Volume 41, Issue 7

Fellowship Family News

July 2021

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





"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." Romans 15:13

Dear Fellowship members and friends,

As mentioned during the announcements on June 20, during our June church council meeting we discussed the status of the COVID spread in our community, the risk imposed by the spread of variants, the level of vaccination, the re-opening practices of churches in our area, and the need

for caution as we progress through opening in-person worship.

Beginning July 4th, face protection - masks - will be optional for the fully vaccinated and recommended for those not vaccinated with the COVID vaccine. You will determine your likelihood of exposure and choose to wear, or not wear, face protection. Masks will be available at the church entrance. In making your decision, we ask you to be respectful of our youth under 12 years of age who are not yet eligible for vaccination, and those individuals who are more susceptible to symptoms regardless of vaccine protection. We will continue to encourage the use of hand sanitizer, social distancing, and non-contact greetings to minimize transmission risk.

We ask that you not attend service if you have any symptoms and will continue to video the morning service for those unable to attend in-person.

We are starting to bring singing back into our services and will be adding the sung liturgy at a later date. We will continue to commune on the first and third Sundays using the disposable cups. At our next worship team meeting, we will discuss returning to weekly communion. We will continue using the disposable communion kits until our supply is gone.

If you haven't returned to in-person worship yet, we miss you and hope to see you back soon!

In addition, Fellowship received a \$500 digital ministry grant from the Southern Ohio Synod plus another \$250 grant from Thrivent. With the money, we have purchased Google Wi-Fi for the church which increases our wi-fi coverage throughout the church building. We have also ordered a Mevo Start All-in-One camera, which will allow us to record our services live to either FaceBook or YouTube. We will continue to send out the link to our "streaming list" after the service but this will eliminate the uploading to social media that I am currently doing after worship.

We have been using the narrative lectionary during the summer months, and will finish up our study of the psalms on July 4th. For the following four weeks, we will be studying the Book of Ephesians, followed by a 5 week study of the Book of Revelation. I hope you are enjoying dwelling in the Word deeper this summer. It has been a refreshing change of pace in my sermon preparation using the narrative lectionary. If you would like us to continue

using the narrative lectionary (using two scripture readings as opposed to four) during the year or future summers, we would love to hear from you!

I hope you are finding time to relax this summer and getting caught up on vacations and family visits after a challenging pandemic year.

See you in church!

Pastor Robin

Michael will be going off to graduate school in August. Come enjoy his recital!

Michael Cherup

Carolina On My Mind



August 8th, 3:00 PM Fellowship Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

Michael plays his Organ favorites before leaving for East Carolina University. Come for an afternoon of Organ music and farewells!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-person Worship Beginning July 4th, masks are optional for the fully vaccinated and recommended for those not vaccinated. We will continue to practice physical distancing.

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.

Guys' Night Out We'll be starting up the Guy's Nite Out on Sunday, July 11, @ 5:30. Meet at the Roosters Sawmill by New Market.

Meals on Wheels

Friday, July 16 Biemel Saturday, July 17 Wolfe

Donation Opportunities

Smoky Row Food Pantry Needs for July, August, and September

- Peanut Butter
- Jam/Jelly
- School Supplies for all grades
- Non-perishable food stables, i.e., beans, corn, rice, pasta
- Toiletries, i.e., shampoo, conditioner, soap
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Please bring your donations to the church during services, or the published office hours. Thank you!

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!

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!

Staying Connected Program for the Elderly - Did you know that Ohio has a program for the elderly to "stay connected?" We have at least one member who is enrolled in the program and really likes it. 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/

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!

Give to Fellowship with Your Smartphone with GivePlus+ - Our EFT provider, Vanco, provides a smartphone app, Give+, to 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.

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.

Attendance Information (In-person & virtual)

Date	Attendance	Date	Attendance
5/2	14/6/49 views	6/6	23/6/34 views
5/9	19/7/43 views	6/13	27/5/57 views
5/16	22/10/45 views	6/20	24/6/33 views
5/23	26/6/59 views	6/27	26/8/34 views
5/30	17/9/45 views		



Executive

What a difference a year makes. When we began last summer, the lockdown was mostly total. We had no idea of when we could return to worship together. We had deep senses of loss, big and small: deaths, missed graduations and weddings, simple get-togethers with friends, a lack of feeling safe even on trips to the store.

Fellowship held together through that. Pastor Robin and others made sure we had services we could watch from home and later added Communion. We had an outdoor service where we could safely gather at a distance. It wasn't the same, of course, but we were together with God and in spirit when we could not be physically. The congregation remained generous and engaged. I am grateful to God and to all of you.

While we aren't completely back to normal, it's been a joy to meet in person for the past several months, and as of July 4, we'll be able to make masks optional for those who are vaccinated. It will be nice to share smiles across the aisle, although we will maintain social distancing. God is with us in this transition, and we, as a congregation, are making many steps to be the welcoming and open place we wish while respecting the needs of those who are not able to be vaccinated, including our young children. We're also looking forward to our annual outdoor service at Murphy Park, which will be Aug. 8.

As a Council, we also have been pleased to get back to face-to-face meetings after such a long period on Zoom. We are currently studying Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity, a book by Michael R. Ward. Pastor Ward was the keynote speaker at our recent Southern Ohio Synod Assembly and offered a hopeful message about growth in the church both spiritually and in generosity.

Council also hopes that with all of us vaccinated we can also plan a retreat to review our core values as a congregation and review long-term goals. A retreat is usually held each year to help focus our vision for the year and also to allow members to spend time with one another and create strong relationships. We are hoping to resume the practice.

The Southern Ohio Synod Assembly was held in early June, with Pastor Robin, Paul Wargowsky and I representing Fellowship. During the assembly there were many appointments to various positions approved and also passage of a two-year budget, as the Synod will not hold an assembly next year to allow for a focus on the 2022 ELCA Assembly, which will be held in Columbus. Please watch for ways in which you may be able to offer help to that effort.

Our finances continue to hold steady, and we recently received the first payment of \$1,000 from the Crown cell tower agreement the congregation approved during its meeting last November. In addition, Mike Rankin, who negotiated and reviewed all aspects of the agreement, donated his \$1,000 legal fee back to Fellowship, for which we are profoundly grateful.

God makes all things new again, and as we transition from what has been a very difficult year and a half, I know God will continue to refresh and renew us as individuals and as a congregation.

God bless, Stacy

Congregational Life

"Let us hold firmly to the hope we claim to have. The God who promised is faithful. Let us consider how we can stir up one another to love. Let us help one another to do good works. And let us not give up meeting together. Some are in the habit of doing this. Instead, let us encourage one another with words of hope. Let us do this even more as you see Christ's return approaching." - Hebrews 10: 23- 25 (NIRV)

I am happy to report that my family is back to in-person worship again. And we will probably be one of those that still wears our masks in church for a little while yet, especially since we just got back from vacation in Florida. How is your family doing with getting back in the habit of gathering together to worship? I know with summer it is always harder but we would love to see you!

Summer is in full swing now so that means time to get ready for the Outdoor service on August 8th at Murphy Park in Powell. We will get boxed lunches again this year so we can still gather together safely to worship outside and share a meal together afterwards. More details on the lunch menu will be coming soon.

I have been helping Pastor to improve the technology we have in the church so we can more easily record our worship services and upload them to YouTube and Facebook. This is something we decided we needed to continue even though the church is open again and many are back to worshiping in-person. We understand some people are not comfortable coming back to worshiping in-person yet and that is OK. Many of our shut-ins have been viewing our services on a regular basis as well as extended family, some of which are in other countries! It is just mind-blowing that our little church is reaching people around the world! We want to continue sending God's word out to all of them.

What other kinds of impact can we have once wi-fi is established throughout our whole building? The Koreans will be able to do their work a little easier when they are using our building. Pastor will be able to take a much needed Sunday off when someone else can record and upload the service with the new camera we are getting using grant money we obtained from the synod. When Sunday School starts up again we could integrate other tools (audio/videos of songs, videos of bible stories, etc.) just to name a few.

I would also like to get the Care Team started up again so we can get some cards and notes out to those that need to know we are thinking of them. If any one is interested in learning more about this group or if you would like to be on the team, please let me know! "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance" **Proverbs 1:5**

I hope everyone is enjoying summer!

As we cautiously transition from the restrictions of the COVID pandemic, we are excited to get back to an everyday somewhat new normal. At Fellowship we look forward to gathering together and re-starting our Sunday School classes for youth and adults.

Fellowship is beginning the 2021-2022 session of Sunday School classes in September. Our traditional "Rally Day" will start off the new school year and will be on Sunday September 12. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy our long-awaited kick-off!

If you plan to enroll your child in Sunday School, please sign up on the information board at church or contact Dianna Roll.

Also, anyone interested in co-teaching Youth or Adult Sunday classes for the upcoming year please contact Dianna. Dianna123var@gmail.com or 614 378-7979.

Brightest Blessings!

Dianna Roll



Outreach

FLC Mission/Purpose Statement: To share God's love and grace through our words and actions.

FLC <u>Vision</u> Statement: Be a diverse, thriving community of faith where all are welcome to celebrate God's love and grace.

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 1 Timothy 6: 17-18 NRSV

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. Malachi 3:10 NRSV

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21 NRSV

Scripture inspires us that it is righteous to practice generosity with our family, friends, and community. God teaches us to be charitable voluntarily, to produce goodwill among our fellow humans and promote a society of benevolence and compassion. Generosity with and to one another fosters the spirit of learning, caring, sharing, and giving.

During the pandemic, our outreach mission has been to support food insecurity and mental health within our culturally diverse community through generous giving to food pantries (Smoky Row and LSS-Frebis), meal distribution through Meals-on-Wheels (LifeCare Alliance and our organizer, Angie Roll Kidd), connection with our church family and friends, basketball in the parking lot (thanks to John Votino for organizing the repair/replacement), gift certificates for those in need (Good Samaritan Fund), hygiene items, and the availability of reading material (Pete Cardimen and the High School class) to stimulate minds and the imagination. Every one of you have reached out to others in various ways to inspire and soothe the souls of others.

The recipients of your generosity are gracious, humble, hardworking individuals who take pride in providing for themselves, their family, and their community. They have been severely challenged by the impact of the pandemic through no fault of their own. They pray and love through their struggles, respectful and thankful for the gifts of others. Their faces tell the story.

The items needed by the Smoky Row Food Pantry for the months of July, August, and September are as follows:

- Peanut Butter
- Jam/Jelly
- School Supplies for all grades
- Non-perishable food stables, i.e., beans, corn, rice, pasta
- Toiletries, i.e., shampoo, conditioner, soap
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Outreach (cont.)

Thank you to ALL who have organized and contributed to the needs and support of our diverse community. YOUR generosity inspires hope and strength for neighbors who are experiencing fatigue, hunger, challenge, depression, confusion, and loneliness. We extend our appreciation to Thrivent for funding our applications for Action Grants that further our donations to the Smoky Row Food Pantry. The volunteer staff and their patrons are SO THANKFUL!!















In His Service, Carol Jaeger

"Our Church All Are Welcome"

Stewardship:

As part of our council meetings we have been reading a book on Generosity Giving. It's not always about how much you can pledge - here is a short story that hit home with me from the book ABUNDANCE - Creating a Culture of Generosity - by Michael B Ward.

"Later, upon reflection, I remember the story of my friend Stacey. She once told me that the month she serves on altar guild is the most spiritual month of her year. I was perplexed, but she shared that as she worked on Friday afternoon to set the table for Sunday, the sanctuary was empty and quiet. It was in this time that she felt her prayer life was the deepest as she prayed for her children, her husband, and family. She went on to tell me that during that time setting the table, she reflected on her own journey of faith and the people who have led her to be the person she is today, as she prayed for them as well. She also shared that cleaning up after communion was not the chore she thought it was. Instead it was a joy to know that what she was cleaning up was the Lord's Supper, and that it was important to provide people a time to commune with our Lord."

My experience started when Pastor called and asked if I would be interested to help out with Stewardship & Property. I committed not knowing what to expect but knowing I would give it my best. I know I can do better on the stewardship side as I'm understanding this segment better with time. The property side is fairly natural due to my career path in the restaurant business. This being said I always have a different feeling when I'm on the church property doing as what I feel is Generosity Giving. I'm simply providing more Generosity of my time for the church through special projects from Pumpkin Patch, Counting, Keeping the grounds clean, Changing signage, so on so forth. Somehow this has become very Spiritual and Tranquil for me when I'm there. What is your Generosity Giving? Is it financial for Our church and or also special projects donations which is appreciated? Is it donating time for good causes or helping out on special needs and or church projects? Is it being kind to all you meet and helping others? Is it talking to all you meet about "Our Church" and asking them to visit?

Let's all think about some Generosity Time that we can possibly help out with - and see if you might feel a touch more spiritual.

Property:

Many behind the scenes upkeep projects have happened and continue to be on going. What we accomplished:

- The re-purchase and installation of the community Basketball hoop. All funds
 were raised by our congregation, many thanks to you all and if you drive by
 (and are not in tons of traffic) glance over, and usually you will see the kids
 shooting hoops and having fun.
- Signage installed to help keep the yard clean around the basketball hoop area
- Planted 2 flowers one in each flower pot and purchased a flex hose to help water them - If you're driving by stop in, turn on the hose and water those 2 thirsty plants, this will take a team effort of Generosity Giving time to keep those growing this summer with the heat.
- Todd was Generosity Giving of his time to help repair and install several roof tiles, with his assistant chief ladder holder (myself).
- We replaced most lighting in the narthex.
- We repaired (hopefully) the high spot lights in the sanctuary.

Anyone great at painting, we need to have a paint party to give "Our Church" a fresh look from the Narthex, Restrooms, Hallway's and Classrooms. If we can put a group together and maybe have one painting project a week accomplished in the mornings if all are available with some coffee and donuts - for just a couple of hours - Generosity Giving of your time.

We are looking for volunteers to kick off Hot Dogs & Hoops on Tuesday nights. July 13th from 6 till 8 would be great if we can put it together, or for sure July 20th. Please text or call or send me an e-mail if you can help out and I will set up a schedule. <u>jwvotino@qmail.com</u> or 614-205-4095.

God Bless & Thank you all John

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker. Psalm 95:6

Now our congregation is blessed to have both in-person and virtual worship! We have been having in-person worship with face-masking and social distancing since April. Starting July 4th, we will be able to worship maskless if we are fully vaccinated. We are having both 10am traditional worship and a shorter worship of praise at 5pm with piano playing.

Outdoor worship service

We plan to hold our annual outdoor worship service at Murphy Park on Sunday, August 8. We will have access to the shelter from 9:30am until 11:30am. Worship in the park will begin at 10. Bring your lawn chairs and friends. George is getting a worship band together and we may possibly sing. Maps will be available on the door of Fellowship Lutheran. Food may happen!

Healing Services

They will start again the first Sunday of September promptly after worship is concluded.

Altar Guild

I began serving on Fellowship's Altar Guild shortly after I became a member. I am now its' coordinator. I have been privileged to work with the various members, and sometimes, their husbands who generously pitch in. We are a group who consider the work a joy and a service to Our Lord and our congregation. If I happen to work alone, I enjoy my time of silent reflection with God. If you would like to join our small group, feel free to contact me.

Upcoming Events

July 4th - Come worship with us at 10:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. before your 4th activities

August 8, 10:00 a.m. - Outdoor Worship at Murphy Park

August 8, 3:00 p.m. - Michael's farewell organ concert at Fellowship

September 5 - Healing services following 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. services



FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Hazel Lambert
Frank & Leena LeMay
Sonja Meighen
Joshua Mott
Stacy Niedecker
Martha Sampson
Ray & Carol Ward

FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Joan Albert, Ruth Albert's mother
Irene Chaussard, John Votino's aunt
Rosemary Craig, Cindy Frey's mother
Marc Hamilton, Cheryl Hamilton's son
Megan Harris, Karen Harris' daughter
Pat Henceforth, Rev. Ron Bott's friend
Chris Johnson, Bruce Johnson's sister-in-law
Greg Katynski, Greg Schaughency's friend
Mark Kline, Barb Fisher's friend's brother
Sebrina LeMay, Frank & Leena LeMay's daughter-in-law

Harry Swearengen, Bill Lude's friend Jenifer Takats, Todd Engen's wife Hayden Valesky, Votino's great nephew

DEATHS:

Bob Deis, Jim Jaeger's scounting friend **Gary Petsche,** Ruth Rankin's brother **Mike Schall,** Pastor Robin's stepbrother

July Birthdays

7/02
7/03
7/04
7/06
7/06
7/08
7/11
7/12
7/15
7/16
7/16
7/24
7/26
7/26
7/29
7/29



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!

July Anniversaries

Mark & Diana Drake	7/16
Steve & Cheryl Hamilton	7/20
Rvan & Rebecca Roll	7/20



Church Staff & Leadership

Church Staff

Pastor Rev. Robin Wargowsky

Treasurer Todd Engen Financial Secretary Tracy Farel Office Secretary Tracy Farel

Organist
Sub. Organist
Sunday evening pianist

Amy Wargowsky

Choir Director

George Biemel

Konnoth Hunt

Custodian Kenneth Hunt

Executive Committee

President Stacy Niedecker Vice-President Kathryn Tucker Secretary Sonya Thelin

Pastor Robin

Congregational Life

Director Cindy Frey

Education & Youth

Director Dianna Roll

Outreach

Director Carol Jaeger

Stewardship & Support

Director John Votino

Worship

Director Karen Harris

Thank you for your leadership!!!

July 2021

Sat	<i>3</i> 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	10 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	17 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	24 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	31 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
Fri	2 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	9 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	16 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	23 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	30 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
Thu	6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	8 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	15 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	22 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	29 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC
Wed	30 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	7 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	14 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	21 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	28 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
Tue	29 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	6:00 am - CJMC Pray	13 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Worship Team (zoom)	20 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Council	27 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
Mon	28 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	5 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	6:00 am - CJMC Pray	19 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	26 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
Sun	27 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	4 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm worship	10:00 am - Worship 11:00 am - Executive . 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	25 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship

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.

July 2021 Newsletter