

Sunday, April 26th

8:30am Worship with Communion in the Chapel
10:15am Fairmount Choir Warm Up in Sanctuary
11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and Online
12:00pm Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary
12:15pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal in Choir Room
3:30pm FPC Youth: Sunday Sillies



This morning, following the 11:00am service, we will hold our **Annual Congregational Meeting**. You will hear reports from various councils and the congregation will have a chance to ask questions. There will also be a report from the Nominating Committee and a congregational vote to elect Gary Sampson to fill an unexpired term on Session (Class of 2027).

Gary Sampson joined Fairmount in Spring 2025. He was born and raised in an interfaith household in the San Fernando Valley in Southern California. As a young artist uncertain about his faith, he took some time off from college to travel, first in Mexico, then in Europe, where he spent several months at a Christian community in the Swiss Alps to study theology and philosophy. He spent most of the '80s in Santa Barbara, where he received his MA and PhD in art history from the University of California. Gary came to Cleveland with his wife Anne in 1999 to teach at the Cleveland Institute of Art, after a couple of sojourns elsewhere as a college professor. He retired from CIA three years ago. He was a member and an Elder at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church before coming to Fairmount, following a period of discernment and studies under Fr. Richard Rohr and affiliates of the Center for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Sunday, May 3rd

Join us for Breaking Bread Worship at 11:00 a.m. as we celebrate our graduating seniors and share the sacrament of Communion. Children remain in this family-friendly service designed to be accessible for kids and youth. **Following worship, our annual Honor Brunch for octogenarians, nonagenarians, and centenarians will be held in Andersen Hall.** All others are invited to the Breaking Bread community meal in the dining room. Please note: there will be no 8:30am worship this Sunday. The 8:30am service returns the following week.

Music Notes and Fairmount Music Ministries

The **Intergenerational PopUp Choir** will sing next on Sunday, May 3rd, with rehearsal at 10:15am in the sanctuary. All ages and stages of singers are welcome.

Heights Chamber Orchestra in concert on Sunday, May 10th at 3:30pm in the sanctuary. Works by Gounod, Haydn, Beethoven, and Anderson, "A Trumpeter's Lullaby" with Lyle Steelman, trumpet. Freewill offering.

CityMusic Cleveland in concert on Thursday, May 14th, at 7:30pm in the sanctuary with Jeannette Sorrell, conductor, Diana Cohen, violin, and Roman Rabinovich, piano. Freewill offering.

The Spirituals Project-Funds raised will support local black musicians. See the bulletin board outside the sanctuary for details and the QR code to make a donation.

Memorial Announcement

Rev. Matthew Peterson, a former Associate Pastor at Fairmount, passed away on March 26, 2026. His memorial service will be at The Church of the Western Reserve on Saturday, May 30th at 2:00pm.

Fairmount Happenings

Book Study: "Discovering the Spiritual Wisdom of Trees" by Beth Norcross and Leah Rampy

The book discussions will take place weekly at Fairmount Presbyterian Church (and virtually on Zoom) - Monday evenings 6:30 - 8:00pm on April 27th, and May 4th, 11th, and 18th. Books are available in the church welcome center office for \$20.00 (cash, check or online Realm payment). Books are also available to purchase online. If you are interested in participating, email Alycia Ashburn at ashburnlrc@gmail.com.

IGAH Research & Education Committee Programs

The Interfaith Group Against Hate Research & Education Committee invites the community to two important programs addressing online radicalization and the impact of hate culture on youth and families. Join us on **April 28th from 6:30pm-8:30pm at Congregation Mishkan Or** for a screening of *Raised by Wolves* with a panel discussion, and on **May 6th from 6:30pm-8:30pm at Christ Episcopal Church** for a live webinar featuring national experts and a firsthand story from a formerly radicalized young person. Learn warning signs, practical tools, and ways to help create safer digital spaces for our community. Scan the blue QR code to learn more.



The William Birkett Williams Lecture Series Welcomes Author Leah Rampy

On Wednesday, May 13th Fairmount Presbyterian will welcome author Leah Rampy, co-author of *Discovering the Spiritual Wisdom of Trees*, as part of the William Birkett Williams Lecture Series. Reception & Book Signing - 5:30pm; Presentation Begins - 6:30pm; Q&A to Follow. Come for fellowship, thoughtful conversation, and a meaningful night of learning together. All are welcome! Scan the green QR code to let us know you are interested in attending.



What Women Know: Weaving Our Wisdom Through Generations

Join us on Saturday, May 16th (9:00am.-4:00pm) for the 2026 Fairmount Women's Retreat, a day of connection, reflection, and shared wisdom across generations. Together, we'll explore the voice of Lady Wisdom in Proverbs and consider how we are invited to trust God, slow down, listen deeply, and live with intention. Through conversation, storytelling, creative practices, and shared meals, we'll gather in community to learn from one another and reflect on the wisdom we carry. We will be guided by Rev. Dr. Elyse Berry, a multifaceted spiritual care leader whose work centers on formation, leadership, and holistic care. Learn more and register today by scanning the pink QR code.



The Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation - Sunday, May 17th, 12:30pm-3:00pm

The Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation is an interactive workshop that helps people understand the connections between public policy and social practices with racial inequity leading to hunger, poverty, and wealth gaps. This learning experience is presented by the Presbytery of the Western Reserve in partnership with Forest Hill Presbyterian Church and hosted at Fairmount Presbyterian Church. A light lunch and refreshments will be provided. Registrations are required as seating is limited. Email Elaine Price at elaineannprice@gmail.com. Call 440.488.0206 with questions.

IGAH Book Discussion - Tuesday, May 19th at 7:00pm

The Interfaith Group Against Hate (IGAH) invites you to join us at Fairmount Presbyterian Church for a thoughtful conversation on *The Book of Unknown Americans* by Cristina Henríquez – a stunning and heartbreaking novel that explores the hopes, struggles, and resilience of a community of immigrants. Come engage in a meaningful discussion, build understanding, and connect with others through the power of the story. All are welcome. Register by scanning the orange QR code.



GCC Court Watch Program Education Sessions - Last Chance to Register!

The Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC) Courtwatch Team has been observing Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court hearings. The effort was directed at gaining a better understanding of juvenile court and why Cuyahoga County sends more youth to adult court and adult prison than any other large urban county in Ohio when we know that children sent to adult prison are significantly more likely to reoffend than those rehabilitated in the juvenile system. Please join us at one of the remaining three workshops (the first several have been well-attended by Fairmounters) to learn about our experience attending juvenile court hearings. Get a preview of the Youth Bindover final report while you learn the facts and hear stories about the children in these situations. See how we can make positive change for this county's children.

- Tuesday 4/28/26, 6:30pm-8:30pm, West Shore Unitarian Universalist, 20401 Hilliard Blvd, Rocky River
- Wednesday 4/29/26, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Congregation Mishkan Or, 26000 Shaker Blvd, Beachwood
- Saturday 5/2/26, 10:00am-12:00pm, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church, 8712 Quincy Ave, Cleveland

Scan the black QR code to register for one of these three education sessions. Contact Tim Cuff (cufft@westminster.edu or 319-594-4374) for questions or assistance.

