



FAIRVIEW
United Methodist Church

COLUMNS NEWSLETTER



A Letter from the Pastor



I must confess, I spent my Maundy Thursday in a somewhat unconventional way. The first week of April marked a very special occasion for adherents of the three Abrahamic faith traditions, as our major annual observances overlapped, something that is very rare. While we were celebrating Holy Week, those of the Jewish faith were celebrating the Passover on April 5th, and Muslims were at the midway point of their month-long observance of Ramadan. I was invited to be a special guest at an Iftar Dinner that was being held by the Dayton Mercy Society. For those of you who are not familiar with the tradition, an Iftar dinner is the daily fast-breaking meal eaten by Muslims immediately after sunset during this Islamic holy month. It was a great honor to receive this invitation. And rather humorously, I was seated right next to none other than Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr.!

But what really made the event stand out was their guest speaker, an Imam, professor, and Chaplain from Duke University. He gave a rousing speech about finding common ground in our great faith traditions and how we should all be learning from one another. When he talked about Christianity specifically, he said Muslims could learn a great deal from Christians about works of mercy; how Christians are at the forefront of taking care of the poor and the marginalized, providing disaster relief, and so many other amazing things. It made me think immediately of all the great work that is being done at Fairview.

When it came time for question and answers, one guest happened to ask a very difficult question. He basically asked, 'what do we do in response to leaders who are part of the problem rather than the solution?'

What about the religious leaders who advocate for the second amendment while people are dying in our schools and on our streets? What about the religious leaders who advocate for division rather than unity? What about the religious leaders who call for wars and violence?

It was a question that even the distinguished professor struggled with, so he invited other faith leaders to speak out. I took the challenge. I said that speaking as a Christian minister, I recognize that even our sacred scriptures are fundamentally ambiguous. When taken out of context, a religious leader can make them say anything they want them to. Thus, our scriptures can be used to wound or to heal. But I stated that from a Christian perspective, our Lord Jesus gave us two fundamental commandments, to love God, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. I then emphasized that this is a *universal* truth, that its essence can be found in all of our great traditions, and that this must be the measuring stick with which all other scriptures and the words of all religious leaders must be measured against.

The problem is that there is a spirit of antichrist deep within Western culture that seeks to divide us rather than unite us. We see it every time we scroll through our feeds or turn on our televisions. These voices often drown out those of love and harmony, therefore we must be the counter-narrative. I stated that having this Iftar dinner, with so many people of different faith traditions present is a great example of being that counter-narrative. I said that as people of faith, we must stand together in condemning what falls short of that measuring stick, and we must work together in *changing* that narrative. My impromptu sermonizing surprisingly brought a standing ovation.

More importantly, however, I think of these things further as we inch closer to the time of Pentecost, that day when we commemorate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. Those early Christians went out boldly proclaiming a message of love and reconciliation, a message that our own culture so desperately needs to hear still today.

It is my prayer then that the Holy Spirit will descend on all of us and on Fairview United Methodist Church, and to continue to lead us in this important work of spreading the love of God and bringing hope to all whom we meet. Come, Holy Spirit, Come!! Fall afresh on us.....



United Women in Faith Leadership Team

Fairview United Women in Faith Leadership Team will meet on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in person or via Zoom if meeting in person is not possible. The team will continue to make plans for mission outreach. Members of the Leadership Team are asked to contact Cecelia Long, 937/972-7045, or cealong48@gmail.com by May 8th to confirm your attendance at the meeting or if you will be attending via Zoom. The Zoom link will be sent on May 9th.

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Fairview United Women in Faith Meeting on May 22, 2023

The Fairview United Women in Faith Circle will meet on Monday, May 22, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. The leaders for the meeting are: Program - Pam Hounshell, Prayer Guide – Judy Gebhart, Devotions – Barbara Rowlands, and Response Moment – Pat White. Light refreshments will be served. All women of Fairview are encouraged to attend and to bring a friend who may not be connected with any women's mission group. The monthly meeting provides an opportunity to grow spiritually and to learn new information about the mission outreach of United Women in Faith. Please call Judith Mathes, Coordinator of United Women in Faith Circle, at 937/286-2233 to confirm your attendance at the meeting. The meeting will provide uplifting support and spiritual nourishment and renewal for each person.

2022 FINANCIAL GIVING OF FAIRVIEW UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Mission Statement: "United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership, and education so they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities."

Fairview United Women in Faith Leadership Team and the members have continued their commitment to reaching out to as many United Methodist related mission organizations as our funds will allow. In 2022, the Mission Giving for Fairview United Women in Faith was:

Pledge to the Conference through the District	\$1,000.94
Special Mission Recognition (of Dave Puderbaugh)	40.00
Gifts to Mission (in honor of persons)	45.00
Gifts in Memory (in memory of family & friends)	330.00
Thank Offering (collected from UWF members)	888.00
Call to Prayer and Self-Denial (2021&2022)	710.00
Friends of Wesley Membership	25.00
United Methodist Children's Home Family Services	50.00
Support of International Missions Worker	200.00
United Methodist Committee on Relief	100.00
*District, Conference, and National Missions	<u>650.00</u>
TOTAL	\$4, 463.94

*Detail of Local, District, Conference, and National Missions:

National Justice for our Neighbors (a Justice-oriented Mission)	\$100.00
Friendly Center, Inc. (Toledo, OH)	50.00
Community Development 4 All People	50.00
Wesley Dayton	50.00
Wesley Educational Center Cincinnati	50.00
Fairview UMC Pantry	<u>350.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 650.00

United Women in Faith has the goal of connecting with any woman who has the desire to serve women, children, and youth. Women who are not members of any denomination may join the organization. We desire to be assessable for anyone. Fairview UWF Leadership Team Meetings and the regular Circle for UWF will continue to be Zoomed for persons who cannot attend in-person.

Women who participate In the monthly meetings of United Women in Faith spend time in spiritually directed programs from UWF Program book and share readings from the Response magazine Each person has the opportunity to reflect and to grow in her faith journey. We are grateful to all the Fairview women who participate in UWF and for all who contribute to missions of Fairview United Women in Faith.

West Ohio United Women in Faith and West Ohio Conference
2023 MISSION u Living the Good News: Reflecting God's Love
In-Person Session and Virtual Sessions via Zoom

Mission u reflects the theology of the United Methodist Church and the practice of joining personal holiness with social holiness. Through worship, in-depth study, music, prayer, sharing and exploring, we invite you to grow with us in understanding the mission of the church.

In-Person Session check-in at 5:00p.m. Friday, June 16 **Virtual Sessions:** via Zoom

Closing session ending Sunday, June 18 at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 5, 12, 19, 26 7-9 p.m.

Location: Bergamo Center for Life Long Learning OR

4400 Shakertown Road, Dayton, OH 45430

Thursdays, July 6, 13, 20, 27 10am-noon

Registration: April 1-June 1, 2023

Cost: \$25/person

Zoom Link will be provided 7/3 & 7/6

Single Room w/ lodging + meals \$200/person

\$15/youth Includes off-site lodging & food

Double Room w/ lodging + meals \$160/person

**** \$65/Commuter includes lunch and dinners**

Registration: <https://www.westhioumw.org/mission-u>



Cecelia Long, 937/972-7045, cealong48@gmail.com may be contacted for more information.

****Persons in the Dayton metropolitan area are encouraged to commute to allow the limited overnight accommodations to be used by those outside the Dayton area.**

SPECIAL PROJECT: All participants will be invited to help create a Mission u 2023 quilt.

Adult Curriculum: "Living the Kingdom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation". The Lord's Prayer as recorded in Matthew 6:9-13 will be explored. The invitation is to take a deeper look at the prayer and the role it plays in our faith journey. Book may be purchased at www.umwmissionresources.org cost is \$14.99.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	2 ELECTION DAY!	3 6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour 6 pm—Food Pantry	4 6:30 am KI 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	5 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	6 10 am-2 pm Comty. Pen. Church 9 am Church Clean Up 
7 8:30 am TTE Mtg 9:45 am—Sunday School 11 am—Worship Prayer Min. 1 pm Comty. Pen. Church	8 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	9 6:30 am KI	10 6:30 am KI 10 am UWIF Ldrs Mtg. 3:30 pm Renewal Hour 6 pm—Food Pantry	11 6:30 am KI 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	12 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	13 10 am-2 pm Comty. Pen. Church 10 am—Food Pantry
MOTHER'S DAY 14 9:45 am—Sunday School 11 am—Worship Prayer Min. 1 pm Comty. Pen. Church	15 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	16 6:30 am KI	17 6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour 6 pm—Food Pantry	18 6:30 am KI 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	19 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	20 10 am-2 pm Comty. Pen. Church 2 pm Gerald Nelson Memorial Service
21 9:45 am – Sunday School 11 am—Worship Prayer Min. 1 pm Comty. Pen.	22 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	23 6:30 am KI	24 6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour 6 pm—Food Pantry	25 6:30 am KI 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	26 6:30 am KI 9 am—Food Pantry	27 10 am-2 pm Comty. Pen. Church
28 9:45 am – S. School 11 am—Worship Prayer Min. 1 pm Comty. Pen. Church.	29 MEMORIAL DAY PANTRY CLOSED OFFICE CLOSED	30 6:30 am KI	6:30 am KI 3:30 pm Renewal Hour 6 pm—Food Pantry	 <p>The Trustees are requesting your help at the Spring Work Day on Saturday, May 6th from 9 AM - 12:30 PM. Our project this spring is cleaning and repairing our folding chairs and banquet tables. Bring your buckets, and we'll meet in the Parish Hall. We will have all the necessary supplies. Many hands make light work!</p>		

YEAR END FINANCIAL UPDATE & STATISTICS

	March YTD 2023	March YTD 2022
Offerings	67,127	61,248
Expenses	75,924	70,008
Shortfall	(8,797)	(8,760)

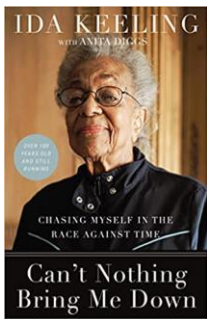
Free Legal Clinic

Dear Community:

We will not have Free Legal Clinic on May 13, 2023

We will resume: June 10, 2023 from 10am to Noon

BOOK REVIEW: [Ida Keeling \(Author\), wrote the book Can't Nothing Bring Me Down](#)

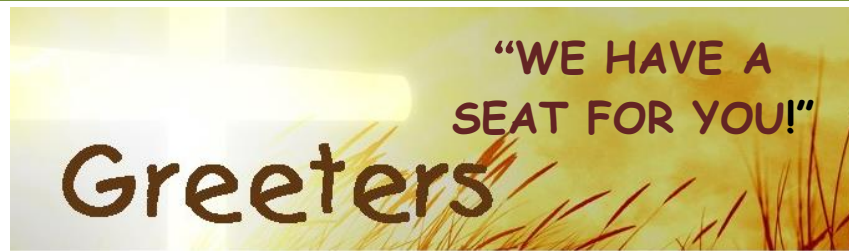


[Look inside](#) ↓

[Listen](#)

Ida Keeling grew up in the Great Depression born to Caribbean immigrants. She raised 4 children by herself under the worst circumstances. Her husband died from a heart attack. Her 2 sons were killed by gun violence. She was an activist in the Civil Rights movement. The loss of her husband and sons was so overwhelming, that Ida was having problems working through it. Sometime later, when Ida was 67 years old, her daughter suggested running as a way to heal. Miss Ida, as she was known in her Harlem community, always trusted in God to carry her through. She did go running with her daughter and has broken many running records in any age group she ran in and was still running at over 100 years old. She died September 10, 2021, at 106+ years old. This book is well worth the read. She shows that with God in our lives, we can overcome.

Submitted by Judith Mathes



7th Bertha Messer 14th Debbie Arnold 21st Wayne Hounshell
 28th Jane Puderbaugh

MAY WORSHIP Leaders

May 7	Ed Rapp
May 14	Pam Hounshell
May 21	Sherri Sutter
May 28	Judy Gebhart



MAY TODDLER ROOM SCHEDULE

MAY 7	Kathy Schaefer	MAY 21	Terri Hoernemann
MAY 14	Gerardine Shukuru	MAY 28	Susie Kurtz



VAN MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MAY 7 John 937-277-6387	MAY 14 Jerry 937-689-3176
MAY 21 Art 937-279-0650	MAY 28 Greg 937-620-1472

You **must call** the driver for the Sunday you want to come to church the **day before** or you will **not** be picked up!



The plan for the **FUMC Prayer Mission Team** is coming together. Anyone who is interested can join us.

1. We'll have a Brainstorming Meeting in the beginning of May.

What can we do to improve the prayer times at Fairview?

What would you like to see happen? What are our ultimate goals?

We can meet in person OR by Zoom OR both to share our ideas.

2. Pastor Neil has a short resource for us to read, the "Prayer Ministry Volunteer Handbook"

3. Then we will Meet (again in person OR Zoom OR both) the week of 5/21-5/26 to discuss that handbook and set a summer schedule for "prayer after worship."

4. Hopefully, we will Begin For Real on Pentecost (5/29) by bringing back prayer after worship for any who would like someone to pray with them.

If you would like to share your ideas, contact Joyce at (270) 889-7720 or gowdye@verizon.net

And we ask that everyone would be in prayer for prayer! May the Lord bless this ministry beginning and may it bring God glory and praise. Amen.



MAY



We have some changes in our pantry to share with you! Very soon you will see all our pantry volunteers wearing matching T-shirts with our new insignia proudly displayed on them.

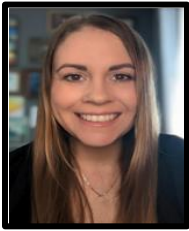
You may also notice some new pantry posters on different doors on our first floor.

The pantry serving area has been rearranged to make shopping more convenient for our guests. You may want to stop by and see the changes we have made.

Enjoy the warm Spring days and have a wonderful Spring.

*Blessings To All
Barb and Vicky*

GREETINGS



Hello, my name is Cori Fletcher and I am excited to be the new Pantry Manager. As a civil servant since 2009 working with nonprofits, it's my honor to now be serving Fairview UMC and the Dayton community. With the pantry expansion, we can efficiently serve more families in need and process more clients at a time. We're also excited to announce that we'll be opening the pantry for walk-ins on Wednesday evenings beginning May 3 from 6-8pm. This will allow families who aren't able to come during appointment times Mondays and Fridays to utilize this amazing opportunity that is available to them. To make this expansion a success, we need YOU and your support to make it happen!

So how can you help our new expanded pantry ministries?

PRAYERS – we feel this is a spirit led ministry to a community that is hungry and in need. Pray for our clients and our volunteers as they work together each week.

PRESENCE – stop by and see what we do. You are always welcome when we are open. You can also ask to see the pantry on Sunday morning. There are several people who would love to give you a tour.

GIFTS—we need the financial support of the Fairview congregation to help us pay for the food they we must buy in stores to supplement our stock. Can you afford \$25 a month or more to help this ministry? We can charge that automatically to you or you can place it in the offering. We are also applying for grant money from area agencies to help as well.

SERVICE-- We need YOU! There are lots of opportunities. We need **Assistants** for each pantry client to help them shop. We need **Greeters** to monitor the door as clients come and go. We need **Stockers** to help keep our shelves stocked from the new storage area. We need **Intakers** to enter client information in Pantry Trak, the system connected to the Food Bank. We need **Shoppers** to turn our dollars into food by shopping for the items that we don't get from the Food Bank. We need **Unloaders** to help when we get a truck from the Food Bank.

If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, you can email me at pantry@fairviewunitedmethodist.org or call me at 937-707-5953. You can make or set up contributions at www.fairviewunitedmethodist.org.

I hope to meet all of you soon!

2023 PANTRY STATISTICS



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

Month	Total Households Served	Total People Served
Jan	51	141
Feb	64	161
March	48	121
Total	163	586

In addition to the food we receive from The Foodbank and other donations, your contributions to the pantry have allowed us to purchase \$4,341 in additional food this year. Donations to the pantry are welcomed any time. You can make automatic monthly donations through our website.

LOADS OF LOVE REMINDER



Please be sure to thoroughly wash your used milk containers that are donated to Memorial United Methodist Church. We thank you for your donations and really appreciate this addition to our food pantry ministry.

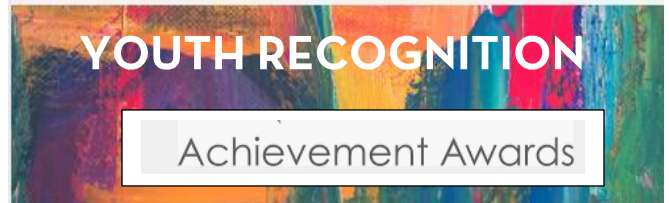


PANTRY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

MON. 1ST	PAT WHITE SHIRLEY MCBRIDE	FRI. 19TH	BARBARA BUTTRAM TINA WALKER
WED. 3rd	6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M	MON. 22ND	INGRID TARTIGULA LESA WINBORN
FRI. 5TH	JANET MICHAEL PAM HOUNSHELL	WED. 24TH	6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M
MON. 8TH	JACKIE MERGLER	FRI. 26TH	TINA WALKER
WED. 10TH	6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M	MON. 29TH	MEMORIAL DAY PANTRY CLOSED
FRI. 12TH	BARBARA ROWLANDS	WED. 31ST	6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M
SAT. 13TH	BERTHA MESSER DEBBIE ARMOLD		
MON. 15TH	KATHY FARMER DEBBIE ARMOLD		
WED. 17TH	6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M		



MAY 5	RICK IVORY
MAY 9	SONIA JACKSON, DEAN SUTTER
MAY 13	ART MEHAFFEY
MAY 16	CECELIA LONG, DICK SCHAEFER
MAY 23	KAREN ADCOCK
MAY 26	KEN BURDEN
MAY 28	SANDRA RALPH
MAY 29	DALE COGAN
MAY 31	DARLENE SNELL



If you have a student graduating from high school, college, or university please send their name and picture in PNG, GIF, JPEG, to the office by **May 19**. We will feature them in the June Columns.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: If you have a youth that will be graduating, promoted to the next grade, or who has completed a specialty subject, please send their picture and name to the office by **May 19**. We will feature them in the June Columns.

All accomplishments are welcome.

Gerald David Nelson



A visitation will be held from 1-2 PM with service to follow at 2 PM on Saturday, May 20, 2023 at Fairview United Methodist Church.



Dear Fairview Family,

I want to thank each and every one for all the birthday cards, well wishes and for coming to my Open House on Saturday, April 22nd to help celebrate my 80th Birthday. It was very humbling to see the outpouring from so many people.

As many of you remember, it will be 10 years this fall since I received my new lease on life with a liver transplant. I am living proof that the Organ Donor Program is a much needed one. I encourage you to think about it the next time you renew your license...

I decided upon recovery I would try to live my life according to our Fairview Mission Statement...

BEING GOD'S PEOPLE, LEARNING GOD'S WILL & DOING GOD'S WORK.

*Blessings to all,
Dave Puderbaugh*

CLICK HERE

REMINDER: Daily Devotion and Prayer Link

Daily Devotion and Prayer

Daily Devotion and Prayer link at the top of our website at www.fairviewunitedmethodist.org.

This is provided by the Upper Room. Check it out.

You can access it from your phone by using Safari (or your browser) and save it as a favorite in your bookmarks. The link is at the top of the screen on your phone.



COLUMNS

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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

Pantry Manager

Cori Fletcher

Audio Visual Technician

Roger Christian

Building Maintenance

Nelson Clair