



Festival of Sharing 2023 NUMBERS

School Kits Hygiene Kits **Period Packs** Buckets

KITS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ACCEPTED UNTIL FALL 2023. DROP OFF ANYTIME!



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



We are seeking adults to be mentors. We need 15 adult men and women by September 20. More information is available by contacting Teresa. H2O is the new middle school aged mentoring program that will be starting in the fall. This program will match middle school kids with an adult mentor.

Children's Ministry Meeting

Sunday, August 27th 11:00am Scheidt Room



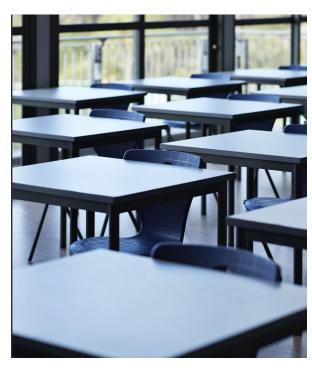
contact Cristi Laukhuf for more info





FIRST united methodist CHIIR

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Children & Teens—Not Second Rate Citizens August 20, 2023

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, August 20, 2023

"He put a child in the middle of the room. Then, cradling the little one in his arms, he said, "Whoever embraces one of these children as I do embraces me, and far more than me—God who sent me." Mark 9:36-37 MSG

*indicates please stand if you are able Please fill out the attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor

Welcome: Susan Burchfield

Introit: Walk together, Children arr. Tom Gettke and Thomas Grassi In Spiritu Ensemble

*Call to Worship: Susan Burchfield

Leader: Here we are, the young and old, **People: The believing and doubting,**

Leader: The weak and strong.

People: Here God is, almighty and merciful,

Leader: Gracious and just,

People: Trustworthy and true.

Leader: So since we are here, and God is here, let us worship God.

*Hymn: God Will Take Care Of You #130 vs. 1-4

*Opening Prayer:

Susan Burchfield

Lord God, we ask you to guide us as we teach young people to be spiritual people. Enlighten us always to follow the example of Jesus. Send your Holy Spirit to guide and protect all children as they pass through our hands. Give us the strength to be good vessels they can emulate in their day to day lives. We know you have good plans for each of them, and we thank you for enabling us to be part of it. Amen.

Blessing of the Backpacks:

Cristi Laukhuf

Children dismissed to AWE (Preschool—5th Grade)

Special Music: The Majesty and Glory of Your Name arr. Tom Gettke

In Spiritu Ensemble

Life in the Church I: Susan Burchfield

Song: Psalm 25:6-7 (see Insert)

Message: "Children & Teens - Not Second Rate Citizens" Teresa Shaffer

*Song: No Longer Slaves/Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying Jeremy Laukhuf

Life in the Church II: Teresa Shaffer

Prayers of the People: Teresa Shaffer
The Lord's Prayer

Vocal Benediction: *I Believe* arr. Stan Beard and Barry Tucker In Spiritu Ensemble

*Spoken Benediction: Teresa Shaffer

Postlude: On "Nicaea" arr. Gilbert M. Martin Scott Turner

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

The Altar flowers are given
In loving memory of Corbin Shaffer
by His Family

Leaders in Today's Worship

Speaker: Teresa Shaffer Liturgist: Susan Burchfield Organist: Scott Turner

Praise & Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf

Projectionist: Noah Carter **Sound Technician:** Kent Smelser

Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor

Videographer: Kurt Massillo

Usher/Greeter Coord.: Dave Lichtle, Neil Shaffer



ONE SERVICE @ 9:30AM

The "In Spiritu" Ensemble was formed by Sheila Chilcote-Collins in the Spring of 2019 and has had different members over the last 4 years. The group has performed at area concerts & churches, shared the stage with Daniel O'Donnell at The Lima Veterans Memorial Civic and Convention Center in November 2021, & they were the featured special music at Venedocia's Gymanfa Ganu in 2022. "In Spiritu" is Latin and translates to "In The Spirit".

<u>Tithe/Offering</u> 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, 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.