

Ways to Participate in the Life of our Church:

Sunday Bible Study: Join us for Bible study Sunday at 9:00 AM in the Pastor's Study. The class will continue discussing the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church and their biblical foundations.

Sunday Book Study Group: Join us at 11:15 AM in the church office/library. This Sunday we will start discussing "The Good Heart: A Buddhist Perspective on the Teachings of Jesus" by His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

Fairview Choir: Our adult choir practices on Wednesday nights at 7 PM in the sanctuary. This is a low-key group of folks who love to sing. If you're interested in singing as part of the choir, come to any practice or speak with our Director of Music Judy Shaw. All musical abilities welcome!

Fairview Fall Fest!: Join us for a fun, fall, fellowship event Saturday, October 18 at 5:30 PM. This will take place at the Drane Home about 20 minutes north of the church. You can sign up to bring a side dish to share. We'll have a 'possum hunt (kids hunt for "possums" – brown paper bags filled with candy, sort of like an Easter egg hunt, but with flashlights.) Invite your friends, family, and neighbors! If you do not drive at night please let the office (573) 445-5391 and we'll organize a ride.

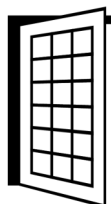
Fall Fest 'Possum Supplies: We are collecting items to put in the paper bag 'possums the kids will find at Fairview Fall Fest. If you'd like, you can donate candy, stickers, temporary tattoos, etc. We'll have a basket in the narthex where you can place your donations.

New Area for Youth: Our Leadership Board is beginning plans to create a space for youth in the alcove off the old fellowship hall/the current preschool rooms downstairs. We need your help! What dreams do you have for a youth space? What should it include? If you are interested in being part of the Youth Room Task Force talk with Pastor Nancy or Kara Amann.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build: The non-profit, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, has built and delivered over 250 beds to kids in Columbia! The United Methodists churches in Columbia will come together for a bed build on October 18 in the parking lot of Community United Methodist Church. All abilities welcome! Sign up to say you'll be there! More information coming soon!

Bedding Drive: We will be collecting new twin bedding to go with the beds- pillows, mattress pads including waterproof ones, blankets, and comforters. Please place in the basket in the generosity corner in the narthex (the nook by the elevator).

Financial Corner: Each month we'll keep you updated on the financial state of our church in our new Financial Corner. Tithes and Offerings—August is 66% of the way through the year. This year our budget included a 3% stretch goal from last year. As of August 31, 2025, we have received 72% of what we planned for the general fund in tithes and offerings.



Fairview United Methodist Church | 3200 Chapel Hill Road, Columbia, MO 65203
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Our Mission: to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

Our Vision: to be a neighborhood church where YOU make a difference

Core Values: We are faithful, relational, inclusive, genuine, and service-oriented

Core Practices: Worship. Pray. Grow. Serve. Give. Invite.



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost | September 28, 2025 | 10 AM

Gathering Music

Judy Shaw, Director of Music

Greeting

Rev. Nancy Martin, Pastor

*Hymn

Gather Us In

TFWS 2236 v. 1, 2, 4

*Call to Worship

Betsy Mathews, Liturgist

Transforming God, you take the world's darkness and re-create a world filled with the joy of light and hope.

Come and hear the good news of God's love for all creation.

Restoring God, you turn defeat into sudden victory, and re-create a world filled with the joy of peace and shalom.

Come and hear the good news of God's awesome powers.

Renewing God, we respond to your mighty deeds with trust, with songs of praise, worship, and thankful prayers.

May we share this grace and hope with all we meet. Amen.

Call to Confession

Rev. Nancy Martin

Prayer of Confession

Holy and trustworthy God, sometimes our lives are a mess, because of choices we have made or because of choices others have made. Sometimes our lives feel ordered and good, and we're kind and generous. Sometimes our lives are going well, and we forget to be so grateful and humble.

We trust that in the jumble of all of this, you are present. We trust that you are with us, walking with us when we stray, nudging us back to the right path, slowing us down when we get ahead of you, and waiting for us when we lag behind. We thank you, and ask for your forgiveness, and pray that you will show us how to share your love and forgiveness with others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

Choir Special
Open the Eyes of My Heart

Joys and Concerns; Prayers of the People
Rev. Nancy Martin

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children's Moment
Children are welcome to come to the front to hear about the scripture we’re focusing on today. Adults may accompany their child(ren). Children can also stay in their seats.

Hymn
Now Praise the Hidden God of Love
TFWS 2027

Prayer for Illumination
Betsy Mathews

Scripture
Acts 17:16-28 (NRSVUE)
While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, “What does this pretentious babbler want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities.” (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means.” Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of

their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’
The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Sermon
Rev. Nancy Martin

Hymn
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
UMH 103 v. 1 & 2

Generosity Moment
Rev. Nancy Martin

*Doxology
UMH 94

*Offertory Prayer
Betsy Mathews

*Closing Hymn
Crown Him with Many Crowns
UMH 327 v. 1, 3, 4

*Benediction
Rev. Nancy Martin

Postlude
Judy Shaw

The asterisk (*) indicates when to stand in body or spirit;
UMH stands for the United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS stands for The Faith We Sing. Find these books in the pews.

Children are welcome in all aspects of our worship service. They can stay with their adult(s) or attend nursery or Children’s Church. Nursery care is available starting at 9:45 AM for children four years old and under. Children’s Church happens during our service, for those four years old through fifth grade, after the Children’s Moment. Children learn more about the scripture we are focusing on in the worship service. Adults pick up their children after worship from the Children’s Church room at the end of the Children’s Corridor. All volunteers who work with children and youth have passed a background check, have been Safe Gatherings trained, and uphold our Safe Sanctuary policies and procedures.

Holy Communion: We, in the United Methodist Church, practice Open Communion, meaning anyone who loves Jesus, who earnestly repents of their sin, and seeks to live in peace with one another is welcome to the table. We use bread or crackers and grape juice, so as to have as inclusive a table as possible. Gluten free wafers and individual cups of grape juice are available on the stand between serving stations. Please place your empty cup in the basket.

We have an offering plate in the back of the sanctuary as you exit the double doors.
To give online, please scan this code using your smart phone’s camera:



Where have you seen God today?
Where did you see God this week?
Share it with us! email office@frontyardchurch.org