



The Messenger

Fairmount Avenue Vision Statement

*To be a welcoming, joyful community
igniting hearts and minds for God's work.*

September 2022

Volume 19, No. 8

Homecoming

Gathering Sunday— September 11, 2022

It's a Homecoming Roll Call! This year for Gathering Sunday and our fall programming kick-off, we are embracing the concept of "homecoming." For schools and institutions all over the country, homecoming is a fall tradition of inviting alumni to return for a celebration of community and connectedness.

Our relationships with one another have spanned decades of life's moments, from babies to weddings, from graduations to funerals, from accomplishments to grief, from illness to overcoming illnesses— as a community we have supported one another for almost 170 years! This fall, you're invited to return to reconnect at Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church.

We recognize that many have found new routines on Sunday morning and have various comfort levels with gathering in crowds. On Gathering Sunday we hope to create a variety of experiences from opening games on the lawn, small group Sunday School classes, worship in the sanctuary (and online), and lunch outside, to meet the comfort levels of everyone. Join us for part or the entire morning!

Sunday School Kick-Off: 9:00am

All ages are welcome to join in a time of community games and fun as we start our year of learning together before each group goes to their classrooms for a time of meet and greet with their Sunday School teachers. If the weather cooperates, we will start our group gathering and games on the church lawn.

Fellowship Time: 10:00am

In between Sunday School and Worship there will be time for coffee conversation and on the lawn or the Fellowship Hall, weather dependent.

Worship: 10:30am

Join us in worship with a return of our various choirs and musicians and a special message from Emma Norton Services about their new project in Highland Village.

Lunch on the Lawn: 11:30am

We will plan to celebrate after worship with a lunch on the lawn, a bouncy house, and lawn games. We hope to see you on this fun day of community and worship!

Music Ministries Open House

After worship, stop by the choir room and new music office (located by the new church offices in the old nursery space) to be inspired for the future of music ministries at FAUMC! Our trustees and music staff have been busy organizing and preparing space for meaningful music-making in the years to come.

WELCOME HOME

Thank God It's Wednesday Returns September 21

Wednesday evening programming for all ages will return this fall! Thank God It's Wednesday (T.G.I.W.) programming will return to its pre-pandemic schedule, with music opportunities, children and youth programs, adult programming, and a modified Wednesday Supper.

T.G.I.W. Schedule

5:30-6:30pm

- Wednesday Supper
BYO food or pizza will be available

6:30-7:30pm

- Explorers Program: Children
- Followers Program: Youth
- Wednesday Conversations: Adults
- Heritage Ringers: Adult Bell Choir

7:50-9:00pm

- Adult Choir

TBD —

- Joyful Ringers: Youth Bell Choir

Pastorings



It's strange to think that we have been back in person about as long as we were worshipping online during the pandemic. Over the past few years we have all experienced life-changing events. From expected life events like graduations and birthdays to the unexpected like illnesses and job changes, it can be hard to come back together after so much has happened.

While we were worshipping only online, we did everything possible to keep us all connected by increasing the number of people involved in making worship, finding ways to partner those vulnerable to isolation with others in our church community, and creatively engaging in justice and outreach work. As we have come back together in person for programs at church, we continue to find creative ways to meet and practice faith, some online and some in person.

But it's hard when we are all in different places and when so much has happened. This year in worship, we will be exploring the concept of "home," starting with a "homecoming." An invitation to return, even if just for a day or just for lunch, an invitation to spend time together. While faith is something we have learned we can practice at home or on our own when necessary, we have also learned that relationship and communal practice of faith is essential to holding up faith for both ourselves and others. We still need one another.

Gathering Sunday's Homecoming worship is an opportunity to simply be together again... but it's more than just Sundays. On Wednesdays, after the Wednesday Supper, there will be time to sit around the table and get to know each other again. Children and youth programs will create space for our young people to be friends while asking questions of faith. We will be increasing our service opportunities with group

times at Feed My Starving Children, Every Meal, Simpson Shelter, and Interfaith Action programs like Project Home and the Department of Indian Work.

Coming together this fall, you are invited to come "home." We will also support the possibility of home in a fundraising initiative to support Emma Norton's new facility, Restoring Waters— a home for women and women with children, and people who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community that are in need of healing and transitional housing. A homecoming for new neighbors, who are looking for community.

It's a lot to unpack two years of major life events. But this is the beauty of church. Church is a community of people who are not necessarily your chosen friend group, but people who you have promised to journey life with, people who have diverse experiences and perspectives, people who challenge and support you, people who encourage you and walk with you, people who bring meals and knit prayer shawls, people who pray, people who will build wheel chair ramps and run errands, people who are with you through it all.

As we journey through the year, we will explore home as place of rootedness, a place to be from, and a place to return to. We will also explore it as a place to birth new things, new life— *homebirth*. We will explore it from our connection to the land— *homeland*. We will consider the call to stay home— *homebody*. And finally, we will consider our desire for a new way to live and be— *homeward bound*.

Home is more than a place, it is an idea, a feeling, a thing we protect and provide as an act of love, God's love, and God's work. It was the first expression of church: Jesus' followers meeting together in one another's homes after worship, breaking bread, meeting needs. Welcome home.

— Pastor Shawna

Fall Sermon Series: *Homecoming*

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. —Acts 2:46-47

The early Jesus-following communities gathered for worship and then generously offered one another their lives, invited one another into their homes, shared meals, and talked about new faith practice really impacted their lives. This fall, we will be exploring the lectionary Gospel texts, or teachings of Jesus, looking for insights that might remind us of core practices of faith that will ultimately, help us to find our home in God's love.

Home is a concept that is complicated for many. But the idea of home, a place where you might feel safe, comfortable, and loved, is a universal idea that every culture understands. And while place can be defined as a physical location, it can also be defined by what is present— the people, the things, the feeling. Our fall sermon series, *Homecoming*, is an opportunity to return to a faith practice that centers us, roots us, and grounds us in the security, comfort, and love of God.

September Worship Planning:

Sermon Series: Sunday Reset

September 4 — Psalm 139:1-6,13-18
Rev. Jin Hur Preaching

Sermon Series: Homecoming

September 11 — Luke 15:1-10
September 18 — Luke 16:1-13
September 18 — Luke 16:19-31

More Faith Formation Opportunities for Adults:

This fall we will be starting a variety of learning opportunities for the development of our faith to call us deeper into ways that we can live our faith. Watch for the small group registration to join a small group this fall!



Adult Sunday School

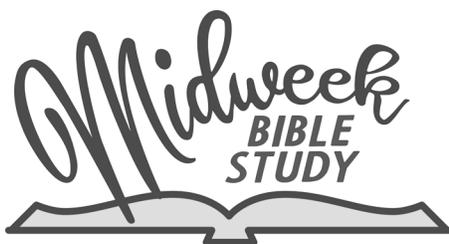
Sunday School for adults begins again on September 11! Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00am in the Wesley Room for a time of learning and faith formation. We will begin our year of spiritual journey embracing various traditions and teachings on the concept of peace and happiness- starting in the home, exploring the ideas of shalom, hygge, sisu, kurashi, and ubuntu. Come when you can!

Covenant Discipleship Groups

We will be encouraging a special focus on creating new Covenant Discipleship Groups (CD Groups). CD Groups are small groups that meet regularly, often weekly or monthly, to support one another in their personal commitments of faith practice. It is not a Bible Study, rather a peer group that creates a covenant for each person to practice their faith beyond just Sunday mornings, through personal Bible study, prayer, acts of service and compassion, worship, and other faith formation opportunities. These groups can meet in person or online.

T.G.I.W. Adult Program: Wednesday Conversations

"Thank God It's Wednesday!" As we embrace the importance of home, while the kids are doing their "thing," adults are welcome to join for a time of relaxed conversation around the tables. Designed to be a time of reconnecting, each week will have a theme or conversation starter to encourage us all to deepen our friendships, learn about one another, and reengage in community.



Wednesday Noon Bible Study

The weekly Wednesday Bible Study will begin meeting again on September 21. Join pastor Shawna for a Bible study over Zoom. Grab a Bible, and sign on. All are welcome. Come when you can and join the discussion.

Wednesday Bible Study Zoom Meeting ID: 862 8716 4931

Upper Room Devotional

The Upper Room Devotional book is available in the Little Free Library in front of the church building. These devotional books are a free resource for you.



Weekly Sunday Schedule

9:00am— All Ages Sunday School
10:00am— Fellowship Time
10:30am— Worship

In Person Worship Tips:

We are livestreaming worship. The camera does not focus on worshippers, but if you wish to avoid being on camera, consider sitting in the back of the sanctuary or in the balcony.

We want to pray with you.

Complete a Prayer Card before worship and hand to an usher (mark the box that it can be shared in worship) to be included in our congregational prayer. Or, simply put in the offering box/plate. Be sure to check the box to share the prayer request in worship, otherwise it will only be shared on our email payer chain.

Communion is offered every first

Sunday during worship. We hope to resume coming forward for communion in October.

First Fruits food donations are generally collected the first Sunday of every month. Donations support Keystone Community Services, our local food shelf.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19, please stay home and join us for worship online.

Online Worship Tips:

Be sure to follow Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church on Facebook.

Subscribe to Fairmount Avenue UMC's YouTube channel. We will be using YouTube to offer other creative learning experiences as well as publishing our weekly worship and Children's Message. Share our worship services on your social media, inviting others to join!

Get Involved:

Monday Meditations

We send out a weekly email newsletter, Monday Meditations, which offers important information about the upcoming week, details about worship, and a devotional thought from Pastor Shawna. If you would like to join the Monday Meditations email list, sign up online at www.faumc.net or email the church office at admin@faumc.net.

Fellowship Hall Prayer Wall

As part of our Wednesday Conversations program, a prayer wall will be installed in the Fellowship Hall as a way to share prayer requests and support one another in prayer.

Service Opportunities

We know that for some, Sunday mornings are no longer the center of their faith practice. This fall we will be creating several opportunities for connecting and meaningful faith practice outside of Sunday mornings, including regular service opportunities starting in October. Watch for more details in September.

Prayer Chain

The email prayer chain is an important way that we fulfill our baptismal promises to pray for one another. If you would like to take part in this prayer ministry, sign up online or email the church office.

Volunteer in Worship

We need help! If you have been inspired by the many people participating in leading worship, consider joining our team that help make worship happen. From musicians, to greeters, to people to forward the slides or run the camera for the livestream, to setting up the treats for fellowship time, it takes an entire team to create a meaningful worship experience.

If you are interested in helping out with worship, please contact the church office and we will find a place for you to serve.

Giving and Generosity

Your giving matters. In all of the ways you have given of your resource, your time, your energy, and your passion to support the work of the church, you have sustained another year of creative ministry. For information about different ways to give, visit our website, www.faumc.net.

Also know, that in this time of online shopping, Fairmount Avenue UMC has an Amazon Smile account. When using Amazon, simply click on "Amazon Smile" in the options or link to it from our website. A portion of the profits from your everyday shopping will go to the church!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

Modified Wednesday Supper

We are so excited to gather around the table together again on Wednesday evenings. Supper will look a little different this year as we continue to make adjustments for Covid and as we are mindful of our volunteer capacity.

On days where Ramsey County is "low risk" there will be no restrictions on the Wednesday meal. When it is "medium risk," we will encourage households to eat together in household groups, but ultimately, will encourage families to make their own choices.

Because of a volunteer shortage, we will start the year asking families to consider bringing supper in for their household. The church will also provide pizza weekly, with salad and lemonade.

Volunteer Opportunity: If you are interested in "hosting" a Wednesday meal, please contact the church office.

Weekly Sunday Schedule

9:00am— All Ages Sunday School
10:00am— Fellowship Time
10:30am— Worship



Food Security Ministries

First Fruits

Keystone Community Services statistics as of June 2022:

1, 138 new clients

(compared with 371 in June, 2021)

3, 019 total households served

(compared with 1,488 in June, 2021)

These statistics along with food price increases and continuing supply chain issues reveal the desperate situation many individuals find themselves in. In a recent article in The Villager, Mary McKeown, Keystone President/CEO, cited a doubling in the price of a case of ground beef over the past year. In addition, many staples the food shelves used to be able to purchase from Second Harvest Heartland are no longer available. According to McKeown, the majority of new patrons are employed but are not being paid enough to meet their living expenses.

Fortunately, Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church is in a position to help. At the beginning of each month, usually the first Sunday, we collect First Fruits for Keystone. Non-perishable food and other non-food items (diapers, toiletries, cleaning supplies, paper goods) as well as checks made out to Keystone Community Services are then delivered by Fairmount volunteers during the following week. When I dropped off our last group of donations, it was mentioned how vital organizations such as ours are to their ability to help those in need. Thanks to Elaine Lee for delivering our 82lbs of August contributions! First Fruits in July totaled 81lbs.



Our next First Fruits Collection will be on Sunday, September 11th— Gathering Sunday. If you have questions, need more information or would like to volunteer, please contact Linda Hucke (651-698-5226), Judy Thielen (651-340-6904), the church office, or via the following website: www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4baa22a57-faumc. We are still looking for volunteers to deliver food in October and December.

Your prayers, your time, and your commitment to this ongoing and much needed ministry is so appreciated!

Simpson Shelter Meals

The next meal at the Simpson Housing Service's Shelter in Minneapolis is coming up on Monday evening, **September 19th**. If you are interested in helping with the upcoming meal by shopping, transporting supplies to Simpson, preparing, or serving the meal, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f4AAFAA2BA31-september1>.

Simpson guests and staff have expressed their appreciation for groups such as ours who have continued in their faithful service of providing meals over these past two years and the need to help at Simpson is still as great as ever.

For more information about volunteering at Simpson, contact Dave Hokanson via email at hokanson.dave@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

Simpson Thanksgiving 2022

Fairmount Avenue UMC will once again be serving Thanksgiving dinner at Simpson Housing Service's shelter in Minneapolis. Mark your calendar now if you'd like to be part of this tradition that's been ongoing for well over 20 years. More information will be coming closer to Thanksgiving.

And it's time for new leadership...

A new chapter will also begin with this year's meal. After many years of faithful service, our longtime meal coordinators, Judy Faber and Cynthia Mauleón, are stepping back and are ready to hand off coordination to new leaders. Thanks so much to Judy and Cynthia for their years of dedication. If you are feeling called to lead the Thanksgiving meal, or being part of team coordinating the meal, please get in touch with Dave Hokanson at either 612-419-9800 or hokanson.dave@gmail.com.



**Serving
at Simpson**

Trustees' Fall Workday

There will be an all church fall work day following worship on Sunday, October 16. Lunch will be served before we tackle the work list. There will be tasks for all ages and abilities. The Trustees thank you for putting it on your calendar!



COVID-19 Protocols

We continue to watch the CDC risk assessment levels that are updated weekly. When Ramsey County is "low risk," masks will be welcome, but not required. When Ramsey County is "medium risk" or "high risk," we will return to masking in the church building.

With vaccines now more available for all age groups and other interventions available, we hope to return to communion practices of coming forward to receive the elements (still no shared cup,) passing the offering plate, and the return of Fellowship Time between Sunday School and worship.

As always, we appreciate your patience as we continue to do our best to "do no harm," in the practice of our faith. If you are experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19, please plan to worship from home.

Weekly Fall Sunday Schedule

9:00am— All Ages Sunday School
10:00am— Fellowship Time
10:30am— Worship

An Exciting Update from Pastor Shawna

Pastor Shawna has been accepted into the first ever Leadership Center for Social Justice cohort at United Theological Seminary. She is one of sixteen students accepted from across the country into this program that will explore practical ministry and social justice. The program is fully funded by a Lilly Grant and will include a research project and a social justice audit of participants' faith communities and surrounding community by Convergence. The program meets twice monthly on Fridays for nine months and will culminate in a graduate certificate in social justice leadership.

To the Fans of the Flames!

The Fairmount Flames would like to thank all of our fans who came out to cheer us on this year. Although the results may not have been what we had liked, there's always next year!

—Bill Overby, Team Manager

Volunteering Made Easier

Beginning on Gathering Sunday a new insert will be included in each worship bulletin, highlighting needs for volunteers for various church tasks and functions. A variety of ways to volunteer will be available. Weekly needs like ushers for Sunday worship, ongoing opportunities like book drives or helping with youth programs, and seasonal or specific event needs like helping to rake neighbors' lawns or serving at UMW's annual ice cream social will all be listed. Look for the goldenrod colored insert in your bulletin!

SEPTEMBER



- 1 Thomas Clark
- 4 Ron Ausen
Brian Mangnuson
- 5 Kirk Jeffrey
Sarah Thompson
- 7 Frances Fuerstneau
Deb Kretman
- 8 Taylor Ausen
- 9 Grant Spencer
- 10 H. Stemme*
- 11 Elizabeth Retezan
- 13 Janelle Anderson
Claire Currie-Walls
- 15 D. Bryan*
- 17 Jon Enquist
Mathias Horn
- 18 Elizabeth Bergmann
- 20 Jack Nelson
Sandy Jenum
- 21 Rodger Kretman
Kristin Erlandsen
- 22 Jane Clark
Erin Bruch-Looney
- 23 Will Kelly
- 24 Craig Dawson
Megan Jacot
S. Neuhauser*
- 26 Debra Lindstrom
- 28 Matthew Bell
- 29 A. Stender*
- 30 Terry Moores
Maria DeLaundreau

*full names of those under the age of 18 are not shown to protect privacy

Sign up to be a birthday caller!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4aa8a922a6f49-birthday>



Blood Pressure Checks will be offered on Sunday, September 11th (The second Sunday) from 10:00–10:30am and following the worship service. Outdoors if weather is nice, otherwise in the Susanna room.

Mark your calendars for **the flu shot clinic on Wednesday, October 12 from 5–7pm**. More details will be in the next newsletter.

The **start of the school year** can be exciting for children, their parents and their caregivers. It can also be a **source of anxiety**, whether the child is heading off to elementary, middle school, high school or college. Dr. Whiteside from the Mayo Clinic offers the following tips for reducing this anxiety or stress:

Talk to children ahead of time of see what is causing them to be anxious. Then **prepare them** by touring the school to see the classrooms, lockers, cafeteria, gym and meeting the teachers if possible. Practice academic work. Develop a routine— start waking up early to be on time. Meet and spend some time with other children who will be in the class. Especially for younger children, spend some time apart so kids and parents/caregivers can get used to being separated.

For parents who have separation anxiety from sending their child to college, it is helpful to talk to others

who have already gone through the transition.

Test anxiety can also affect any student. Dr. Ardon from the Mayo Clinic states that symptoms are varied and can include trouble concentrating and sleeping the night before. Some experience physical symptoms like trouble breathing, stomachache, headache, and/or elevated heart rate. It is a challenge for the parent to figure out if it is related to a physical illness or anxiety— she suggests talking to the child first, then reach out to the teacher to see how things are going in the classroom.

Dr. Ardon gives these **tips for preparing for a test:**

- Be prepared by allowing plenty of time to study
- Create a consistent routine before a test— have a regular time and place for homework, a regular bedtime, meals and snacks, and play time
- Try relaxation techniques like deep breathing, visualizing something pleasant
- Be familiar with the test format, e.g. multiple choice, essay, short answer
- Get plenty of rest the night before, and have a good breakfast in the morning— avoid sugary foods and drinks and caffeine

Some anxiety is normal and can be good, but if it is not improving or your child seems to be struggling overall talk to your healthcare provider and make sure it isn't caused by an underlying issue such as a learning disability or difficulties seeing or hearing.

Just as it is important to prepare for school days and tests, it is also important to be prepared for **meeting challenges in our spiritual life**. This can be through worship, prayer, meditation, attending a Sunday School class, meeting in a covenant group or similar group.

Ephesians 6:11,14-18a

“Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. [...] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, [...] Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.”

~ Muriel S. Olson RN, BS,
Parish Nurse



**Therefore put on the
full armor of God ...**



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

The **Afternoon Circle** will meet on Monday, Sept 19 at 1:00pm via Zoom. We will continue discussing “How Can We Be Together.” Contact Muriel Olson for the link.

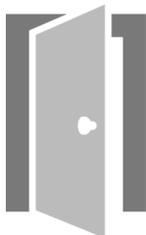
The **UMW Book Group** will meet via Zoom on Monday, Sept 26 at 7:00pm. We will discuss the book, “Anxious People” by Fredrik Backman. Contact Lynn Ihlenfeldt for the link.

The next **UMW Mission Team** meeting will be Saturday, September 17 at 10:00am via Zoom. All who are interested are welcome to join. Contact Muriel Olson for the link.

Thanks to Holly Hugart for her leadership in coordinating the Rummage Sale and to Phoebe Bode for assisting her. Thanks to all those who helped in any way from donating, sorting, pricing, selling, and cleanup. We raised about \$1,000 which after deducting expenses for signs and ads will be used for UMW missions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and would like to be a part of our ministry, join us each month on the 2nd Monday at 7:00pm and the 4th Sunday at 3:00pm via Zoom. Contact Muriel Olson for the link.



Emma Norton

Emma Norton Fundraiser

Throughout the month of September, Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church’s Housing and Homelessness Witness Ministry team and United Methodist Women are working with Emma Norton to raise funds for their new building development in Highland Bridge: Restoring Waters.

Emma Norton has served women and families for more than 100 years providing trauma-informed supportive services, and the Emma Norton Residence has served the St. Paul community for over 50 years.

But after so many years, Emma Norton and the women and families it helps need an to see an upgrade beyond the old facility, one that continues to provide safe and affordable housing, but that also supplies supportive services that help residents recover from trauma.

The Restoring Waters facility will provide safe, transformative housing for 60 individuals and small families, along with a full spectrum of services that foster recovery and transformation: restoration of dignity and independence for residents, safety and privacy, inviting spaces, and a sense of stability and security.

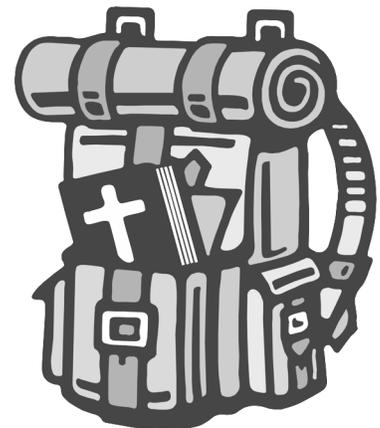
On Sunday, September 11— Gathering Sunday— FAUMC will begin collecting funds to support this effort. Approved by Church Council, we hope to raise at least \$5,000 to support this important new housing initiative. You can give a donation that Sunday in person, but you can also give throughout the month of September by making a check out to Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church, with “Emma Norton fundraiser” in the notes, or through the church’s PayPal account.



Annual Superior Hiking Weekend

September 30—October 2

Join us in Two Harbors, MN for a fun weekend of hiking with friends and enjoying the North Shore! All are welcome whether you are interested in a challenging hike or plan to “hike” around town to visit the shops and galleries. Plan to meet for hiking on Saturday morning, gather for dinner together on Saturday evening, and worship on the lakeshore on Sunday morning. Let us know if you plan to participate by signing up online, directly visiting this link, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4faaab29a6fb6-superior>, or by contacting the church office. *Funds are available to anyone who might appreciate help with the cost of the weekend, from lodging to gas or food costs.*





Grow with the Explorers: Grow Kids Sunday School

Grow Kids is an exciting Sunday School curriculum for grades PreK-5 focused not only on growing children's faith, but also expanding our entire children's ministry. Throughout the year, we will follow 4- to 5-week series with different Biblical emphases. Parents will receive more information as we begin each, as well as additional series activities for the kids' space in worship, which you can take home and continue to explore. Let's get started!

Gathering Sunday starts at 9:00am on September 11

Sunday School begins September 18, 9:00-10:15am

Blast Off

The Explorers are ready to Blast Off! Blast Off is our first Grow series. Read how people in the Bible practiced their faith, and how you can do the same. This focus on spiritual practices will include:

- Spending time with God
- Spending time with others
- Knowing and using our gifts
- Sharing our stories

Register for Sunday School online at faumc.net, or email Ashton Horsley, Director of Children's Ministries, at ahorsley@faumc.net for more information.

Thank God It's Wednesday: Living, Loving, Learning

Join the Explorers for TGIW activities— Living, Loving, Learning— this fall! Activities will be service-oriented, focusing on the diverse and unique ways that we each love God, love our neighbors, and love ourselves. We'll spread the love, too; each month will include a service activity or project in the community, beginning October 12. Watch for details in the coming weeks!

T.G.I.W. kicks off on **Wednesday, September 21, at 6:30pm.**

All are welcome to attend the modified Wednesday Supper that will begin at 5:30pm - *BYO food or pizza will be provided.*

Register for T.G.I.W. activities online at faumc.net, or email Ashton Horsley, Director of Children's Ministries, at ahorsley@faumc.net for more information.



FAUMC EXPLORERS

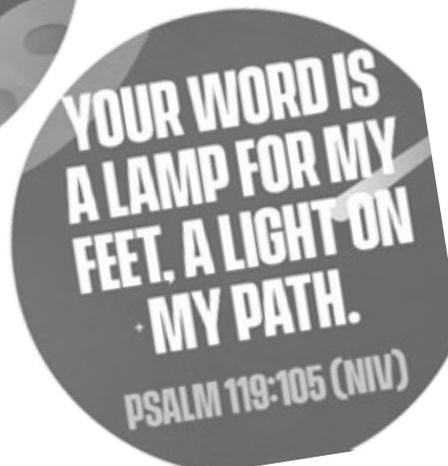
Explorers Volunteers Kick Off

Explorers volunteers will have an orientation/training on Monday, September 12 from 7-8pm to prepare for the program year. This will be more than a meeting. We will gather to reflect on the goals we have for our young Explorers and for ourselves, we will get a first taste of the Grow Kids curriculum and a leader devotional for the year, and we will begin what will be an ongoing conversation about how best to support children and each other in faith.

I am looking forward to a year of new opportunity and meaningful connection.

Email Ashton Horsley, Director of Children's Ministries, at ahorsley@faumc.net for more information.

Expect an invitational mailing packet on Sunday School, T.G.I.W., and other Explorers' information along with registration and medical forms, to arrive soon after this newsletter.





Followers Youth Ministry

Welcome to our FAUMC Followers Youth Ministry season of 2022-2023!

It is always so exciting in September. There are new schools, new grades, new friends, and new life. The Followers Youth Ministry also would like to invite all youth (from 6th-12th grades) to a new season in knowing each other, knowing the faith community, and knowing the Lord, our God. Fairmount Avenue UMC would like to encourage all youth to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually throughout this year because we, as Followers of Jesus and children of God, strive to experience and practice personal piety and social holiness through the ministry of Followers Youth. Let us share our passion. Let us respect each other. And let us be bound in Christ to know ourselves, our church, and our Lord.

Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth. —Hosea 6:3

Pastor Jin would like to invite all of the youth to Gathering Sunday on September 11, and the Thank God It's Wednesday (T.G.I.W.) Kick-Off on September 14. There will be lots of information and plans to be shared, along with enjoying our time together again after summer break. Expect an invitational mailing packet with registration and medical forms to arrive soon after this newsletter.

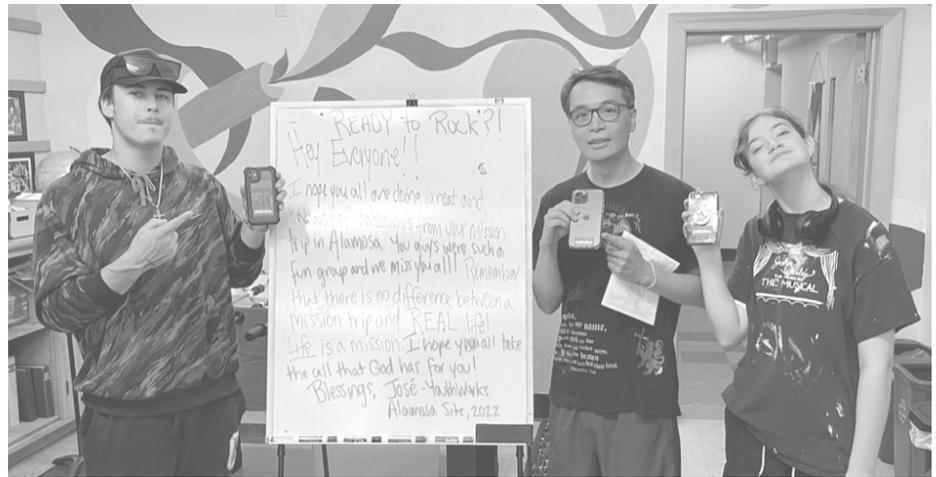
Mark Your Calendars!

Here is the upcoming schedule of the Followers Ministry. Please put these dates on your calendar and join us with warm hearts.

Gathering Sunday: Homecoming

September 11— 9:00am-1:00pm
Join the entire congregation for Sunday School kick-off, fellowship time, and worship, followed by a lunch on the lawn with games!

Photo: José, a Youthworks staff member from our Alamosa, CO site, visited FAUMC!



T.G.I.W Kick Off

September 14— 6:00pm
Potluck dinner and informational meeting for all youth and parents.

Sunday School Begins

September 18— 9:00am
This year we will focus on the gospel from the Book of John.

T.G.I.W. Begins

September 21— 6:30-7:30pm
A modified Wednesday Supper will begin at 5:30pm - *BYO food or pizza will be provided.*

Confirmation Class

September 28— 5:30pm
Final check in gathering.

Confirmation Sunday

October 9
The confirmation class of 2022 will be honored during worship service.

Followers Mini-Retreat

September 23
More details TBD.

YOU ARE A MIRACLE

YAM

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY FAIRMOUNT AVENUE UMC

Young Adult Ministry (YAM) : All young adults are invited to build a community at Fairmount Avenue UMC through fellowship, service activities, bible study, and worship of God together. The young generation is not the next or future generation, it is the current generation. Our congregation knows this is why we should not only worship together but also provide the unique ministry for our young people to grow in faith and build a spiritual community together. Join Sunday worship in-person or online and join in YAM's gatherings to share your passion, hearts, and experiences in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Our first event of 2022-23 will be after worship on **Sept 18**. For more information, contact Pastor Jin at pastorjin@faumc.net.

All Church Conference

In June we elected our lay leaders for the 2022-2022 Program Year. Thank you to all who have finishing up their season of lay leadership in August and to those who are just beginning a new term of service. We do still have a few open positions to fill. If you are interested in serving in church leadership this year, please contact Pastor Shawna.

2022 Lay Leadership Report 6/28/2022

Motion: To approve Lay Leadership Nominated Report and give the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development permission to continue to fill any positions not yet filled for the 2022-2023 program year to be approved by Church Council.

Church Council 2022-2023

Position	Name	Term Period (Terms end in August of year listed.)
Church Council Chair	Scott Wendell	2023
Church Council Vice Chair	Barbara Brunzell	2023 (then Council chair until 2025)
Trustees Chair (Co Chairs) (Elected by Trustees)	Amy Woodward and Stacey Boucher	
Finance Chair	Stuart Portoghese	2023
Treasurer	Paul Cousin	(renewed annually)
SPRC Chair	Paul Howe	2023
SPRC Vice Chair	TBD	2023 (then SPRC chair until 2025)
Lay Leader	Sandra Burrowes	2023
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Claire Ryan	2024
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Brad Neuhauser	2023
Youth At Large	TBD	
Young Adult At Large	TBD	
UMW Chair	Muriel Olson	(UMW elects their chair)
Nurture Ministries Shepherd	Janelle Kelly	2024
Outreach Ministries Shepherd	Barbara Korf	2024
Witness Ministries Shepherd	David Kroonblawd	2025
Church Council Secretary	Carol Hokanson	2023 (annual renewal)
Pastor	Rev. Shawna Horn	

2022 Lay Leadership Report (continued)

Consultant on Volunteering

Class of 2023: Bruce Stemme

Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development

Pastor Shawna Horn (chair, per the Book of Discipline)

Lay Leader— Sandra Burrowes

Church Council Chair— Scott Wendell

Consultant on Volunteering— Bruce Stemme

Class of 2023: Carol Hokanson, David Kroonblawd

Class of 2024: TBD

Class of 2025: TBD, Sandra Burrowes

Staff Pastor/Parish Relations Committee

Chair— Paul Howe

Lay Delegates to Annual Conference— Claire Ryan and Brad Neuhauser

Lay Leader— Sandra Burrowes

Pastor— Shawna Horn

Class of 2023: Barb Brunzell, Paul Howe

Class of 2024: Norma Cox, TBD

Class of 2025: Carol Gregorson, Craig Dawson, Dave Hokanson, Judy Thielen

Board of Trustees

Chair— Elected by Board of Trustees

Class of 2023: Stacey Boucher, Amy Woodward, Stephen Burrowes

Class of 2024: Verena Van Fleet, Ilona Spencer, Corrin Wendell, John Bredesen

Class of 2025: Michael Neuberg

As you may see, we do still have a few open positions to fill. If you are interested in serving in church leadership this year, please reach out to Pastor Shawna.

Committee on Congregational Endowment Fund

Chair— Dick Riemenschneider

Lynn Ihlenfeldt, Buster Griffing, Bill Mackey, Liz Kramer, Sandra Burrowes, Tom Vitulli

Ex officio members: Carol Gregorson

Consulting Members: Pastor and Council Chair

Finance Committee

Chair— Stuart Portoghesse

Treasurer— Paul Cousin

Payroll— Kristin Mathews Long

Financial Secretary— Elizabeth Herge

Trustee Chair, Lay Leader, Council Chair, Lay Delegates to Annual Conference, SPRC Chair, Pastor

Class of 2023: Meg Kasting, Stuart Portoghesse

Class of 2024: TBD

Class of 2025: TBD

Memorials Team

Elaine Lee, Linda Ting, Ardys Heilig, Holly Hugart, TBD

Stewardship Team

Chair— Corrin Wendell

Financial Secretary— Elizabeth Herge

Class of 2023: Corrin Wendell, Brian Hanson

Class of 2024: TBD, TBD

Class of 2025: Amy Dauplaise



Committees & Boards

Fairmount Avenue UMC

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Volume 19 No. 8 September 2022



INSIDE This Issue:

Gathering Sunday
Fall Programming
Lay Leadership Report

Church Staff

The Congregation
Ministers

Rev. Shawna Horn
Pastor

Rev. Jin Hur
*Director of Youth and Young
Adult Ministries*

Michael Ferguson
*Director of Music, Organist,
and Adult Choir Director*

Ashton Horsley
Director of Children's Ministries

Mindy Way-Johnson
Heritage Ringers Director

Holly Hugart
Joyful Ringers Director

Muriel Olson
Parish Nurse

Mike Kelly
IT Director

Elizabeth Herge
*Administrator
Communications Director*



Newsletter Deadline
The deadline for the October issue of the Messenger will be **Thursday, September 15**. Please have all materials to the church office by 9:00am on the 15th.