



FAIRVIEW  
United Methodist Church

## COLUMNS NEWSLETTER

May 2018

Volume 5, Issue 4

### Earth Day Concert Nurtures Relationships



In early 2018, soon after our interim music director, Carol Chatfield, began her work here at Fairview, she presented our Chancel Choir with an exciting opportunity to sing in the Earth Day community concert at Christ United Methodist Church in Kettering. In preparation for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> concert, our choir began learning the musically challenging *Missa Gaia* (“Earth Mass”) by Paul Winter. In addition to devoting time to learning this work during regular Thursday evening choir practice, our choir also participated in two intense rehearsals of the combined concert choir at Christ UMC during the week leading to the Sunday concert. Fairview singers

comprised half the total number of adults in the combined concert choir. Sherri Sutter was the featured soprano soloist. Many members, family, neighbors, and friends of Fairview UMC supported the concert through their attendance.

Through this community concert experience, our Fairview Chancel Choir received assurance of their ability to learn and successfully perform a difficult musical work. In addition, the event fostered relationships with the people of Christ United Methodist Church. Fairview choir members who were former members of Christ UMC reconnected with old friends. New friendships have begun.

The United Methodist Church is a “connectional system.” Sometimes we experience the connection through our relationship with our district, our conference, our jurisdiction, or the worldwide church. Other times, like this Earth Day community concert, we create and nurture our connections by partnering with sister churches for specific projects and ministries. We extend our thanks to Carol Chatfield, to our Chancel Choir, to Christ UMC, and to everyone who supported the Earth Mass concert.

## Trustees' Work Day May 12

The Trustees are sponsoring a Spring Work Day on Saturday, May 12 for outside and inside projects. The following is a list of projects to be accomplished that day:

- Yard Work
  - Fertilizer/weed
  - Install stepping stones (Fairview to parking lot)
  - Mulch
  - Mow/trim
  - Edge sidewalks
  - Flower beds
- Install new storm window
- Extend PVC furnace flue
- Repair electrical
  - Pole light
  - Southwest corner of building
  - Repair light in 1<sup>st</sup> floor hall
  - Repair light in handicapped restroom
  - Replace lights in hallway (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> floor)
- Repair handrail on stairway to sacristy
- Clean out stair wells (2)



All are invited and everyone's help is needed to accomplish these projects on May 12.



### Books for Kids

On Monday, May 14, a group of church volunteers will pass out books for summer reading to all students at Fairview PreK-6 School. To prepare for this event, two things must happen: 1) the books we already have must be counted and sorted by grade level, and 2) book shopping must take place to fill the shortages we find at various grade levels. Here is the plan---book counting/sorting will take place on Wednesday, May 2 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the youth lounge----book shopping at Scholastic Warehouse Sale, West Chester, OH, will take place on Monday, May 7, at 10 a.m. If you can help with either of these preparatory events, contact Pam Hounshell. Remember,

donations in the form of children's books, books to sell for cash, or monetary gifts are greatly appreciated.

## Apportionment Recognition and Financial Updates

We recently received a certificate signed by Bishop Gregory V. Palmer and District Superintendent Jocelyn Roper congratulating us for being one of 558 congregations in the West Ohio Conference to contribute 100% of our apportionment giving. Our faithfulness maintains programs such as our camping and retreat ministry that served over 4200 youth and adults in 2017.

We also received certificates signed by District Superintendent Roper in congratulations of Fairview UMC meeting 100% of our district apportionments and for supporting missions in 2017. Examples of how our district apportionment dollars were used include the start of three new worshipping communities: Mosaic United Methodist Community, located in a movie theatre; New City United Methodist Community, located in a building that was a former United Methodist Church; and Neighborhood UMC, located in a strip shopping center. As another example, our district giving helped children be involved in Live Free, which is designed to help keep young people reading throughout the summer.

Our financial report from church treasurer, Fred Poland, for the first quarter 2018 compared to one year ago is as follows:

	YTD March 2018	YTD March 2017
Offerings	58,077	59,041
Expenses	60,985	58,861
(Shortfall)	(2,908)	180



## To Plant A Garden Is To Believe In Tomorrow

You may have noticed the fence that now stands behind the church parking lot. This simple structure is the beginning of a community youth garden that teaches children how to grow their own fruits and



vegetables while gaining a sense of self confidence, responsibility and pride in their area. In addition, the young people of the Fairview neighborhood will have an opportunity to better understand their relationship with nature. The garden will hold 10 raised beds with flowers planted around the fence. Youth gardening sessions will be on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 12:00 p.m. Volunteers to help nurture, water or work in the garden are welcome. “To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” (Audrey Hepburn)

## **UMW Spring Fair/Mission Dinner Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> Following Worship Service**

Get ready! The time is almost here for the UMW Annual Spring Fair/Mission Dinner. Immediately after church this Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> – plants, crafts, delicious baked goods will be on sale. An Adorable Pet Contest and Silent Auction will also give opportunities for you to bring smiles to your life.

The home cooked mission dinner of ham or turkey, cheesy potatoes or candied yams, green beans, salads, and ice cream will be an extra special delight. A free will offering will be received for the dinner. You can buy a baked good to complement your dessert! All proceeds will support missions globally and locally. UMW members are excited to see you at the Spring Fair/Mission Dinner! Come and enjoy!

### **\$5 on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday for UMCH Family Services**

On Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, offering envelopes will be in the worship bulletin for the United Methodist Children's Home Family Services (UMCH Family Services) ***\$5 on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday***. United Methodist Women urge you to give as you are able.

### **Pentecost Sunday May 20**

The feast of Pentecost occurs fifty days after Jesus' Resurrection, and concludes the season of Easter. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read the story of the occasion when the believers receive the promised gift of the Holy Spirit in a very dramatic way. While they are gathered in a room, a strong wind begins to blow, followed by the appearance of tongues of fire over each person's head. Soon they begin to speak in languages (tongues) they did not know; people who are listening hear the good news of Jesus in their own languages. We are told that about three thousand people joined the Christian community that day. Pentecost is often known as the "birthday of the church."

The liturgical color for Pentecost is red, in celebration of the work of the Holy Spirit. We encourage the congregation to wear red during worship on Sunday, May 20.

### **A Note of Thanks**

*Thank you for prayers, cards, and telephone calls.*

*Please continue to keep us in prayer.*

*--Cheryl A. DeVaughn*

*and the family of Robert Lee Jackson*



## In Sympathy

We extend our love and prayers to:

- The family and friends of David Clark, longtime member of our congregation, who passed March 25. Services were held March 29.
- Duke and Terry Lunsford and family on the passing of Terry's father, Carl Forbriger, on April 3. Services were held April 7.
- Donna Shriner and family at the passing of her husband, The Reverend Dr. Douglas Shriner, on April 10. Dr. Shriner was a former pastor at Fairview UMC. A memorial service was held on April 21.



## Altar Flowers

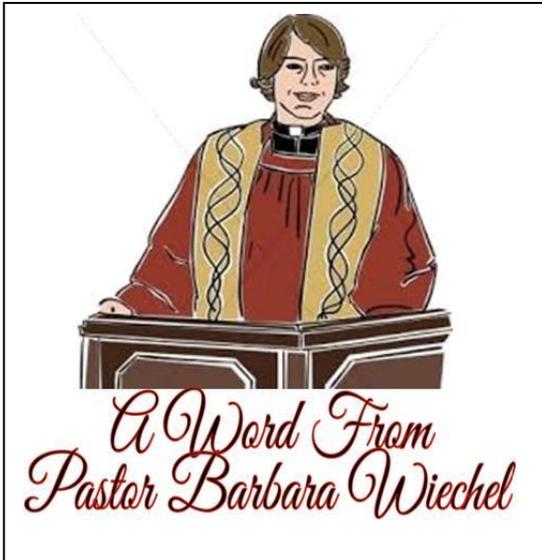
To order altar flowers, please check the flower calendar posted on the wall at the Sanctuary entrance for available dates. Order forms are located above the flower calendar, and **an order form is also included on the last page of this newsletter**. Please complete the form and return to the church office in person or by mail, or place in the offering plate. Cost is \$20.00.

## August Community Festival

The first planning session for our annual community festival is past, and we are moving forward with planning and implementing all that will make for another successful event. First, save the date of **Saturday, August 11**. We will need many volunteers that day, as well as earlier in the week. Second, we will soon be posting lists of the school supplies we will collect to distribute to children who attend the event. One of the things we know is available right now, that we would like to include in each bag, are small bottles of hand sanitizer. These are often available in a three-pack for \$1.00 at Dollar Tree, Dollar General, etc. Later in the season, these will disappear from the shelves! Third, plan now to join us at our next planning meeting, scheduled for **Monday, May 21, 6:00 p.m. in Brewbaker Library**. Fourth, if you know of an organization that provides information or services to people in our community (education, health, job search, etc.), please let us know so that we might contact them to participate. Finally, we are in great need of fun and educational activities for children and youth. Some suggestions are face painting, arts and crafts, etc. If you have ideas or connections, please let us know.

## *A Word from the Pastor*

At the end of John's gospel, the risen Jesus has one final conversation with Peter, in which he asks, three times, "Peter, do you love me?" Peter's reply is, "Lord, you know that I do." Jesus then responds, "Feed my lambs. Take care of my sheep. Feed my sheep." Bible scholars suggest that, because Peter denied Jesus three times, his denial is balanced by avowing his love three times. But it may just be that Jesus wanted to be sure that Peter understood the importance of what was being asked of him. Matthew and Luke emphasize making disciples, but John says, "Feed my sheep." This not an either/or decision, but an obligation to do both.



We have begun talking about being a "seven day a week" congregation, but perhaps that seems confusing to us, as well as to others. We aren't part-time believers, because we know that what we proclaim on Sundays must be lived out every day. We already have a number of activities throughout the week for service, outreach and study. We believe there is room for more growth in those areas, through partnerships with others who offer hope, healing and wholeness to individuals and groups. By sharing our space with partners, we increase their ability to transform our community. While many of our partnerships have developed "by chance," or at the request of an organization, through the coordination of Nicole Pritchett, we will be intentional in seeking partners to share our space. Won't it be wonderful when we have once again filled our building to overflowing, as many remember it being in the sixties?

But a seven day a week congregation isn't just about using our space or increasing our outreach to the community. While those goals are important, by themselves they will make us a community resource, but not a seven day a week congregation. A seven day a week congregation requires a change in our understanding of the nature of church, and a commitment to full participation in the life of those who share our space. Some have asked me, "When will we see the Fun Club children, the pantry clients, or others we serve, on Sunday?" The answer may be, "Never," or at least, "Not for a long time." That kind of thinking limits our definition of "congregation" to those who study and worship together on Sunday. Who's to say that for many of our weekday guests, "church" might be defined as "people who care enough about me to help me, even though I don't worship with them, and perhaps I don't even claim Jesus as my savior." Many of our partners might define church as "those who help us achieve our goals and responsibilities without red tape, questions and invasive rules." When we define "church" in the way Jesus charged Peter, love of Jesus translates into taking care of Jesus' sheep. If that leads people to ask, "Why do you do this?" we have the opportunity to tell them about Jesus' love for them. And we will be well on our way to becoming a "seven day a week congregation." Will you join me in praying that, for the sake of the gospel, for the grace we will receive, for the joy of our Lord Jesus, we will become a seven day a week congregation, in our hearts and in our common life? Amen. May it be so.

## May Birthdays

<b>May 1</b>	Abigail Puderbaugh
<b>May 2</b>	Angel Puderbaugh Ondo
<b>May 5</b>	Austin Pierce
<b>May 8</b>	Alyssa Pierce
<b>May 9</b>	Dean Sutter
<b>May 11</b>	Rachel Puderbaugh
<b>May 12</b>	Traci McGuire
<b>May 13</b>	Art Mehaffey
<b>May 16</b>	Samantha Cudney, Cecelia Long, Dick Schaefer
<b>May 18</b>	Brianna Nelson
<b>May 22</b>	Justin Gracey, John Larsen
<b>May 23</b>	Karen Adcock
<b>May 24</b>	Erik Geraci, Andrew Robinson
<b>May 28</b>	Sandra Ralph
<b>May 29</b>	Dale Cogan
<b>May 30</b>	Phil Mathes
<b>May 31</b>	Darlene Snell



## May Worship Leaders

**May 6** Sherri Suter  
**May 13** Judith Mathes  
**May 20** Judy Gebhart  
**May 27** Jerry Gribler

## May Hospitality Schedule



**May 6** Cecelia Long  
**May 13** Barbara Rowlands  
**May 20** Cecelia Long  
**May 27** Bertha Messer



## May Ushers

Ginger Agee  
**Head Usher: Traci McGuire**

## Van Ministry

**May 6** John Larsen  
**May 13** Jerry Gribler  
**May 20** Bertha Messer  
**May 27** Traci McGuire

## Welcome Team

**May 6** Debbie Arnold & Bertha Messer  
**May 13** Florence Carwell  
**May 20** Susie Kurtz  
**May 27** Kathy & Dick Schaefer

## Pantry Schedule

**May 4** Pam Hounshell & Linda Payne  
**May 7** Marla Reynolds & Vicky Wentling  
**May 11** Bonnie Maloney & Barbara Rowlands  
**May 14** Shirley McBride & Janet Michael  
**May 18** Ingrid Tartaglia, Ginger Agee & Vicky Wentling  
**May 21** Jackie Mergler & Barbara Rowlands  
**May 25** Susie Kurtz & Pat White  
**May 28** Closed – Memorial Day



## Legal Clinic

Legal Clinic will be available to those in need of services on Saturday, May 12 at Fairview UMC from 10:00 am-Noon.



SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE	
Hospitality (Parish Hall)	9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday School Classes	9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Worship (Sanctuary)	11:00 a.m.

# MAY 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>01</b>	<b>02</b> 5:30pm Fun Club  7pm Renewal Hour	<b>03</b> 6:15pm Chancel Bells  7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>04</b> 9:30am Food Pantry	<b>05</b> 12pm – 3pm Church Women United Meeting  7pm – 9pm
<b>06</b>	<b>07</b> 9:30am Food Pantry  10am Children's Book Shopping	<b>08</b> Election Day	<b>09</b> 1:30pm Rebecca Naomi 5:30pm Fun Club 6pm FROC PB 7pm Renewal Hour	<b>10</b> 9:30am UMW Meeting  6:15pm Chancel Bells  7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>11</b> 9:30am Food Pantry	<b>12</b> 9am Work Day  10am Legal Clinic
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:30am Food Pantry	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5:30pm Fun Club  7pm Renewal Hour	<b>17</b> 6:15pm Chancel Bells  7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>18</b> UMW Assembly  9:30am Food Pantry	<b>19</b> UMW Assembly
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:30am Food Pantry 6pm Festival Planning  6:30 pm Deborah Circle	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5:30pm Fun Club  7pm Renewal Hour	<b>24</b> 6:15pm Chancel Bells  7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>25</b> 9:30am Food Pantry	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Office Closed for Memorial Day	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5:30pm Fun Club  6pm Festival Planning  7pm Renewal Hour	<b>31</b> 6:15pm Chancel Bells  7:15pm Chancel Choir		

**If you are ordering Altar Flowers, please complete this form in its entirety and return to the church office or place in offering.**

# ALTAR FLOWERS

Given

by: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

(Please mark)

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Or both in Honor and Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

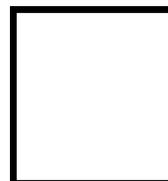
Date to be placed on the

Altar: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$20.00

*Please make checks payable to: Fairview United Methodist Church Memo: Altar Flowers*





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### **Church Staff**

***Pastor***

Rev. Barbara Wiechel

***Administrative Assistant***

Alice Kay Lovelace

***Music Director***

Carol Chatfield

***Organist***

Ayo Ogunmekan

***Community Ministries Coordinator***

Nicole Pritchett

***Treasurer***

Fred Poland