

Faith United Methodist Church

1616 Blue Avenue

Zanesville, Ohio 43701

Items for the newsletter must be submitted
by the 20th of each month.

E-mail submissions to: fumcza@gmail.com



FEbruary/
MARCH
2021



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

I vividly remember last year at the end of February when everything began shutting down. I couldn't imagine not having worship in person for more than a week or two. Needless to say, recent months were completely unfathomable. When will we return to in person worship? When the Covid numbers come down and a significant number of our most vulnerable folks are vaccinated, when we are not risking health and safety by being together, when we can be in the same space with only the fear of the common cold or flu, we will return to in person worship. I personally know a church, not in our city but in southern Ohio, who had one person infect many others at church, eight became seriously ill, at least one has died. Our church's leadership wants to remain vigilant and do whatever possible to keep our congregation safe.

So here we are, a year later, preparing to enter Lent. I am planning for us to remain virtual throughout Lent and hope that I am incorrect again and we will be able to return to in person worship before Lent is over. **Ash Wednesday is on February 17th** this year. To experience the imposition of ashes, I will be available from **5-6pm at Faith UMC** by the upstairs / Sanctuary entrance. Congregants will have the option of:

pulling into the lot where I will meet them at their vehicle for the administering of communion and reception of ashes, or

exiting their vehicle and entering the sanctuary to spend time in meditation or prayer as well as the imposition of ashes and receiving of communion.

I will also be leading a weekly ***virtual study group on Wednesdays at 6:30pm***. It will use the same kind of system as we do on Sunday via WebEx. Church folks can call in by phone or connect via their computer. If it's not too complicated, we will share it on Face Book as well. The Lenten book we will be using is entitled ***Near the Cross: A Lenten Journey of Prayer by Kenneth H Carter***. If you are interested in participating in this study group or would simply like a copy of the book, please let me or the church office know so that the right number can be purchased. *Copies may be picked up on Ash Wednesday between 5-6pm or on Sunday, February 14th between 9:30-11:30am at Faith Church.*

Our Lenten worship services will focus on healing: physically, communally, mentally, environmentally, and Holy / wholly. Where could your life be improved or more whole? Jesus came to bring healing. Not only did he heal many during his earthly ministry, but he gave his own life that we might know the healing power of forgiveness. Included in this newsletter is the information about how to watch services online or by phone if you are having problems with or do not use Face Book. Also included is information about connecting for the study group.

Stay warm and stay safe while we wait for God to gather us inside the church again.

Pastor Joy

Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Lent Book Study

Pastor Joy would like to begin a weekly virtual study group on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. We would use the same kind of system as we do on Sunday via WebEx. Church folks could call in or connect via their computer. The Lenten book we will be using is entitled *Near the Cross: A Lenten Journey of Prayer* by Kenneth H Carter. If you are interested in participating in this study group or would simply like a copy of the book, please call the church so that the appropriate number of resources can be ordered in a timely fashion. More information about the book can be found online. It is available in digital format, if that is your preference.

Wednesday, February 17 thru March 31, 2021 at 6:15 pm (begins at 6:30 but sign on early to be ready by 6:30!)

Meeting number: 132 707 6601

Password: 7777

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 132 707 6601 (Meeting number)

Psalms 23: 5-6 "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever."

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is on February 17th this year. It seems unwise to gather for a traditional service, but for those who prefer to experience the imposition of ashes, I would like to propose a non-traditional option. I will be available from 5-6pm at Faith UMC by the upstairs / Sanctuary entrance. Congregants will have the option of pulling in to the lot and I will meet them at their vehicle for the administering of communion and reception of ashes, or exiting their vehicle and entering the sanctuary for the same. Materials for a time of personal reflection will be provided in either case.

Upper Room Devotional

If you would like to receive a copy of the Upper Room Devotional, please leave a message on the church voicemail. We will arrange for on to be mailed or--dropped off to you. 740-453-7988. Thanks!

Sunday Worship Instructions

Sundays, 10:15 am (service begins at 10:30 but you may connect early)

Meeting number: 132 203 0362

Password: 7777

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 132 203 0362 (Meeting number)

United Methodist Women

Book Club News

Ladies, we are ready to begin our 2021 Reading Program. Our first book is the same as last year, *Falling into Place* by Hattie Kauffman. If you have the book, have read it and would be willing to share, let Barb Wolfe know so she can get the books to whoever needs them.

Our first Book Club meeting will be March 29, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. It will be a Webex meeting online, which many of you are already familiar with. If you have any questions, please email Barb Wolfe (wolfe_bk@yahoo.com) or Pastor Joy Wigal (wigalfrench@yahoo.com). Susie Dunlap will be our host and guide for our first book discussion.

New Hope Circle

New Hope Circle will have it's February meeting, Sunday, Feb. 7th at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom or Webex.

Mark 10:27 "Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.'"

Birthdays

February 3rd Cassie Donovan
February 3rd Reese Donovan
February 3rd Pat Tolle
February 15th Orlen Bates
February 22nd Thea Crawmer
February 24th Don Wolfe
March 1st Dennis Cebulsky
March 3rd Marianne Maxwell
March 3rd Carol Norton
March 7th Juanita Mohler
March 7th Susie Dunlap
March 8th Keith Wolfe
March 9th Gary Graham
March 11th Beth Dougherty
March 11th Amanda Dunlap
March 11th Megan Dunlap
March 16th Kyler Moore
March 17th Evan Wolfe
March 19th Henrietta Hurst
March 19th Steve Farmer
March 23rd Dee Clark
March 25th JoAnne Peadon
March 29th Roberta Covert

Anniversary

March 21st Keith and Barb Wolfe

Prayer List

Dennis Cebulsky
Thea and Mark Crawmer
Chris DeGarmo
Marlene Farley
David Inman
Janice Moore
Karen Norman
JoAnne Peadon

Medical Faith Shut-ins:

Henrietta Hurst
Kathleen McCutcheon

Expressions of Sympathy

- ◇ *Edgar McAuley at the loss of his granddaughter, Mysti.*
- ◇ *Bernice Osborne at the loss of her son, Robert.*

Praises and Blessings

- ◇ *The birth of Lillian Howard to Cindy and Nick Howard.*
- ◇ *The appointment of Orlen Bates to Junction City Good Shepherd UMC.*