

August PREACHING SCHEDULE

Final month for one combined service at 9:30am

SERIES: Words from Wesley

AUGUST 7
Acts 26:19-29
Almost

AUGUST 14
John 3:8
Marks of the New Birth

AUGUST 21
Hebrews 11:1-6
What is Faith?

AUGUST 28
Romans 8:12-17
The Witness of the Spirit

The library staff wishes to **Tremendously Thank Dave Leidecker** for the like-new manual typewriter that he donated to the library. It was just what we needed and works great. **THANK YOU DAVE!**

Sharon, Linda and Romaine

THANK YOU!

August Library News:

For our Mystery lovers, *The Traitor's Pawn* and *Centralia* will keep you engrossed. Five fiction books, *The Wedding Dress*, *All That It Takes*, *The Fifth Avenue Story Society*, *The Walk and Miles To Go* will delight you as well as take you on adventures. Watch for the next two books in September by the author of the last two books. A huge Thank You to the friend of our library that gave us the Richard Paul Evans books. Stay Cool and Keep Reading!

Romaine

LIBRARY News

rightnow MEDIA

Contact Jana Thompson to get started:
jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net

A streaming library of more than 20,000 Bible study videos for leaders to share with their people.

- Books of the Bible
- Small Groups
- Kids Shows
- Youth Studies
- Men's Studies
- Women's Studies

Think of it as 'Netflix' for Christian Bible Study!



OUR TRANSITION FROM WCOIL IS **ALMOST COMPLETE.**

PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESSES TO CONTACT THE CHURCH.

Marilyn Agler - marilyn.agler@vanwertfirst.net

Sherri Arn - sherri.arn@vanwertfirst.net

Luke Compton - lukecompton@vanwertfirst.net

FUMC Office & Pastor Chris Farmer - chris.farmer@vanwertfirst.net

Paul Hoverman - paulhoverman@gmail.com

Cristi Laukhuf - cristi.laukhuf@vanwertfirst.net

Jeremy Laukhuf - jeremy.laukhuf@vanwertfirst.net

Teresa Shaffer - teresa.shaffer@vanwertfirst.net

Jana Thompson - jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net

First UM Preschool continues to accept registrations for the 2022-2023 school year. The teachers have worked throughout the summer months preparing for the new school year. We are so excited that we have received grant money to purchase interactive white boards and new laptops for each teacher, Thank you all for the support, financially and through your prayers as we teach these little ones school readiness and most importantly the Good News of Jesus!

Preschool News



Numbers include **BOTH** Inhouse Worship & online website viewers.

June Attendance Report

8:15 - 356 10:45 - 759

Year To Date All Sanctuary Services including online viewing
5735

Year To Date Average - All Services
- 125

The Soul-stirring Beauty of Singing in a Choir

The reality is that not only do choirs need people, but people need choirs. There is such God-given beauty in voices blending in harmony. I've heard it hundreds of times that "I don't have time to join a choir." Many people, however, find it such a stress reliever when they sing, and even more so, when they sing with others. Harmony and blending are pleasing to the soul as well as the ear.

Our Chancel Choir is open to anyone high school age and up. We would love to have youthful voices and souls join us, but it is a national recognition that as adults have kids leaving their homes, they are looking for things to do and people to do them with. Choirs are the perfect solution. Baby Boomers and yes- Gen Xers, are looking for meaningful and soul-enriching activities.

Not only does our Chancel Choir at First Church look to provide musical satisfaction, but it also enriches fellowship, friendship, and prayer partners. This is something that often gets overlooked. I've said many times that some people (singers) are really good for choirs, but choirs are really good for everyone. The physical benefits of singing are also good for your health. The benefits are just so many!

Our choir at First Church is filled with many who have said they could never sing in OUR choir. We are certainly blessed to have some very talented singers and musicians, but the majority are people who at one time or another thought they could never do it. Are you one? Are you looking for a caring, nurturing family that works (and sings) together to create one voice in praise to our heavenly Father? Don't be afraid to give it a try. We would love to welcome you! You know if you can carry a pitch and sing in tune. Those are really the only prerequisites.

We meet Wednesday nights after handbells, from 7:30-8:30pm from September - May. We typically sing at each Traditional Worship Service on Sundays. That service starts at 10:45am and we meet at 10:25 to warm-up our voices, quickly run thru music, and pray for the service. The music styles we sing vary from traditional to contemporary, but all quality literature, and all for the Glory of God! We often incorporate our music into the service in more than just an anthem offering; we are an integral part of the worship service.

Over the years, we have traveled and sung in New York City, Seattle, WA, Portland, OR, Chicago, and other special events throughout the city of Van Wert and the region. This past year we were honored to participate in the induction service held at Trinity UM in downtown Lima for new D.S. Amy Haines. These have been great experiences and very inspiring.

Perhaps this is the year you give it a try. I know there are many of you who once sang, maybe in high school choir, and probably don't realize how much you've missed it. You don't have to worry that you can't make it every week. My goal is to grow the number of singers to the point that an absence here or there is easier to absorb. I also hope you will enjoy it and be so enriched that you will look forward to attending and sing as often as possible. I look forward to making a joyful noise unto the Lord with you this year!

Any questions or replies may be sent to me at paulhoverman@gmail.com or call/text at 419-513-0123.

Blessings,

Paul Hoverman, Director



FIRST United methodist CHURCH

Phone: 419/238-0631 FAX: 419/238-3608

email: firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net website: vanwertfirst.net

As a community of faith, we stand firm on this mission: embracing, equipping, and empowering persons to know and follow Christ. With each step, we see God "doing immeasurably more than all that we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us" -Ephesians 3:20

We invite God to do His life-changing work through us over the next five years!

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

9:30am - Blended worship

AUGUST 2022

FINAL MONTH FOR ONE COMBINED SERVICE @ 9:30 am

College Addresses Needed! Contact the office with information!

AUGUST 21 - 9:30am service



Blessing of the Backpacks

Food Pantry items needed for August

PASTA

Pasta, sauces, macaroni & cheese



Monetary donations are also welcome & appreciated.

Thank you for your donations!

Grown Ups are needed for the Graduates 2 Grown Ups ministry.

You will be matched to a recent graduate (up to age 25). You will send them notes, texts, and care packages so they know that First Church - and you - Love Them. We give you guidelines and encouragement along the way. It's pretty easy!

If you are a graduate (25 and under) or have one in your household and they want to be a part of this, have them see Teresa too!

GRADUATE Grown Up



FIRST CHURCH, VAN WERT

FALL Kick Off
MORE INFO TO COME

We are pleased to welcome Luke Compton as our new Technology Director at First UM. Luke is the Technology Support Specialist at Vantage Career Center in Van Wert. Luke is the son of Ned Compton and grew up in our church and is married to Debbie (Witten) Compton, daughter of Tom and Sharon Witten. Luke and Debbie have two children: L.J. and Clara.

As Technology Director, Luke will be responsible for oversight of video, audio, lighting, and data systems as they relate to worship and administrative functions. Being the father of two young children, he and Debbie are committed to their family and their many activities but stated that he would love to do whatever he can to help First Church with the knowledge he has to offer.

We appreciate Luke's willingness to serve and look forward to his increased involvement as we enter the fall. Please welcome Luke to our team at First UM when you see him!

Welcome to the Team!



Luke Compton
Technology Director

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/1 Sierra Shaffer	8/16 Quintin Bouillon
8/2 Dorothy Sunderland	8/17 Violet Hogan
8/3 Sydney Dowler	Bob Spath
Paul Miller	Frank Smith
Sharon Bowersock	8/18 Pam Brown
8/5 Annette Hoverman	8/19 Jodi Brummette
Lavena Faszler	Mel Hurlless
Zacreigh Hanicq	Jan White
8/6 Elliot Gearhart	Janet Gearhart
Colleen Krouskop	8/21 Deb Germann
8/7 Leah Krites	Joshua Gleinser
Noah Krites	Christian Wallenhorst
8/9 Dresden Wehage	Ayda Whitson
8/10 Jean Bulau	8/23 Ellie Mooney
Sara Spath	8/24 Carter Wright
8/11 Elisa Dunlap	Michele Amstutz
Elora Hogan	Randy Springer
Dick Davis	Betsy Hammon
8/12 Nathaniel Mitchener	8/25 Ned Compton
8/13 Steve Gehres	Abbey Proctor
Lynn Simson	8/26 Austin Miller
8/14 Shirley Jarvis	8/27 Deb Moser
8/15 Jim Covey	Dick Dunn
	Cayson Clark
	Jay Gamble
	8/28 Braden Stoller

8/29 Dave Leiendecker
Lisa Miller
Susan Mathew
8/30 Noah Carter
Melissa Wagner
8/31 Kurt Massillo

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/1 Aaron & Teresa Gardner
8/2 Matt & Judy Krites
Cindy & Steve DuVall
8/4 Eric & Courtney Hurlless
8/5 Becky & Ed Wells
8/7 Lois & Steve Gehres
8/9 Dave & Angie Watkins
8/14 Deborah & William Kelly
8/15 John & Jan White
Tom & Sharon Witten
8/17 Bob & Sue Young
8/22 Kyle & Christie Wendel
8/25 Austin & Ericca Miller
Melissa & Scott Wagner
8/27 Andy & Sandra Anderson
Rob & Karen Miller
8/29 Leah & Eric Schaffner

Mission Moment: Your Faith has been in action lately First Church! There were lots of servants busy with **Vacation Bible School** and **Ignite** in July! Thanks to all who baked cookies, donated food and worked at Ignite where the mission committee served dinner for about 100 people. Coming up in August is our biggest outreach of the year, **Operation Back to School**. We need volunteers and money! Contact Paula LaRue to volunteer. This month, the prayer focus for our missionaries is the 3 county bible release programs, and especially Lifewise Academy in Van Wert. Pray for all the students heading back to school and the teachers and admin as well. Speaking of school starting back up, it will soon be football season, which means the return of 5th Quarter events for high school and middle school students. People are needed to set up, chaperone and tear down for those events as well as bake cookies.

See Teresa to help.



Financial Report - 6/30/2022

June Contributions	\$ 53,477.00
June Expense	\$ 44,467.00
Income over Expense	\$ 9,010.00
Year to Date	
Contributions	\$336,851.00
Year to Date Expenses	\$288,153.00
Income over Expense	\$ 48,698.00

IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

BIRTHS:

Poppy Kaye Triplett

Parents: Jacob & Morgan Triplett
Grandparents: Kent & Jill Smelser
June 28, 2022

Charlotte Lynn Henry

Parents: Gregory & Katie Henry
Grandparents: Dave & Jana Thompson
July 1, 2022

Daniel Grant Proctor

Parents: Matt & Ayrn Proctor
July 6, 2022

DEATHS:

Ruth Alice Poe
June 2, 2022

Nikki Massillo
June 25, 2022

Betty Lou Tomlinson
June 30, 2022

Marilyn Bair
July 18, 2022



Ignite Meal Volunteers

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

VAN CREST, Van Wert
10357 Van Wert Decatur Road, Van Wert, OH 45891
Karen Elston, Dennis Warnecke

HEARTH AND HOME
1118 Westwood Drive, Van Wert, OH 45891
Wendy Howell, June Taylor

VAN WERT MANOR
160 Fox Road, Van Wert, OH 45891
Betty Foust, Jan Osborn, Betty Vogt

HOMESTEAD AT TOWNE CENTER
240 Towne Center Boulevard, Van Wert, OH 45891
Ed Bates, Brent Crone, Sandy Gordon, Tom Wise



SHUT-INS

Helen Crone, Rhonda Crosley,
Laverna Faszler, Jay Simson,
Bill Wermer

DIVINE NURSING & REHAB

@the LAURELS OF SHANE HILL
Dorothy Sunderland - Room 113
10731 Ohio-118, Rockford, OH 45882

Demond Johnson has stepped away from his latest official duty at First United Methodist Church, that of Leader for the High School Youth Group, and what an outstanding tenure it has been! Demond started attending FUMC when he and Lisa Dickson were dating, and soon after their marriage, they both became directly involved with the church. It started with the 2-3 year-olds in Sunday School, but it wasn't long until Demond found himself subbing for the junior high and high school classes. He became the junior high class teacher and then the high school Youth Group leader, a stretch that he maintained for 15 years. An exceptional team of Demond and Teresa Shaffer grew out of that, as they have led our youth for years as Youth Group leaders.

"In Sunday School class we averaged 10-12 students per week, and in youth group it sometimes grew to as many as 20 participants," Demond remembered. When reminded of the tremendous impact that he has had on Van Wert County young people, Demond responded, "It has been so enjoyable, so amazing!" For a time, Demond led the after-school Impact Group, and certainly highlights of Teresa and Demond's work are the mission trips they have led: Haiti, Florida, Alabama, Kansas City, St. Louis, Toledo, Boston, and Van Wert.

Demond's Christian influence has not been limited to FUMC's youth. For two years he served as Director of Family and Youth Ministry assisting our lead pastors with small group leadership and Sunday morning worship.

"I'm looking forward to continued worship and participation as an adult Sunday School student at FUMC," Demond commented. "I love first Church and plan to stay active."

Thanks Demond!



CHANCEL CHOIR and HANDBELL CHOIR

The Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir always welcome new singers and ringers to their groups.

They both meet Wednesday nights for a one-hour rehearsal; handbells at 6:30 pm and choir at 7:30 pm. Both normally meet in the sanctuary. The Chancel Choir sings at every Sunday Traditional Service from September - May while the Handbell Choir rings approximately once a month September - May.

Anyone age high school to adult who loves to sing and can sing in tune is welcome to be a part of the Chancel Choir. Note reading is not required but is a plus. Director, Paul Hoverman says after singing for a while, you may learn how to read music, even if it's your own acquired system. Handbells are open to anyone who can read music and is high school age to adult. Scott Turner is the director.

Both music ministry ensembles are caring and loving groups who not only make music for the glory of God, but also pray and care for each other. If you would like to become a part of one or both of these groups, feel free to reach out to Paul Hoverman, Chancel Choir Director at 419-513-0123 (call / text) or email at paulhoverman@gmail.com.



¹ Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
² Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. Psalm 95:1-2

First Church Prayer Requests

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Sandra Anderson, *Parkinsons*
Aiden Ellerbrock, *Rehab*
Steve Gehres, *Health*
Paula Goins, *Multiple-sclerosis*
Eileen Manken, *Heart, Back*
Dave Knight, *Back pain, Diabetes*
Jim Davis, *Health*
Donn Shriver, *Health*
Allan Mills, *Health*
Fred Hartwig, *Health*
Dorothy Sunderland, *Dementia*
Bella Hurlless, *CP*
Maury Wistner, *Health*
(Marie Duff's grandson)
Linda Jeknavorian, *Health*
Bob Say, *Stiff person disease*
Dakota Nihiser, *Cancer*
Rebecca Strickler, *Health*
All those with chronic pain, illness

IF YOU HAVE MILITARY INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE LISTED or CHANGES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

MILITARY:

Gerald Christo-Baker

Dillon Ellerbrock

Airman **Ethan Glass** HSC-2, 524 A Street
Norfolk, VA 23511-4010

Michael Hellman

Gregory Henry 94508 Woodcrest Lane
Fort Drum, NY 13603

Caleb Kreischer

Cpl **Benjamin Scheidt** GCE/H&S MT,
26 MEU DETA, Unit 80124 Camp LeJeune

Noah Sease 3400 Shivas Road
Clarksville, TN 37042

Pfc **Kyle Spray** 216 H&S Co./S-6
PSC Box 20099 Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0099

Austin Sudduth 386 ELRS/LGRA/PAX
Unit 61409, APO, AE 09855-1409

Evan Wells

Sgt Bryan Zinsmaster

MISSIONARIES - August Focus:

Lifewise Academy / *Jeremy Laukhuf*
(All local Bible boards)

GLOBAL CONCERNS -

August Focus: Police, Firefighters,
civil servants and families.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH -

August Focus: First Church Mission in Van Wert & Church Staff / Volunteers; First UM Preschool / Students returning to school (college, High School, Middle School, Elementary & Preschool)