

# First Church News

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First United Methodist Church

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# First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2025

## WHY DO WE?

Everything you wanted to know about worship.

Join us as we examine why we "do church" the way we do. Each week we'll touch on a different aspect of worship.

- MUSIC & THANKSGIVING**  
February 2-  
Dean Wagner preaching
- RESPONSE**  
February 16-  
Pastor Priebe preaching
- COMMUNION**  
March 2-  
Pastor Priebe preaching
- SENDING FORTH**  
February 23-  
Pastor Priebe preaching
- PROCLAMATION**  
February 9-  
Pastor Priebe preaching

The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to James Alfred Deeks.



Our Sympathies to the families of members Jim Henes who passed away on January 19, Jim Zrelak who passed away on January 23, Jeanette Murray and Lois Meeker who passed away on January 25, and the family of Carter Meyers (Brent & Christy) who passed away on January 28.

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](mailto:sarahnerifallsumc@gmail.com).

The deadline for the March issue of the FCN is **Thursday, February 20.**

Newsletter DEADLINE

## In Case of Inclement Weather, Check Before You Leave

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR WKYC, CHANNEL 3 NEWS, FOR INFORMATION ON BUILDING DELAYS OR CLOSURES

### Church Square Fellowship Event

LOCATION CHANGE: FUMC is joining the Church Square community at the First United Methodist Church on Saturday, February 8, 2025 from 5-7:00pm for a "Soup-er Bowl" potluck dinner! Please bring a dish to share, and plan to have a great time of food and fellowship.



### Men's Time Out



MEN'S TIME OUT

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. Our next gathering is **February 1.**



We'll continue to collect Acme receipts dated through **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 Workcamp crew.



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."*

**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+



**Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast**

February 9, from 8am to 12:30pm, the scouts from Troop 152 will serve a delicious breakfast in Wesley Hall as a thank you to the church for its continued support. The meal will be free of charge, however, donations would be gladly accepted. Join us as we celebrate our scouts and our partnership.

**Epworth Choir Pasta Dinner Fundraiser—Date Change**

All are invited to the annual Pasta Dinner which helps fund the Epworth Choir's *Spring Tour*. It will take place on Saturday, March 15, from 4:30 to 7:00pm. The University of Akron choir will be here for a special performance after the meal. 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.**



**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](mailto:cmeyersfallsumc@gmail.com).



**Weekday Christian Preschool Registration...Priority registration has begun 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 or visit our website for more information and 2025 enrollment forms.

**ROCK & Children's Program Updates**

The winter session of ROCK programming continues, including choir and bell rehearsals. Bell rehearsal begin @4:30pm, choirs @5:00pm, and activities are from 5:30-6:30pm. *Wesley Youth Group meets at the same time.*



**Teacher Appreciation Brunch**

Have you taught a Sunday School class this year? Led a Bible Study? Helped with our Children's programs? If so, please join the Spiritual Formation Committee for a casual brunch reception on February 16 from 9:00 to 11:00am in the Parlor. Stop in for a selection of treats as we celebrate your contributions to our church family!

**2025 Golf League**

We need golfers to join us for the 2025 FUMC Golf League! We meet Wednesdays at Fox Den in Stow. Tee times begin at 4:24pm each week, starting May 7, and continuing through September. Contact Jim Ward, Jim Yates, or Jim Boss to sign up.



**Preston Backpacks**

Once again we are going to provide food items for some of the children of Preston Elementary School for use during Spring Break (the week of March 24). In the coming weeks there will be a giving board in the Breezeway with the items we are collecting. Please take a card or more and shop for these items. **All items need to be returned by March 9** so that our children can pack the backpacks at ROCK on March 12. This is one more way that the people of our church can help support the members of our community.



**Final Stewardship Update**

Can we meet our goal? We are getting close!

Thank you to everyone who has turned in their pledge card!

Our goals this year are:

- 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](mailto:nyeagerfallsumc@gmail.com), or 330-923-5241 x216.



**70 1/2 AND UP...DID YOU KNOW?**

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) allows individuals who are 70½ years old or older to donate up to \$100,000 total, to one or more charities, directly from your taxable IRA instead of taking the required minimum distributions. The QCD distribution, while you would not receive a charitable tax deduction, is NOT included in your Adjusted Gross Income. Making a charitable contribution may keep you from owing more tax.