THE CALL

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

November 2026
Volume 81, Issue 9

FAIRMONT CHURCH

ROOTED IN FAITH,
GROWING TOGETHER

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S DESK

We are so excited that youth ministry is in full swing here at Fairmont Presbyterian Church! After a spook-tacular Trunk-or-Treat to round out spooky season, Middle School and High School Youth Group (grades 6–12) will meet on Sunday, November 8, in the chapel right after church, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. We've got some fun activities planned, and food will be provided. Bring a friend—we'd love to see you!

While we're on the topic of youth ministry, I'd love to share some of what's being planned for the months ahead. Middle School and High School Youth Group meet in the chapel right after church on the second Sunday of each month, until about 1:00 PM. Each month will look a little different: some months will focus on fun and fellowship, others on Bible study, and others on a special service project.

In the coming months, I'll be working closely with our website development team on ways to share our stories (and updates!) from youth and family ministry with the wider congregation and community. In the meantime, if you'd like to be added to the Fairmont Youth Ministry email list, please drop me a line at mvanbulck@fairmontchurch.org, and you'll start receiving the latest updates on when and where youth group will be meeting.

I also want to extend a big thank-you for the warm welcome. Over the past several weeks, I've heard from so many of you who are excited about youth ministry at Fairmont and want to know how you can help or get involved.

One way you can make a big impact right now is by volunteering as a second adult chaperone at youth group. **What's needed?** An adult (21 or older) who is willing to show up, participate, be a conversation partner in our group discussions, and serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for safety. **What's not needed?** Teaching, preparing, planning curriculum, or bringing food. Even volunteering once or twice a semester is a huge help.

It's easy. It's fun. It's a great opportunity to connect more deeply with our young people and to be involved in their faith formation. If you think God may be calling you to serve in this way, please reach out at mvanbulck@fairmontchurch.org. I'd love to put you on the calendar.

Join us for Middle School and High School Youth Group! Bring a friend, and we hope to see you there!

-Marc

WORSHIP

Casual Service 8:30 AM

Traditional Service 10:30 AM

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

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

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November 1
Communion Sunday
Lesson: Revelation 4:4, 9-12

November 8
Lesson: 2 Kings 4:38-41

November 15
Stewardship Sunday/
Single Service
Lesson: Matthew 25: 14-30

November 22
Christ the King
Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

November 29
1st Sunday of Advent
Lesson: Mark 13:24-37

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Bible Study

Tuesdays, 12:15 PM
Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81913644664pwd=YVGX6g0uPPRzkd8PvdDTeO04HW0hv5.1
Meeting ID: 819 1364 4664

Connections

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM
Zoom Link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89678889451pwd=4gS2oyi8a2597GTpUxFhW6SEjGcrV2.1
Meeting ID: 896 7888 9451

BIBLE STUDY

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

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

November 3	2 Kings 4:28-41
November 10	Matthew 25:14-30
November 17	Ephesians 1:15-23
November 24	Mark 13:24-37

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

CONNECTIONS

Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Christianity in the United States is undergoing its largest, fastest changes in our nation's history. What is happening and why? These fundamental questions are what we will be addressing while watching and then discussing the new documentary, *Christianity at the Crossroads*. This four-episode documentary can also be watched on PBS streaming and You Tube.

November 4:	Reading the Signs -- what is changing?
November 11:	A Divided Highway – the divisions and fractures of the church.
November 18:	Road to America – immigration and Christianity
November 25:	The Road Ahead – what is the future of American Christianity?

Zoom Link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89678889451pwd=4gS2oyi8a2597GTpUxFhW6SEjGcrV2.1

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

On Sunday November 15, at a single service of worship, we will be sharing our pledges of financial support for our shared ministry in 2027. Your pledges are the financial expression of our shared commitment to the ministry of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Everything we do together, we do because of your prayers, your love, your labor, and your giving. Pledging is a defiant act of courage that flies in the face of the selfish cynicism and despair of our age.

Pledging is both a concrete expression of our faith that God is at work in our world and an important way we participate in that work. We, both as individuals and as a community, were created to participate through the Spirit in transforming lives. And we call that collective effort church.

American Christianity has changed profoundly over the past twenty years. We can no longer rely on culture and custom to sustain Christ's church. Instead, we rely on Christ's disciples to share and show a better hope than the materialism and meaninglessness of our culture and markets. We rely on you. Over the past twenty years, inflation adjusted giving at Fairmont has declined by a third. At the same time, the need for hope, meaning, purpose, and community we offer has only grown. We have responsibly shrunk our budgets and adjusted our programs, but now, in order to reach new generations, we need you and your help.

What do you want to hand down to the next generation? Our media, politics and culture offer only fear, anxiety, consumption, and endless striving. We were made by God for something better and you already know that. But the next generation does not. Help us reach out to all generations with the hope, meaning, values, and purpose of the Gospel and the new life it offers. On November 15, please commit yourself to changing the future of God's people. On November 15, please take a defiant stand for hope.

IMPORTANT NEW CHARITABLE DONATION TAX CHANGES FOR 2026

Beginning in 2026, an exciting change in the tax law takes effect which could be of benefit to you.

If you are one of roughly 90% of taxpayers who do not itemize their deductions (using the standard deduction instead), you will be able to deduct up to $1,000 for single filers or $2,000 per married couple filing jointly.

Important to note: The deduction applies only to cash gifts given to a charitable, religious, educational, scientific, or literary organization under IRS rules. Donated goods, mileage, stock, or other non-cash contributions do not qualify for this deduction.

A nice benefit to this change is that everyday generosity and the community impact of this giving is strengthened.

As always, check with your tax professional to see if this option is best for your personal situation.

OCTOBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Welcomed Pastor Marc!
2. Heard about the work of Trustees reviewing Fairmont's endowment administration
3. Reviewed and adopted 2026 Stewardship Plan
4. Reviewed and adopted 2026 Stewardship Letter
5. Reviewed 2026-27 Budget for potential savings
6. Received and responded to various correspondence
7. Reviewed and adopted letter to the Women of Fairmont regarding the Presbyterian Women's model covenant
8. Elected Terry Akers as our congregation's delegate to the November 2 Presbytery meeting

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School continues during 10:30 AM 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. This year we will again be using the PC(USA) curriculum, "Follow Me." Sunday School classes are open to children ages 4-grade 5. Any questions? Contact Pastor Brian.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Fairmont's annual Children's Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 20, 2026 during the 10:30 AM worship service. Children ages birth to 5th grade are invited to join this glorious Sunday of angels, lambs, shepherds, donkeys, magi, and the holy family as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Hot Cocoa Bar to follow for families of children and youth. For questions or to RSVP, contact Pastor Brian.

Upcoming Children's Events

December 20: Children's Christmas Pageant & Hot Cocoa Bar

December 24: Family Christmas Eve Service

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Fairmont Youth Group Kicks Off on Sunday, November 8th!

Middle School and High School Youth are welcome to join us on Sunday, November 8th, right after worship. Food will be provided, and we've got some fun activities planned! Pick-up will be at 1:00 PM. Bring a friend! We would love to see you!

MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION
Helping Hands, Helping Hearts

Christmas Giving Trees Have Sprouted!

Early this month the felt Christmas Giving Trees will appear in Fellowship Hall and the Narthex. As in previous years, we hope to support 6 clients of the Artemis Center to provide gifts for their children and basic household needs. *Mission Beyond the Congregation* team will display tags representing a present or gift card from the wish list of each child or youth, and additional items useful for this family transitioning into safe housing. After you have selected and purchased the item, return it to Fellowship Hall by **Sunday, November 29th.** Gifts must be **unwrapped**, since parents will be wrapping the gifts themselves. Donations of gift-wrapping supplies are welcome also. We look forward to another heartwarming holiday season thanks to our members' generosity!

Artemis Center is the Dayton area's domestic violence resource agency. The center's work empowers survivors of domestic violence to make decisions and choices that will establish and maintain safety for themselves and their children. Want to learn more? Join their quarterly Open House on the morning of Thursday, Nov 19th. Registration requested: https://www.artemiscenter.org/events.

House of Bread

Thanks to all participants in our October focus on House of Bread. Warm blankets seemed an unexpected need until recently but are now MUCH appreciated. The assembly of hygiene supplies, food items, and warm were delivered at the end of October. Special thanks to members who volunteered for lunch preparation last month. *Did you miss the opportunity to serve in person? You can always find another date that better suits your schedule on the agency's website sign-up calendar: houseofbread.org.*

LINCOLN PARK MANOR

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 2:30 PM 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.

SPIRITUALITY FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

Spiritual Wisdom and Practice in Times of Grief and Healing

Our next meeting will be on November 11, 2026 in the chapel from 3:00-4:00 PM.

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 Brian.

GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Sunday November 15, 2026 at 11:45 AM in the Upper Room

Are you striving to grow closer to God? Do you desire a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ? Is God truly the highest priority in your life? These are important questions that, when considered honestly, can have a profound impact on our faith and daily walk with Christ. cont. →

Growing Together in Christ provides a space to encourage and support one another as translate our lives on Sunday morning to the rest of the week, seeking to love and trust God above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Together, we will focus on what we can do to strengthen our relationship with God, recognizing God's presence in our daily lives, and encouraging one another in our Christian journey. Everyone is invited as we strive to grow in faith and live more fully in Christ.

The first **overview session** will be held immediately following the **Single Sunday Service on November 15th**. We invite you to join us, learn more about the Forum, and see whether it may be a meaningful part of your spiritual growth.

ART, ANTIQUE, & CRAFT SHOW

The Art, Antique and Craft Show
is Coming Soon to Fairmont!

Fairmont's 15th annual Art, Antique and Craft Show is on November 14th from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. This yearly fundraiser features a vintage room of beautifully aged items, a bake sale of homemade treats, a delicious home cooked lunch, Christmas and jewelry rooms, and, of course, 30+ vendors and artisans offering quality items. All proceeds will go to Dayton Food Bank, Kettering Backpack Program, St. Vincent De Paul and World Central Kitchen. This is a great opportunity to do some Christmas shopping while helping those that need it the most.

The show requires the help of many volunteers. If you would like to help in any capacity, please contact Kathy Akers or Ginny Glass. This show has been a church wide effort with members working together for a worthy cause. We have been able to make donations of $10,000 to $15,000 per show over the years. Please join us for this festive, seasonal and charitable event! Let's make this the best show yet!

BAKE SALE DONATIONS

Bake Sale Donation Request: Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips November 7th is almost here, and our chocolate dippers are getting ready to dip our famous buckeyes and peppermint patties! We need your help to make it all happen, and we're running low on semi-sweet chocolate chips (morsels). Please consider donating a bag or two by November 6th. There are two easy ways to help: Option 1: Order Online Shop through our Amazon Wishlist, which includes only semi-sweet chocolate chips. Your order can be shipped directly to the church office! Hold your phone camera over the QR code:

Option 2: Pick Up a Bag Grab a bag of semi-sweet chocolate chips during your next grocery trip. Any brand is welcome! Bring your donation to church, exercise class, or another gathering over the next two weeks. You can give it to Christy Maynard or Susan Calvin, or leave it in the church kitchen. Thank you so much for your generosity and for helping make our bake sale a sweet success!

COOKIE WALK

The annual Women of Fairmont Cookie Walk is fast approaching on December 13th, following the single service. Be sure to save the date! Everyone is invited to bake and donate cookies and candy for the Cookie Walk. For cookie and candy donations, watch for the sign-up sheet, which will be posted in the Fellowship Hall. You may also email your intent to donate cookies or candy to Ann Diller. The email address is ann.diller@gmail.com, or you may text her at 937-760-3444. Cookies and candies can be delivered to the Fellowship Hall on Friday, December 11, between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm or Saturday, December 12 between 9:00 and 11:00 AM. Then join us on December 13th to purchase cookies for the benefit of the Women of Fairmont mission projects. We look forward to seeing you at this festive and fun Christmas gathering!

FAIRMONT MEN'S GROUP

Fairmont Men's Group will meet at MCL Cafeteria on Wednesday, November18th at 11:30 AM. Call the church office at 937-299-3539 or email the church at office@fairmontchurch.org by noon on Tuesday, November 19th, to make a reservation. All the men of the church are invited!

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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.

November: Theology on Tap will meet at Archers Tavern in Kettering, 2030 E. Dorothy Lane. Meet at 5:00 PM on Friday, November 6th.

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DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 1, 2026



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THANKSGIVING OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be closed on
Thursday, November 26, 2026
&
Friday, November 27, 2026.
Happy Thanksgiving!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 23rd Sunday after Pentecost/ Communion 8:30 AM: Casual Service (fh) 9:45 AM: Contemplative Prayer (chapel) 10:30 AM: Traditional Service (sanctuary) Daylight Savings Time Ends	**2** 6:30 PM: WOF Coord. Meeting (ur)	**3** 11:00 AM: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00 PM: AA (012) 12:00 PM: OA (library) 12:15 PM: Bible Study (in-person & online) 2:30 PM: Lincoln Park 7:00 PM: Team Meetings	**4** 4:30 PM: Praise Band (fh) 7:00 PM: Connections (online) 7:30 PM: AA (012)	**5** 6:00 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal (cr) 7:15 PM: Choir Rehearsal (cr) 7:00 PM: NA (012)	**6** 11:00 AM: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00 PM: OA (library) 5:00 PM: Theology on Tap @ Archers Tavern on Dorothy Lane	**7** 8:30 AM-12:00 PM: Chocolate Dipping Party (fh)
8 24th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 AM: Casual Service (fh) 9:45 AM: Women's Prayer Group (chapel) 10:30 AM: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:30 AM: Fairmont Youth Group (chapel)	**9** 7:00 PM: Circle 1 (fh)	**10** 11:00 AM: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00 PM: AA (012) 12:00 PM: OA (library) 12:15 PM: Bible Study (in-person & online 7:00 PM: Trustees, B&G, Finance (chapel)	**11** 4:00 PM: Spirituality For Those Who Grieve (chapel) 4:30 PM: Praise Band (fh) 7:00 PM: Connections (online) 7:30 PM: AA (012)	**12** 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal (cr) 7:00 PM: NA (012) 7:15 PM: Choir Rehearsal (cr)	**13** Art Show set-up No Fit 4 You No OA	**14** 9:00AM – 3:00 PM Art, Antique & Craft Show
15 Stewardship Sunday/SINGLE SERVICE 9:45 AM: Contemplative Prayer (chapel) 10:30 AM: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:30 AM: Growing Together in Christ (ur)	**16**	**17** 11:00 AM: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00 PM: AA (012) 12:00 PM: OA (Library) 12:15 PM: Bible Study (in-person & online) 7:00 PM: Session (ur)	**18** 11:30 AM: Fairmont Men's Group (offsite) 4:30 PM: Praise Band (fh) 5:30 PM: Circle 2 (offsite) 5:30 PM: YMCA Meeting (fh) 7:00 PM: Connections (online) 7:30 PM: AA (012)	**19** 6:00 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal (cr) 7:00 PM: NA (012) 7:15 PM: Choir Rehearsal (cr)	**20** 11:00 AM: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00 PM: OA (Library) Call articles are due.	**21** 9:30 AM: Circle 3
22 Christ the King 8:30 AM: Casual Service (fh) 9:45 AM: Contemplative Prayer (chapel) 10:30 AM: Traditional Service (sanctuary)	**23**	**24** 11:00 AM: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00 PM: AA (012) 12:00 PM: OA (Library) 12:15 PM: Bible Study (in-person & online)	**25** 4:30 PM: Praise Band (fh) 7:00 PM: Connections (online) 7:30 PM: AA (012)	**26** Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed) 7:00 PM: NA (012)	**27** Thanksgiving Friday (Office Closed)	**28**
29 1st Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM: Casual Service (fh) 9:45 AM: Contemplative Prayer (chapel) 10:30 AM: Traditional Service	**30**					NOVEMBER

Fairmont Presbyterian Church
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937-299-3539

Website: www.fairmontchurch.org
Facebook: Fairmont Presbyterian Church - Kettering, OH

STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff: Brian Maguire
Associate Pastor: Rev. Marc van Bulck
Director of Music Ministries: Coleman Clark
Organist: Judy Bede

Bookkeeper: Martha Keil
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Mason
Custiodal/Maintenance: Willie Dawkins

November Birthdays

Janine Borneman	11/03	Jennifer Fiden	11/12
Ann Diller	11/03	Fiona Hoskins	11/12
Mike Cavey	11/05	Loveday Adam	11/13
Betty Lou Ludwig	11/05	Julie Zink	11/18
Sarah Hamilton	11/08	Erla Burnside	11/19
Eric Sitar	11/08	Jim Grillot	11/19
Sharon Kohnle	11/09	Henry Bergstresser	11/20
Debra Wright	11/10	Ginny Glass	11/23
Alexandra Barnett	11/11	David Hammond	11/28

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL

The deadline for The December/January Call articles is Friday, November 20, 2026.

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