

August PREACHING SCHEDULE

SERIES:

A Whale of a Fight

August 6, 2023

Do You Understand?

Jonah 4:1-11

Holy Communion

SERIES:

*A Messenger
with a Message*

August 13, 2023

One Blinding Moment

Acts 9:1-19

August 20, 2023

Gaining Strength and Acceptance

Acts 9:19b-31

August 27, 2023

Set Apart and Sent Out

Acts 11:19-30; Acts 13:1-3

BOX CITY Haven of Hope Fundraiser

September 9th, 2023

HELP NEEDED:

Volunteers to make/serve food and chaperones for the overnight. Youth can sign up by scanning this code:

Contact Sierra for more information
@ sierra.shaffer@vanwertfirst.net.



SCAN ME

IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

DEATH:

Tom Rupert
July 15, 2023



Financial Report - 6/30/2023

June Contributions	\$ 64,741.00
June Expense	- \$ 48,310.00
Income over Expense	\$ 16,431.00
YTD Contributions	\$330,646.00
YTD Expenses	-\$311,340.00
Income over Expense	\$ 19,306.00



Graduates 2 Grownups

We need grownups to be matched with a recent graduate. Someone who will send care packages, inspirational notes, and who will pray for their graduate. This is a way to keep our young adults connected to First church, so if

you are interested please see Teresa at the Take 5 Cart.

OPEN HOUSE – AUG. 10

9:30-11:00AM and 3:30-5:00PM



FREE ACCESS **rightnow MEDIA**

Contact the office to sign up **TODAY!**

firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net
or 419/238-0631

Third Grade Bible Presentation

SEPTEMBER 10
10:45 service

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
113 w central ave van wert ohio

August Library News:

Two fiction this month, *What You Said to Me* and *Breaking Free*, a story of marriage dealing with addictions. Three Historical Fiction, one of them, *The Red Ribbon*, a suspense and the third Kelly Irwin suspense, *Closer Than She Knows* should keep our heart pumping and the pages turning through August.

LIBRARY



Romaine

2012 Group

Proverbs 20:12:

The hearing ear and the seeing eye – ADONAI made them both

**Bible Study / Sunday School class
after service in the church library**

All you need is your favorite translation of the Bible

Contact Jeremy Laukhuf at laukhufj@gmail.com

Come join us as we learn and grow together



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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Final month for: 9:30am - Weekly Combined Service
SUMMER HOURS - ONE SERVICE ONLY

AUGUST 2023

welcome



Pastor Christian Taylor

I have had the distinct privilege of serving First UMC since July of 2023. I was born in Toledo, Ohio, and grew up between Pipe Creek, Texas, and the suburbs of Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio. After graduating from high school, I attended the University of Toledo and studied Classical Voice. During my years at the University of Toledo, I struggled with depression. I grew up in a Christian household but never knew Jesus as my personal Savior. Once I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior, I began to wrestle with a call to pastoral ministry. After serving in many capacities in the local church, God led me to answer the call to pastoral ministry. I began the process for ordination in the United Methodist Church. After graduating from the University of Toledo, I enrolled in Drew Theological School in Madison, New Jersey.

While in Seminary, I met, fell in love with, and married my wife, Melody. Melody has two children from a previous relationship. Melody has been a tremendous ministry partner, and we love reading and studying God's Word together. We are both avid sports fans. Unfortunately, one follows Cincinnati sports while the other follows Cleveland sports teams. Melody and I love spending time with our children, Gabriel and Naomi, going to the movies, and spending time outdoors. We are just starting our journey together and cannot wait to see how the Lord will use our family in Van Wert and First Church.

High School EVENT



Wednesday, August 23 2:30-6:00pm

**EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE GOEDDE BUILDING
205 W CRAWFORD STREET**

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 8/1 Sierra Shaffer
- 8/2 Dorothy Sunderland
- 8/3 Sydney Dowler
Paul Miller
Sharon Bowersock
- 8/5 Annette Hoverman
Lavena Faszler
Zacreigh Hanicq
- 8/6 Elliot Gearhart
Colleen Krouskop
- 8/7 Leah Krites
Noah Krites
- 8/9 Dresden Wehage
- 8/10 Jean Bulau
Sara Spath
- 8/11 Elora Hogan
Elisa Dunlap
Dick Davis
- 8/12 Nathaniel Mitchener
- 8/13 Steve Gehres
Lynn Simson
- 8/14 Shirley Jarvis
- 8/15 Jim Covey
- 8/17 Bob Spath
Frank Smith
Violet Hogan

- 8/18 Pam Brown
- 8/19 Jodi Brummette
Brad Lichtenberger
Mel Hurlless
Jan White
Janet Gearhart
- 8/21 Deb Germann
Ayda Whitson
Christian Wallenhorst
- 8/23 Ellie Mooney
- 8/24 Carter Wright
Michele Amstutz
Randy Springer
- 8/25 Ned Compton
Abbey Proctor
- 8/26 Austin Miller
- 8/27 Deb Moser
Cayson Clark
Jay Gamble
- 8/28 Braden Stoller
- 8/29 Dave Leiendecker
Lisa Miller
Susan Mathew
- 8/30 Melissa Wagner
Noah Carter
- 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



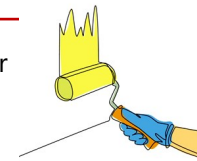
NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

<p>VAN CREST, Van Wert 10357 Van Wert Decatur Road, Van Wert, OH 45891 Sue Corle, Karen Elston</p> <p>VAN WERT MANOR 160 Fox Road, Van Wert, OH 45891 Fred Hartwig, Betty Vogt</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHUT-INS</p> <p>Laverna Faszler, Roy & Linda Jeknovorian Donn & June Shriver, Jay Simson, Bill Wermer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DIVINE NURSING & REHAB @the LAURELS OF SHANE HILL 10731 Ohio-118, Rockford, OH 45882 Dorothy Sunderland - Room 113</p>	<p>HEARTH AND HOME 1118 Westwood Drive, Van Wert, OH 45891 Wendy Howell</p> <p>HOMESTEAD AT TOWNE CENTER 240 Towne Center Boulevard, Van Wert, OH 45891 Sandy Gordon, Delores Keysor, Dave Leiendecker, Marilyn Miller, Jan Osburn, Juanita & Tom Wise</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEFIANCE MEMORY CARE - Francis Sroufe</p>
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Preschool has finished some renovations to our area and we are getting things back in order. Thanks to the wonderful volunteers who moved things so we could do this project! The carpet, painting and cupboards are from a grant we were awarded. We plan to have everything back in place for our **Open House** on August 10. Please feel free to take a detour through our area to see what has been done.

We are also accepting registrations for the 2023-2024 school year. The preschool staff is ever grateful for the support of the church family!



July is so busy at First Church, that it feels like we should take a deep breath and relax in August. However, after a successful Operation Back to School for grades K-8 on July 30, on August 23 we will be holding our **Operation Back to School** event for grades 9-12. This year, we are holding the high school event at the Goedde Building gymnasium from 2:30-6pm. Also in August, we have **5th Quarter** starting back up with the return of high school football games. Contact Teresa Shaffer to volunteer for 5th Quarter. Our prayer focus for August is our First UM Preschool and the 3 county bible schools. With school starting back up, remember these ministries in your prayers as they bring the message of God's love to children in our community.



Youth Kickoff will be August 27 at 4pm - location to be determined.

Middle school and High school youth and their families are invited to enjoy delicious food, fun games and great fellowship.

Festival of Sharing Kits

Drop off BEFORE September 27th!



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.

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:

- Tony Alessandrini, *Health*
- Sandra Anderson, *Parkinsons*
- Jim Davis, *Health*
- Aiden Ellerbrock, *Rehab*
- Steve Gehres, *Health*
- Paula Goins, *Multiple-sclerosis*
- Fred Hartwig, *Health*
- Bella Hurlless, *CP/Rehab*
- Linda Jeknovorian, *Health*
- Daniel Proctor, *Health*
- Kenzie Ray, *Rehab*
- Bob Say, *Stiff person disease*
- Donn Shriver, *Health*
- Rebecca Strickler, *Health*
- Dorothy Sunderland, *Dementia*
- 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** 1824 Rocky Glen Drive Frederick, MD 21702
- 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
- Braden VanCleve**
- Evan Wells**
- s Sgt **Bryan Zinsmaster**

MISSIONARIES - August Focus:

LifeWise Academy / Jeremy Laukhuf (all local bible boards)

GLOBAL CONCERNS - August Focus:

Police, Firefighters, civil servants & families

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH -

August Focus: First Church Mission in Van Wert & Church Staff / FUMC Preschool / Students returning to school (college, HS, MS, Elementary & PS)

Thank you for caring for others!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST Food Pantry



August is BOXED MEALS Month

Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, etc.

Please place your donations in baskets located at either entrance.

Numbers include BOTH Inhouse Worship & online website viewers.

June Attendance Report

8:15 - 0 10:45 - 886

Year To Date All Sanctuary Services 5839

Year To Date Average - All Services (including online viewing) - 123

Dates are available for altar flowers.

Check office door to sign up!

