

January
2025

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor
7350 Sawmill Road | Columbus, OH 43235
[tel] 614. 889.0113 [pastor] 937. 725.4930
Email: flc7350@gmail.com | Website: flccolumbus.com



"The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written." - Melody Beattie

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow." - Albert Einstein

Dear Fellowship Members and Friends:

As I write this article, we are approaching the start of a new year. Happy New Year! As we turn the page to January, I am filled with gratitude and excitement for the blessings of this past month and the opportunities ahead in this new season of ministry.

December was a remarkable time for our church community, especially as we celebrated the birth of Christ together. One of the highlights was our joint worship service with Columbus Joeun Methodist Church on December 22nd. What a joyous occasion it was! The sanctuary was filled with the harmonious sounds of choirs of all ages, each offering beautiful music that lifted our spirits and reminded us of the hope and peace found in Christ. Following the service, we enjoyed a festive meal with an array of delicious dishes to choose from. The fellowship around the tables was a true reflection of God's love and unity among God's people.

On Christmas Eve, we gathered once again for our candlelight service, surrounded by the warm glow of poinsettias and candles. The beauty of the sanctuary and the reverent atmosphere made it a truly sacred time to celebrate the birth of our Savior. It was a powerful reminder of the light of Christ that shines in the darkness, a light that no darkness can overcome. Thank you to our musicians, altar guild, and worship servers who helped make this service so special.

I also want to take a moment to thank you for the Christmas cards, goodies, and thoughtful gifts. Your kindness and generosity mean so much to me and my family, and we are truly blessed to be part of this loving church community.

As we step into this new year, I am excited about the fresh opportunities God is placing before us. With the start of 2025, we welcome a new leadership team in our church. I want to express my deep gratitude to those who have faithfully served in the past and offer my prayers and support to those stepping into new roles. Together, with God's guidance, we can continue to grow as a church family and make a meaningful impact in our community.

Let us carry the joy and hope of this Christmas season into the year ahead, trusting in God's promises and seeking God's will in all we do. May our hearts remain open to God's leading as we worship, serve, and grow together.

See you in church!

Pastor Robin



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SMOKY ROW FOOD PANTRY located at 7260 Smoky Row Rd., Columbus is in need of the following items for **January, February, and March:**



- Baby items (diapers - all sizes) and wipes
- Winter coats, hats and gloves (adult, child, and infant)
- Non-perishable food staples, such as beans, corn, rice, pasta
- Toiletries, such as shampoo/conditioner, soap, toilet paper, etc.
- Lightbulbs

Place donations in the containers located in the Narthex. Your generosity is gratefully appreciated by our neighbors in need. Thank you!

Women's Dinner and Guys Night The next Women's Dinner will be on Tuesday, January 7th at 6:00 p.m. at Don Tequila, 1540 Bethel Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43220 (614) 745-0081. The next Guys' Night Out will be on Tuesday, January 28th at 6:00 p.m. at Outback Steakhouse, 2704 Bethel Rd., Columbus, OH 43220 (614) 326-1605. All are welcome!

Poinsettias - If you have not already picked up your poinsettia(s), please take them home.



Sunday School Come join our Sunday School classes for youth and adults at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings! Susan Wolfe facilitates the adult class which is studying forgiveness and Pete and Lilly Cardimen are teaching our youth. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Worship Servers Needed If you are able to help out at our 10:00 a.m. worship service, please let Pastor Robin know. Assisting ministers, lectors, counters, and greeters are needed. Not sure what these roles involve or never done it before? We will be happy to help you out! Sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex.



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!

Holy Communion We celebrate Communion weekly. All baptized Christians who believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine are invited to join us in the celebration of Holy Communion. Grape juice is available in the center of the trays. Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Give to Fellowship with Your Smartphone with Vanco Mobile - If you would like to give to Fellowship with your smartphone, please download Vanco's 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 or recurring gift, or a special occasion.



Pastoral Care Request If you have a pastoral care request (hospitalization, upcoming surgery, need for counseling, etc.), please call Pastor Robin at (937) 725-4930. If you would like a home visit by Pastor Robin, please let Pastor Robin know so it can be scheduled.

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 - 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)

November 3	34/12 views	December 1	39/20 views
November 10	32/25 views	December 8	26/30 views
November 17	40/16 views	December 15	33/23 views
November 24	43/14 views	December 22 (joint)	81/20 views
		December 24	74/13 views
		December 29	

**Joint Worship Service with Columbus Joeun Methodist Church on
December 22nd**



Philippians 4:12-13 I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (NRSVue)

Happy New Year! As we enter the season of Epiphany and longer days, we also are starting a new term for Congregational Council and Executive Committee. Thank you to all who have agreed to serve this term.

As I meditate on the scripture above, it is much like our church, Fellowship Lutheran Church. Most of us can remember days of plenty and days of just making ends meet, yet we are still here. God has brought us here, through it all. We have always found a way through the tough times. On the cold, snowy days of January, it is tempting to just stay inside and stay by the warm fire. Yet God bids us to go out and make disciples, getting our hands dirty doing his work.

I would like each member, including the children, to join me in an exercise. Take an index card and write down your responses to the following three items.

1. Write down two things from the past at FLC (or other churches) that you really enjoyed.
2. Write down one thing you wish we could do again, or something you would like for us to try.
3. Write down one way you can help. For those who are homebound, that can be as simple as praying for the church.

If you would like to share your answers with me, you can either give them to me at church, or, email them to me at albertrafp@gmail.com. For families, you can send one email with all the answers. Please title it FLC Wishes so I know what it is.

Another way we can look at things is the phrase “What Can We Do?” This can be taken in a sense of hopelessness, or a spirit of purpose.

WHAT – What are things you have enjoyed doing (or that have been done at other churches that you have attended)

CAN – Choose what we can do. Some things may have to wait.

WE – Not just leadership, but all of us

DO – Let’s get busy!

I look forward to serving as President of the congregation for these next two years, but I need your prayers, support, and engagement. Please prayerfully consider how you can serve the church more fully as well.

In Christ,
Ruth Albert

"He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel."

Luke 2:32

12/1- The Fellowship congregation decorated our church. Many hands made light work. New red bows, procured by Sonya Thelin and Pastor Robin, were attached to all the wreaths. New pine garland was put up in the narthex. As always, the large banners were put up courtesy of the Farel family.

12/8-Pastor performed a healing service.

12/15-Sermon in Song was done in part by the FLC choir and partly by the congregation.

12/15-Kathleen Wolkan and Cindy Frey led the children from Sunday School in making 80 white luminary bags. Pete Cardimen furnished the 100 lbs. of play sand. These luminaria will be placed outside Fellowship right before Christmas Eve worship.

12/18-Pastor Robin and Karen Harris, along with much expert help from Tracy Farel and George Biemel, put up the poles for aisle candles. On Christmas Eve, Altar Guild will add the globes and candles to the poles.

12/21-Many beautiful poinsettias given by our members were placed on the steps of the altar by Darcy Dom, Megan Harris, and Karen Harris.

12/22-A joint worship was held with the Korean Joeun Methodist Church. Pastors Jong Pai and Robin Wargowsky co-officiated. The Korean Church choirs graced us with their beautiful singing and a joint potluck will take place in the fellowship hall.

12/24-Christmas Eve candlelight worship with Communion was held at 7 pm.

12/29-Ruth Albert will lead our congregation in a service of lessons and carols.

Dates to remember:

Jan. 5-Undecorate the church after worship

Mar. 5-Ash Wednesday

Worship Servers Schedule for January 2025

	January 5	January 12
Asst. Minister		Paul Wargowsky
Lay Reader		Paul Wargowsky
Counter		
Greeter		
Communion Asst.		
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel

	January 19	January 26
Asst. Minister	Ruth Albert	
Lay Reader	Ruth Albert	
Counter		
Greeter		
Communion Asst.		
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel



Worship Servers Needed!

If you can fill any of our openings for assisting ministers, readers, counters, greeters or fellowship hosts or help out in future months, please call or email Pastor Robin or Tracy Farel. Thanks!

FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Carolyn Crispin	Lillian Kachic
Major N Crispin	Ed Lathy
Byron Engen	Frank LeMay
Gabby Frey	Leena LeMay
Pat Frey	Pete Meighen
Margery Gress	Sonja Meighen
Cheryl Hamilton	Jeff Sielaff
Karen Henry	Ray Ward
Don Johnson	

January Birthdays

River Roll	1/3
Gwen Cardimen	1/7
Carol Jaeger	1/9
Robert Burns	1/12
Hayden Laucher	1/12
Zachary Kidd	1/14
Andy Smith	1/20
Anna Oliver	1/22
Kim Johnston	1/23
Major N Crispin	1/25
Margery Gress	1/28
Abigail Cardimen	1/30

FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Jonah Albert, Ruth Albert's nephew
Cindy Anderson, Maria Anderson's mother-in-law
Linda Chickey, Ruth Albert's friend
Maci & Alexandra Craig, Cindy Frey's niece and newborn daughter
Dale Dasher, Cheryl Hamilton's uncle
Kenny Hoffman, Jim & Carol Jaeger's friend
Mike McKinley, David Fleisher's friend
Frank Wright, Greg Schaughency & Bill Lude's friend



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:

Ken Cole, John Votino's friend
Rosemary Craig, Cindy Frey's mother

January Anniversaries

Frank & Leena LeMay 1/28



January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	30	31 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - 1:00 am - CJMC	1 New Year's Day	2 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	3 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	4 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOG
5 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:00 am - Undecorate church 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	6	7 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 6:00 pm - Women's Dinner	8 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 1-2:30 pm - CJMC Bible Study	9 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	10 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	11 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOG
12 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:10 am - Executive 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	13	14 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Worship (zoom)	15 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 1-2:30 pm - CJMC Bible Study	16 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 1:30 pm - SICC Prs. 8:00 pm - CJMC	17 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	18 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOG
19 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	20	21 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:30 pm - Council	22 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 1-2:30 pm - CJMC Bible Study	23 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	24 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	25 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOG
26 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	27	28 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 6:00 pm - Guys' Night Out	29 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 1-2:30 pm - CJMC Bible Study	30 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	31 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	1 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOG

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Robin Wargowsky
Treasurer	Bill Farel
Secretary & Financial Secretary	Tracy Farel
Organist	Dixie Heck
Sub. Pianist/Organist	David Fleisher, Ruth Albert
Band Director	George Biemel
Custodian	Kenneth Hunt

Executive Committee

President	Ruth Albert
Vice-President	Mike Rankin
Secretary	Angela Kidd
	Pastor Robin

At-large Council Members

Andy Smith
Cathy Votino
Donna Williamson

Team Coordinators

Congregational Life	Vacant
Education & Youth	Dianna Roll
Outreach	Pete Cardimen
Property	John Votino
Stewardship	Vacant (Council)
Worship	Karen Harris

Thank you for your leadership!!!

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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