

Leadership Team

Fellowship/Community Team	Loges, Squires
Trustee Chair	Jacien Squires
Finance	Eric Brooks
Treasurer	Jacien Squires
FinSec	Amy Davis
Lay Member Conf	Donna Cunningham
Staff-Parish	Merv Davis
Chr Leadership Team	Susan Barber
Worship/Connection Team	
Mission/Commission Team	Shirley Wilson
Discipleship/Character Team	Larry Barber
Pastor	Rev Karen K Walters

First UMC
205 West Columbus Street
Nelsonville, Ohio 45764-0037
740/753-1939 - church
740/753-1930 - fax
740/753-1262 - parsonage
kwalters@woh.rr.com
www.fumcNelsonville.org



How to Pray Effectively

Please remember what you told your servant Moses: "If you sin, I will scatter you among the nations." Nehemiah 1:8 (NLT)

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Here are four secrets to answered prayer from the life of Nehemiah:

1. Base your request on God's character. Pray like you *know* God will answer you: "I'm expecting you to answer this prayer because of who you are. You are a faithful God. You are a great God. You are a loving God. You are a wonderful God. You can handle this problem, God!"

2. Confess the sins of which you're aware. After Nehemiah bases his prayer on who God is, he confesses his sins. He says, "We've sinned." He says "I confess . . . myself . . . my father's house . . . we have acted wickedly . . . we have not obeyed." It wasn't Nehemiah's fault that Israel went into captivity. He wasn't even born when it happened and he was most likely born in captivity. Yet, he's including himself in the national sins. He says, "I've been a part of the problem."



3. Claim the promises of God. Nehemiah prays to the Lord, saying, "I want you to remember what you told your servant Moses." Can you imagine saying "remember" to God? Nehemiah reminds God of a promise he made to the nation of Israel. In effect, he prays, "God, you warned through Moses that if we were unfaithful, we would lose the land of Israel. But you also promised that if we repent, you'd give it back to us."

Does God have to be reminded? No. Does he forget what he's promised? No. Then why do we do this? Because it helps us remember what God has promised.

4. Be very specific in what you ask for. If you want specific answers to prayer, then make specific requests. If your prayers consist of general requests, how will you know if they're answered?

Nehemiah is not hesitant to pray for success. He's very bold in his praying. Have you ever prayed, "Lord, make me successful?" If you haven't, why haven't you? What is the alternative? A failure?

Is it okay to ask God to make you successful? It all depends on your definition of success! I believe a good definition of success is: "Fulfilling God's purpose for my life in faith, love, and the power of the Holy Spirit, and expecting the results from God." That is a worthy life objective that you should be able to pray for with confidence.

Consider this: If you can't ask God to make you a success at what you're doing, you should be doing something else. God doesn't want you to waste your life.



Growth in wisdom may be exactly measured by decrease in bitterness.



Vote Yes on 5 – Vote No on 6!

If you lend money to any of my people who are poor, you shall not be to him as an usurer, neither shall you lay upon him usury.—Exodus 22:25

Overcoming Poverty and ministry with the poor were central to John Wesley's ministry and are still central in the United Methodist Church today. Payday Lending is a current form of usury and we have an opportunity to protect thousands of people who are poor from paying 391% interest on loans.



By voting Yes on 5, we will keep a 28% cap on interest rates passed by the Ohio Legislature earlier this year.

Issue 6 would authorize gambling in the State of Ohio. It does not promise Ohio will even get the profits or taxes from this gambling! Please vote no on Issue 6!



And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.



Financial Peace

Do you need some financial peace? Do you find yourself unsure about how you'll pay your bills? Maybe that's not too scary but are you comfortable with your retirement plan? Do you have a clear sense of God's economy? Check out the Financial Peace class on Mondays at 7:00 pm for answers to your questions!



Evangelism Goal

Everyone at FUMC is challenged to pray for at least one unchurched person for at least one minute every day at 1:00 pm. If you cannot possibly pray for one minute at 1:00 pm, you may want to choose another time. The important thing is to pray!



She who has learned to pray has learned the greatest secret to a holy and happy life.

William Law



Dear Friends at First Church,
We have been overwhelmed by your love for us! We thank you all for your prayers, cards, tapes, and thoughtfulness in every way. We look forward to every communication. We hope to be home soon to include one weekend to worship with you again. Thank you so much.
Aaron & Donna



Newsletter Articles

Please turn your newsletter articles in to Judy Barber by October 20.

Thanks for helping to make *The Common Line* more informative and helpful! If you are receiving the newsletter and no longer wish to, please email Rev Walters at kwalters@woh.rr.com. If you joined another church or want to move your membership, please contact Rev Walters.



Only the blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the cross two thousand years ago, shields us from the awful judgment of God for sin. We are not justified because of our good intentions. We are not protected because of our tearful appeals. We can, in fact, do nothing to merit God's favor. Only the blood puts us in right standing with him. In the words of the Andraé Crouch song, the blood of Jesus "reaches to the highest mountain" and "flows to the lowest valley." That is why "it will never lose its power."



FUMC Shut-ins

Charles Harris – Hickory Creek Continuing Care, 51 East Fourth Street, The Plains, Ohio 45780

Lucille Steenrod, Eileen Burchfield, Florence Forbes, Charlotte Smathers – Logan Health Care, 300 Arlington Drive, Logan, 43138

Alberta Hellyer - Reflections, 2750 W Fair Ave, Apt 226, Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Nellie Haynes – Brown Memorial, 158 E Mound St, Circleville, Ohio 43113

Dorothy Colwell, 1658 Connett, Nelsonville 45764

Shirley Howard, 103 ½ St Charles St, Nelsonville 45764

Chuck Mohney, 96 Mill St, Nelsonville 45764

Nyoka Kennedy, 15530 SR 691, Nelsonville

Clara Mae Pitts, 504 W Washington St, Nelsonville

Ronnie Townsend, 187 Watkins St, Nelsonville 45764

Dan Cox, 8561 Victoria Meadow Lane, Reynoldsburg 43068



Rev. Aaron Cunningham – 852 Thackston Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29302

Lucille Goss, 856 Southside River Road, McConnellsville 43756

Gilbert Stalder, 1729 Horsechestnut Court, Trinity, FL 34655

Ruth Higgins, 109 Mulberry Lane, Monacca, PA 15061

Geneva Johnson, 1021 Heatherfield Lane, San Jose, CA 95132

David Lovsey, 4369 Davis Road, Macon, GA 31217



Acceptance

The current theme for the United Methodist church is “Open hearts...Open minds... Open doors”. This reminds us to love and accept others just as Jesus did.



The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.



Aaron Cunningham Updates

If you're wanting to keep up to date with how Aaron's doing, go to www.caringbridge.org and sign into the web site by using his name, Aaron Cunningham except that you have to use all lower case, all one word (aaroncunningham). Thanks for you prayers and concern! This allows everyone to check on updates whenever they are praying. If you don't have a computer, you can always check in the church office.



Help the Pastor

As you probably know, the Ohio Legislature passed a bill a few years ago, prohibiting hospitals from providing lists of patients to anyone (including pastors). They no longer call a pastor when you are admitted to the hospital. If you're admitted to



the hospital, please have a family member call

the pastor (in most cases, a chaplain will call for you too). *There is no other way for the pastor to know you are in the hospital, unless you call.* It is helpful as well to let the pastor know when you're released - a trip to a hospital following your release takes time away from helping someone else. If you go to a rehab center, the pastor will not know unless you call Rev Walters and let her know.

If you'd like the pastor to make a call (to your home), please mark the attendance pad or call the office to schedule.

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If my life is broken when given to Jesus, it is because pieces will feed a multitude, while a loaf will satisfy only a little lad. -Ruth Stull

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Services

Tapes of our morning worship services are available each week. They can be picked up on the vestibule table or delivered to shut-ins by Bill & Joan Cox. Call the office at 753-1939 to make arrangements or for more information.

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Health and Wholeness Ministry

In the gospels, we find Jesus working to heal people – not just their souls – but the whole person. In an effort to do what Jesus would do, FUMC has a health ministry to address the body part of the equation.

You are invited to stop by on Sunday mornings and have your blood pressure or blood sugar taken. The RNs in our congregation are working together to provide this ministry. They will give you a book in which to keep track of all findings to share with your physician. They will also share resources to help you become more healthy – tips to lower blood sugar or cholesterol or blood pressure or even how to eat more healthy.

Stop by and see what they can do for you and if you're a registered nurse, please talk to Debbie Cox or Shirley Wilson about how you can help.



Our problems are opportunities to discover God's solutions.

~•~

Greeters and Technicians

We need greeters and technicians for our new 11:00 service. If you can possibly help with either of these, please call Judy at the church and let her know. We'll need technicians to manage DVDs and the powerpoint slides. We expect lots of new folks to attend the new service so we'll need lots of friendly people to greet them!

~•~

From Dennis' Desk

(this is an article from our District Superintendent)

What Makes a Live Church?

LIVE CHURCHES always have a parking problem;

...dead ones don't have to.

LIVE CHURCHES are constantly changing their methods;

...dead ones don't have to.

LIVE CHURCHES have lots of children;

...dead ones don't.

LIVE CHURCHES expenses always exceed their income;

...dead churches take in more than they can spend.

LIVE CHURCHES constantly improve and plan for the future;

...dead churches worship their past.

LIVE CHURCHES grow so fast you forget people's names;

...in dead churches you've known everyone's name for years.

LIVE CHURCHES move out in faith;

...dead churches operate totally by sight.

LIVE CHURCHES support missions heavily;

...dead churches keep it all home.

LIVE CHURCHES are filled with tithers;

...dead churches are filled with tippers;

LIVE CHURCHES dream great dreams for God;

...dead churches relive nightmares.

LIVE CHURCHES have the fresh wind of love blowing;

...dead churches are stale with bickering.

LIVE CHURCHES don't have *can't* in their vocabulary;

...dead churches have nothing but.

LIVE CHURCHES are seeking out and serving their community;

...dead churches wait for the community to come to them.

LIVE CHURCHES evangelize;

...dead churches fossilize.

How Alive are you feeling?

Dennis



Happiness is a way station between too-little and too-much.

—Channing Pollock



Children's Sunday School

Want to know what your kids/grandkids will learn in Sunday school so you can talk to them about it at home? Here are the topics for this fall:

God Chooses a People

Oct 5th: God Calls Abraham

Oct 12th-Abraham and Lot/Abraham and Sarah

Oct 19th-The birth of Isaac

Oct 26th-Isaac and Rebekah

Trusting God's Promises

Nov 2nd-Jacob and Esau

Nov 9th-Jacob cheats Esau

Nov 16th-Jacobs Ladder

Nov 23rd-Jacob and Esau reunite

Nov 30th-Zechariah and Elizabeth



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating in October! You'll find the complete list in the calendar. Tack it on your refrigerator so you will be reminded to wish each one a happy birthday.



Youth

The youth meet each Sunday at 4:30 at Crabtree Field (behind Crossroads) for a game of flag football (you can come and cheer, chat or watch if you don't want to play). We'll go to the church for pizza, fellowship and fun about 6pm so feel free to come then if you can't make the game.



If you don't have time to do something right, when are you going to have time to fix it?

Stephen King



Choir Practice

The Chancel Choir rehearses each Thursday evening at 7:00 pm. Join the choir for fun, fellowship, caring - and even some singing!



Ministry to a Soldier

Interested in helping a soldier be a bit less lonely? Check out www.mysoldier.com and make a difference in someone's life.



I am only one, but I am still one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

--Helen Keller



Bring a Friend

Bring a friend to Sunday School and worship! This is an exciting time at First – be sure to share it with your friends!



Fitness Fair

Nelsonville Wesleyan Church is hosting a Fitness Fair for the

Nelsonville Community on Saturday, October 11, 9am-noon (601 Chestnut Street). This is an opportunity to sample various forms of fitness to see which best fits you. Different kinds of exercise equipment will be present as well as experts from many fields. Be sure to stop in!



October Special Days

World Communion Sunday is October 5. Columbus Day is observed October 13 – there will be no mail or banking that day. Reformation Day is October 31.



October Worship Ministries

	Greeters	Liturgist	Sound	Van	Acolytes	Nursery
5	Duane Covert family	S Cox	Robey	Campbell	Chloe Coy, Corrine Campbell	Loge
12	Andy/Amber Barber	A Davis	Holtel	Davis	John Cheeseman, Derek Arnold	Dean
19	Marg Ashworth, Dorothy Gettle	M Davis	Squires	Cox	Ermily, Lily Bailey, Nikki Hartman	Covert
26	Loge family	E Brooks	Robey	Davis	Emily McCulloch, Mackenzie Perry	Squires

New Service – New Schedule

Beginning **October 19**, there will be a new schedule at First UMC! We’ll have a Traditional Worship service with choir, hymns – everything you’re used to – at 9:00 am. There will be a Contemporary Worship service at 11:00 am with praise choruses, newer hymns and multi-media. Sunday School will be at 10:00 so those from both worship services can be involved in Sunday School and we can get to know everyone. This is an exciting time for First! Please invite your friends and neighbors to both services!

Traditional Worship

9:00 am

Sanctuary

Sunday School for all

10:00 am

classrooms

Contemporary Worship

11:00 am

Fellowship Hall