



**LEADERS:** Teresa Shaffer, Sierra Shaffer, Josh Poulson, Grace Dowler, Bob Spath, Chris Hogan, Connor Shaffer & Lindsay Mergy.

**STUDENTS:**

**Grade 8** - Ashlynn Shaffer **Grade 9** - Lizzie Spath  
**Grade 10** - Griffin McCracken, Meah Johnson  
**Grade 11** - Hayden Dowler, Noah Spath, Mandy Burenga  
**Grade 12** - Macy Johnson, Missy Joseph, Sydney Dowler, Cayden Laukhuf, Kaden Shaffer  
**Graduate** - Damon McCracken

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Wedding Anniversaries*

<p><i>Jim &amp; Ruth Ann Covey</i> 55 Years</p>	&	<p><i>Roger &amp; Kay Okuley</i> 50 Years</p>
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*Brunch for Chris and Melinda*

**Sunday, June 25th @ 10:45 am**

FIRST CHURCH KITCHEN / DINING AREA

HAPPY retirement



Ignite  
Van Wert 2023  
July 27-29



TEN DOZEN COOKIES NEEDED!

Sign up with Teresa at the *Take 5 with Teresa* Cart today!!

Tickets are \$11<sup>50</sup> each – please contact the office. 419/238-0631

**LAST DAY TO ORDER**  
Sunday, JUNE 25TH

*Seats on the bus are going quickly. Phone the office today if you'd like a ride!*

**Tuesday, July 18 @ 7:05pm!!!**

We will have a drawing for a chance to throw the 1st pitch of the game!



opponent: Lake County Captains



First Church wants to help Church on the Horizon meet their shoe drive goal!

shoe us the LOVE

Please take your gently worn shoes to the following dropoff locations:

**Wednesday nights**

**634 N. Washington St.** or the **YMCA**, the **American Legion**, or **Council on Aging**.

They will be collecting shoes **through July 8th**.

FIRST United  
methodist CHURCH

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



Series: What's Next

June 18, 2023 9:30 am  
 Transferring Leadership  
 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.

# 9:30 am ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, June 18, 2023

“Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. ”And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” (John 20:21-22)

*\*indicates please stand if you are able*

*Please fill out the attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor*

## Gathering in God’s Presence

**Prelude:** *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* arr. Cindy Berry Scott Turner

**Welcome:** Sierra Shaffer

**\*Call to Worship:** Sierra Shaffer

Leader: We gather in God’s presence, through whom all families on earth receive their life and name.

**People: We seek to be rooted and grounded in God’s love which passes all understanding.**

**ALL: Glory to God in the Church and in Jesus Christ to all generations forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*Opening Prayer:** Sierra Shaffer

**O living God, in our humble and reverent worship of you, grant that we shall be open and receptive to your marvelous grace. May the fullness of your Holy Spirit fall upon us so that we may be your servants bearing witness of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen**

**\*Song:** *The Battle Belongs to the Lord* Jeremy Laukhuf

**Chat with the Children:** Ruth Ann Dowler

*Children dismissed to AWE*

Happy Father’s Day to all the men in our lives

**Scouting God and Service Award:** Mr. Greg Amstutz Pastor Chris Farmer

**Life in the Church I:** Sierra Shaffer

## Special Music:

*Marriage at Cana* D.H. Pettit John 2:1-11 Processional March for Trumpet and Organ  
Paul Hoverman-Trumpet and Scott Turner-Accompanist

## Worship with the Word

**\*Scripture:** John 20:19-23; Matthew 28:18-20 Pastor Chris Farmer

**Series:** **What’s Next**  
**Sermon:** “Transferring Leadership” Pastor Chris Farmer

## Commissioning of Mission Team:

**Congregational Prayer:** Almighty and Loving God, empower and equip these servants to be your hands and feet. Help them to please you by serving others. Send them into the world with the authority of the Lord Jesus to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and bear witness of your reign. May their actions and words bear witness of your amazing love and passion for healing the broken and delivering the captives. Protect them and teach them as they become the people you want them to be. Fill them with the Holy Spirit and enable them to complete their tasks faithfully and joyfully. Bring them safely home and then let their experiences further enrich us, so that all of us join hands and hearts in glorifying you for what you are about to do through and for these laborers In the plentiful harvest. Amen

**Song:** *Come To The Table* Jeremy Laukhuf

## The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper:

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Gratitude

## Sending Into the World

**Life in the Church II:** Pastor Chris Farmer

**\*Hymn:** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* #140 Scott Turner

**\*Spoken Benediction:** Pastor Chris Farmer

**Postlude:** *Come, Christians Join to Sing* arr. Mark Hayes Scott Turner

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

## Leaders in Today’s Worship

**Lead Pastor:** Pastor Chris Farmer

**Pianist:** Scott Turner

**Announcer:** Sierra Shaffer

**Projectionist:** Noah Carter

**Screen Creatives:** Cheri Oechsle, Sherri Arn

**Sound Technician:** Kyle Wendel

**Usher/Greeter Coordinator:** Dave Lichtle, Neil Shaffer

**Videographer:** Dave Thompson

## KID’S MINISTRY Summer AWE

Children preschool through 5th grade have an opportunity to build their relationship with Jesus through uplifting songs and impactful Bible lessons by attending our Alternate Worship Experience. Children will be released to AWE after praise and worship time. Awe will not meet Communion Sundays which is the first Sunday of the month. Please sign in before service with KidCheck located by the nursery or the Scheidt room.

**Tithes/Offerings** may be made by dropping it in one of the wooden boxes around the sanctuary, using our online giving option found on our website at [vanwertfirst.net](http://vanwertfirst.net), texting 419.963.3557 or mailing it to First UMC, 113 W. Central Avenue, Van Wert, OH 45891. Thank you for your support to First UMC and her ministries.