



# Mainspring

Join us for worship on Sunday morning as we seek to align our lives with God's purposes.

Traditional Worship  
9:30 AM, Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship  
11:05 AM, FLC

Live-streamed on  
Facebook & Website

Barrier free facilities

Nursery available  
9:30 & 11:05

Infant to 4 years  
Lakeshore Kids  
9:30  
K-5th grade

## A Note from Pastor Jeff

Keri and I do not raise any plants. Period. Whatever the opposite of a green thumb is – Keri and I have four of them. That doesn't stop us from trying on rare occasions. But each time our attempts are futile. If there was such a thing as plant cruelty, Keri and I would be guilty.

So, we don't grow plants. We invest in people.

I don't mean that we raise people – though I think we did a pretty good job with our kids. I mean that we invest in people; especially people's souls.

We have, what we call our "restaurant ministry." When we like a restaurant, we tend to go often. There we build relationships; usually with servers, sometimes cooks, and sometimes the owners themselves. Early on in that relationship-building we tell the server that I am a pastor and Keri is a teacher. We share our lives and they share theirs. We become friends. Along the way, we invite them to worship with us if they do not worship anywhere else, or to share any prayer concerns with us (we always follow up on those). Being a foodie and a curious person, this kind of ministry is in the middle of my wheelhouse.

This May, we will be talking about gardening – only not gardening flowers or vegetables. We will be talking about investing ourselves in other people. Sharing our hope, our joy, our faith in God. What Keri and I do is simply plant seeds. God does the rest. In our series, I will be asking us to scatter the seeds of God's love, joy, peace, hope, and grace in the lives of the people around us at any given moment.

During our series, the Leadership Board will have items available for you to give away to others as a way of planting seeds. I hope that you will take advantage of them.

Come and join us as we talk about being Sowers of God's love and grace. I am no master gardener, but I know the Master Gardener; and He supplies the seeds as well as the fields. So, let's get our hands dirty, shall we?

And as always, I am proud to be...

With you on the journey,

*Jeffrey L Jagers,*  
Pastor

## United Women In Faith

Carriage Town Ministries collection of baby items continues through May 11th. There are collection areas in the Narthex and Truran Hall.

Our May 13th meeting begins with snacks at 12:30, meeting promptly at 1 PM. Our speaker, from the Prism Project, will begin at 1:30 pm.

Our WIF meeting for June 10th will be lunch out at a restaurant in Milford. Information coming!

The WIF Board meetings are scheduled for May 6th and June 3rd, at 1 PM in the church conference room.

We are continuing to collect sewing machines. If you have a machine, you no longer use, we will be happy to take it off your hands! These machines go to women in other countries who make a living by sewing.

Diane Panaretos,  
UWIF President



**It's time to think Spring flowers....** We will be ordering flowers to plant around the church buildings at the beginning of May. Please be watching for information in your bulletins. We will be collecting money toward the vinca, dragon-wing begonias, geraniums and filler plants we put in the ground and urns around the outside of the church.

We will need people to help plant the flowers too, **the date for planting will be Monday, June 1st, starting at 9:30 am.** Many hands make light

work, the more volunteers we have the quicker we can get done. It usually takes no more than a couple of hours. Please call Diane Panaretos at 517-404-5906, if you have any questions.

Remember to bring work gloves and hand tools for planting. I would love to see more kids come and help with planting this year!

Thanks!  
Diane

## Stephen Ministry

Is there a Mystery in the title "Stephen Minister"?

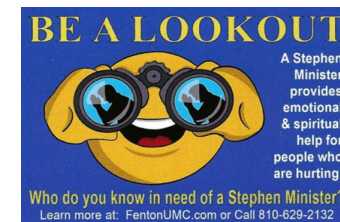
There have been discussions among the Stephen Ministers that people are confused about the word minister in this title. We are not ordained pastors or counselors. But we are following the call of Jesus to "care for and love your neighbors".

The Christian faith is not made up of spectators listening to professionals and is not for individuals who are seeking, primarily, to save their own souls. It is made up of persons who are called to serve as representatives of Christ in the world – and to serve means to "minister".

Early Christians realized that they were called to minister because Christ ministered and they were called to follow him. Jesus said, "For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you." (John 13:15)

Stephen was one of the first people called to care or minister to the elderly and others needing care. Therefore, the title of Stephen Ministers -- "servants like Stephen" who are following Jesus' example! Stephen Ministers are Christians serving those who need a friend to listen and to walk beside them on their journey.

Therefore, if you are a Christian, you are a minister, also!



## **Children's Ministry**

### **Special Events– Mother's Day!**

On Sunday, May 10th, children will be handing out flowers and reciting 'The Lord's Prayer' before and during each service. Please let Ms. Kate know if your child will be there.



Mother's Day

### **Movie Nights**

Bring a Friend! Movie Nights, May 15th & June 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Participants will enjoy a movie along with 2 slices of pizza, popcorn, and a drink. Donations are accepted and will go directly towards covering food costs.

### **End of Year**

This year, much like previous ones, has seemed to pass in the blink of an eye. Our final day before summer Sundays will be on May 31st, which will feature a special celebration. Summer Sundays will kick off on June 7th. This summer will have a slightly different format. We will host a combined opening for both the Nursery and Children's groups in the FLC. Afterward, each group will move into their classrooms for small group.

Kate Glasson, Children's Ministry Coordinator, [fumc.kate@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.kate@gmail.com), 810-632-2132 ext., 164

## **Vacation Bible School**

Join us on the go with God: A week long "Road Trip" celebrating and learning about God. There are some empty seats! If you would like to help, visit our donation centers located in the Narthex and Truran Hall, become a crew leader to help navigate to each pit stop or a youth volunteer who will assist in the travels. Keep a look out for other opportunities to help in the next few weeks!

- ◆ July 20th -24th
- ◆ Pre-k to 6th grade
- ◆ 9-12 p.m.
- ◆ Register online starting May 1st!



## **NURSERY NEWS**

On behalf of the FUMC Nursery Team we welcome you!!!

Each Sunday we have fun and exciting new experiences learning about our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ.

In honor of the Easter season our friends got to participate in Camp Good Friday where we learned about the events leading up to the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ that then lead us to an empty tomb. We made resurrection gardens to memorialize this important part of biblical history.

The story of Easter was shared and on Easter Sunday we rejoiced as we learned about the risen one. We were able to join Mrs. Kate's group in fellowship and had a flashlight scavenger hunt & Easter egg hunt. Fun while learning was had by all.

Looking ahead to the summer we will be meeting in the FLC during both the 9:30 & 11:05 services for the entirety of the summer. This will begin the first Sunday in June through the last Sunday in August. During this time we will be sharing our mornings with Mrs. Kate's group as we begin our summer series. Please see Mrs. Kate's- Children's Ministries section of the Mainspring for details and upcoming events. Be sure to check out details for VBS. We look forward to seeing you there!

Karen Eversole - FUMC Childcare Coordinator, [fumc.kareneversole@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.kareneversole@gmail.com)



Wednesday nights in the youth room have been a lot of fun lately. If you stopped in during free time, you'd see kids bouncing between ping pong and pool, laughing, and just enjoying being together. But I've been noticing something. Not every student walks into the room the same way. Some jump right in socially. Others hang back. Not because they don't want to be there, but because connecting just takes more time for them. So, I've been shifting my focus. Instead of trying to get everyone to participate the same way, I'm creating small, low-pressure ways for each student to feel like they have a place. Sometimes that's letting a student choose the game. Sometimes it's giving them a simple role. And those small things matter. You start to see little shifts. A little more laughter. A small step closer. Also... if you've ever thought you could just show up and hang out with teenagers for a bit, you probably can. Come talk to me ☺

**Jessica Cece,**  
**Youth & Young Adult Ministries**  
**fumc.jessicacece@gmail.com**  
**Wednesdays 6:30 PM, Youth (6th—12th)**  
**Thursdays 6:00 PM, Young Adults (18 & up)**  
**Sundays 9:30 AM**  
Follow us on Instagram: fentonumcyouth



*"Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."*  
Reaching upward to God  
Reaching inward to each other  
Reaching outward to our neighbors  
So that all can find wholeness in Jesus Christ.

New issues of the Mainspring are released every other month. Submissions are due by the 15th of the month prior to a new issue. If you would like to include an article into our newsletter, please send your request to Kris at fumc.kris@gmail.com.

Find us on Facebook!

Our pastor would like to reach out to the members of our congregation who are sick, in the hospital or whose lives are otherwise in upset. Most of the time, hospitals and family members let us know about illness or surgery, but not always. If you know of a member who needs pastoral care, please call the church office. It is better to hear about a need from twenty people than from no one.

