

## Our Core Values

**Faithful:** We place our trust in God, who loves and accepts us, and to whom we seek to engage in our lives, so that we may reflect God's purpose in the world through the teachings of Jesus.

**Relational:** We are committed to forging meaningful relationships with God, the community, and each other, driven by a shared purpose to create positive change and transformation in the world.

**Inclusive:** We rejoice in the diversity of human experiences and affirm that the boundless love of God, along with our own, is accessible to all.

**Genuine:** We encourage sincere and authentic discussion and questioning, without fear of judgment, so that we can grow together toward perfection in God's grace.

**Service-oriented:** We embody a spirit of service and generosity, committed to impacting our neighborhood and the world through acts of compassion, support, and kindness as exemplified by Jesus.

## Our Core Practices

At Fairview we commit to six spiritual practices to help us grow in relationship with Jesus and one another.

**Worship:** Worship gives us the opportunity to experience authentic community, to offer praise and thanksgiving to God, and to reorient our lives. Regular worship is essential for discipleship.

**Serve:** We commit to serve inside and outside the church through ministry teams and out in the community. Serving transforms the world and us and opens us up to new experiences and people.

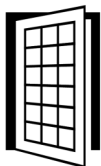
**Pray:** Prayer is transformational. It opens us up to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and deepens our relationship with God. There are hundreds of ways to pray. We commit to a regular practice of prayer.

**Give:** Jesus teaches that where our treasure is our heart will be also. Consistently giving is more important than the amount given. We give because we choose to live generous lives.

**Grow:** We grow in our relationship with God and others when we allow ourselves to be vulnerable. Growing in groups allows us to form real and lasting connections with each other and God. In small groups we find a place to belong and be transformed.

**Invite:** Inviting others to experience the goodness and grace of God is a core practice of our faith. Think about someone in your life who should be sitting next to you in worship and invite them. It could change someone's life!

Join us this January as we begin our 2026 theme—Rooted: Growing Deep in God's Word



Fairview United Methodist Church | 3200 Chapel Hill Road, Columbia, MO 65203  
573.445.5391 | [frontyardchurch.org](http://frontyardchurch.org) | [office@frontyardchurch.org](mailto: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 where YOU make a difference

This good news is:

**love freely given, grace radically extended, welcome always offered, belonging never restricted.**

Friends, we are seen, loved, welcomed, forgiven, called, and sent to serve.  
Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Hymn                                      Light the Advent Candle                                      TFWS 2090 v. 5

Lighting the Advent Candle                                      The Steenberg Family

In a fearful world, where do you see the presence of God?

**We see God's fingerprints all around us. We see God in the beauty of the stars. We see God in the love of this community. We see God in the dreams we hold for a better world.**

You are right. Even in a fearful world, God is here. God is all around us. On this holy night, we light the Christ Candle as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, God's love is all around us.

*Light candle.*

**Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.**

Hymn                                      Hark! the Herald Angels Sing                                      UMH 240

Prayer for Illumination                                      Rev. Nancy Martin

The Story of Mary: Luke 1: 26-35                                      Jessica Becker

Sung Response: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel                                      UMH 211 v. 1, 4

The Story of Joseph: Matthew 1: 18-23                                      Sheila Clark

Sung Response: Sing We Now of Christmas                                      UMH 237 v. 1-3

The Story of the Census: Luke 2: 1-5                                      Ewell Lawson

Sung Response: O Little Town of Bethlehem                                      UMH 230 v. 1, 4

The Story of the Birth: Luke 2: 6-7                                      Mark Chambers

Sung Response: Away in a Manger                                      UMH 217 v. 1, 3

The Story of the Shepherds: Luke 2: 8-14                                      Stacy Drane

Sung Response: Angels We Have Heard on High                                      UMH 238 v. 1, 2

The Story of the Shepherds II: Luke 2: 15-18                                      Peter Martin

Sung Response: O Come, All Ye Faithful                                      UMH 234 v. 1, 2, 4