

Ways to Participate in the Life of our Church:

Nativity Play 2025: The Nativity Play for this year is called "The Real Story." The play will be presented on Sunday, December 7. Practices will be Sundays after worship - meet at the pulpit today for a brief walk-through.

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 11 and 12.

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 December 13 at 8:30 AM.

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!

Pack the Pantry: We will be collecting pasta for the Food Bank. Please add a few boxes of pasta to the basket in the generosity corner. Scan the QR code to give online or write a check with "Food Bank" in the memo.

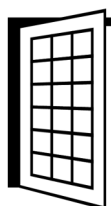


Little Bethlehem Training: We're offering a training for all aspects of Little Bethlehem. Whether you signed up to play Joseph or help with the refreshment table we'll give you the information you need to feel confident in your role. Nursery hours will be extended to cover the time of the training. We'll offer the same training two Sundays in a row to reach as many people as possible - today and December 7

Little Bethlehem: Little Bethlehem is an interactive nativity that we've been putting on for 30+ years. This year it is Friday-Sunday, Dec. 12-14 open to visitors 6-8 PM. We need YOU to make Little Bethlehem a success. Click here to discover the way(s) you can contribute to Little Bethlehem. Scan the QR code to sign up! Little Bethlehem is a way we communicate God's love for humanity to our community. Won't you help us?

Christmas Cards: The Care Team is collecting Christmas Cards to distribute to Fairview Folks who are homebound. Today we will have a basket for each member. You can bring cards you've written to add to their baskets. We'll also have blank cards for you to fill out that day. A member of the visiting team will then deliver the cards.

Advent and Christmas Worship Leadership: We have many opportunities to lead worship coming up. Sign up in the narthex to serve Communion, light the Advent Candles, or read scripture during Christmas Eve Worship or on December 28.



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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.



First Sunday of Advent | November 30, 2025 | 10 AM

Gathering Music

Judy Shaw

Greeting

Rev. Nancy Martin, Pastor

*Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH 211 v. 1, 6, 7

*Call to Worship

Pam Campbell, Liturgist

On Sundays and Mondays,
on good days and bad days,
early in the morning and very late at night,
here in this room, and out in the world,
God, we long for you to break in.
Meet us in this space.
Surprise us with your presence.
Fill this room with your good news.
With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!

Call to Confession

Rev. Nancy Martin

Prayer of Confession

Ever-present God, we long to feel you close. We long to feel your presence
in our lives. We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this
world. However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel you
in our midst. Forgive our rushing and distractions. Forgive our wandering
hearts and center us in this space. Remind us that even in the time of
Herod, even on the longest nights, you are always there. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Nancy Martin

Community of faith, even when we doubt God's presence, even when we fail
to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us.
Hear and believe the good news this Advent season:
Nothing can keep God's love away. We are seen. We are forgiven. We are
not alone. Amen.

Hymn Light the Advent Candle TFW/S 2090 v. 1

Lighting the Advent Candle The Becker Family

In a world full of fear, where do you see hope?
We see hope when we look to the next generation. We feel hopeful when we gather together. We know hope, deep in our bones, when we dream of a better world.
You are right. Even in a fearful world, hope is all around us. Today we light the candle of hope as a reminder of this good news.
Light candle.
May this flicker of light help us remember that we have reason to hope.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

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.

Generosity Moment Rev. Nancy Martin

*Doxology UMH 94

Offertory Prayer Pam Campbell

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 In the Time of Herod Bulletin Insert

Prayer for Illumination Pam Campbell

Scripture Luke 1:5-13 (NRSVUE)

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. Now at the time of the

incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Nancy Martin

Hymn Come Thou Long Expected Jesus UMH 196

The Great Thanksgiving

*Closing Hymn Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates UMH 213 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; TFW/S 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:

