

THE CALL

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

September 2023
Volume 78, Issue 7

School is back in session. Busses are on the roads. Soon the YMCA preschool students will be in class. Our programs at Fairmont follow the academic calendar and so we celebrate a homecoming “kickoff.” Despite all the school-related metaphors, we no longer talk about Christian education, but rather we aspire and labor towards Christian formation.

Once upon a time, informed by Classical ideals of *paideia*, all education in the Western world was Christian formation—nurturing people in the practices, stories, habits, rituals, texts, traditions, and understandings of the ongoing community of Christ’s disciples. The goal was not to equip students with more information or better problem-solving skills, although it did that as well. The goal was to form better people. In order to achieve that goal, the church invented certain institutions first to help students read, write, and participate in this formation, and then to take a full role in the ongoing conversation itself. They were called primary schools and universities respectively.

The problem is that knowledge and learning have been detached from personal and moral formation. Research no longer needs to serve meaning. Professions no longer need to profess anything. And the success or failure of education is no longer measured by a good and generous life well lived, but rather achievements on standardized tests that tell nothing of a person’s quality. So, we teach to the test, preparing young people to become effective and well-informed analytical problem solvers hoping that somewhere along the way they will somehow also learn to be good, kind, compassionate, humble, wise, just, temperate, and courageous.

The church’s role has not changed. Only its urgency has increased. The church exists to do only two things. Thing one, worship God. Thing two, nurture human beings to become something more than they could be on their own. Jesus’ final mission statement to the church in Matthew 28 is to go out and proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the world and to baptize, that is to both liturgically and then developmentally shape people into disciples. We collectively swear to this obligation ever time we baptize an infant and you, the entire congregation, swear before God and each other to help nurture that child in the faith.

The church is a school, but it is not only a school. A school is where you learn information, skills, and practices. We help each other learn scripture and its interpretation, the story of the Christian community over time, how we have learned to think about God and ourselves, and what all of this has to say to the world. But then we apply it through the practice of living together. The church is also like a gym. We train together, correcting form, learning new techniques, and encouraging one another. And of course, sometimes we fail. Failure is anticipated. So, the church is also like a hospital healing the broken and the wounded while at the same time like a teaching hospital helping the care givers learn and grow as well. Our ultimate goal is a good life well lived towards God’s purposes. Such an audacious goal necessarily requires a holistic approach embracing the whole of life—mind, body, and soul.

Anything truly great we may do in this life is going to require effort and practice. We learn and grow together. There are so many ways to grow and learn and so many ways to help others, especially our children grow in faith and life. Will you come and share and perhaps be surprised? Will you help others to share and watch in wonder when the Holy Spirit takes over? We have been called and sent to form human beings into a new sort of human being who have woken up, cleaned up, and grown up, beginning with ourselves. The lessons started long ago. It’s time to grow.

-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.

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September 3 14th Sunday after Pentecost /
Communion

Lesson: Matthew 16:13-28

Sermon: Divine Things

September 10 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Lesson: Matthew 18:15-35

Sermon: Sacramental Forgiveness

September 17 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Lesson: Matthew 19:16-30

Sermon: Then Who Can Be
Saved?

September 24 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Lesson: 20:1-16

Sermon: God Is Not Fair

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CONNECTIONS

Wednesdays, 7:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82945327813>

Meeting ID: 829 4532 7813

BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays, 7:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82002536057>

Meeting ID: 820 0253 6057

CONNECTIONS

Judaism and the Making of Modern Israel

On Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom starting on September 13 and then throughout the fall, we will be exploring the history of Judaism and its role in the creation of the modern nation state of Israel. We will begin with an overview and then explore the transformation of late Second Temple Judaism into Rabbinic Judaism, the late Roman history of Palestine, and the subsequent Islamic rule. We will then turn in more detail to the foundations of modern Zionism and the creation of Israel in 1948. Finally, we will conclude by examining the beginnings of the current conflict starting in 1967 along with the political, religious, and cultural complexities of contemporary Israel.

September 13 Story of the Jews Part 1 -

In the Beginning

September 20 Story of the Jews Part 2 -

Among Believers

September 26 Story of the Jews Part 3 -

A Leap of Faith

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is Back!

Join us every Thursday evening on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. starting on September 14 as we reflect upon and delve more deeply into the Bible text assigned for the following Sunday. All are welcome. Please bring your questions.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Children's Sunday School Resumes!

Get ready for Sunday School, beginning again on September 17th during 10:30am worship!

After the Time with Children, children will follow their teacher to a classroom on the lower level where they will learn about God while enjoying videos, stories, crafts, and fellowship with their peers. This year, we will use 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

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

FIRST AID, CPR, AED CLASS AT FAIRMONT

Fairmont will be offering a 2-hour First Aid/CPR class on Saturday, September 9th, from 9:00am-11:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Fairmont's own, Wally Taylor, is the director of the "Health and Safety Institute" and will be offering hands-on training for our congregation.

This program includes a two-hour module **in advance** of the in-person skills session that can be completed any time before September 9th. RSVP is requested via Pastor Kelley at kshin@fairmontchurch.org or (937) 751-0752.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Join us for a *Fairmont Parent's Night Out* on Friday, September 29, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. sponsored by the Christian Formation Team. Parents will have a chance to go to dinner, take a walk, or spend quiet time together while your children will be watching a movie, playing games, and enjoying healthy snacks.

WHAT: Parent's Night Out
WHEN: September 29, 2023
TIME: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
WHERE: Fellowship Hall

For questions, contact Pastor Kelley.

FAIRMONT YOUTH MINISTRY

(Grades 6th -12th)

Sundays, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Fairmont Youth Ministry will meet on Sundays in-person from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. (**unless otherwise noted in bold print**). There will be faith conversations, games, activities, and lunch!

SEPTEMBER YOUTH SCHEDULE

September 10 Fall Kick-Off and All-Church Picnic
September 17 Follow Jesus: Invitation & Welcome Party
September 24 Follow Jesus: Learn to Love

Pastor Kelley may be reached by email at kshin@fairmontchurch.org or by text or phone at (937) 751-0752.

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	
14th Sunday after Pentecost/ Communion		Labor Day (Office Closed)		11:00am: No Fit 4 You		4:30pm: Praise Band (fh)	
8:30am: Casual Service (fh)		9:45am: Holiday at Home Parade volunteers arrive (front patio)		12:00pm: AA (012)		7:00pm: Dayton Opera C (cr)	
10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary)				12:00pm: OA (rc)		7:30pm: AA (012)	
				2:30pm Lincoln Park Communion (offsite)			
				7:00pm: Mission Team (online)			
				7:30pm: Christian Formation (ur)			
15th Sunday after Pentecost				11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh)		4:30pm: Praise Band (fh)	
10:30am: Single Service (sanctuary)				12:00pm: AA (012)		7:00pm: Connections (on)	
11:30am: Annual Picnic (fh)				12:00pm: OA (rc)		7:30pm: AA (012)	
6:00pm: Dayton Opera Chorus Practice (cr)				7:00pm: Building & Grounds (ur)			
				7:30pm: Trustees (ur)			
16th Sunday after Pentecost		10:00am: Dayton P.E.O. (012)		11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh)		11:30am: Fairmont Men' (offsite)	
8:30am: Casual Service (fh)				12:00pm: AA (012)		4:30pm: Praise Band (fh)	
9:30am: Membership Inquiry Class (ur)				12:00pm: OA (rc)		7:00pm: Connections (on)	
10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary)				2:30pm: Lincoln Park Communion (offsite)		7:30pm: AA (012)	
10:30am: Sunday School (A, B)				7:00pm: Session (online)			
11:30am: Membership Inquiry Class (ur)							
12:00pm: Youth Group (chapel)							
2:00pm: Ordination of Rachel Boden (sanctuary)							
17th Sunday after Pentecost		7:00pm: Dayton Opera Chorus Practice (cr)		11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh)		4:30pm: Praise Band (fh)	
8:30am: Casual Service (fh)				12:00pm: AA (012)		7:00pm: Connections (on)	
10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary)				12:00pm: OA (rc)		7:15pm: Choir Practice (c)	
10:30am: Sunday School (A, B)						7:30pm: AA (012)	
12:00pm: Youth Group (chapel)							
1:00pm: Golf Outing @ Pipestone							
6:00pm: Dayton Opera Chorus Practice (cr)							

Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
				11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: OA (rc) 5:00pm: Theology on Tap @ Carillon Park Brewery (offsite)	1		2
Chorus Practice	6	6:00pm: Bell Choir Practice (cr) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir Practice (cr)	7	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	8	10:00am-1:00pm: Dayton Opera Chorus Practice (cr) 9:00am-11:00am: First Aid/CPR Training (fh)	9
line)	13	6:00pm: Bell Choir Practice (cr) 7:00pm: Bible Study (online) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir Practice (cr)	14	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: OA (rc)	15		16
s Luncheon	20	6:00pm: Bell Choir Practice (cr) 7:00pm: Bible Study (online) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir Practice (cr)	21	11:00am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12:00pm: OA (rc) October Call articles are due.	22	11:30am: Women of Fairmont Gathering (fh)	23
line) (cr)	27	1:00pm: Rug Hooking (fh) 6:00pm: Bell Choir Practice (cr) 7:00pm: Bible Study (online) 7:00pm: NA (012) 7:15pm: Choir Practice (cr)	28	6:00pm: Parent's Night Out (fh)	29		30

ORDINATION OF RACHEL BODEN

Join us on Sunday September 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary as the Presbytery of the Miami Valley and the Presbytery of Cincinnati gather to ordain Rachel Boden to her new office and vocation as a Minister of Word and Sacrament of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Rachel is child of Fairmont and our former Christian educator. She graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary this spring and has commenced service as the Associate Pastor for Family Ministries at Sycamore Presbyterian Church in Mason, Ohio. Come and celebrate with all the churches of our Presbyteries, Rachel's calling. This will be a special day for our whole community. The Fairmont Chancel Choir will be singing, and Pastor Brian will be preaching for the Presbyteries. Immediately following worship all are invited to join us in the fellowship hall for a reception to welcome Rev. Boden.

KICK-OFF SUNDAY

Kick-Off Sunday for the new church year is Sunday, September 10, 2023. There will be a single service of worship at 10:30 a.m. with an all-church picnic and bouncy house provided by the Deacons. Join us for a special Sunday as we kick-off the new church year.



MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION



Fairmont's mission activities focus primarily on local organizations that benefit at-risk families, children, and youth in our community and provide opportunities for hands-on mission work.

Back-to-School Supplies!

We are collecting school supplies for John F. Kennedy Elementary School. Please leave your donations in the Black & White Narthex. Thank you!

box of 24 Crayola crayons	Red pens
various highlighters	large glue sticks
scissors	erasers
pocket folders	wide-ruled paper
boxes of tissues	Clorox wipes
gallon Ziploc bags	paper towels

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, applesauce, macaroni and cheese, and peanut butter. The number of hungry students has risen, causing the program's food costs to increase greatly. Financial donations may be made through Fairmont's Online Giving Portal on the website marked "Backpack Program."

Thank you for your support.

WOMEN OF FAIRMONT

The Women of Fairmont will be having the Fall Gathering on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at 11:30am. We will be meeting in Fellowship Hall for a delicious lunch. Please join as we break bread together and celebrate the start of the fall season!

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, broken jewelry, fake pearls, collectibles, antiques, pottery, vintage items, canning jars (quarts & pints), seasonal items, cookbooks, puzzles, decorative items, Christmas trees and ornaments we would be so grateful!

If you have any questions on any items to donate, please contact Carolyn and our committee.

Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

SPIRITUALITY FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

Spiritual Wisdom and Practice in Times of Grief and Healing

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 beginning in October. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAIRMONT MEN'S GROUP

Fairmont Men's Group will meet at MCL Cafeteria on Wednesday, September 20th at 11:30 am. Sign "Lunch" on the attendance pad on Sunday or call the church office at (937) 299-3539 or you may email the church at office@fairmontchurch.org by noon on Tuesday, September 19th, to make a reservation. All the men of the church are invited!

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THEOLOGY ON TAP

For the warmer months, Theology on Tap will be meeting ONCE a month on the first Friday of each month at Carillon Park. All are welcome! For the month of September, Theology on Tap will meet at Carillon Park Brewery (1000 Carillon Blvd) at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 1, 2023.

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HOLIDAY AT HOME

Join us on Labor Day, September 4, to share hospitality with our whole community during the Holiday at Home Parade. We need volunteers to help distribute water to parade goers, and you get the best seats in town for the Holiday at Home Parade right at Fairmont! If you are able to help, please be at church by 9:45 a.m. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. but they start closing streets much earlier in the morning, so plan ahead. Join us for a fun-filled celebration of community on Labor Day.

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FAIRMONT MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASS

Are you interested in finding out more about Fairmont? Are you considering joining as a member? Join Pastor Brian on Sunday (September 17) immediately after both services in our upper room to learn more about Fairmont, the Presbyterian tradition, and ways you might find a spiritual home within them.

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

Director of Music Ministries: Coleman Clark

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Mason

Organist: Judy Bede

Bookkeeper: Martha Keil

Custodian: Louis Weyrauch

September Birthdays

Martha Keil	09/01	Lynn Shepard	09/21
Martha Hibbs	09/08	Nicole Dault	09/22
Rosalie Martin	09/08	Isabel Glueckert	09/23
Allie Tamulewicz	09/08	Abigail Lewis	09/23
Evi Fromm	09/09	Tom Gunlock	09/24
Jorge Gonzalez	09/12	Virene MacCagno	09/24
Elizabeth Specht	09/17	Ken MacKenzie	09/25
Dorothy Harner	09/18	Cindy Youngerman	09/25
Donna Ginader	09/19	Anne Johnson	09/27
Cassandra Shearer	09/19	Margaret Bergstresser	09/28
Kelley Shin	09/19	Mike Favro	09/28
Phyllis Walcott	09/20	Paul Lamberger	09/28
Betty Brown	09/21	Carol Bussey	09/29
Robert Kaskocsak	09/21	Bonnie Grieco	09/30
Sally Kaskocsak	09/21		



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL

The deadline for The October Call is Friday, September 22, 2023.

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