

FOCUS ON FIRST

Worship 10:00 a.m.
Live-Stream via Facebook
Rev. Mark Finrock, Pastor
Xiaoming Zhu, Music Director
Vicki Wheeler, Admin. Assistant

APRIL EVENTS



APRIL 7
2ND QUARTER
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
POTLUCK AFTER SERVICE

APRIL 20
5:00-7:00 P.M.
FELLOWSHIP HALL
TICKETS \$16.00



April 2024

Volume 18, Issue 4

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PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Every year at the start of April I think how we have defeated the stagnation of winter. We are cleaning the flower beds, seeds get started in the cold frames, and the bulbs, planted last fall, are blooming as the ground heats up from the spring sun.



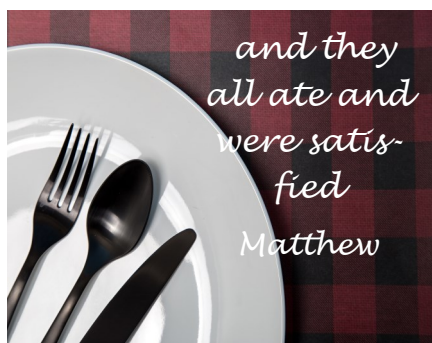
As we go about our end of winter chores. We dream of vacations, steaks on the grill, flowers popping out of the ground, vegetables fresh from the garden, and time in the sun and fresh air. A feeding of the body and spirit. April is the time when gardens get planned and planted. Trips to the nurseries to gather the early cold weather plants. A time when weddings are being planned to come about in May and June. April is a time of anticipation and hope.

Another blessing I am looking forward to is the Spaghetti Dinner on the 20th. It is a palate pleaser and worthy of inviting others into fellowship. It is not too late to reserve your spot.

This year April is entirely within the Easter season. As the earth is coming back to life, we are reminded of the resurrection of the Lord and our hope in him. Let your hearts be warmed with the love of Christ.

We trust that your April will be full of the wonders and pleasures spring can provide.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Mark



**THANK YOU TO OUR
COMMUNITY LUNCH
PARTNERS WHO SERVED
DURING MARCH**

March 2—First UMC

March 9—Lindenwald Community

March 16—First UMC

March 23—Princeton Pike Church of God

March 30—Eaton Road Church of God

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First United Methodist Church,
225 Ludlow St. Hamilton, OH 45011
MAY NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE: April 19

For newsletter submissions, send to Vicki
at firstumc@firstumc-ham.org



Pastor Mark
Donna Coombe
Noah Trumbull
Charma Camp
Jackie Jewett
Grant Montgomery
Scott Wilson
Sandy Thornton
Norma & Lynn Kinkaid
River Bastin

Aimee Epperson
Tyrone Williams
Wayne Huston
Adam Blundell
Marilyn Rumpler
Steve Young
Kelly Antalosky
Dennis & Debbie Sanders
Karen, friend of Nancy Mabis

Those who do not know the peace of Christ. Let us offer Christ, who will heal their souls.

Those families mourning the loss of loved ones.

Hamilton Living Water Ministries for their continuing work in our community.

Community lunch, missionaries, Peace Corp workers, and those who work for international peace. Military members and their families and national leaders. Concerns of the people in places of war, famine and social unrest. Those who are sleeping outside. Those who have no food.

Do you have someone you would like us to pray for? Please call or email the office. 513-896-LOVE (5683) or firstumc@firstumc-ham.org. If you would like them on the newsletter "long-term" list, please let us know.



We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to help with the PowerPoint presentations we put on up on the screens during Sunday worship. Joe Binegar is going to help us put together the initial set and we will need folks to set up the new presentations for each Sunday and help run them. Steve Brashear is currently doing all this and we need to make sure that we have folks who are able to assist him. If you are interested in finding out more information, call the church office.



April 18 at Noon

The 4F's luncheon will be at
Cracker Barrel
11993 Chase Plaza
Forest Park

If you plan to attend,
contact Karen Epperson
(513-300-9894)
so there is room at the table.
All are welcome!

2nd QUARTER 85+ BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Join us Sunday, April 7, after service for a potluck and celebration of those members who are 85+ having birthdays in the 2nd quarter of 2024.

Bring your favorite side dish to share.

Chicken and cake will be provided.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!



IT'S STILL EASTER!!!

For Christians, Easter is not just one day - it's a season of 50 days, derived in its length from the fifty days between Passover and Pentecost (which means fiftieth) in Judaism. Easter season begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends with Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

Easter season is more than an extended celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. In the early church, Lent was a season when persons who wished to become Christians were learning how to live the way of Jesus and preparing for baptism on Easter Sunday. Christians have referred to this time of formation as "catechesis" or "echoing the way of Jesus." The original purpose of the Easter season was to continue the formation of new Christians in the faith. Christians have historically referred to this formation process as "mystagogy" or "leading people into the mysteries."

Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what we mean when we say Christ is risen and that we, as the church, are the body of the Risen Lord. It's a season for focusing on the core doctrines and mysteries of the faith and for preparing for the ministries the Spirit has empowered us to undertake in Jesus' name.

Source: umc.org



We will have a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday April 20,2024 at First. Tickets will be \$16.00 per person, ages 6-12 \$10.00, and under 5 free. Open seating in Fellowship Hall from 5-7 p.m. Outreach Committee members (Diane Hinrichs, Roger Black, Jill White, Lynn Adams, Dee Harper, Connie Bauman, and Phylis Hurst) are selling tickets. Payment is due at the time of the sale. You can write a check to First UMC and put spaghetti dinner on the memo line. For questions, contact the church office 513-896-5683.

Save the date, our annual Texas Roadhouse fundraiser is scheduled for Monday, June 17. With a ticket you provide your server, we will receive 10% profit for dine in and carry-out meals. In addition, we are selling bags of peanuts for \$5.00 each. Each bag sold will get a free appetizer card.



NEW WOMEN'S CIRCLE—RUTH

We have a new circle here at FUMC. We are called the Ruth Circle after Ruth in the Bible, as well as a nod to our own Ruth Stanton. Our goal is to unite women for fellowship and fun while focusing on projects to help those in need in our world, community, and church. We assisted the trustee committee in selecting paint colors for the brides' room. We also discussed different crafts we could do to hand out to those in need or to sell to raise money to buy needed items for our less fortunate neighbors. We are still looking for projects and reaching out to social service groups close. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 2 PM at church. All are welcome. For more info contact Carol Black.

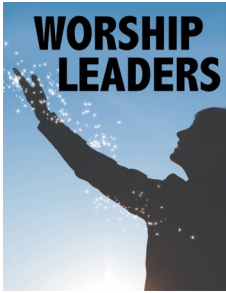
United Women in Faith



Ruth Circle
April 2—2:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
East Alcove

Naomi Circle
April 18—6:30 p.m.
Connie Bauman's
122 Farmington Drive

APRIL HAPPENINGS



4/7—Roger Black
 4/14—Linda DiBenedetto
 4/21—Leslie Hicks
 4/28—Jim Sebastian



4/7—Jill White
 4/14—Terry White
 4/21—Rob Bodine
 4/28—Nancy Chaney
 ALL SUNDAYS—David Puckett



Pocket Change Sunday April 21

During worship service a special collection of pocket change (dollars, too) will be taken as an offering for the Saturday Community Lunch Program.

Game Night Friday April 26 5:00 P.M.



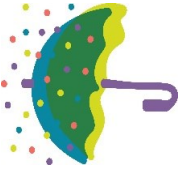



















Join us for games, great fellowship and food. Bring your own beverage and a favorite board game. We will order pizza for dinner (please bring cash to offset the costs).



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 4/1 Jen Wallar | 4/17 Kristin Murphy |
| 4/2 Joan Sebastian | 4/19 Dee Harper |
| 4/3 Bob Aderholt | Jacob McGrath |
| 4/4 Mike Wheeler | Marty Smith |
| 4/5 Andrew Fitton | 4/20 Elizabeth Lautner |
| 4/9 Jada Tegge | Ken Pierson |
| 4/12 Gage Brandner | 4/25 Clarence Harding |
| 4/13 Mike Schubert | 4/26 Jared Epperson |
| Karen Whalen | 4/27 LaDonna Hoskins |
| 4/16 Allen Rybarcyk | 4/30 Phil Brandenburg |



4/17 Diane & Noel Hinrichs

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 1 Noon Ministry 	2 Noon SPRC 2:00 PM Ruth Circle @ East Alcove 5:00 PM Trustees 7:00 PM NA Meeting  	3 10:30 AM Bible Study @ Berkeley 6:00 PM Bible Study @ First 7:15 PM Choir	4 2:00 PM Worship @ Westover 7:00 PM GA Meeting	5	6  Community Meal 11:00-1:00 First UMC cooking 8:00 PM NA Meeting	
7 COMMUNION 10:00 AM Worship Service & LiveStream 11:30 AM 2 nd Qtr. Birthday Celebration Potluck  	9 2:00 PM Finance 7:00 PM NA Meeting  Finance Committee	10 10:30 AM Bible Study @ Berkeley 6:00 PM Bible Study @ First 7:15 PM Choir	11  Outreach 2:30 PM Outreach 7:00 PM GA Meeting	12	13  Community Meal 11:00-1:00 First Baptist cooking 8:00 PM NA Meeting	
14 10:00 AM Worship Service & LiveStream	16  CHURCH COUNCIL 6:30 PM Council @ church 7:00 PM NA Meeting	17 10:30 AM Bible Study @ Berkeley 6:00 PM Bible Study @ First 7:15 PM Choir	18  4Fs Faith, Fun, Fellowship & Food! Noon 4Fs @ Cracker Barrel 11993 Chase Plaza 6:30 PM Naomi Circle @ Connie Bauman's 122 Farmington Drive 7:00 PM GA Meeting	19  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20  Community Meal 11:00-1:00 Zion Lutheran cooking  Spaghetti Dinner 5:00-7:00 PM 8:00 PM NA Meeting	
21 10:00 AM Worship Service & LiveStream  Pocket Change-Sunday	23 7:00 PM NA Meeting	24 10:30 AM Bible Study @ Berkeley 3:00 PM Worship @ Berkeley 6:00 PM Bible Study @ First 7:15 PM Choir 	25 7:00 PM GA Meeting	26  GAME NIGHT 5:00 PM Game Night @ Fellowship Hall	27  Community Meal 11:00-1:00 PP Church of God cooking 8:00 PM NA Meeting	
28 10:00 AM Worship Service & LiveStream	30 7:00 PM NA Meeting	31 10:30 AM Bible Study @ Berkeley 6:00 PM Bible Study @ First 7:15 PM Choir				

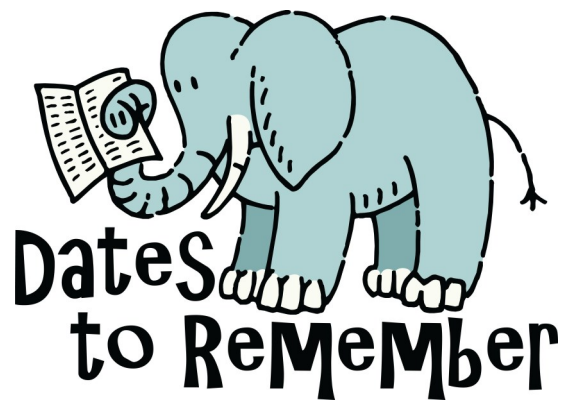


First United Methodist Church
225 Ludlow Street
Hamilton, OH 45011
(513) 896-5683
firstumc@firstumc-ham.org

Address Service Requested



Saturday, April 20
Spaghetti Dinner
Tickets on sale now!



Sunday, August 18
205th
Anniversary Celebration

