THE CALL

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

August 2022 Volume 77, Issue 6

Life Together

How good it is when sisters and brothers are together! Psalm 133

The past two and a half years have strained the sinews of our social bonds. As a people, as a community, we are more isolated now than ever before. Loneliness is at an all time high. Mutual understanding, empathy, and trust are waning. Collectively we have spent billions on refashioning luxurious nests as home, while travel, concerts, eating out, volunteering, and charitable giving, have all suffered. Now we find ourselves more isolated, anxious, and angry than ever before. We interact with our immediate housemates and our preferred media silo, but not our neighbors. Something important has changed. Something precious has been lost.

I have been very attentive to and occasionally fearful of COVID. Now I have finally experienced it. For most of us, thanks to vaccines and viral evolution, it will be nothing more than a cold. For some people with compromised immune systems or preexisting symptoms it will remain far more dangerous. But for most of us it is no longer an existential threat. Now is the time to get back into life. For the past two and a half years we have survived. But have not thrived. We have languished.

Deprived of human connection, conversation, and belonging, we become something less than human. We lose ourselves to inner monologues that tend towards anxiety and depression. One remedy is simply social contact, conversation, sharing, and play. We live in a world surrounded by beautiful, creative, unique individual who have never existed before and will never exist again. I would like to meet them because it is in our sharing that we grow. We were made by our Creator to be social creatures.

Maybe you think yourself to be a committed introvert (I am!). The world and other people need to get to know you. Consider that we go out into social spaces and share with others not only for our own benefit, but for theirs. Fellowship is not solely for our personal pleasure. Fellowship with others is the primary way we heal the wounded heart.

Over the course of this month, as listed in this newsletter, and in the months ahead, we are providing dozens of ways for you to get involved, in person, with others. If you want to experience the full benefit of community, you need to show up. Emerging from our COVID bubbles may be challenging, but there is a world of people out there waiting to meet you. Come on out and join us.

WORSHIP

In-person Casual Service 8:30am

Traditional Service 10:30am

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

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

August 7 9th Sunday after Pentecost/Communion Lesson: Joshua 6 Sermon: The Stories We Tell

August 14 10th Sunday after Pentecost Lesson: 1 Samuel 3:1-21 Sermon: Samuel & Eli

August 21 11th Sunday after Pentecost Lesson: Judges 4 & 5 Sermon: Deborah & Jael

August 28 12th Sunday after Pentecost Lesson: 1 Samuel 8:4-20 Sermon: The Problem With Kings

SAVE THE DATE

Make plans to join us for our Kickoff Sunday on September 11, 2022. There will be a Single Service that day and then the fun begins! Watch for more details to come!

SESSION TEAMS

2022-2023 Session Teams

Personnel

Steve Bergstresser

Kelly Coan

Stephanie Porter, *chair*

Finance and Stewardship

Terry Akers, chair

Worship

Kim Gunlock
Jane Schwartz
Cindy Youngerman, *chair*

Mission Beyond the Congregation

Kerri Miles Denise Taylor, *chair*

Christian Formation

Marilyn Dickey Jenny Fiden Patrick Gill, *chair*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met in June and July. One important action occurred. The General Assembly approved the creation of a commission to merge the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) and the Office of the General Assembly (OGA). Collectively those two offices comprise most of our national denomination's bureaucracy and have been waging a cold war against each other. The OGA serves congregations and presbyteries in their ministries. The PMA does advocacy and mission work. Right now, the PMA receives about 80% of the national church annual funds and the OGA about 17%. It is hoped that this merger will unstick some very entrenched bureaucracies and free up funds for creative and vibrant ministries.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

FAIRMONT YOUTH MINISTRY

(Grades 6th -12th)

Fairmont Youth Ministry continues in summer schedule for August. The Fairmont Youth will meet for a special summer youth event on Sunday, August 14th.

August 14: Summer Send-Off Spectacular 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall Youth, Children, & Family Welcome

Celebrate the end of summer with hot dogs, ice cream, games, and bounce house fun!

Pastor Kelley can be reached by email at <u>kshin@fairmontchurch.org</u> or by text or phone at (937) 751-0752.

THANK YOU for the amazing participation from Fairmont parents, children, and youth as we gathered for our Family Film Night! We enjoyed pizza, theater-style popcorn, candy, games, crafts, short films, and LOTS of laughter and fellowship!



Join us for our Summer Send-Off Spectacular on Sunday, August 14th at 12pm!

Celebrate the end of summer with hot dogs, ice cream, games, and bounce house fun!

Looking forward, Sunday school will resume September 18th during 10:30am worship!

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Sunday		Monday		Tuesday	Wedn	
		10:00am: Dayton P.E.O. (012)	1	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	2	4:30pm: Praise Band 7:30pm: AA (012)
9th Sunday after Pentecost/ Communion 8:30am: Casual Service (fh) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctu	7 ary)		8	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	9	4:30pm: Praise Band 7:30pm: AA (012)
10th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am: Casual Service (fh) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctu 12:00pm: Summer Send Off Spectac (fh)			15	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	16	11:30am: Fairmont M (offsite) 4:30pm: Praise Band 7:30pm: AA (012)
11th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am: Casual Service (fh) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctu	21 ary)		22	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 7:00pm: Deacons Meeting (ur)	23	4:30pm: Praise Band 7:30pm: AA (012)
12th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am: Casual Service (fh) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctu	28 ary)		29	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: AA (012) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	30	4:30pm: Praise Band 7:30pm: AA (012)

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esday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
(fh)	3	7:00pm: NA (012)	4	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	5	7:05pm: Dayton Dragons Game	6
(fh)	10	7:00pm: NA (012)	11	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 6:00pm: Valley Vineyards	12		13
Ien's Group (fh)	17	7:00pm: NA (012)	18	11:00am: Fit 4 You 12:00pm: OA (rc) 5:00pm: Theology on Tap (The Brewery at Carillon	19 Park)		20
(fh)	24	1:00pm: Rug Hooking Group (fh) 7:00pm: NA (012)	25	September articles for The Call are 11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	e due.	10:00am: Session	27
(fh)	31						

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Fairmont Preschool Update

As explained by Session in the April Call, Fairmont Preschool will not be operating for the upcoming 2022/2023 academic year. The Christian Formation team has begun conversations, research, and inquiries as to how Fairmont Preschool may be able to continue serving the community.

As we reassess the future of Fairmont Preschool after this upcoming year, we ask that congregation members share any potential connections or resources that could possibly be beneficial. Do you know of an agency that might be interested in using our facility? Please talk to any of us to share your thoughts or potential resources.

As Session stated, the preschool has been one of Fairmont's greatest ministries to the community. We, as a whole, would like to see this ministry continue in some form and welcome help in discovering a path to do so.

Regards,

Lauren Bergstresser, Marilyn Dickey, Jenny Fiden, Ginny Glass

Fairmont AV Team - Volunteers Needed!

Do you enjoy technology? Do you desire to learn how to use our sound system? Do you have an eye for camera angles? Volunteer to be on our AV team rotation! We are seeking several individuals to learn these skills for both service times. No prior skills required! As long as you're willing to learn, we're willing to train. Contact Loralei Harding if you have any interest at all - let's chat!

MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION

Helping Hands, Helping Hearts



Feeding Our Community-2022

Kettering Backpack Program

This organization provides nearly 600 needy children enrolled in Kettering City Schools with nutritious food to consume every weekend throughout the school year. The students are identified by school counselors and are discretely provided a sack of nutritious food that includes milk, fruit, pudding, juice, vegetables, apple sauce, macaroni and peanut butter. Due to COVID-19, the number of hungry students has risen, causing the program's food costs to increase greatly. Financial donations may be made either through Fairmont's website or online at Ketteringbackpack.org.

Dayton Food Bank (South Dayton Foodbank/FISH)

The Dayton Food Bank has served as the primary source of food for the hunger relief network in the Miami Valley. This food bank-the only one of its kind in the area-relieves hunger in the community through a network of partner agencies by acquiring and distributing food. The food bank provides the infrastructure for more than 100 member food pantries, community kitchens and shelters that serve as the charitable hunger relief network in Montgomery, Greene, and Preble Counties, including the South Dayton Food Pantry/FISH, which serves Fairmont's immediate area. Donations to the Food Bank may be made either through Fairmont's website or online at the foodbank-dayton.org.

The World Central Kitchen

You may continue give to The World Central Kitchen through Fairmont's online Portal of Giving at www.fairmontchurch.org (note Ukraine in the "Other" box) or by mailing a check to Fairmont Presbyterian Church with "Ukraine" in the memo line. Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

DEACONS

The sanctuary flower sign up calendar is back!

Members can choose a Sunday to designate flowers in honor or memory of someone, or to commemorate a special occasion such as an anniversary, birthday, etc. Once a member has chosen a date, they will be contacted by a Deacon who will assist them with the flower arrangement and bulletin dedication. Two identical arrangements are ordered and the member is billed by the florist.

The calendar is posted by the cloak room upstairs. It begins with September 2022 and ends with August 2023. For further information, please contact Wynn Adam or Sara Grillot.

ART, ANTIQUE & CRAFT SHOW

The Art, Antique, and Craft Show committee is collecting items for the fall Art, Antique and Craft show. If you are willing to sort out your jewelry, seasonal items, Christmas trees and ornaments, lamps, collectibles, pottery, canning jars (quarts & pints), antiques, and other items to go in our vintage room, we would be so grateful. We have been working since the first of the year and are a bit behind.

This year we are adding World Food Kitchen to our donation list as the need seems to be extreme there.

Blessings and thanks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VALLEY VINEYARDS

Join us for a cookout at Valley Vineyards in Morrow on August 12th at 6:00pm. Prices are \$50.80 per person. Payments are to be made out to the church. Reservations are reserved for 50 and have until August 5th to sign up and pay. We will carpool from the church and it takes approximately 45 minutes to get there. Located in Morrow, Ohio. Please contact Carolyn Wimer at (937) 705-6451 or Jennifer in the church office for more information.

FAIRMONT MEN'S GROUP

We will meet at MCL Cafeteria on Wednesday, August 17th at 11:30 am. Sign "Lunch" on the attendance pad Sunday or call the church office (937) 299-3539 or email at office@fairmontchurch.org by noon on Tuesday, August 16th, to make a reservation. All the men of the church are invited.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Theology on Tap will meet in person at The Brewery at Carillon Park at 5:00pm on Friday, August 19th. We will be on the back patio if the weather is nice, and inside if the weather is not cooperative. Hope to see you there!

FOURTH FRIDAY FAMILY PIZZA

Fourth Friday Family Pizza gathering will take a **break for the summer** and will resume on September 23, 2022. For questions, contact Pastor Kelley at kshin@fairmontchurch.org.

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

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

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

Twitter: @FairmontChurch **Instagram:** fairmontpresbyterianchurch

STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff: Brian Maguire Associate Pastor: Kelley Wehmeyer Shin Children's Ministry Coordinator: Loralei Harding

Director of Music Ministries: Coleman Clark

Organist: Judy Bede Bookkeeper: Martha Keil Custodian: Louis Weyrauch Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Mason

August Birthdays

Marge Cavender	08/02	Nancy Kanis	08/11
Khloe Parcels	08/02	Juli Cohen	08/13
Kathy Akers	08/03	Christopher Buchheit	08/14
Susan Braiser	08/03	John Van Deursen	08/15
Mary Haffner	08/03	Stephanie Porter	08/16
Larry Ridings	08/06	Wally Taylor	08/16
Diane Weyrauch	08/06	Trina Brander	08/18
Catherine Staton-House	08/07	Cindy Cavey	08/20
Emma Garcia	08/08	Lucy Bruzzese	08/26
Karl Borneman	08/10	Jeffrey Grieco	08/26
Patricia Smith	08/10	Phyllis McDermitt	08/27
		Christy Maynard	08/28



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL

The deadline for The September Call is Friday, August 19, 2022.

Please submit Call & bulletin articles to Jennifer at: jmason@fairmontchurch.org. For website inquiries, contact Loralei at: lharding@fairmontchurch.org.