

EAST FAIRFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Lisa Courtwright

Organist: Ruth Rowley

Ministers: The Congregation

Pianist: Nancy Setinsek

Choir Director: Randy Hart

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Second 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

*Come, Let Us Meet Him -Smith
O Holy Child -Bartlett*

CHRIST LIGHT ENTERS

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY UPDATES

Grant Roberts, Liturgist

PREPARING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION AND CENTERING

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel -Traditional

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Prepare the way of the Lord!

We come, ready to clear the clutter of our minds and hearts and make room.

In the wilderness, a voice cries out.

We hear the call to repent, to release what weighs us down.

Make room in your hearts, for Christ is drawing near.

Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell among us.

***OPENING PRAYER**

God of the wilderness and water, you call us to prepare the way for your Son. Clear away the distractions that crowd our minds. Remove the fear, pride, and busyness that fill our hearts. Create in us a spacious place where your peace can take root and grow. Meet us here and now in this place of worship and stay with us for a while. It is in the name of the One who is our Peacemaker that we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" UMH #211 v1,2,4,7

READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 85:1-2; 8-13 (NIV) pg 477

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING – Andrew & Debbie Lawlor

Today, we light the candle of Peace. God calls us to prepare the way by uncluttering our hearts and making space for Christ.

In Christ, our burdens are lifted and our paths made straight.

As we light this candle, we welcome the One who is our peace.

Come, Lord Jesus, our Peacemaker.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Wait! Watch!” -Lantz

OFFERING OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Peace -Guilmant

*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

*DEDICATION OF GIFTS

SEEKING GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:1-11 (NIV)

pg 586

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

*HYMN

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

UMH #213

SERMON TEXT

Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)

pg 812

SERMON

Sanctuary: Room in Your Heart

Pastor Lisa

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

UMH pg 12

COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

UMH #218

SENDING FORTH WITH BLESSING

*BLESSING

LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES INTO THE WORLD

~ Go with peace to serve the Lord ~

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

December 7, 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)

Georgia – Pneumonia.

Cyndi S. – Seeing more doctors.

Olive – Infant having second heart surgery.

Chris B. (Michelle Crook's friend) – Congestive heart failure.

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.

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

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

IN MINISTRY

<u>Lisa Courtwright</u>	<u>Edie Boles</u>	<u>Jeff Pellin</u>
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CCLI # 1994841 CVLI #504 011 134



**East Fairfield
United Methodist Church
Sunday, December 7, 2025
9:30 AM**

Sanctuary
; ROOM FOR ALL

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
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
Dec 28 Lessons & Carols 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School	Dec 29 6:00 Cub Scouts	Dec 30 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC	Dec 31	Jan 1 New Year's Day	Jan 2 Pastor's Day Off	Jan 3
<div>Office Closed Dec. 25 – Jan. 4</div>						

**Flowers on the altar are from Kathleen Smith
In celebration of Bob Smith's 92nd birthday.**

TODAY, DECEMBER 7

Livestream: Hannah Vollnogle
Computer: Vicki Freeman

Sound: Bill Rowley
Greeters:

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Liturgist: Jeannie Arnoto

Greeters:

NOVEMBER 30 ATTENDANCE

In-Person: 76

Online: 32

Update on Mission Giving for 2025

FUND	NAME OF FUND	NEED	RECEIVED	STILL NEED
2	General Mission Fund	5,099	4,711	388
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 #1 – Operating Fund & Fund #2 – Mission Fund

4C's Item – Canned Fruit

Word Search Puzzle

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

LAMP
 WORLD
 PRAISE

LIGHT
 CITY
 HOUSE

BOWL
 MEN
 FATHER

GOOD
 HIDDEN
 HILL

DEEDS
 SHINE
 STAND

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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.

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**

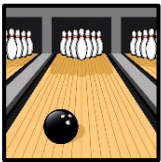


CARING FOR GOD'S LAMBS FOOD DISTRIBUTION

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

12-07-25
UPCOMING EVENTS

ONE YEAR, ONE STORY

(Reading through the Bible in one year.)

Week 50 begins Wednesday, Dec. 10



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