

November 2016

Senior Pastor: Barb Schnecker

Associate: Deacon Rick Tettau

Sunday Worship

8:30 & 11:00 Traditional in Sanctuary

11:00 spirit.fire in Community Center

9:30 Sunday School

Worship Notes

Nov. 6: All Saints Day

11:00 Combined Service

Lighting of candles & a bell rung for each person who has gone on to eternal glory.

Stewardship; Communion

Sermon: "Leaving a Legacy" Ephesians 1:11-22 & Luke 20:27-38

Nov. 13: Mike Freely from Henderson Settlement

Nov. 20: "Stewardship – It's a Spiritual Matter"

Leviticus 27:30-34 & Mark 12:41-44

Nov. 27: 1st Sunday of Advent "Staying Alert"
Isaiah 2:1-5 & Matthew 24:36-44



Attendance

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>S. S.</u>
Sept. 25	(Worship in the Park)	
Oct. 2	250	103
Oct. 9	215	118
Oct. 16	210	101

Are You Advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Rev. Barbara Schnecker

Philippians 1:12-13, gives us a kingdom perspective. *"Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel."*

Many times we have heard the saying, "Money talks," or "He or she who has the gold rules." Both of these statements have some truth in them.

I am reminded when we read scripture that after Jesus was crucified there was a question as to where he would be buried. Those that crucified and hurried

him to the cross, thought that he should be buried with the wicked; but God's plan made it that he would be buried with honor among the rich. (Isaiah 53:9)

In order for Jesus to be buried among the rich, a man of honor and influence, Joseph of Arimathea, owned a burial cave that was reserved for the rich. Joseph of Arimathea was called an honorable counselor and a person of noble character and distinction.

The bible says that God desires his people to be the head and not the tail. If we are to influence the culture, there must be men and women of influence in whom God uses to impact the culture. We should consider the words of the apostle Paul, "...what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel." Each one of us needs to ask if our prosperity has served to advance the gospel.

Many of us find ourselves dripping in disobedience. We find ourselves always wanting more when we already have so much. We have education, food, shelter, knowledge, technology, opportunities, access, abilities, and talents. But

we still want more, better, faster, upgrades, always adding more...more stuff.

Can you imagine a simple life...one where our mailboxes were less full, our closets, pantries, bookshelves, and cabinets were less full? Let's face it...our lives are full and we need to be a lot less content because all the excess overshadows the important stuff in our lives.

Every possession we have is a window to our heart, an opportunity for something to impact us.

So what can you do to find real contentment? Know what is needed and necessary. Understand that God has made you and is forming you into the person that God created you to become. Secondly, clear the clutter in your life. Third, fast from distractions. Lastly, give your heart new focus. Finding contentment is as much about simplifying as it is about changing the attitude of your heart.

In the month of November, we will have the opportunity to become better stewards of all that God has given to us. We will be challenged to live into tithing, to give the first fruits, not what's left over to

God in order to build a spiritual legacy. That means there will be more opportunities to share the love of Christ with others. There will be more opportunities to do outreach and for people to come to know Jesus personally and find the relationship that is longing deep inside of them.

Many of you are already generous and your generosity blesses both others and the Lord. Now is the time to pray about what God is putting on your heart as we open ourselves to the spirit of generosity. Will you be a person that influences and impacts our spiritual culture here at Faith Community? How will you respond to the opportunity to build God's kingdom and advance the gospel?

All for Christ!
Pastor Barb

Stewardship 101 **WHAT SHALL I GIVE?**

Several years ago, a former pastor, Rev Raymond D. Pope, addressed stewardship during one of our UMM meetings. He suggested that churches don't do a very good job encouraging members to

work towards biblical teachings of tithing (giving 10% of one's income) because they present a budget which usually represents a 1 to 2% increase. The problem with this is that inflation runs higher than this. Yet members rationalize that if they increase their giving by 1 to 2% above their current giving, all will be well. Meanwhile they wonder why programs are barely maintained and why we are running a deficit.

Pastor Pope said he believed most Christians really want to tithe but don't know how to get there so he challenged us to increase our giving by 1% of our total income each year until we achieve the 10% tithe. He assured us we'll hardly miss the money. As an example, if you and your wife make \$30,000 per year and you currently give \$25.00 per week (\$1,300.00/year) you would increase weekly giving by \$5.76 adding this onto the current \$25.00 making your total weekly gift \$30.76. The next year you increase another 1% and continue to do this until you reach the tithe which in this example would be \$3,000.00/year. You'll hardly notice the in-

crease. Sharon and I used this formula several years ago and we can vouch that it worked just as Rev. Pope predicted. We hardly noticed the minimal increases and we believe you will be blessed as we have been.

Rev. Pope pointed out the Bible speaks to our giving almost as much as it does about Love. Think of what our church and the churches of America could do if everyone followed Rev. Pope's suggestion and believed that if you do this you'll be BLESSED beyond any sacrifice you'll notice. Remember, "It is more BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE". Do you agree? Think and pray about this challenge. God will take care of you and BLESS YOU as you move towards a tithe.

Scripture readings:
Malachi 3:8-10, Acts 20:35,
Luke 12:34.

In His Love,
John W. Sherer, Co-
Chair Stewardship
Committee

Stephen Ministry



The Challenge of Change

Challenges in life are inevitable. That is a given.

Sometimes the challenge is anticipated; sometimes it is unexpected. All of us experience change. Loved ones die; jobs end, as do relationships. People re-locate, couples marry, babies are born, and children leave for college. Change, both good and bad, can take an emotional toll. Guess what? Positive changes can be just as difficult to adjust to as negative ones.

Sometimes we are able to handle change on our own or with the help of family and friends. Sometimes we need professional help. Sometimes it helps to have a Stephen Minister, a Christian friend to walk alongside us for as long as needed.

Here are some suggestions that may make it easier to adjust to change:

When a good change happens, accept it with grace. Embrace the positive however it shows up and celebrate it. When a negative change is looming, try to look for alternative ways of coping before it actually happens.

Day-to-day-changes often go unnoticed in spite of the fact that they occur. It's when we are caught off-guard that we're most likely

to become discombobulated. Emotional change can be particularly difficult. At times like these it is often almost impossible to be objective. Sometimes we need to process our feelings and that may take time.

If the challenges in our lives are overwhelming, we don't have to deal with them all by ourselves. Friends, family, support groups, counselors, and our church family may be available, but we have to reach out and ask, which can be hard to do. The love and support of those who care about us can help make these times more bearable.

We don't have to like change, but we have to at least tolerate it when it happens. We need to find a way to cope because change happens whether we like it or not.

A Stephen Minister is there for anyone going through a time that challenges their ability to keep on keepin' on. A Stephen Minister listens, prays, and encourages. God loves us all and sometimes a Stephen Minister is His tool to reach out and carry us when we are facing a challenging time. For more in-

formation, speak with our pastors or call Becky Cultice at 376-5747.

Save the Date!

Stephen Ministry will again be sponsoring "**Blue Christmas: a Service of Healing and Hope**" on Wednesday evening, December 7th, at 6:30 in the chapel. We encourage you to carve out some space for quiet time as we approach the holiday season. Feel free to invite others to join you too.

CLM Corner

What a beautiful fall we are having! I am trusting to see the beautiful spiritual results as we wrap up our 5 week War Room Bible Studies! I do think the enemy is not happy with our efforts to grow in the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ! As you yield more to God, put on the full armor to battle for victory in the areas of growing closer to and serving Him.

In addition to the Young Spirits War Room Bible Study, I have joined Pastor Rick in making the War Room Study available to our members that live at Legacy Nursing Home.

I am getting ready to

be blessed with a Women's Retreat and a Walk to Emmaus Retreat here at the end of October. That reminds me to share with you how important self care is for us as we serve. Since we are exposed to spiritual battle it is important to balance our lives and have some "Sabbath".

The needs of our "Least of These", that Matthew 25 refers to here in Xenia, are on my heart as I continue to learn of the needs of our hometown population. We do have hungry, poor, sick, lonely, and incarcerated people here in our area that need Jesus and just someone to love them.

God bless me in my rest, and equip me to serve you according to the good works you have prepared for me. Ephesians 2:10.

Stephanie Blackburn

Leadership Team Report

The Leadership Team gathered for the business of the church on September 20, 2016.

The financial report showed no surprises. The trustees continue to care for the physical building.

The leadership team then took up the challenge of what makes a leader. We determined that, even though we are members of a team called the Leadership Team, everyone that we meet is a leader. Good leaders are coachable. They have courage. They are willing to learn from whatever God provides and they are transformed beyond their wildest imaginations.

Just because we are on the Leadership Team doesn't mean that we are the only ones that can lead. Join us as each person is a leader. Take a look at yourself and see where you make a difference. And take courage, take a step out in faith, learn and be transformed.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Ohde

IHN Christmas

Faith Community is helping some families in need this Christmas. The IHN shelter will provide the church with names of people who have asked for help with gifts this year. We will receive the names and gift ideas towards the end of November. Look for the

mitten board on Sunday morning in the narthex. These are people who are living at the shelter or have recently found a place to live.

Homelessness is a problem in Greene County. Providing gifts for families is one way that the church can make sure everybody experiences the joy of Christmas. You will need to purchase all items on the list, so it is suggested that a class or group sponsor each name. More instructions will appear in your bulletin. God bless your giving. Please ask Pastor Rick if you have questions.

Welcome New Members

Dr. R. Paul Dillaplain

Marie Ford

Laurie Fox

John & Elaine Grayson

Elaine Hughes

Gerri Nickoson

United Methodist Women

Lydia: Wednesday, November 9, 7-8:45pm-Parlor

Priscilla: Monday, November 21, 7pm-Parlor

Dorcias: Tuesday, November 15, 7pm-Parlor

Calling All Men:

The Men of Faith will be meeting on the third Monday of each month in 2016. All men in Greene County are invited and welcome to join our group. The November 21st meeting will be held in room #6. Start time will be 6:30 PM and a meal will be served. The program will start at 7:00 PM and the Boy Scout troop from our church will be making a presentation of some of their activities in 2016. Come at 7:00 PM if you want to come just for the program.

Higher Education Connections

FCUM members have told me that they would be interested in helping to create Care Packages for our college students this semester. I think that this is a GREAT idea. How nice would it be for our college students to be so thoughtfully remembered by their church family? I asked them to provide me with

some items that they would like to receive in a care package and here are their results: instant coffee, cookies, anything sweet, Cheez-It crackers, any gift card, a card signed by the church members. Would you like to help?

I will sit outside the sanctuary during the first three Sundays in November before and after the 11am service to receive any items or donations that you would like to contribute. I will then send the care packages to our students during the first week of December. Thanks for helping.

Julie Wickline

CardShower

Please share in the celebration of

**Marguerite A. Wolf's
90th birthday,**

**November 13. You may
send cards and notes to
1011 State Route 380,
Xenia, Ohio 45385**

Thank you for participating in our celebration.

Thank You Notes

Friends,

Thanks so much for your donation to the ALS Association of Central and Southern Ohio in memory of Bill Croy. I pray daily that a cure may be found so that others will not need to struggle with this disease.

Your support is a blessing to my family. I pray that you will receive a blessing in return.

Dorothy Croy

Dear Christian friends,

I'm so grateful for your generosity in permitting our family to use your community center to accommodate a post memorial service dinner on September 17 for Bill. It was the perfect place; close to the funeral home and very close to my condo.

In Christ,

Rita Duncan & family



Thank you so much for the generous lunch you provided to the band during band camp. Not only did we have our tummies filled, but our hearts as well!

Thank you again for being such a blessing to us!

*The XHS Marching
Band and Color
Guard, and XHS
Band Boosters*



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous contribution to the work of Church World Service – which we appreciate more than ever in these challenging times. Your compassionate support is helping impoverished communities develop clean, reliable water sources; teach poor farmers sustainable ways to create food security; provide food, water, shelter, and other necessities to families struggling to rebuild their lives and livelihoods, after natural disasters and civil conflict. May God bless you for your kindness.

Rev. John L. McCullough

*President and CEO
Church World Service*

**Faith Community
Preschool** is looking for
Subs!! We are looking for
someone who loves chil-
dren, is patient and en-
thusiastic. If you or
someone you know would
be interested,

please call

Michelle Holtvogt at

937-372-8757.

Common Cup

Food Court and Growth Groups will not meet on the following dates: November 23, December 14, December 21, December 28, 2016 and March 22, 2017. Also, Common Cup policy is that if Xenia Schools are closed for weather reasons, then there will be no Food Court and Growth Groups.

Menu for November

Nov. 2 – Meatballs or
Sausage & Kraut

Nov. 9 – Chicken & Noodles or Pork Loin

Nov. 16 – Cube Steak or
Chicken a la King

Nov. 30 – Sloppy Jo's or
Chicken Breasts

Prayers & Sympathy to the family of **Don Pennewitt** on his death.

Deadline for December Faith Links: Wednesday, November 16, 2016.

FISH Food Pantry

Please remember to bring your non-perishable food items to help feed the needy in our community.

The next few months will be especially difficult but there is still a huge need year round.

You may drop off your items in the narthex.

Thank you for being a blessing to those in need.



November 2016-Please exercise your right to vote!!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! Psalm 100:4</i>		1 9-9:30am & 1-2pm- St. Paul-Kitchen 6-8pm-Girl Scouts-FH, 15A,B,C 6:15-7:30pm-Project Hope-16B,C 6:30-7:30pm-AL ANON Family Group-#8 7-9pm-Trustees-#6	2 Bulletin Deadline 5pm-Food Court 6:30pm-Growth Groups 2-8:30pm-Youth-Youth rooms and edge 6:15-7:15-Handbell Choir 6:30-8pm-War Room Bible Study-#8 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	3 10am-11:30pm-Bible Study-Parlor 6:30-7pm-spiritfire-FCC 7-10pm-Praise Band-FCC	4	5 Set your clocks back.
6 DST Ends All Saints Sunday 11:00- Combined Service in Sanctuary Communion 9:30-Sunday School	7 10-11am-Greene Inc. Open Gym-FCC 6:30pm-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A,B, #5,11,12 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	8 Election Day 9:30-12:30-Gr.Co. Council on Aging-Parlor 6:15-7:30pm-Project Hope-16B,C 6:30-8pm-Girl Leader Mtg-15A 6:30-7:30pm-AL ANON Family Group-#8	9 Bulletin Deadline 5pm-Food Court 6:30pm-Growth Groups 2-8:30pm-Youth-Youth rooms and edge 6:15-7:15-Handbell Choir 7-8:45pm-Lydia-Parlor 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	10 10-11:30 -Bible Study-Parlor 2-10pm-Youth Bazaar Prep-FCC 7-9pm-Grief Support-Par. 7-10pm-Praise Band-FCC	11  8am-10pm-Youth Bazaar	12 8am-8pm-Youth Bazaar
13 8:30 -Traditional 11:00-Traditional & spirit.fire 9:30-Sunday School	14 6:30-9:30pm-Stephen Ministry-#6 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A&B; #5,11,12 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	15 1-3:30pm-Dorcas-P 6-8pm-Girl Scouts-FH, 15A,B,C 6:15-7:30pm-Project Hope-16B,C 6:30-7:30pm-AL ANON Family Group-#8 7-9pm-Leadership Team- Room 6	16 Bulletin Deadline 5pm-Food Court 6:30pm-Growth Groups 2-8:30pm-Youth-Youth rooms and edge 6:15-7:15-Handbell Choir 7:30pm-Chancel Choir Faith Links Deadline	17 10-11:30am-Thursday Bible Study-P 6:30-7pm-spiritfire-FCC 7-9pm-Common Cup Council-TBD 7-10pm-Praise Band-FCC	18 6:30-10:30pm-Movie Night-"War Room"-FCC	19
20 8:30 & 11:00-Traditional & spirit.fire 9:30-Sunday School 1-6pm-Girl Scouts-FCC	21 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A&B; #5,11,12 6:30-9pm-Men of Faith-Room 6 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C 7-9pm-Priscilla Circle-P	22 6-8pm-AL ANON Group-Room 8 6:15-7:30pm-Project Hope	23 Bulletin Deadline No Food Court/Growth Groups 2-8:30pm-Youth-Youth rooms and edge 6:15-7:15-Handbell Choir 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	24 Thanksgiving 	25 Office Closed	26 5-9pm-Double I-15A/Kit.
27 8:30 & 11:00-Traditional & spirit.fire 9:30-Sunday School	28 6:30-8:30pm-Cub Scouts-15A&B; #5,11,12 6:30-8pm-Advent Bible Study-#8 7-8:30pm-Boy Scouts-15C	29 6-8pm-AL ANON Group-Room 8 6:15-7:30pm-Project Hope	30 Bulletin Deadline 5pm-Food Court 6:30pm-Growth Groups 2-8:30pm-Youth-Youth rooms and edge 6:15-7:15-Handbell Choir 7:30pm-Chancel Choir			

xpress urself - youth news



xpress urself Youth

Wednesdays, 2:30pm-8:15pm

*Warner Shuttle available - contact Susan for reservation by 7pm

Tuesday night (937.287.0690)

*xpress urself Doors Open for 6th-12th graders @ 2:30pm

*Common Cup Dinner at 5:00pm

\$3 suggested donation for youth meals

*Worship, Message and More at 6:00pm

*xpress urself Doors Close at 8:15pm

NO YOUTH ON NOVEMBER 23RD, Happy Thanksgiving!

Youth and Adult Help Needed:

Bazaar Baking: Saturday, November 5th from 9am-2pm. We need help baking in the Faith kitchen for the Cookie Walk.

Bazaar Prep: Wednesday, November 9th from 2:30pm-8pm (Warner Shuttle will run)

*Thursday, November 10th from 6pm-8pm

*Friday, November 12th from 2:30pm-10pm (Warner shuttle will run and dinner will be served)

*Saturday, November 11th from 8am-7pm (We will probably finish early if we have enough helpers – food will be provided for all helpers)

SAVE THE DATE:

U//NITE @ Naz Community Center

Sunday, November 20th, 6:00pm-7:30pm

A decorative border of red poinsettias with green leaves and yellow centers surrounds the text.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, November 12th

9:30am

Join us for Breakfast with Santa.

Child Ticket \$12

(Breakfast, Photo with Santa, \$5 Kandy Kane Junction Bucks)
Adult Ticket \$6 (Breakfast Only)

Reservations suggested - Contact Susan @ 372.7601

Limited Space available

This is a part of our Fall Bazaar

Nov. 11th from 6pm-9pm & Nov. 12th from 10am-3pm

also Cookie Walk, Silent Auction, over 20 vendors.

Proceeds will help fund our youth missions.

Faith Community United Methodist Youth

100 Country Club Drive, Xenia, 937.372.7601

Faith Community United Methodist Fall Bazaar



Friday, November 11th 6pm-9pm

Saturday, November 12th

10am-3pm

Vendors Include:

Pampered Chef, Stampin' Up!, SAFY of Dayton, Cakes by Carla, Tupperware, Thirty-One Gifts, In a Pickle, Mary Kay, Plunder Design, Origami Owl, Usborne Books, Scentsy, nuts, homemade candy, handmade crafts, handsewn items, reclaimed wood and metal art work, Christmas items, treats & much more!

Also:

Cookie Walk

Santa on Saturday, Kandy Kane Junction for Kids
Cafe with Meals available for purchase

Silent Auction

Breakfast with Santa - Saturday @ 9:30am

Child Ticket \$12 (Breakfast, Photo with Santa, \$5 KKJ Bucks)

Adult Ticket \$6 (Breakfast only)

Limited Space - Reservations Suggested - Contact Susan @ 372.7601



Proceeds go to Faith Community Youth Missions

100 Country Club Drive, Xenia, OH 45385, 937.572.7601