

First Church News

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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; Howard Pippin - Associate Minister x217; Marvin Brown - Senior Minister Emeritus; Dean Wagner - Director of Music Ministries/Organist x221; Jennifer Brooks - Director of Weekday Preschool x220; Tim Zuschin - Assistant Choir Director; Donna Curfman - Children's Ministry Coordinator x213; Christy Meyers x210; Nancy Yeager x216; Sarah Neri x212; Kim Kerr x212; Ann Kaiser; John Fox; Joe Demeter



First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Join us as we start our new year of activities!



The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to **Mary A. McCurdy.**

Our Sympathies to the family of member Bonnie Shultz who passed away on July 8, to

Nancy Guinter and family on the death of her mother, member Helen Guinter on 7/9, and the family of member Earle Hanna who passed away on July 12.

Did You Know? We will be glad to publish (space allowing) milestone birthdays, anniversaries, births and other special events in your family if you send a note c/o Sarah Neri, call us at 330-923-5241 x212 or email sarahnerifallsumc@gmail.com.

Save the Dates Summer 2025!

For those that like to plan ahead...we have set our VBS 2025 for the week of July 14-18 from 9am-noon. Extreme VBS will be from noon-5:00pm, and Chess Camp will run June 23-27.



- Sunday, August 4 — 9:30am**
Pastor Howard Pippin preaching
- Sunday, August 11 — 9:30am**
Pastor Howard Pippin preaching
- Sunday, August 18 — 9:30am**
Pastor Howard Pippin preaching
- Sunday, August 25 — 9:30am**
Pastor Howard Pippin preaching

The deadline for the September issue of the FCN is **Thursday, August 15.** Please submit your articles to Sarah Neri at sarahnerifallsumc@gmail.com.



September 8, Join Us for Rally Sunday!

We will begin our fall worship schedule, Sunday School classes resume, and we'll top it off all with a Potluck after our 10:45am service.

- 8:30am—Early Worship Service with Communion
- 9:30am—Parent Meeting (preschool-6th grade in Asbury Hall)
- 9:30am—Sunday School Classes (children-6th grade meet in the Chapel)
- 10:45am—Late Worship Service (*Blessing of the Backpacks, **Bible Presentations)
- 11:45pm—Potluck on the church lawn (bring a dish to share)

*Blessings of the Backpacks: Students and teachers are encouraged to bring in their bags for blessing during the 10:45 service.
**Bible Presentations: If you have a child 2nd grade or older who has not received a bible, please contact Donna Curfman or the office so we can include them in our presentation on Sept. 8.

R.O.C.K. is Moving to Wednesdays!

After much discussion and consideration, we are moving children's music rehearsals and ROCK activities to Wednesday evenings. Please keep this in mind as you schedule your child's fall activities.

Schedule : Bells rehearsal will start at 4:30 p.m.

Bethlehem and Wesley Choir rehearsals will start at 5:00 p.m.

ROCK activities will run from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

(Note: Children will be served a small snack, but there will be no dinner served.)

Activities will include a Bible Story and activities, Crafts, Missions, Knitting, Science and more, TBA.

These will vary each week. The complete schedule and special events will be available at the

Parent Meeting on the first night – September 11 at 6:00 p.m.



Reality of Christ for Kids!



Summer Offering

Don't forget to invest in your church this summer! We know everyone is busy travelling and enjoying summer. We ask that you please remember your tithes and offerings even if you're only here in spirit. We want to make sure we're prepared to begin our fall programming. Thank you always for your faithful giving.

All the men of the church and community are invited to gather on the first Saturday of every month for some food, a time for discussion, and lots of fellowship! It runs from 8:30 to 9:30am in Asbury Hall and the next one will take place on **Saturday, August 3.**



Choirs Begin Rehearsals

We are gearing up for a new choir season! Epworth Choir will begin rehearsals on Sunday, August 25 @5:45pm, Epworth Ringers, resume Sunday, September 8@7:00pm, Chancel Choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday, September 5 @7:00pm, and Chancel Ringers will begin on Wednesday, September 4@TBA. (9/1 no Epworth) Contact Dean Wagner for more information. hdwagnerfumc@gmail.com.

Epworth Youth Outing

Who: Epworth Youth and their families

What: Akron RubberDucks game

When: August 11 @1:05pm

Where: Canal Park, 300 South Main Street, Akron OH 44308

Why: A fun family outing before school starts!

How: <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Fumccuyahoga2> Or scan the QR code

Tickets are \$12+1.99 fee each. This is a reserved block for our group.

Please let Melinda Chase know if you have any questions (330-687-7231).



Women's Bible Study

This fall, the women's Bible study will begin "All Things New," by Kelly Minter. In this eight week study, we will explore 2nd Corinthians. There are two options – Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm and Wednesday mornings at 10am. Classes will begin on October 1 and 2 and the cost of the book will be \$20. Please register by calling the church office at 330-923-5241 or email Kathy Kuzas at kuzmom@att.net.



Weekday Christian Preschool Registration Open... We offer a Christian preschool program for children who will be 3, 4, or 5 years old by September 30, 2024. The program is state licensed and staffed with degreed lead teachers and trained teachers' assistants. We believe that learning takes place through discovery and play. Each classroom environment is child led and teacher facilitated. Our main objective is to foster a positive self-image in each child while nourishing their social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth. We have both half and full day classes. Please call 330-923-5243 for more information.

It's a Tea Party!

A "Daughters in Christ" tea party will be held in Wesley Hall on Saturday, September 14, from 2-4pm here at First UMC. We will share in fellowship, stories, activities for ages 4 and up, tea and goodies. Feel free to invite family, friends, neighbors, or co-workers. Feel free to wear tea party attire including hats if you wish. A love offering will be taken to cover expenses, but you need to register by filling out the online form or contacting Valerie Riedthaler 330-620-9132 or Sue Boltz 330-928-8635. The deadline to register is August 31.



Clarification on Job Duties/Hours

Although we could never fully replace Kathy, we are trying our best to fill her shoes! Because multiple staff are taking over her position, we wanted to share a breakdown of who to contact when you need something. Our regular office hours are 9am-3pm (if you need something after 3pm, ring the doorbell, there may still be someone in the building). *You can always reach us by phone or email.*

Christy Meyers T, W, F 8:30-4:30, M, Th 8:30-12:30: General Info, Funerals, Prayer List, Supplies

Kim Kerr M, F, 10-3: Membership, Records, Charge Conference, Baptisms/Weddings, Calendar, Help

Sarah Neri T, W, Th, 10-3: Website & Social Media, Print & Publishing (bulletins/newsletters, letters, stewardship other campaign materials), Help

Nancy Yeager M, T, Th 9-4:30, W, F, 9-12: Finance, Budgets, Contracts, Pledges/Statements

Note: there may still be some adjustments moving forward; we'll keep you apprised of any changes. Thank you!



Thank you so much for the many cards and gifts given to me on my retirement. I loved my job, but I also love being at home. First Church truly is a family and I'm so privileged to be part of it. Thank you again. —Kathy Kuzas

Saying Goodbye, for Now, to the Community Garden

The Church Square Community Garden will be taken down due to the boards deteriorating. Many, many, thanks to Millie Keyser for her leadership and dedication over the past 7 years. Thank you to those who have given their time, talent, and resources over the years.

The garden served the community well!



Can You Help?

Money Counters... Every Monday morning a group of dedicated First church members meet to count the offering from the previous Sunday. They begin at 8:30 a.m. and are usually done by 9:30. If you are interested in helping them, please call Dale Gilbert at 330-945-4858.

Are You Handy? Do you enjoy doing outside chores? We are looking for volunteers to help out with trimming bushes, weeding and anything else that's needed on the grounds (no mowing or weed whacking.) We also could use people who could occasionally help with small odd jobs in the building. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Bob Boltz at rboltz@kent.edu.

Nursery Attendants... Can you help with infants-age 3? We need volunteers for childcare during the Sunday School hour beginning in September. Contact Donna Curfman for more information. Thank you! dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com