

EAST FAIRFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Lisa Courtwright

Organist: Ruth Rowley

Ministers: The Congregation

Pianist: Nancy Setinsek

Choir Director: Randy Hart

Sunday, November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

**Please stand in body or spirit as you are able*

Welcome! *You are invited to take this time to prepare for worship. In these moments, quiet your inner voice, become aware of being in community with others, and open your heart & mind to the leading of the Holy Spirit.*

GATHERING

*Christmas Hope -Douglas
Bells of Christmas -Lorenz*

CHRIST LIGHT ENTERS

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY UPDATES

Deann Davis, Liturgist

PREPARING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION AND CENTERING

PRELUDE

There is a Song in the Air -Harrington

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, people of God, even when the world presses in.

We come seeking sanctuary, a place where God makes room.

When choices feel few and the way seems uncertain, God is still near.

God meets us in surprising ways and makes space for us still.

Come, Lord Jesus, make room in us to receive you.

***OPENING PRAYER**

God of spacious love, you meet us when pressure closes in. You remind us that sanctuary can be found even in the most challenging places. Teach us to trust your presence, to act with courage, and to make room for others as you have made room for us. It is in the name of the One who receives us when we call on him. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” UMH #196

READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 91:1-6, 9-12 (NIV) pg 480

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Today, we light the candle of Hope. In a world pressed by fear and uncertainty, we remember God makes room where none seems possible.

Christ comes as our hope, guiding us through pressure into promise.

As we light this candle, we declare that hope still shines.

Come, Lord Jesus, our Hope.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHOIR ANTHEM "A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us" -Besig

OFFERING OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Adoration -Fettke

*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

*DEDICATION OF GIFTS

SEEKING GOD'S WORD

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1:1-6a (NIV)

pg 783

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

UMH #216

SERMON TEXT

Joshua 2:1-21 (NIV)

pg 170

SERMON

Pastor Lisa

Sanctuary: Room, When Pressure is Closing In

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*CLOSING HYMN

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

UMH #230

SENDING FORTH WITH BLESSING

*BLESSING

LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES INTO THE WORLD

~ Go with hope to serve the Lord ~

**Flowers on the altar are from Brent and Becky Rupert
In celebration of their 52nd anniversary on Dec 1st**

Please keep in mind that the service is live-streamed and recorded for public access. Please keep prayer requests brief and do not use last names or identifying details.

PRAYER REQUESTS

November 30, 2025

To submit a prayer request call Denise at 330-457-2465 or 330-727-9832

If you desire a home or hospital visit call Pastor Lisa (440-339-6463)

Prayer Blankets: call Joyce Ward (330-692-3346)

Debbie (Anita's friend) – Cancer.

Linda (Rob Auer's aunt) – Stage 3 cancer.

Jennifer (Jeannie's friend) – Incurable blood disease.

Linda Crowl (Anita's friend) – Passed away.

Local family – Dad deported to Guatemala. Wife deciding what to do.

Cindy W.

Elaine – Another change in medication.

Anita C. – Going to be a grandma.

Lori (Cindy Graffius' sister-in-law) – Double knee replacement Nov 17.

Lexie (Meredith Hart's friend) – Her mom passed away in car accident.

Sue C. – Surgery on her spine Dec. 5.

Charlotte – Had knee replacement Nov. 3. Thanks for prayers.

Randy (Denny's brother)

Carrie (Wayne & Sue's daughter) – Continued prayers.

HOMEBOUND

Dolly K.	Bill & Barb	Anita M.	Tom & Marie
Walt D. (Whispering Pines)		Zelda C. (Whispering Pines)	
Dorothy F.	Esther C.	Linda S.	MaryAnne

IN MINISTRY

Lisa Courtwright	Edie Boles	Jeff Pellin
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Ch Ph: 330-457-2465

Email: revlisa18@gmail.com

Website: www.eastfairfieldumc.com

Pastor: 440-339-6463

Ch Email: efumc@comcast.net

CCLI # 1994841 CVLI #504 011 134



**East Fairfield
United Methodist Church
Sunday, November 30, 2025
9:30 AM**



Rev. Lisa Courtwright
440-339-6463
45675 State Route 558
New Waterford, OH 44445

***"Working, playing, and praying together on our
faith journey, to share Jesus Christ with everyone."***

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 30 Room in our Lives 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School	Dec 1 6:00 Cub Scouts	Dec 2 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC	Dec 3 Week 49 One Story 7:00 Choir Practice	Dec 4	Dec 5 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	Dec 6
Dec 7 Room in our Hearts 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School	Dec 8 12:00 Joy Circle Christmas Party at the Clubhouse at South Terrace 6:00 Cub Scouts	Dec 9 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC -Ladies' Day	Dec 10 Week 50 One Story 7:00 Choir Practice	Dec 11	Dec 12 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	Dec 13
Dec 14 Room in our Relationships 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time -Pack Holiday Gift Bags for shut-ins 10:45 Sunday School 12:30 Caroling	Dec 15 6:00 Cub Scouts	Dec 16 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC Newsletter Deadline	Dec 17 Week 51 One Story 7:00 Choir Practice	Dec 18 9:00 Mailing Committee	Dec 19 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	Dec 20
Dec 21 Room for Hope 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School	Dec 22 6:00 Cub Scouts	Dec 23 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC	Dec 24 Room for Christ Week 52 One Story Christmas Eve Services 4:00 North Springfield 7:00 East Fairfield 7:00 Emmanuel 11:00 Centenary	Dec 25 Merry Christmas	Dec 26 Pastor's Day Off	Dec 27 8:30-10 Caring for God's Lambs At Trinity
Office Closed Dec. 25 – Jan. 4						

TODAY, NOVEMBER 30

Livestream: Hannah Vollnogle
Computer: Vicki Freeman

Sound: Bill Rowley
Greeters:

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

Liturgist: Grant Roberts

Greeters:

NOVEMBER 23 ATTENDANCE

In-Person: 76

Online: 29

Update on Mission Giving for 2025

FUND	NAME OF FUND	NEED	RECEIVED	STILL NEED
2	General Mission Fund	5,099	4,331	768
33	4C's	125	539	0
32	Cub Scouts	150	225	0
37	Way Station	150	290	0
43	Tobin Center	300	400	0
22	Flat Rock	175	275	0
64	Farmer to Farmer - Liberia	300	310	0
13	UMCOR Sunday	Any Donation	20	
21	UMCOR – U.S. Disasters	Any Donation	240	
14	Blanket Sunday	Any Donation	125	
15	Peace With Justice	Any Donation	9	
16	World Communion	Any Donation	20	
17	Student Day	Any Donation	35	
46	Heroes & Halos	Any Donation	130	
63	InStep Program	Any Donation	290	
49	Caring for God's Lambs	Any Donation	305	
38	Operation Christmas Child Postage	630	748	0

Mission of the Month - Fund #2 – Mission Fund

4C's Item – Canned Fruit

Word Search Puzzle

E H U S B A N D R P N G Q E X
S C O Z B D T X P A M C K R M
P L Q I N I H C H R I S T Y F
S M H C H I L D D X P F Z S I
J E S U S V I R G I N B H O S
J D I Z X W W Y O G B Q M N E
A B P H Q J P L A E I I G P W
P Z A U M O U A F I R K U F I
I I P L D S K N R Z T R M W U
Z X O P R E S G A S H N A M E
L M W O E P A E I W S D I X W
E A C L A H H L D C M K U T H
Z R I M M A N U E L A A E A E
R R U S B Q B L E U R C X N F
E Y L P F H O O U P Y A O S O

ANGEL
NAME
MARY

IMMANUEL
SON
JESUS

AFRAID
CHRIST
JOSEPH

DREAM
CHILD
VIRGIN

MARRY
BIRTH
HUSBAND

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LADIES' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Monday, December 8 at 12:00 Noon



The Joy Circle Christmas Luncheon will be held Monday, Dec. 8 at Noon at the Community Room at Southern Terrace Mobile Home Park, Columbiana-Lisbon Road, Columbiana.

Lunch will be provided from Ala Cart Catering. The menu includes a main course, potato, salad, rolls, dessert, & beverage. **The cost is \$13. Reservations due by Sunday, November 30.**

For the White Elephant game, each guest is asked to bring a wrapped gift with a value of \$5.00 or less.



PACKING GIFT BAGS FOR SHUT-INS

Sunday, December 14 during coffee time

We will pack Gift Bags for our Shut-Ins who are homebound or in nursing homes on Sunday, Dec. 14 during coffee time in the fellowship hall. We will take the Gift Bags with us that day when we go Christmas Caroling to the shut-ins.

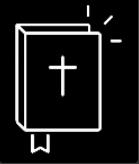


CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 14, 12:30

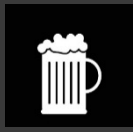
We will have a potluck luncheon following the worship service on December 14 for those who are going caroling.

We will leave the church at 12:30 to spread Christmas cheer while we visit our homebound members and area nursing homes.



SCRIPTURES & SUDS

**NO MEETINGS
IN DECEMBER**

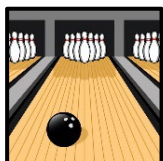


CARING FOR GOD'S LAMBS FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The next food distribution will be
8:30-10:00 AM Saturday, Dec. 27
at Trinity UMC in New Springfield.



FAITH UNITED YOUTH GROUP BOWLING



SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 AT 1:30 PM
at Camelot Lanes,
628 Boardman-Canfield Rd,
Boardman. No cost to youth.

MEN'S COFFEE GROUP ~ TUESDAYS, 8:00 AM
at East Fairfield UMC, 45675 SR 558, New Waterford.
The second Tuesday of the month is Ladies' Day Covered-Dish.

The purpose of Faith United is to grow spiritually, learn and love together, and lead others to Christ



Faith United

A Cooperative Parish of United Methodist Churches

11-30-25
UPCOMING EVENTS

ONE YEAR, ONE STORY

(Reading through the Bible in one year.)

Week 49 begins Wednesday, Dec. 3



CHRISTMAS PARTY ~ SATURDAY, DEC. 20 **MT. ZION UMC AT 6:00 PM**

We're hosting a Christmas Party with a covered-dish dinner, followed by a heartwarming candlelight worship service.

Bring your favorite dish to share and embrace the joy of Christmas in a spirit-filled time of worship.

THE CHURCHES OF FAITH UNITED
INVITE YOU TO

Christmas Eve Worship

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR

4pm - New Springfield UMC

7pm - East Fairfield UMC

7pm - East Palestine Emmanuel UMC

11pm - East Palestine Centenary UMC



All services will be traditional
candlelight worship services