SATURDAY, March 16
5:30 PM CR Fellowship Dinner—Social Hall
7:00 PM Celebrate Recovery—Sanctuary

THURSDAY, March 14
5:30 PM CR Fellowship Dinner—Social Hall
7:00 PM Celebrate Recovery—Sanctuary

SATURDAY, March 16
11:00 AM UMW Spring Fashion Show—Wesley Center

FUMC Contribution Year-To-Date

Week Ending 3/3/2019

Attendance March 3 225/366/504/128  CR 112  Total 1335

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Having completed the story of the life and ministry of Jesus, we turn our attention to the next stage of our journey to eternal life—baptism. In baptism we, like Jesus, are immersed into death and resurrection. The traditional rite we will use today is the Order of Christian Initiation, but it is a rite that can be adapted to the many different contexts within the Catholic Church. We will have the opportunity to watch the ceremony of baptism in the video clip, and then we will hear the prayers and responses that will accompany this important moment in the life of the Catholic Church.

During this ceremony, the celebrant will ask the candidates to believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was crucified and buried, but on the third day rose from the dead. The candidates will respond in faith, and the celebrant will present them to God the Father. The candidates will then be baptized with water, and the celebrant will pronounce the words of baptism, declaring them to be the sons and daughters of God. The candidates will then rise from the water, and the celebrant will present them to the congregation, saying, “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” The candidates will respond, “Amen,” and the celebrant will kiss the candidates on the mouth, symbolizing the kiss of peace and brotherhood.

After the baptismal ceremony, we will have the opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist, the central act of Christian worship. During this time, the celebrant will proclaim the Word of God, and we will respond with songs and prayers. The celebrant will then distribute the Eucharistic bread and wine, and we will share in the Body and Blood of Christ, who gave himself for us on the cross.

As we complete this ceremony, we will have the opportunity to reflect on the significance of baptism and the Eucharist in our lives. We will pray for the candidates, asking God to bless them with his grace and to guide them on their journey to eternal life. We will also pray for ourselves, asking God to give us the strength and courage to live a life that is pleasing to him and to grow in our faith and love for him.

Finally, we will conclude the ceremony with a blessing and a recessional. As we leave the church, we will carry with us the joy and light of the Risen Christ, and we will continue to walk with him on our journey to eternal life.