



FAIRMOUNT



Fairmount Presbyterian Church 2025 Annual Report

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Reflections from our Pastors

Dear Fairmounters,

One year ago, we revealed our new mission statement: Reclaiming our humanity by embodying God's love. Reclaiming our humanity is a journey of spiritual evolution—a lifelong process of becoming the people who God created us to be. In Jesus, the Human One, we see “the original and intended shape of our lives” (Romans 8:29). Jesus showed us that the path to reclaiming our humanity is embodying God's love. By embracing and incarnating God's love within him, Jesus became fully human; and in becoming fully human, the people around Jesus saw the divine in him. The core of Jesus' Gospel message is that each of us is made in the image of God and filled with the potential of God's love.

Our new mission is grounded in four core beliefs and practices:

Belonging: we are entangled in the relational web of God's love;

Purpose: God reveals our unique role in building the beloved community;

Potential: the ability to reclaim our humanity comes from God's power at work within us; and

Liberation: by embodying God's love, we are freed from the illusion of self the world projects onto us so that we can become who we really are.

In the pages that follow, we hope you witness some of the ways that we are already living into our mission at Fairmount. We also hope that you will wonder with us...How is God inviting us to live into our call in new and profound ways?

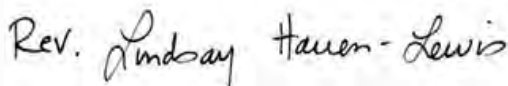
Blessings,
Pastor Ryan



How can it be time for another yearly update? Where has the time gone? My primary roles and responsibilities here at Fairmount are to lead and help coordinate our Faith Formation programs, staff volunteers, as well as be the point-pastor for pastoral care and working with the Deacons (Care Council). So much of what I do in my role is not quantifiable, or easily calculated - How many hours did I spend on the phone or in hospitals rooms or coffee shops? How many prayers did I offer in person or through email or in the middle of the night? How many people stopped by my office to say hi or because they just needed someone to sit with them as they grieved? How many kids shouted “Pastor Whale!” and gave me a hug? I don't know, but the answer to all of these things is a lot, and it brings me great joy to be able to be present to our congregation and community in these ways.

Over the last year, I officiated at or participated in over 15 funerals, 5 baptisms, and a wedding, along with preaching at least 18 times. I helped to craft and roll out our new vision and mission statements, along with a Lenten devotional, community Easter art project, and Advent conversation cards. My best guess is that I sent out over 1,000 postcards, notes, and grief series booklets. I represented the love of our congregation at the CHUH Fun Run and Pride parade, as well as other marches, protests, and community events. I began working toward a certificate in Older Adult Ministry through the PC(USA) and co-facilitated my first Holy Whale Watching retreat in Monterey Bay (a dream come true!). And I had the honor of working with Kate McFadden and Lisa Nester as well as the Faith Formation Council to create, provide, and sustain ministry opportunities for all ages. I also have been grateful to serve alongside the Deacons (Care Council) to create, provide, and sustain the caring ministries of the church. I am so thankful that God has called me to this place to serve alongside this community. And I continue to look forward to ways in which I can show up and care for members of our congregation, community, and beyond in the coming year.

Blessings,
Pastor Lindsay



2025 Session Report

January-March 2025

After a year of congregational engagement, Session approved and celebrated Fairmount's new mission and vision statement: "Reclaiming our humanity by embodying God's love," and its accompanying vision, "A home for belonging, purpose, potential and liberation." Plans followed to engage the congregation in worship, study, and Celebration.

Session elected its officers: Ruth Wasem (President), Steve Chapman (Vice President), Sarah Stone (Clerk of Session), and Amy Carlson (Treasurer).

Fairmount welcomed, ordained and installed new Elders and Deacons. These included Elders in the Class of 2028: Ian Cameron, Jim Crosby, Peg Zitzner, and Susan Wherley. Deacons in the Class of 2028 included Lisa Cameron, Walter Cha, Nate Kruse, Nikki Monah, Amy Seekley and Mia Faxon. At its January Congregational Meeting, terms of call for installed pastors were also approved.

Session gratefully received the report that pledges for 2024 totaled \$800,128, exceeding the budgeted goal of \$760,000 and offsetting lower-than-expected revenues in other areas. With total expenses under budget by \$4,719, 2024 ended in a modest surplus of \$5,695.

Shiloh Baptist Church began a six-month residency at Fairmount as its historic sanctuary underwent restoration, worshipping in the chapel and enriching our congregational events through the summer. Session also approved a \$16,000 grant to fund unexpected but vital repairs to the Shiloh sanctuary ceiling.

April-June 2025

Session reviewed and approved plans for building repairs including resurfacing the remote parking lot and several roof repairs. Session also received reports about emergency repairs to the church's HVAC system.

Congregation members and staff collaborated on a study of the 8:30am service and Session accepted their recommendation to sustain the service and promote its regular celebration.

Session received with appreciation reports of Fairmount's initiatives under the leadership of Pastor Ryan, including the Interfaith Group Against Hate, which supported a multi-congregation campaign to replace books that were lost in an anti-Semitic library book-burning, as well as the work of We are Many We are One (WAM WOW) to support migrant and refugee neighbors through food drives and other outreach.

2025 Fairmount Attendance

2024 Quarterly Average In Person Attendance with 2024 comparison:

- January - March 2025: 146 (2024: 182, included Holy Week and Easter)
- April - June 2025: 163 (included Holy Week and Easter) (2024: 134)
- July - September 2025: 125 (2024: 112)
- October - December 2025 : 196 (includes Christmas Eve) (2024: 182, includes Christmas Eve)

2025 Online Weekly Average Attendance:

- Boxcast (website): 53 average views per week
- YouTube: 68 average views per week

2025 Session Report

July-September 2025

Session received the report of the Batey 105 Task Force, a Session-appointed committee of congregants, Elders, and participants in the church's ministry in the Dominican Republic, which had collaborated since December 2024 to recommend plans for the future and ways to celebrate the 10-year history of this mission work.

Session approved a financing plan to repair and replace the church's HVAC system and authorized the Buildings and Grounds committee to issue a request for proposals for the project, which responded to air conditioning system breakdown earlier in the year.

Session also authorized the resurfacing and repair of the welcome center entry ramp. FPC celebrated the installation of rooftop solar panels, and Session authorized a grant request for a \$38,000 sustainable energy rebate grant from the federal government.

Session approved the Personnel Committee's update of its Personnel Manual. It accepted the resignation of Russ Shaw as the church's attorney at the conclusion of his own law practice and created a subcommittee to identify his replacement.

Session received with appreciation the quarterly report of the Endowment Committee and its recommendation to increase annual distributions for 2026 by approximately \$25,000. Chair Mark Eisele also outlined plans to issue a request for proposal for endowment management services.

October – December 2025

At the October Annual Meeting, the congregation in elected Elders for the Class of 2029, including Carol Adrine, Jesse Basset, Timothy Cuff and Katie Wetherbee, and elected Deacons for the Class of 2029 including Julie Egge, Ginny Greggor, Gary Maddox, Oona Moorehead, Sunday Uka, and Stephanie Washlock. For the Nominating Committee, one-year terms were approved for Bryan Seekley, Taylor Smith, Ben Sperry, Sarah Stone and Debbie Wilbur.

In a series of meetings, Session and the Bridges to Batey Task Force and Committee explored options for the future of the Batey 105 ministry, including identifying a third-party locally-sited administrative partner to help manage the ministry more effectively. Options for establishing separate non-profit governance to allow for more congregations to participate in the ministry were also discussed. Session encouraged the Bridges to Batey committee to investigate these options and return to Session with their Recommendations.

Session elected officers for 2026-27 including Ruth Wasem (President), Steve Chapman (Vice President), Ginger Van Wagenen (Clerk of Session) and Amy Carlson (Treasurer).

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Stone, Clerk of Session, 2024-2025



2025 Fairmount Membership

Fairmount Presbyterian Church membership totaled 590 Active Members on January 1, 2025. Fairmount's Session received 7 Certificate Gains into Active Membership, and one profession of Faith and Reaffirmation in 2025. Fairmount lost 1 member through Certificate Loss, removed 8 persons from active membership, and grieved the passing of 8 beloved Fairmount members. Fairmount Presbyterian Church membership on December 31, 2025 was 581. There were 5 children presented for Baptism in 2025.

Music Ministry at Fairmount Presbyterian Church



For decades, a local church musician offered this sentence as his annual report: “The organ played and the choir sang.” As you will see this did happen at Fairmount this past year and so much more with our Music Ministry.

Since my arrival at Fairmount, The Fairmount Choir is the largest to date with 34 active singers. The choir spends roughly 3.5 hours together weekly September-May. A full complement of talented section leaders in the Fairmount Choir, along with Jackson Naglick as our excellent Organ Scholar, have enabled us to do an array of music including John Rutter’s moving “Requiem” with chamber ensemble. Partnerships this year included a joint service with Shiloh Baptist Church and with the Lake Forest College Choir from Chicago. In addition to the “Requiem”, Candlelight Carols concert and moving Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter services were made possible by the Eleanor R. Baird Music Fund.

The children (Joyful Noise) have met on a consistent basis singing for worship and playing the Orff instruments, leading the sung blessing on Breaking Bread Sundays. This choir sang for the combined service at Shiloh Baptist Church. Gratitude to all the parents for their ongoing support.

Our handbell choir has continued under the leadership of Amy Carlson. This year the choir offered a holiday program at the Cleveland Skating Club.

The Fairmount Flute Choir continued playing for worship several times during the year. The Intergenerational Pop-Up Choir continued to sing the first Sunday of the month with an average attendance of 35. Instrumentalists of all ages enhanced our worship. Our J-Term Choir saw the addition of five singers.

In addition to our Sunday morning music, we have opened our doors to welcome the Heights Chamber Orchestra, CityMusic Cleveland, Les Delices, and student piano recitals. With the generosity of Peter Vanden Broeck and family, we had a matching grant fundraiser, raising enough funds to support the next two seasons of our Tuesday Rush Hour Concerts. These combined concerts have attracted an audience of 1,832. Gratitude to Steve Chapman and company for serving as concert hosts at these events.

In 2025 we began to envision The Spirituals Project, which was launched in 2026 as part of a larger initiative throughout the country to increase awareness about the origins of the Negro Spiritual and to offer reparations for this music that, not under copyright, has been used by musicians/arrangers to profit from sales of music to schools, community organizations, and churches. Each quarter contributions are collected which support local Black Arts organizations.

Gratitude is expressed to all of you for your prayers, your support, and your financial resources that makes our music ministry thrive. As I started this report, it felt like one more thing to do, but in the end is a celebration of how our music ministry remains a vital part of this community and the community we serve.

Jim Riggs, Director of Music Ministries

2025 Serve Council Report

The council is made up of Elders and congregational members who have a heart for its outward focus. The members are discerning, compassionate, joyful, and aware of the finite resources we have as a congregation and the abundance in God. The Serve council remains committed to honor our council's mission and that of the church. In 2025, it included: Donna Sens, Hedy Westra, Gary Maddox, Joanne Westin (joined in November), Peg Zitzner (Elder), Rev. Ryan Wallace, Sarah Stone, Steve Chapman (Elder), and Wrean Fiebig. Thank you for your involvement and the members of the congregation who support our volunteer work.

Serve Council provides support to Fairmount Presbyterian's community partners, outward facing initiatives, and volunteer opportunities. As Christians we are called to visit the prisoner, feed the hungry, and speak up on behalf of those who feel voiceless. Scripture provides us multiple examples of how we are to engage the pilgrim and stranger in our community and congregation. Matthew 25: 35-40, Isaiah 58:10, Proverbs 19:17, Luke 3:11 all speak of the need to care for our neighbors.

In December 2024, Fairmount's Session (board of ruling Elders and teaching Elders), asked the Serve Council to form a task force to explore the Bridges to Batey mission and how we could celebrate the commitment and progress made in the Batey. By April 2025, the task force had their first meeting and met bi-weekly until August. The task force members reached across the congregation and members of the B2B committee, it included: Brad Zitzner, Denice Benton, Jim Dakin, Nancy Gillombardo, Peg Zitzner, Penn Berens, Ruth Wasem, Steve Chapman, Skye Carlson, and Vanessa Whiting. The task force sent a report to Serve and Session. Session has taken the report and met with the Batey committee with great engagement and focus on next steps.

Everyone entered 2025 with concern of the unknown and some trepidation. The slogans from the campaign made it clear that immigrant communities were going to be targeted. We began each meeting focusing on the church's mission statement "Reclaiming our humanity, by embodying God's Love". We began our meetings focusing on the four values: Belonging, Purpose, Potential, and Liberation and how those values inform the council's work.

The Serve Council worked to blunt the negative effects of the administration and its policies, as much as we could within our local community. We helped sponsor IGAH food drives for a mostly immigrant congregation from the near west side as they have congregants who are afraid to leave their home to shop. We gave monetary grants to direct food support organizations to assist families who lost their SNAP benefits with cuts that went into effect in late 2025. We didn't just give money, we also showed up. When one of the congregation's friends was detained, members of Fairmount and other community organizations were present at his hearing in early November. At that hearing, he was released from Federal custody.

The council was involved in the Community Listening sessions, we supported the church's appearance at Cleveland Pride, our North Church reengagement, IGAH and the book clubs in response to the book burning in the Beachwood area, and Greater Cleveland Congregations initiatives. We partnered with Faith Formation to support the Getting to We performances which were held at the church in November. Also in November, we volunteered for Shiloh Baptist Church's community Thanksgiving meal. The Earth Stewards were highlighted in September with the dedication of the solar panels on the Andersen Hall roof. Members of Serve and the congregation, 15 in total, volunteer once a month at the Cleveland Foodbank throughout the calendar year.

The council gave grants to 15 different community organizations based on the congregation's generosity. See the online version of this Annual Report for Serve Council grants details. The council takes the mission of the church seriously and the commitment to fiscal responsibility on behalf of the congregation. Many of you are generous with your time and we are so grateful. For those looking for avenues to serve, we will place volunteer opportunities for you to consider on the Fairmount Presbyterian Serve Council page. We must remain Jesus in shoe leather in this current moment and always.

Gratefully submitted: The Serve Council of 2025, Steve Chapman, Chair

2025 Children's Ministry



Fairmount's children's ministry had a great year in 2025! In order to better include our young people in our worshiping community, we introduced two successful new programs this past fall. The first, designated pews for the Club 4/5 tweens at the front of the sanctuary, has helped to solidify the cohesion of the group and increased their participation in worship. While the tweens needed some direction and supervision at the beginning of September, by the end of December they were largely self-regulating and actively engaged. Alongside this new seating arrangement, the Time for Young Disciples during worship in the fall focused on the different parts of the worship service itself. This helped all of the kids, and perhaps some adults as well, to better understand the meaning behind the ways we express our worship on Sunday mornings.

Outside of worship, both of our children's ministry classes thrived. Worship Enrichment (WE) time (kids 3 years - 3rd grade) and Club 4/5 (4th and 5th graders) had healthy and consistent attendance, drawing between 6-10 kids each and every time they met. The WE time curriculum focused on the same thematic units as the congregation, and spent time engaging with the new mission and vision statement from last spring. During the fall semester, they explored diverse subjects such as belonging to the body of Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit, baptism, gratitude, and vocation. The Club 4/5 classes in 2025 focused on some of the core understandings of our faith, such as the cycle of the church year, the sacraments, and different types of belonging in the church. In addition to education, the tweens also gather once a month for community building activities, which have included an escape room in a box, a baking adventure, and going rock climbing together among other things. Outside of formal programming, there were several Fairmount Family Fun outings that took place last year for families with children of all ages. These included a trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art, the sprayground at Cain Park, and the Rockefeller Botanical Gardens.

2025 was a momentous year for me personally, as well. I transitioned from being an intern to being a part time member of the Fairmount staff, for which I am extremely grateful! I also began my final year of seminary, and will graduate (God willing!) at the end of May. I look forward to having more time and energy to devote to the fabulous families at Fairmount once my studies are complete.

Doesn't this ministry sound fun and exciting?!? We are always looking for new volunteers to fulfill their baptismal vows by working with our young people. There are many low time and low effort ways to get involved, both on Sunday mornings and otherwise. Please come chat with me and find out how you might be part of the body of Christ in the lives of these kids.

Blessed to serve,
Lisa Nester



2025 Faith Formation Council Report

The Faith Formation Council is one of four councils within the governing structure of Fairmount Presbyterian Church. Typically, it is comprised of three members of Session plus a number of other individuals from the congregation. In 2025, active members of Faith Formation included Peter Bush, Oona Moorhead, Nancy Gillombardo, Chin-Tai Kim, Gordon Landefeld, Caleb Peters, Ben Sperry, and Susan Wherley. Staff members most directly involved were Lindsay Harren-Lewis, Kate McFadden, and Lisa Nester. Also, Christine Winters helped with scheduling meetings and in carrying out the logistics and planning details of various Church events. A big shoutout to all of the above for their many contributions.

The mission of the Faith Formation Council is to develop means to encourage members of our Church family to deepen their relationship with God and to carry out Jesus's teachings in our own lives and in our connections with others. Many of the ways that Faith Formation does such work is in support of staff which, in 2025 as in previous years, took the lead on projects like Lenten planning, children and youth ministry, organizing trips to the Dominican Republic, hosting a silent retreat, assembling Advent bags, and in putting on the No Strangers Club evenings at the Church.

Council members last year also had a more consequential role in other faith-related initiatives at Fairmount. For example, Faith Formation participated in a developing partnership with United Protestant Campus Ministries (UPCaM), a student group based at Case Western Reserve University. This included hosting an UPCAAM contingent at our Church for worship and a music performance following, and then helping organize a dinner and worship service on the CWRU campus with UPCAAM students. Another example of Faith Formation leadership relates to the devotional booklet the Church published titled *The Way Back to Humanity*. Faith Formation members led a series of Sunday morning discussions based on the book, which itself is intended to explore various aspects of our church's new Mission Statement.

Regarding the Mission Statement, a third example of Faith Formation activity last year was helping the congregation articulate the concept of "purpose", which is one of the foundational ideas embedded in the Statement's subtitle. Three members of the Council spoke at a Sunday worship service last May offering personal perspectives.

A final example of a 2025 project where Faith Formation members took a leadership role was with the play *The God I Know*, which was performed on two consecutive evenings in November. The play, an examination of the topic of Christian nationalism, was produced by an outside group called "Getting to We". The format was dubbed "edutainment," a combination of education and entertainment. The Church, and specifically the Faith Formation Council, partnered with "Getting to We" in staging this event and Pastor Ryan participated in a panel discussion following the performances.

Areas where the Council invested a lot of discussion and thought last year with the aim of possibly developing concrete plans in future years included: putting together a women's retreat, organizing a book-discussion group focused on older members of the Church, and working with other faith communities on the issue of racial repair and historic harms.

Submitted by Ben Sperry, 2025 Chair of Faith Formation 2024-2025



No Strangers Club on October 12, 2025

Youth & Young Adult Ministries

In 2025, Youth and Young Adult Ministries at Fairmount focused on creating spaces where young people could reconnect with their full humanity—slowing down, building authentic relationships, and exploring faith in ways that are honest, creative, and grounded in love.

Youth (Grades 6–12)

Our youth gathered regularly through a monthly rhythm of shared meals, storytelling, and small groups. Overnight retreats remained a cornerstone of the ministry, offering space for deeper reflection, connection, and belonging.

The summer 2025 cultural immersion trip to the Dominican Republic was a significant milestone, inviting youth into experiences of global awareness, faith, and justice. As participation grew, the ministry reached an important threshold—launching separate Junior High (6th–8th) and Senior High (9th–12th) programs for the 2025–2026 year.



Junior High students participated in their first dedicated fall retreat and are preparing for the Montreat Middle School Conference in summer 2026. Senior High youth began the year with an off-site retreat at PC(USA) Camp Wakonda and are preparing for an Appalachian immersion experience in Kentucky. We are deeply grateful for the volunteers and leaders whose presence, care, and authenticity make youth ministry possible.

Young Adults (20s/30s)

Our young adult community continues to grow as a space for connection, grounding, and leadership. Young adults are becoming more integrated into the life of the church, serving on councils and helping shape new initiatives.

In 2025, young adults helped launch the Ecumenical Queer Union for Action and Love (EQUAL), expanding Fairmount's commitment to inclusive and justice-oriented ministry. They also played a key role in the planning leading up to the 2026 Silent Saturday Retreat. A highlight of the year was a 20s/30s Women's Retreat at Cuyahoga Valley National Park, where relationships with God and one another were deepened.

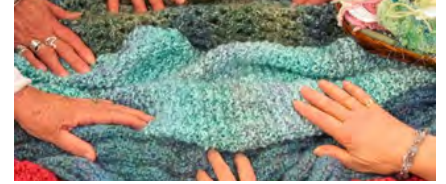


Submitted by Kate McFadden, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

2025 Care Council Report

The Care Council is comprised of ordained Deacons and several Elders, who provide an organized and meaningful way of sharing the love of Jesus Christ with both the congregation and the broader community. As outlined in the Presbyterian Church (USA) Book of Order, the role of Deacons extends beyond simple acts of care and concern. Deacons are called to be a community of hope, a community of love, and a community of witness—actively embodying Christ’s compassion in both word and action.

Your 2025 Deacons included: Walter Cha, Lisa Cameron, Mia Faxon, Ginny Greggor, Nate Kruse, Nikkie Monah, Oona Moorhead, Debby Punshon, Amy Seekely, Jan Spalding, Stephanie Washlock, and Alice Weiner.



With care and compassion at the heart of their ministry, the Deacons support a wide range of programs and outreach efforts:

- Breaking Bread – On the first Sunday of each month during the program year, the Deacons host a simple meal following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Open to all, these gatherings regularly welcome about 150 people and provide a warm space for fellowship and connection.
- Communion – Behind the scenes, the Deacons thoughtfully prepare communion elements for each worship service, ensuring this sacred practice is carried out with care.
- Coffee Hour – The Deacons also provide hospitality before and after services, supplying coffee, French vanilla creamer, and snacks. These informal gatherings offer an inviting opportunity for fellowship and for welcoming new faces into the community.
- Flower Delivery / Holiday Flower Delivery – Led by Julie Egge, this ministry extends care to homebound members through the delivery of flowers. Beyond the gesture itself, it fosters meaningful connection between the church and those unable to attend in person.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry – (See page 15.) In the past year, in addition to the shawls given to members and friends of Fairmount, this ministry donated two dozen prayer shawls to University Hospitals, offering comfort and support to those in need.
- Honor Brunch – In 2025, the Deacons organized the Honor Brunch honoring members aged 80 and older, which was held following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The event, hosted in Andersen Hall, was warmly received. The Breaking Bread meal was served in the Dining Room. That same morning, graduating seniors were also recognized, making it a meaningful intergenerational celebration.
- Mardi Gras Celebration (2025) – The Deacons hosted an evening of food and festivity, serving gumbo, chicken and waffles, donuts, punch, and muffalettas. Approximately 150 guests enjoyed the lively atmosphere, complete with saxophone music and a magician.
- Strawberry Festival – This annual community event once again brought people together in 2025. Deacons prepared fresh strawberries, Mason Creamery generously donated ice cream, and attendees of all ages enjoyed the nostalgic Euclid Beach Rocket Car.
- Celebrate Sunday – In September 2025, the Deacons welcomed the congregation and community back to the program year by providing fried chicken for the Celebrate Sunday potluck, helping to kick off the season with warmth and hospitality.

Submitted by Vicki Mentrek, 2025 Care Council Chair, 2024-2025

The Euclid Beach
Rocket Car at
Strawberry Festival



2025 Administration Council Report

The Administration Council oversees two important responsibilities of the church—the finances and the building and grounds—and thus works through two constituent committees of Building and Grounds and Finance.

Finance Committee Initiatives

Given the significance of the budget and accounting within the FPC Annual Report, the Finance committee separately presents FPC's annual financial report. In addition to their ongoing responsibilities, the Finance Committee embarked on several successful initiatives in 2025.

Credit Cards

Rev. Drew Gensler and Amy Carlson worked with Huntington Bank to obtain credit cards to be issued to individual staff members in their names and tied to a central account held by the church. This new system allows closer monitoring and more timely and specific reporting of expenses on the cards – all resulting in more timely monthly financial reporting.

Donor Restricted Funds- Spending Policy

Carlson also presented on new policies for Donor Restricted Funds that specified more direct responsibility by naming the staff persons and Councils responsible for these funds. This initiative helps to address and prevent negative balances in designated funds.

Budget Process for 2026

At the end of summer, Finance communicated with each of the Councils about budget process and timelines for submitting proposals for the 2026 Budget. The Councils responded with an initial “wish list” budget that would have yielded a \$200k deficit. Finance worked with budget proposals and Councils to refine a draft budget proposal for the December Session Meeting that was approved.

Finance Policies Handbook

As part of a larger project, an online Operating Manual, the Committee updated the Finance Policy section. The Handbook is a compendium for financial policies and a standardization of financial practices and processes. This document brings clarity and consistency to FPC's financial policies and procedures.

Buildings and Grounds Accomplishments

The mission of the Building & Grounds Committee is to identify, evaluate, prioritize, and recommend to Admin Council which projects are needed to maintain the church in the manner expected by the membership. A guiding document is the Building Assessment that was completed in late 2023. Following is a list of projects that have been completed or are underway.

Solar Panel Project

This was a high-visibility project that took years to accomplish. As of today, the new system is installed and working at or above expectations, saving the church several hundred dollars per month in electricity costs.

Roof Replace/Repair

A focus of Building and Grounds is to keep water out of the building. This project, recommended by the Building Assessment, was completed in 2025.

Drain Lines Project

Consistent with the focus of water damage prevention, a project to evaluate and repair underground drain lines was undertaken. Not a romantic job, but necessary to protect the building.

Boiler Repairs, Heating System Controls

In 2025 several maintenance repairs were made to the building heating system. In addition, we recently placed a contract for engineering services to develop and recommend upgrades and replacements for the HVAC and control systems. This project will continue throughout 2026.

2025 Administration Council Report (continued)

Other Important Projects

- Filled potholes and sealed parking lot across the street, including striping.
- Resurfaced ramp to Welcome Center with newly footed railing. This was a safety issue brought to our attention by several members.
- Repairing Garth Courtyard irrigation was needed to maintain the condition of this important area. The work was funded by the Memorial Committee.
- Installed improved-efficiency bulbs for Andersen Hall, bathrooms, offices and other spaces, thanks to the generosity of Keith Mills.
- Installed safety lights for the sanctuary steps.

Admin Council Members – Steve Benton, Ian Cameron (Session), Amy Carlson (Finance Chair), Jim Crosby (Session), Rob Faxon, Todd Imbler (B & G Chair), Susan Kent, Gordon Landefeld and Ruth Wasem (Chair, Session). Staffed by Rev. Drew Genszler

Building & Grounds Committee Members – Todd Imbler (Chair), Steve Benton, Ian Cameron (Session), Susan Kent, Vickie Mentrek, and Keith Mills. Staffed by Rev. Drew Genszler and Christine Winters

Finance Committee Members – Amy Carlson (Chair), Jennifer Souers Chevraux, Rob Faxon, Peggy Roberts

Submitted by Ruth Wasem, Chair of Administration Council



Top: Fairmount's Solar Panels, Bottom Left: New Ramp, Bottom Right: Sewer Line Project

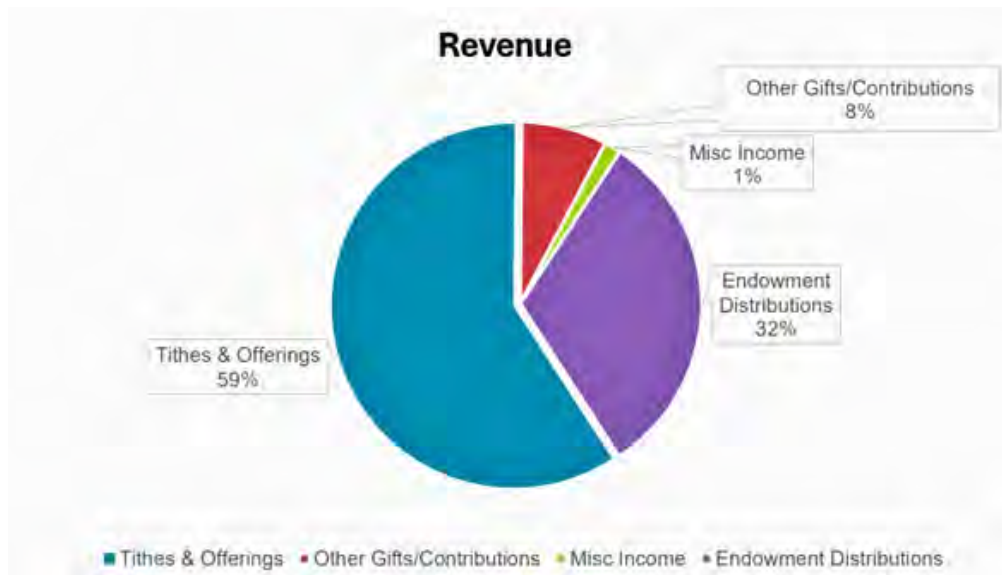
2025 Stewardship Report

We ended 2025 with \$800,479 in gifts from 222 households, which was \$103,163 more than was pledged for the year. We continue to count our blessings as this congregation is so generous. Thank you.

As it was in 2025, our pledge goal for 2026 is \$740,000. So far we have received \$668,224 in pledges for 2026, so if you have not pledged yet, please do!

The Stewardship Committee continues to focus on increasing the number households that pledge by making it EASY! We hope that our communication efforts and tools to streamline pledging either via in Realm, or through QR codes in our programs and pews, or through our website will help increase the count of pledges coming in. Additionally, in 2025 we continued to promote planned giving, information for which can be found on Fairmount's website and in the church. We hope this is helpful to our members as they discern their legacies and whether they want to keep Fairmount in their future giving plans. Please feel free to contact Drew Genszler (operations@fpccl.org) or Peggy Roberts (216-268-9303) if you wish to discuss anything related to Stewardship or planned giving. Submitted by Peggy Roberts.

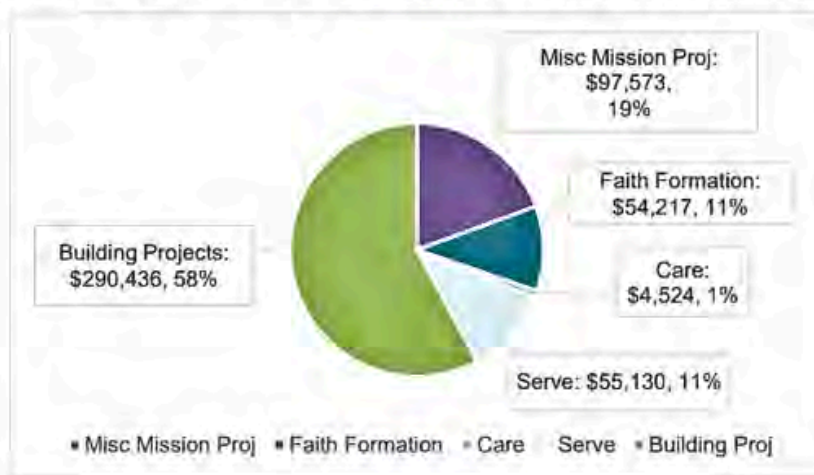
Fairmount 2025 Financial Report



In 2025, Total Revenues were \$1.432 million; expenses were nearly comparable at just under \$1.44 million

- The church ended 2025 with a deficit of just under \$8,000. We were **over** budget on both Tithes & Offerings (113% of goal) and expenses (107% of goal)
- Thanks to the generosity of this congregation, Tithes, Other Gifts & Misc. Income were 68% of revenue (up 1% from the prior year)
- Fairmount’s endowment draw continues to be steady, down from 33% of revenue last year to 32% in 2025. As noted in prior years, this is a healthy range for a church; although many churches do not have an endowment
- Despite a yearly draw of 5% based on a trailing 5-year average, Fairmount’s endowment is up 47% from 10 years ago (\$8.3 million at 12/31/16 and at over \$12.2 million at 12/31/25)

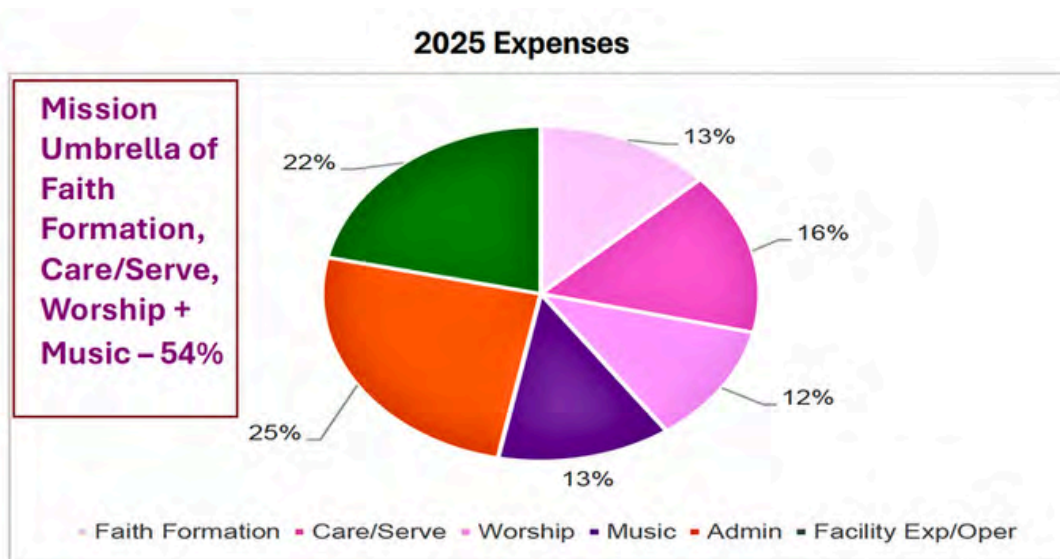
Additional Funds Used for Mission (Outside of Annual Oper Budget)



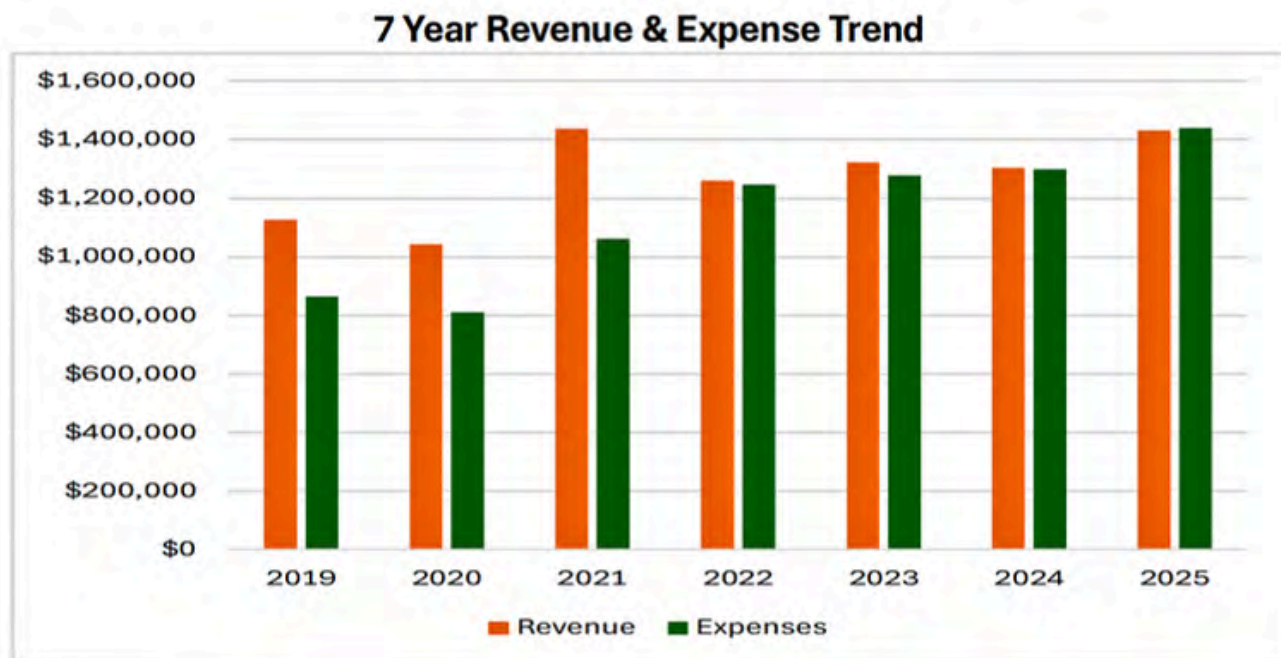
Total Revenue (above) plus other Mission support totaled \$1.93 million in 2025

- As well as Mission support through our annual operating budget, Fairmount provides for other Mission work through additional generous contributions of our members (e.g. Hunger Agency/Pantry, Interfaith work, Batey 105, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, etc.)
- Similar to last year, more dollars were again used this year to improve our roof, install solar panels, upgrade our ramp, etc.

Fairmount 2025 Financial Report



- Our church finished the year just under \$1.44 million in expenses, over budget by 7%. Session originally projected a larger deficit, but the increase in Tithes & Offerings nearly offset it.
- 54% of our expenses, compared with 51% last year, were for the care of our congregation, our community, our worship and gifts of music



- Comparing revenue and expenses from 2024 to 2025, revenue was up 10%, and expenses were up 11%
- Expenses were higher due to a variety of factors, including inflationary pressures, an increase in Lay staff benefits, Fire Protection costs, Maintenance Supplies and Services and more done in Faith Formation and Serve as the church sought to provide more for our broader community.

Our Vibrant Fairmount Community!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at Fairmount Church, part of the Care Council, is entering its 20th year in existence! In that time hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of shawls have been crocheted and knitted by Fairmounters and gifted to multiple folks in need of the warmth, the love and the prayers that shawls bring with them. During this past year, 2025, forty shawls were given. Fifteen of the forty were given following the blessing of Prayer Shawls on Sunday, May 18, 2025, during worship at Fairmount. Shawls were delivered for many reasons including pregnancies, births, illnesses, deaths, birthdays, graduations, and the joining of the military! Please remember Prayer Shawls are available to give to those in need. Submitted by Jan Spalding.

Fairmount Earth Stewards

In 2025, a new Spirituality in Nature series was started in 2025, with several walks held in nearby parks with discussion. A book study group discussed the book, *Spiritual Wisdom of Trees*. Project Green Thumb participants visited and prayed with wounded veterans each month at the VA hospital in Cleveland, and provided living herb plants to aid in the veterans' healing process. Earth Stewards members participated in a Blessed Tomorrow climate summit in April, hosted by Peace Lutheran Church. Several east side congregations agreed to work together for creation care. In August, Fairmount hosted an Electric Vehicle presentation with 22 participants from 5 congregations across the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. One participant bought a new EV as a result of this presentation.

Fairmount and Peace Lutheran hosted a booth at an environmental fair in June 2025 and a new ecumenical group was formed – the East Side Creation Care Alliance. Twenty-one participants from nine congregations participated in the first group meeting at Fairmount in September. From these initial meetings, Fairmount's Earth Stewards team found two new areas of the Creation Care Ministry for action in 2026: reducing church waste to landfill and restoring our local tree canopy. Our waste minimization project grant request to the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District was started.

In 2025, the Earth Stewards celebrated a major energy saving milestone for Fairmount Presbyterian Church – the addition of solar panels on our Andersen Hall roof. On July 3rd Fairmount activated a new 66 panel/31KW solar panel array that generated 24,000 kWh of clean electricity in 2025, avoiding \$2500 of electricity costs, and reducing church carbon emissions by 38,000 lbs. The project totaled \$117,700 and was funded in part by donations from Earth Stewards team members, and a 30% (\$34,000) federal non-profit credit that Fairmount staff has applied for. The solar panels are expected to generate about 40% of church electricity use, an estimated 40,000 Kwhr of electricity in 2026, which we estimate will provide \$5000 in avoided electricity cost savings, and also avoid 75,000lbs of carbon emissions. As Ohio electricity costs are due to increase, we expect our solar avoided cost savings to increase. Solar will slow the increase of Fairmount's electricity bills. Submitted by Keith Mills.

The Faithful Lives Film Series

The 2025 Faithful Lives Film Series was our 29th year. The film series' guiding principle is to view films for a deeper understanding of our Christian Faith. Five films were shown on the second Friday of each month from January through May. Our sub-theme was "A Faithful Response to Hate" and the movies shown were: *BlacKkKlansman*, *Hotel Rwanda*, *Gentleman's Agreement*, *Stranger at The Gate/ Sultan and the Saint* and *Hidden Figures*. Great discussions were held following each movie. There were a total of 55 attendees with an average of 11 attendees per movie. A free will offering is collected to offset the cost of pizza and salad. A total of \$268.00 was collected with \$275.00 in expenses. In-kind giving covered the cost of soda, plates, forks, popcorn and licensing of two movies, not covered by the church's CVLI license. Total in-kind giving was about \$100. Carl Hoffman after many years of service, resigned from the Faithful Lives Film Series committee due to moving to New York. Patti Taylor joined the committee. The 30th year of the Faithful Lives Film Series was planned in October of 2025. The Committee is now; Patti Taylor, Doris Evans, Nancy Gillombardo, Ruth Wasem and Bryan Seekely, Moderator. Submitted by Bryan Seekely.

The William Birkett Williams Lecture Series Committee

The William Birkett Williams (WBW) Memorial Lecture Fund (The Fund) was created by Birkett and Edna Williams, parents of William Birkett Williams, to serve as a memorial to their son, an Air Force fighter pilot who died during WW II. The first lecture was held in 1952, and lectures have continued more or less annually since then.

Committee members include Karen Dakin: Chair, Joyce Pope: Recorder, Christine Winters: Staff Liaison, Geoff Barnes: Legal and Financial Advisor. Carl Hoffman has been an active member of the committee for years; however, in late 2025, Carl and his wife, Kathy, moved to Rochester, NY. We will miss his presence on the committee. Our most recent lecture was in honor of Carl Hoffman for his longtime service to the committee. Joyce Pope hosted a Going Away Party for Carl and Kathy to send our Best Wishes for the Hoffman family.

Although we did not hold a lecture in 2025, our committee held 10 committee meetings and was busy planning ahead for two definite presentations in 2026. One presentation was held on March 24, 2026 with Dr. Peter Koritansky, Professor and the new Director of the Center for Civics, Culture and Society presenting "Why Civics Now?". Another is planned for May 2026, with an additional possibility in the Fall.

In anticipation of multiple lectures in 2026, a total of \$11,425 of funds were released from The Fund in December 2025 and forwarded to the FPC operating account that is set up for WBW, which may be supplemented by an additional distribution in 2026, depending on the needs of the Committee. Submitted by Geoff Barnes.

The Fairmount Social Group

The Fairmount Social Group 2025 saw the reboot of the Fairmount social group. This a fellowship group open to all Fairmount adults, guests and a few of our events are open to our youth as well. In 2025 we enjoyed bowling in March and Whirlyball with the youth in April. Submitted by Bryan Seekely.

Sisterhood of Service

SOS (Sisterhood of Service) is a small-group ministry of single women. Its purpose is to be helpful to its members, others in the congregation, and to others in the community at large. Some highlights of the 2025 program year included: continued topical table discussions, as well as plans for the collections of pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House in conjunction with other Fairmount groups. The first, in a proposed series of discussions focused on Mental Health issues, began at the October meeting with Philipp L. Dines, M.D., Ph.D., whose presentation dealt with the various dementia diagnoses. Submitted by Carol Adrine.

With Grateful Hearts, Fairmount Staff Celebrates Our Volunteers

The staff of Fairmount Presbyterian Church offers our sincere gratitude to the many volunteers who so generously share their time, talents, and spirit. Your contributions sustain and enrich every part of our life together—from the day-to-day rhythms of church operations to the programs and mission efforts that extend our reach into the community. Your presence is a gift, and your dedication shines brightly, helping to guide and strengthen our shared journey.

2025 Office Volunteers:

Melda Graves, Patti Taylor, Judy Steehler, John Zitzner, Julie Egge, Lisa Cameron, Patty Forsberg

2025 Children's Ministry Teachers:

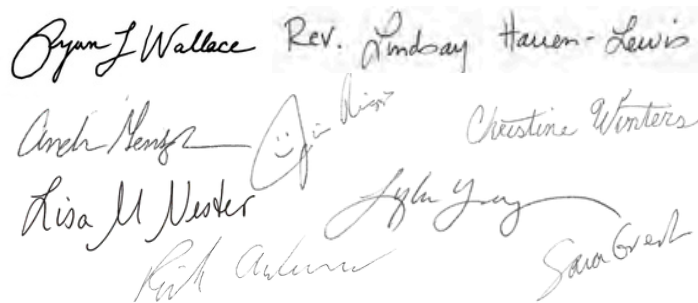
Denice Benton, Oona Moorehead, Katie Wetherbee, Steve Chapman

2025 Children's Ministry Volunteers:

Carol Adrine	Carolyn Cuff	Jewel Kuhns
Jillian Bradbourne	Julie Egge	Gordon Landefeld
Peter Bush	Wrean Fiebig	Thomas Seelbach
Lisa Cameron	Tim Harren-Lewis	Jean Sylak
Liz Campbell	Gina Kashuk	Alice Weiner
Natalie Clark	Susan Kent	Joanne Westin

And all others who have made this ministry thrive!

Thank you 



2025 Annual Report Addendum

1. 2025 Congregational Meeting Minutes
2. 2025 Pastor's Terms to Call
3. 2025 Council/Committee Additional Information
 - a. Serve Council 2025 Grants
 - b. Earth Stewards - Solar Panel Energy Report
 - c. History of the Prayer Shawl Ministry



**FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, January 26, 2025, 12:15 pm**

MODERATOR: Rev. Ryan Wallace, Senior Pastor

CLERK: Sarah Stone

Rev. Wallace opened the meeting in prayer at 12:15 and called the meeting to order. Clerk Sarah Stone confirmed that a quorum was present.

Rev. Wallace noted the congregation would hear reports from Carol Adrine, Chair of the Personnel Committee, about terms of call for installed pastors Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis and Rev. Wallace and the congregation would be asked to vote on their recommendations. He then invited Ms. Adrine to address the congregation.

Ms. Adrine referenced the printed terms of call that were being distributed by the ushers and reported first on Rev. Harren-Lewis's Terms of Call. The 2025 recommendation called for a 3% cost of living increase for Rev. Harren-Lewis for 2025. She invited a motion from the congregation to accept the Personnel Committee's recommendation.

Rev Wallace noted that this recommendation was sent to the Session, and the Session voted unanimously to endorse the recommendation for these 2025 terms of call for Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis. He asked for a motion to accept Terms of Call for Rev. Lindsay Harren Lewis. Jim Crosby made the motion, Amy Carlson second. He asked for questions or comments from the congregation. Hearing none, he called for a vote by show of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

Rev. Wallace then called on Ms. Adrine for her second report and appointed Ruth Wasem, President, as Moderator Pro-Tem. He noted he would stay for any technical questions about the salary proposal and would absent himself from the vote.

Ms. Adrine presented terms of call for Rev. Wallace. She noted that his 2025 salary was approved by the Personnel Committee at no increase from his 2024 salary in compliance with the congregational vote in May 2024 to correct overpayment errors in his 2022 and 2023 compensation. The Personnel Committee approved the 2025 Compensation.

Ms. Wasem asked if there were questions from the congregation. Mary Ellen Conn-Brody asked for an explanation about the Social Security offset. Rev. Wallace explained that clergy are treated as self-employed by the government and were required to pay a self-employment tax, which is double the ordinary rate of payroll tax. The Church pays the 7.65% of salary ordinarily paid by employers for Social Security. Installed pastors receive these payments quarterly and remit them to the federal government.

Doris Evans requested that future salary proposals presented to the congregation include the previous year's compensation for comparison, and Ms. Adrine said she would take the request under advisement.

Rev. Wallace left the meeting.

Ms. Wasme noted that the Personnel Committee's recommendation was sent to the Session, and the Session voted unanimously to endorse the recommendation for these terms of call for Rev. Ryan Wallace. She asked for a motion from the congregation, which was moved and seconded. She asked for questions from the congregation.

Doris Evans asked if the Personnel Committee's proposal for compensation included a review of the pastor's work, and Ms. Adrine responded that it did.

Hearing no additional questions, Ms. Wasem called for a vote by show of hands for the approval of the motion for Rev. Wallace's Terms of Call for 2025. The motion passed unanimously. She asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Stone

FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATED ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 12 noon
MINUTES

Moderator: Rev. Ryan Wallace, Senior Pastor
Clerk: Sarah Stone
Treasurer: Amy Carlson

The Moderator Rev. Ryan Wallace called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm and opened the meeting with prayer. Clerk Sarah Stone confirmed that a quorum was present. Rev. Wallace referenced the printed annual report and noted that a digital copy was available online. He reviewed the docket and, hearing no changes from the floor, proceeded with the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Amy Carlson reviewed financial charts included in the printed annual report, noting that for the second year, Fairmount ended with a surplus for 2024, as tithes and offerings exceeded expectations and expenses were under budget. The generosity of Fairmounters was evident as giving rose as a percentage of revenue from 59% in 2023 to 61% in 2024. The endowment draw provides $\frac{1}{3}$ of Fairmount's annual revenues. Even with an annual 5% draw, Fairmount's endowment has grown 33% in the last decade, up from \$8.4 million to \$11.2 million. The congregation also supports missions beyond its budget, participating in the Hunger Network's annual walk and supporting the Little Free Pantry, Batey 105 and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance through special offerings and designated giving.

Turning to the expense budget, Amy Carlson reported that 2024 expenses finished at \$1.279 million, under budget by 3.6% due to reduced personnel expenses, fewer lay staff and benefits savings. She noted that over half (51%) of Fairmount's expenses is for care of our congregation, our community, worship and the gift of music. A five-year review of expenses shows that Fairmount is intentionally growing expenses coming out of the COVID era and interim pastor phase. She reported that revenue was down about 1% and expenses up 2%; comparing this with the 4.25% rate of inflation over the past three years, Fairmount is doing well.

Rev. Wallace asked for questions. Ethel Brundage asked whether ruling elders were present, and Rev. Wallace called on sitting elders to stand; nine were present.

Nominating Committee Report Rev. Wallace called on Nominating Committee chair Vicki Mentrek to provide her report. Vicki Mentrek reported that one elder elected in fall 2024 could not fulfill their term and that the Nominating Committee wished to nominate Susan Whereley as

a member of the class of 2027 for a three-year term. The motion was made and seconded by the congregation. Rev. Wallace asked for questions and comments and, hearing none, called for a voice vote on the nomination. The motion was approved unanimously.

Rev. Wallace said that Susan Whereley was elected to the Nominating Committee last year as an at-large member. Now, as she becomes an elder, a vacancy exists. Vicki Mentrek presented a motion from the Nominating Committee recommending Kevin Petru as an at-large member for a one-year term. Rev. Wallace asked if there were questions or comments; hearing none, he called for a voice vote on the nomination. The congregation approved the motion unanimously.

Terms of Call Elder Ben Sperry, representing Session, brought forward a motion from Session to change the terms of call for Rev. Lindsay-Harren-Lewis to add dental insurance. Referring to the printed Terms of Call sheet distributed to the congregation, Rev. Wallace reported that while Rev. Harren-Lewis was previously opting for dental insurance through her husband's employer, that option is now not available. Session is recommending an addition of \$1,200 in annual dental premiums be added to Rev. Harren-Lewis's terms of call, noting that this year only 10 months of premiums were needed. He asked for questions on the motion; hearing none, he called for a voice vote on the motion. The congregation approved the motion unanimously.

Rev. Wallace called the congregation's attention to the annual report, indicating that it was shorter than previous years and printed in-house as an internal report. "Welcome to Fairmount" books in the pews are intended to be marketing materials and the annual report decision was seen as a good stewardship of resources. He called for any questions on the report, indicating that elders from all four councils were present.

Carolyn Cuff asked if an electronic version of the annual report could be sent out in advance of the meeting; Rev. Wallace agreed and asked that the minutes reflect this. Gary Sampson asked if a list of the ruling elders could be included in the annual report and on the website. Deacon Julie Egge added that church bulletin boards would be updated with photos and lists of the sitting elders. Mary Ann Conn-Brody asked that the Nominating Committee provide brief information about candidates in the bulletin when elections occur; Rev. Wallace agreed and asked that this be recorded in the minutes. Penn Berens noted that there were many elders present in addition to those currently in office.

Rev. Wallace closed the meeting with prayer and adjourned the meeting at 12:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Sarah Stone, Clerk

**FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Sunday, October 18, 2025, 12:00 pm

MODERATOR: Rev. Ryan Wallace, Senior Pastor

CLERK: Sarah Stone

The Moderator Rev. Wallace called the congregational meeting to order at 12:00 PM and opened with prayer.. Clerk Sarah Stone confirmed that there was a quorum of at least 50 persons present. Rev Wallace thanked members of the Nominating Committee for their work on identifying elders, deacons, and officers for election to service in 2025. Invited Vicki and Susan Co chairs

Rev Wallace recognized at-large members of the Nominating Committee who were completing their term of service: Carol Adrine, Keven Petru, Rob Faxon, Jim Dakin, Una Moorehead, and Gina Kashuck. He called Susan Wherley and Vicki Mentrek to the podium and recognized them, as Elders elected to the Nominating Committee who were also completing their term of service. He reminded the congregation that the Committee would be nominating members to serve as elder, deacon, endowment trustee and as members of the Nominating Committee.

Before considering nominations for Elder, Class of 2028., Susan Wherely recognized elders completing their terms in 2025:

Vicki Mentrek

Peter Scheid

Ben Sperry

Sarah Stone

On behalf of the committee, she placed the following names in nomination for the office of Elder:

Carol Adrine

Jesse Bassett

Dr. Timothy Cuff

Katie Wetherbee

Rev. Wallace noted that no additional elders were needed to complete this class of four elder positions, but Presbyterian polity allows for floor nominations. Nominees must have been asked first, then a paper ballot would be used for this election. Rev. Wallace asked whether there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he asked whether there was any objection to closing nominations. Hearing none, he closed nomination and asked for a motion to elect Carol Adrine, Jesse Bassett, Timothy Cuff and Katie Wetherbee as Elders for the Class of 2028. Nancy Gillombardo made the motion, seconded by Ulrich Hopfer. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Vicki Mentrek recognized the deacons who would be completing their terms in December 2025:
Jan Spaulding
Debbie Punshon

He then placed the following names in nomination for office of Deacon, Class of 2027:

Julie Egre
Ginny Greggor
Gary Maddox
Oona Moorhead
Sunday Uka
Stephanie Waslock

Rev. Wallace noted that these nominations would fill the six open Deacon slots, He asked whether there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he asked whether there was any objection to closing nominations. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to elect Julie Egre, Ginny Greggor Gary Maddox, Oona Moorhead, Sunday Uka, and Stephanie Washlock to the office of Deacon for the class of 2027. Nancy Gillombardo made the motion, and Geoff Barnes seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Rev. Wallace thanked Elaine Price as an outgoing trustee of the Endowment Committee. Susan Wherley placed the names of Laura Desmond, Walter Ginn and John Zitzner in nomination for the Class of 2027 and Mark Eisele in nomination for Class of 2026. He noted that Endowment Trustees ordinarily serve terms of no more than six consecutive years, and Mark Eisele would complete his sixth year at the end of 2025. The Endowment Committee has suggested an exception be made to allow Mr. Eisele to serve one additional year while he oversees the RPF for the church's investment managers. The Nominating Committee concurred and Session unanimously approved this exception to the FPC Bylaws.

Rev. Wallace asked if there were nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he asked if there were any objections to closing the nominations for endowment trustees. Hearing none, the nominations were closed. Rev. Wallace called for a motion to elect Laura Desmond, Walter Ginn and John Zitzner to the Endowment Committee Class of 2027 and Mark Eisele to the Class of 2026. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Vicki Mentrek placed the following names in nomination for at-large members of the Nominating Committee, Class of 2026

Brian Seekley
Taylor Smith
Ben Sperry
Sarah Stone
Debbie Wilbur

Rev. Wallace noted that FPC's bylaws require five at-large members and the Nominating Committee has presented a full slate.. He asked if there were any objections to closing nominations. Hearing none, he asked for the nominations to be closed for at-large members of the nominating committee. Rev. Wallace asked for a motion to elect Brian Seekley, Taylor Smith, Ben Sperry, Sarah Stone and Debbie Wilbur to the Nominating Committee, Class of 2026. . The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Susan Whereley said that the report of the Congregational Nominating Committee was concluded and Rev. Wallace thanked the congregation for participating in our Presbyterian democracy. Rev. Wallace called for a motion to adjourn the meeting with prayer The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Rev. Wallace offered a prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 12:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Stone, Clerk

**ANNUAL TERMS OF CALL
for the year 2025**

Name: Rev. Ryan Wallace

Date: December 16, 2024

Church: Fairmount Presbyterian Church

Position: Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

A. Cash Salary (including employee contribution deferred compensation)	\$57,077.50
B. Housing Allowance:	\$40,000.00
C. Other (specify)	
D. Total Effective Salary - (sum of A through C)	\$97,077.50
E. Social Security Offset (if offered)	\$7,426.43
F. Employer match deferred compensation	
G. Total Income (sum of D through F)	\$104,503.93

BENEFITS:

H. Board of Pensions, PC(USA) Medical Installed Pastor or Pastor Participation (33% of Item D-Total Effective Salary)	\$32,035.58
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Total for Menu Option if Non-Installed

I. Pension, Death, Disability	\$10,234.84
J. Other: <u>Dental</u> (specify, e.g. dental, HRA plan)	\$1,448.16
K. Total Benefits	\$43,718.58

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES*:

L. Auto & Miscellaneous Professional	\$3,500
M. Continuing Education	\$2,500
N. Other SECA Contribution up to 7.65% Of total obligation- Social Security/Medicare	
O. Total Reimbursable Expenses	\$6,000

TOTAL COST TO CHURCH (G+K+O) **\$154,222.51**

Vacation Time (minimum 1 month): one month plus 2 weekends

Study Leave Time (minimum 2 weeks): 2 weeks

3 month sabbatical in the seventh year of service, per Session approval.

Continuing Education time and funding may be accrued up to six (6) weeks over a three (3) year period when it has been contracted for between the pastor and the session. Pastors and sessions are encouraged to plan this time away carefully in terms of 1) the pastor's study plans, and 2) the continuing well being of the church (i.e., pulpit supply, pastoral care, etc.). Accumulated study leave may be combined with vacation for a total period of time away of no more than ten (10) weeks.

**ANNUAL TERMS OF CALL
for the year 2024**

Name: Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis
Church: Fairmount Presbyterian Church

Date: December 16, 2024
Position: Associate Pastor

A. Cash Salary (including employee contribution deferred compensation)	\$57,923.98	
B. Housing Allowance:	\$21,642.52	
C. Other (specify)		
D. Total Effective Salary - (sum of A through C)	\$79,567.50	
E. Social Security Offset (if offered)	\$6,086.91	
F. Employer match deferred compensation		
G. Total Income (sum of D through F)		\$85,654.41

BENEFITS:

H. Board of Pensions, PC(USA) Medical Installed Pastor or Pastor Participation (33% of Item D-Total Effective Salary for full time)	\$26,257.28	
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Total for Menu Option if Non-Installed

I. Pension, Death, Disability	\$8,394.00	
J. Other (specify, e.g. dental, HRA plan)		
K. Total Benefits		\$34,651.28

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES*:

L. Auto & Miscellaneous Professional	\$3,000	
M. Continuing Education	\$2,500	
N. Other SECA Contribution up to 7.65% Of total obligation- Social Security/Medicare		
O. Total Reimbursable Expenses		\$5,500.00

TOTAL COST TO CHURCH (G+K+O) **\$125,805.69**

Vacation Time (minimum 1 month): one month plus 2 weekends

Study Leave Time (minimum 2 weeks): 3 weeks

3 month sabbatical in the seventh year of service, per Session approval.

Continuing Education time and funding may be accrued up to six (6) weeks over a three (3) year period when it has been contracted for between the pastor and the session. Pastors and sessions are encouraged to plan this time away carefully in terms of 1) the pastor's study plans, and 2) the continuing well being of the church (i.e., pulpit supply, pastoral care, etc.). Accumulated study leave may be combined with vacation for a total period of time away of no more than ten (10) weeks.

2025 Serve Council Grants

Benefactor	Amount	Notes
Shiloh Baptist Church	\$16,000.00	
Greater Cleveland Congregations	\$10,000.00	
Hunger Network	\$6,500.00	For food related programs
Greater Cleveland Food Bank	\$6,500.00	For food related programs
Resource Cleveland	\$6,500	
North Church	\$4,000.00	
IGAH dues	\$3,000.00	
Getting to We	\$3,000.00	
Project Green Thumb	\$2,000.00	
AMIS	\$1,000.00	
United Protestant Campus Ministries	\$1,000.00	
Writers in Residence	\$750.00	
Pride Parade	\$300.00	
Heights Race Sponsorship	\$250.00	
Pride Parade Supplies	\$59.96	
IGAH Snacks	\$56.00	
Total 2025 Serve Council Giving	\$60,915.96	

Estimated financial impact of Fairmount’s solar panels after 9 months

Summary

After activating new solar panels on July 3rd, in 2025 it is estimated that Fairmount avoided about \$2500 of electricity costs, and 28,000 lbs. of avoided carbon emissions.

It is also estimated that Fairmount’s 2026 avoided electricity charges from the newly installed solar panels will be about \$5,000. As Ohio electricity rates increase, Fairmount’s avoided electricity costs due from solar panels are also expected to increase in the coming years.

Solar avoided costs add to the cumulative effect of Fairmount’s energy efficiency projects since 2010 that have reduced church electricity use and costs, estimated in 2025 at \$20,000 annually in avoided electricity costs. Andersen Hall and office lighting was upgraded to more efficient LED light bulbs in 2025, continuing this long string of projects. Please refer to graphs on page 10 in the attachments.

Monthly solar avoided cost estimates: peak May – September; bottom out December/January.

Month	Total	IGS Kwh Consumption	First Energy Billed KW demand and cost recovery
July 25	\$316.25	\$316.25	\$0.00
August 25	\$1,139.17	\$446.20	\$692.97
Sept 25	\$944.40	\$378.57	\$565.83
Oct 25	\$417.06	\$275.81	\$141.26
Nov 25	\$399.68	\$144.53	\$255.14
Dec 25	\$37.99	\$37.99	\$0.00
January 26	\$43.36	\$43.36	\$0.00
Feb 26	\$355.87	\$73.59	\$282.28
March 26	\$690.55	\$216.80	\$473.75

Solar Avoided Costs Versus Solar Savings

“Savings from installed solar” may be better understood as “avoided costs from installed solar”; actual costs after installing solar panels, against the estimated costs if solar had not been installed. Rates and usage can change, and must be taken into account for an apples-to-apples comparison.

If electricity rates and/or usage are increasing, then “savings from solar” will be first used to offset rate and usage increases, as seen in 2025. The 2025 estimate was also reduced from \$3254 to \$2500 to account for the sanctuary air conditioning being out of service in August and September.

Fairmount’s 2024 electricity usage was 106,000Kwh, costs were \$15,656, and a Kwh was billed at 4.5 cents. When a new contract went into effect in December 2024 with a new contract, the Kwh rate increased to 6.63 cents. In 2025, 80,600Kwh of electricity was purchased at a total cost of \$15,662. The solar panels installed on July 3rd also offset increased First Energy charges January through June. Please refer to the year-to-year comparison charts on pages 5 and 6.

Comparisons may under or overstate cost variations from year-to-year usage variation. Church 2024 electricity use was 20,000 Kwh higher than in 2023, likely due to increased air conditioning use.

Another factor to consider when estimating avoided costs from solar panels is First Energy cost recovery charge rate seasonal variation, that peak during summer high electricity demand months.

Calculating Monthly Solar Avoided Costs

Solar generated electricity consumption in Kwh from supplier IGS is credited at \$0.0663/Kwh.

Reductions in First Energy demand and cost recovery charges attributed to solar panel generated electricity, were estimated comparing monthly costs after solar was installed, to the average of 2023, 2024 and 2025 same monthly charges before solar.

How Do Solar Panels Avoid Electricity Costs for Fairmount?

Solar generated electricity is seasonal, with most of the annual production in May, June, July, August and September. Monthly solar electricity production during November, December, January and February is minimal. The shoulder months of March, April, and October are in between.

Solar panels produced electricity is immediately consumed at the church, if it can be. Solar electricity that cannot immediately be consumed is fed back into the First Energy grid through the bidirectional meter, credited at the KWH generation rate.

Solar Edge monitoring showed Fairmount's solar panels generated 24,210 Kwh of electricity in 2025. From First Energy bills, about 2000Kwh went back through the meter into First Energy's grid. The remainder, or 22,000Kwh, was apparently consumed locally first, without going through the meter. This electricity did not need to be generated by IGS (our supplier) or distributed by First Energy.

Solar reduces First Energy's **demand charges**. Monthly demand charges are based on Fairmount's highest usage for 30 minutes. If the highest demand would have been 40KW, for example, but the sun is shining and the solar panels are generating electricity used by the church, then for example maybe First Energy's measured demand was 35KW instead. To most accurately estimate demand reductions, we would need real time electricity tracking, which the church does not have. Comparing year to year electricity usage and billing from the First Energy bills was used to calculate savings.

Demand charges are shown on the First Energy bill, and rates are listed in the First Energy GS tariff.

There other First Energy charge is **cost recovery**.

Google search: Ohio Electricity Rates Likely to Increase in coming years

"FirstEnergy is launching a \$6 billion capital investment plan in 2026 as part of a \$36 billion, five-year "Energize365" program to upgrade infrastructure. While utility-driven rate increases are expected to support this grid modernization, Ohio regulators in Feb 2026 rejected a plan to sharply raise rates for storm costs, instead ordering a 25-year, lower-impact repayment plan.

Key details regarding FirstEnergy and 2026 rate impacts include:

- **Investment Plan:** The \$6 billion in 2026 investments focus on distribution infrastructure and high-voltage transmission, **aiming for 10% compounded annual rate base growth through 2030.**
- **Rate Impact & Regulation:** In February 2026, Ohio regulators (PUCO) rejected a proposal to charge customers \$49 million per year for storm costs, forcing a restructuring that reduced the annual collection to \$9.8 million over 25 years.
- **General Market Pressures:** Despite specific regulatory wins for consumers, broader, regional electricity demand driven by AI and data centers is causing pressure on rates, with some estimates suggesting Ohio electric bills could rise due to capacity auctions, even if some specific FirstEnergy hikes are minimized.

First Energy Bill for February 25 to March 25, 2026



Bill Based On: Actual Meter Reading, eBill

Page 1 of 2
101

Billing Period: Feb 25 to Mar 25, 2026 for 29 days
Bill For: FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTER
 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD
 CLEVELAND HEIGHTS OH 44118

March 31, 2026
Account Number: 110 021 301 954
Amount Due: \$1,605.06
Due Date: April 21, 2026

To report an emergency or an outage, call 24 hours a day 1-888-544-4877.

Bill issued by: The Illuminating Company, 341 White Pond Dr., Akron, OH 44320-1119

To enroll in eBill or pay your bill online, scan the QR code on the right of this bill from your mobile device or go to www.firstenergycorp.com.

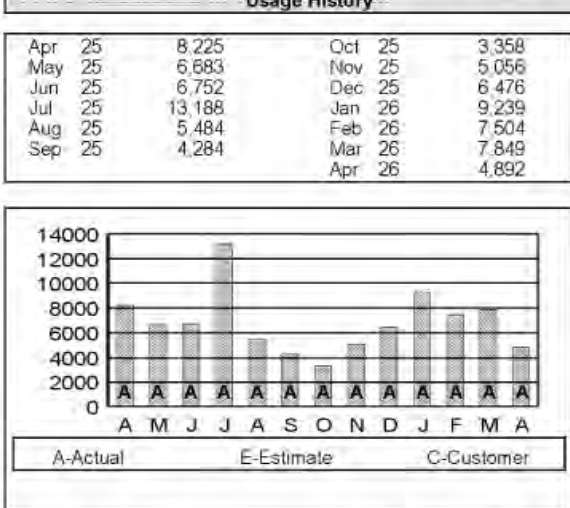
For Customer Service, call 1-800-589-3101. For Payment Options, call 1-800-686-9901. **Online Registration Code: 859551**



Messages	Account Summary	Amount Due
To avoid a 1.50% Late Payment Charge being added to your bill, please pay the Amount Due by the Due Date.	Previous Balance	2,070.25
The information below shows specific charges for the costs of energy efficiency, peak demand reduction, and renewable energy. These charges are not new, but are and previously were consolidated with other charges on your bill.	Payments/Adjustments	-2,070.25
Energy Efficiency 4,893 KWH x 0.000000 \$0.00	Balance at Billing on Mar 31, 2026	0.00
Peak Demand Reduction 4,893 KWH x 0.000000 \$0.00	The Illuminating Company	354.18
Renewable Energy 4,893 KWH x 0.001918 \$9.38	Consumption Inst: Plan Amount	966.00
Your next meter reading is scheduled to occur on or about Apr 24, 2026.	IGS Energy - Consumption	284.88
You may be able to access more detailed energy usage information from your smart meter, which can help you better understand your electricity use and make informed decisions on how to manage and control your electricity consumption. View "My Usage" on the Home Energy Analyzer tool at energysaveOH.com to access this information.	Total Current Charges	1,605.06
You can also access more detailed energy usage information from your smart meter, which can help you better understand your electricity use and make informed decisions on how to manage and control your electricity consumption. View "My Usage" on the Home Energy Analyzer tool at energysaveOH.com to access this information.	Amount Due by Apr 21, 2026	\$1,605.06
Thank you for setting up a payment arrangement with The Illuminating Company on 02/26/2026. The terms of the installment plan require a monthly installment amount of \$966.00 in addition to the current charges. The amount you must pay will be shown on your bill each month. Please pay this amount by the due date on the bill. Failure to keep the terms of the installment plan may result in the disconnection of your service.	To pay your account in full you owe \$7,407.49.	
On January 7, 2026, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ordered in Case No. 17-974-EL-UNC, et al., that customers will receive approximately \$262 million in restitution through bill credits. These credits will be applied to customer bills over three months starting February 1, 2026.	Usage Information for Meter Number 5000161312	
Spring's warm weather often produces thunderstorms, which can cause power outages. If your power goes out, call 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877). For your safety, please treat all downed wires as Additional messages, if any, can be found on back.	Mar 25, 2026 KWH Reading 516.637	

Usage History

Month	Usage (KWH)	Month	Usage (KWH)
Apr 25	8,225	Oct 25	3,358
May 25	6,683	Nov 25	5,056
Jun 25	6,752	Dec 25	6,476
Jul 25	13,188	Jan 26	9,239
Aug 25	5,484	Feb 26	7,504
Sep 25	4,284	Mar 26	7,849
		Apr 26	4,892



Comparisons	Last Year	This Year
Average Daily Use (KWH)	284	169

Comparisons	Last Year	This Year
Average Daily Use (KWH)	284	169
Average Daily Temperature	42	42
Days in Billing Period	29	29
Last 12 Months Use (KWH)		80,765
Average Monthly Use (KWH)		6,730

Usage Information for Meter Number 5002794745	Amount
Mar 25, 2026 KWH Reading	974.489
Feb 25, 2026 KWH Reading	985.527
Difference	8.962
Multiplier	80
KWH Used - Delivered	717
Measured Load in KW	2.22
Measured Lagging Reactive Demand	1.28

Charges From The Illuminating Company	Amount
Customer Number: 0800650078 1890000978	
Rate: General Service Secondary CE-GSD	
Customer Charge	9.59
Delivered Distribution Related Component	142.54
Delivered Economic Development Component	0.01
Delivered Cost Recovery Charges	201.89
Received Distribution Related Component	2.45
Received Cost Recovery Charges	-2.54
Current Consumption Bill Charges	353.94

Billing Information for IGS Energy
 6100 Emerald Pkwy, Dublin, OH 43015
 Customer Service: 1-877-995-4447
 Account Number: 8889938 Rate: BILL-READY

Billing Period: Feb 25, 2026 to Mar 25, 2026
 Energy Charge (4300kwh @ \$0.0663) 284.88
Total IGS Energy Current Charges 284.88
 Thank You For Making Igs Energy Your Trusted Energy Partner.

Detail Payment and Adjustment Information	Amount
03/20/26 Payment	-2,070.25

Account Balances by Company	Previous Balance	Payments/Adjustments	Current Charges	Amount Due
The Illuminating Company	1,558.07	-592.07	1,320.18	2,286.18
IGS Energy	512.18	-1,478.18	284.88	-681.12
Total	2,070.25	-2,070.25	1,605.06	1,605.06

Consumption Installment Plan	Amount
Installment Date	03/20/2026
Installment Amount	7,734.43
Paid to date	966.00
Balance Mar 31, 2026	6,768.43

Consumption Installment Plan	Amount
Installment Date	03/20/2026
Installment Amount	7,734.43
Paid to date	966.00
Balance Mar 31, 2026	6,768.43

RATE:

All charges under this rate schedule shall be calculated as described below and charged on a monthly basis.

Distribution Charges:

Service Charge:	\$7.00
Capacity Charge:	
Up to 5 kW of billing demand	\$13.6800
For each kW over 5 kW of billing demand	\$7.4790
Reactive Demand Charge applicable to three phase customers only	
For each rkVA of reactive billing demand	\$0.36

BILLING DEMAND:

The billing demand for the month shall be the greatest of:

1. Measured Demand, being the highest thirty (30) minute integrated kW
2. 5.0 kW
3. The Contract Demand

Net Energy Billing, from Tariff page 93

Billing

The provisions of this rider will be applied to the rate schedule to which the customer would be assigned if that customer were not a customer-generator. The customer-generator will be billed or credited charges and applicable riders as measured by the meter. Measured demand specified in the appropriate tariff shall be based on the peak demand measured as supplied by the Company only, flowing from the Company's system to the customer-generator's facility. If the Company supplies more kilowatt-hours of electricity than the customer-generator facility feeds back to the Company's system during the billing period, all energy charges of the appropriate rate schedule shall be applied to the net kilowatt-hours of electricity that the Company supplied. If the customer-generator facility feeds more kilowatt-hours of electricity back to the system than the Company supplies to the customer-generator facility during the billing period, energy charges of the Generation Service Rider (GEN) shall be applied to the net kilowatt-hours of electricity that the customer-generator facility supplied, which shall be allowed to accumulate as a bill credit until netted against the customer generator's bill, or until the customer-generator requests in writing a refund that amounts to, but is no greater than, an annual true-up of accumulated credits over a twelve-month period.

[Google Search/AI Overview of Cost Recovery Charges](#)

FirstEnergy calculates GS (General Service) rate cost recovery charges by summing approved "avoidable" riders—including transmission, distribution, and grid improvement costs—and dividing by total kWh consumption. These rider rates, which cover infrastructure maintenance, are reviewed and authorized by the [Public Utilities Commission of Ohio \(PUCO\)](#).

Key Aspects of GS Cost Recovery Calculation:

- **Components:** Charges include riders for Transmission, Distribution (Gen/Gen Phase-in), Energy Efficiency (EDR), and other authorized items.
- **Methodology:** The total costs for these riders are divided by the kilowatt-hours (kWh) used, creating a cents/kWh charge.
- **Price to Compare:** These, along with other supply components, make up the Price to Compare, which is adjusted periodically to reflect changes in fuel and transmission costs.
- **Approval Process:** PUCO audits these costs before they are billed, with caps on the maximum amount that can be recovered annually.

These charges are part of the non-bypassable riders applied to customer bills, ensuring the utility recovers costs for services like grid improvements.

Solar Avoided Cost Calculations

IGS avoided costs for Kwh generated by solar = solar Kwh for the month x \$0.0663 contract rate with IGS.

First Energy cost comparisons for 2025 – July billing was split, so it was not included.

December 2025 and January 2026 Kwh's were too small, so First Energy avoided costs assumed to be zero.

First Energy	23	24	Ave 23 24	25 - after solar	First Energy Avoided cost
August	\$1,093.84	\$1,169.90	\$1,131.87	\$438.90	\$692.97
Sept	\$1,302.20	\$1,007.39	\$1,154.80	\$588.97	\$565.83
Oct	\$928.60	\$833.21	\$880.91	\$739.65	\$141.26
Nov	\$897.71	\$777.81	\$837.76	\$582.62	\$255.14

First Energy cost comparisons for Q1 2026 – when solar Kwh is small, negative avoided cost entered as zero

First Energy	23	24	25	Ave 23 24 25	26- after solar	First Energy Avoided Cost
Jan	\$613.38	\$687.04	\$773.20	\$691.21	\$749.43	\$0.00
Feb	\$664.12	\$743.72	\$1,215.20	\$874.35	\$592.07	\$282.28
March	\$696.98	\$784.06	\$1,002.03	\$827.69	\$353.94	\$473.75

Comparing 2023, 2024 and 2025 Electricity monthly bills, broken out into IGS Kwh and First Energy charges

Observations: 2025 has higher costs for both IGS Kwh and First Energy KW demand; solar panels held costs even in 2025. First Energy average KW's and charges were higher before solar was installed, and then dropped for the next 6 months.

2023	Kwh	Total Cost	IGS Kwh	FE KW
Jan	7465	\$952.29	\$338.91	\$613.38
Feb	7545	\$1,006.66	\$342.54	\$664.12
March	7355	\$1,030.90	\$333.92	\$696.98
April	7666	\$961.95	\$348.04	\$613.91
May	5494	\$919.03	\$249.43	\$669.60
June	5361	\$779.75	\$243.39	\$536.36
July	7570	\$1,402.23	\$343.68	\$1,058.55
August	6103	\$1,370.92	\$277.08	\$1,093.84
Sept	8740	\$1,699.00	\$396.80	\$1,302.20
Oct	7148	\$1,253.12	\$324.52	\$928.60
Nov	7438	\$1,235.40	\$337.69	\$897.71
Dec	8544	\$1,114.70	\$387.90	\$726.80
	86429	\$13,725.95	\$3,923.88	\$9,802.07

6 m total	First Energy	first 6m Kwh
\$5,651	\$3,794.36	40886

6m total	First Energy	last 6m Kwh
\$8,075.37	\$4,949.17	45543

2024	Kwh	Total Cost	IGS Kwh	First Ener	KW
Jan 24	7107	\$1,009.81	\$322.77	\$687.04	32.6
Feb 24	8211	\$1,116.63	\$372.91	\$743.72	34.9
Mar 24	8172	\$1,155.15	\$371.09	\$784.06	36.8
Apr 24	7436	\$1,115.63	\$337.72	\$777.91	35.4
My 24	6682	\$1,316.52	\$303.47	\$1,013.05	46.4
Jn 24	11791	\$1,563.47	\$534.51	\$1,028.96	53.3
July 24	11473	\$1,509.59	\$519.76	\$989.83	51.7
Aug 24	10011	\$1,623.43	\$453.53	\$1,169.90	62.7
Sep 24	10550	\$1,485.34	\$477.95	\$1,007.39	53
Oct 24	7806	\$1,186.85	\$353.64	\$833.21	41.9
Nov 24	7929	\$1,137.02	\$359.21	\$777.81	38.6
Dec 24	8907	\$1,436.64	\$590.02	\$846.62	41.8
	106075	\$15,656.08	\$4,996.58	\$10,659.50	44.09

KW

6m ave.	6 m total	First Energy	first 6m Kwh
39.9	\$7,277	\$5,035	49399

6 m total	First Energy	last 6m kwh
\$8,379	\$5,625	56676

Ave KW

2025	Kwh	Total Cost	IGS Kwh	First Ener	KW
Jan	7489	\$1,269.35	\$496.15	\$773.20	37.4
Feb	8597	\$1,784.75	\$569.55	\$1,215.20	55
March	8225	\$1,546.94	\$544.91	\$1,002.03	44.8
April	6682	\$1,343.62	\$442.68	\$900.94	41.9
May	6752	\$1,408.57	\$447.39	\$961.18	45.3
June	8173	\$1,820.37	\$541.46	\$1,278.91	61.4
July	9619	\$1,603.12	\$638.02	\$965.10	45
August	3014	\$638.58	\$199.68	\$438.90	21.8
Sept	2001	\$721.54	\$132.57	\$588.97	30.4
Oct	4492	\$1,037.25	\$297.60	\$739.65	36.5
Nov	6329	\$1,001.92	\$419.30	\$582.62	27.2
Dec	9236	\$1,486.31	\$611.89	\$874.42	40.8
	80609	\$15,662.32	\$5,341.20	\$10,321.12	40.63

KW

6m total	6m First En.	first 6m kwh
\$9,174	\$6,131	45918

6 m total	First Energy	last 6 m kwh
\$6,489	\$4,190	34691

Ave KW

Solar Edge electricity production from July 3, 2025 through March 31, 2026

Today

Lifetime

06/11/2025 - 03/31/2026

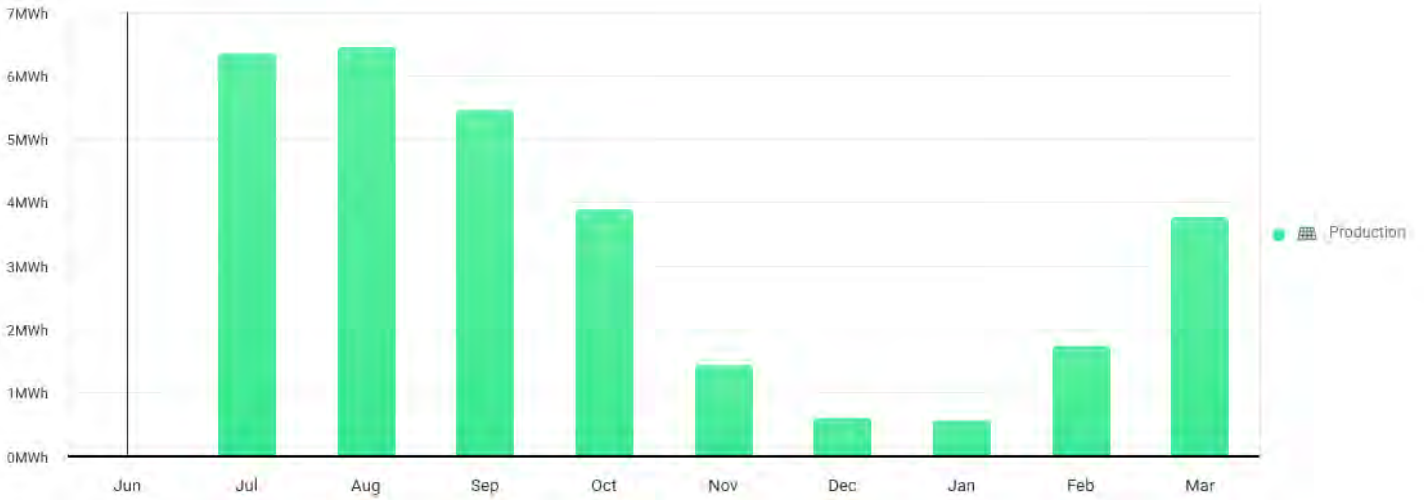
Production

30.28

MWh

Site Energy Last updated 3/31/2026 19:30

Energy



Fairmount Pres.

Power Flow

Live

61°F



3.01 kW



Environmental Benefits



47K

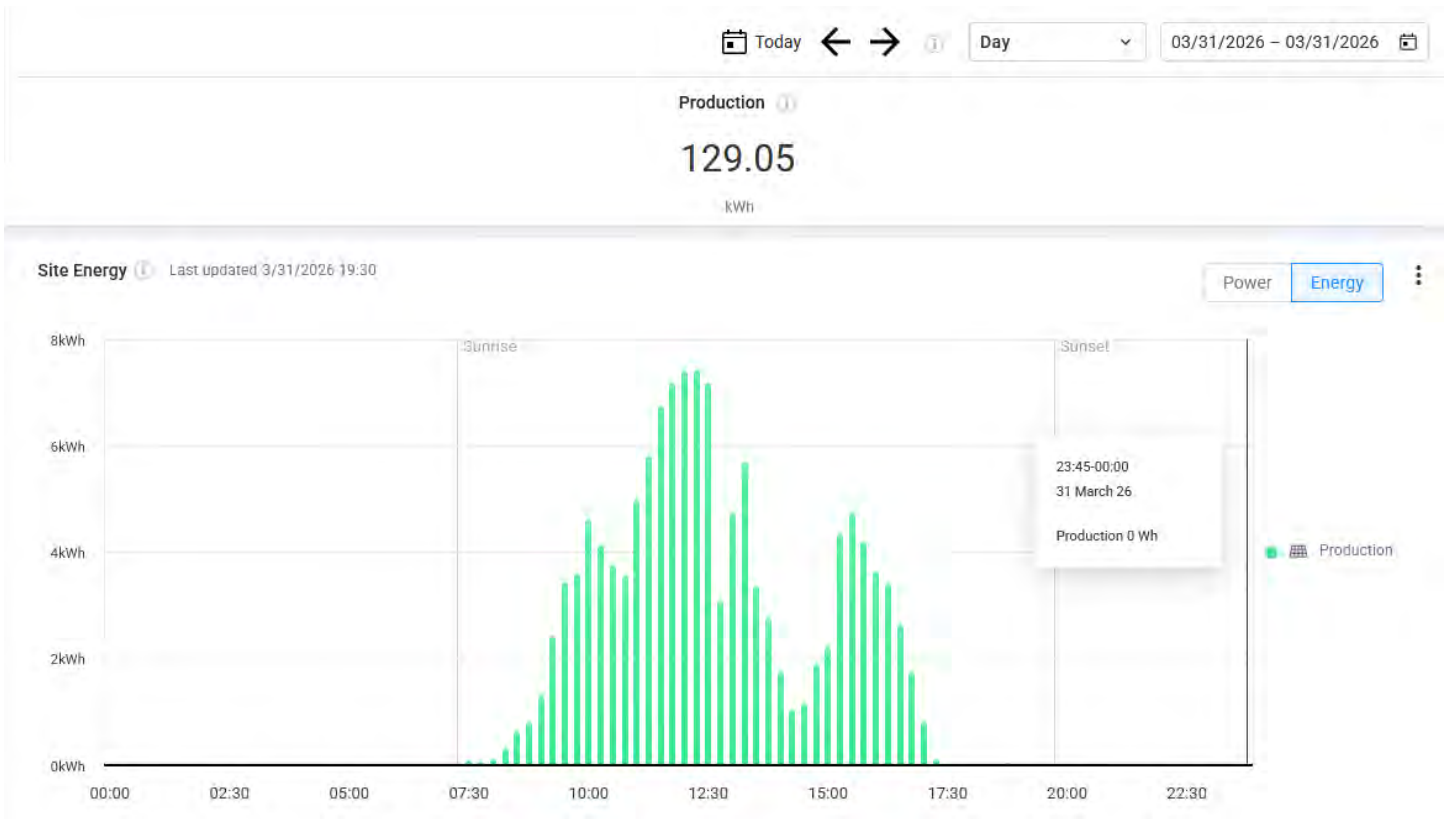
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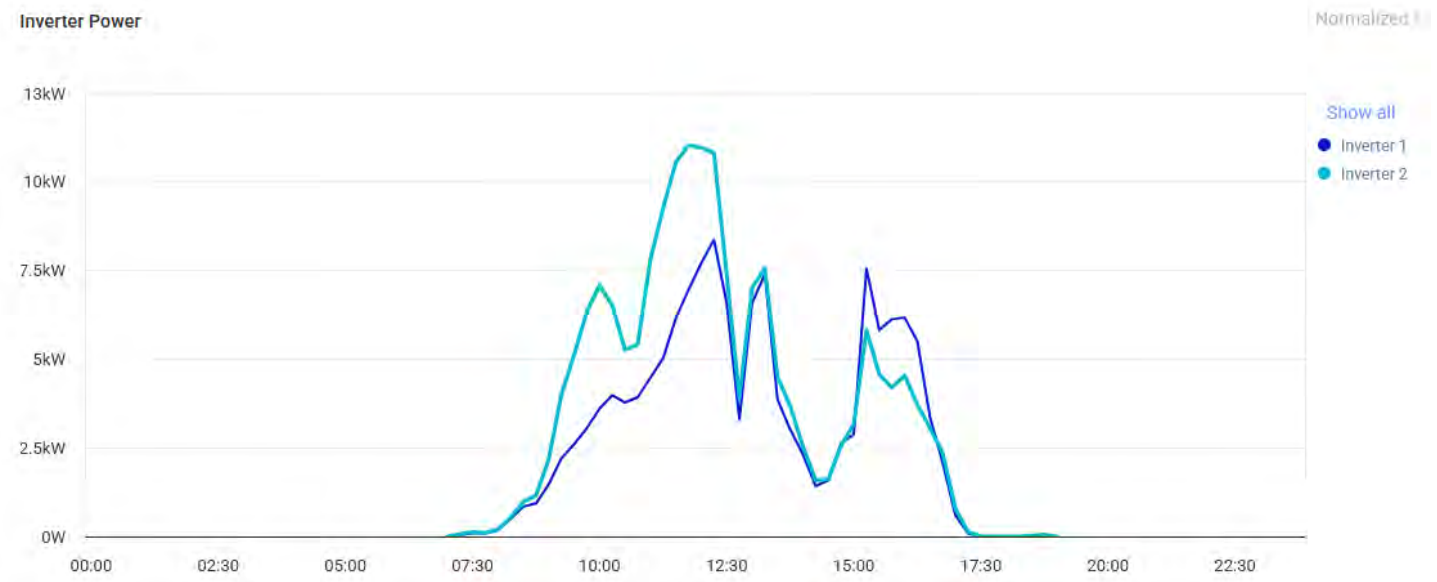
53K

mi Driven on
Sunshine

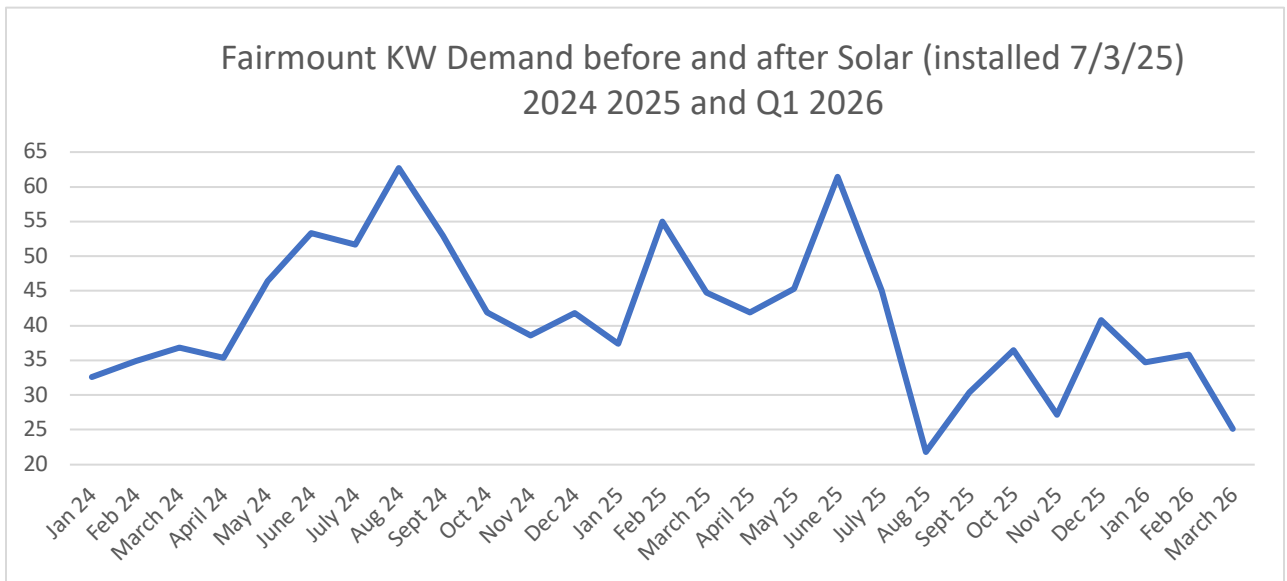
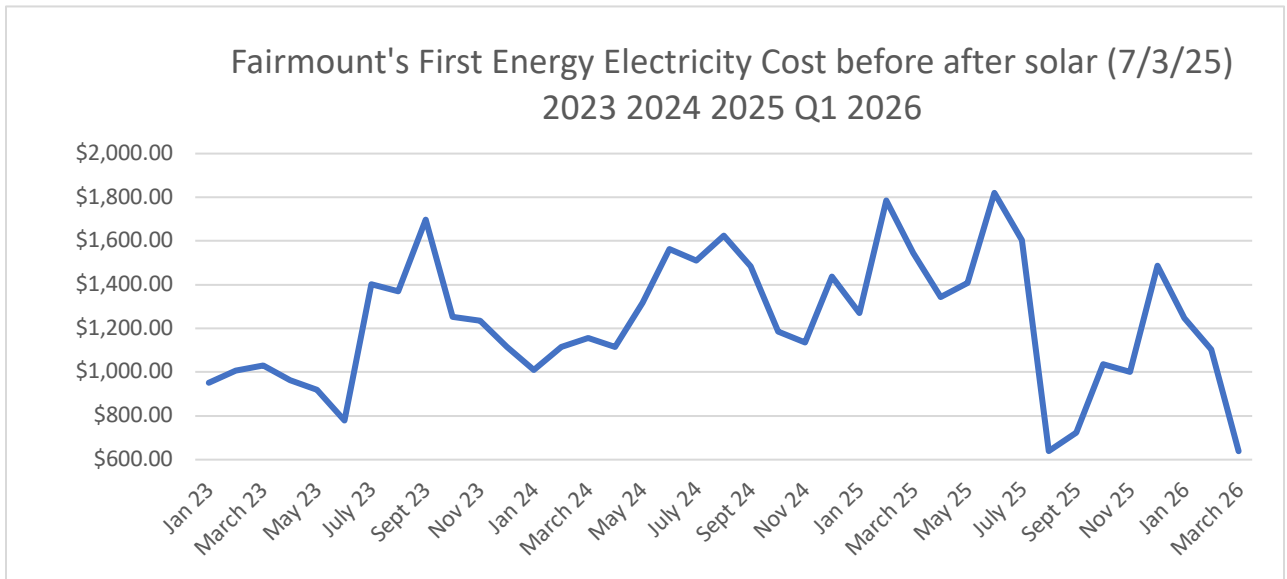
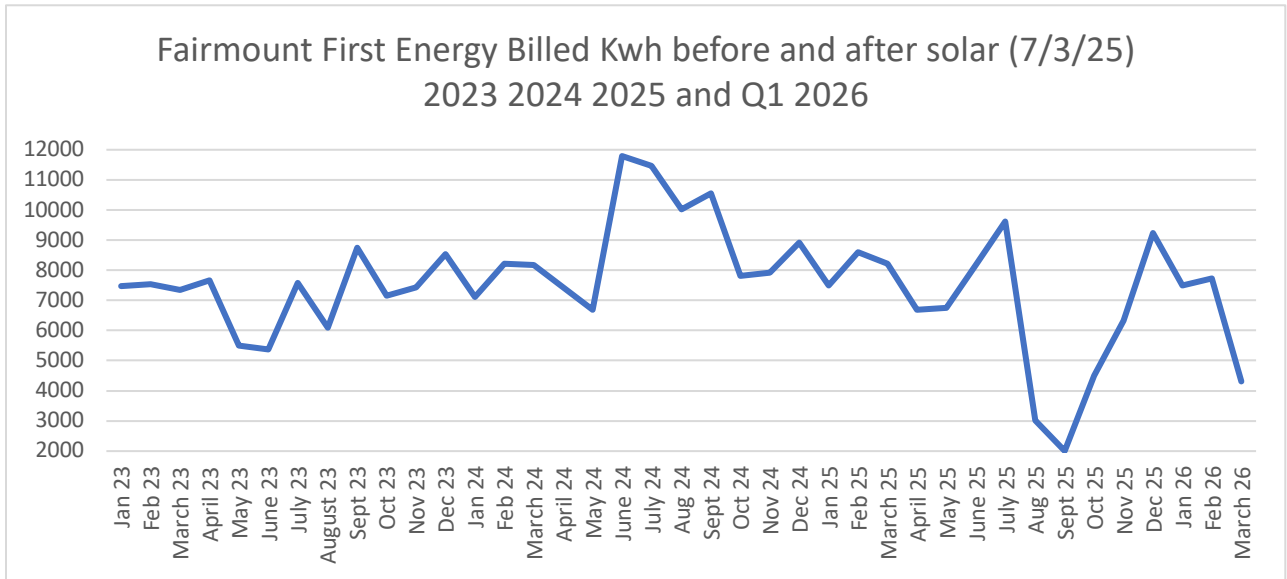
Solar Edge electricity production chart for March 31, 2026



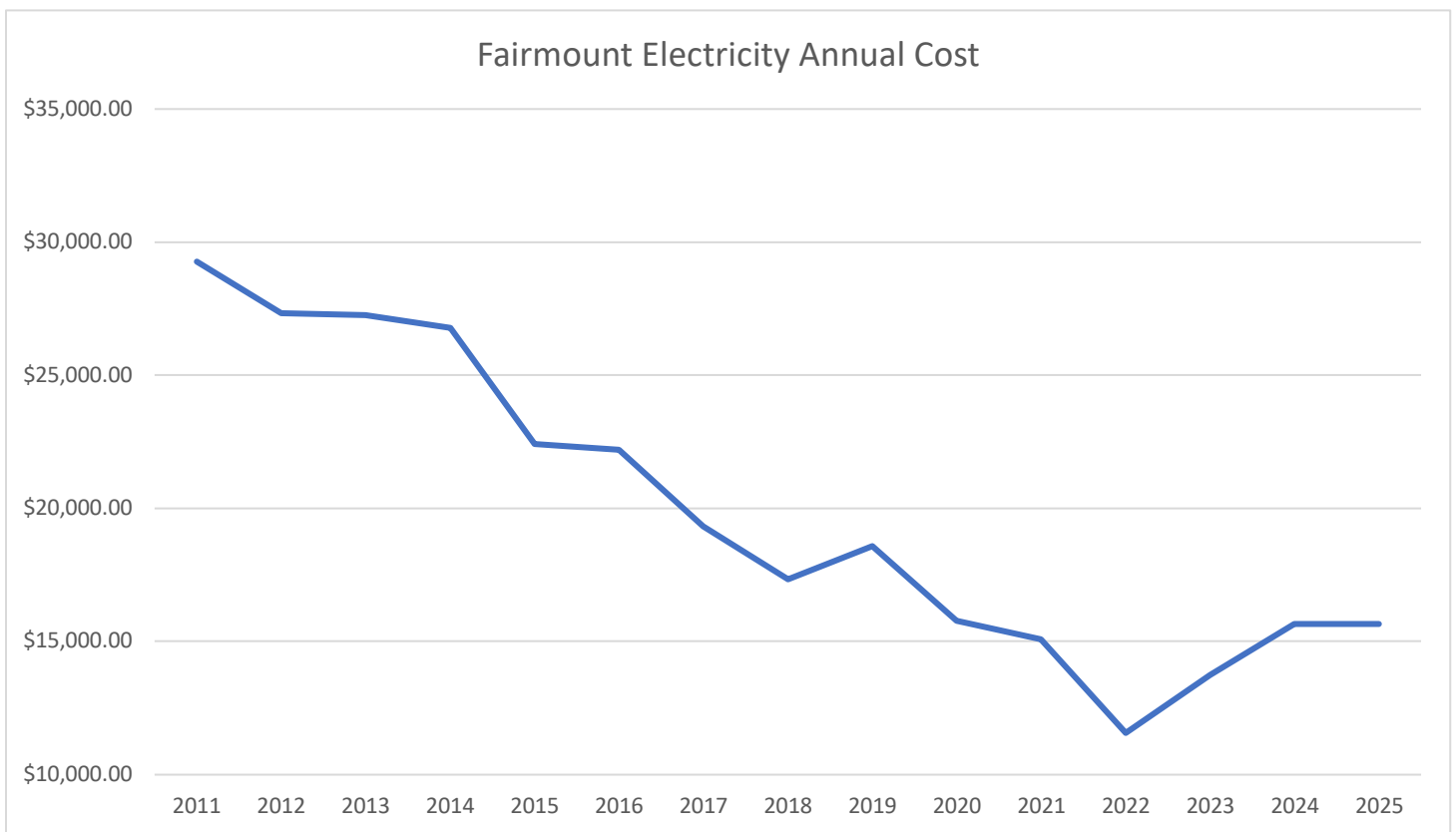
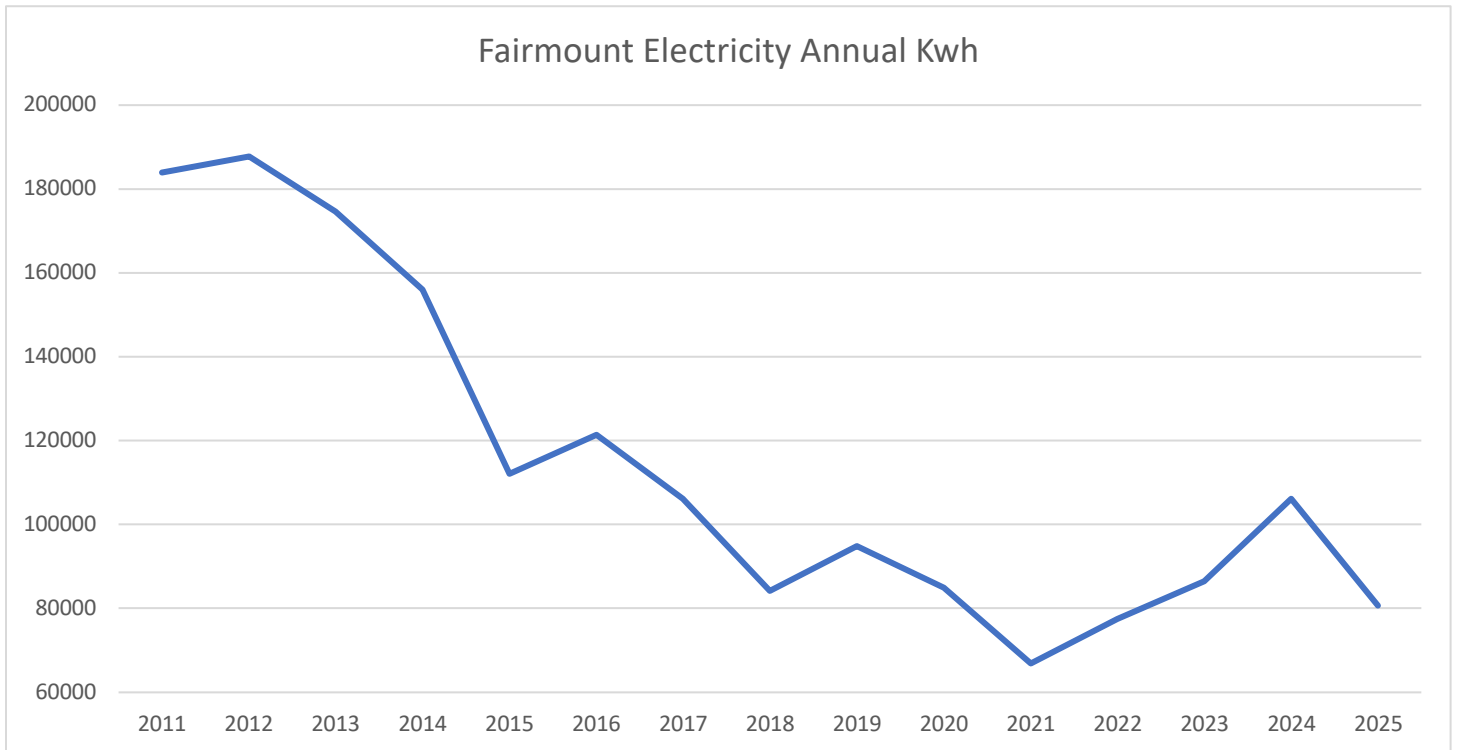
Inverter Power Graphs for March 31, 2026



Electricity Kwh was on an upward trend in 2024, and the new solar panels summer/fall 2025 Kwh's. Some reduction in August and September was due to the sanctuary A/C being out of service. Solar also reduced KW demand in 2025.



Fairmount Annual Electricity Kwh and Costs since 2011



The History of the Prayer Shawl Ministry Fairmount Presbyterian Church

The Prayer Shawl Ministry here at FPC was begun by two eager FPC members who greeted Pastor Missy Shiverick on her first day as a member of our staff. She asked us to, "Please wait 'til fall!", and thus began the ministry which involves about 20 shawl creators.

Some meet once a month on the third Thursday to knit, crochet, give each other tech support, pray over and bless the completed works and those in process, and most importantly to chat. Others in the ministry work on their own, making shawls, as well as other items such as the rainbow stoles requested by the More Light Ministry.

Our shawls have been given to many individuals, for both joyous and sad occasions. Their blessing and healing qualities have been shared in our own congregation and beyond. Fairmount's prayer shawls have wrapped the school children, the staff, and their families of Sandy Hook tragedy and in Denver, Colorado following the devastation in both communities. Over 50 rainbow stoles have been given to General Assembly.

If you are the owner of a shawl, you understand the peace it brings. Those who create what others will be wrapped in, find joy and peace in the repeated sets of three stitches, (representing the many threes in religion), which work into the final shawls. Many of us pray as we work for the unknown receiver of our finished piece. Those who meet monthly begin our time together in the FPC Sanctuary knitting, crocheting and praying in silence. We find this to be such a peace-filled time and experience. Some find this to be their only totally quiet time of the month!

Within this ministry, several adult knitters gathered to help our youth learn to knit. One young man completed a small rainbow piece which he took home for his room, while a young woman completed a rainbow stole to send off to a very lucky General Assembly Commissioner. We are considering reinstating this gathering and having the youth create Pocket Prayer Squares which can be tucked in a pocket or bag, into the pocket of a hospital gown or into a soldier's helmet. Do let us know if you would consider being a teacher or a creator in this project.

We usually have a good supply of shawls to share. Please let one of the Pastors know if you know of someone either in our congregation or in the greater community who would find peace, comfort and the love of FPC by being gifted with a shawl. To join us, kindly contact Jan Spalding, 440-461-8967.

Loving God, we give you thanks for the gift of our hands. Give us the grace to see our hands as you see them, as instruments of grace and life. May the knitting of our hands be the knitting of your heart. Use our hands, O God, to carry out your works of mercy and love. May the shawls our hands create bring blessing to those they wrap in love and healing to those upon whom they rest. Amen

This prayer is from "Knitting into the Mystery, a Guide to the Prayer Shawl Ministry" by Susan S. Jorgensen and Susan S. Izard