

Messenger

May 2023

Hello Church,

As this will be my last newsletter article before my 2-month renewal leave (June 5 – July 31st), I share some thoughts on the Summer ahead, both from a professional and personal perspective:

From a professional perspective I look forward to being re-charged as your pastor. My first Renewal Leave 5 years ago surprised me with a renewed passion for ministry. That isn't to say that I have no passion now, but the logistics and mechanics of ministry can sometimes mask the real reasons why we pastors do what we do. Having a Leave rids us of the logistics and mechanics for a time so that we can re-discover why we love what we do. I thank the Staff-Parrish Relations Team for encouraging me in this venture.

From a personal perspective I look forward to removing my label for a time. I will be just 'Joe' to everyone I meet along the Mississippi River Trail (MRT). This was another surprise on my last Leave: how I became accustomed to being Pastor Joe so much so that I forgot that, to God, I was just 'Joe'. I came to understand the meaning of 'losing yourself' or 'finding yourself again'.

While we will be entirely disconnected from FUMC for those 2 months, I do invite you to follow along with Kim and I (and Mitch) on our venture. We will be present on social media, specifically on Facebook and YouTube, as we document our days together. We already have 3 episodes posted and will vlog daily once the bicycle trip begins on June 7th.

YouTube: [Joe And Kim On The Mississippi River Trail - YouTube](#)

God is Good,

Pastor Joe

Lay Leader Report

For this month subject from the Lay Leader's "to do" list. I want to talk with you about:

Fosters awareness of the role of the laity within the congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world; and finds ways within the community of faith to recognize those ministries.

We have a big role coming up the first of June that few lay members of our congregation have experienced. The West Ohio Annual Conference is an annual gathering of clergy and lay members representing the approximately 900 congregations in our conference. The past several weeks in the bulletin (you do look at the announcements in the Sunday bulletin, don't you?), there has been an invitation for church members to volunteer as lay members at-large to participate as voting delegates. We did have one person, Kara Hampton, who has accepted that opportunity and will attend along with our lay member, Faith Hampton, Our two Certified Lay Ministers, David Finney and Jack Hott, and Pastor Joe. This year there are several "recommendations" that will be voted on ranging from clergy compensation, to disaffiliation, to responding to a request from Palestinian Christians.

Our world-wide United Methodist denomination is going through a time of many changes. Not just the ongoing disaffiliations, which is on the agenda, but other paradigm changes in our national and international cultures. While it often seen as far away and not in our day-to-day awareness, I'll mention one that may hit close to home, summer camps. Summer camp for me was a big deal growing up. It was Boy Scout and church summer camps. Even as an adult, what I experienced at a United Methodist Men's retreat at a church camp in S.E. Missouri remains one of the most profound experiences in my life. But over recent years summer camp attendance has been declining. This summer there will be no in person youth camps because of lack of adequate staff and low attendance. A recommendation will be voted on to close and sell two of our three remaining campgrounds, Camps Widewater and Otterbein. While sad it reflects our changing times and the need to use our resources effectively to made disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. It's too late to apply for an at-large position for this year, but please consider participating next year. If you have any questions or comments on annual conference, please don't hesitate to talk with one of our attendees. There will be a short presentation in June about the events and decisions made at this year's annual conference.—Jack Hott

Passionate Worship

Worship in-person and online!

- Saturdays– 5:30 pm—casual
- Sundays– 9:00 am
- Sundays– 10:30 am
- Sundays– 10:30 am live stream

Live Stream options:

YouTube channel:

<https://youtube.com/channel/UC87AzcdD-88Lr8e39HBKEFw>

Facebook Live:

<https://www.facebook.com/First-United-Methodist-Church-of-Springboro-202709196426644>

Missed worship on Sunday?

Find the worship videos on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

Online giving link:

www.fumcofspringboro.org/online-giving/

Thank you for your continued financial support in person, through the mail or online!

Worship Services

There is always a need for ushers, liturgists, tech help, special music, and greeters. Call the church office if interested in volunteering.

Worship in May

May 6/7

Psalm 46:1-11

“Taking A Pilgrimage: Be Still”
Holy Communion

May 13/14

Mother’s Day

High Attendance (9:00)

Mark 4:21-23

“Taking A Pilgrimage: Listen”

May 20/21

Graduate Sunday (10:30)

Mark 4:24-25

“Taking A Pilgrimage: Apply”

May 27/28

Pentecost—wear red

Acts 2:1-8, 12-13

“Taking A Pilgrimage: Getting Help”



Church News

High Attendance Sunday

High Attendance Sunday will be Sunday, May 14 at the 9:00 service. We will recognize students who have missed six or fewer weeks of Sunday School that day. Please watch for a letter from Kim Crosen if your child is eligible.

Graduate Sunday

If you are a senior in high school or college, we want to celebrate your graduation with you! We will be honoring all graduates on Sunday, May 21 at the 10:30 service. In order to make sure we do not accidentally leave anyone out, please jot down answers to the following questions so that we can brag a bit about you!

- School graduating from? If college graduate, what was your major?
- What are some of the highlights of your high school or college career? (sports, extra-curricular activities, community service, etc.)
- What are your plans for the future? (College- Which one? Major? Career path? Other plans?)

Please, include your full name and the answers to the questions and send them to the church office.



West Ohio Conference

The United Methodist Church

This year's United Methodist West Ohio Annual Conference will be held at the Dayton Convention Center June 1st through 3rd. In addition to our FUMC Springboro Lay Representative, Faith Hampton, there are at-large lay delegate positions available through our Ohio River Valley District. If you are interested in participating in and learning more about our denominational governance, please speak to Pastor Joe or Jack Hott about any questions you have on becoming an at-large delegate.

Church News

Vacation Bible School will be July 17-21 for pm session and July 24-28 for am session. We are looking for donations for Vacation Bible School!

Here is what we need:

- Sharpie markers, all colors and sizes
- Green tissue paper
- Wet erase markers, all colors
- Star foam stickers
- 20 disposable cake pans
- Transparency pages
- Black card stock
- Magnets that have a sticky side to stick to paper

We need about 350 of each item listed (one per student) except for markers and sticker packs.

Please leave all donations in the Bright Beginnings Office.

Contact is Sarah Wrazen



Faith-Forming Relationships

Facebook Live Devotions

Pastor Joe and David Finney will tag team for devotions on Facebook. Thursdays at 9:30 am will be the time, but of course you can view it at your convenience at any time.

Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesday's at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary with the Gospel of Luke. If you want to join via zoom call the church office for the link.

Cornerstone Class

The Cornerstone class meets on Sunday's at 9:00 am in the Conference Room. Contact is Bev Haun.

Women In Faith

Women in Faith meet very 1st Saturday of the month at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Contact is Beth Wenzel.

Women In Faith Bible Study

Women In Faith Bible Study is every 3rd Friday of the month at 10:00 am in Pastor's office. Contact is Mary Lynn Lawton.

ARM Sunday School Class

Kim Royer is leading a Sunday School class focusing on various topics at 9:00 am in the Music Room.

Bible Study

in the comfort of your home!

Fridays at 11:00 am you can log into an hour of the Holy Bible. Each week a passage is selected and explored in the company of friends. You are welcome to come along and participate or just listen and enjoy. Just call the church office for the Zoom link, or talk to Pastor Doug.

Retired? Male? Like sports, cars, jokes, trains, stories, guy stuff?

The third Thursday each month a bunch of Old Guys gather for dinner at Bob Evans to share companionship, life, interests, and whatever else comes to mind. It's casual, no agenda, just conversation and a meal. So, if you are an old guy, come and be part of the sparkling repartee of this stellar group! See Pastor Doug or call the church office for details.

Children and Youth



Kids Who Care: K—2nd grades
God Squad: 3rd & 4th grades
Mission 56: 5th & 6th grades

Contact: Kim Crosen
kimfumc@gmail.com,
937-748-2612

Look for emails from Kim.



Junior High Youth (7-8)
Senior High Youth (9-12)

Contact: Brian Schlise
brianschlise@habeggercorp.com
937-748-9711

Look for texts from Brian.



Bright Beginnings Christian Preschool

In May, the children will learn about animals and insects! The children will enjoy visits from animals during May. These activities reinforce our Bible verse "Let the Earth bring forth creatures of all kind." (Genesis 1:24) and the Fruit of the Spirit of gentleness. Pastor Joe will lead us in our final Children's Church sessions of the school year. In addition, we'll hold our annual "Spring Sing and Art Show" concert and silent auction fundraiser, a carnival and graduation!



ACE After School Program

ACE will wrap up a great year together with outdoor play and activities. If you would like to know more about our A.C.E. program for school-aged children please contact Kim Crosen.

Risk-Taking Outreach/Missions

Medical Driving Ministry

The Medical Driving Ministry provides transportation to medical appointments for our members and their families who are unable to drive themselves.

For rides please contact Harold Masteller at 937-885-7481.

SCAC and The Pantry

Donate food, toiletries or funds to purchase in bulk. Canned goods and toiletries can be dropped off in the shopping cart at church!

Kroger Rewards Program

Register our church as your Kroger recipient. NPO: RX797

Dorothy Lane Market

Complete a Good Neighbors Form and designate our church. ID# 815. *Please remember your yearly renewal.*

Collecting Pill Bottles

The Cornerstone Class is collecting old prescription pill bottles for Matthew 25 Ministries. Please remove labels if possible. Place bottles in the basket in the sanctuary. If you have any questions please contact Margot Borst.

Mission First Endowment Fund

The giving to this fund has been a wonderful success in 2022. Over \$39,440 has been given to help long-term mission ministry plans! Every time you see white flowers up by the altar, it lets you know that someone has donated to the fund. Let's keep growing this fund together and continue growing opportunities for mission work into the future.

Family Promise

Family Promise is a wonderful and well-structured ministry designed to empower the homeless to get back on their feet. We help with this ministry 3 different weeks each year. The Missions Team is in need of someone who can be at the church building to help with the transfer of meals to Family Promise. This person will also work with Kerri Dome to have meals scheduled from various people/families in the church. If you feel the nudge to help, call the church office, Harry Hall or Pastor Joe.

Compassionate Care

Compassionate Care Ministry

There is a weekly prayer request email sent out every Monday morning. Email church office if you would like to be on the list.

Karen's Card Shop

Pick up a card for any occasion, outside the church office, for only \$2!

Loaves & Fishes

Provide meals for church members at critical times. Contact: Lisa Ott 210-315-2370.

Worship Services

We will offer worship services on Saturday mornings at Beehive Homes and Enclave of Springboro. If anyone can help us handling wheelchairs and assisting residents during worship, please contact church office or David Finney



Office News

Staff Contacts

Please do not hesitate to reach out to your staff!

Kerri Dome, Office Manager
fumcspringboro@gmail.com
officemanager@fumcspringboro.org
 937-748-2612

Pastor Joe
pastor@fumcspringboro.org
 513-463-7378

Doug Dean, Pastor Emeritus
revdhd23@gmail.com

Kim Crosen, Christian Education and Mission 56
kimfumc@gmail.com

Brian Schlise, Senior and Junior High
BrianSchlise@habeggercorp.com

Church Office

The church office is open from 9 am—noon. Kerri is also available by phone or email.

If you are not receiving the weekly email and would like to do so, please let Kerri know.



Pastor Joe's Office Hours

Preferred availability:

Monday: 11 am - 1 pm,
6 pm - 8 pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 9 am – noon,
6 pm – 8 pm

Call/text/email for an appointment

Email: pastor@fumcspringboro.org
 Cell Phone: 513-463-7378



Memorial Day

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

May Birthdays

- 4: Sharon Griffith, Kevin Houser,
Tina Stafford, Samuel Spellman
6: Shelly Houser, Ruth Crane
7: Jacquelyn Pickett
10: Linda Pierce, Amelia Lawhorn
12: Kathy Ball
13: Karri Good
14: Will Hampton, Roger Gollihugh,
Cooper Helton
15: Lois Eley
16: Leigh Anne Tennant, Lois Cox,
Sarah Wrazen
18: Allison McCormick
19: Kim Crosen
22: Alexa Lawhorn, Dorothy Johnson
24: Olivia Ingalls
26: Darrin Ott
25: Joy Mindling, Annette Eng,
Amber Stull
28: Alex Bindemann
31: Ed Kuhn, Rory Houser



May Anniversaries

- 5: John & Susan Stalcup
7: Alan and Stephanie Bindemann
8: Kevin & Shelly Houser
9: Michael & Tracy Stull
12: John and Jessie Golconda
13: Bob & Sandy Moser
21: Samuel & Amanda Spellman
23: Darrin and Lisa Ott
27: Terry & Kristy Shetterly
29: David & Retta Willis
30: Mike & Kara Hampton

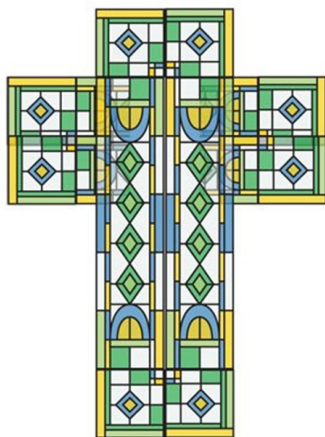


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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SPRINGBORO, OH 45066

937-748-2612

fumcofspringboro.org

fumcspringboro@gmail.com



Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you each hour of every day
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true
Know He will guide you in all you do
Go now in love, and show you believe
Reach out to others so all the world can see
God will be there watching from above
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love
Amen
