

To all the FEAST meal makers, bakers and clean up helpers:



We couldn't do it without you!

The Altar Flowers are given in Loving memory of Carolyn Miller by her Family



VBS March 2023 Special Offering

Vacation Bible School

Christ in the Passover

SOLD OUT

605 N. Franklin Street Van Wert, OH

Festival of Sharing 2023

Please bring in your completed kits.

Small Groups Bible Studies Families



Check out the weekly progress under the Shepherd's Window at the front of the church.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE OR ON THE TABLE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE.

If you have not attended a Discernment Meeting, but would like more information, please contact the office on Monday, March 27 at 419-238-0631 ext 302 or email firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE ACROSS FROM THE OFFICE

Pick yours up today!

MY SHARE IN CHRIST'S MINISTRY OF LOVE	
Unified Budget	\$ _____
Other(specific)	\$ _____
Other(specific)	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____
Name	_____

First United Methodist Church
400 Class from the 1st part
113 W. Central Ave.
Van Wert, Ohio 45891



Thursday March 30th 6pm
Dr. Scheidt Room
Everyone welcome who wants to help!



Bake Sale @the Courthouse

FRIDAY
APRIL 7, 2023
8:00AM-11:30AM

FIRST united methodist CHURCH

113 West Central Avenue | Van Wert, Ohio 45891 | 419-238-0631 | vanwertfirst.net



March 26, 2023 10:45 am

Empty of Condemnation, Filled with Freedom

Pastor Chris Farmer

Our Vision Statement:

Enlarging the circle of disciples through Jesus

Thanks for joining us today! If you have any questions while you are here this morning, you can find an answer at the Welcome table, which is inside the doors off Jefferson Street. Whatever your circumstances, and no matter where you've been, you matter to God, and you matter to us. We are glad you are here! If you are a first time guest with us this morning, **Welcome!** Please stop by the welcome table and pick up a welcome packet.

10:45 am ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 26, 2023

PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR WORSHIP

“You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed, the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.”
(Romans 8-9-10)

The Gathering

Welcome and Moments of Sharing and Giving

**indicates please stand if you are able*

Welcome Eric McCracken

Voluntary: *O, How He Loves You and Me* –by Kurt Kaiser Scott Turner

*Call to Worship:

Leader: In view of God’s love, let us freely examine our ways and return to the LORD!

People: God has loved us; let all the ends of the earth worship Him!

Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found, before it’s too late. Call out to him while he’s still ready to help you. Let those who are evil stop doing evil things. And let them quit thinking evil thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord. Our Lord will show them his tender love.

People: The greatest sacrifice God wants is a broken spirit. God, you will gladly accept a heart that is broken because of sadness over sin.

***Hymn:** *Seek Ye First* #405

*Opening Prayer:

Help us, O loving God, when we hit rock bottom. Hear our cries for help!

Listen hard, open your ears. We cry out for your abundant mercy. God if you kept a record of all our misdoing and misguided thoughts, who would stand a chance? As it turns out, forgiveness is your habit, and that’s why we worship you. We offer our lives to you as a life of prayer. We wait to receive what you want to reveal to us and what you want us to become. We’re waiting and watching, waiting and watching for you to come in the fullness of your love and mercy. Amen

(Based on Psalm 130, The Message)

Chat with the Children Christie Wendel

Children may be dismissed to AWE

Worship through Offering

Life in the Church I Eric McCracken

Offering of Tithes & Gifts Eric McCracken
Scott Turner

Offertory: *My Tribute*-by Andrae Crouch

*Doxology: *Now Thank We All Our God* #102 vs. 1

*Prayer of Thanksgiving Eric McCracken

Choral Anthem: *The Garden*-by Mark Hayes

Worship with the Word

***Scripture Lesson:** Romans 5:5-11 Pastor Chris Farmer

Series Empty and Filled
Message *Empty of Condemnation, Filled with Freedom* Pastor Chris Farmer

Worship through Prayer

Prayer Hymn: *Freely, Freely* #389

Prayer for the People Pastor Chris Farmer
The Lord’s Prayer

Going Into the World

Hymn: *Take Up Thy Cross* #415

Live in the Church II

***Spoken Blessing** Pastor Chris Farmer

Postlude: *Benediction*-by John Ness Beck Scott Turner

You are invited to be seated and enjoy the Postlude or leave quietly in peace

KID’S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT 10:45

Nursery Ministry (infant to age 2) is located near the Jefferson Street entrance. You may drop your child off at any time during the service. There are also rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary for your use.

10:45 AWE - AWE is an exciting interactive pursuit of personally knowing God through His Word and embedding all the found treasures into our hearts, minds, and daily lives. This class includes scripture memorization and presentation during service.

Leaders in Today’s Worship

Lead Pastor: Chris Farmer **Pianist:** Scott Turner
Choir Director: Tony Alessandrini **Projectionist:** Cayden Laukhuf
Liturgist: Eric McCracken **Sound Technician:** Kyle Wendel
Acolyte: Johnse Breese **Usher/Greeter Coordinator:** Neil Shaffer
Videographer: Dave Thompson
Screen Creatives: Cheri Oechsle and Sherri Arn
