

March 22, 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

"Love Lifted Me
"Something Beautiful"

Carol Stewart
Howard E. Smith
Bill Gaither

**Call to Worship

Cry out to God.

God listens to us.

Hope in God.

God forgives us.

Wait for God.

God's love is faithful.

**Opening Hymn

"Only Trust Him"

UMH #337 (v 1-3)

Opening Prayer (unison)

Come, Spirit of God. We wait for your presence. We trust in your abiding promises. Breathe the breath of your power into us this day, that we may experience the power of new life, the promise of forgiveness, and blessing of community. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn

"My Hope Is Built"

UMH #368 (v 1-3)

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.

Mongolian Mission Update

Luke Snell

Offering/Offertory

"Spirit Medley" Daniel Iverson & Edwin Hatch

Carol Stewart

**Doxology

"What Gift Can I Bring"

UMH #87

**Prayer of Dedication

Spirit of God, you breathe new life into the dead and stuck places of our daily living. We are so grateful for the power of your transforming love. We bring these gifts, hoping that they will breathe new life into barren places of our world. We bring our lives, filled with new life, ready to serve all your creation. Amen.

**Gospel Reading

Matthew 15:21-28

Ministry of Music

"Be Thou My Vision" arr. by Robert Hunter

Chancel Choir

Sermon

"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of Flopping"

Suzanne Bandy

**Closing Hymn

"Victory in Jesus"

UMH #370 (v 1,2)

**Sending Forth

Postlude

"Rise Up, O Men of God"
"Rescue the Perishing"

Carol Stewart
William Merrill
William H. Doane



The Altar flowers are given by Dr. Richard & Tammy Byers to the glory of God, with gratitude for His love, grace, and many blessings.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 15:21-28 (NRSVUE)

The Canaanite Woman's Faith

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.



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

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 22, 2026 - Worship Team

Guest Speaker	Suzanne Bandy
Ushers	Doug Wickline, Bruce Spitler, Don Wolf, Bob Whipp
Greeter	Debbie Spitler
Liturgist	Julie Wickline
Organist	Carol Stewart
Director of Music	Teri Gray
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeek



Monday 23	Spec. Olympics Volleyball	6:45 pm	FCC
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15C
	Cub Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15A-B
	SPRC	7:00 pm	Library
Tuesday 24	Walking	9:00 am	FCC
	Tuesday Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Winter Guard Practice	3:30 pm	FCC
Wednesday 25	Handbell Choir Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Chancel Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 26	Walking	9:00 am	FCC
	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Magic Volleyball Practice	6:00 pm	FCC
Friday 27			
Saturday 28	Double I	6:00 pm	FH 15A, Kitchen
Sunday 29 	Sunday School	9:00 am	Rm 11, 15C, 16A, Parlor
	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	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 CC 16A, Leader Carla Skaggs.

Preschool – Grade 5 will meet in Rm 11 under the leadership of Kiley Fleming and Karen Mousing for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

Next Sermon – Palm Sunday, March 29

"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of Oppressive Systems"

Rev. Jeff Bandy

Gospel Lesson

Luke 19: 37-40, Matthew 27: 11-26 (NIV)

March 22, 2026 Announcements

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.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: There will be a worship service in the Sanctuary on **Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7:00pm**. Our worship will include Choir anthems, hymns, and the Lord's Supper, as we remember the momentous events of Holy Week and prepare for the celebration of Easter.

EASTER SUNDAY: Please join us for an Easter Celebration **Sunday, Apr. 5**. We will have Hospitality time 9:30–10:30am in the Fellowship Hall, at 10:00am there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids and Worship service will begin at 10:30am. (There will be no Sunday School classes.)

MARY & MARTHA GATHERING: We are so fortunate to have the Xenia High School Jazz Band, directed by Greg Sell, join the church for their 3rd annual performance. This extra special event, sponsored by Mary & Martha and jointly supported by the United Methodist Men of Faith, will take place **Monday, Apr. 13, 6:00-8:00pm, with the program starting at 7:00pm**. All women, men and children are welcome to join this joy-inspired evening! Potluck will be provided by the women-with return of our signature church ham loafs. 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 the church office at (937) 372-7601.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE: Guidelines and application forms are available in the narthex and church office. Please complete and return to the office by **Thursday, Apr.16**.

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE: We will have a blood drive in the Community Center on **Monday, Apr. 20, 2:00pm to 6:00pm**. You can make an appointment to donate by going to www.VersitiDayton.org or call 800-388-GIVE (4483). A light meal will be provided for all donors. Remember that your donation can save as many as THREE lives!

VIOLENCE FREE FUTURES IS HOLDING A CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS 5K HERE AT FAITH COMMUNITY: Join us on **Saturday, April 25, 9:00-11:00am** and dress up as your favorite superhero and run, walk, or stroll in our Superhero 5K. This family-friendly event is perfect for all ages and even welcomes your furry friends. The cost is \$30 and you can register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Xenia/SuperheroCAPE5kWalkRun>. We will have prizes for best costume for individual and team! Race or Sponsorship Inquiries: Heather Culbreath (937) 376-8526.

WESLEY CAMP & RETREAT CENTER: Adventure awaits for kids ages 7-17! Come unplug, unwind and experience God. Flyers are available on the table in the narthex.

SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School will be on **Saturday, Jun. 13**.



Monday 23	Spec. Olympics Volleyball	6:45 pm	FCC
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