Ways to Participate in the Life of our Church:

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality: Emotionally Healthy Spirituality is based on the premise that emotional health and spiritual health are inseparable and that many of us get stuck spiritually because we haven't done the hard work of becoming emotionally healthy. You'll learn how to slow down your life and deepen your relationship with Jesus. Join other United Methodists from across the state in this online class Wednesday evenings starting January 21. Scan the QR code to learn more and register.



Sunday Bible Study: Join us for Bible study Sundays at 9:00 AM in the Pastor's Study. The class is currently discussing Acts of the Apostles.

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

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 January 9 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 this Saturday, January 10 at 8:30 AM.

Moms Group: 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!

Fairview Women in Faith: Fairview Women in Faith will meet Thursday, January 8, at 1:30 PM. in the church office. A presenter from First/Last Mile Valet Service will speak. The organization's mission is to eliminate transportation barriers by providing safe, reliable and accessible transportation, empowering individuals to reach their full potential. They specialize in bridging the "first/last mile" gap for individuals and organizations, such as getting employees to work, clients to appointments, or voters to polling places. All Fairview women are invited to join FWIF for discussion and refreshments following the presentation.

Loaves and 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, December 31. This month we'll provide pizza, salad, and Christmas cookies. You can serve with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness! Contribute to the meal by baking, transporting food, serving food and/or helping clean. Scan the QR Code to sign up to contribute.

Bible Night: To kick off our 2026 theme we're hosting Bible Night on Saturday, January 17 at 5:30 PM! This will be a fun, intergeneration early evening event. We'll share a potluck, a few fun games, and we'll rotate between three interactive sessions where we'll learn about the history of the Bible, the different types of literature in the Bible, how the Bible was put together.

Fairview United Methodist Church | 3200 Chapel Hill Road, Columbia, MO 65203 573.445.5391 | frontyardchurch.org | office@frontyardchurch.org

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 were YOU make a difference

Core Values: We are faithful, relational, inclusive, genuine, and service-oriented Core Practices: Worship. Pray. Grow. Serve. Give. Invite.



First Sunday of Christmas | December 28, 2025 | 10 AM

Gathering Music Judy Shaw

Rev. Nancy Martin, Pastor Greeting

Joy to the World **UMH 246** *Hymn

*Call to Worship

Stacy Drane, Liturgist

In worship, we hear God's story and we ask,

"What did God do long ago?"

In worship, we hear God's story, so we ask,

"What is God doing, here and now?"

In worship, we hear God's story, then we ask,

"What can I do to respond to it all?"

Listen, God is speaking.

Listen, it may be time to act.

Let us worship our moving, inspiring, with-us God.

Amen.

Call to Confession

Rev. Nancy Martin

Prayer of Confession

Emmanuel, God with us, scripture tells us that you were a refugee, but we love to forget that information. We love to forget every act of gun violence. We love to forget how many people go hungry, or how many students do not have access to good education. We love to forget the injustices in our world that feel too big for us to face. But you are a God who refuses to forget. So today we pray: make it impossible for us to overlook the stories of those in need. Make it impossible for us to sweep injustice under the rug. Open our eyes along with our hearts, so that the anger we feel around injustice might fuel a fire for action. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Church community, even when we fail to do justice, even when we fail to love kindness, even when we allow fear to override action, freezing us in place, God still loves us. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel: On our best days and on our worst days, we belong to God. We are invited into community. We are held in God's grace. We are forgiven. And we are sent to serve.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Amen.

Hymn Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH 251

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.

Generosity Moment

Rev. Nancy Martin

*Doxology UMH 94

Prayer of Illumination & Blessing for the Meal

Rev. Nancy Martin

Gathering Around the Table

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-23 (NRSVUE)

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the

Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

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

Table Discussion

Gathering In Sanctuary

"Is Justice Worth It"

Hymn What Does the Lord Require of You?

TFWS 2174

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.

*Closing Hymn

Let the Fires of Justice Grow

Bulletin Insert

Judy Shaw

*Benediction

Rev. Nancy Martin

Postlude

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.

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

