

Faith United Methodist Church

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FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear friends,

There are so many things that I have in my heart to share with you! I begin with simply being thankful that 2021 is drawing to a close and that it appears we will make it to the end! I pray that this coming year will be less tumultuous for us as a community and as individuals, and that we will sense God leading us into an even better place than before.

On our way to worship last week, Dennis commented how many cars there were outside a Roman Catholic Church. He grew up Catholic, so I reminded him that their members were expected to attend worship every week; attendance for them is not looked upon as optional or a matter of personal choice, but as a necessity if one expects to enter God's heavenly kingdom. For us, we believe that spending that one intentional hour with other people of faith in worship of God will build up our faith and our souls. Not only is weekly worship the 'right thing to do' as followers of God, but, like so many aspects of faith, we are better off when we comply.

This is not unlike our Advent preparations. Sure, we can go through the so called 'holiday season' from Thanksgiving thru New Year's and never actually sense we are encountering the Holy. Yet when we become intentional about seeking the Holy, with all certainty – we *will* find and experience the Holy. Our theme this Advent and Christmas

season will be entitled *The Inn: Housing the Holy*. It is our opportunity each week to focus on why and how God sent Jesus to live among us and the ways that will surely impact our lives. Like the unmentioned inn keeper, how might we house the holy? What would it be like for the Holy to be among us this Christmas? How can we house the holy as a congregation?



Ed Robb will further assist us in experiencing and imagining this expansive opportunity as we study his book, *Making Room: Sharing the Love of Christmas*. We will meet weekly at 1pm in the chapel at Faith UMC to reflect on his writing. Notice the earlier time. We have changed it to a daytime so that we can avoid folks having to drive after dark! Books are available at the church and everyone is encouraged to attend.

I know this time of year brings with it great apprehension for many folks. The stress of coordinating schedules, being sure everyone is safe and healthy, going thru the lists of things to do and gifts to give, significant memories and grieving loss of the past, etc., can be more than a little overwhelming. Have you ever tried to start a busy day without your routine? Without your coffee or medications or shower or whatever it is that helps you to get going? It doesn't usually go so well- your entire day can be thrown off! So it is with the 'holidays'. Remember that it is essential to include God's gift of the Christ Child and experiencing worship with other people of faith in order to grease the gears for the other aspects of the season. Let us be like that innkeeper the first Christmas and find a much needed space to House the Holy. Let us make room in our hearts and our lives for that which will enable us to flourish in our faith as we turn the page from Advent to Christmas to a New Year.

May your soul be richly blessed as you endeavor to *House the Holy*.

Pastor Joy Wigal

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Faith and First will have a joint Christmas Eve service which will be held at 7p.m. at Faith UMC on December 24th.



FREE STORE NEEDS



The free store is giving away LOTS of coats. We need your coats, hoodies, sweatshirts, boots, blankets.....warm clothes....all sizes. Thanks, Marilyn

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS

Children's gift bags will be given out again this year in the Free Store. Any items that will fit in a gallon "zip" bag will be appreciated...

Small books, crayons, glue sticks, cars, stuffed animals, candy canes, wrapped snacks...whatever might fit in the bag.

Thanks for your caring and your support.



BETHEL COMMUNITY CENTER

Bethel Community Center needs your help this Holiday season. Bethel provides our area youth a place to get away from the hardships they may face at home. We accept students in Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Our students get a hot meal, food to take home, hygiene supplies and loving support from our staff and volunteers.

The majority of our students come from homes with income that is below the federal poverty level. Monetary donations to Bethel can be used to directly help those families who struggle the most.

Coming up on Saturday, December 18th, we will host our Free Christmas dinner. Our Board of Directors will prepare a hot meal with a main dish, sides, dessert and drinks for over 100 individuals. This will be served dine-in or to-go from 4-6 p.m. at 162 Ontario Street in Zanesville.

If you would like to donate to Bethel, checks can be mailed to Bethel Community Center, 126 Ontario Street, Zanesville, Ohio 43701.

Thank you so much for your support for our area youth and families in need!

Sincerely,

Amanda Hatfield, Executive Director
740.252.6009
ahatfield6738@gmail.com



BIRTHDAY'S

December 7—Kris Crawmer

December 9—Lily Howard

December 15—Gloria Dalrymple

December 19—Vickie Wolfe

December 21—Don Wolford

December 22—Betty Miller

December 23—Brian Wolfe

December 23—Linda Hennessey

December 25—Randy Schreiber

December 26—Jordee Sue Harper



JESUS' BIRTH WORD SEARCH



JESUS
MARY
JOSEPH
GOD
ELIZABETH
JOHN
ZACHARIAS
GABRIEL
SHEPHERDS
INNKEEPER
ANGELS
CAESAR
AUGUSTUS

NEWSLETTER

Have an item you would like to put in our newsletter? Contact Amanda at fumcza@gmail.com or 740-453-7988! Items are due by the 20th of each month.

PHONE IN WORSHIP

Sunday Worship occurs every Sunday from 10:15 to 11:45 AM

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388

Access code: 132 203 0362

UMW CHRISTMAS LUNCH

All the ladies and their guests are invited to the UMW Christmas “Songs of the Seasons” luncheon on Sunday, December 5, 2021 after the worship service down in the fellowship hall.

We will enjoy Christmas music and have a nice lunch provided by Giacomo’s Deli and Bread. The cost is \$5.00 per boxed lunch.



This Photo by Unknown

EVENTIDE CIRCLE

Eventide Circle will meet Thursday, December 2, 2021.

Marsha Kelly will lead the devotions.

Pat Tolle will offer the Program.

Vickie Finlay will share the Response Moment.

Roberta Covert will be the Hostess.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Barb Tignor

Bernice Osborne

Betty Howard

Bev Wolford

Bill Dougherty

David Inman

Dennis Cebulsky

Gloria Dalrymple

Henrietta Hurst

Jane Donovan

Janice Moore

JoAnne Peadon

Karen Norman

Karen Wilson

Marlene Farley

Matt Weiser

Sue Trout Family

Suzanne Collins

Thea and Mark Crawmer

Medical Faith Shut-ins:

Henrietta Hurst

Kathleen McCutcheon

