



Staying Connected

October 6, 2021

Farmer City United Methodist Church

Staying Connected is a weekly guide to news, events, and announcements. Send your announcements to Diana Homann by email: diana.homann56@gmail.com.

Church Activities

AA: Mondays at 7:00 PM (FCUMC)
Sunday Worship: In House at 10:45 AM
Ad Council: 10/12 at 6:30 PM (FCUMC)

In House Sunday School

Pairs and Spares: Wesley Room at 9:30 AM
Path Finders: Office at 9:30 AM

Online Worship Options

YouTube: Farmer City UMC Class Room
FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/FarmerCityUMC/>
Webpage: <https://www.farmercityumc.org/sermons>

ATTENTION: To those struggling to find our Sunday worship videos on YouTube; they are no longer on Pastor's Sandi's page but can be found by googling **FCUMC Class Room!**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/FCUMCClassRoom>
Farmer City UMC Class Room - YouTube
Farmer City United Methodist Church (UMC) Class Room is for video's related to Sunday School or Children's Time or Stories.

Parent Christmas Shop

Christmas Shop is a way for parents in need to select 2 gifts for their children. The Parent Christmas Shop will be open on 12/11/2021 at the Sunshine Center on Rt 54. Fundraising will end on November 21st. **Please consider donating to this by adding Christmas Shop on the memo line of your check.**



Dave & Karen Harris October 7
Marty & Sue Kopp October 10
Kevin & Kayla Maxwell October 13
Rick & Dianna Wells October 19

Coffee Time with Pastor Sandi

Pastor Sandi has established a church schedule. You will find her in the Bell Room or the Wesley Room on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. She will be brewing coffee so come by and have a cup with her. Coffee Time with Sandi is open to anyone and everyone.



TO: (10/6) Robbin King
(10/7) Ruth Nafziger...(10/12) Krista Voyles
(10/14) Kevin Maxwell...(10/15) Marty Kopp
(10/15) William Walden...(10/17) Hayden Howell
(10/25) Sara Sorensen ... (10/25) Sam Duggins
(10/26) Amy Phillips...(10/28) Melissa Whisman

Lord, Hear our Prayers

We pray for the family of Rita Price.
Health Issues: Robert Drake, (Nephew of Laura Enger), Mary Lou Beggs, Ron Vance, Red Ulitzsch, (Father of Michelle Cordes), Ruth Nafziger, Brian Butler (Brother-in-Law of Tim Green), Linda Ashworth, **Liz Slusser** (surgeries)
Cancer: Craig Brock, (Friend of Dan Pearl), Ken Brock, (Friend of Pearls and father of Craig Brock), Dave Harris, (Husband of Katie Copley Harris), John Homann, (brother of Diana Homann), John Baker (Weldon), Lynn Davis (friend of Craig Brock & Dan Pearl), Moe Winstead, DJ Homann, Sandy Shaw, Melissa Melton, Myron Kirby
Other: Stefanie Crownover (Nursing Home), David Watkins (Wheelchair Bound), Greg Mosgrove (Covid), Wayne Bowns, Addy Benjamin (Brain Tumor), the Goode family, the Reeder family, Dan Mahnke (heart), Nadine Preston (surgery), Fred Granning (Covid), Nick Drinkwater (Covid), Everly Sturner (Elise Rick-Sturner baby), **Diana Homann** (broken wrist)

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.

How is FCUMC looking Financially?

Let's start with attendance. Do you remember that on Sept 20, 2020, we stopped having in person worship and we remained online for the rest of the year. When we compare the 3rd quarter results for both years, our church attendance remains about the same...just slightly lower in 2021.

	2020	2021
July	25	21
Aug	23	21
Sept	23	16
Total Average	23	19

Now, let's look at Operating Expenses. I expect that we will spend a total of \$110,292 in expenses this year. At the end of September, our giving for the year is currently at \$90,128 leaving us with a \$20,165 deficit.

Expected Expenses	110,292
Giving Received (Jan – Sept)	90,128
Difference	20,165
Average p/month needed for Oct, Nov, Dec	6,721.33

That's an average of about \$6,721 per month. Last year, we averaged a total of \$7,125 per the last 3 months of the year. I am hopeful we will make our goal. However, it is a weekly need of \$1680 which is more than we normally receive while passing the plate on Sundays.

Now, not all of our giving comes in during worship services on Sundays. We also have electronic giving available. Here's a look at that.

In 2020, we averaged \$640 per month through electronic giving. In 2021, we average \$500. That's a decline of \$138 per month. But, unless there are changes to electronic giving, we can expect \$1500 to come in by the end of the year.

Now, here's a trend that is more concerning for all us. It's a trend of not bringing in more than we are spending. With attendance down and expenses up, it's a tough battle for sure.

	Giving Rec'd	Total Expenses	+ or -
2018	\$129,707	\$108,207	+\$21,500
2019	\$96,593	\$101,545	-\$4,948
2020	\$99,845	\$104,516	-\$4,671
2021	\$90,165 (so far)	\$110,292 (expected)	?

Will we be able to recover from a 2 to 3-year cycle of spending more than we bring in?

Let's hope so. One way to do that is reducing our expenses each month.



We have seen an **increase in insurance costs of \$300** from 2020 to 2021. Not much we can do about that and the increase is better than I would have expected.

It seems our **electric/water bill will end up being lower** this year and that is mainly due to the building being closed ¼ of the year. I have been noticing lights left on in the building so if you pop in and out throughout the week make sure you are shutting the lights off. After all, every little bit helps in the long run.

Let's move to the phone/internet bill, we have **reduced this bill by \$40 per month.**

The gas bill...we were able to **reduce the gas bill from the range of \$1,500-\$600 (Jan to April) per month to \$360-\$130 (May-Sept) per month.** We made changes to our bill when we received a bill for \$1500 in April of this year so I am expecting by the end of the year and going forward we will see a huge savings here.



That leaves the last category of employees. The secretary received a \$1 per hour raise in 2021 but also a restructuring of hours for yearly tasks. Overall, the secretary position will see an increase of \$1,200 this year from last year. The janitor will receive \$1500 less this year and that is mainly due to cleaning less. We are not paying for a nursery attendant at this time. **Overall, this category is down in costs by \$1,123.**



I hope that by looking at the expenses, you see that we are doing all we can to save money. I will continue to be vigilant at trying to find more ways to save.

In addition, we **added \$2,000 to the budget** for a new category - Building Maintenance & Repair. This figure turns out to be lower than we need.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Diana Homann, FCUMC Treasurer



Our Apportionment payment was decrease by \$2,000 in 2021 but goes back up \$1,000 in 2022.

