

THE CALL

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

March 2026

Volume 81, Issue 2

Pastor Kelley has announced that she will be retiring from ministry this summer. The leaders of Fairmont have been making plans for future pastoral leadership at Fairmont after her departure. This week, the Presbytery of the Miami Valley's Committee on Ministry granted us permission to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). That Committee will be responsible for seeking and then recommending a new associate pastor to the congregation. On March 8, you will have the chance to vote on the members of that APNC team.

The process to call a pastor in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is fairly simple, but complicated by our denomination's love of acronyms. First, the APNC creates the church equivalent of a "help wanted" ad. Called a "Ministry Discernment Profile," this document describes Fairmont, our community, the sort of pastor we are seeking, and what we would like that pastor to do. Once approved by the COM, this document gets posted to a national church database that includes both all congregations that are seeking pastors and all pastors seeking calls. Individual ministers prepare a similar document called a Personal Discernment Profile (PDP) that describes their sense of call, the gifts and experiences they bring, and the types of ministry they seek.

The APNC then obtains the PDP's of interested candidates in two ways. First, interested candidates who notice our position can apply directly and request to be considered. Second, the national database matches prospective candidates with possible congregations like an ecclesial match making service. By either route, the APNC then reviews those written dossiers and identifies candidates of interest and conducts preliminary online interviews. Sometimes candidates are asked to provide additional written information. When candidates of significant interest are identified, the APNC asks our Presbytery's Executive Presbyter to conduct a preliminary check on the candidates' good standing.

When final candidates are identified, more extensive interviews are conducted. Eventually, a few finalists are invited for extended in-person interviews, meetings with Pastor Brian, and to be interviewed by the COM. If the APNC and the COM agree that the candidate is a good fit, then a more extensive background investigation occurs. Once one candidate is identified, terms of compensation are negotiated. Then, with the COM's approval, a congregational meeting is called to vote on whether to call the candidate as our associate pastor. The candidate preaches and leads worship after which the entire congregation votes.

The intention of this entire process is neither efficiency nor efficacy. The intention behind this process is faithfulness: to attentively seek the will of God in guiding and leading both pastors and congregations forward together in ministry.

Our APNC, once elected, will be providing regular updates to the congregation. Several months will likely follow when the only news is, "considering applicants." Please pray for our APNC, pray for God's gifts of wisdom and discernment. And please pray for that individual known only to God whom God is nudging even now to be our next associate pastor.

-Brian

WORSHIP

Casual Service 8:30am

Traditional Service 10:30am

Our Traditional 10:30am worship offering will be live-streamed beginning at 10:15am on YouTube.

Visit www.fairmontchurch.org/online for links to all past and upcoming live streams.

March 1 2nd Sunday in Lent/Communion
Lesson: Matthew 26:47-56
Sermon: Put Your Sword Away

March 8 3rd Sunday in Lent
Lesson: Matthew 26:57-68
Sermon: How Fear Corrupts Religion

March 15 4th Sunday in Lent
Lesson: Matthew 26:69-76
Sermon: Betrayal

March 22 5th Sunday in Lent
Lesson: Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26
Sermon: Which Jesus?

March 29 Palm Sunday
Lesson: Matthew 27:27-44
Sermon: Golgotha

ONLINE MINISTRIES

Bible Study

Tuesdays, 12:15pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81913644664pwd=YVGX6g0uPPRzkd8PvdDTeO04HW0hv5.1>

Meeting ID: 819 1364 4664

Connections

Wednesdays, 7:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89678889451pwd=4gS2oyi8a2597GTpUxHw6SEjGcrV2.1>

Meeting ID: 896 7888 9451

LENTEN CONNECTIONS CLASS

The 24 Hours That Changed the World

Come and join us every Wednesday night through Lent on Zoom or on Sundays in person in the Upper Room at 11:45 a.m. as we explore the final day of Jesus ministry in Jerusalem and what it means for everyday before and after.

Using Adam Hamilton's Book, *The 24 Hours That Changed The World*, we will be exploring what happened, why, and what it means for us and for our world.

March 1 and 4 Jesus' Arrest

March 8 and 11 The Trial Before the Sanhedrin

March 15 and 18 The Trial Before Pilate

March 22 and 25 Abandonment

March 29 and April 1 Crucifixion

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

BOOK STUDY

Join Pastor Brian on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom throughout Lent as we reflect upon *Here: A Spirituality of Staying in a Culture of Leaving* by Lydia Sohn. Here provides a contemplative guide for finding meaning, purpose, and value inside a culture obsessed with comparison, competition, and change. Following the inspiration of ancient Benedictine practices, Sohn provides a field guide in how to live a grounded life within an ungrounded age.

Lenten Book Study: *Here*

Thursdays, 7:00pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89992029411?pwd=rbZNXckAZuoA35MPa2bSFIq3vDHwn1.1>

Meeting ID: 899 9202 9411

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 12:15pm In-person and on Zoom

Join us each week as we consider the Bible texts for the following Sunday. Bring your questions!

- March 3 Matthew 26:57-68
March 10 Matthew 26:69-76
March 17 Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26
March 24 Matthew 27:27-44
March 31 Matthew 28:1-10

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will convene on Sunday March 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for the purpose of electing an Associate Pastor Nominating Team. There will be donuts!

CHILDREN & YOUTH

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School continues during 10:30 a.m. worship. After the *Time with Children*, children will follow their teachers to a classroom on the first-floor level where they will learn about God while enjoying stories, crafts, and fellowship with their peers. We are using the PC(USA) curriculum, "Follow Me."

Pastor Kelley and our newly trained Godly Play teachers, Ginny, Sue, and Britton, will be sharing Godly Play also as part of our Sunday School program. Sunday School classes are open to children ages 4-grade 5. Any questions? Contact Pastor Kelley.

UPCOMING CHILDREN'S EVENTS

- March 28: Easter Eggstravaganza
April 26: Children's Choir Rehearsal
May 3: Children's Choir Rehearsal
May 10: Children's Choir Sings, Youth Sunday, Mother's Day
June 1-4: Vacation Bible School
July 19: Playground & Popsicles



VBS COMPASSION CAMP II: CREATION

Children Ages 4 - Grade 5

June 1-4, 2026

Join us for four fun-filled mornings with Godly Play/Bible stories, awesome music, outdoor games, surprising science, fun crafts, yoga, and yummy snacks! Come learn how we can love God by loving ourselves and God's creation. We will hear stories about spiritual and physical food, shelter, water, and care for our earth and for one another. Registration forms will be in the office, Fellowship Hall, and Narthex, as well as online.



FAIRMONT YOUTH MINISTRY

(Grades 6th -12th)

Second Sunday of the Month

12:00 p.m.

Fairmont Youth Ministry will meet the Second Sunday of each month following worship (**unless otherwise noted by ***). There will be Food, Faith Conversations, & Fun Events.

MARCH

March 8 Noodles & Company, Faith Talk, and Movie Theatre at The Greene

Weekly Youth Dinners Out: Pastor Kelley is available once-a-week on either Wednesday evening or Thursday evening for a dinner out with at least 2 and up to 4 youth at a restaurant of the youth's choosing. Dinner will be covered by the church. Please contact Pastor Kelley. Pastor Kelley may be reached by email at kshin@fairmontchurch.org or by text or phone at (937) 751-0752.

FIRST AID & CHILD, PARENT, & ADULT CPR & AED

All Fairmont staff, teachers, nursery volunteers, and members are invited to First Aid, CPR, and AED training provided by *Mad River Mountain Ski Patrol* and led by Fairmont's own, Wally Taylor. *Mad River Mountain Ski Patrol* is an authorized Training Center for the Health and Safety Institute which will be the certifying organization. We are offering a "Blended Learning" which allows each student to complete an online training prior to attending an in-person skills session.

Two identical in-person training sessions will be offered: Saturday, April 25 at 10:00 a.m. or Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Only one session is needed. Pick a date and join us for this important safety training. To register, all participants **MUST** contact Pastor Kelley at kshin@fairmontchurch.org to receive the online link for training. The cost will be covered by Christian Formation's "Safety & Security" budget.

MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION



Minute for Mission with House of Bread!

For Lent, we encourage giving as a Lenten practice of our faith. It's the perfect time to think about the hungry in our Dayton area. One way to do this is to support one of our dedicated partner organizations, House of Bread. In fact, we're doing a collection this February/March to benefit House of Bread.

At the end of February, Sherry Gale, Executive Director of House of Bread did a moving Minute for Mission during the 10:30am church service. She mentioned their top wish list items:

Peanut Butter
Jelly (in plastic jars)
Sugar
Coffee
Pasta
Plastic grocery bags

They also accept clothing items for their guests like socks, sweatpants, hoodies, and blankets.

Ready to Volunteer? We're excited to have revitalized our volunteering squad at House of Bread!

We're looking for groups of up to 4 volunteers each month to visit House of Bread between their open hours of 10am and 1:30pm to prepare and serve food. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or older.

To join a Fairmont volunteer group, contact Christy Maynard at clmaynard828@yahoo.com or 937-232-2757. House of Bread also has volunteer spots on their website: <https://houseofbread.org/volunteer/>

March 2026

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
2nd Sunday in Lent/ Communion 8:30am: Casual Service (fl)	1	6:30pm: WOF Coord. (tu)	2	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fl) 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 12:15pm: Bible Study in person & online (tu) 2:30pm: Lincoln Park 7:00pm: Team Meetings	3	4:30pm: Praise Band (fl) 7:00pm: Lenten Connections (Zoom) 7:30pm: AA (012)	4	6:00pm: Bell Choir (cr) 7:00pm: Lenten Devotional Book Study (Zoom) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir (cr)	5	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fl) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 5:00pm: Theology on Tap @ Archers Tavern (2030 E. Dorothy Lane in Kettering)	6	7	
3rd Sunday in Lent 8:30am: Casual Service (fl) 9:45am: Contemplative Prayer 10:00am: Congregational Meeting (fl) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:45am: Lenten Connections (tu) 12:00pm: Youth Group Movie	8	7:00pm: Circle 1 (fl)	9	11:00am: Fit 4 You 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 12:15pm: Bible Study (in-person & online) 7:00pm: Trustees, B&G, Finance (tu)	10	3:00pm: Spirituality for those who Grieve (chapel) 4:30pm: Praise Band (fl) 7:00pm: Lenten Connections (Zoom) 7:30pm: AA (012)	11	6:00pm: Bell Choir (cr) 7:00pm: Lenten Devotional Book Study (Zoom) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir (cr)	12	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fl) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	13	14	
4th Sunday in Lent 8:30am: Casual Service (fl) 9:45am: Contemplative Prayer (chapel) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:45am: Lenten Connections (tu)	15	16	16	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fl) 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 12:15pm: Bible Study (in-person & online) 7:00pm: Session (tu)	17	11:30am: Fairmont Men's Group (offsite) 4:30pm: Praise Band (fl) 5:30pm: YMCA Meeting (fl) 5:30pm: Circle 2 (offsite) 7:00pm: Lenten Connections (online) 7:30pm: AA (012)	18	6:00pm: Bell Choir (cr) 7:00pm: Lenten Devotional Book Study (Zoom) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir (cr)	19	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fl) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	20	21	
5th Sunday in Lent 8:30am: Casual Service (fl) 9:45am: Contemplative Prayer (chapel) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:45am: Lenten Connections (tu)	22	23	23	12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 12:15pm: Bible Study (in-person & online)	24	4:30pm: Praise Band (fl) 7:00pm: Lenten Connections (Zoom) 7:30pm: AA (012)	25	1:00pm: Rug Hooking (fl) 6:00pm: Bell Choir (cr) 7:00pm: Lenten Devotional Book Study (Zoom) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir (cr)	26	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fl) 12:00pm: OA (rc) Call articles are due.	27	28	
Palm Sunday 8:30am: Casual Service (fl) 9:45am: Contemplative Prayer (chapel) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:45am: Lenten Connections (tu)	29	30	30	12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 12:15pm: Bible Study (in-person & online)	31								

SPIRITUALITY FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

*Spiritual Wisdom and Practice in Times of Grief
and Healing*

MONTHLY MEETINGS: Second Wednesday of
the Month

MARCH DATE: March 11, 2026

TIME: 3:00pm – 4:00pm

PLACE: Chapel

When we are grieving the death of someone we love, we long for the support and compassion of our fellow human beings; a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. How does our faith speak to this grief? All who are grieving the loss of a loved one – recently or long ago – are *invited* to share in monthly gatherings led by Pastor Kelley. Our next meeting is March 11th at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel. This will be a time to share or listen to stories of healing and grief. If interested, please contact Pastor Kelley at kshin@fairmontchurch.org.

LINCOLN PARK

FAIRMONT CARES:

LINCOLN PARK MANOR

Did you know that Fairmont provides a monthly communion service of worship at Lincoln Park retirement community? The first Tuesday of every month at 2:30pm we share in worship, prayer, preaching, and the Lord's Supper with a diverse group of 15-25 residents, most of whom are not members of Fairmont. This is just one of the ways we seek to extend Fairmont's ministry to our community.

WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT

SPRING 2026 WOMEN'S RETREAT

"Women Wisdom"

The Wisdom of Old Testament Women

April 10-11, 2026

Mark your calendars for the Spring 2026 Women's Retreat at Hueston Woods on April 10-11, 2026. *Hueston Woods now requires all registration and rooming lists to be submitted one month before the retreat.* Registration information is in the Fellowship Hall and Narthex.

DATE: April 10-11, 2026

PLACE: Hueston Woods Lodge

REGISTER BY: March 10, 2026



LOYALTY CARDS

KROGER LOYALTY CARD MONEY

For everyone: Every time you use your Kroger Loyalty Card at Kroger, it is possible for Fairmont Church's program for children to get a percentage of the amount you spend. If you want the amount you spend at Kroger to go to Fairmont's children, please go to the Kroger App, click on the person at the top left, click Payments & Services, click Community Rewards, and select Fairmont Presbyterian. This is easy revenue for Fairmont's children. Thank you for your help in this easy to use program.

DOROTHY LANE MARKET LOYALTY CARD MONEY

For everyone: Every time you use your DLM Loyalty Card at Dorothy Lane Market, it is possible for Women of Fairmont to get a percentage of the amount you spend. If you want the amount you spend at Dorothy Lane Market to go to Women of Fairmont, please go to the customer service booth at any DLM location and tell them to register you for Fairmont Church. You must register your selection of Fairmont Church at the start of every year, because DLM deletes all selections January 1st. This is easy revenue for Women of Fairmont.

ART, ANTIQUE, & CRAFT SHOW

This year's show will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2026. We are now accepting donations of vintage Christmas and antique items, jewelry, seasonal decorations, pottery, decorative items, collectibles, puzzles, earlier toys, linens and artwork. If you have any questions about donations, please call Carolyn Wimer at (937) 705-6451.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAIRMONT MEN'S GROUP

Fairmont Men's Group will meet at MCL Cafeteria on Wednesday, March 18th at 11:30 am. Call the church office at 299-3539 or you may email the church at office@fairmontchurch.org by noon on Tuesday, March 17th, to make a reservation. All the men of the church are invited!

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Theology on Tap will meet ONCE a month on the first Friday of each month. All are welcome for a time of food, fellowship, and faith conversations.

For the month of March, Theology on Tap will meet at Archers Tavern (2030 E. Dorothy Lane in Kettering) at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2026.

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March 8, 2026



Fairmont Presbyterian Church

3705 Far Hills Avenue
Dayton, OH 45429
937-299-3539

Website: www.fairmontchurch.org

Facebook: Fairmont Presbyterian Church - Kettering, OH

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STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff: Brian Maguire
Associate Pastor: Kelley Wehmeyer Shin
Director of Music Ministries: Coleman Clark
Organist: Judy Bede

Bookkeeper: Martha Keil
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Mason
Maintenance: Don Hibbard

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March Birthdays

Jeanette Kruer	03/01	Herb Ernst	03/21
Jackie Vickroy	03/02	Autum Parcels	03/21
Hannah Favro	03/09	Robert Davis	03/22
Peter Guise	03/11	Richard Ludwig	03/23
Carol Kemp	03/15	Ellen Ireland	03/24
Rick Schwartz	03/15	Don Davis	03/26
Lisa Hess	03/16	Becky Sennet	03/28
Martha Taylor	03/16	David Youngerman	03/28
Stewart Adam	03/19	Kathryn Ellis	03/29
James Harper	03/20	Sue Knierim	03/29
Jeffery Adam	03/21	Kathy Shafer	03/30



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL

The deadline for The April Call is Friday, March 20, 2026.

Please submit Call & bulletin articles to Jennifer at: jmason@fairmontchurch.org.