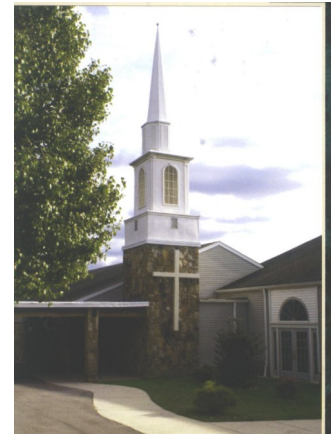


September 2020
Volume 38 No. 9

The Messenger

Fairfield Glade Community Church



Dear Friends in Christ,

As most of us know, Fairfield Glade Community Club is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. But did you know it wasn't until 1975 that the first church in the Glade was established? Prior to that year, folks in Fairfield Glade wanting to attend a worship service had to go to Crossville or one of the other neighboring areas to find a church.

In 1975, the first church to be established in the Glade was Fairfield Glade Community Church! Residents of various Christian denominations started meeting together for worship in a home, but just a few years later the church was built on Snead Drive where we are located today.

From the very beginning, we were an interdenominational congregation of Christians coming from a diversity of backgrounds. Our church has always been supported by a variety of denominations that recognize the value in ecumenism.

Ecumenism is the principle by Christians of different church traditions and denominations to develop closer relationships and better unity among us all.

Two denominations that have been particularly

supportive of our church's ecumenical unity as an interdenominational congregation have been the United Church of Christ (UCC) and the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA).

If not for our church's affiliation with the UCC denomination, Lilly and I would not be here. As a UCC clergy member, I was one of many others discerning a call to serve as pastor of a UCC congregation. And Fairfield Glade Community was likewise among many other UCC congregations calling a new pastor.

Sometimes there is confusion about who we are as a congregation. Are we UCC, are we PCUSA, or are we interdenominational?

We are identified as all three, and more. We may say we are UCC, PCUSA and more, meaning we are very diverse community of Christians from a rich variety of denominational backgrounds and religious traditions.

While we integrate into one church a multitude of denominational practices that are ecumenical, we have a more formal connection with the UCC and PCUSA.

For the UCC dimension of our congregation, we are part of the Southeast Conference UCC (secucc.org). Currently, Nancy Nowacki, Mike Nowacki, and Bonnie Hansen are our congregation's representatives. They participate in the Conference's Annual Meeting and help us stay linked to the UCC in other ways that are intended to unite us with other churches outside of the Glade.

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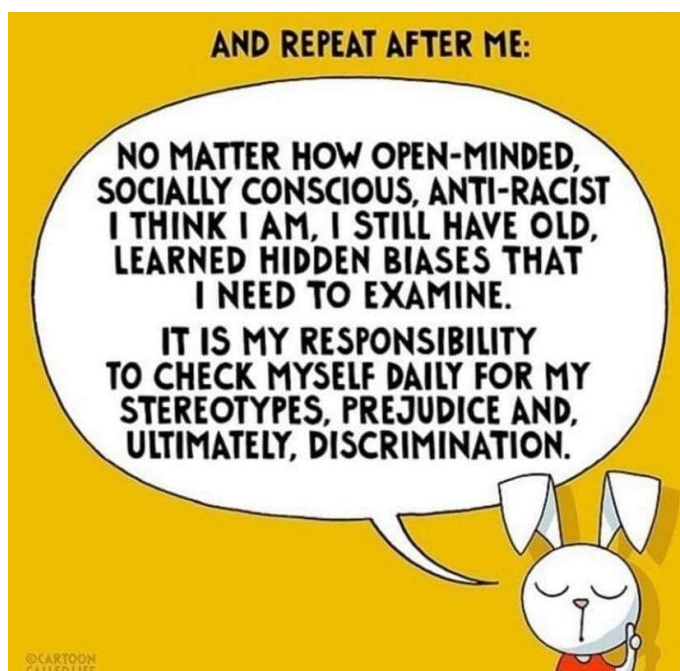
(Continued from page 1 - Pastor)

For the PCUSA, we are part of the Presbytery of East Tennessee (presbyteryeasttn.org). Currently, Carole Danielson and John McArthur are our congregation's representatives. They participate in the Presbytery's Quarterly Meetings and help us stay linked to the PCUSA like we do with the UCC.

We at Fairfield Glade Community enrich the UCC and PCUSA by our beautiful emphasis as an interdenominational congregation that doesn't simply talk about ecumenical unity, but actually lives it daily.

And as the very first church in Fairfield Glade in 1975, we also continue to contribute to our little niche in the world an enriching diversity of interdenominational unity that is unique to us, "that we all may be one in unconditional love."

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Pastor James



"And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight" (Philippians 1:9).



September 2020

Birthdays

June Cunningham	09/02
Gary Kitchen	09/02
Paul Kennedy	09/03
Barbara Garner	09/07
Hank Milledge	09/08
James Janecek	09/09
Sheryl Broderick	09/10
Anne Tack	09/10
Barbara Davis	09/12
Faye Ladd	09/15
Nancy Nowacki	09/15
Eugenio Pino	09/21
Joyce VanNocker	09/27
Gary Pachla	09/29

Anniversaries

Carroll & Margaret Reusch	09/03
Jimmie & Nedra Carter	09/04
James & Mary Jane Buxton	09/08
Bill & Angie Owen	09/08
John & Bobetta Krueger	09/17
Gary & Barb Kitchen	09/18
Gene & Derith Skipworth	09/21
Rick & Pam Schwer	09/25

New Members (as of 8/23/2020):

David Freeman and Joel Jestice

1351 E. First St.

Crossville, TN 38555

Fellowship Friends:

Mike & Nancy Nowacki

Welcome to the congregation!

MORGAN SCOTT needs for SEPTEMBER:

Dishwashing Liquid, Detergent,
Bath Soap, Toilet Tissue

Any donations can be left in the vestibule near the Fireside Room (the outside door is unlocked). Please give the office a call to let them know you have left items and they will bring them into the church for the Morgan Scott pickup.

*The church office will be closed on
Labor Day, September 7th.
Thank you.*



How Do You Do....

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This month is not about a person or a couple but is a tribute to a group of heroes. Many of these heroes you know and some you may not, but we need to shake their hands or bump their elbows to thank them for keeping “the home fires burning” in Community Church during the lockdown. Many of us have lived through one or more pandemics in our lifetime, but Covid-19 seems to be making a run to be the “Mother of Them All”. Each pandemic or disaster creates and defines new heroes. Ergo, as former Chair of the Transition Team, I am still empowered to recognize and name these people.

On Sunday, March 22, 2020, the doors of Community Church closed to Sunday Services, committee and club usage and the “what if’s” were there. It seemed to be an endless task Community Church faced. The leadership knew we had to practice social distancing, wearing of masks, washing of hands, etc. The majority agreed, some did not, onward the momentum went. They sought the answers to “the what? when? And how?” They knew the answer to “where?” **Pastor James** was the first one to get hit with the waves of concern, fear, support, spiritual visitation, etc... No visiting, many hours on the phone, time in planning and opening communication took much time and energy. Thank goodness for **Lily**. Standing guard at the front door was the dynamic duo of **Pat Benegar** and **Laurie Davis**. They kept the “home fires burning” in the front office. Everything, including a new communication system, came their way and they handled it in a spectacular fashion.

Right in front of all the issues we found the Knights of the Library Tables led by **Sir Alan Joseph**. The Board could not meet in a physical sense so ZOOM became the major base for group communication. At this point communication was vital. A televised Church Service was in the future, but how? Fortunately they were able to find an anonymous donor who agreed to fund the video and audio portions of the service. The money ran out twice, but all facets stayed with it and we all saw the final result in our pj’s on Sunday mornings. The Sound and Video engineers were **Roy Koskinen** and **Jim Janssen**. The Services were put on Facebook, as well as YouTube and the church website. The main participants made it possible by coming to Church on Saturday morning to record the service. The Liturgists were key and are listed below with the Knights of the Library Tables and the ERT members. Our melodic choir of two, **Angela Anderson** and **Austin Burchette**, and our musical duo of **Mary Hirst** and **Brenda Moore** provided beautiful music each Sunday. The behind the scenes organizer was **Nancy Nowacki**. GO BIG RED. **Patty Smith** was in charge of the Chancel prep. These people sign up for the hour of work and leave several hours later. **Gene Pino**, who rarely goes home, heads a new ERT team, which is listed below. Typing is not my forte and computers all belong in the trash, so the big groups are also listed below. The amount of time and energy going into our re-opening should put many of the national mayors and politicians to shame. We are blessed to have such a dedicated group of people in Community Church. I am going into year 17 and I tell you, it just gets better. I am proud to know these people.

A couple of afterthoughts... My daughter has warned me that when sending out a letter with many names, I must be positive not to leave someone out. Now, being an octogenarian that may well happen. Don’t get mad, just call me up and I will be sure to remedy the problem. If you feel a need to carry on, call my boss Nancy Nowacki and do the yelling there, that’s why she gets the big bucks. There is a Jester sitting with the Knights, he is the funny looking one. I am not able to name him.

The slogan for the Lockdown was and still is, “Closed, but still up and running.”

THE 2020 BOARD

Alan Joseph-President, Marty Smith-Vice-President, Ed Freels, Meredith Gaffney, Roy Koskinen, Barb Kitchen, Jim Kime, Judy Moore, Nancy Nowacki, James “Buzz” Nuse, John Schaefer, John Zanichelli, Patty Smith-Minutes Clerk, Mike Nowacki-Treasurer, Kay Moyer-Financial Secretary

Liturgists: Karen Flynn, Jim Hansen, Gretchen Harvell, Wendy Pachla, Gene Pino, Marty Smith, Sheryl Broderick

ERT members: Polly McArthur, Kay Moyer, Jerry King, Gary Kitchen, Jerry Allard, Steve Thomas, Jim Hansen, Al Joseph, Dwight Wages, Fred Wong and Gene Pino

These are the people who were able to make the “good” out of the “bad”.

In the immortal words of Tiny Tim, “God bless them one and all.”

(Submitted by Ed Broderick)



**UCC Southeast Conference 54th Annual Meeting
Saturday, September 26, 2020
10 a.m. Eastern (9 a.m. Central)**

Although Covid-19 has changed our plans—moving us from the original June date and further moving the meeting to an electronic meeting, we will still come together, worship, and attend to business. Because the meeting will be held via technology, we will have a shorter meeting and focus on the important business that needs to be addressed. So please plan to join us!

What does it mean to have an Electronic or Virtual Annual Meeting? We will be using the Zoom platform that allows individuals to participate in the meeting via computer, iPad, or phone. Individuals can also phone-in to participate. We will arrange for a special voting procedure. We will gather beginning at 9:30 a.m. (8:30 Central) with worship beginning promptly at 10 a.m. (9 a.m. Central) and the business meeting running from 10:30 to 12 p.m. Eastern (9:30 to 11 a.m. Central).

Registration: the cost will be \$25 per voting member (scholarships available). People can register online at <https://www.secucc.org/news-and-events/annual-meeting-2020/>. To register by paper, please call 404-719-6572 or email hfosburgh@secucc.org to request a paper registration form.

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### **Church Audio/Visual Equipment Upgrade**

If you have been watching our Sunday worship services on YouTube, Facebook, or the church's website, you should have noticed improvements with the recordings. We have been working on enhancements to our Audio/Video (AN) equipment to provide our congregation and anyone else viewing our service with a high-quality picture and accompanying audio. These improvements are mainly due to the purchase of a High Definition (HD) Digital camera and the rewiring of our sound system. The improved A/V equipment and recording process has and will continue to be used when in-house worship occurs so those congregants who cannot attend in person are able to enjoy our worship service in their homes. At this point in time, the improvements have reached their final configuration. However, it has been found that two sound engineers will be required for each worship service. One sound engineer will be situated in the sanctuary controlling the sound heard by the people attending the worship service. The second sound engineer will be in the sound booth controlling and producing the worship service that is seen on YouTube, Facebook, or the church's website.

Currently we have six sound engineers and are looking for other people that would be interested in being a sound engineer. Normally, a sound engineer volunteers for one month at a time. Additional sound engineers would help reduce the time commitment of all the sound engineers.

If you are interested in pursuing being a sound engineer, please contact Roy Koskinen (931-456-5086) or Dennis Tryon (931-337-9140). Roy is the Head Sound Engineer and Dennis is Chairman of the IT & Communications Committee.

*Submitted by Roy Koskinen and Dennis Tryon*

### **New Church Directories To Be Printed**

As there have been many changes in addresses, phones, and emails over the past year, the office will soon be printing an updated version of the church directory. We will NOT be updating photos for this version. \*\*There is no fee for this year.\*\*

If you would like a new directory, please email the office at [ffgcomsec@ffgcomchurch.org](mailto:ffgcomsec@ffgcomchurch.org) or call the office at 931-484-7412. Once they have been printed, you will be notified and you can pick up your copy in the vestibule at the Fireside Room entrance at your convenience.





### **In-House Committee Meetings**

***We have updated the rules for having Committee meetings in the church. Please review the list below carefully.***

#### ***Meeting Rules for Use of the Church:***

- 1) All meetings must be scheduled with the Church Office to deconflict with other meetings.
- 2) Meetings may be held any time during the day.
- 3) The number of attendees will be a maximum of 10 with no exceptions.
- 4) Meetings will be chaired by a Church Board Member or Committee Chair who will have access to a key to the building. (A key will be available in the key box outside the Office entrance.)
- 5) Groups meeting will have a door monitor to open doors for all attendees. Office personnel will not be responsible for opening doors.
- 6) The church office door will be closed at all times.
- 7) When meetings are complete, the group will sanitize the room. Sanitizing materials are available outside the Library.
- 8) Meetings will be held for administrative purposes only, not for socializing.
- 9) No outside groups will be permitted, only internal church groups will be able to meet.

These rules need to be enforced for everyone's benefit. Following these rules plus the rules already established (face masks at all times, maintaining social distancing, etc.) are necessary as we continue to adjust to the pandemic. If the present trends continue to rise, it may be necessary to close the doors to our church again. As a reminder, the use of ZOOM or teleconferencing via the phone are options that are available instead of meeting in person.

*Al Joseph, Board President*

#### **Friends at FFG Community Church,**

We have purchased a new home in Knoxville and will be moving sometime between September 3rd and the end of October. Our new address will be:

Frank and Carol Wade  
10321 Saint Regence Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37922

Our phone numbers and email addresses will not change.

We wish everyone well and are hoping your new protocols for Sunday Services are working out well. The thing I miss as much as anything about the Pandemic is not singing in church on Sunday.

Love to all. Please pass this along to anyone interested. Thanks.

***Frank***

## 2020 July Church Finances

Total Income (Year-to-Date) = \$184,065.53 (includes \$36,131.00 raised for Maintaining God's House)

Total Expenses (Year-to-Date) = \$183,305.27

The summary of income and expense activity for July 2020 is as follows:

|                            | General Fund <sup>1</sup> | Mission's Fund <sup>2</sup> | Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) <sup>3</sup> | Pass-Thru Fund <sup>4</sup> | Strategic Planning Projects <sup>5</sup> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Income                     | \$15,497.10               | \$130.00                    | \$0.00                                      | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                                   |
| Expenses                   | \$16,607.23               | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                                      | \$150.00                    | \$0.00                                   |
| Transfer to <sup>6</sup>   | \$0.00                    | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                                      | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                                   |
| Transfer from <sup>7</sup> | \$0.00                    | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                                      | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                                   |
| Difference <sup>8</sup>    | -\$1,110.13               | \$130.00                    | \$0.00                                      | -\$150.00                   | \$0.00                                   |

### **PLEASE READ THE NOTES TO FULLY UNDERSTAND THE NUMBERS IN THE TABLE ABOVE!**

1. **General Fund** is the operating funds to run the Church and consists of General Contributions from Church members and interest earned through our United Church Fund Endowment and Reserve Fund investments. Expenses include Pastoral and Support Staff salaries; administrative costs for supplies; utilities, building and grounds maintenance; and church committees expenditures. The Difference shown in the General Fund is the result of income received compared to expenses for the month of July.

2. **Mission's Fund** is the fund used to support our local charities and the Church affiliated organizations (Presbytery of East Tennessee and Southeast Conference United Church of Christ). A portion of the Missions Fund income comes from monies budgeted and transferred from the General Fund on a quarterly basis. The remaining Missions Fund income originates from Church member donations; the sale of Food City Cash Cards; the Kroger Charity Program; Sunday service loose change collections (also known as Dimes for Missions); and three special annual campaigns (One Great Hour of Sharing, Neighbors in Need/Peacekeeping and Christmas Joy). Mission's Fund income for the month of July was \$130.00 (\$80.00 church member donation and \$50.00 from Food City Cash Cards sales). There were no expenses for July.

3. **Capital Improvement Fund (CIF)**. A Capital Improvement is the addition of a permanent structural change or the restoration of property that will either enhance its overall value, prolong its useful life, or adapt it to new uses. Income for this fund comes from the transfer of money from the General Fund (as recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Church Board) and Church member donations that have been specifically designated for capital improvements. There was no income or expenses for Capital Improvement during the month of July.

4. **Pass-Thru Fund** is to account for money that comes through the Church but is not used to cover any Church expenses. There was no Pass-Thru Fund income for the month of July. Expenses were \$150.00 for Women's Fellowship. The difference shown is the result of Pass-Thru income received compared to expenses for the month of July.

5. **Strategic Planning Projects**. There was no Strategic Planning Project income or expense for the month of July. The difference shown is the result of income received compared to expenses for the month of July.

6. **Transfer to** is the term used to move money from one fund to another.

7. **Transfer from** is the term used to move money from one fund to another.

8. **Difference** = Income – Expense + Transfers



**Fairfield Glade Community Church  
Board Meeting via Zoom Video Conferencing  
August 13, 2020  
Minutes – Draft Pending Board Approval**

**Members Present:** Meredith Gaffney, Pastor James Janecek, Alan Joseph, Jim Kime, Barb Kitchen, Roy Koskinen, Judy Moore, Nancy Nowacki, John Schaefer, Marty Smith, John Zanichelli

**Members Absent:** Ed Freels

**Guests:** Treasurer Michael Nowacki

**Call to Order:** President Alan Joseph declared a quorum and called the Board meeting to order at 2:00pm, followed by his opening prayer.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the July 9, 2020 Board meeting were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Michael Nowacki reported that the church continues to be in a good financial position. Year-to-date income = \$184,066 (includes \$36,131 for *Maintaining God's House* campaign). Year-to-date expenses = \$183,305. The current General Fund balance will provide sufficient funds to address the church's must-pay expenses for the next three months. July's expenses exceeded income by \$1,110. Historically, income is less than it has been over the last three years. Region's Bank is now accepting coinage, our deposit was made; the amount will be reported when available. Forms for the 2021 Budget Requests will be distributed to committee chairpersons on August 15, with a suspense of September 15. The Treasurer's Reports were accepted and placed on file for audit.

**Membership Report:** Two new members transferred from the United Church of Cookeville on August 6. We welcome David Freeman and Joel Justice. Membership now stands at 259. The Membership Report was accepted as written.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor James Janecek said a few people who are new to the Glade are attending church services. The recording of services for YouTube and the church's website are going well. These recordings have been a lifeline for so many who are unable to attend. Many of our congregants require medical care and are in need of pastoral care. Pastor James is still unable to personally visit those in need unless there is an emergency. He continues to use other means to stay in contact with those in need and with their family members.

**New Business**

**Personnel Committee (PC) Guidelines:** Judy Moore, Liaison, reported that the PC established guidelines for paid staff regarding testing, quarantine, and paid (or unpaid) time off due to Covid-19 exposure. These guidelines are in compliance with the *Employee Handbook*, and will be communicated to paid staff. The guidelines are not expected to become a part of the *Handbook* due to the unusual circumstances. Nancy Nowacki, Supervisor of Worship & Music paid staff, was unclear on the supervisor's role regarding the guidelines. She will contact Gene Pino, PC Chairman, for clarification. The Board's acceptance of this recommendation is pending the outcome of any changes that are made as a result of that clarification.

**Annual Membership Review:** Based on Office Manager Pat Benegar's recommendation, a **Motion** was made by Marty Smith that the Annual Membership Review typically completed in September be postponed to 2021. The Motion was seconded by Judy Moore and approved.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9 - Board)

**Church Directory:** Based on Office Manager Pat Benegar's recommendation, a **Motion** was made by Nancy Nowacki that a *Church Family Directory* be compiled with all changes since the 2019 directory was published, but without new photos being taken. The Motion was seconded by Roy Koskinen and approved.

**Diversity Day/Project:** Pastor James reported that a planning group was formed to make arrangements for Strategic Planning's proposed Diversity Day in April, as an outreach to the community. Unfortunately, the event had to be postponed to a future undetermined date due to Covid-19. The group didn't dissolve, has expanded to include other churches, and is now meeting to see what can be done now, and in the future, to reach out to the community.

Some potential outreach topics have been discussed such as bringing back a celebration of Martin Luther King Day (a Federal holiday) that Cumberland County held in the past but has discontinued. Another outreach discussed was publishing articles in the local newspapers by various pastors or team members.

The Jewish community, which was very instrumental in our Faith Development study on Judaism, expressed a desire to be included in plans and activities, as did other organizations and churches in the Glade.

**Important Dates:** A Chairpersons/Board Members meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall in the near future. Board President Alan Joseph will communicate the date and time to all concerned. A Town Hall meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 11.

## Old Business

### Review Church Reopening:

- Vendors, contractors, and other workers should abide by ERT guidelines as best they can. It is understood that masks cannot always be worn while working and need not be worn when working alone. Times in-and-out should be coordinated with the church office and monitored by the committee arranging for the work, to assure doors are locked and security is maintained.
- In-house committees may have meetings in the church when scheduled with the church office to avoid conflicts. Although morning is preferred, meetings may now be held in the afternoon and evening. All ERT guidelines should be followed.
- Arrangements for lock box combination and/or keys to enter the building after regular office hours may be made through the church office.

**Review Sound/Video Status:** Roy Koskinen reported that a Technology & Communications (T&C) committee meeting will be held on August 25. At that meeting, he anticipates several decisions will be made in wrapping up the recording project with Technical Consultant Peter Reinisch. He does not believe additional funding will be required.

He is conducting a survey of current Sound Engineers to determine if they are able to take on the video component as well as the sound component. Training will be scheduled. If current sound engineers cannot handle recording the services, other arrangements will have to be made. After much discussion, Board President Alan Joseph said the Board will consider T&C's recommendations when they are made following their next meeting.

## Committee Reports

**Columbarium** – private internments are being held.

**Community Enrichment** – Plateau Women's Choir cannot perform, so discussions are being held on reformatting the Rose Memorial Service.

(Continued on page 11)

*(Continued from page 10 - Board)*

**Finance** – Stewardship campaign will kick-off in late November or early December with the theme **GIFT, Growing In Faith Together**. Liaisons should inform their committees that 2021 budget request forms will be distributed August 15 with a suspense date of September 15.

**Nominating** – the first meeting will be held on August 24.

**Personnel** – see report above in New Business.

**Property & Facilities** – electrical upgrades for the kitchen and Fireside Room were completed. The parking lot and drainage project will be completed by year end.

**Strategic Planning (SPC)** – all 2020 projects were reviewed – Covid-19 has had a significant impact, causing most projects to be cancelled or postponed. Planning and actions to be taken for the Stewardship campaign are underway. The Marketing Subcommittee has devolved to only one member – recruiting volunteers is underway. The project for recording services is no longer an SPC project and has moved to the T&C committee for oversight.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting following prayer by Pastor James. The meeting adjourned at 4:00pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, at 2:00pm.

Submitted by Patty Smith, Minutes Clerk

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They will be missed!

Jimmie and Nedra Carter are moving to be closer to their family. They have given much of their time and many of their talents to our church over the years. Best of luck to you Jimmie and Nedra!

New Address:

Jimmie & Nedra Carter
581 Stone Bridge Blvd.
Bellefontine, OH 43311