



NEXT PACKING EVENT:
Saturday, October 7
9-11 am

Come help us pack meals for others!

Hope Boxes and Sign up Sheets are available
 @ the Take 5 Cart.



Christmas Musical

Rehearsal to start Oct, 4th

See Chris Gordon in Krout
 for more info

**Children's Ministry Fall
 Family Event**

Saturday October 7 4:30pm - 6:30pm

RSVP to
cristi.laukhuf@vanwertfirst.net

**@ The home
 of Annie and
 Ross Shartzter**

**Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 28th
 10AM- 12PM**



- Sign up to have a decorated trunk and hand candy out
- Bring candy in to donate
- Sign up to help with the refreshments that day

MISSING BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY

Due to the higher cost of books, we can no longer replace them when they disappear. The sad thing is that others don't get to read them. Please check all your books to see if one of these is hiding in your home.



- ◇ A Season of Secrets - Elizabeth Adams
- ◇ Silent Days, Holy Nights - Phyllis Clark
- ◇ A Treasury of Christmas Classics -
- ◇ When Women Walk Alone - Cindi McMenamin
- ◇ Breaks Your Heart - James W Moore
- ◇ Real Life Relationships - Jim Pitman
- ◇ When Your Comfort Zone Gets the Squeeze - Large Print - Charles Swindoll
- ◇ Mere Christianity - C. S. Lewis
- ◇ Dream Land - The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic - Sam Quinones

FIRSTunited
methodist CHURCH

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



Signs Confirm the Message
October 1, 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.

10:15 am ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 1, 2023

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” Matthew 16:24 NIV

**indicates please stand if you are able*

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

Welcome: John White

Prelude: *‘Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus/All By Myself* arr. Scott Turner
Scott Turner, piano and organ

***Call to Worship:** John White

Leader: We come together to praise you, God.

People: For you are the Living God who made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them.

Leader: You have shown kindness

People: by giving us rain from heaven and seasons of harvest.

Leader: You provide us with food for our bodies

People: and happiness for our hearts. Let us be glad and sing with joy!

***Hymn:** *All Creatures of Our God and King* #62 vs. 1, 2 & 4

***Opening Prayer:** Jeremy Laukhuf

Father of creation, it is easy to fall into the temptation to enjoy the praises of men. People will naturally look to us when we accomplish great things. Remind us that no matter what we accomplish, it is not done in isolation; it is a result of Christ dwelling within us. Keep our eyes fixed on Jesus when the world is looking at us. We are the handiwork of Your hands. Melt, mold, fill, and use us by the power of Your name. We give you all the glory, honor, and praise, in Jesus’ mighty name, Amen.

Song: *1 Peter 1:18-19/Only A Holy God* Praise Band

Chat with the Children: Judy Krites
Children will remain in worship today

Life in the Church: John White

***Scripture:** Acts 14:8-20 Pastor Christian Taylor

Anthem: *Go Ye Into All the World* arr. Eugene Butler

Chancel Choir
Gloria Wendel, accompanist

Series: **A Messenger with the Message**
Message: *“Signs Confirm the Message”* Pastor Christian Taylor

***Song:** *Here, O My Lord* Jeremy Laukhuf

Giving of Tithes & Offerings:
Offertory: *A Gift to Be Simple* arr. Dale Wood Scott Turner
***Doxology:** *Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father) #71* Scott Turner
***Prayer of Gratitude:** Pastor Christian Taylor

The Sacrament of Holy Communion: Pastor Christian Taylor
Prayers for the People
Invitation
Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
The Lord’s Prayer
Distribution of the Bread & Juice

***Spoken Benediction:** Pastor Christian Taylor

Postlude: *Concerto for Organ, Timpani, and Strings, Movements I-II*
by Francis Poulenc (1899-1963) arr. Scott Turner

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

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of Peggy Dunn by her family

Leaders in Today’s Worship

Pastor: Christian Taylor	Acolyte: Elora Hogan/Dillon Staas
Liturgist: John White	Projectionist: Cayden Laukhuf
Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf	Sound Technician: Kyle Wendel
Director of Music: Scott Turner	Videographer: Dave Thompson
Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor	Usher Coordinators: Dave Lichtle, Neil Shaffer

KID’S MINISTRY 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. **Children will remain in worship today.**