

BELLEFONTAINE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.bellefontainefirstumc.org; 937-592-9651
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs; 9 am — 12 and 1 - 4 pm

Our Mission: To welcome all people through the love of Jesus Christ
and grow as disciples who transform the world.

Our Vision: Every person in our church and community lives a life that will make Jesus smile and others
smile on their journey of life and love. Jesus smiles when every person loves God, loves one another
and is engaged in transforming the world.

Every member is a minister!

Joe Ziraldo, Senior Pastor,
jziraldo@bellefontainefirstumc.org; 937-651-6227

Barbara Dancer, Office Manager
office@bellefontainefirstumc.org; 937-592-9651; 937-935-5648

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Raph Guenther, Music Minister
Mike Suman, Choir Director
Joe Antram, Adult Handbell Director
Marianne Antram, Organist/Pianist
Brenda Thomas, Keyboard Staff
Carol Burton, Choir Accompanist

Wayne Fahnestock, Custodian



TOWER NEWS OCTOBER, 2020

²⁶ Jesus replied, "What is written in the Law? How do you interpret it?" ²⁷ He responded, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ Jesus said to him, "You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live." ²⁹ But the legal expert wanted to prove that he was right, so he said to Jesus, "**And who is my neighbor?**" (Luke 10:26-29)

How would we answer the question from the legal expert in Jesus' day? How do you define who your neighbor is? It is an important question for each of us to wrestle with. How do we understand how we can be faithful to the Great Commandment if we don't know whom we are asked to love? One of the things that Jenny and I have learned as we have moved from home to home is that we have no control on who our neighbors are. We have lived next to or near a diverse cross-section of people in America. One of my neighbors that I will always remember is my next-door neighbor named Chuck. He and his family were from Jordan. Every year his wife and family would travel back to their native land to reconnect with relatives and friends. Chuck would stay home to take care of the family business.

One summer, shortly after moving in, Chuck shared with me that when he returned home from work on the day that his family left, he found himself locked out of his house. Can you imagine his situation? A Middle Eastern man locked out of his home in a suburban neighborhood wondering if anyone would think he was breaking in. He saw my extension ladder next to my house and used it to climb into a second story window. The whole time he worried about someone calling the police. He later admitted that he borrowed the ladder, but worried that I might have somehow figured it out. (Pastor Joe's article continued)

PASTOR JOE'S ARTICLE CONTINUED

How could I 'love' Chuck and his family when we worshipped in two different faith traditions and were raised in two different cultures? We seemed to have nothing in common except sharing adjacent lots. I had my reservations as my culture taught me that Muslims saw Christians with suspicious eyes. But God opened doors for me to share my faith in word and deed. A different neighbor had shared that I was studying to be a Christian minister. While I was not aware of how Chuck might feel about this, I didn't hesitate to help him repair a broken split rail fence. When he injured his back severely and it required him to be laid up for several months following surgery my neighbor and I would shovel the snow off of his driveway.

The following summer, Chuck asked me why I was so nice to him and all I could say was, "My faith calls me to serve my neighbor." I will never forget his response. He told me, "So does mine, but I don't always do it." I think my response shocked him when I responded, "Finally I have found something that we have in common." We became friends in that moment, and he would often ask for advice on what to do to maintain the first home that he had ever owned. When we moved homes and left town to go into the ministry, his entire family stood in their driveway wishing us well.

Chuck told us that we were the nicest Christians he had ever know. This was a second thing that we had in common as he was the nicest Muslim that I have ever known. Chuck taught me to overcome my fears and reservations to help someone who would become more than a person who lived next door. Is there someone that God has been tapping on your heart to represent his love to? I pray that you might be faithful to His challenge.

Pastor Joe

LAST THURSDAY MEAL

October 22 is the next meal: Menu is Meatloaf, Taters, Corn, Dessert

Drive thru only from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Hello everyone,

This year's 18th ANNUAL THANKSGIVING LOVE DINNER is a go. We will be delivering if I can get enough drivers (several have already volunteered) and drive thru only. So if you want to volunteer let me know.

The menu will be a basic thanksgiving dinner: Turkey, Mashed potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Sweet taters, Cranberry sauce, Roll and Pie.

More information to come. Any questions or suggestions please call/text or email me SharonWalden@hotmail.com or 937-210-1072.

Sharon Walden



Blood Drive
First United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall
201 Main N
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

Tuesday, October 13, 2020
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org,
appointment: FirstUMCBellefontaine

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by
visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RedPos to complete your
pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of
your appointment.

Schedule a blood donation appointment today:

Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

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ALL SAINTS DAY

Sunday, November 1, 2020

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Church Services

As part of our regular church services on November 1, 2020, a portion of the services will be to honor all members of our church who have passed away since the last such service on November 3 of 2019. These would be members from November 3, 2019 to October 29, 2020 who have passed away.

Names will be read, a bell chimed, a candle lite and a flower placed in a vase on the altar in remembrance of these loved ones. It is planned as part of the 9:00 a.m. and the 10:30 a.m. services in the sanctuary.

We would like to invite you and your family members to attend these services.

Please contact the church office at:

(937)592-5196 or e-mail: office @bellefontainefirstumc.org if you are able to come.

Please specify which service you will be attending and the name or names of the member(s) you wish to honor.

Music and Worship Team

UMM

Pressing on toward our final goal,
Where there will be rest for our soul,
Hand in hand we will enter in,
As God ordained where there is no end.
To live there forever in complete Jubilee,
In heavenly mansions made for you and me,
The Lord has promised to all mankind,
In faith believing, our frame of mind.
Created in his image from our birth,
Living our life for all of our worth,
Blessings given to us every day,
Fulfilling our lives along the way.
May this be our lifelong dream,
Always to travel by that guiding beam,
Which was laid before us in the past,
As in his Glory we strive to bask,
To live forever in his holy presence,
With continual praise and thankfulness.

Phil 3: 13-14 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.

Upcoming events:

October 17 – Men's fellowship breakfast in fellowship hall at 8:30 am

A special thank you to Greg Knight, Gary Thompson, Steve Marshall, and Pat Ellis for mowing Andy Collings yard this summer and to Greg Knight and Gary Thompson for assisting Clifford Kindle.

Ron Perry

Introducing...



The church is smelling fresh and looking clean thanks to our newest employee, Wayne Fahnstock. Wayne comes to us as a retiree of the Bellefontaine City Schools. After working in the private sector for 19 years, Wayne retired with an additional 22 years as a custodian for the schools. He can do it all from cleaning, sanitizing, waxing, painting, dry walling, and everything in-between.

Wayne and his wife, Toni have three grown children Corey, Ryan and Shasta. Two of their children are connected with the military and one son works locally at AGC. Wayne and Toni have nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.

In his free time, Wayne enjoys spending time with family, especially camping with the grandchildren and hunting and fishing. He also owns a part-time mower business and enjoys working and staying busy. Rounding out his routines are reading daily meditations and showing gratitude to the Lord for each day.

GIRL SCOUT RECRUITMENT SEASON...

is upon us and it is that time of year for revitalization of existing Girl Scout troops and growing new ones! With COVID concerns and the safety of our girls at the forefront, Girl Scouts has limited access to girl recruitment in local schools. With that said I need your help more than ever in spreading the word for Girl Scout opportunities for girls in Logan County.

Girl Scouts of Western Ohio (GSWO) is hosting a several Troop Formation Events in the Logan County area. The following are the dates/times/venue for ROBOT Building Party events:

October 1, 6pm Virtual, register on [GSWO.org](https://www.gswoweb.org)

This is an opportunity for parents and girls to learn more about what Girl Scouts has to offer. Information will be available on the various badges, girls can earn including Faith Based badges.



Thanks for your support of Girl Scouts in Logan County.
Pam Helmlinger, Community Development Manager
1870 W. Robb Avenue
Lima, OH 45805
419-225-3057, pamelahelmlinger@gswoweb.org

Experience Girl Scouts at home at [gswoweb.org/athome](https://www.gswoweb.org/athome)

UMW

The members of FUMC United Methodist Women would like to thank our congregation for their awesome support of our Ice Cream Shoppe last August. With your help, we will be able to continue our mission work within our own church, our community, our state, our country, and the world. You have always been there to support us in all of our endeavors. Thank you!

We would also like to share with the church that we have been designated as a Five Star Mission Giving and a Gold Mission Today UMW for 2019. Throughout the year our ladies have been completing mission pledges, sending correspondence, planning programs, attending district meetings, sharing in mission projects, and adding new members to circles. Congratulations to our UMW members!

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE!

We know you have been waiting for our Church Directory update however the newest version is not available. We have contacted the company and listened to a voice mail that stated they have temporarily suspended operations. We have an updated version from your last directory but it did not include all the updates and changes that we requested. So, a supplement with additions will be available by January, 2021. You can pick up your Directory from the table in front of the office window.

FAMILY MINISTRY TEAM

NEEDED-DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Pastor Joe Ziraldo, Debbie Ellis (chair of SPPR) and co-chairs of the Family Ministry Team have developed a job description to hire a Director of Youth and Family Ministry to serve at Bellefontaine First United Methodist Church. If you or someone you know has a spiritual gift of leadership, a heart for teenagers, energy, and enthusiasm, please contact the church office and a job description/application will be available for pick up.

OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEER

During the active search for a Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Pastor Ed Beale has offered to step up to volunteer with the youth. Pastor Ed was our Pastor here at Bellefontaine FUMC and he is excited to begin and to reconnect with the congregation members. Pastor Ed has exciting ideas to develop a program to encourage faith growth for this important group in our church family. BFUMC families with teens, will receive a letter sharing this information. Their feedback concerning days and times that fit into busy schedules, activities, transportation, and programing suggestions is important to the success of BFUMC Youth programs. Pastor Ed, Peggy and Heidi will call each family to discuss their ideas and suggestions.

BFUMC PRAYER PARTNERS

At this challenging time, we believe intentional prayer is essential. The Family Ministry Team is preparing to start the Prayer Partner project. Congregation members will be invited to fill out a 3x5 card with the names of the members in your family that want to participate. You may share specific prayer requests or just a request for general life issues. The cards will be collected at church and be redistributed to other church family members and it's each person's responsibility to lift them in prayer. We'll ask Pastor Joe and the prayer teams to pray over all the participants, then mail one card to another family that signed up to participate. We ask that you pray for your 'partners' throughout the week. There are no other requirements other than confidentiality of any specific prayer requests. Please consider joining this ministry! Everyone is qualified and everyone is needed!

PRAYER REQUEST

Please remember to lift all teachers, students, school staff and families throughout the school year.

Submitted by Heidi Reser

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER 3	AUSTIN HAMMOND
OCTOBER 4	GARY MCLAUGHLIN
OCTOBER 4	BERT SCHWADERER
OCTOBER 5	PAT ELLIS
OCTOBER 6	PAUL CHISM
OCTOBER 9	CHOYCE EARICK
OCTOBER 10	HOWARD TRAU II
OCTOBER 11	PAULA KINDLE
OCTOBER 15	KEITH WILEY
OCTOBER 16	JILL ROBBINS
OCTOBER 17	FINNEGAN OVERLY
OCTOBER 21	ALICE SCHRADER
OCTOBER 24	APRIL WALKER
OCTOBER 24	GARY THOMPSON
OCTOBER 25	DEBBIE ELLIS
OCTOBER 26	JOHN BUSH
OCTOBER 26	BOB HOUSER
OCTOBER 28	JAMES HOWELL
OCTOBER 29	MARTHA MARSHALL
OCTOBER 29	MADISON MOORE
OCTOBER 30	KIM MOORE



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 4

TRUSTEES

All monthly inspections have been completed and no issues.

Work on boiler was completed and boiler pipe insulation done.

Steve Arbogast

THANK YOU

Dear Pastor Joe and Church Family,

Thank you all for the many prayers, wonderful uplifting notes and cards! They were very much appreciated and helped keep my spirits up when I was feeling down. I am on my way to recovery by God's grace and love and all of your kindness and prayers.

*Thank you so very much,
Louise Norris*

CHURCH CONFERENCE

**Bellefontaine First 's Church Conference—Thursday, November 12th at 7:00 pm
with Rev. Bill Halter presiding.**

MISSIONS TEAM

The Missions Team has been fairly quiet these past few months since we haven't had a meeting since February. Hopefully, that will change soon. The Harvest Food Bank has continued to deliver the monthly Elder Food boxes to some of our Last Thursday Community. If you know of anyone who is 65 or older and has a need please let us know and we can get them an application to fill out for us to send in. Many thanks to those who have volunteered to deliver the boxes. If anyone else would like to help out with delivery of the boxes sometime, please let either Robin Harrington or Linda Knight know. Also, we could always use additional members to our team. So, if anyone has a heart for showing faith through action come join us. We would love to welcome you.

Robin Harrington

CARD SHOWER

Some of you may remember Burnetta Walker, who had a connection with our church several years ago. For the last 9 months, Burnetta has been in a Christian Rehab facility in Cincinnati working very hard to get her life in order. She has completed all required work and is to graduate in October. During her time at Having the Courage to Change, her mother died (at 101 years) and the strained family ties dissolved. Burnetta has few people to cheer for her or congratulate her on her achievement so I thought we could do a card shower for her, commending her for sticking to her resolve to find peace and to live life well.

She always asks about our church when she calls, especially the UMW members who drove her to work for two years. (All the women at the rehab know about this because Burnetta considers it an amazing grace and tells everyone).

Burnetta will remain at the facility after she graduates for up to a year.

Burnetta Walker

141 Goethe

Cincinnati, OH 45202

Thank you, Susan Givler

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 BIBLE STUDY 4 PM (f.h.) BIBLE STUDY 7 PM (zoom)	2 PRAYER GRP. 11:30 AM (kitchen)	3 N/A 7:30 AM (f.h.)
4 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY	5	6 N/A 7:05 AM (f.h.)	7 DULCIMER GRP. 9 AM (f.h.) STAFF LUNCH 12 NOON (f.h.)	8 BIBLE STUDY 4 PM (f.h.) BIBLE STUDY 7 PM (zoom)	9 PRAYER GRP. 11:30 AM (kitchen)	10 N/A 7:30 AM (f.h.)
11	12 WORSHIP TEAM 5:30 PM (child room-down) AD. COUNCIL 7 PM (f.h.)	13 RED CROSS (f.h.) 12- 6 PM UMW Executive Mtg. 1 PM (child room-down) N/A 7:05 AM (child rm/down)	14 DULCIMER GRP. 9 AM	15 BIBLE STUDY 4 PM (f.h.) BIBLE STUDY 7 PM (zoom)	16 PRAYER GRP. 11:30 AM (kitchen)	17 UMM BREAKFAST 8:30 am (f.h.) N/A 7:30 AM (f.h.)
18	19	20 N/A 7:05 AM (f.h.)	21 DULCIMER GRP. 9 AM	22 LAST THURSDAY MEAL 4:30 -5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY 4 PM (f.h.) BIBLE STUDY 7 PM (zoom)	23 PRAYER GRP. 11:30 AM (kitchen)	24 N/A 7:30 AM (f.h.)
25	26 MARTHA CIRCLE 1:30 PM (f.h.)	27 PRISCILLA CIRCLE (f.h.) 1:30 PM N/A 7:05 AM (child rm/down)	28 DULCIMER GRP. 9 AM	29 BIBLE STUDY 4 PM (f.h.) BIBLE STUDY 7 PM (zoom)	30 PRAYER GRP. 11:30 AM (kitchen)	31 N/A 7:30 AM (f.h.)