

Ways to Participate in the Life of our Church:

Sunday Bible Study: Join us for Bible study Sundays at 9:00 AM in the Pastor's Study. The class is currently discussing scripture going along with our churchwide theme.

Sunday Book Study Group: Join us in the office at 11:15 AM to discuss the book Dwelling Places: Words to Live in Every Season by Lucinda Secrest McDowell.

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!

Moms Group: This is a group for anyone actively parenting kids and youth. We meet on the first Sunday of each month at 7:00 PM in the narthex/lobby. We're discussing Meredith Miller's book *Woven: Nurturing a Faith your Kid Doesn't Have to Heal From*. Join us **May 3, at 7 PM!**

Craft Evening: Come to the church office/library on second Fridays at 6 PM for fun, fellowship, and crafts! Bring your own craft. We'll order in dinner, bring some food, or eat before you come. Let's make something great together! Join us **May 8 at 6 PM** for our next meet up.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast: Join other men from Fairview United Methodist Church every second Saturday at the West Broadway HyVee for community, conversation, and breakfast food! Order and find a table with other Fairview folks. Join us **Saturday, May 9 at 8:30 AM.**

April Rooted Reading: Our 2026 churchwide theme is "Rooted: Growing Deep in God's Word." Each month we're reading a book of the Bible together. Our book for April and May is the Acts of the Apostles. Make sure to get a handout with background and context for the chapters we'll read this week- they're by the bulletins in the narthex. This info is also on our website and app along with audio versions. Don't forget- there is a question box in the narthex to submit questions you have about what we're reading.

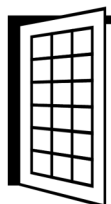
Loaves & Fishes: Loaves and Fishes is a Soup Kitchen that partners with faith and community groups to provide an evening meal seven nights a week. We'll serve the meal on Wednesday, April 29. This month we'll provide fettuccine alfredo, breadsticks from Fazoli's, green beans, and cookies and brownies. You can contribute to this meal with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness! You can bake, cook, transport food, serve the food, and help clean up. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex and an online one- scan the QR to sign up!



New Member Sunday: May 3 is New Member Sunday! Are you interested in joining our church? Are you interested in baptism for you or your child? If so please talk with Pastor Nancy or scan the QR code to let us know!



Pictures for the Directory: Plan to have your picture taken before or after worship on Sunday, May 3! Nick will be taking photos to update our Directory. Our goal is to have a photo for every directory entry. This help us learn each other's names and enables us to make connections with one another outside of worship.



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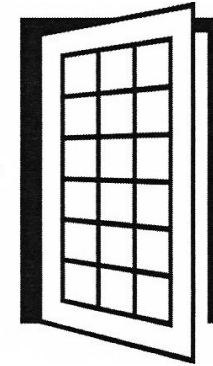
FB: @FairviewUMC | IG: @fairviewumccomo

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.



FAIRVIEW
UNITED
METHODIST

Fourth Sunday of Easter | April 26, 2026 | 10 AM

Gathering Music

Judy Shaw, Director of Music

Greeting

Rev. Nancy Martin, Pastor

*Hymn

How Great Thou Art

UMH 77 v. 1-3

*Call to Worship

Ewell Lawson, Liturgist

When we come to this space, we bring all of ourselves.

We bring joy and hope,

dreams and prayers,

grief and doubt,

memories and heartache.

God meets us here.

God hears our prayers and sees our scars.

With open hearts and authenticity,

let us worship our good and gracious God.

Call to Confession

Rev. Nancy Martin

Prayer of Confession

Resurrected One, you have proven that nothing can defeat the power of your love, and yet we continue to nurture our doubts. Time and again, you demonstrate your ability to transform despair in our human story into miraculous hope. For the moments when we choose violence over peace, exclusion over inclusion, and fear over hope—forgive us. When we choose egotism over what is right, and comfort over justice—show us mercy. And when we numb our pain instead of leaning into empathy—unravel us, for we long to be changed. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

God calls us out of darkness into marvelous light. We open ourselves up to sanctifying grace, allowing God to reorient us, to reset our direction. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

Hymn He Is Exalted TFWWS 2070

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

Rev. Nancy Martin

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 Open My Eyes That I May See UMH 454

Prayer of Illumination Ewell Lawson

Scripture Acts 9:1-22 (NRSVUE)

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from

his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." All who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?" Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Nancy Martin

Hymn In the Garden UMH 314 v. 1 & 2

Ministry Team Spotlight Nursery Team

*Doxology UMH 94

Offertory Prayer Ewell Lawson

*Closing Hymn He Lives UMH 310

*Benediction Rev. Nancy Martin

Postlude Judy Shaw

The asterisk (*) indicates when to stand in body or spirit; UMH stands for the United Methodist Hymnal; TFWWS 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 bowl.

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:



Download our app



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