

## FINANCE UPDATE

September 2023		Year to Date	
Donations	\$31,463.00	Donations	\$439,821.00
Expense	-\$46,430.00	Expense	-\$462,545.00
Expense over Donations	-\$14,967.00	Expense over Donations	-\$ 22,724.00

Brothers & Sisters,

As you can see, we are running behind in our donations for the year. As you consider your year end giving, we hope you will consider additional support for your church and her ministries. The finance committee and the staff are watching expenses during this last quarter of the year. We have adequate reserves to cover our costs. If you want to see a more detailed report, please contact Jana Thompson, Treasurer.

We have many ways to make your giving easy - online giving, direct deposit, weekly envelopes and you can always mail a gift. If you have any questions about these options, please contact Jana at 419-203-1137 or email, [jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net](mailto:jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net).

Thank you for your faithfulness in your tithing and support of First UMC.

The Finance Committee



Our Children's ministry will be collecting change on Sunday, October 29th with a goal of \$250

Don't have change? Use the following link or QR Code to donate online.



<https://unicefusa.donorsupport.co/-/NJGMHSDB?member=SCEQCDHW>

### DO THESE OPPORTUNITIES FIT YOU? We are looking for:

- We still need 2 people to **host the coffee hour on Sundays**. This means making sure the coffee pots are full and the donut replenished. It does not mean making the coffee or purchasing the donuts. Could you help us **once a month** from 8:30 -10:00 on Sunday morning
- Are you bored and need to make contact with the outside world? We need some help **coordinating greeters and acolytes**. Requires some phone calls and ability to make a schedule.

Contact the church office for more information  
419-238-0631 ext. 302 or [firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net](mailto:firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net)

# FIRST<sup>united</sup> methodist CHURCH

113 West Central Avenue | Van Wert, Ohio 45891 | 419-238-0631 | [vanwertfirst.net](http://vanwertfirst.net)



## The Path of the Disciple: Imagining a New Reality

“Answers In Genesis to Questions In Exodus”

October 22, 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 22, 2023

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." Genesis 1:26

*\*indicates please stand if you are able*

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

**Welcome and Announcements:** Matt Krites

**Prelude:** *Children of the Heavenly Father* arr. Jane McFadden Handbell Choir

**\*Call to Worship:** Matt Krites

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe,  
**People: Who in mercy gives light to the earth and to all who live on it.**

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe,

**People: Who creates every human being in Your image.**

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe,

**People: Who has sustained our lives to this moment.**

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe,

**People: Who in love sent Your Son to live among us, die for us, and redeem us from sin.**

**\*Hymn:** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* #154 vs. 1, 2, 6

**\*Opening Prayer:** Matt Krites

**LORD God, give Your shalom, wholeness, peace, goodness, blessing, life, graciousness, kindness and mercy to us, our families, our friends, Van Wert, Ohio, America, Jerusalem, Israel and the whole world. Bless us, Heavenly Father, all of us as one, with the presence of Your Holy Spirit. Blessed are You, Lord our God, who blesses people with peace. In the Name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, Amen.**

**Chat with the Children:** Lisa Johnson  
*Children are dismissed to AWE*

**Life in the Church:** Cristi Laukhuf

**\*Scripture:** Genesis 1:26-27; 2:18, 21-25

**Anthem:** Sweet, Sweet Spirit arr. Joel Raney

Chancel Choir  
Linda Mechling, accompanist

**Series:** **The Path of the Disciple: Imagining a New Reality**  
**Message:** *"Answers In Genesis to Questions In Exodus"*

Jeremy Laukhuf

**\*Hymn:** *I Need Thee Every Hour*

#397 vs. 1, 3, 5

**Prayers of the People**

**Giving of Tithes & Offerings:**

**Offertory:** *Chorale* by S. Turner

**\*Doxology:** *To God Be the Glory* #98

**\*Prayer of Gratitude:**

**\*Spoken Benediction:**

**Postlude:** *Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit!* by Carol Doran (#264)

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



First Church will be honoring our Veterans November 12th



**Veterans that have not submitted a picture in previous years. Please submit a picture to [melody.taylor@vanwertfirst.net](mailto:melody.taylor@vanwertfirst.net). Physical copies can be scanned and returned the same day.**



**Can You Help Us???**

To honor Paul's 31 years of service to our church, the Choir is gathering memories, favorite anthems, pictures, notes, etc., of ways in which He and Annette may have touched you and/or your worship experience. If you're interested in contributing something, please forward it to the church office by October 31st.

## 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.

## Leaders in Today's Worship

**Today's Speaker:** Jeremy Laukhuf

**Acolyte:** Dillon Staas

**Announcer:** Matt Krites

**Projectionist:** Cayden Laukhuf

**Director of Music:** Scott Turner

**Sound Technician:** Kent Smelser

**Handbell Director:** Gloria Wendel

**Videographer:** Kurt Massillo

**Screen Creators:** Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor

**Usher Coordinators:** Dave Lichtle, Neil Shaffer