



January
2023

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor
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"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Greetings Fellowship members and friends!

It was wonderful seeing many of you at our Christmas Eve service despite the freezing temperatures, wind, ice, and snow. If you were not able to join us in person, hopefully you were able to watch our service on our YouTube channel. I've always wanted to take a picture from my view at the altar when we light our candles and sing Silent Night, and capture the beauty of those holy minutes. The picture below gives you a glimpse of my view.



What does a new year bring to your front door? What joys and challenges await you in 2023? Will this be a pivotal year with exciting new vistas to explore? Or will 2023 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 finances 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 make it difficult to be excited about a new year? No matter what 2023 brings to us, be assured that God is with us every second of the day. As we begin the new calendar year, may you be surrounded by God's peace, joy, hope and love.

See you in church!

Pastor Robin



Thank you so much for the Christmas cards, gifts, and goodies and your generous monetary gift. They were greatly appreciated! And a special thanks to Amy, George, the choir and the band for all their extra work in December and the beautiful music!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-person Worship Masks are now optional. Please feel free to wear a mask if you are more comfortable with one on.

Generosity Giving We have now collected \$14,753.00 for our lighting proposal (\$15,250). Please contribute to our capital fund as you are able. A big thank you to Columbus Joeun Methodist Church and the 24 families who have generously contributed so far!

5:00 p.m. Worship & Praise Service Come join us for our 5:00 p.m. Worship & Praise Service on the 1st Sunday of each month. There will not be a 5:00 p.m. Worship & Praise service on New Year's Day.

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!

EFT for 2023 - If you use EFT for your offering or would like to start using EFT, we need to hear from you for 2023. There are EFT sign up sheets and extra faith promise cards in the office.



Youth Sunday School News Come join us for Youth Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.! This year, we are using Sparkhouse, *Activate Faith - All Kids* for the curriculum, and classes are taught by Pete and Lilly Cardimen. Classes will resume January 8th.

Adult Sunday School Adult Sunday School will resume on January 8th. Susan Wolfe facilitates the discussion.

Meals on Wheels

Saturday, January 21

Farel

Saturday, February 18

Farel



Holy Communion Consecrated communion kits can be picked up at church on Sundays for those unable to attend in-person.



Worship Servers Needed! If you are able to help out at our 10:00 a.m. worship service, please let Pastor Robin know. 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!

Goodgifts - Through Advent, Christmas, and early January, give to Goodgifts to support work in 88 countries, sponsored by ELCA. Please select an ornament, or multiple ornaments, from the wreath located in the Narthex. The dollar amount noted on the ornament is the donation for that item. You may write a check payable to Fellowship Lutheran Church, and note Goodgifts in the memo—or you may donate using a credit card on the Vanco Mobile app by selecting Goodgifts. Thank you!

Stay Warm! - Starting December 4 through Advent, and Christmas, the Outreach Team is collecting scarves, hats, and gloves/mittens for adults, children, and infants. Place your donation in the containers located in the Narthex. The items will be used in the Blessing Bags at Fellowship and donated to the Smoky Row Food Pantry. Thank you!

One Rollator Still Available Two rollators have been donated to Fellowship from Scioto Ridge United Methodist Church and have been placed in the coat rack area. If you are in need of a rollator, please let Pastor Robin or Tracy know and take one. Please return to the church when you no longer need the rollator.

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!

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, Ohio 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!



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.

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 or Tracy know so we can get one scheduled. It does not need to be a pastoral emergency...just an opportunity to get to know you better.



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)

November 6	39/4/19 views	December 4	37/3/29 views
November 13	46/23 views	December 11	30/14 views
November 20	43/18 views	December 18	41/4/37 views
November 27	25/12 views	December 24	48/31 views
November 30	9/19 views		

Congratulations to Kathryn Tucker and Andy Smith, new parents to Conner Joseph Smith, born on December 24th!



“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” 2nd Corinthians 9:8

Hello Fellowship!

I hope that you all had a great Advent season and Christmas. Advent had extra special meaning for me as I wait for Baby Smith to come. I have been considering Mary’s thoughts in the days leading up to the birth of Jesus. Did she have similar concerns, hopes and fears for her child? It gives me strength and hope as I sort through my excitement and worries. Fellowship has been busy these past few months with our Thanksgiving meal in November and our Advent mid-week service.

This Fall has been busy for our church as we held a Special Congregational meeting in October to vote on our updated Constitution which passed by more than a 2/3s vote at our Congregational meeting on November 13th. Council is still looking for individuals to lead teams for Education, Congregational Life and Stewardship. The church is also looking for a volunteer to spend a few hours at the church during the week to help Pastor with Secretarial duties since the Secretary position was cut from the budget for this year. Please let Pastor or a member of Council know if you are interested in one of these opportunities. Starting in January, the church will not have someone on site Monday/Wednesday/Friday so keep in mind that we have a locked mailbox if you need to drop something off.

Here is the new Council for 2023-2024: President: George Biemel, Vice President: Mike Rankin, Secretary: Sonya Thelin; the 3 At Large Members are Angela Kidd, Bill Lude and Susan Wolfe.

George has been very involved in Executive Committee and on Council since he started serving last year and has stepped up to take on Stewardship duties these past few months. His passion for Fellowship and God is evident in the many hours that he has contributed to our church. I have been blessed with all of the Council members I have worked with and feel confident that I am leaving the church in good leadership with George and the new Council.

I am confident that 2023 will hold great things for Fellowship starting out with an updated Sanctuary lighting system made possible through many special donations from members. I am hopeful that more visitors will come and experience what makes our church shine! Each time I come to church, I leave feeling uplifted by the many good deeds our church participates in and wonderful members I get to interact with.

Wishing you great things in 2023!

Kathryn Tucker, Outgoing President

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." I Thessalonians 5:11

Another year is gone and we are another step closer to "being back to normal." This year we held our Easter breakfast again, had a potluck for the Outdoor service and Thanksgiving meal and even hosted a Family Game night at the church.

And even though I did not have a team, I feel like there were several individuals who were always there to lend a helping hand. The Lauchers and Lees helped with prepping food for Easter. Carol Jaeger and Kathy Farel helped me give the kitchen and tables in the Fellowship Hall a much needed scrubbing after sitting idle for over 2 years. Susan Wolfe, Kathryn Tucker and Andy Smith were my clean-up crew who got things straightened up in the kitchen so the Koreans could prep their meal. For the Thanksgiving meal a lot of the same faces showed up Saturday to help me set up and decorate for the meal on Sunday. And of course none of these events would have been a success without those who were willing to participate in the meals and brought food to share. Thank you to everyone for your support this year!

I hope and pray that we will be able to have more get togethers in 2023 and continue to come together as a faith community that spends time with each other.



Outreach Team

Carol Jaeger

The message to you in this newsletter, on behalf of the Outreach Team, is one of faith, generosity, thanks, and giving – the faith, generosity, thanks, and giving that all of you at Fellowship give to those in our neighborhood and community. In 2 Corinthians 9:8, we learn that we should ⁸ *“speak out, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy, And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”*

Through your faith, you share your abundance, talent, and time to the Smoky Row Food Pantry with those who need food and resources, and you give to the Good Samaritan fund to provide grocery and gas gift certificates to individuals, couples, and families coming to the doors of our church. Through your faith, you donate funds to the Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry, deliver meals to homebound individuals, serve hot dogs to the young people who play basketball in the parking lot, and books to neighborhood readers in the Little Library. Your generosity is a gift to many.

People ask for help when they feel desperate, intensely fatigued, disheartened, or dejected. We have served many this year – individuals and families – who have entered the doors of our church. They receive your assistance with gratitude, humility, thankfulness, and hope. Your support gives them peace, connection, and relief, if only for a short time.

In Proverbs 18:16, we learn that ¹⁶ *“a gift opens doors; it gives access to the great.”* Fellowship was one of several churches that received a donation of funds from the sale of the Grace Lutheran Church in Pennsylvania where Pete Cardimen, his brother, and parents worshipped during his youth. The responsibility of the Outreach Team to faithfully distribute these funds to those in need has required thoughtful reflection, and a process of evaluation. Through this year, we have identified 22 organizations who serve those in need, and developed a table describing their mission and values, address and contact information, and the way they utilize and distribute their funds.

The Grace Lutheran Church funds have enabled our outreach ministry to support and enrich youth, families, and adults in our community and the world. To-date, financial donations have been made to the Frebis Food Pantry, Smoky Row Food Pantry,

Worthington Resource Center, Dublin Food Pantry, Faith Mission, CHOICES, First English Lutheran Church, Meals-on-Wheels, Lutheran World Hunger and Disaster Relief, Family Mentor Foundation, Hopewood Outdoors, Oesterlen Service for Youth, and Thrivent Builds. In addition, funds have subsidized the Fellowship Good Samaritan Fund and the Blessing Bags.

The COVID pandemic and recovery has stressed the mental health, food security, and economic structure of individuals and families, many of whom were stretched prior to the pandemic. Members of Fellowship serve the increasing number of people receiving support from Meals-on-Wheels, the Smoky Row Food Pantry, and the Blessing Bags of items you donated and assembled. The Smoky Row Food Pantry serves an additional 1000 families each year. Fellowship members who invest in Thrivent Management, Inc., have secured Thrivent Action Grants to purchase needed food and cold weather apparel to stock the shelves of the pantry. Funds donated to First English Lutheran Church help buy food used to serve more than 300 meals each week to Columbus inner-city residents. In summary, YOU have contributed time, caring, and resources to these organizations to support the immediate need of our neighbors. Levitical Law reminds us that we ¹⁸ “*should love your neighbor as yourself.*” (Leviticus 19:18)

THANK YOU for sharing your faith, generosity, and giving to our neighbors and community members. You are gifted, caring members of Fellowship who share God’s love with persons inside and outside of our doors.

In His Service,

The Outreach Team – Carol Jaeger, Pastor Robin, Angela Roll Kidd, Darcy Dom, John Votino, Pete Cardimen, and Todd Engen

2022 proved to be a slowly getting back to normal year for Fellowship's Education & Youth program. After 2 years of inactivity due to the Covid 19 virus, we began a long awaited re-start.

- An in- person Sunday school class for preschool through 3rd grade commenced shortly after the start of the beginning of the year. This class was taught by Karen Harris and Dianna Roll, and continued through early June. Although only a few children attended, it was a welcome start.
- Graduate recognition in June was held for Gwen Cardimen, Lorien Crispin and Hayden Laucher. We wish these young adults much success as they entered college in the fall of 2022.
- No summer Vacation Bible School or Amazing Grace day camp was held in 2022, but students were welcomed to attend a nearby church VBS program.
- The Rally Day kick off for Sunday school in the fall of 2022 was very successful and well attended by adults and youth. The event included an ice cream social and a service project for "Helping Hands". During this project members packed giving bags for those in need of basic essentials. Pastor Robin uses these to share with people that visit FLC for assistance.
- Fall 2022 classes included a preschool- 3rd class, Catechism class and Adult Sunday school. Pete and Lily Cardimen taught the school age class, Pastor Robin led Catechism and Susan Wolfe taught our adults. Much appreciation to these members for volunteering time and planning to our Education Program.

As we continue to hold onto our faith and trust that life will reach a more comfortable normal, we look forward to continuing classes at Fellowship throughout the upcoming 2023 year. We hope to provide a summer program during the summer of 2023 providing there is interest and individuals willing to plan and organize it.

Property Updates:

Wanted to take the time to thank all who have contributed to our fund \$\$\$ raiser for the roof over the classroom and also the funds raised for the lights, and that we are continuing to raise to hit our Goal as we are close - so far, we have raised

\$14,753 - awesomeness

We still have \$497 left to cover the expenses - so we are well within reach.

Current Projects still in the works and or on going**Jay Francis Electrical:**

- His company repairs the outside lighting. He is scheduled weather permitting - the last last week in December and or first 2 weeks in January. Repairs needed:
- 3 ground lights on the monument sign need replaced and will be upgraded to new lighting technology LED - which will save us \$\$\$ in the long run
- One tall parking lot light near the basketball hoop - this along with 2 other pole lights will also be upgraded to the new LED package. Taking advantage of the one-time rental fee for the lift truck that will reach the lights. It is \$800 each time to rent (APPX).
- The outside security light facing the businesses behind the church. This will require new wiring and will be completed when he comes out for all other repairs.

Evolved Lighting:

- Zack Griffin for the sanctuary lighting- we completed a walk through. This is ongoing and waiting on the contract to have it signed

Other accomplishments:

- Trimmed the big obstruction bush down so you can see when you pull out of the back-parking lot
- Put up 2 church entrance signs on the back entrance for more directional awareness
- Bill Lude and I did the fall clean up - leaves - trimming of plants
- Glued down the carpet that was splitting at the seams near the lady's restroom

New opportunity:

- A new Roof leak in the Narthex - Rugh Roofing has been notified and will be out soon when the snow melts off of the roof and warms up.

Ongoing:

- Classroom one ceiling (small area) needs sanded and re painted from an old leak

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Many Thanks
John

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” Luke 2:14

We Christians can give glory to God because he has richly blessed us with our faith; we are the men on whom his favor rests. As I write this, we are still in December and awaiting the coming of our Savior, Jesus. God has given us, in Christ’s birth, the best Christmas gift we can ever receive.

Sermon in Song

George Biemel, Fellowship choir director, led a group of 11 singers today at our 10am worship for the yearly Sermon in Song. Amy Wargowsky accompanied them on piano. A foursome composed of Ruth Albert on flute, Todd Engen on trumpet, Paul Wargowsky on saxophone, and George on trombone played “Go, Tell It on the Mountain.”

Quiet Christmas

This peaceful worship was offered at the 5pm service today. It is a worship geared toward those who have suffered a loss recently, or just desire a soul-soothing Christmas worship. It was recorded.

Christmas Eve Worship

This year we had one worship service at 7pm. This was a candlelight worship with singing of carols.

Communion

We continue to use prefilled cups for communion until Worship Team feels safe to go back to our glass cups filled with wine by the FLC Altar Guild. As “Tripledemic” numbers rise, we are using an abundance of caution in this regard.

Undecorating

Fellowship members will be taking down our Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 8th. Please join us for some joyful fellowship. And...a big thank you to those who helped in many ways to put up the candelabra poles and in making our 100+ luminarias!

Important Dates to remember:

January 1-New Year’s Day, no 5pm Worship and Praise service; morning worship only

January 6-Epiphany

January 8-Pastor Monte Stevens will be the supply pastor while Pastor Robin is at Youth Quake.

January 10-Worship Team meeting via ZOOM, 7pm.

Church Staff

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

Executive Committee

President	George Biemel
Vice-President	Mike Rankin
Secretary	Sonya Thelin Pastor Robin

At-large Council Members

Angela Kidd
Bill Lude
Susan Wolfe

Team Coordinators

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

Thank you for your leadership!!!

Worship Servers Schedule for January 2023

	January 1	January 8	January 15
Lay Reader	Cindy Frey		
Counter	Bill Lude		Bill Lude
Greeter	Bill Lude		Bill Lude
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel

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



January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 pm - CJMC	2 7:00 pm - NA	3	4	5 8:00 pm - CJMC	6 Youth Quake	7 Youth Quake
8 9:00 am - Sunday Sch. 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 pm - CJMC 2:00 pm - Pastor & youth return from Cinc.	9 7:00 pm - NA	10 7:00 p.m. - Worship Team (zoom)	11	12 11:00 am - SICC Pastors Meeting 8:00 pm - CJMC	13	14
15 9:00 am - Sunday Sch. 10:00 am - Worship 11:00 am - Executive 11:30-4:00 pm - CJMC	16 <i>MLK Day</i> 7:00 pm - NA	17 7:00 pm - Council	18	19 8:00 pm - CJMC	20	21
22 9:00 am - Sunday Sch. 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 pm - CJMC	23 7:00 pm - NA	24	25	26 8:00 pm - CJMC	27	28
29 9:00 am - Sunday Sch. 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-4:00 pm - CJMC	30 7:00 pm - NA	31	1	2 8:00 pm - CJMC	3	4

FOR OUR MEMBERS:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Fritzi Bear | Zach Jaeger |
| Maxine Brunner | Lillian Kachic |
| Major N Crispin | Frank & Leena LeMay |
| Byron Engen | Pete & Sonja Meighen |
| Barb Fisher | Joshua Mott |
| Margery Gress | Martha Sampson |
| Claire Haase | John Votino |
| Cheryl Hamilton | Ray & Carol Ward |

January Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------|------|
| Gwen Cardimen | 1/7 |
| Carol Jaeger | 1/9 |
| Hayden Laucher | 1/12 |
| Zachary Kidd | 1/14 |
| Jenny DeVantier | 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
- Jean Allard**, Cindy & Pat Frey's former boss
- Lillian Bellini**, Karen Harris' friend
- Diane Bowman**, Karen Harris' friend
- Rosemary Craig**, Cindy Frey's mother
- Rikki-lynn Cromlish**, Mal Tonn's teammate
- Kenny Fisher**, Mike Rankin's friend
- Marc Hamilton**, Cheryl Hamilton's son
- Dave Hershberger**, Sonya Thelin's brother-in-law
- Antonia Riagtonelli**, Sonja & Pete Meighen's daughter-in-law's mother
- Shawn**, George and Jeanine Biemel's friend
- Bianca Sties**, Sonja & Pete Meighen's daughter-in-law



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:

- John Bilden**, Byron Engen's friend
- James L. Hazelrigg**, Jim Jaeger's scouting friend's father
- Allen Larson**, Byron Engen's friend
- Michael Luce**, Karen Henry's friend
- Allison West**, Jim Jaeger's former boss's sister-in-law

January Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------|------|
| 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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