

# THE CALL

(Quarantine Edition)

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

November 2020  
Volume 75, Issue 9

## THOUGHTS FROM BRIAN

Faith is not an emotion. Faith is a particular sort of perception that allows one to see beyond the impermanent circumstances of our lives to perceive what is real, true, and of God. Faith permits us to perceive the always emerging quality of God's future poking its way into this creation. That perception, seeing what God is creating, gives rise to the courage of hope founded not on idle dreams, but the patterns we see around us.

I am so thankful that Fairmont has responded to this year of shutdowns, pandemic, anxiety, and isolation in faith. You have seen beyond zoom screens and YouTube to see the real of our neighbors reaching out to each other in love. You have seen beyond disbursed worship to a broader evangelism and embrace than anything we had imagined before. And you have been faithful in making all this possible, sharing your resources to not merely sustain but grow Fairmont's ministry and missional outreach in this time of need. While many congregations have floundered during this time of unprecedented change, we have been and are growing all thanks to you.

All our growth, all our ministries depend entirely on your faith inspired giving. Your tithes and offerings are transformed into worship, teaching, loving care, and help for families in need in our community. In the next week, you will receive a pledge card for your support of Fairmont's ministries in the year ahead. Please pray for wisdom on how you should respond. Look with eyes of faith to what God has done and is doing and in faith examine how you are called to participate in God's future emerging around us. Please mail in your pledge in the addressed, stamped envelope, so we can include your pledge in our prayers of gratitude on Stewardship Sunday, November 22. May the small candle of faith that you kindle shine light into a thousand dark places in this journey.

## WORDS FROM KELLEY

*With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:  
Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name. Isaiah 12:3-4*

November marks the beginning of the Stewardship season at Fairmont in this challenging year of the pandemic. We need one another more than ever right now. COVID has forced us to find new ways to "be church" as the Body of Christ. I am incredibly proud to be in ministry with you, even in the midst of these difficult days. I give thanks to God for you and for the gifts you bring to our common calling.

As we mark another year of gratitude to God, I invite you to join me in three things as we affirm our commitment to God's work at Fairmont:

**-Prayer** May we be in prayer for Fairmont Presbyterian Church in this Stewardship season that we might hear God's voice and give joyfully and generously

**-Presence** Although we cannot be physically present at this time of social distancing, may we be present in all ways we can - online worship, Zoom Bible study, Connections, online Children's Sunday School, Youth gatherings online and social distanced, phone calls, emails, cards, letters, texts, Team meetings - so that we might be present in covenant community together

**-Perseverance** Through the power of God's Spirit, may we persevere during this difficult time of "together yet apart" knowing that God is faithful to provide that "water from the wells of salvation"

Stewardship is gratitude for God's abundant provision in our lives. May we be faithful in prayer, presence, and perseverance in this season of thankfulness.

With you in Christ,

Pastor Kelley

## WORSHIP

**NO** public worship until further notice. All worship offerings will be live-streamed online. Visit [www.fairmontchurch.org/worship-videos](http://www.fairmontchurch.org/worship-videos) for links to all past and upcoming live streams.

**November 1: All Saints' Day/22nd Sunday after Pentecost**  
Holy Communion, 10:30am  
Lesson: Revelation 7:4, 9-17  
Sermon: All Together Now

**November 8: 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30am**  
Lesson: Exodus 32:1-14  
Sermon: Our Preferred Deity

**November 15: 24th Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30am**  
Lesson: Exodus 33:12-23  
Sermon: Cleft of the Rock

**November 22: Christ the King, 10:30am**  
Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23  
Sermon: Pulling Back the Curtain

**November 29: 1st Sunday of Advent, 10:30am**  
Lesson: Isaiah 64: 1-9  
Sermon: Condescending To Enter the Fray

## ONLINE MINISTRIES

**Kidz Korner Online: Sundays, 11:45 am**  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85778268480>  
Zoom Meeting ID: 857 7826 8480

**Connections: Wednesdays, 7:00pm**  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81271879988>  
Zoom Meeting ID: 812 7187 9988

**Bible Study: Thursdays, 7:30pm**  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86541370912>  
Zoom Meeting ID: 865-4137-0912

**Theology on Tap: 1st & 3rd Fridays, 5:00pm**  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81031782239>  
Zoom Meeting ID: 810 3178 2239

**Coffee Fellowship: Sundays, 11:30am**  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/97373657839>  
Zoom Meeting ID: 973-7365-7839

**Choir Gathering: Every Third Monday, 7:00pm**  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93128963106>  
Zoom Meeting ID: 931-2896-3106

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

### VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Ages 3 through grade 5 are invited to join in "Virtual Sunday school" at our new time - Sundays at 11:45am following worship.

### VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Mark your calendars! I'm excited to announce our Christmas pageant this year will be presented virtually on December 20th! Please be ready to record your adorable children in early December. Watch for updates in Kidz Korner emails in the coming month!

### PYC "PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION"

Fairmont Youth Ministry (grades 6th-12th) are meeting on the 1st Sunday of each month *in-person* at 1:30 p.m. and all other Sundays *via Zoom* at 1:30 p.m. PYC will share in a time of online bible study, fellowship, and fun. Pastor Kelley can be reached by email at [kshin@fairmontchurch.org](mailto:kshin@fairmontchurch.org) or by text or phone at (937) 751-0752.

#### PYC schedule for November 2020:

November 1 (In-Person):	Moses
November 8 (Zoom):	Rahab
November 15 (Zoom):	Deborah
November 22 (Zoom):	Samson
November 29	NO PYC (Thanksgiving)

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

We started our Godly Play and Blessing Circle specials with Pastor Kelley and our reading special with 'Listening to Lorelei'.

All the students and staff remain healthy as we continue our cleaning and sanitizing protocols.



## MUSIC NOTES

Fall is in the air and Christmas will be here in the blink of an eye! Although the music at Fairmont will look quite different this year, it will be joyful and hopeful. I appreciate all of the gifts given to our church through the participation of many individuals in music groups and performances. It is impossible to express my gratitude in words.

The Bell Choir continues to meet on Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30. We rehearse in fellowship hall, spaced apart, and wearing masks. The players are enthusiastic and thankful to be making music together at this difficult time in our world.

We are happy to welcome Stephan Voss to our group! Stephan has extensive bell choir experience and he jumped right in without missing a beat!

There is still room for a couple of additional ringers. If you are interested, please contact me at [qramga@fairmontchurch.org](mailto:qramga@fairmontchurch.org) or (317) 446-4393 (call or text). The ability to read music notation is important, but prior ringing experience is not necessary.

The Chancel Choir will begin work on a Christmas Virtual Choir performance during the week of November 8<sup>th</sup>. I am excited to try a virtual choir package published by Beckenhorst Press. Please consider joining us! It would be such a happy celebration to have some new faces joining forces with our familiar, much loved singers. The process is clearly outlined in the instructions, there are practice videos for each voice part, and our wonderful Lorelei Harding will make sure all of our voices blend beautifully! Call, text, or email me for more information and encouragement - (317) 446-4393 or [qramga@fairmontchurch.org](mailto:qramga@fairmontchurch.org). This is a contact free experience. All you need is a computer and a phone for recording your voice.

Here are a few musical selections for you to enjoy!

*See Amid the Winter's Snow* arranged by Dan Forrest  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iq7DmpEMZR8>

*Alleluia* by Eric Whitacre  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rak\\_rJLG49k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rak_rJLG49k)

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vUhwjkd8A>

Peace and Love,  
Vicki

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Fairmont's Worship Committee hopes you are finding our Sunday morning worship services meaningful, inspiring, comforting, and uplifting. We want to thank Brian, Kelley, Lorelei, Vicki, Judy, Jerry, our choir, our bell choir, and our praise band for the wonderful worship service every Sunday. Everyone is working very hard to bring you a high-quality worship service.

We also want to thank the children for the wonderful church service they participated in on October 18th.

We look forward to bringing you more excellent worship services in November and December. Blessings!

## BUDGET AND STEWARDSHIP

From Your Stewardship Team:

For the past seven months, we have all been afflicted with the need for normalcy. We want to go back to the time without masks. We want to return to the time when social distancing was not an everyday phrase. We miss our sports and want to return to tailgating and sitting in a stadium full of other fans cheering for our teams. We worry about our children and grandchildren and how these COVID times will affect their educations and personality development. We pray for an effective and safe vaccine. We pray for a return to normalcy.

During this COVID time, Fairmont has supported our need for normalcy. It has richly supported our faith and kept it strong. Online worship has kept us bound together as a community of Faith. Fairmont's exceptional pastors have kept us inspired, hopeful and faithful.

Fairmont has supported you during this time of uncertainty. During this stewardship season it is your opportunity to support Fairmont. The financial needs of the church have continued and will continue during COVID. Your pledge will allow Fairmont to continue to minister to our congregation and fellow believers around North America. Your pledge will allow Fairmont to strongly and effectively re-open its doors for in person worship when the time is right and allow us to take a large step toward normalcy.

Your Session has designated November 22 as Consecration Sunday. Your pledge card along with a stamped return envelope will be sent to you on November 2. On Consecration Sunday, your envelope containing your pledge card will be placed in collection plates on the communion table.

Your Stewardship Team asks that you prayerfully consider your pledge so Fairmont can continue to minister to our faith community and continue to provide a measure of normalcy to our lives in these uncertain times.

Thank you.

<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Monday</b>		<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>Wednesday</b>	
All Saints' Day Communion Sunday 10:30am Worship (stream starts at 10:15am)  11:45am Kidz Korner (online)  1:30pm PYC (in-person)	<b>1</b>	7:30pm WOF Coord. Team Meeting (online)	<b>2</b>	11:00am Fit 4 You (fh)  7:00pm Team Meetings (online)	<b>3</b>	7:00pm Women 7:00pm Connection	
10:30am Worship (stream starts at 10:15am)  11:45am Kidz Korner (online)  1:30pm PYC (online)	<b>8</b>	7:00pm Circle 1 (online)	<b>9</b>	11:00am Fit 4 You (fh)  7:00pm Trustees (online) B&G, Finance (online)	<b>10</b>	Veterans Day  7:00pm Connection	
10:30am Worship (stream starts at 10:15am)  11:45am Kidz Korner (online)  1:30pm PYC (online)	<b>15</b>	7:00pm Circle 8 (online)	<b>16</b>	11:00am Fit 4 You (fh)  7:00pm Session (online)	<b>17</b>	10:00am Circle 1:30pm Women 5:30pm Circle 7:00pm Connection	
Christ the King 10:30am Worship (stream starts at 10:15am)  11:45am Kidz Korner (online)  1:30pm PYC (online)	<b>22</b>		<b>23</b>	11:00am Fit 4 You (fh)	<b>24</b>	7:00pm Connection (online)	
First Sunday of Advent 10:30am Worship (stream starts at 10:15am)  No Kidz Korner  No PYC	<b>29</b>		<b>30</b>				

# EMBER

Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
4	7:30pm Bible Study (online)	5	11:00am Fit 4 You (fh) 5:00pm Theology on Tap (online)	6		7	
11	7:30pm Bible Study (online)	12	11:00am Fit 4 You (fh) 8:00pm Women, Word, and Wine (online)	13		14	
18	7:30pm Bible Study (online)	19	11:00am Fit 4 You (fh) 5:00pm Theology on Tap (online)	20	9:30am Circle 7 (online)	21	
25	Thanksgiving Day (office closed)	26	Thanksgiving Friday (office closed)	27		28	

## MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION

Helping Hands, Helping Hearts



A Different Jeremiah's Letter Christmas!

A very different project is in place for 2020. The official Jeremiah's Letter program is cancelled for 2020.

However, Fairmont will carry on! Although there is no list of needy families provided, we will simply reach out to the families we supported last year; certainly, their need continues.

Every Christmas past, Mission budget provides the ingredients for a full Christmas turkey dinner with all the fixings, plus assorted kitchen supplies of detergents, cleaners, paper products, etc. Team members raid the grocery store making purchases of over \$1200! We're not shopping this year. Our budget still allows this amount although we will now provide gift cards to each family.

What about your gifts? Although we will not identify specific gifts nor would we send you shopping, we will be collecting cash donations for gift cards for the families to do their own shopping. That's not as special, but it allows us to participate in supporting and nurturing children, youth, and families in our community and shining the light of Christmas into their homes.

More information on how to make your donation will be in the December Call.

November 15 - 3rd Sunday Mission Project

Mission Team is sponsoring a note/letter-writing campaign for our Nov. 15 project, although you may do this anytime.

With the theme of "Thankfulness" in November, we would like members to write to our Seniors and others who may be restricted in movement and activities more than the rest of us; many of our members have had limited social contact or freedom to leave their homes. Please extend your love and appreciation to these members. You may simply write to those you know and haven't seen for awhile or call Pastor Kelley for names of others. Share your LOVE!

## Thank you and updates from Brigid's Path!

On the fifth Sunday of the month, Fairmont features a nonprofit organization in the Dayton area that meets our team's mission of supporting children and families. A few fifth Sundays ago, we invited a Director of Brigid's Path to Fairmont and dedicated an offering to their cause. Brigid's Path is the first newborn recovery center in Ohio, a faith-filled organization focusing on the health of newborn babies and mothers impacted by addiction.

Brigid's Path sent us a handwritten thank you note recently, writing that our collection helped them care for more than 100 babies over the past three years. They wrote, "Thank you for your support in making Brigid's Path a place where babies and families can thrive. As we continue to navigate our new normal, we see the work being done here is making a positive impact on the community." How wonderful that Fairmont's pre-pandemic efforts are bearing fruit for families in need!

## WOMEN OF FAIRMONT

Each of our Circles has determined when, how, and where (online or in person) works best for their members, so please follow up with your Circle leader to stay involved. We also are encouraging all Women of Fairmont to find ways to connect with other women outside of Circle (phone calls, notes, cards, surprises, etc.) and to intentionally foster relationship through prayer and fellowship.

Finally, please remember that because we are unable to host our biggest fundraisers, like the Cookie Walk, that it is your generosity to Women of Fairmont that will enable us to continue our Mission Giving to our local community in the Spring. Thank you for allowing us to reach out and help others!

Contact the church office if you are interested in joining Women of Fairmont.

Blessings,  
Lisa Shearer

Our next Coordinating Team meeting will be on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30pm via Zoom and the following 6 meeting will be held in January.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEW CONNECTIONS CLASS LUMINARIES—Women that illuminate the Christian Way

Join us for the next six Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm on Zoom as we learn about and from six extraordinary women who have shaped the Christian faith and have deepened our understanding of Christian life. Each week we will examine one of these foundational sisters in faith:

November 4: Julian of Norwich

November 11: Dorothy Day

November 18: Edith Stein

November 25: Simone Weil

Each week, short summaries of each woman's life, work, and writings will be offered. Come and explore the often-concealed stories of the some of the Christianity's greatest teachers and leaders.

### WOMEN, WORD, AND WINE

All women of Fairmont church are invited to "Women, Word, and Wine" on **Friday, November 13, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.** via Zoom. Pastor Kelley will lead a short time of spiritual direction, we will share faith conversations together, and share a glass of wine. BYOW (bring your own wine) and join us as we share faith, hope, and love together in this time of social distancing. Watch for the Zoom link in our weekly *Be-side Still Waters* email and at [www.fairmontchurch.org](http://www.fairmontchurch.org).

### FOURTH FRIDAY FAMILY PIZZA HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Fourth Friday Family Pizza Zoom meeting will **not** meet in November (Thanksgiving) or in December (Christmas) due to holidays. We will meet again in the new year on January 22, 2021 via Zoom. Watch for an email from Pastor Kelley with reminders for upcoming meetings.

### PASTORAL CARE

Thank you to our Deacons and our Spiritual Caregivers who are keeping regularly in touch with our most vulnerable church members during this time of "stay at home." And thank you to our Email Prayer Chain members who are praying faithfully for our church family. If you know of anyone in our congregation who is in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Kelley at [kshin@fairmontchurch.org](mailto:kshin@fairmontchurch.org) or (937) 751-0752. We are keeping in touch with all of our church family in multiple ways - prayer, email, text, phone, Zoom, and live-streamed worship. Together we are the Body of Christ.

## CIVILITY

Like all humans in the history of the world (save one, whose parentage far outstrips mine), I am a deeply flawed individual. For an exhaustive and (I would argue) somewhat expansive list of my myriad faults, please feel free to contact my children. All kidding aside, I am aware that my lack of patience and my tendency to rush in all aspects of my life are probably my greatest failings. I try to fit too much into my day and, as a result, I often am too hurried to show the kindness and respect to others I know I should. My personal frustration at the manner in which our country seems to have willingly headed in recent years led me to ask Pastor Brian if I could offer my perspective on civility. I have no other credentials beyond having a model of civility in my life growing up and our country's shared and seeming recent experience of its absence, but Pastor Brian kindly acquiesced.

With the backdrop of the pandemic, the volatile, uncivil political climate, the racial unrest, and the pervasive and insidious distrust 2020 seems to embrace and embody, I have been thinking a lot about my dad's quiet and insistent expectation of civility from himself and others. My dad owned a business in the DC area for more than 50 years and owned other businesses during his lifetime all of which were in competitive markets.

He was a true self-made man and he was shrewd and hard-working, but he was never rude or a jerk. I mean never. He is still with us, thankfully, and while his memory is not as focused as it was, his kindness is.

When my son David was in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we went every morning for breakfast and coffee at Panera Bread. It was a habit we continued even after he got his driver's license; one I cherished over the next 5 years. One morning, while we were sitting at the table waiting for our overpriced breakfast, we noticed an older man walk up to the counter and place an order. We paid no attention until the customer's voice began to fill the restaurant's early morning quiet. As we watched, the man shook his food bag at the young man behind the counter yelling, "I said I didn't want a box and cutlery." We couldn't hear the employee's response, but it was clear it wasn't to the man's liking, and his voice grew louder. David and I stopped talking to watch this adult man, presumably (based on his appearance), retired military, shout at this college-aged kid about wanting to cut down on packaging and waste. Having said his piece, he turned abruptly and began to storm out of the restaurant. As he did, the employee sang out, "Have a nice day." At this, he rushed back to the counter and demanded to talk to the manager. After more unsatisfying commentary about the employee's work performance, this 70+ year old man stomped all the way out, loudly proclaiming he would NEVER return to Panera. Before we left, I went to tell the manager the man must have been having a bad day and that even if the employee maybe shouldn't have singsonged him to have a nice day, it was the older man's absence of civility that created the issue.

As Pastor Brian has shared in sermons, prayers, articles, Bible study, and Connections, we are isolated, angry, uncertain, and in many cases, increasingly desperate as days turn to weeks turn to months and there is no legitimate cure in sight and no real promise life will EVER get back to the way it was. Particularly right now, I am trying hard to channel my dad's civility. If I feel frustrated, I try take a breath. I try to rephrase. And I try to remember to be gentle and kind with everyone - even if I am having a bad day. If I am supposed to do unto others as I would have them do unto me, even in these trying times - or perhaps especially in these trying times - I'm trying to "do" kindness and patience. -Juli Cohen

# Fairmont Presbyterian Church

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Website: [www.fairmontchurch.org](http://www.fairmontchurch.org)

Facebook: Fairmont Presbyterian Church - Kettering, OH

Twitter: @FairmontChurch

Instagram: fairmontpresbyterianchurch

## STAFF

**Pastor/Head of Staff:** Brian Maguire  
**Associate Pastor:** Kelley Wehmeyer Shin  
**Children's Ministry Coordinator:** Lorelei Harding  
**Director of Music Ministries:** Vicki Ramga  
**Organist:** Judy Bede  
**Praise & Worship Leader:** Jerry Mahn

**Preschool Director:** Tracy Landgren  
**Preschool Teacher:** Amber Reshad  
**Preschool Aide:** Danielle Kern  
**Administrative Assistant:** Jennifer Mason  
**Bookkeeper:** Martha Keil  
**Custodian:** Louis Weyrauch

## November Birthdays

Stewart Schramm	11/01	Jennifer Fiden	11/12
Janine Borneman	11/03	Loveday Harper Adam	11/13
Ann Diller	11/03	Nicole Hohler	11/15
Mike Cavey	11/05	Jim Grillot	11/19
Betty Lou Ludwig	11/05	Rebecca Lamb	11/19
Sarah Hamilton	11/08	Wayne Morse	11/19
Eric Sitar	11/08	Henry Bergstresser	11/20
Joe Hood	11/10	Ryan Grieco	11/20
Debra Wright	11/10	Eric Diller	11/21
Alexandra Barnett	11/11	Christine Bausman	11/22
Brian Diller	11/12	David Hammond	11/28
		Strater Poindexter	11/28

### Corrected October Birthdays

Kris Martin	10/01
Sam Boden	10/12



### **DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL**

**The deadline for the next Call is Friday, November 20, 2020.**

**Please submit articles to: [jmason@fairmontchurch.org](mailto:jmason@fairmontchurch.org).**