childcare or have any questions call Laurie Krakowiak at (937) 694-8114.

FUN AT FAITH: Please join us for Fun at Faith night on **Sunday, Mar. 15, 5:00-7:00pm in FCC.** Come celebrate March Madness Faith Community style. Sloppy Joes & drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. We hope to see you there!

WOMEN'S GROUPS: WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, Mar. 16 at 1:00pm in the Parlor.** DORCAS CIRCLE will not meet in March.

MEN OF FAITH: We will meet on **Monday, Mar. 16 at 6:00 pm in CC 16A-B.** All Christian men are invited to join. Dinner will be served. We will have social time during the meal followed by a short Bible devotional from the book "God calls you to more". We need more men to attend this great group to build relationships and serve the community through donations of fresh vegetables from the group garden and annual garage sale. Please join the group for spiritual refreshment and comradery. Don't forget that you can donate large items to be sold by the Garage sale group headed by Bob Whipp.

JACKSON AREA MINISTRIES SEED PROGRAM: The "JAM" program provides garden plants and seeds for the residents in need so they can provide veggies and fruits for their family. Please mark checks J.A.M. project and place in the offering plate or drop seed packets into the basket in the narthex through **Sunday, Mar. 29.**


LENTEN OFFERING: During the season of Lent through **Easter Sunday, Apr. 5,** we will be collecting a special offering to support the Mongolia Mission Initiative. Throughout the year we will continue our support to Mongolia.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE: Guidelines and applications are in the narthex and office. Assistance will be offered to graduating high school seniors who are entering a college or technical school in the fall of 2026 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. Complete and return the forms to the church office by **Thursday, Apr. 16.**

Next Sermon – Sunday, March 8

"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of Strangers" Rev. Jeff Bandy
Gospel Lesson John 4: 4-15 (CEB)



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