

THE CALL

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

April 2025

Volume 80, Issue 3

HE IS RISEN! That is the polite way of expressing the revelation of resurrection in church. I suspect that the original announcement was a trifle more flabbergasted and emphatic. Everything we had ever assumed about the world, death, mortality, and human possibility turns out to have been wrong. Instead of those lies, which the world is still so fond of, the truth erupts into our world through an empty tomb just outside the Joppa gate of Jerusalem. That is good news. That is *the Good News*. That empty tomb now poses the question of how will we respond. At the same time, that empty tomb reveals the lies told by every tyrant. We are not who the world says we are. We are instead who and what God says we are and God's word is life. The human response to God's initiative called Christianity is all about following this dead man walking into this new life together. Resurrection changes everything. Things have not been the same ever since. Now the interesting part begins.

Jesus decisively defeated the power of sin and death over a long weekend around the year 33 AD, breaking the doors of death and hell in an act of cosmic vandalism, but that did not conclude God's project of salvation. Quite to the contrary, what Jesus did (*through his life, death, and life*) opened up God's saving work as a participative endeavor and invites us to join in. Freed from the old powers of sin, fear, shame, and death that held us back, we are now free to take risks as we join in God's project of setting all the prisoners free.

Throughout the season of Easter, we will be reflecting on the book of Revelation which is not a scary story about the end times. It is rather an encouraging parable about how we live into Jesus' resurrection in the ordinary reality of our lives, amid all our stresses and confusion, and how we can work with God to undo the power of evil and sin in the world knowing that through Christ Jesus, our ultimate victory is already assured. The hidden secret of the book of Revelation is simply this: God wins! Assured of the final outcome, we can go out to risk sharing and showing love in ways that we never before thought possible or wise. We can love rather than surrender to fear and shame and in doing so we expand God's Kingdom here on Earth that it might, in ways small and large, become a bit more like the Kingdom of God every day.

Jesus rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and now he sends us, his agents, ambassadors, and co-conspirators to continue his work, confound the schemes of the enemy, heal this world, and show this damaged creation a new hope. There is a new world being built around us. Happy Resurrection, time to get to work.

Pastor Brian

WORSHIP

In-person 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.

April 6	5th Sunday in Lent/Communion Sunday Lesson: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (part 1) Sermon: Salvation by Trust Alone (part 1)
April 13	Palm Sunday Lesson: Hebrews 11:29-12:2 (part 2) Sermon: Salvation by Trust Alone (part 2)
April 17	Maundy Thursday Lesson: John 13:1-20 Sermon: Shadows and Reflections
April 18	Good Friday Tenebrae
April 20	Easter Sunday Lesson: Luke 24:1-12 Sermon: We Were Wrong
April 27	2nd Sunday of Easter Lesson: Revelation 1:1-8 Sermon: Alpha and Omega

Connections

Wednesdays, 7:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82619499713>

Meeting ID: 826 1949 9713

Bible Study: Weekly Scripture

Tuesdays, 12:15pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83594350345>

Meeting ID: 835 9435 0345

CONNECTIONS

Connections Lenten Book Study:

Liturgy of the Ordinary by

Tish Harrison Warren

Join us for our Lenten Book Study conversations either in person on Sunday mornings at 9:35 in the Chapel or on Zoom on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m.

Week 4: March 30 and April 2

Chapters 7 and 8 Checking Email and Sitting in Traffic

Week 5: April 6 and April 9

Chapters 9 and 10 Calling a Friend and Drinking Tea

Week 6 April 13 and April 16

Chapter 11 Sleep and Final Thoughts

No Connections on Wednesday April 23.

Connections for Easter: Apocalypse and Apocalypticism (a history of the end): Starting on Wednesday April 30 at 7:30 and then throughout the Easter season we will be considering the meaning and the impact of the Book of Revelation on Christian faith and culture. We will be considering influence of various forms of apocalyptic thinking including antichrist(s), the rapture, and the millennium on how we view our lives, the world, each other, and God.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Contemplative Prayer in Chapel: Returns April 27th. Are you yearning for a bit of Holy quiet on Sunday mornings? From 9:45am-10:00 am in the Chapel, we invite you to a time of centering prayer, getting closer to God. We will share with you the basics of holy silence.

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!

- April 1 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (part 1)
- April 8 Hebrews 11: 29-12:3 (part 2)
- April 15 Luke 24:1-12
- April 22 Revelation 1:1-8
- April 29 Revelation 5:1-11

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 p.m. April 18:

Join us for worship as we enter the central drama and mystery of the Christian faith remembering and celebrating together both what Jesus did for us and what he instructed us to do. “Maundy” is short for *mandatum*, Latin for “command.” On this night we will share in the Lord’s Supper just as Jesus commanded as recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. We will also celebrate the sacramental rite of foot washing (or hand washing) commanded of us in the Gospel of John. You are invited to participate or not as you feel led. You will have the opportunity to both wash and be washed as a sign of mutual service and love.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Good Friday Worship 7:00 p.m. April 18:

Come and join us as we remember Jesus’ final day in scripture and song for this solemn service at worship contemplating the very heart of Jesus life, death, and life.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30am Worship

After the Time with Children, children will follow their teachers to a classroom on the lower level where they will learn about God while enjoying bible stories, crafts, and fellowship with their peers. We are using a new curriculum in our elementary classes: “Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living.”



Quarterly, Pastor Kelley will also be sharing beautiful **Godly Play** storytelling during the Sunday school time slot. Sunday school classes are open to children ages 4 - grade 5. Any questions, contact Pastor Kelley.

SUNDAY NURSERY CARE

Sunday Nursery for children birth - 3 years old is provided from 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. on Sunday mornings. As a reminder, only children birth - 3 years old may stay in the nursery for the safety of our youngest.

UPCOMING CHILDREN’S EVENTS



April 12: Easter Eggstravaganza - Egg Hunt, Lunch, Craft Stations

April 13: Children’s Choir Sings for Palm Sunday

May 4: Last Day of Sunday School Before Summer Break

May 11: Youth & Children Sunday and Mother’s Day

June 9-12: Vacation Bible School – “Compassion Camp”

APRIL FAIRMONT CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The next Children's Choir rehearsal will be Sunday, April 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the Children's Choir room. The children will be singing at the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 13 for Palm Sunday.

Mark your calendars: April 6, April 13

Ages 4 - grade 5 are invited to participate. We are pleased to have Deanna Ullery leading the Children's Choir. Contact Pastor Kelley for questions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

“Compassion Camp”

Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School 2025: June 9-12, 9:00am - 12:00pm

VBS is open to children ages 4 through children who have completed 5th grade.

Compassion Camp VBS

Join us for four fun-filled mornings with Godly Play/Bible stories, awesome music, outdoor games, fun crafts, and yummy snacks! Come learn how we can change the world with lovingkindness! We will hear stories of compassion about Miriam, Elijah, Good Samaritan, and Phoebe. Registration information to come soon!



FAIRMONT YOUTH MINISTRY

NEW FORMAT & SCHEDULE

(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 in bold print**). There will be Food, Faith Conversations, & Fun Events.

APRIL

April 6 All-Church Spring Hike at Flat Fork Ridge at **2:00 p.m.**

April 13 Walk to BUFFALO WILD WINGS for Lunch & Faith Talk then back to church for the movie “Flow.”

MAY

May 11 YOUTH SUNDAY at 10:30 a.m.

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.

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 12:00pm: AA (012)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p> <p>12:15pm: Bible Study (ur & online)</p> <p>2:30pm: Lincoln Park</p> <p>7:00pm: Team Meetings</p>	<p>4:30pm: Praise Band 1 7:00pm: Connections - Lenten Book Study (online)</p> <p>7:30pm: AA (012)</p>	<p>6:00pm: Bell Choir 2 (cr)</p> <p>7:00pm: NA (012)</p> <p>7:15pm: Choir (cr)</p>	<p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 3 (lh)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p> <p>5:00pm: Theology on Tap @ Elsa's on Stroop</p>	5
5th Sunday in Lent/ Communion	6 10:00am: Dayton P.E.O. (012) 6:30pm: WOF Coord. Meeting (ur)	<p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 7 12:00pm: AA (012)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p> <p>12:15pm: Bible Study (ur & online)</p> <p>7:00pm: Trustees, B&G, Finance (ur)</p>	<p>3:00pm: Spirituality For Those Who Grieve (chapel)</p> <p>4:30pm: Praise Band (lh)</p> <p>7:00pm: Connections - Lenten Book Study (online)</p> <p>7:30pm: AA (012)</p>	<p>6:00pm: Bell Choir 9 (cr)</p> <p>7:00pm: NA (012)</p> <p>7:15pm: Choir (cr)</p>	<p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 10 (lh)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p>	<p>10:30am: Easter Egg Hunt (green space, lh)</p>
Palm Sunday	13 8:30am: Casual 9:35am: Lenten Book Study (chapel)	<p>7:00pm: Circle 1 (parlor)</p> <p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 14 (lh)</p> <p>12:00pm: AA (012)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p> <p>12:15pm: Bible Study (ur & online)</p> <p>7:00pm: Session (ur)</p>	<p>11:30am: Fairmont Men's Luncheon (offsite)</p> <p>4:30pm: Praise Band</p> <p>5:30pm: Circle 2</p> <p>7:00pm: Connections - Lenten Book Study (online)</p> <p>7:30pm: AA (012)</p>	<p>6:00pm: Bell Choir 16 (cr)</p> <p>7:00pm: Maundy Thursday Service</p> <p>7:00pm: NA (012)</p> <p>7:15pm: Choir (cr)</p>	<p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 17 (lh)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p> <p>7:00pm: Good Friday Service</p>	<p>Holy Saturday 9:30am: Circle 3 (109)</p>
Easter Sunday	20 8:30am: Casual Service (lh)	<p>8:30am: Children's Choir Sings (sanctuary)</p> <p>10:45am: Traditional Service (sanctuary)</p> <p>12:00pm: Fairmont Youth</p> <p>Easter Monday (Office Closed)</p>	<p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 21 (lh)</p> <p>12:00pm: AA (012)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p> <p>12:15pm: Bible Study (ur & online)</p>	<p>4:30pm: Praise Band 22 (lh)</p> <p>7:00pm: No Connections</p> <p>7:30pm: AA (012)</p>	<p>1:00pm: Rug Hooking Group (lh)</p> <p>6:00pm: Bell Choir (cr)</p> <p>7:00pm: NA (012)</p> <p>7:15pm: Choir (cr)</p>	24
2nd Sunday of Easter	27 8:30am: Casual Service (lh)		<p>11:00am: Fit 4 You 28 (lh)</p> <p>12:00pm: AA (012)</p> <p>12:00pm: OA (rc)</p> <p>12:15pm: Bible Study (ur & online)</p>	<p>4:30pm: Praise Band 29 (lh)</p> <p>7:00pm: Connections (online)</p> <p>7:30pm: AA (012)</p>		25

MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION

Helping Hands, Helping Hearts



Service As a Lenten Practice

The Presbyterian Church USA [March blog post](#) “Finding God in the Pause: A Practice of Sacred Celebration in the Lenten Season” outlines the writer’s personal tradition of making service a regular and deliberate habit. The author says, “Simple habits ... shape our beliefs and model for younger generations the power of small, faithful rhythms.” – Reverend Neema Cyrus-Franklin.

Reverend Cyrus-Franklin outlined simple things we can do to explore our spirituality this Lenten season:

- *Carve out time to thank loved ones.
- *Set apart time to reconnect with our Divine Creator
- *Engage children by sharing our personal testimony and exhibiting regular, deliberate habits of faith.
- *Make it a habit to support our local missions through the gift of volunteerism!

House of Bread If you are over age 16 and feel moved to help serve lunch between 10am and 2pm, or participate in other activities like cleaning or food pickup, visit <https://houseofbread.org/volunteer/> or give them a call at (937) 226-1520!

Brigid's Path If you'd like to cuddle with babies, wash laundry, or assist at events, visit <https://brigidspath.org> or call 937-350-1785.

Watch the church bulletin each week of Lent for more tips on ways to make the most of this Lenten season!

Updates On Mission Team Yearly Dedicated Giving

Each year, the Mission Team provides monetary support to groups which serve our mission of supporting children and families in the greater Kettering area.

Brigid's Path Wish List Drop-Off: Thank you for your wonderful support of the babies and families served at Brigid's Path! We delivered the items from our February collection to Brigid's Path for immediate use by their clients.

Donation to Kettering City Schools Nurse's Station This month, we ordered much-needed items as the nurse's station began to run out of items after the first half of their school year.

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.

SPIRITUALITY FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

SPIRITUALITY FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

Spiritual Wisdom and Practice in Times of Grief and Healing

MONTHLY MEETINGS: Second Wednesday of the Month

MARCH DATE: April 9, 2025

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? How can we find healing through our stories of 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 gathering is April 9th at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel. This will be a time to share or listen to stories of healing and grief. We will be resourcing two books on spirituality and healing. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Kelley at kshin@fairmontchurch.org.

ART, ANTIQUE & CRAFT SHOW

This year's show will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2025. We are now accepting donations of vintage Christmas and antique items, jewelry, seasonal decorations, pottery, decorative items, collectibles, puzzles, cookbooks, earlier toys, linens and artwork. No furniture donations will be accepted. If you have any questions about donations, please call Carolyn Wimer at (937) 705-6451.

FAIRMONT FAMILY

SPRING HIKE

Pastor Kelley will be leading a Spring Hike for all Fairmont Folk (children, youth, adults) on Sunday, April 6th, at 2:00 p.m. Let's meet at **Flat Fork Ridge** at 2:00 p.m. for a 3-mile hike. **We will hike an easy mile for families** and then add another 2 miles for those who want to hike a moderate hike. Contact Pastor Kelley at kshin@fairmontchurch.org for questions.



DATE: April 6, 2025

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Flat Fork Ridge Trail

3466 N. Clarksville Road, Waynesville, OH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

APRIL For the month of April, Theology on Tap will meet at **Elsa's on Stoop Road** (1216 E. Stoop Rd) at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4, 2025.

FAIRMONT MEN'S GROUP

Fairmont Men's Group will meet at MCL Cafeteria on Wednesday, April 16th at 11:30 am. To make a reservation, please call the church office at (937) 299-3539 or email at office@fairmontchurch.org by noon on Tuesday, April 15th. All the men of the church are invited.

Fairmont Presbyterian Church
3705 Far Hills Avenue
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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
Director of Music Ministries: Coleman Clark

Organist: Judy Bede
Bookkeeper: Martha Keil
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Mason

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Jaci Rose	04/01	David LaRue	04/20
Theodore Stewart	04/01	Chris Shearer	04/21
Susan Stewart	04/03	Josh Hakala	04/22
Karen Penney	04/04	Quinn Barnett	04/24
Lauren Bergstresser	04/08	Richard Cost	04/25
Dan Dault	04/09	Kevin Stewart	04/26
Sallie Luther	04/09	Lilias Harper Adam	04/27
Steve Harper	04/10	James Beebe	04/27
Thomas Hohler	04/12	Jason Barnett	04/29
Terry Akers	04/13	Kate Barnett	04/29
Jane Schwartz	04/13	Kelly Coan	04/30
Ann Riegle Crichton	04/15	Phyllis Dodson	04/30
William Stewart	04/15	Kerri Miles	04/30
Megan Rehberg	04/18		



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL

The deadline for The May Call is Friday, April 18, 2025.

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