

First Church News

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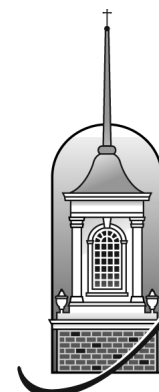
First United Methodist Church

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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

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First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JANUARY 2025



Wishing you all a blessed holiday season.
We are grateful to work for such a wonderful church family.

Dean
Tim
Sarah
Joe
Jon
Jennifer
Kim
Donna
Christy
John F.
Nancy Yeager
Howal
Ann



The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to Faye Dawson.

Our Sympathies to the family of members Patricia Grant who passed away on 11/28, and Jack Archer who passed away on 11/22.

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.



The deadline for the February issue of the FCN is Thursday, January 16.

Newsletter DEADLINE

JANUARY 2025 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5
8:30 & 10:45am-Communion

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26
8:30 & 10:45am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
8:30 & 10:45am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19
8:30 & 10:45am



In Case of Inclement Weather Check Before You Leave
VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR WKYC, CHANNEL 3 NEWS, FOR INFORMATION ON BUILDING DELAYS OR CLOSURES

There will be one service on December 29 @10:45am (no Sunday School that day).

The Year as a House: A Blessing

Think of the year as a house: door flung wide in welcome, threshold swept and waiting, a graced spaciousness opening and offering itself to you.

Let it be blessed in every room.
Let it be hallowed in every corner.
Let every nook be a refuge and every object set to holy use.

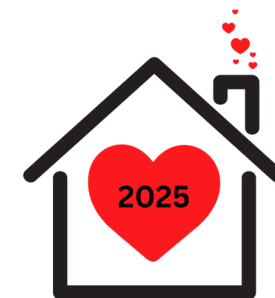
Let it be here that safety will rest.
Let it be here that health will make its home.
Let it be here that peace will show its face.
Let it be here that love will find its way.

Here let the weary come
let the aching come
let the lost come
let the sorrowing come.

Here let them find their rest and let them find their soothing and let them find their place and let them find their delight.

And may it be in this house of a year that the seasons will spin in beauty, and may it be in these turning days that time will spiral with joy. And may it be that its rooms will fill with ordinary grace and light spill from every window to welcome the stranger home.

Wherever you make your home, may it be blessed, and may you enter this Epiphany and the coming year in peace.



—by Jan Richardson

First United Methodist Church Cuyahoga Falls

THE ARTS SERIES

WINTER CONCERTS 2025



Wednesday, February 12, 2025 @7:30pm—Singers Companye, “A Winter Evening”

Works to include Sarah Quartel’s “A Winter Day” for cello, piano and mixed choir. Other works by Ola Gjeili, Morten Lauridsen, Fred Gramann, JAC Redford, and Dan Forrest are also featured. CF native, Rick Dailey will be there to celebrate his work, “The Abacus and the Rose.”

Saturday, March 1, 2025 @4:00pm—Singers Companye, “My Favorite Things,” Dessert Event

Join us for dessert with Rogers and Hammerstein. Our singers will treat you to their favorite tunes from Oklahoma, South Pacific, Carousel, King & I, and Sound of Music. This program is a fundraiser for Singers Companye and requires tickets. \$30/person, reserve a table of 8 for \$200. We are hosting this event in Wesley Hall. Contact Dean for more information about tickets or reserving a table.

Stay tuned for more events...

Patron Information

We are excited to resume our concert series. You are encouraged to support our efforts to offer free concerts to the community by making your contribution to: First United Methodist Church, c/o Concert Series. Friend: \$5-\$24, Patron: \$25-\$49, Bronze: \$50-\$99, Silver: \$100-\$199, Gold: \$200-299, Platinum: \$300+



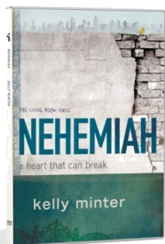
Epworth Choir Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

All are invited to the annual Pasta Dinner which helps fund the Epworth Choir’s *Spring Tour*. It will take place on Saturday, February 15, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$10 pre-sale, \$12 at the door for adults, \$5 for children ages 4-10 and free for children 3 and under. See an Epworth choir member or contact the church office for more information. **Tickets will be available soon.**



New Women’s Study

All women of the church are invited to join in a study of "Nehemiah" by Kelly Minter. Learn from his courage and faith and let God move you to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a lost, hurting world. Classes meet on Tuesdays (7-9 pm) and Wednesdays (10 am-noon) beginning Feb. 4 and 5. The cost of the book is \$18. Please register in the church office by Thursday, January 16.



Altar Flowers 2025

We are taking orders for Altar Flowers for 2025. The cost is \$40 and the church takes care of ordering and delivery. If you would like to reserve a date contact Christy Meyers, 330-923-5241, or cmeyersfallsumc@gmail.com.



Men’s Time Out

All the men are invited! We’ll meet from 8:30 to 9:30am on **Saturday, January 4** in Ashbury Hall. Will Fenton-Jones will be here to speak with us about his work as director of Multicultural Ministries for the East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. Hope to see you there!

ROCK & Children’s Program Updates

Please note there will not be Sunday School or Children’s worship on Sunday, December 29. Sunday School resumes January 5, and Children’s Worship resumes January 12 (communion on 1/5) during the 10:45am service.

The winter session of ROCK programming, including choir and bell rehearsals, will resume on January 8. Bell rehearsal will be @4:30pm, choirs @5:00pm, and activities are from 5:30-6:30pm. *Wesley Youth Group will meet at the same time.*



Keep Saving Your Receipts for Work Camp Until February 15!

We need your *Acme Community Cash Back* receipts dated **August 1, 2024-February 15, 2025**. You can drop off your receipts in the container on the Welcome Center or bring them to the church office. Thanks from your 2025 Henderson Settlement Workcamp crew.

Many Thanks

Thank you to the many that helped make the Advent Celebration and the St. Nicholas Brunch a success. What a fantastic way to kick off the Christmas season! Our adult and teen helpers jumped in right where we needed them and helped both events run smoothly. We are very appreciative!

—Donna & The Children’s Ministries Team




Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who has turned in their pledge card! This year, we have set two goals for our campaign as we make commitments to God to support the church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness:

- increase pledges from 195 families in 2024, to 205 families in 2025
- increase in pledged giving from \$537,000 in 2024, to \$563,000 in 2025

Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to help us achieve these goals this year! If you need help setting up your pledge, please contact Nancy, nyeagerfallsumc@gmail.com, or 330-923-5241 x216.



Weekday Christian Preschool Registration...Priority registration will begin early January for members of FUMC for the 2025-26 school year. We currently have openings for 2024-25 in our “Mommy” & Me class. 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.