

Faith United Methodist Church

1616 Blue Avenue

Zanesville, Ohio 43701



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

It has been a powerful and joyous experience for us to again be able to gather in person for worship and meetings! How do you describe the experience we have had over the course of the last year plus? It has been different for each of us. Some of us feeling bored and isolated, missing family and community. Some grieving the loss of loved ones with limited to no opportunity to mourn with others. Some having been greatly ill, with Covid-19 or other challenges, and experiencing the isolation of restrictions within hospitals and limitations in visitors. Similarly, those with loved ones in care facilities having experienced the separation of months without any personal contact. Still others have been unusually busy through their increased responsibilities in the medical field or caring for the marginalized. At the end of it all, I just want to see people in real life and- can I please have a hug?!

At last, it appears we are in the home stretch in our area. I'd almost forgotten what it was like to tell a joke during a sermon and have people laugh so I can hear them! We did what we had to do to get through the pandemic and I don't regret that. We have an entirely new awareness of any ailments we could be carrying and po-

From the Pastor's Desk Continued

tentially passing along to others! Yet I am surprised at how wonderful it is to be with people – *in person* - again! It's as though everything has changed and yet everything is the same. As a congregation, we will continue to use caution while resuming activities and enjoying being in person again.

Despite the unusual circumstances of the last year and the fact that our confidence in the future forever being 'business as usual' may never be repaired, we can place our full confidence in the faithful and unchanging nature of God. The essence of life is not to obtain ongoing ease, but to realize security in the certainty of God's presence and love. Regardless of what we face in regard to a pandemic or time of recovery; regardless of whether we grieve alone or together; regardless of if we are bored or overworked; regardless of if we are ill or in good health, at home or hospital or away... God is faithfully present and loves us dearly. If the pandemic has taught us anything about our togetherness, it is that we do not need to be physically present in the same space to be together in God. The presence of God goes beyond our concepts of space and time. Hallelujah! This summer, we will be celebrating *The Tie that Binds*. I hope you will be joining us *in person* whenever you are able! And if you are not, we will continue to stream online via Facebook and WebEx (call in available).

I look forward to seeing you soon!

In Christ,

Pastor Joy

Prayer List

Dennis Cebulsky

Suzanne Collins

Thea and Mark Crawmer

Jane Donovan

Marlene Farley

Betty Howard

Henrietta Hurst

David Inman

Janice Moore

Karen Norman

Bernice Osborne

JoAnne Peadon

Barb Tignor

Bev Wolford

Medical Faith Shut-ins:

Henrietta Hurst

Kathleen McCutcheon



Have an item you would like put in our newsletter?



Contact Amanda at fumcza@gmail.com or
740-453-7988!

Serving

If you are interested in serving Sunday mornings either traditionally or in new and creative ways, please contact Marsha Kelly at 740-674-6629 or lilacmarsha@yahoo.com.

Thank you to all who have assisted in our Sunday morning services.

Kiddie Playdates

We have started hosting "Kiddie Playdates" each Thursday from 10:00-11:00 at the Faith UMC playground.

This is focused on kids ages 5 and under, but all kids are welcome.

We will have special crafts and treats some days.

Please share the news with others!



The New Hope Circle will be sponsoring a "Christmas in July" at Faith United Methodist Church. In the past, our congregation has been very generous with collecting coins and loose change during the month of July. We hope that you will be cheerful givers* again this year. The money raised will go to the Salvation Army Christmas food baskets. We will be giving the money directly to the Salvation Army (instead of buying the food ourselves). The Salvation Army has the ability to purchase the most needed food products from the Ohio Food Bank. This is more cost effective in terms of purchasing food at a price that will serve more families in need.

So, start saving your coins! Due to Covid restrictions, we will be distributing quart-size zipper plastic bags to you this year. Look for them on June 27. You can also send a donation to the church. Make sure you write on your check that it is for Christmas in July.

Thank you in advance for helping with this UMW mission project.

*If you would like the donation to be reflected on your Giving Statement, please sign your name on the plastic bag label.

United Methodist Women

We are ready to have our **second** Book Club meeting for 2021! Below is a list of all the books but on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 6: 30 p.m. we will be discussing the book, **So you want to talk about race**, written by Ijeoma Oluo. You may acquire the book on your own or see Barb Wolfe if you need to borrow a copy. Pastor Joy Wigal will be the host and discussion leader.



Other 2021 books:

Immigration and Justice for our Neighbors written by Jennifer Clark and Miriam Downey. Mission Emphasis: Social Action. Tentative meeting date: Monday, July 26, 2021.

My Life and Lesser Catastrophes written by Christina Schofield, Mission Emphasis: Spiritual Growth. Tentative meeting date: September 27, 2021.

“READER’S CHOICE” –Mission Emphasis: Education through Mission. You will be given a wide range of books to choose from. Tentative meeting date: Monday, November 29, 2021.

Falling into Place by Hattie Kauffman. Mission Emphasis: Leadership Development. We met on Monday, March 29, 2021. There are a few copies of this book in the lounge on the bookshelf.

Any questions? See Pastor Joy or Barb Wolfe.

June Birthdays

June 6—Marsha Zayac

June 6—Will Howard

June 18—Isabel Ross

June 28—Floyd Tolle

June 30—Suzanne Collins

June Anniversaries

June 6—Chuck & Sue Berga

June 19—Charlie & Teresa Johnson

June 24—Nick & Cindy Howard

United Methodist Women

Eventide Circle will meet Thursday, June 3 at 1:00 p.m. in the conference room.

Devotions: Pat Tolle

Response Moment: Marilyn Inman

Program: Thea Crawmer

The New Hope Circle will meet Sunday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

The UMW Executive meeting will be Tuesday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.