EAST FAIRFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Lisa Courtwright

Organist: Ruth Rowley — Ministers: The Congregation

Pianist: Nancy Setinsek — Choir Director: Randy Hart

Sunday, March 1, 2026
Second Sunday in Lent

**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 — ***Arietta -Stairs***
In The Sanctuary -Bizet

CHRIST LIGHT ENTERS

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY UPDATES — Grant Roberts, Liturgist

PREPARING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION AND CENTERING

PRELUDE — ***Take My Life -Price***

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Wilderness-wanderers, holiness-seekers, listen for God's voice today.
God, speak; your servants are listening.
God's voice may be loud, or it may be still and small. It may be drowned out by the noise of the world or the busyness within.
Today, we create space to receive your Word however it may come.
We still ourselves and trust that you are speaking even now.
Come, Word of life, direct us in your way.

*OPENING PRAYER

Ever-present God, we confess that we sometimes miss your voice. We tune our hearts to messages from the world, threats from our enemies, or our own preoccupations. Forgive us. We sometimes fear silence, thinking it means you are absent. Forgive us. Help us to recognize your presence in the quiet. Help us listen for you, especially on our Lenten journey. Give us the courage to repent, make changes, and follow in the way of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN — "Open My Eyes, That I May See" — UMH #454

READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 62 (NIV) pg 462

*APOSTLES' CREED *see insert*
*GLORIA PATRI UMH #70

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHOIR ANTHEM "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" -Martin

OFFERING OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS
INVITATION
OFFERTORY ***I Love to Tell The Story -Fischer***
*DOXOLOGY UMH #95
*DEDICATION OF GIFTS

SEEKING GOD'S WORD

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS
PASTORAL PRAYER
THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN "Lord, Speak to Me" UMH #463

SERMON TEXT 1 Kings 19:4-16 (NIV) pg 285
SERMON *It's Not Too Late to Listen to God* 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 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" UMH #361

SENDING FORTH WITH BLESSING

*BLESSING
LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES INTO THE WORLD

~ Go with joy to serve the Lord ~

As we conclude our service, please join us downstairs for a time to relax, continue conversations, and enjoy coffee and refreshments.

TODAY, MARCH 1

Livestream: Hannah Vollnogle Sound: Bill Rowley Computer: Vicki Freeman

Liturgist Next Sunday, March 8 – Deann Davis

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 March 1, 2026

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)

Perry Bilsky

Margie (Cindy W.) – Two emergency surgeries after heart attack.

Nancy (Denise's cousin) – 2 blocked arteries in her head and an aneurysm in her neck.

Ken Robb – Passed away Feb. 18. Pray for the family.

John & Carolyn Scheel – John has an aggressive cancer.

Georgette – Had shoulder surgery.

Kristen (Anita Magill) – Hysterectomy in March due to cancer.

MaryAnne Hart – Passed away Feb. 13. Keep family in your prayers.

Sue (Kermit's Wife) – Select Specialty Hospital, Boardman. Some improvement

Rodney (Bud & Phyllis' son) – At Hospice House

Carrie (Wayne & Sue's daughter) – Surgery Feb. 20 to remove spot on kidney.

Sue C. – Recovering at home.

HOMEBOUND

Dolly K. Bill & Barb Anita M. Tom & Marie

Walt D. (Whispering Pines) Zelda C. (Whispering Pines)

Dorothy F. Esther C. Linda S.

IN MINISTRY

Lisa Courtwright Edie Boles Jeff Pellin

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East Fairfield
United Methodist Church
Sunday, March 1, 2026

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."

*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Easter Flower Order Form

Deadline to order is March 16

(Easter is April 5)

Name

Phone | ENV #

How Many	Item Description	Cost Per Item	Amount Due
	Lily - Single (6” pot)	@ $ 9.25	
	Lily - Double (8” pot)	@ $19.25	
	Tulip – red	@ $ 8.00	
	Tulip – pink	@ $ 8.00	
	Tulip – yellow	@ $ 8.00	
	Tulip – orange	@ $ 8.00	
	Tulip – purple	@ $ 8.00	
	Hyacinth – blue	@ $ 8.00	
	Hyacinth – pink	@ $ 8.00	
	Daffodil	@ $ 8.00	
	Gerbera Daisy - pink	@ $ 9.25	
	Gerbera Daisy – yellow	@ $ 9.25	
	Gerbera Daisy - orange	@ $ 9.25	
	Hydrangea – blue	@ $15.75	
	Hydrangea - pink	@ $15.75	
	Azalea – red	@ $15.75	
	Azalea – pink	@ $15.75	
	Azalea – purple	@ $15.75	
		TOTAL	**$**

In Memory of

In Honor of

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar 1 **2nd DAY OF LENT** 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School	**Mar 2** 6:00 Cub Scouts	**Mar 3** 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC	**Mar 4** **6:00 Lenten Study at East Fairfield** 7:00 Choir Practice	**Mar 5**	**Mar 6** Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	**Mar 7** **Turn clocks Ahead one hour**
Mar 8 **3rd DAY OF LENT** 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School **4:00 4H** (Hannah Farmer)	**Mar 9** 6:00 Cub Scouts	**Mar 10** 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC **-Ladies' Day**	**Mar 11** **6:00 Lenten Study at East Fairfield** 7:00 Choir Practice **7:00 Scripture & Suds at Brew Lounge**	**Mar 12**	**Mar 13** Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	**Mar 14**
Mar 15 **4th DAY OF LENT** 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School	**Mar 16** 6:00 Cub Scouts **7:00 Leadership Board**	**Mar 17** 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC	**Mar 18** **6:00 Lenten Study at East Fairfield** 7:00 Choir Practice	**Mar 19**	**Mar 20** Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	**Mar 21**
Mar 22 **5th DAY OF LENT** 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School **5:00 Potluck Fellowship at Emmanuel UMC**	**Mar 23** 6:00 Cub Scouts	**Mar 24** 8:00 Men's Coffee at East Fairfield UMC **Newsletter Deadline**	**Mar 25** **6:00 Lenten Study at East Fairfield** 7:00 Choir Practice	**Mar 26** **9:00 Mailing Com. at EF** **7:00 Scripture & Suds at Sundog**	**Mar 27** Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	**Mar 28** **8:30-10:00 AM Caring for God's Lambs** Food Pantry at Trinity UMC

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE (February 22)

In-Person: 50
Online: 41

Update on Mission Giving for 2025				
FUND	NAME OF FUND	NEED	RECEIVED	STILL NEED
2	General Mission Fund	5,099	1,070	4,029
33	4C's	125		
32	Cub Scouts	150	245	
37	Way Station	150		
22	Flat Rock	175	140	35
64	**Farmer to Farmer - Liberia**	**300**		
13	UMCOR Sunday	Any Donation		
21	UMCOR – U.S. Disasters	Any Donation		
14	Blanket Sunday	Any Donation	65	
15	Peace With Justice	Any Donation		
16	World Communion	Any Donation		
17	Student Day	Any Donation		
46	Heroes & Halos	Any Donation		
63	InStep Program	Any Donation		
49	Caring for God's Lambs	Any Donation		
38	Operation Christmas Child Boxes ($118)			

Fund Balances as of end of January

Fund # 1	Ministry Operating	-11,315
Fund # 2	Mission Fund	521
Fund # 3	Building Fund	59,570
Fund # 28	Elevator Fund	3,083

Mission of the Month for March

Farmer to Farmer – Fund #64

Our mission is to provide technical and mechanized training in profitable and productive farming to Liberian farmers. Our work in Harrisburg, Liberia focuses on serving God, serving community, farming, education, working together, and building relationships.

4C's Item – Cereal

You Are Invited: Cooperative Parish Gathering

March 20 | 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. | Delaware, Ohio
Hosted at Asbury United Methodist Church

What if we paused to celebrate what God is already doing among us… and imagine what could be next? Join clergy and lay members from cooperative parishes across Ohio for a day to encourage, equip, and connect. This is for anyone invested in shared ministry—pastors, lay leaders, team members, and those simply curious about what God might do when we lean into collaboration.

Why Attend? Because cooperative ministry is not about scarcity, but shared strength. In the morning, we will worship together, celebrate ministry happening in cooperatives, hear from a panel sharing real examples, possibilities, and lessons learned, and create space to connect with others navigating similar questions. In the afternoon, you will choose one of two practical workshops:

Workshop 1: Building Redevelopment
Our buildings can be either an asset or a burden. This session shares honest, hands-on stories from faith communities doing the hard, hopeful work of reimagining sacred spaces. Not quick fixes. But faithful next steps. You will leave with practical insights, real-life examples, and thoughtful considerations for navigating the "wicked problem" of church buildings in the next generation.

Workshop 2: Better Together
How do embrace the missional synergy of a cooperative while remaining unique congregations? This workshop helps cooperatives explore their shared mission field, review community data, identify strengths and opportunities, discern what can be done together, and clarify practical next steps. This is a working session designed to move from conversation to action.

Cost: Completely free.
We want it to be accessible to every cooperative parish.

Make It a Full Weekend
We strongly encourage you to consider also attending *Laity Convocation,* happening Friday evening and Saturday in the same area. Laity Convocation is an exciting celebration of our lay folk so key in all ministries including cooperatives. This year's speaker Dr Ashley Boggan who is a stellar presenter makes this well worth the time!

Cooperative members who register for the Convocation and stay at the corresponding hotel may be reimbursed up to 50% of their hotel cost through the Office of Discipleship Ministries of Ohio.

This is not just another event. It is a moment to remember that we are not alone. Come celebrate. Come learn. Come imagine what God can do when we truly are better together.

We hope to see you on March 20.
DEADLINE is Wednesday, March 11.
Register for Cooperative Parish gathering as a team at
https://eastohio-reg.brtapp.com/CooperativeParishGathering

Faith United

A Cooperative Parish of United Methodist Churches

03-01-26
UPCOMING EVENTS

LENTEN STUDY: A BEAD AND A PRAYER
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 6:00 PM
at East Fairfield UMC

POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP – SUNDAY MARCH 22
AT 5:00 PM
at Emmanuel UMC

CARING FOR GOD'S LAMBS FOOD PANTRY
SATURDAY MARCH 28
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
at Trinity UMC

MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 2
at East Fairfield UMC
6:30 Covered Dish Dinner
7:00 Worship Service

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – APRIL 3
7:00 PM Worship Service
at Centenary UMC

MEN'S COFFEE GROUP at East Fairfield UMC
meets on Tuesdays at 8:00 AM

(The second Tuesday of the month is Ladies' Day.)

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

2026 Bishop's Laity Leadership Convocation

You are invited to gather with Bishop Hee Soo Jung and laity from across the Ohio Episcopal Area for this year's **Bishop's Laity Leadership Convocation**, a two-day event designed to inspire, equip, and strengthen lay people for ministry in a rapidly changing world.

Throughout the convocation, Bishop Hee Soo Jung will guide participants in exploring what it means to lead from a posture of *abundant grace*. In a season when many congregations are searching for renewed purpose and connection, Bishop Jung's leadership emphasizes hope, inclusion, and the transformative power of God's grace at work through laypeople.

We are also honored to welcome Dr. Ashley Boggan as our plenary speaker. Dr. Boggan serves as the General Secretary of the General Commission on Archives and History, where she helps The United Methodist Church understand its past in order to faithfully imagine its future.

In her plenary sessions, Dr. Boggan will offer a historical lens for lay leadership - inviting us to learn from our roots, examine patterns that have shaped the church, and discern how history can guide us toward a more equitable and vibrant future for all Methodists.

Woven throughout the event will be meaningful opportunities for laity to connect with one another across roles, regions, and experiences. Participants will have time to share stories, support one another, and learn together in both structured and informal moments of conversation.

This year's convocation also includes dedicated affinity group time, offering space for individuals with shared interests or ministry areas to dream, wonder, and plan together for the future. Whether you're passionate about discipleship, community outreach, digital ministry, justice initiatives, or congregational care, there will be room to explore new possibilities with others who share your call.

Be sure to invite others to join you this year!

continued →

→ continued

Event Details

- **Dates:** March 20–21, 2026 (beginning at 5:30 pm on Friday and concluding at 3:30 pm on Saturday)

- **Location:** *William Street United Methodist Church, 28 W William Street, Delaware, OH and Asbury United Methodist Church, 55 W Lincoln Avenue, Delaware, OH*

- **Meals Included:** Dinner and lunch will be provided and snackle boxes will be back

- **Lodging:** A hotel room block is available at the Sheraton Suites Columbus Worthington for $99 per night. Use the link to make your own room reservation: (**Book your group rate for Bishop's Laity Leadership Convocation Mar2026)**

(Booking Deadline March 6, 2026)

If you desire a room with more than one bed, please call the hotel directly and they will make those accommodations for you. There are hotels in closer proximity to the churches in Delaware. You may choose to reserve a room there. These hotels would not provide a room block or guarantee a price.

On the **REGISTRATION PAGE**

- Please be sure to check what day(s) you will be attending below:

- Friday (3/20) ~ OR
- Saturday (3/21) ~ OR
- Both Friday and Saturday (3/20 & 3/21)

NOTE: If you have a mobility challenge, please be sure to let us know during the registration process. There is a box you can fill out and specify how we can help you.

DEADLINE for REGISTRATON: March 06, 2026
To register, contact Denise in the EF office or Pastor Lisa for the registration link.