

March 8, 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 Handbell Choir
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Charles Converse/Arnold B. Sherman

**Call to Worship

Worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

We are the sheep of God's pasture.

We are the lambs of God's flock.

Come! Let us worship the Lord.

**Opening Hymn "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" UMH #277

Opening Prayer (unison)

Living water, flow through our hearts today. Quench our thirst in our desert wanderings, and strengthen us for the road ahead. Bathe us in your fountain of eternal life, that our spirits may flow with faith and love, through the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Precious Name" UMH #536 (v 3,4)

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
"Drinking at the Springs of Living Water" John W. Peterson

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

Eternal Spirit, Source of healing and wholeness, receive our grateful hearts for your many blessings. Transform the gifts we bring this day into Christ's promise of living water for the world. Bathe those who are touched by today's offering in your goodness and grace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Gospel Reading John 4:4-15

Ministry of Music Handbell Choir
"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" arr. by John A. Behnke

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

**Closing Hymn "Open My Eyes, That I May See" UMH #454

**Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart
"Fill My Cup, Lord" Richard Blanchard/Herbert Colvin



*The Altar flowers are given by Debi Hall
in memory of her dear friend, Stephanie Monnin.*

Gospel Reading – John 4: 4-15 (CEB)

Jesus in Samaria

⁴ Jesus had to go through Samaria. ⁵ He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, which was near the land Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob’s well was there. Jesus was tired from his journey, so he sat down at the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me some water to drink.” ⁸ His disciples had gone into the city to buy him some food.

⁹ The Samaritan woman asked, “Why do you, a Jewish man, ask for something to drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” (Jews and Samaritans didn’t associate with each other.)

¹⁰ Jesus responded, “If you recognized God’s gift and who is saying to you, ‘Give me some water to drink,’ you would be asking him and he would give you living water.”

¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you don’t have a bucket and the well is deep. Where would you get this living water? ¹² You aren’t greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave this well to us, and he drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.”

¹³ Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life.”

¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will never be thirsty and will never need to come here to draw water!”

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

March 8, 2026 - Worship Team

Ushers	Doug Wickline, Bruce Spitler, Don Wolf, Bob Whipp
Greeters	Sara Gardner, Laurie Krakowiak
Liturgist	Suzanne Bandy
Organist	Carol Stewart
Director of Music	Teri Gray
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeck



Monday 9	Mary & Martha Gathering	6:00 pm	FCC
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15C
	Cub Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15A-B
Tuesday 10	Walking	9:00 am	FCC
	Tuesday Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Stephen Ministry Training	1:00 pm	Library
	Winter Guard Practice	3:30 pm	FCC
	Girl Scouts Leaders	6:00 pm	FH 15C
Wednesday 11	Handbell Choir Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Chancel Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 12	Walking	9:00 am	FCC
	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Magic Volleyball Practice	2:00 pm	Parlor
	Scouts District Leaders	6:30 pm	FH 15A-B
Friday 13			
Saturday 14			
Sunday 15	Sunday School	9:00 am	Rm 6, 11, FH 15C, Parlor
	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary
	Fun at Faith	5:00 pm	FCC, Kitchen

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 CC 16A, 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.

Next Sermon – Sunday, March 15

"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of Appearing Ignorant"

Gospel Lesson
Rev. Jeff Bandy
John 3: 1-8 (NIV)

March 8, 2026 Announcements

TODAY IS COINS FOR MISSIONS SUNDAY: 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.

UMCOR SUNDAY, MAR 15: This offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable. Please write UMCOR on your check and/or envelope.

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 **Monday, 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** (3rd Monday each month). 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". After the meeting we will have fellowship over games and popcorn. Bring the game that you like to play with others.

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.

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.)

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**.



Monday 9	Mary & Martha Gathering Boy Scouts Cub Scouts	6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B
Tuesday 10	Walking Tuesday Bible Study Stephen Ministry Training Winter Guard Practice Girl Scouts Leaders	9:00 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor Library FCC FH 15C
Wednesday 11	Handbell Choir Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 12	Walking Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice Scouts District Leaders	9:00 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm 6:30 pm	FCC Parlor Parlor FH 15A-B
Friday 13			
Saturday 14			
Sunday 15	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service Fun at Faith	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	Rm 6, 11, FH 15C, Parlor Narthex Sanctuary FCC, Kitchen

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