



First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP

Sunday, September 18

Pastor Jon Priebe preaching
8:30 am - Epworth Choir
11:00 am - Chancel Choir

Sunday, September 25

Pastor Jon Priebe preaching
8:30 am - Epworth Choir
11:00 am - Chancel Choir

Sunday School/Confirmation at 9:45
Nursery/Preschool Care at 9:30 & 11
Children's Worship at 11

TYPICAL SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship - 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Classes - 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

Worship - 11 a.m.

Children's Worship - 11 a.m. after God's Word for Young Disciples. (Grades K-4)

Financial Peace - 4 p.m.

Ministry By Strengths - 5:45

Youth Group - 4 p.m. (Grades 7-12)

Children's Bells - 4 p.m.

Children's Choirs - 4:30 p.m.

ROCK - 5 p.m. (every other Sunday, ages 4 through 3rd grade)

Wesley Youth Group - 5 p.m.

Epworth Choir - 5:45 p.m.

Epworth Ringers - 7 p.m.



A NOTE FROM PASTOR JON

I've had the honor to spend time over the years with many people in the days when they know their end is close. It's a wonder to observe how certain things become higher and higher priorities

as those moments come closer. I remember this especially when I was spending time with Ginny Folk over her last few days. She and Ted were my marching band chaperones and I always enjoyed when they were with us because they were so loving and fun. Over Ginny's last few days it seemed like she spent every moment and breath giving words of encouragement, blessing, and love the many, many people who were dear to her in life. It seemed like the way Jesus would have done it.

From the cross, Jesus used his last few breaths to make sure that his mother was cared for, to pray for forgiveness for those who harmed him, and to say, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" I'd always thought those words were a cry of anguish, until one day a few years ago I was reading Psalm 22 and recognized them as the first line of the Psalm. Jesus used some of his last words (perhaps his very last words according to Mark 15), to begin a Psalm that praises God's enduring power and reign. As if to say, God's got this.

Whenever those days come, I'm hoping I use my last days and moments as wisely as Jesus and Ginny.

Blessings,
Jon



Upcoming Poll on the Future of the United Methodist Church

Over the next three weeks, we are asking as many folks as possible to participate in a one question poll about the future of the United Methodist Church and marriage and inclusion of LGBTQ+ persons. As a large congregation, we have many differing perspectives on these matters. The poll is intended to help clarify how each of us handles being a part of a church when we disagree. I think one of the great strengths of our congregation is that we recognize that the mission of Jesus transcends some of our disagreements. However, I might be wrong and want to make sure where you all stand.



After worship on September 18 and 25 (in-person) we will show a brief video explanation of the poll, then conduct the one question poll. It should take you about 15 minutes or less. Please bring a smartphone or tablet if you have one.

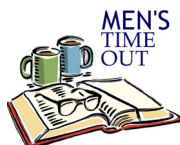
If you aren't able to be here in-person on those two Sundays, please register with Pastor Karol by email (fallsfirstkarol@gmail.com) for a ZOOM call on October 2 immediately following the 11:00 service to view the explanation and take the poll. We will share the results as we go on our Facebook page and in the bulletin and newsletter once all three weeks of the poll are completed.

Disciple Like Jesus Class... Our next 6 week *Disciple Like Jesus* class will start on Sunday, October 2 at 9:30 am. Many in our church have already participated in the study and have really enjoyed the practical implications and help for growing as disciples. Please contact the church office or Pastor Karol to sign up, so we can send you the pdf of the book and other materials you will need for the class. You may also sign up at the Welcome Center. The book can be purchased

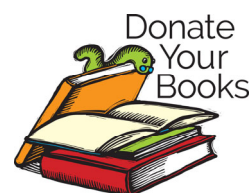
United Women in Faith Circle Meetings... If you're interested in a circle of friends, our circles are gearing up for the Fall. Acts of Grace Circle meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 7pm, call Linda Demeter -740-334-9290. Esther Circle meets the 3rd Friday (daytime), call Peggy Manson - 330-929-3906. Susannah Circle meets on the 2nd Wednesday (daytime), call Sue Boltz - 330-928-8635.

UMW/UWF Book Sale Returns! Mark your calendars for the Fall used Book Sale on November 4 & 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. "Fire Sale" will be on November 6. Bring your donations of used books October 31 thru November 3. Then return to buy some on Friday and Saturday. We will appreciate adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles, and games. No magazines, text books, or encyclopedias. The sale will take place in Wesley Hall.

Do you want to know Jesus better? Do you want to love Jesus more and follow Jesus more closely? The Ambassador Class invites you to participate in our Fall Study from the Gospel of Mark: *Follow Me!* The class meets Sundays online at 9:45 am. Contact Wendy Gillespie (330-926-1716) for materials.



All the men of the church and the community are invited to attend Men's Time Out on Saturday, October 1, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Asbury Hall. It takes place regularly on the first Saturday of each month. Join them for a time of fellowship, discussion, and breakfast - a wonderful way to connect with the men of the church.





After our Messy Game Fall Kick-off, Epworth Youth has started back to their regular sched-

ule. Later this month, we will load up the buses to visit Rahab Ministries and organize donations for the women they serve. Epworth Choir is also back to rehearsing and helping to lead worship during the early service and Confirmation and Youth Sunday School have returned to meeting in person.

M & M's... The youth program is able to offer many programs and events to our youth. From summer camp to mystery parties to mission trips, the youth of FUMC have many opportunities to enjoy a variety of experiences and grow in their faith. We could not do this without the support of the congregation! To thank you, please look for the return of our mini M&M's on September 18. Please enjoy the sweet treat and, after you are finished, if you would like to continue to support the Mission & Ministry of our youth, you can do so by filling the tube with a donation to the youth program and returning it to the church office or dropping it in the offering plates on Sunday mornings. Thank you for everything you've done for our youth!



Blessing Box... Our blessing box has been blessing many people as of late, and our inventory of items on hand is dwindling quickly. If you are able, please consider donating the following items: ramen noodles, flavored rice/ noodle packets, granola bars, canned soup/ vegetables/ fruit, spaghetti o's/ ravioli, canned tuna/ meats, individual oatmeal packets, individual serving cereals, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deo-



dorant, soap, shampoo. Donations may be left on the table outside the church library, or you may be the hands of Jesus by placing the items directly in the blessing box. Thank you!



Our fall activities have begun and it was great to see so many of you again on Rally Day.

The schedule continues with Sunday School from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. for all ages through Grade 6 and Children's Worship during the 11:00 Worship service for K – 4th grade. Childcare for infants and toddlers is also available. Be sure to sign-in on the tablets in the Breezeway when you arrive for these activities.

Children's bell rehearsals will be held every week at 4 p.m. and choirs at 4:30 p.m., with the next week of ROCK activities on September 25.

Thank you to those who are stepping forward to help with these programs. We do, however, still need a few additional helpers. Please contact Donna Curfman at 330-329-2379 if you can offer an hour or two, even once a month to fill those needs.

Acolytes... We are putting together our acolyte teams for the 11:00 a.m. church service to start Sunday, October 2. If your 4th to 6th grade child would like to participate, please let Pastor Karol know as soon as possible so we can get them trained and scheduled.

Acme Receipts... It's time to start saving your Acme receipts again for their Community Cash Back program. Buy store brands and save the receipts dated August 4 through December 24. The church receives 5% on qualifying products. The money is used to fund the projects done at Work Camp. Receipts may be turned in to the Spiritual Formation office.



DO JUSTICE ...

love kindness ...

WALK HUMBLY

with our God.



MICAH 6:8

First Church News

"First Church News" (185-000) **Periodicals**, postage paid at Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223. Published every other wk Jan-June & Sept.-Dec. with 1 issue ea in July, Aug. by First UMC 245 Portage Tr. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to First Church News, 245 Portage Tr., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-3274

Volume 77, No. 16 * USPS 185-000 * September 15, 2022

First United Methodist Church

245 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-3274 * (330) 923-5241

Email: infofumccf@gmail.com * website: www.firstchurchcf.com

Jon Priebe - Lead Minister x211; Mike Ward - Associate Minister x217; Forrest Waller and Marvin Brown - Senior Ministers Emeriti; Dean Wagner - Director of Music Ministries/Organist x221; Karol Lewis - Director of Spiritual Formation x218; Jennifer Brooks - Director of Weekday Preschool x220; Jen McKenna - Youth Ministries Coordinator; Tim Zuschin - Assistant Choir Director; Donna Curfman - Children's Ministry Coordinator x219; Kathy Kuzas x212; Christy Meyers x210; Nancy Yeager x216; Ann Kaiser; John Fox; Joe Demeter; Alicia Stone; Kathy Just



The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to Merritt "Bud" Carson.

Our Sympathies to Dave and Rosalie Goshen and family on the death of their son, member Nick Goshen, on 9/6.

Births: Congratulations to Kevin and Kelly (Sharp) Emmendorfer on the birth of their son, Aaron John Emmendorfer, on 8/24.



The deadline for the next FCN is **Friday, September 23**. Please submit your articles to Kathy Kuzas at kku-zasfumccf@gmail.com.

FALL HIKING SPREE

Fall is approaching us quickly, and this means it is time for some fellowship, fitness, and faith, so be sure to add these dates to your calendars.

Pastor Mike will be participating in the Summit County Metroparks Fall Hiking Spree again this year. We will meet at 2:00 pm for a quick devotion. In case of bad weather, hikers can complete that hike on their own. First year hikers receive a hiking staff and this year's badge upon completing 8 hikes. Returning hikers receive this year's badge upon completing 8 hikes. Please visit the Summit County Metroparks website to download this year's form and the list of park addresses. The order of hikes and the dates will be:

DATE	TRAIL	PARK	MILES
9/25	Overlook Trail	Cascade Valley	0.5
10/2	Redwing Trail	Firestone Park	1.1
10/9	Pheasant Run Trail	Silver Creek Park	1.2
10/16	Coyote Run Trail	Liberty Park	1.2
10/23	Rock Creek Trail	Furnace Run Park	1.3
10/30	Prairie Trail	Springfield Bog Park	1.6
11/6	Celebration Trail	Cascade Valley	1.6
11/13	Glens Trail	Gorge Metro Park	1.8