

THE CALL

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

April 2026
Volume 81, Issue 3

There is nothing like Resurrection. All our metaphors and analogies break down because all our metaphors and analogies arise from within this creation and resurrection does not. Resurrection is not a change in this reality; it is the eruption of a new and different reality inside of this one. The resurrection of Jesus is far more than the vindication of everything he did and taught, although it is surely that as well. Resurrection is a disclosure of our future in our past, a place and time when the space time of this creation rends for a moment and we catch a glimpse of what lies beyond and what lies beyond is. . . quite beyond human vocabulary to adequately describe. We are left with our inadequate and often misleading analogies knowing their insufficiency, but given our little minds with their limited perception, it is the best we can do in this age.

First, what is resurrection not? Resurrection is not flitting off to heaven as a disembodied spirit. Jesus is very much material. His friends touch him. He enjoys his dinner parties with those we love. His wounds are still very real. And he is different. Normal rules of matter no longer apply. He moves through space and time. He passes through solid stone at will. But most importantly, he is intensely relational, connected to his followers and they to him in deeper and more powerful ways. And he is also more intensely relational with God. Resurrection is the entry into infinitely deeper union with God and communion with other people.

Resurrection is also not some individualized, idealized fulfillment of our wants and desires. Resurrection is not Fantasy Island. God is not Mr. Roarke. It is instead the fulfillment of God's plan, not our wishes. Most of our wishes and wants are misguided anyway. Resurrection is the fulfillment of God's original plan for creation for God and God's creatures to live together in communion based on mutual trust and love. As creation 2.0 it is essentially a do-over of Eden except now (hopefully) humans have a better understanding of the importance of trust and God has a deeper empathy for our weakness.

Resurrection is that home, that belonging, that connection, that every human being consciously or otherwise longs for that is only hinted at in this life. All our loves are but intimations of life in resurrection. Resurrection does not fulfill your dreams so much as gives us new and better dreams. And it is not static. Resurrection is not strumming harps for all eternity. Resurrection is very best of human possibility and promise—creativity, compassion, curiosity, wisdom, courage, wonder, trust, hope, and love—unshackled from our fear, anxiety, and very fragile mortal lives now employed for God's project of enriching and enlivening all of creation to be a full friend and partner with God. Freed of every fear, every limitation, every alienation, ever detachment, we are finally able to be fully us in and with God and in and with each other.

Jesus Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! That is worth celebrating, so Happy Easter. But more personally and more importantly so shall we. And for that I have no words, only tears of joy.

-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.

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- April 5 Resurrection Sunday/Communion
Lesson: Matthew 28:1-10
Sermon: After Fear
- April 12 2nd Sunday of Easter
Lesson: Acts 2:14, 22-32
Sermon: The First Easter Sermon
- April 19 3rd Sunday after Easter
Lesson: Luke 24:13-35
Sermon: Walking to Emmaus
- April 26 4th Sunday after Easter
Lesson: Acts 2:42-47
Sermon: Resurrection Shaped Church

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=4gS2oyi8a2597GTpUxRhW6SEjGcrV2.1>

Meeting ID: 896 7888 9451

CONNECTIONS CLASS

Connections for April and May

Night is the most intimate and vulnerable time for prayer. Night strips us away from all our proud busyness and confronts us with the hard and sometimes scary realities of our lives. For centuries, the evening office of prayer, called Compline, has sustained generations through hardship and inspired them through joy. Compline has been one of my personal favorite practices and sharing it together over the phone was one of the ways that Lisa and I were brought together. In April and May, we will be considering evening prayer using *Prayer in the Night: For Those Who Work or Watch or Weep*, by Tish Harrison Warren as our guide. Everyone interested in growing closer to God is invited, especially night owls.

- April 1 Crucifixion
- April 8 Resurrection Narratives Compared
- April 15 No Connections
- April 22 Prayer in the Night Chapter 1
- April 29 Prayer in the Night Chapter 2

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 7 No Bible Study
- April 14 Luke 24:13-35
- April 21 Acts 2:42-47
- April 28 Acts 7:55-60

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 p.m. April 2nd:

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 3rd:

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.

APNC

On March 8, Fairmont's congregation elected an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). Those serving are Jeff Adam, Lauren Bergstresser, Rich Bowden, Kelly Coan, Gidget Collins, Tom Gunlock, Dana Hoskins, and Sue Merrell Daley. The committee completed a Presbytery-led training event on March 15 and has begun its important work.

Currently, the APNC is refining Fairmont's Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP), which will be reviewed by Session and the Presbytery before being posted in the Church Leadership Connection system for prospective candidates. This intentional process involves several steps to ensure the profile clearly reflects who we are as a congregation and helps attract strong candidates for this important role in our shared ministry. We are grateful for your continued prayers and support as this work moves forward.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

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

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

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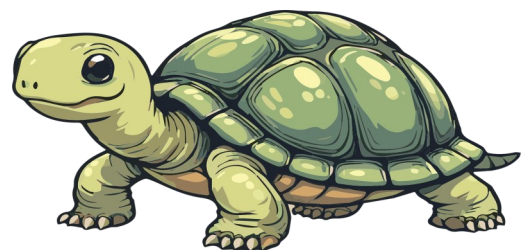
VBS COMPASSION CAMP II:

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.

APRIL

April 8 Fairmont Youth & Family Hike:
Flat Fork Ridge Drive **2:00 p.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.

FAIRMONT SPRING HIKE

Join Pastor Kelley for a Fairmont Spring Hike on Sunday, April 12th at 2:00 p.m.

We will meet at Flat Fork Ridge Trail at 2:00 p.m. for a 2 or 3-mile hike.



DATE: Sunday, April 12, 2026

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Flat Fork Ridge Trail (Caesar Creek)
3466 N. Clarksville Rd.
Waynesville, OH 45068

We will begin with a short spiritual reflection on God and nature, then we will hike an easy mile for families and then add another 1 or 2 miles for those who want to hike a moderate hike. Contact Pastor Kelley at kshin@fairmontchurch.org for questions.

MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION



Lenten Food Collection

20 pounds of food was dropped off to House of Bread during our winter food/clothing collection! Our Fairmont family built off that momentum during Lent, which is the perfect time to think about the hungry in our Dayton area. Collection bins have been overflowing this past month to support the F.I.S.H. Southeast Food Pantry, housed at Southminster Presbyterian Church!

Want to help in other ways? The F.I.S.H. Food Pantry is looking for volunteers! They're in need of drivers to deliver food, and phone help for 1-2 hours per volunteer shift (can be worked from home). Kevin Dickson for more info at fishsoutheast@yahoo.com or 937-433-8511.

Did you know? You can donate nonperishable foods to the F.I.S.H. Southeast Food Pantry year-round! Look for the plastic bins on the first floor of church. There are some bins near the coat closet and other bins next to the elevator.

Spring Spotlight on Artemis Center!

During the month of April, we are sharing updates on Artemis Center! Artemis is one of the organizations supported annually through Fairmont's mission dollars.

In February, a Dayton Daily News article highlighted Artemis' 40th anniversary of serving over 140,000 Dayton area residents experiencing domestic violence, along with their children. Over the past year, it has become a dual-agency, meaning that its core focus now includes advocacy for sexual assault survivors. Artemis has added a Mobile Advocate, which travels throughout the community to connect families with healthcare services, follow-up care, and additional resources. Source: <https://www.daytondailynews.com/lifestyles/artemis-center-serving-survivors-of-domestic-violence-seeks-donations-and-volunteers/X7DQ3EWXUZD4RESICDR6LZSQMU/>

Open House: Artemis is hosting a free Open House on **Thursday, April 9th** from 8:30am - 10:30am on their campus at 310 West Monument Avenue in Dayton. It's a great chance to tour their space, meet staff and volunteers, and learn about new ways to become involved. Check out additional events on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ArtemisCenterDayton>

SPIRITUALITY FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS: Second Wednesday of
the Month

APRIL DATE: April 8, 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 April 8th 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 OF FAIRMONT

Women of Fairmont will host their Spring Gathering on Saturday, May 2 at 11 a.m. The speaker will be Rose Lounsbury of Oakwood. Her presentation is entitled *Happy Home: How to Simplify Your Home (and Heart!) This Spring*. In today's world, it often feels like our stuff owns us rather than the other way around. Many of us desire simpler home environments but we're unsure how to get there. In this humorous engaging talk, professional organizer, TEDx speaker, Amazon bestselling author and still-sane mom of 16-year old triplets will share how simplicity, the age-old philosophy of less is more, can improve our modern, busy lives.

It will be a real delight to gather for lunch and hear wisdom from Rose. Please RSVP to your Circle Leader or Jennifer in the office if you are not part of a Circle.

SPRING 2026 WOMEN'S RETREAT

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Fairmont's Spring 2026 Women's Retreat at Hueston Woods on April 10-11, 2026, with 39 women attending is now closed for registration. Please keep these women in your prayers as they learn about Sarah the Matriarch, Miriam the Prophetess, and Esther the Seer.



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, April 15th 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, April 14th, 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.

APRIL No Theology on Tap for the month of April because of Good Friday observance and worship. Theology on Tap will meet again on May 1, 2026.

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SAVE THE DATE

August 2, 2026

Pastor Kelley's Retirement & Luncheon
Single Service of Worship at 10:30 a.m.



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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April Birthdays

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



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL

The deadline for The May Call is Friday, April 24, 2026.

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