



## A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR



Greetings to everyone here at Fairview United Methodist Church, and to our community beyond in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I hope this letter finds you well and soaking in the remaining joys of summer—whether it's some time away, a quiet evening on the porch, or simply enjoying the slower pace that often comes with this season. As August begins, I'm reminded that summer has a unique rhythm of its own: a time to breathe, to rest, to reconnect with ourselves, our families, and with God.

Just as nature thrives under the warmth of the sun and the nourishment of rain, I believe God desires the same for each of us—to be rooted deeply in Him and to flourish in every area of life. That doesn't mean life is always easy, of course. But even in dry or difficult seasons, God's Word teaches us that it's possible to grow, to deepen our roots, and to thrive in ways we may never have imagined.



That's why I'm especially excited to introduce our new summer sermon series launching this month, called **Flourish & Thrive**.

In *Flourish & Thrive*, we'll explore seven areas of life that God has designed for us to flourish in as His people: **Spiritual Growth, Vocation, Finances, Health, Relationships, Character, and Happiness**. Each week, we'll dive into a specific dimension of flourishing, seeking to understand how Scripture guides us to live fully and faithfully in each area.

By aligning our lives with God's purposes, we'll discover how pursuing these practices can lead us to a more fulfilling, joy-filled, and resilient faith. Together, we'll learn what it means to not only **survive** in our faith, but to **truly thrive**—as individuals and as a church community—reflecting God's glory in every part of life.

My hope is that this series will be both inspiring and deeply practical. God's vision for our lives is not one of scarcity or stagnation, but one of **abundance, growth, and fruitfulness**. No matter where you are on your journey right now—whether you feel like you're thriving or barely hanging on—I believe God is inviting you to grow in new ways this season.

So let's dig in together. Let's be open to what the Lord wants to teach us. And let's encourage one another to flourish not only in our Sunday faith, but in every area of our lives throughout the week.

I'm grateful to walk this journey with you.

With love and grace,

Rev. E. Neil Gaiser,  
Fairview United Methodist Church

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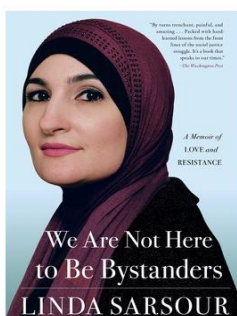
MEET NANCY COLLINS <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BvYGj7WxlFw>



United  
Women  
in Faith

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH BOOK REVIEW

**Title:** We are Not Here to be Bystanders  
**Reading Program Category:** Leadership Development  
**Author:** Linda Sarsour  
**Reviewer:** Cecelia Long



[CLICK HERE  
to preview](#)

Linda Sarsour was co-organizer of the Women's March in Washington, D.C. In this book, she shares how growing up Palestinian Muslim American, feminist, and empowered moved her to become a globally recognized activist on behalf of marginalized communities across the country.

Her memoir shares her life of being born in America to a Palestinian mother and father and living in a Brooklyn, N.Y. neighborhood and attending public schools. She speaks of the ways we become who we are in relationship to others.

She says "it's up to us to resemble people of all faiths and to stand against hate whether it is leveled at your child or mine. We need to do right for ALL our children." Linda Sarsour writes clearly as she recounts the stories of people for whom she advocates and supports because it is what she was born to do. We are not born to be bystanders.

**FAIRVIEW UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH  
ASSEMBLY OF HYGIENE KITS  
TUESDAY AUGUST 26, 2025**

The Fairview United Women in Faith are planning to assemble the Hygiene Kits on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 1 p.m. The sign-up chart will continue to be on the wall outside the Welcome Center through Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. Items may be brought to the church and placed in the Library until time to assemble the kits on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The Hygiene Kits will be delivered to Normandy United Methodist Church during the last week in September. From Normandy, the kits will be picked up and taken to a distribution center that will ensure that the kits are sent to communities that have experienced floods, hurricanes, or tornado, fires or other kinds of disasters. The kits will help people who have lost everything in times of tragedy.

***Some items are still needed for the kits to be complete: 30 travel sized shampoos and deodorants and body lotions are still needed. If you wish to contribute these items, please bring your donations to the church and place them in the church library.*** If you would prefer making a financial (\$) contribution to purchase the items, please contact Cecelia Long, 937/972-7045 for more information.

Fairview United Women in Faith thanks everyone for contributing to this very important mission outreach.



**UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH  
WILL FILL BABY BASKETS FOR  
WESLEY DAYTON  
BABY READY/INFANT MORTALITY (BRIM) PROGRAM**

The Baby Ready/Infant Mortality (BRIM) Program of Wesley Dayton was organized in 2016. BRIM serves expectant mothers and families with children under age one. Family Support Specialists offer individualized Mental Health & Trauma Informed care, advocacy, safe-sleep training, practical guidance, emotional support and referrals to appropriate resources. Between July 2024 and June 2025, BRIM enrolled 116 new families and 72 babies were welcomed!!

Fairview United Women in Faith will collect items for 2 baby baskets that will be contributed to Wesley Dayton for mothers enrolled in the BRIM program. One basket will be for a girl and one basket for a boy.

The items needed for the baskets are:

- 1 pack of Sleepers (2-3 per pack)
- 1 pack of onesies (3-5 per pack)
- 1 outfit (often sold as a unit, usually with pants, shirt (dress) and onesie)
- 1 pack of hats (0-3 months, 3-5 per pack)
- 1 pack of socks (4-8 pair per pack)
- 1 pack of diapers - Size 1 (soft sided pack with about 62 diapers)
- 1 pack of baby wipes (about 56 wipes)
- 1 pack of baby towels (about 3)
- 1 pack of baby wash cloths (3-12 per pack)
- 1 pack of burp cloths (3-4 per pack)
- 1 pack of bibs (newborn (little) 3-4 per pack)
- 1 large blanket (handmade is welcome)
- 1 pack of receiving blankets (4-5 per pack)
- 1 rattle/small hand toy
- 1 small or medium baby-safe stuffed animal
- 1 Mother's Gift – A \$15 Walmart Gift Card
- 1 Large plastic Laundry Basket into which everything is placed

A Literacy Kit of 3 "First Books" will be added to each baby basket. The Literacy Kits have been donated for 2025.)

A chart will be placed on the wall near the Welcome Center from Sunday, August 3-Sunday September 14 for anyone who wishes to sign up to contribute to the baby baskets. If you have questions, please contact Cecelia Long at: [cealong48@gmail.com](mailto:cealong48@gmail.com) or 937/972-7045.



**\$5 ON THE 5TH SUNDAY OFFERING**  
**For UM CHILDREN'S HOME FAMILY SERVICES**

August 31, 2025, is the 5th Sunday when an offering of \$5 or more can be given to support UM Children's Home Family Services in Columbus, Ohio.

Fairview United Methodist Church has been faithful in sending an offering to the Children's Home for several years.

You may give at any time by placing your offering in the offering plate on Sunday morning designating it for the UM Children's Home Family Services, by giving online, or by mailing your offering to Fairview United Methodist Church.

Your contributions help support foster parent training, adoption services, mental health services, parenting support groups, and persons with serious emotional behavioral difficulties. Questions or concerns may be directed to Cecelia Long, 937/972-7045 or [cealong48@gmail.com](mailto:cealong48@gmail.com). Thank you for your faithfulness



## It's Summertime! Save those pull tabs!!

Donate Aluminum Pull Tabs for  
**Ronald McDonald House in Dayton.**

There will be a collection box near the  
Parking lot entrance on Sunday mornings  
for your pull tabs.

Soup/Soda/Pet Food – etc-  
ALL kinds of aluminum pull tabs are accepted.

Thank you for helping this local charity.

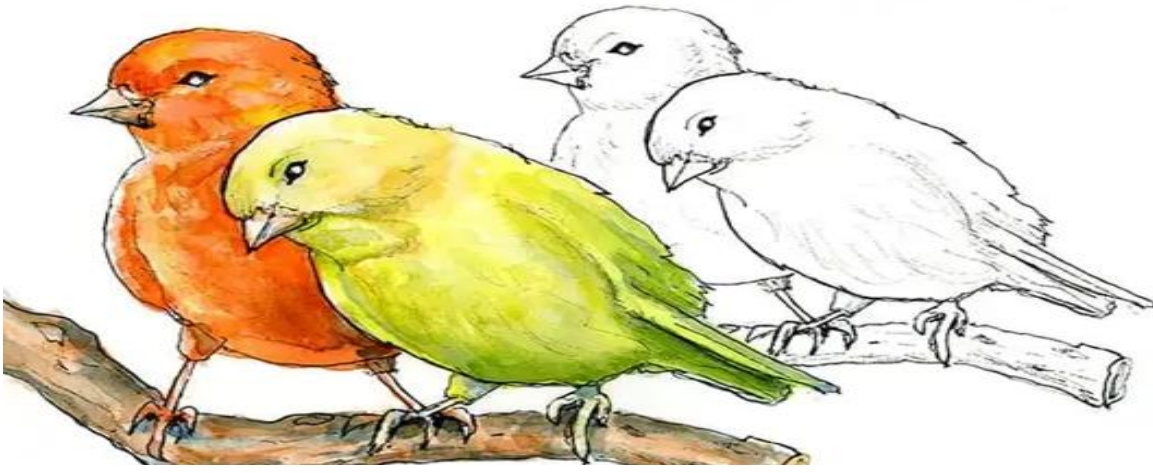


FOOD  
FELLOWSHIP  
PRAYER  
SCRIPTURE

### FAIRVIEW UNITED METHODIST MEN

**Purpose:** To encourage and support the spiritual growth through the study of God's Word and Christian Fellowship. Come join us in September when we return to our monthly meeting.

# AUGUST 2025



| Sunday  | Monday                          | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday         | Friday                          | Saturday  |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|------------------|---------------------------------|---|
|   |                                 |   |  |                  | 1<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry  | 2<br>10 am-2 pm<br>Comty. Pen. Church   |
| 3<br>9:45 am Sunday<br>School<br>11 am Worship<br>1 pm Comty. Pen.<br>Church                                | 4<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry  | 5<br>6:30 am KI   | 6<br>6:30 am KI<br>11:00 am Truck<br>Delivery<br>6:00 pm Pantry        | 7<br>6:30 am KI  | 8<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry  | 9<br>10 am Legal<br>Clinic &<br>Pantry<br><br>10 am-2pm<br>Comty. Pen. C<br>hurch |
| 10<br>9:45 am Sunday<br>School<br>11 am Worship<br>1 pm Comty. Pen.<br>Church                               | 11<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry | 12<br>6:30 am KI  | 13<br>6:30 am KI<br>6:00 pm Pantry                                     | 14<br>6:30 am KI | 15<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry | 16<br>10 am-2pm<br>Comty. Pen.<br>Church  |
| 17<br>9:45 am Sunday<br>School<br>11 am-Worship<br>1 pm Comty. Pen.<br>Church                               | 18<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry | 19<br>6:30 am KI  | 20<br>6:30 am KI<br>6:00 pm Pantry<br><br>Pantry Truck Delivery<br>TBD | 21<br>6:30 am KI | 22<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry | 23<br>10 am-2pm<br>Comty Pen.<br>Church   |
| 24<br>9:45 am Sunday<br>School<br>11 am-Worship<br>1 pm Comty. Pen.<br>Church                               | 25<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry | 26<br>6:30 am KI<br><br>1:00 pm UWIF<br>Assembly of<br>Hygiene Kits | 27<br>6:30 am KI<br>6:00 pm Pantry                                     | 28<br>6:30 am KI | 29<br>6:30 am KI<br>9 am Pantry | 30<br>10 am-2pm<br>Comty Pen.<br>Church   |
| 31<br>\$5 ON THE 5 <sup>TH</sup><br>9:45 am Sunday<br>School<br>11 am-Worship<br>1 pm Comty. Pen.<br>Church |                                 |   |  |                  |                                 |   |

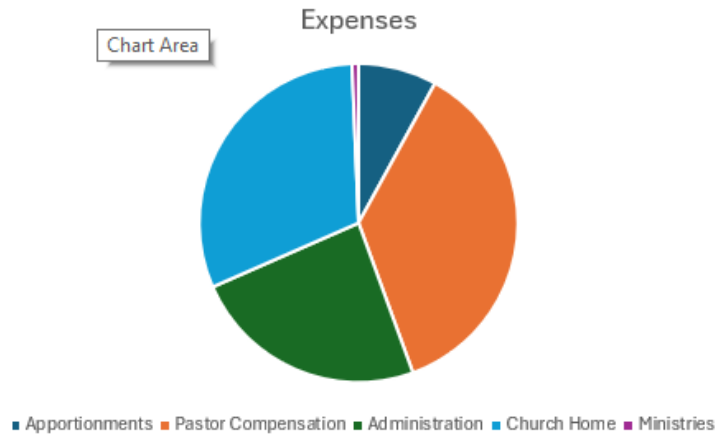
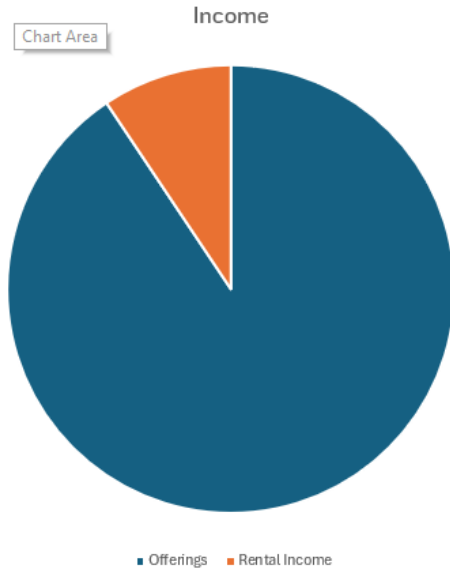


## FINANCIAL REPORT

**YTD June 2025**

**YTD June 2024**

|                                |                 |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Offerings &amp; Revenue</b> | <b>134,570</b>  | <b>130,960</b>  |
| <b>Expenses</b>                | <b>151,861</b>  | <b>151,115</b>  |
| <b>Shortfall</b>               | <b>(17,291)</b> | <b>(20,155)</b> |



**ONLINE** *giving*

Contributions to Fairview can be made at:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z2ZK/home> You can use this link to make donations, support the pantry, order altar flowers, and make other gifts. Please contact the treasurer if you have any questions.

# August



**3 Jan Mains**  
**10 Florence Carwell**  
**17 Greg Zuber**  
**24 Mike Zuber**  
**31 Wayne Hounshell**



**3 Pam Hounshell**  
**10 Judy Gebhart**  
**17 Dave Wyss**  
**24 Judith Mathes**  
**31 Duke Lunsford**



**3 Cecelia Long**  
**10 Pam Hounshell**  
**17 Kathy Schaefer**  
**24 Terri Hoernemann**  
**31 Pam Hounshell**



**VAN MINISTRY**

**3 John 937-277-6387**  
**10 Wayne 937-369-7040**  
**17 Art 937-727-2626**  
**24 Greg 937-620-1472**  
**31 John 937-277-6387**



**3 Jan Mains**  
**10 Dave Puderbaugh**  
**17 Fred Poland**  
**24 Mike Zuber**  
**31 Jan Mains**



**AUGUST 3**

**Barbara Rowlands/Jan Mains**  
**Judith Mathes/Shirley McBride**

## PANTRY NEWS

### FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS WITH FAITH AND LOVE

#### AUGUST PANTRY UPDATE



As summer winds down and families begin to prepare for a new school year, our Church Pantry continues to be a vital source of hope and help for our community. August brings unique challenges for many households—rising food costs, back-to-school expenses, and continued financial uncertainty can stretch budgets thin.

Thanks to your generous donations and faithful support, we've been able to meet those needs with open hearts and full shelves. In the past month, we've served over 250 families with nutritious food and personal care items. Each

bag of groceries handed out is more than just a meal—it's a message of care and compassion from our church family.

Let us continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community. Your kindness is making a real difference—thank you for being part of this mission.

**“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” – Hebrews 13:16**

#### 2025 PANTRY STATISTICS

| MONTH          | TOTAL<br>HOUSEHOLDS<br>SERVED | TOTAL<br>PEOPLE<br>SERVED |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| January        | 266                           | 852                       |
| February       | 252                           | 836                       |
| March          | 270                           | 926                       |
| April          | 264                           | 953                       |
| May            | 247                           | 854                       |
| June           | 270                           | 932                       |
| July           | 274                           | 955                       |
| 2025<br>Total  | 1,843                         | 6,308                     |
| 2024<br>Totals | 2,842                         | 9,851                     |

# AUGUST PANTRY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday | Wednesday  | Thursday | Friday                                      | Saturday  |                                       |
|---|--|---------|--|----------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
|  |  |         |  |          | 1<br>Barbara W. - I<br>Susie Kurtz<br>Rose? | 2   |                                       |
|   | 3<br>Cecelia - I<br>Shirley Mc.<br>Janet Michael | 4       | 5<br>Fred<br>Art<br>Neil<br>Dave<br>Barbara W. -I<br>11:00 am Truck<br>Delivery            | 6        | 7   | 8<br>Barbara W. -I<br>Barb R.<br>Jackie M.<br>Cecelia   | 9<br>Barbara W. -I<br>Pam<br>Cathleen |
|   | 10<br>Cecelia - I<br>Barb R.<br>Jackie M.        | 11      | 12<br>Fred<br>Art<br>Neil<br>Dave<br>Barbara W.- I   | 13       | 14  | 15<br>Barbara W. -I<br>Shirley Neil<br>Rose?<br>Cecelia | 16                                    |
|   | 17<br>Fred - I<br>Rose?<br>Tina                  | 18      | 19<br>Wayne<br>Pam<br>Fred<br>Art<br>Neil<br>Dave<br>Barbara W. I<br>Truck Delivery<br>TBD | 20       | 21  | 22<br>Barbara W. -I<br>Susie Kurtz<br>Hope<br>Tina      | 23                                    |
|   | 24<br>Cecelia - I<br>Susie Kurtz<br>Rose<br>Tina | 25      | 26<br>Fred<br>Art<br>Neil<br>Dave<br>Barbara W. I  | 27       | 28  | 29<br>Barbara W. -I<br>Shirley Neil<br>Tina             | 30                                    |
| 31  |  |         |  |          |   |   |                                       |

# SAFETY FIRST

## WHO'S IN THE BUILDING?

Please remember to announce yourself when you enter the church Mon. – Fri. from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm by ringing the doorbell or placing a phone call.

### SAFETY REASONS WHY THE SECRETARY NEEDS TO KNOW WHO IS IN THE BUILDING:

Announcing yourself to the office staff upon entering a facility contributes to the overall safety, security, and smooth operation of the building.

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE WHEN YOU ENTER OR EXIT THE BUILDING BY RINGING THE DOORBELL, MAKING A PHONE CALL TO THE CHURCH OFFICE OR VISITING THE CHURCH SECRETARY. THANK YOU**

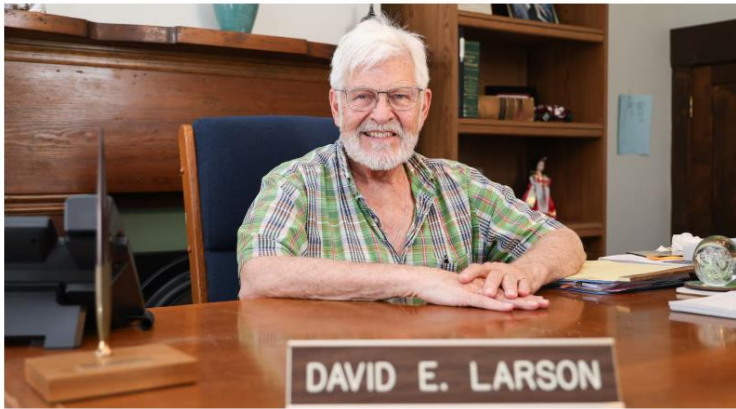


On the first Sunday of every month, we at Fairview United Methodist Church celebrate communion, sharing in the body and blood of Christ through symbolic amounts of bread and the fruit of the vine. We would like to expand this sharing into the world around us by asking you to bring a loaf (or two!) of bread to church on Communion Sundays, to be distributed through our very busy food pantry. When you are shopping for your own groceries, please buy an extra loaf of bread and bring it with you on **Aug. 3, 2025**. We would like to make the first Sunday of every month a John 21:15-17 occasion!



## IN THE NEWS

**COMMUNITY GEM: Dayton man has served immigrant community for 40+ years**



David Larson sits in his Dayton office on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. Larson has been named a Dayton Daily News Community Gem for his work in immigration law. BRYANT BILLING / STAFF

**By Daphne Graeter – Staff Writer**  
**July 4, 2025**

A Dayton attorney has been offering free legal advice and help to immigrants for more than 40 years. David Larson, 80, has worked on over 500 immigration cases since 1980. He's worked to serve the immigrant community with law firm [Larson & Lyons](#), located at 1121 E. Third St. "David's heart is for the people," said Sharlyn Radcliffe, who nominated Larson as a Dayton Daily News Community Gem. Larson said he wanted to get involved in local government after he served in the Peace Corps. Stationed in Turkey as a volunteer for two years at the time of the Vietnam War, he described his experience as educational and "awakened a thirst for knowledge about people and other cultures."

His time with the Peace Corps contributed to his future ventures into immigration law. He graduated from the Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law with a law degree in 1979. His first legal job was for a law clinic that was started by one of his high school classmates where he gained background in law and adapted to his career 10 and 15 years after. "I went to work there and I took every kind of case that lawyers take in Dayton Ohio," Larson said. "Divorce, drunk driving, child support, bankruptcy [and] wills." He said asylum case for a woman who had been physically abused during the Rwanda genocide was one of his most memorable. "I represented her in immigration court on her asylum claim and it was granted the judgement," Larson said. "That was very exciting for me that I was able to help someone stay here." Larson was an adjunct law professor at the University of Dayton and he said he always enjoyed working students at the school. This year, Larson received the [American Immigration Lawyers Association](#) Pro Bono Champions Award. The Ohio chapter recognized him for outstanding dedication and tireless efforts in providing pro bono legal services to the immigrant community for the past 40 years. "That was fun and I got a lot of compliments about it," Larson said. "It is gratifying to someone, 80 years old, that you've done good things." Sharlyn and Steve Radcliffe said they have trusted him with their legal business affairs for decades. Steve Radcliffe said if confidence was needed, Larson kept it. "David is a man of honor. We trust him completely and his work speaks for him, but he will not speak for himself," Sharlyn Radcliffe said. "The community needs to know that we have such a somebody who's devoted, especially now at this moment in America." The Radcliffe's met Larson and his wife, Roberta Longfellow, at Grace United Methodist Church in Dayton nearly 50 years ago and remained friends since. Larson has been involved in organizations such as [Welcome Dayton](#), a program that supports the integration of immigrants into the Dayton community, and the Human Relations Council working to influence and ensure a culture of fair treatment in the city.

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The Free Legal Clinic will be open on Saturday, August 9, 2025 at:



Fairview United Methodist Church: 828 W. Fairview Avenue,  
Dayton, Ohio 45406, 10:00 AM until Noon.

Please bring paperwork related to the reason that you will be using the Clinic. We will be observing the latest CDC and Ohio Health Dept. regarding COVID-19 protocols.

## FAITH CLASS AT FAIRVIEW



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ss3mHVVwC1w&feature=youtu.be>

### **FAIRVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - FAITH CLASS**

Over 40 years ago, a Sunday School Class for adults with special needs was commissioned here at Fairview Church. Named the Faith Class, its mission continues to be to “glorify God by sharing the love of Jesus Christ with those who have special needs while supporting and encouraging their families through participation in the whole church.”

The Faith Class meets every Sunday from 10 to 10:45 AM to learn about our Christian faith through stories, songs, crafts, and prayer. Following Sunday School, members join the entire congregation for worship. Members of the Faith Class represent several Christian denominations, and others have no prior religious affiliation. All are welcome.

In addition to nourishing the relationships and the spiritual growth of our Faith Class members, the church encourages their participation in weekly worship services. The worship service is held in the sanctuary 11 AM – 12 Noon. Every week, members of the Faith Class ring the church bell to call people to worship service, and several members have served as the acolyte, lighting and extinguishing the altar candles. The Faith Class also participates in activities beyond regular Sunday School class. Seasonal parties and social events take place at the church or in the community.



*Happy Birthday*  
wishes to everyone born in the month of

## AUGUST

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| NELSON CLAIR     | August 02 |
| SHIRLEY MCBRIDE  | August 02 |
| JERRY GRIBLER    | August 06 |
| CANDICE SWEET    | August 07 |
| FRED HALL, JR.   | August 08 |
| KIM MESSER       | August 10 |
| BARBARA WIECHEL  | August 10 |
| WAUNETTA HOWE    | August 14 |
| BARBARA BUTTRAM  | August 16 |
| RENE' STEUVE     | August 17 |
| GREG ZUBER       | August 21 |
| VICKY WENTLING   | August 22 |
| DAVE WYSS        | August 22 |
| OSCAR NDAYISABA  | August 28 |
| JOYCE GRILLMEIER | August 29 |
| FRED HALL, SR.   | August 31 |



[Ohio Laypeople Invited to Statewide UMC Laity Convocation](#)



**Daily Devotion and Prayer**  
Link at the top of Fairview UMC website

[www.fairviewunitedmethodist.org](http://www.fairviewunitedmethodist.org).

You can access it from your phone through Safari (or your browser) and save it as a favorite in your bookmarks.



## Vandalia Art Park - Vandalia

24 drawings by Ed Rapp are at the Art Park in Vandalia, Ohio on E. Alkaline Springs off North Dixie – one of the drawings is of Fairview UM Church. The drawings will be on display until June 2026.



## COLUMNS

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

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Rev. E. Neil Gaiser, OSL

*Administrative Assistant*

Carol McDougale

*Director of Music*

Michelle Forshaw

*Pantry Resource Coordinator*

Donna McCoy

*Child Care Attendant*

Oscar Ndayisaba

*Church Musician*

Nancy Collins

*Treasurer*

Fred Poland

*Audio Visual Technician*

Roger Christian

*Church Custodian*

Vance Garner