



January
2022

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor
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"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." **Isaiah 43:18-19**

Dear Fellowship Members and Friends,

As we begin another year together, I've realized that this is the 11th newsletter article I've written as a pastor marking the beginning of a new year (9 here at Fellowship and 2 at my first congregation, Faith in Jackson).

As a very young child, it seemed as though a year was almost a never-ending period of time. The school year, especially, seemed as though it would never end. Through my teenage years, time continued to drag. At eighteen or nineteen, it seemed as though I would never get to be twenty one, a full fledged legal adult.

Anytime, the expression "time flies" seems like an understatement. Some of that sense may be due to the continuing emphasis that our culture places upon speed. We're always seeking ways to do things faster. However, as we cut down production time, we simply fill the time we save with more tasks. As we accomplish more, we're always seeking ways to accomplish more yet, a never ending cycle that seems to wind itself around our necks in an ever tightening noose.

So I encourage you to slow down and think about what 2022 will bring... What does a new year bring to your front door? What joys and challenges await you in 2022? Will this be a pivotal year with exciting new vistas to explore? Or will 2022 require you to grind out another year in sameness and worries? Will you meet a new lifelong friend or lose one? Will your investments succeed beyond your wildest dreams or will your meager fortune be ravished by hard economic times? Will you discover a hidden strength that propels you into a new direction, or will you experience lessons of failure that will temper your heart? Do health concerns or the ongoing coronavirus pandemic make it difficult to be excited about a new year?

With the passing of time, I've come to realize that the real basis of life does not consist in how many jobs we get done, how many promotions we accumulate, how much money we save or how many things we possess. What gives life meaning is our spiritual identity. We're created in God's image. God has an eternal home with God's self prepared for us. Meanwhile until that time comes, we do our best to serve God by serving others and sharing God's love and grace to all people. And we try to grow our own relationship with God... now.

As we begin the new calendar year, may you be surrounded by peace, joy, hope and love as you respond to God's grace in love.

See you in church!

Pastor Robin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-person Worship With the number of COVID cases high, we are asking that you continue to wear a mask for in-person worship, even if you are fully vaccinated/boostered.

Holy Communion Consecrated communion kits can be picked up in the church office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon for those unable to attend in-person.

Donation Opportunities

Smoky Row Food Pantry Needs for January, February, and March

- Non-perishable food staples, such as beans, corn, rice, pasta
- Baby items (Diapers 2-3-4, Wipes)
- Toiletries, such as shampoo/conditioner, soap, toilet paper, etc.
- Winter coats, hats, gloves
- Lightbulbs

Please place your donations in the tubs located in the Narthex during church service hours, or during published office hours - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm. Thank you!

Meals on Wheels

Friday, January 21	Engen	Friday, February 18	Biemel
Saturday, January 15	Cardimen	Saturday, February 19	Wolfe

Worship Servers Needed! If you are able to help out at our 10:00 a.m. Worship service, please let either Tracy Farel or Pastor Robin know. Lectors, counters, and greeters are needed.

Sunday School will resume on January 9, 2022. We are planning on resuming Sunday School on January 9, 2022 for preschool through 6th grade youth. Middle school and high school students are welcome to help. Please contact Dianna Roll if you are interested.

Kroger Plus Fundraising Information: If you would like to register your Kroger card for the Community Rewards Program, please contact Pastor Robin or the church office. Thank you so much for participating in this fundraiser!

Give to Fellowship with Your Smartphone with Vanco Mobile - If you would like to give to Fellowship with your smartphone, please download Vanco's new smartphone app, **Vanco Mobile**. Vanco Mobile will enable anyone to donate at anytime to Fellowship. It makes it easy to give instantaneously for a regular gift, a recurring gift, or a special occasion gift.

Do You Order From Amazon? If so, then try Amazon Smile to support Fellowship Lutheran Church! First, go to Amazon Smile and choose Fellowship Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH as your charity. Then, shop as usual and Fellowship will receive a percentage of your purchase. It's that easy!

Thrivent Members - For those of you with choice dollars. don't forget that Fellowship can be a recipient of those dollars. Thank you to all who have donated this way in the past!

Staying Connected Program for the Elderly - Did you know that Ohio has a program for the elderly to "stay connected?" You get to pick the hour to receive the phone call. For more information, here is the link: <https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/get-help/staying-connected/>

Attendance Information (In-person & virtual)

11/7	33/5/19 views	12/1 (midweek)	4/43 views
11/14	32/-/13 views	12/5	34/6/21 views
11/21	30/3/16 views	12/12	19/10/34 views
11/28	24/4/19 views	12/19	36/5/38 views
		12/24	39/28/31 views
		12/26	12/13 views

Thank you all so much for all of the Christmas cards, gifts, goodies, and generous monetary gift. I continue to be blessed to have been called to this loving and generous congregation!
Pastor Robin

As I write this, the Christmas season is upon us and it has been a busy time! I am enjoying being able to be at church for services which I missed last year. Attending services in person or virtually always helps me feel centered and starts my week out on a calm, positive note. I am hoping that everyone had a great Christmas and was able to join in person or virtually for the worship services. One of the few positive aspects of the pandemic has been able to stream services so that we can feel more together even if we are apart. For members in attendance, we continue to show our love for one another by wearing masks and social distancing.

We held our congregational meeting on November 14th which was well-attended and included discussion surrounding the Pumpkin Patch continuation and proceeds. The overwhelming theme was that the congregation enjoys and values participating in the Pumpkin Patch and having proceeds benefit youth events and local benevolence. There was also discussion surrounding how the church has changed in regard to youth attendance and engagement with events. Council met to discuss the Pumpkin Patch Resolution which was passed in 2018 and it was modified to meet present congregational needs and to align with the updated constitution. Council voted on the new resolution which was passed by unanimous vote on December 21, 2021. Below are the previous and current resolutions.

Resolution from 2018:

Whereas:

Fellowship Lutheran Church has been allocating funds from Pumpkin Patch in amounts of 33% Benevolence Projects, 54% Youth Events and Programming, and 13% on Leadership Events and Programming,

And, significant balances have grown in the Youth Events and Programming, as shown in the attached Treasurer's Report, as our population of youth has declined,

And, as responsibility for the allocation and responsibility of disbursement of the funds is not specified in the Constitution nor By Laws and is not clear in any other documents,

And, the majority of the funds generated by the Pumpkin Patch come from the communities around Fellowship Lutheran Church,

And, the funds that are raised by the Pumpkin Patch are disbursed for functions that reside in multiple boards;

Be it Resolved that:

1. PPC will be given authority to specify future allocations to Youth Events and Programming, Benevolence Projects, and Leadership Events and Programming based on anticipated need in each area.
2. The allocation for Benevolence Projects shall always be at least 33% of the yearly Pumpkin Patch net profits.
3. If there are funds in excess of the anticipated need for Youth Events and Programming, those funds may be re-allocated for additional Benevolence Projects, preferably those benefiting youth in our community.

Executive, continued

4. Disbursement of funds allocated for Youth Events and Programming will be the responsibility of the board responsible for Youth (currently the Board of Education and Youth).
5. Disbursement of funds allocated for Benevolence Projects will be the responsibility of the board responsible for Benevolence (currently the Board of Stewardship and Service).
6. Disbursement of funds allocated for Leadership Events and Programming will be the responsibility of the board responsible for Administration (currently the Board of Administration).
7. Pumpkin Patch proceeds shall not be considered part of the congregational budget, and shall not be used for anything other than Benevolence Projects, Youth Events and Programming, or Leadership Events and Programming.

(Passed by voice vote at Fall, 2018 congregational meeting.)

Resolution from 2021:

Whereas:

Fellowship Lutheran Church has allocated funds from Pumpkin Patch to Benevolence Projects, Youth Events and Programming, and Leadership Events and Programming in the past,

And, significant balances have grown in the Youth Events and Programming, as our population of youth has declined along with interest in attending youth events,

And, as responsibility for the allocation and responsibility of disbursement of the funds is not specified in the Constitution nor By Laws and is not clear in any other documents,

And, the majority of the funds generated by the Pumpkin Patch come from the communities around Fellowship Lutheran Church,

And, the funds that are raised by the Pumpkin Patch are disbursed for multiple functions;

Be it Resolved that:

1. Council will be given authority to specify future allocations to Youth Events and Programming, Benevolence Projects, and Leadership Events and Programming based on anticipated need in each area.
2. The allocation for Benevolence Projects shall always be at least 33% of the yearly Pumpkin Patch net profits.
3. If there are funds in excess of the anticipated need for Youth Events and Programming, those funds may be re-allocated for additional Benevolence Projects, preferably those benefiting youth in our community.
4. Council shall approve disbursement of funds allocated for Youth Events and Programming, Benevolence Projects, and Leadership Events and Programming.
5. Pumpkin Patch proceeds shall not be considered part of the congregational budget, and shall not be used for anything other than Benevolence Projects, Youth Events and Programming, or Leadership Events and Programming unless approved by a 2/3 vote of Council.

Executive, continued

It has been an honor leading Council since I was affirmed in my new position at the congregational meeting in November and I look forward to good things in 2022. Looking ahead, we will continue to evaluate safe worship practices and plan to update our Core Values that we received data on from a recent congregational survey.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy New Year!

Kathryn Tucker

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone made it through the holidays safe and well. Hopefully you were able to see some family and enjoy their company this year. I know that wasn't the case for everyone last year. What strange years the last two have been with COVID predominantly in the headlines. Makes me even more grateful for our church family and that we are moving forward with extreme caution even though a high percentage of our members are vaccinated.

With these uncertain times I know it is hard to foresee what is going to happen in the way of COVID affecting our lives and day-to-day activities. Despite its efforts to disrupt our lives, our worship attendance has slowly been increasing since restarting in-person worship back in April. We are averaging about 30 people at the 10am services and 8 people at the 5pm services. If you have not been back yet the chairs are still set up to allow us to spread out and distance while worshipping as a family again. I'm glad people feel safe in coming to worship in person again. One thing we are short on is worship servers. If you can help out, even for a Sunday or two here and there, please let Tracy know or sign up on the Worship Servers sheet in the Narthex. If you are unsure as to what a worship server does, please see my page with the Worship server descriptions in this newsletter!

These last few years we have been taking a look at FLC and redefining our Mission, Vision and now our Core Values. We have now closed the survey on the Core Values and these were the results:

Welcoming - striving to welcome all for who they are	23 votes
Worshipping - rooted in the Lutheran traditions and centered on Word and Sacrament	22 votes
Serving - caring for each member and our neighbors in the Community	22 votes
Connecting - establishing meaningful relationships so that all feel part of our FLC family	19 votes
Educating - growing and sustaining our faith with ongoing education for all members	15 votes
Involving Youth - valuing youth of all ages and finding ways to integrate them	15 votes
Sharing - sharing God's Word and God's abundance with others	14 votes
Generosity - Being generous with the time and resources God's given us	13 votes
Potlucks	2 votes

The next step with these Core Values is the Council will discuss the results and see if we want to keep all of these, since they were pretty close in numbers except for Potlucks which was a write-in (*have no fear, we will try to get back to having some potlucks this year*), or if we narrow it down to the top four or five. Thank you to everyone who participated in the online survey!

In the efforts of trying to keep our FLC family more connected I will definitely be reviving the Care Team in 2022. If anyone would like to help me send cards to members or possibly do some in-person visiting, please let me know!

My second effort to keep us more connected is to use our Facebook page more. If you are not following our Facebook page, please go out and **Like** it. You can also request to join our **FLC members** group so you can get notified of the events we list out on our Facebook page. I've been trying to list all of our worship services in the Events section as well as post important reminders to the page and to our members group. If you have any other ideas for our Facebook page, please let me know.

Blessings for a great 2022 year!
Cindy Frey

FLC Worship Servers



Lay Reader - Read the lessons for the Sunday you signed up for, minus the Gospel. Right now it is only the first lesson that needs to be read - a good time to get started in this position! You will be sent a copy of the reading by Friday before the Sunday you are scheduled to read.



Counter - Take care of any money that has come in during service and during the week. You must count it and record it, make copies of checks and drop the deposit off at the bank.



Greeter - Be there EARLY (before service) to welcome people as they come into the building. Typically greeters stand in the entryway (if not too cold) or right inside the Narthex doors that way they can direct visitors that may need to know where things are, as well as welcome the regular members back to in-person worship. If you have a name tag, it would also be helpful to wear it.



Altar Guild - This job requires setting up the sanctuary for worship on Saturday. There are a number of things that may need to be done depending on what time of year it is and whether we are back to our normal worship or not. **Don't worry!** There is an excellent guide explaining everything. This guide is kept at the church in the altar guild closet and there are mentors that are willing to help out your first couple of times. There may be some clean-up to be done after service as well.

**"Our Church All Are Welcome"
Property & Stewardship**

Stewardship:

We are all Stewards one way or another in our life's journey, if you think about it. When you look up the definition of steward, it has many explanations. So, what is your calling for 2022? How did it go for 2021 when you reflect on this interesting year? We have good people & families in Our Church. 2022 will be another year of possible surprises so let's all keep trying to invite one family to come to Our Church and/or view our Sunday service on our social media venue. All we have to do is ask.

During our congregation meeting last month - and after the honest and open communication that we had on how the pumpkin patch funds were originally set up to be used, the following information is how the funds we raised were sent to organizations to help the causes.

90% of the pumpkin patch funds were distributed - \$700.15 to each organization.

The 5 designated pumpkin patch benevolence projects for 2021 were:

- Lutheran Social Services Champion Food Pantry, 500 W. Wilson Bridge Rd. #245, Worthington, OH 43085
- Smoky Row Food Pantry, 7260 Smoky Row Road, Columbus, OH 43235
- Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, 863 Eastwind Drive, Westerville, OH 43081
- Heifer International, 1 World Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72202
- Family Mentor Foundation, 460 Schrock Road, Ste E, Columbus, OH 43229

During our council meeting on Tuesday, December 21, we decided that next year we will open up for discussion and decide as a parish where the funds we raise next year will be allocated, as we truly feel we are a parish (family) working together for good causes.

Pumpkin Patch 2021 was a team success - many thanks to all who helped!

Support:

We had a busy few months & we made things happen.

- Pumpkin patch tent set up and clean up
- Changed the furnace and air conditioning filters
- Roof replacement over the narthex and classroom areas
- Had the men's restroom refinished and painted due to water damage
- Ladies restroom is on the list to be completed
- Replaced all of the can lights in the sanctuary
- Replaced the broken monument ground sign light
- Removed the 2 flowers from the entrance area (due to winter)
- Painted the entrance curb yellow to highlight the transition to step up

Due to the unfortunate break in - (And thank you George for helping out cleaning up the damage)

- Supervised the office and pastor's door replacements - Thomas Door is a great company to work with.
- Repaired the window in the nursery until it could be replaced
- Supervised the actual window replacement - (Thank you Kathryn, for the recommendation of the Glass Doctor company - they get things done professionally.
- Re-supported the prayer garden gate door that was kicked open to gain access to the nursery window area
- Bagged up all of the leaves in the prayer garden (9 bags) - it may be designated as the leaf gathering area.

We received 2 bids for our potential painting project and will be looking into carpet bids - these 2 projects will possibly end up being potential congregational fund-raising requests depending on how Our Church budget works out over the first quarter.

God Bless & Thank you all

Keep in touch with your friends and let them know you care - life is too short.

Rock n Roll John

My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. . Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever. Psalm 145:21

By the time you read this, we will have received our precious Savior as Baby Jesus. He came so that we may have eternal life. God gives us the ultimate Christmas gift!

Christmas Eve Worship

As I write this, we on worship team are in the final preparations for this year's Christmas Eve worship. We hope that you will have joined us at one of our two worship times: 5:30 pm. or 7:30 pm. These will be candlelight services with carol singing while we continue to mask.

Pandemic Effects

Our worship services here at Fellowship continue to evolve due to the changing nature of Covid 19 and its variants. The worship team constantly strives to give FLC members the most meaningful, yet safe worship experience we can.

Undecorating

On Sunday, January 2nd, we will be taking down and putting away our Christmas decorations. Please join in the fun! All are welcome.

Important Upcoming FLC dates:

January 2nd—Undecorating Fellowship

January 6th—Epiphany

January 11th—Worship Team meeting

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Robin Wargowsky
Treasurer	Todd Engen
Financial Secretary	Tracy Farel
Office Secretary	Tracy Farel
Pianist	Amy Wargowsky
Sub. Pianist/Organist	David Fleisher, Ruth Albert
Choir/Band Director	George Biemel
Custodian	Kenneth Hunt

Executive Committee

President	Kathryn Tucker
Vice-President	George Biemel
Secretary	Sonya Thelin Pastor Robin

Congregational Life

Director	Cindy Frey
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Education & Youth

Director	Dianna Roll
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Outreach

Director	Carol Jaeger
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Stewardship & Support

Director	John Votino
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Worship

Director	Karen Harris
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Thank you for your leadership!!!

Worship Servers Schedule for January 2022

Date	January 2	January 9	January 16
Lay Reader			
Counter			
Greeter		Kathryn Tucker	
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel

Date	January 23	January 30
Lay Reader		
Counter		
Greeter		
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel

Worship Servers Needed!

We have not yet returned to our full schedule of worship servers due to COVID. If you can fill any of our openings for readers, counters or greeters or help out in future months, please call or email Tracy or Pastor Robin. Thanks!



January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC	27	28	29	30 8:00 pm - CJMC	31 New Year's Eve 11 pm-1:30 am CJMC	1 New Year's Day
2 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-2:30 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	3	4	5	6 8:00 pm - CJMC	7	8
9 10:00 am - Worship 11:00 am - Executive 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	10	11 7:00 pm - Worship Team (zoom)	12	13 8:00 pm - CJMC	14 7:30 pm - BAPS	15
16 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	17	18 7:00 pm - Council	19	20 8:00 pm - CJMC	21	22
23 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	24	25	26	27 8:00 pm - CJMC	28	29
30 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-2:30 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	31	1	2	3 8:00 pm - CJMC	4	5

FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Fritzi Bear	Lillian Kachic
Sam & Maxine Brunner	Frank & Leena LeMay
Major N Crispin	Sonja Meighen
Barb Fisher	Joshua Mott
Margery Gress	Stacy Niedecker
Cheryl Hamilton	Martha Sampson
Zach Jaeger	Ray & Carol Ward
	Bill Zahn

January Birthdays

Gwen Cardimen	1/7
Carol Jaeger	1/9
Hayden Laucher	1/12
Dave Bear	1/13
Zachary Kidd	1/14
Jenny DeVantier	1/17
Michael King	1/17
Andy Smith	1/20
Anna Oliver	1/22
Kim Johnston	1/23
Major N Crispin	1/25
Margery Gress	1/28
Josh Mott	1/28
Abigail Cardimen	1/30

FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Joan Albert, Ruth Albert's mother
Rosemary Craig, Cindy Frey's mother
Lynn Hainline, Karen Harris' cousin
Marc Hamilton, Cheryl Hamilton's son
Jo Anne Harvey, Donavon Johnson's friend
Pat Henceforth, Rev. Ron Bott's friend
Chris Johnson, Bruce Johnson's sister-in-law
Donna Lobuzzetta, wife of Bill Lude's friend
Orin McMonigle, Karen Harris' friend
Jay Parmar, Anish Amin's friend
Pastor Libby Toler, Ruth Albert's friend
Becky & Matt Trefz & Keegan, Cindy Frey's friends
Hayden Valesky, Votino's great nephew



Happy Birthday to those celebrating birthdays this month! This list reflects the information we have in our computer at this time. We welcome your corrections and additions!

DEATHS:

January Anniversaries

Kohei & Yuriko Tateyama	1/1
Bruce & Jean Johnson	1/20
Frank & Leena LeMay	1/28



Fellowship Lutheran Church
7350 Sawmill Road
Columbus, OH 43235

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Purpose: To share God's love and grace through our words and actions.

Our Vision: To be a diverse, thriving community of faith where all are welcome to celebrate God's love and grace.

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