

# April 12, 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  
"Psalm Nine"  
Carl Wiltse

\*\*Call to Worship

Easter people, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Christ is risen indeed! We trust Jesus came to save.

**Within our certainty, Christ appears.**

Christ is risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up.

**Within our questioning, Christ appears.**

Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's work of salvation in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

**We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.**

\*\*Opening Hymn "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (see back page)

Opening Prayer (unison)

**Jesus of the Cross, Jesus of the Resurrection, we rejoice in you. For long before the experience of the cross, you defeated the powers of sin, pain, and death in the hurting people around you. And then *you* were struck down. But you defeated the cross and stood before your beloved disciples, as you are present today—alive. We rejoice in you, Risen Savior, for you open before us your life-giving peace and power. You are our Lord and our God. Alleluia! Amen.**

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Majesty, Worship His Majesty" UMH #176

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  
"He Is Lord" Carol Stewart  
Tom Fettke/Keith Christopher

\*\*Doxology UMH #95

\*\*Prayer of Dedication

**Jesus our Protector and Savior, we thank you for every gift you have given us that brings us delight and joy in this life. We thank you for every gift that comes to us in times of despair to lift us up and tend to our sorrows. May these gifts reach out to our world, that others may know your joy, your caring, your deep understanding of despair—and your Life that-defeats death. Amen.**

\*\*Gospel Reading John 20:19-31

Ministry of Music  
Handbell Choir  
"Fantasia on Forest Green"  
Lloyd Larson

Sermon "Believe in Jesus" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Response to the Word

**Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, you have touched the wounds of the world and have been wounded by the world. We too claim your living power in our lives and for the sake of the world. Like you, may we touch the wounds of those who suffer in body, mind, and spirit, that your triumph over death may become the path of life for them. Remembering the marks of the nails and the piercing of the sword, we pray that this part of your story may heal us, even as it wounded you. We rejoice that you prevailed over the powers of sin, death, and destruction. Alleluia! Amen.**

\*\*Closing Hymn "Here I Am, Lord" UMH #593

\*\*Sending Forth

Postlude  
"I Believe" Carol Stewart  
Drake, Graham, Shirl, and Stillman



*Altar Flowers are given by Joan Baxter  
in memory of Leonard, married on this date in 1958.*

## Gospel Reading – John 20:19-31 (NIV)

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

<sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

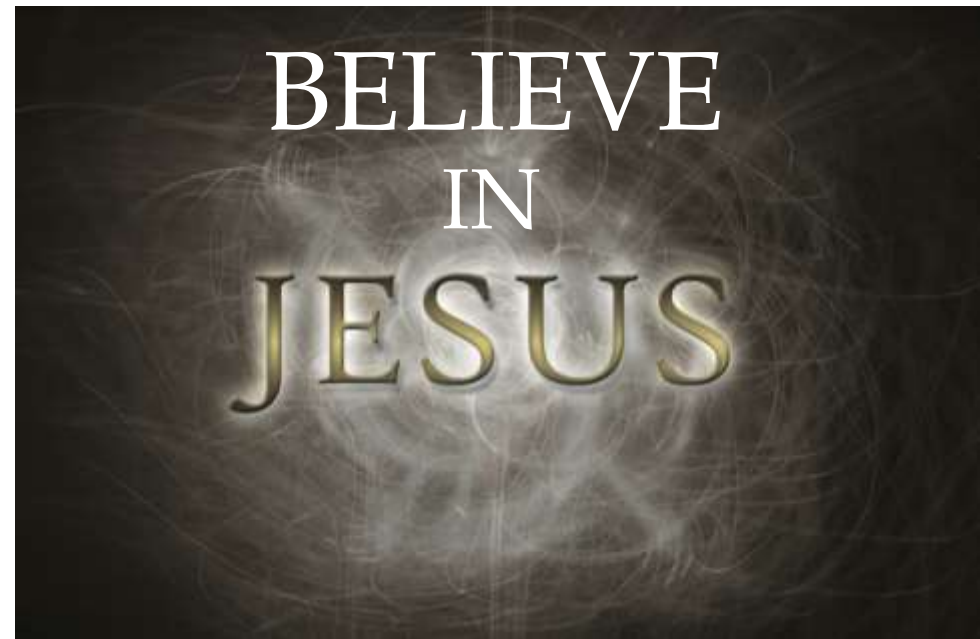
### 2129 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de -  
cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed to fol - low  
Je - sus — no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

2. The world behind me, the cross before me ...  
3. Though none go with me, still I will follow ...

WORDS: Anon.  
MUSIC: Anon.

ASSAM  
10.10.10.8



**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**

### April 12, 2026 - Worship Team

Ushers	Chad Mossing, Will Mossing, Gerald Mahan, Jim Osburn
Greeters	Bill Sykes, Carol Sykes
Liturgist	Sandy Pramer
Organist	Carol Stewart
Director of Music	Teri Gray
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeek



Monday 13	Mary & Martha Gathering Boy Scouts Cub Scouts	6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B
Tuesday 14	Walking Tuesday Bible Study Girl Scouts Leaders	9:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor FH 15C
Wednesday 15	Handbell Choir Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 16	Walking Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice	9:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor FCC
Friday 17			
Saturday 18	Visitation for Marie Ford Service for Marie Ford	10:00 am 11:00 am	Narthex Sanctuary
Sunday 19	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Rm 11, 15C, 16A, Parlor Narthex 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 "Journey Through the Bible, Acts of the Apostles" by Justo L. Gonzalez.

**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, April 19

"Shine A Light"  
Gospel Lesson

Guest Speakers: Jami Nathan & Four Friends  
Matthew 5: 14-16 (CEB)

### 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.

## April 12, 2026 Announcements

**VACATION:** Our Office Administrator, Deb Klaty will be on vacation **through April 17**. Please be patient with our volunteers in her absence. The bulletins have been printed ahead of time so if you have any announcements please give them to Pastor Jeff.

**A HEARTFELT THANK YOU:** For many years, Rev. Alan Barone has been fulfilling a Mission to help protect and preserve our planet through community service, teaching us through his articles in Faith Links and providing tree seedlings to our congregation in honor of Earth Day. Due to health issues he will no longer be able to work on this mission. We thank Rev. Alan for his hard work, commitment, and service to the Lord and wish him much health and happiness.

**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**.

**MEN OF FAITH:** All Christian men are invited to join us on **Monday, Apr. 20 at 6:00pm in CC 16A**. 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 with board games and popcorn. Bring the game that you like to play with others. Look for reminder emails or have me [ballcardkirk@gmail.com](mailto:ballcardkirk@gmail.com) add you to our list.

**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](http://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.

**MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID:** On **Sunday, Apr. 26, 2:30-4:30 at Fairhaven Church, 637 E. Whipp Road, Centerville**, the Greater Dayton Stephen Ministry Network is sponsoring a free presentation, open to all, on the topic of Mental Health First Aid. The speaker will be from New Creation Counseling. To learn more, contact Becky Cultice at [culticer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:culticer@sbcglobal.net) or 937-376-5747.

**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**



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

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