

FUMC Fellowship Flyer



Even Tim and Debbie Staker's 1929 Ford couldn't match Goldie McIntosh's years. Both the car and Goldie, however, are still in fine shape. Both showed up for the birthday parade still able to toot their own horn.

Goldie! Pg. 2

She has seen a lot of parades in her 101 years, and here is her latest one, courtesy of her church.

Clayton! Pg. 3

Clayton Simpson jumps from high school to active duty corpsman. Proud grandpa Frank tells his story.

In passing pg 6

We remember Kay, Ruby, and Janice.

Ladies of the Church

Women have been some of the prime movers in our church's history. This month we continue our look at just a few of them with, first, a reminiscence from Cathy Johnson.



Pauline
Patterson

I was reminiscing about the past activities of our church. My mother, Juanita Steele, attended Women's Guild every Wednesday evening; this was held on the same night as choir practice.

Some of the women attending were Emma Cline, Margie Gephart, Alea Masters, Evelyn Lowe, Arlene Kurtz, Joann

Ward, Emma Lawson and Juanita Steele. (I am sure I have missed some please do not be offended as I was very young, and now my memory is very old.)

They would meet in the church basement, where the kitchen was located at the time. The meeting always began with scripture reading. They shared

dinner together, stories and needs within the church and community.

This group organized all the church dinners and worked on projects for the church or Sunday school rooms. The meeting was always closed with prayer. I have been thinking a lot about our heritage and the strength of the soul of our church. (cont. page 4)



Goldie in her high school graduation photo in 1938.



Goldie McIntosh Reaches 101

Long one of the church's most affable members, Goldie is known for her good humor, her remarkable way of aging, and the occasional playful punch on the arm as you pass her in the narthex.

When Goldie Elaine Weidle McIntosh was born in a small house in Miamisburg with no electricity or running water, Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States. A lot more has happened since then. A century's worth.

On April 17th Goldie turned 101 years old. Her church recognized the achievement by honoring her with a surprise birthday parade that day. The church had planned a celebration when she turned 100 in 2020, but due to the pandemic, those plans had to be put aside. On Saturday the 17th, she finally got her tribute.

But Goldie is a woman who knows how to wait. And she knows how to smile. "Two important things happened in 1920," Goldie told us in her characteristic good

humor. "They ratified the 19th amendment and I was born. Wilson was President but that didn't matter to me."

Her early life was not without its mishaps. In second grade Goldie was hit by a car and run over. She was knocked unconscious but recovered, only to be struck a few years later in fourth grade by polio as was one of her sisters.

But Goldie is a survivor. She and sister Margie McDonald, a Farmersville resident and a member at FUMC, are the two remaining siblings of a family of six girls and one boy. Many of them lived into their 90's but Goldie seems intent to keep breaking the family longevity record.

Raised Lutheran at St Jacob's church in Miamisburg, she

married shortly after graduating from Miamisburg High School in 1938. (Goldie's niece still plays the organ at St. Jacob's.) After spending the war years in Dayton, she and her husband John moved the family to Plum Street in Germantown in 1946 before building a house on Boomershine where they lived for ten years from 1962-1972.

Her four offspring, three boys and one girl, are as close as West Alexandria, where she has lived for the past 33 years, and as far away as Arizona. Son Dale, 81, is in Orlando; daughter Karen, 77, is in Tucson; and son John, 74, is in Brookville. Youngest son Mike is 73 and looks after his mother from his home in New Lebanon.

(continued on page 3)



Goldie McIntosh Reaches 101

(continued from page 2)

The lineage total keeps growing: eight grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandkids.

After moving to Germantown, Goldie and her family attended Germantown Methodist Church before moving to Farmersville in 1972. That's when she began attending Farmersville United Methodist Church where she is still a member today.

An avid gardener, she always had a big garden and at one time belonged to first the Germantown Garden Club and then the Farmersville Garden Club.

She was a Sunday school teacher in her younger days and a Cub Scout den mother as well.

Today, Goldie would like nothing better than to get out in the woods and hunt mushrooms, one of her favorite activities. Her son Mike won't let her do that, but she does intend to return to church soon. (She got her vaccine in February.)

"I think the best times of my life were the 50's and 60's," Goldie told us. "We were busy raising kids, and it was a joy." When asked what she is looking forward to she said, "Each day is a blessing. I thank the Good Lord for each day."



At left, Goldie's son Mike McIntosh and sister Margie McDonald with Goldie as they greet the parade.

Ladies of the Church (continued from page 1)

The church is just a brick and mortar building. It is all the wonderful people, then and now, that keep God alive and moving in our community. We have come a long way and we can all be proud that each of us have played a small part in making our church an outreach of God's works.

I can remember back when Pastor Ted Grotsky asked me to attend an UMC lay study, explaining how it would help me with my questions about understanding the Bible better. After many classes later, I gave my first sermon at Farmersville United Methodist Church. I was so nervous and afraid, yet I felt called to help deliver God's message.

I have been blessed to fill in for a few other churches mostly Liberty UMC. I have learned to adjust and walk by faith. As the saying goes: If God leads you to it, he will get you through it. I am grateful for all your support as I continue to go as God calls me. I must admit that online preaching has a new challenge all its own.

I will continue to learn and serve as God calls us to be the church to all people. Blessing for all, *Cathy Johnson*

At left is Pauline Patterson with her husband Russell. At right is Emma Lawson.



Dani Jacoby is a long time member of FUMC as is her sister Rebecca Lee. Both are examples of women who are heavily invested in their church. Dani, who wrote the following remembrance, has served as choir director for the past twenty one years, but she has also served in many other leadership roles herself, most recently as head of the Ministry Action Team (MAT) and currently serves as chair of the Trustees.

She has been a FUMC member since middle school and later, during high school, played piano for the church. She was, in addition, a youth fellowship leader and has taught Adult Sunday School for years. Dani, a stellar example of women in leadership at FUMC, sent us this recollection.

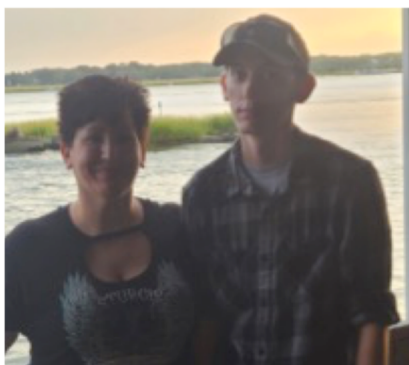
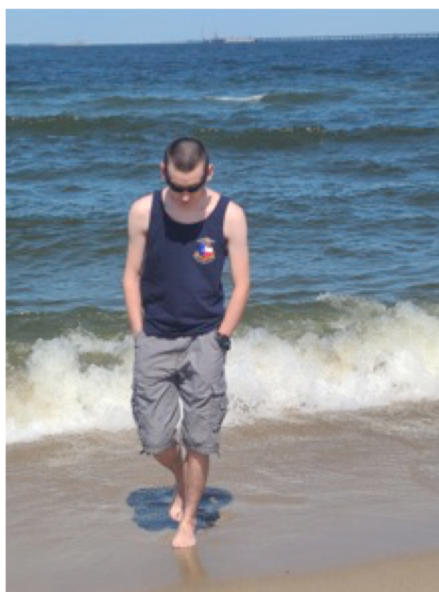
I have been trying to come up with some names of women leaders in years gone by. **Emma Lawson** was a leader within the Mission field, although she was unassuming and probably never thought of herself as a leader. Her sister Nellie Cain was a leader of the children's program for decades; she was much like Nancy Kalmbach is now.

Emma had one daughter (stepdaughter, I think); Nellie never married. The long time choir director was **Pauline Patterson**, who served probably 50+ years in the music program. I think Pauline's husband is somehow related to the Emrick family (Arlene, Betty, Renee) but I'm not sure. Joan Ward (Pam's mother) was a leader within the UMC Women's group. Betty Wharton was also heavily involved in the Women's group and sang in the choir for over 50 years.

Except for the long-term members, our current FUMC members won't know those women. Although their names may have been forgotten, their work still lives on. *Dani Jacoby*



Clayton above in full official fatigues mode; below, in a pensive moment at the beach, and below that, with mom Maribeth Simpson.



Where Are They Now?

Former Youth Group Member Clayton Simpson Serving Country

Frank Pozzi, whom many of you know as Children's Moments Leader Extraordinaire (now retired), composed this update for us about his grandson and now Navy Corpsman (medic) Clayton Simpson.

In Clayton's sixth grade journal is an entry saying that he would join the Navy when old enough. In the years following that entry, Clayton kept this focus and determination to achieve this goal.

In January of his senior year 2019, Clayton raised his right hand and took his enlisted oath and his Navy career began.

"I'm happy. This is what I wanted to do, and it is the best decision I ever made."

In early 2019 he attended weekly orientation sessions, during which his recruiter sensed the qualities that would serve him and the Navy's best interest, those of a corpsman.

Clayton then left for bootcamp in Chicago. From June to mid August he went through intensive training and matured from boyhood to manhood.

After bootcamp Clayton headed to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio for some intense corpsman training. He met all the demands and finished in the top 10% of his class.

From Texas Clayton moved to his first assignment at a Navy clinic in Virginia Beach where he worked and awaited reporting to Camp Lejeune for more corpsman training with the Marines.

After completing and passing all the training requirements at Camp Lejeune he received his Combat Casualty Care status and returned to the Virginia Beach clinic just as the COVID pandemic struck.

Clayton has established a very positive reputation with the professional staff. He received a Canebrake Award for his performance during a mock joint commission inspection. And he has been nominated for a Navy Bluejacket Award.

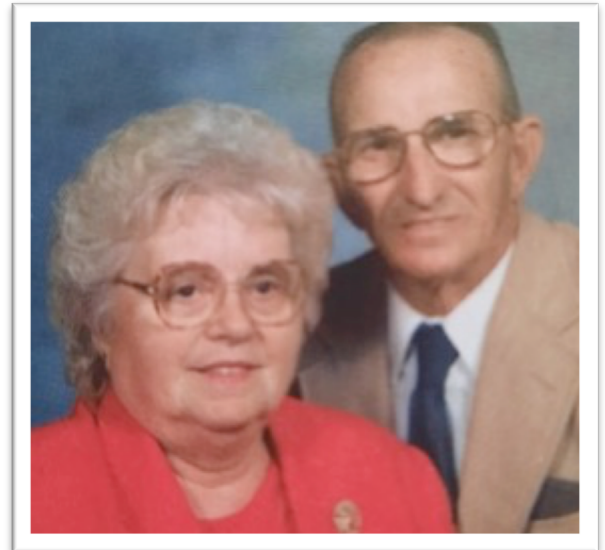
"I'm happy. This is what I wanted to do, and it is the best decision I ever made," Clayton said.



Our church family has lost some of its members recently. In December, **Kay Grotsky**, (above) wife of former FUMC pastor Ted Grotsky, passed away near Columbus. Mother of seven children and many grand and great-grandchildren, she was with our church for ten years.

Kay was an avid outdoor person who loved to bike, ski, fishing and go boating but was also a musician. Her interests included painting, knitting and traveling. She was 80 years old and passed just after Christmas in 2020. Husband Ted passed at age 78 in 2019.

We also lost former church organist **Ruby Coffman (at right)** in December of last year. Ruby was a 1942 graduate of Farmersville High School (the current Valley View Junior High) and a long time member of our church. She is pictured here playing the keyboard at an outdoor service. She lived in Eaton at her passing. She and husband Ralph, who passed in 2010, were farmers.



Janice Garber (below), a 60 year long member of our church passed away in March of this year. For 66 of her 88 years she was married to Rex Garber who passed away in 2018. Her seven children gave her 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Janice was a lover of the knitting and crocheting arts and a fixture in the back pew alongside her husband Rex for as long as any of us can remember.

FUMC Remembers Kay Grotsky, Ruby Coffman, and Janice Garber