



FAIRVIEW
United Methodist Church

January

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 pray that the love of God, the Hope of Emmanuel, and the Spirit of New Life abide with you as we enter into this new year. Indeed, it is my hope that everyone reading this newsletter will experience the joy of Jesus in your hearts and homes this holiday season.

It is mildly amusing to think that it isn't even mid-winter yet! The cold temperatures of the past few days may only be a preview of what is to come! Even as I'm sitting here in my home office writing this letter, I'm aware that there's a winter storm just over the horizon. And even though I'm not a big fan of the cold weather and driving on snowy or ice-covered roads, the contemplative in me is quite content. I do love winter, with its silence and stark landscape devoid of distractions. The night sky is incredible with bright stars and planets, an image of tranquility in the midst of the chaos of the city and life in the fast lane. Let us seize these quiet moments when we can... bask in the wonder of the seasons and the beauty of God's creation!

But if this winter has you a bit on edge due to the lack of sunlight or bored because of being cooped up indoors, you're welcome to be a part of the exciting things we have going on at church! On January 1st, we will be having a very special "Covenant Renewal Service." This service goes all the way back to the founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley himself. He introduced it in 1775 as an important part of spiritual life in the Methodist Societies. This renewal service was a time for the Methodists to gather

annually in a time of self-examination, reflection, and dedication, wholly giving up themselves and renewing covenant with God. Repentance through confession and commitment was a key focus of the service, calling for humility from those willing to submit themselves to the dynamic words stated within the liturgy. It will be a powerful way to begin the new year!!

Then, on Sunday, January 8, I will be beginning my most ambitious sermon series to date! The series is entitled "Hello God? We've got questions!" and it's based off a survey that was done a while back among United Methodist youth and children and the questions they had about God. For five weeks, your pastor and resident theologian will be tackling the questions that topped that survey, questions like "Can God Change People's Minds about how they act?" and "Does God have a purpose for my life?". In just a few days, we will have a video trailer of the sermon series available on our Facebook page. This would be a great time to invite either your skeptical friends and family members to church...or those who might be in a place of asking questions and seeking answers about their spiritual paths. All are welcome to be a part of this important conversation!

And it IS MEANT to be a conversation. Now, as many of you know, I was recently laid up with a major health concern in the weeks leading up to Christmas, so I haven't yet had time to bring this full plan into fruition.....but my HOPE is to make this an INTERACTIVE sermon series. I will be working with Roger Christian and Lee Kreider to develop a weekly YouTube series for the duration of the main sermon series that will examine YOUR questions about God and life.

We're setting up a new email address, info@fairviewunitedmethodist.org for this express purpose. You can send us YOUR questions for a chance to have them answered on air during this weekly series. So think about it. If you have questions about God, the Bible, church, theology, or life questions.....all of it is fair game! Send it our way!

It has been a great year at Fairview. Our grant application to the Northwest Dayton partnership was approved, and we have received \$26,000 in new funding. Work on the expansion of our food pantry has already begun in earnest. We've welcomed several new friends into our Fairview family this year, and we will officially have a New Member Reception sometime soon. We've grown our presence in the community. Word about our unique traditional worship is spreading. It is a great time to be a part of Fairview, and I'm excited about what 2023 holds for us. Indeed, in just a few weeks we will be beginning our vision casting process for the church, a process which will ultimately include all of you!

I thank God for the privilege of another year serving as both your pastor and friend. I love all of you and let us all join together in praying for more great things in 2023!

Fairview was recently featured in the “West Ohio News” the newsletter from the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church” and “A View from the Valley”, the Miami Valley District newsletter.

Grant Allows Dayton Church To Expand Its Ministry



In Dayton, Ohio, a United Methodist Church food pantry serves the community twice a week and once a month on Saturday. Managed by volunteers, the pantry serves an average of 50 families per month.

At the Fairview Dayton United Methodist Church food pantry, there was a desire to increase the operating hours to expand its reach into the surrounding community. The vision for the pantry required more funding for updates to the pantry to make it a reality.

Northwest Dayton Partnership reached out to community churches, including Fairview, to apply for \$40,000 in grants available for ministries and initiatives that have a positive impact on Dayton area communities.

Northwest Dayton Partnership is a cross-sector effort to engage residents, parents, government, schools, nonprofits, neighborhood groups, and faith-based organizations to work on community solutions together.

Fairview applies and was awarded a \$26,000 grant for their food pantry. The grant will allow the ministry to upgrade the HVAC system, add a refrigerator unit to offer fresh food and hire a part-time coordinator. The pantry hopes these changes will allow the pantry to increase operating hours and the number of families served each month.

Fairview is looking for church partnerships and volunteers in this ministry. If you or your church are interested, [click here](#) to contact the church.



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| NEW YEAR'S DAY 1 9:45 am–Sunday School 11 am–Worship . 1:00 pm Comty. Pen | 2 OFFICE CLOSED | 3 6:30 am KI | 4 6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour | 5 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 6 6:30 am KI 2 9 am–Food Pantry | 7 10am-2 pm Comty. Pen. 3 |
| 8 9:45 am–Sunday School 11 am–Worship 1:00 pm Comty. Pen | 9 6:30 am KI 9 am–Food Pantry | 10 6:30 am KI | 11 6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour | 12 6:30 am KI 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 13 6:30 am KI 9 am–Food Pantry | 14 10 am-2pm Comty. Pen. 10:00 am–Legal Clinic & Food Pantry |
| 15 9:45 am–Sunday School 11 am–Worship 1:00 pm Comty. Pen | 16 6:30 am KI 9 am–Food Pantry | 17 6:30 am KI | 18 6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour | 19 6:30 am KI 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 20 6:30 am KI 9 am–Food Pantry | 21 10 am-2pm Comty. Pen. 10 am Strategic Planning |
| 22 9:45 am – Sunday School 11 am-Worship 1:00 pm Comty. Pen | 23 6:30 am KI 9 am–Food Pantry | 24 6:30 am KI | 25 6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour | 26 6:30 am KI 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 27 6:30 am KI 9 am–Food Pantry | 28 10 am-2pm Comty. Pen. |
| 29 9:45 am – Sunday School 11am-Worship 1:00 pm Comty. Pen | 30 6:30 am KI 9 am–Food Pantry | 31 STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING Our first meeting with David Ramey of Strategic Leadership Associates will be held on Saturday, January 21 from 10 AM - 12:30 PM in the George Clark Room. Your attendance at this first of several meetings is very important to the process of planning the future direction of the church. | | | | |

Financial Update

| | 2022 November YTD | 2021 November YTD |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Offerings & Income | 238,201 | 224,185 |
| Expenses | 244,779 | 234,171 |
| Shortfall | (6,578) | (9,986) |



UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS BOOK

June Barr
 5675 Ponderosa Drive Apt. 221
 Columbus, Ohio 43231
 Phone: 614-423-8050

Marty Hill
 3501 Executive Parkway Apt. 330
 Toledo, Ohio 43606
 Phone: 937-274-9741

Jack & Terri Hoernemann
 3421 Loggerhead Ct.
 Dayton, Ohio 45414

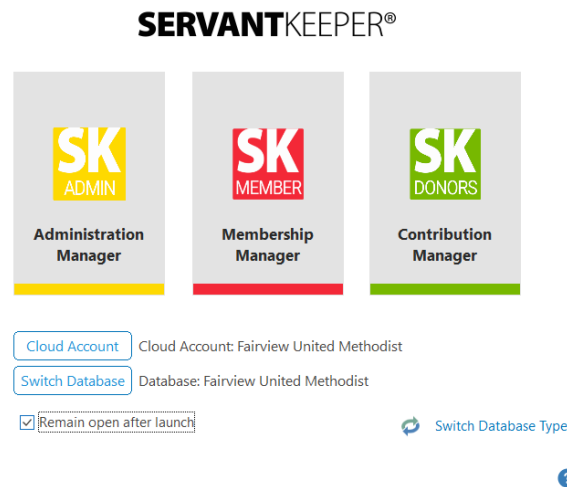
Vicky Wentling Room 502B
 Brookhaven
 1 Country Lane
 Brookville, Ohio 45309
 Phone: 937-833-1975



CHURCH COUNCIL

Beginning in January, we will begin looking toward the future of Fairview Church. Strategic Planning Associates will be guiding us through a strategic direction assessment. This will involve meeting with members of the Church Council, Trustees, the Open Door Class, and other interested members. The process will take about 3 months and help us focus on a plan moving forward. Please see Fred Poland if you have any questions.

Using SERVANT KEEPER – our new church database system



Online Church Directory.

To access the new Online Church Directory,

Open a browser on your device (Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, etc).

Copy and paste or enter <https://servantkeeper.com/directory/fairviewUMC>

You will be prompted for a password which is opendoor

This will open the directory.

For questions, please contact Fred Poland.

The online directory has two tabs...one for families and one for individuals. Under the individual tab, on the right side is a tab called FILTERS. Clicking this will allow searching by an individual group or Sunday School class.

This directory is accessed thru a browser rather than an app. You can bookmark the link as a favorite for easier access.

If you have any questions, please contact Fred Poland.

FAIRVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GREETERS



JANUARY 2023 SCHEDULE

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Jane Puderbaugh |
| 8 | Debbie Arnold |
| 15 | Bertha Messer |
| 22 | Wayne Hounshell |
| 29 | Richard & Shirley McBride |

FAIRVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



JANUARY 2023

How fast the years speed by! It is hard to believe that another year is winding down. This year has brought about many changes at Fairview and we look forward to expanding our service to the community.

Vicky and I want to truly thank each of you who have participated in any way to the success of feeding the neighbors and friends. Volunteers kept our pantry open when others in the community were unable to serve. A special "thank you" to Fred Poland for stepping up and bringing in the foodstuffs for our pantry which we were unable to get from the Foodbank.

Cecelia Long and Lisa Engle coordinated the intake process and made sure we complied with government regulations on serving food to the clients. They were so faithful in setting up appointments and serving the many clients we had this year. Their service was indeed a blessing to our pantry.

A special "thank you" is in order to all the congregation who support this service. Your donations help supplement the food supply we receive from the Foodbank. We hope that you continue to be as generous as you have been in the past.

It takes all of us, working together, to keep a successful pantry going. If you haven't already done so, we welcome you to volunteer in whatever way you are able. We always need volunteers to help serve, stock shelves, break down boxes, and many other duties.

To all of you, from all the volunteers in the pantry, we wish you a Happy New Year.

Love Barbara & Vicky

2022 PANTRY STATISTICS

| Month | Total Households Served | Total People Served |
|-------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Jan | 38 | 84 |
| Feb | 42 | 90 |
| Mar | 39 | 88 |
| Apr | 59 | 136 |
| May | 51 | 123 |
| Jun | 53 | 137 |
| Jul | 55 | 110 |
| Aug | 60 | 137 |
| Sep | 53 | 126 |
| Oct | 51 | 112 |
| Nov | 44 | 131 |
| Dec | | |
| Total | 545 | 1,274 |

Thank you for your support and donations!

In addition to the food, we receive from The Foodbank and other donations, your contributions to the pantry have allowed us to purchase \$12,478 in additional food.

Donations to the pantry are welcomed at any time.

JANUARY PANTRY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

MON. 2ND PANTRY CLOSED

**FRI. 20TH BARBARA BUTTRAM
TINA WALKER**

**FRI. 6TH PAM HOUNSHELL
LINDA PAYNE**

**MON. 23RD INGRID TARTAGLIA
LESA WINBORN**

**MON. 9TH SHIRLEY MCBRIDE
BARB ROWLANDS**

**FRI. 27TH SUSIE KURTZ
PATRICIA WHITE**

**FRI. 13TH BARB ROWLANDS
BONNIE MALONEY**

**FRI. 30TH KATHY FARMER
DEBBIE ARMOLD**

**MON. 16TH JACKIE MERGLER
TINA WALKER**

SAT 14TH BARBARA ROWLANDS



- January 1 Wayne Hounshell,
Coroneriyio Ndayisaba
Bernadeta Mpewanayo
- January 3 Susan Hull
- January 5 Marlys Nelson
- January 10 Lisa Engle
- January 14 Mike Zuber
- January 21 Marty Hill
- January 22 Carol Chatfield
- January 23 Carol Cogan
- January 26 Sherri Sutter
- January 30 Jackie Mergler
- January 31 Lydia Messer

Human Relations Day is January 15, 2023



WHY DO WE CELEBRATE SPECIAL SUNDAYS?

United Methodists celebrate on specific days to unite and make clear the commitment of the church as the people of God, and to give everyone the opportunity to contribute to special programs approved and supported by the Church. For stories on how you make a difference visit UMC.org/yourimpact

HOW DO YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT HUMAN RELATIONS?

We are called to make an impact in communities where our brothers and sisters in Christ lack the resources or tools to reach their God-given potentials. Our gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens. For more than half a century, United Methodists have observed this churchwide special Sunday in recognition of the message Jesus demonstrated during his life: **Each of God's children are equally important.**





DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS FOR GOD? (WE DO TOO!)

Join us beginning Jan. 8th - Feb. 5th for our winter sermon series

"Hello, God?! We've Got Questions!"

For the next five Sundays, inspired by some tough questions UMC children asked about God, we will go on a journey into a life of asking questions in the name of our faith. As we travel together, let us take some time to reflect on who we are, where we have been, and where God is calling us to go, as individuals and as faith communities.



COLUMNS

828 W. FAIRVIEW AVE
DAYTON, OHIO 45406

Phone: 937-274-2189

E-mail: fairviewunitedmethodist@yahoo.com

Website: www.fairviewumcdayton.org

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Pastor

Rev. E. Neil Gaiser, OSL

Administrative Assistant

Carol McDougale

Director of Music

Carol Chatfield

Toddler Room Attendant

Brooklyn Messer

Church Musician

Michele Delduca

Treasurer

Fred Poland

Audio Visual Technician

Roger Christian

Building Maintenance

Nelson Clair