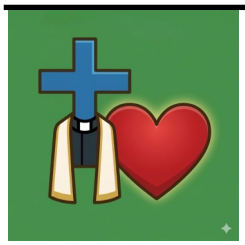
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Fellowship Family News

November 2026

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor
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*[One of he Pharisees asked] "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" **Matthew 22:36-39 NRSVue***

Dear friends in Christ,

If you have turned on a television, opened social media, or checked your mailbox recently, you know exactly what season we are in. We are swimming in a sea of political advertisements, campaign slogans, and high-decibel rhetoric.

Many of these ads are designed to do one thing very effectively: make us view our neighbors with suspicion. They tell us that those who think differently than we do are threats, adversaries, or people to be feared. In a politically diverse congregation like ours—a reality that is a beautiful reflection of the Kingdom of God—this constant barrage can make us feel guarded, even when we sit in the sanctuary together on Sunday morning.

During seasons like this, it is grounding to return to the essentials of our faith. In Matthew 22:36-39, a lawyer tests Jesus with a question: "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Jesus' response simplifies everything, yet challenges us completely:

> " *'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'* "

Jesus does not tie the definition of "neighbor" to a political party, a specific vote, or a shared ideology. A neighbor is simply the person God has placed in our path.

While the political rhetoric around us demands that we sort people into categories of "us" versus "them," Jesus calls us to a higher allegiance. Our primary citizenship is in the Kingdom of God, and our primary instruction is love.

Loving our neighbor as ourselves during an election season doesn't mean we have to agree on every policy or candidate. It does mean, however, that we refuse to let political ads dictate how we treat each other. It means we listen with humility, speak with kindness, and protect the unity of the Spirit.

When the volume of the world gets too loud, let's tune our hearts to the voice of Christ. Long after the ballots are counted and the ads stop airing, our calling remains exactly the same: to love God with everything we have, and to love our neighbors—all of them—as ourselves.

See you in church!

Pastor Robin

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE SMOKY ROW FOOD PANTRY is at 7260 Smoky Row Rd., Columbus. The most needed items for **October, November, and December** include:

- Baby Items (Diapers 2-3-4, Wipes)
- Toiletries, such as shampoo/conditioner, hand soap & deodorant
- Turkeys/Hams
- Laundry Detergent
- Winter Coats, Hats, Gloves

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 Out The next Women's Dinner is on Tuesday, December 1st, at 6:00 p.m., at Anna's Greek Cuisine, 7370 Sawmill Rd., Columbus, OH 43235, (614) 799-2207. The next Guys' Night Out TBD. All are welcome!



Sunday School Sunday School classes for youth and adults are at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays.



Worship Servers Needed If you are willing to serve as assisting minister, reader, greeter, or counter for our 10:00 a.m. service, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. We are especially in need of counters and assisting ministers. We are also looking for fellowship hosts to serve light refreshments after Sunday worship once a month. Thanks!

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.

Fellowship has an Instagram Page thanks to Pete and Lilly Cardimen! Click on this link: https://www.instagram.com/fellowship_lutheran_church/#



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.

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 Choice Dollars 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!

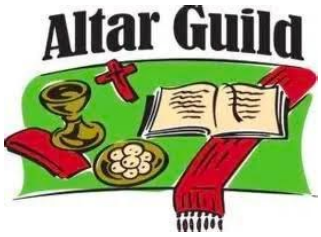
Kroger Plus Fundraising Information: If you would like to register your Kroger card for the Community Rewards Program, please contact Pastor Robin or the church office. Thank you so much for participating in this fundraiser!





All Saints' Sunday - November 1 If you have a loved one (family member or friend) who has died in the past 12 months whom you would like remembered on November 1st, please contact Pastor Robin.

ALTAR GUILD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED We are in need of Altar Guild volunteers to set up/take down communion every Sunday. If we cannot find more volunteers, we will probably need to limit the Sundays we offer communion. Please volunteer!



SAVE THE DATES!

- **November 1** - All Saints' Sunday with Roll Call of the Saints; turn clocks back one hour
- **November 8** - Recognition of FLC Veterans
- **November 15** - Consecration Sunday; Annual Congregation Meeting
- **November 29** - Advent begins; put Christmas decorations up after worship

Attendance Information (In-person & virtual)

September 6	26/15 views	October 4	28/7 views
September 13	25/16 views	October 11	30/10 views
September 20	34/11 views	October 18	28/10 views
September 27	23/16 views	October 25	21/13 views



Council/Executive

- Ruth Albert, President

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (NRSVue)

It is hard to believe but we are in the month of November already. There is a lot happening at the church this month and we need your involvement.

We are remembering our loved ones and friends on November 1, All Saints Sunday. The next week, November 8, we will honor our veterans who have served in the armed forces of this country. On the first three Sundays we will be completing our annual stewardship drive.

On November 15, we will be holding our Annual Congregation Meeting. There will be election of Officers and Congregation Council for the next two years, along with voting on the budget for 2027. This information has been sent to you already. If you have questions about any of it, please reach out to leadership. One of the items on the agenda is to talk about our Vision. Yes, we have a clear vision statement. How can we take these words and help to grow our church? Come with your thoughts and ideas on what we can do. Some of you have already stepped up and we thank you. Who is next?

The following Sunday is Christ the King Sunday, which marks the end of the church year. While it is the end, there is so much happening and much to anticipate into the new church year. Advent starts on November 29. We will decorate the church for Christmas following worship that day. This is always a great time to see everyone helping to get things transformed in about an hour. Will you be there to help that day?

Worship service opportunities include altar guild, greeters, assisting ministers, lay readers, and counters. The lay reader and assisting minister can be different members. There are other opportunities as well. Are you into videography? We could really use several persons willing to help with the camera during the church service. Are you into graphics? There is a slide show that is playing every Sunday in the narthex. Do you want to help keep that up?

Both our women's and men's groups are going out to eat each month. Maybe this might be the chance to invite someone to one of these dinners, or church? Unable to do any of the above? Pray for one another and those who are able to volunteer.

We might be a small congregation, but there is so much we CAN do.

WHAT – What activities do you want to do?
CAN – Choose what we can do.
WE – Not just leadership, but all of us
DO – Let's get busy!

In Christ,
Ruth Albert

"Empowered by God — Responding by Grace"

"Now as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you — so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking" (2 Cor. 8:7).

We've started our annual stewardship emphasis entitled, "Empowered by God — Responding by Grace." During this time, we are considering how God has empowered us and how our response, by grace through faith, can be used by God, especially in the ministry here at Fellowship Lutheran Church.

Just what does it mean to be empowered by God? The Lord Jesus said that His disciples would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them (Acts 1:8). That not only happened as He said it would, but we, too, receive God's power by God's grace through our faith in Christ as the Holy Spirit takes up residence in us. The words of an anthem by David Clydesdale and Claire Cloninger express this truth clearly: "Empower me! Like a rushing river flowing to the sea, Lord, send Your Holy Spirit flowing now thru me. 'Til I'm living as Your child, victorious and free. Send the power of Your love; empower me!" (Copyright © 1984 John T. Benson Publishing Co./ASCAP. All rights reserved.)

As we experience God's power through faith in Christ, our hearts respond. Our response begins with the realization that God owns everything. As Edwin Frizen stated, " . . . Scripture is full of evidence that all that we have comes from God." God is our Source. God is the Creator and Sustainer of life. God is the Provider of all that we have, whether it be life itself, the air we breathe, water which sustains us, or financial resources through which we obtain the necessities of life. On a daily basis, God demonstrates again and again God's abundant power as God "richly provides us with everything" (1 Tim. 6:17).

And what should be our response to God's provision for us? According to 2 Corinthians 8:7, we respond by "faith," implicitly trusting God to provide all that we need. We respond by "speech," sharing the good news of the Gospel with others. We respond by "knowledge" through the study of God's Word. We respond in "complete earnestness," that is, through a demonstration of the sincerity of our love for the Lord. And we respond by excelling in the "grace of giving."

As an example of what it means to give by grace, the Apostle Paul points to the Christians at Macedonia. These were poor people — dirt poor, poor as the proverbial church mice — who were commended by Paul for giving beyond their ability to give. How could they do that? The answer is found in 2 Corinthians 8:5 — " . . . they gave themselves first to the Lord." Giving does not begin with the movement of the hand to the wallet, purse or pocketbook. Giving begins in the heart.

In fact, this principle goes back to God's instruction to Moses in Exodus 25:2, " . . . from all whose hearts prompt them to give you shall receive the offering for me." This principle is still in operation today. As we give our time, talents and treasure to the Lord, we do so by God's grace because we have already given our hearts to God.

Sometimes, when stewardship is mentioned, people wrongly conclude that giving money is all that is involved. Not so. Giving **does** include our financial resources, but it goes far beyond money and actually encompasses three primary resources. These are what might be called "building blocks" in God's "school of faith" which constitute "lifestyle stewardship" or "total stewardship."

First, there is the matter of our time. Time is one resource that is given to everyone equally. All of us have twenty-four hours in every day. No more, no less. How we use our time reflects accurately what is a priority in our lives. Some people have made the TV a priority in their lives. They might not admit it, but by totaling the amount of time they spend in front of the screen, it would be hard to draw any other conclusion. Others have made sports a priority. How can we tell that's true? Again, by the amount of time they spend pursuing sports. The key question is this: How much of the 168 hours available to each of us every week is spent in pursuit of God or in service to God's kingdom, especially here in this ministry?

Then there is the matter of our talents, an area in which all of us have not been gifted equally. Some have been gifted by God to work with their hands, with machines, or with computers. Others excel in their ability to communicate orally or via the printed page. The effective outreach of the Gospel here at Fellowship Lutheran Church is made possible only when God's people who are part of this fellowship use their combined talents for God's glory and for the good of this ministry.

Finally, there is the matter of our treasure. Don't be confused. Money cannot buy salvation. Money cannot buy eternal life. Money can't even buy security which God alone provides. But how we use money is an indication of our priorities. Think about the process: God owns everything. According to Psalm 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's." God has never relinquished God's title deed to the world, but God enables us to earn that which rightfully belongs to God. God then seeks to have us return a portion of what God has entrusted to us through our giving.

Giving is not to help "poor God" pay God's bills. Giving is not because God needs anything from us. Giving is God's way of growing Christians. Every time we give for God's glory from hearts that have been redeemed by God's love and grace, we give away a little of our selfishness. Every time we give of our resources, we grow in grace and in our walk with Christ.

Writing in "Our Daily Bread," Anne Cetas described her pastor's way of illustrating the truths of 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. He placed an offering plate on the floor and stepped into it. He then stood there as he talked about the importance of giving our whole selves to the Lord. Anne then suggested, "The next time the offering plate comes around at church, imagine yourself stepping into it. It will help you to excel in the grace of giving."

As you consider your life during this time of stewardship emphasis, will you — like the Macedonian Christians — excel in the "grace of giving" by first giving yourself to the Lord? Will you then respond by grace through giving your time, your talents and your treasure to be used by God in this ministry? "Empowered by God — Responding by Grace." That was true of the Macedonian Christians. May it also be true of us here at Fellowship Lutheran Church.

As you consider your response to these questions, and as you seek the Lord's direction concerning your giving in the next few months, please remember these simple yet profound words:

Only one life, 'twill soon be past;
only what's done for Christ will last.

Worship Servers Schedule for November 2026

	November 1	November 8	November 15
Asst. Minister	Paul Wargowsky	Edwin Madari	Ruth Albert
Lay Reader	Paul Wargowsky	Edwin Madari	Ruth Albert
Counter	Darcy Dom		
Greeter	Susan Wolfe	Karen Harris	
Fellowship Host	--	Kathleen Wolkan	--
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel

	November 22	November 29
Asst. Minister		
Lay Reader		
Counter		
Greeter		
Fellowship Host	--	--
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel



Worship Servers Needed!

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

Our Prayers and Support for . . .

***FOR OUR MEMBERS*:**

Carolyn Crispin
Major N Crispin
Byron Engen
Claire Haase
Cheryl Hamilton
Karen Henry
Lillian Kachic
Ed Lathy
Frank LeMay
Leena LeMay
Pete Meighen
Bridget Smith
Sonya Thelin
Ray Ward

FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Lucille Bline, Dianna Roll's cousin
Gene Fling, Sonya Thelin's friend's husband
Brandon France, Vanessa France's brother-in-law
Kim Hammeren, Beth Hammeren's husband
Garrett Henry, Mike Rankin's step grandson
Julie Johnson, Dianna Roll's friend
Rachel Lathy, Ed Lathy's daughter
Ron Laucher, Chad Laucher's father
Pat McCarty, Paul Wargowsky's sister
Mike McKinley, David Fleisher's friend
Patty Ramsey, Dianna Roll's cousin
Rovan Spears, Jasmine Neal-Spears' husband
Danny Valley, Beth Hammeren's son-in-law
Janet Wargo, Cathy Votino's friend

DEATHS:

Kelvin Hite, Jim Jaeger's Scouting friend
Dr. Elizabeth Maddela, Edwin Madari's ex-wife's sister
Mimi Rousseau, Jim Jaeger's friend
Jon Self, John Votino's friend
Susan Thomas, FLC Visitor

November Birthdays

Frank LeMay	11/01
Karen Henry	11/10
Don Poland	11/11
Chris Tonn	11/14
Tracy Farel	11/21
Peter Meighen Jr.	11/22
Lillian Kachic	11/23
Paul Lloyd	11/24
Bill Farel	11/25
Amanda Laucher	11/28



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!*

November Anniversaries

Major & Carolyn Crispin 11/29



November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	***2*** *Board of Election Set-up*	***3 Election Day*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 6:30 am - 7;30 pm Voting @ FLC	***4*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:30 pm - CJMC	***5*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***6*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***7*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOC 6-8 pm - CJMC Bible Study
8 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship; Celebrate Veterans 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	***9***	***10*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Worship (zoom)	***11*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:30 pm - CJMC	***12*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***13*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***14*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOC 6-8 pm - CJMC Bible Study
15 Consecration Sun. 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:10 am - Cong. Mtg 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	***16***	***17*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Council (zoom)	***18*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:30 pm - CJMC	***19*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***20*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***21*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOC 6-8 pm - CJMC Bible Study
22 Christ the King 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	***23***	***24*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***25*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:30 pm - CJMC	***26 Thanksgiving*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***27*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	***28*** 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOC 6-8 pm - CJMC Bible Study
29 9:00 am - Sun. School 10:00 am - Worship 11:00 am - Hanging of the Greens 11:30-4:00 - CJMC	***30***	*1* 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 6:00 pm - Women's Dinner	*2* 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:30 pm - CJMC	*3* 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	*4* 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	*5* 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00-12:00 - SJCOC 6-8 pm - CJMC Bible Study

Pastor Robin on vacation

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Robin Wargowsky
Treasurer	Bill Farel
Secretary & Financial Secretary	Tracy Farel
Organist/Pianist	Suzanne McNutt
Sub. Pianist/Organist	Amy Wargowsky, David Fleisher, Ruth Albert
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.

November 2026 Newsletter