

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **This afternoon is Sundae Sunday in the Dining area from 3-4:30pm! Grab some friends and join us for this tasty event!**
- **Our Veterans will be honored next Sunday**—Please forward photos to Melody by this Wednesday, Nov. 8th.
- **NEWLY ADDED EVENT to our Advent Festival , Sunday, Dec. 3rd**— Join us from 4:30-6:30pm to experience the Nativity story in a fun and hands-on way while collecting Nativity story cards and a delicious meal. **NEWLY ADDED**—Beginning at 6:30pm we will have a Hymn Sing in the Sanctuary. Let's celebrate advent together!
- **Thanksgiving Blessings**—Needs in our community continue to be great. We are providing Thanksgiving meals for area families. If you would like to provide a pie, give financially or help with shopping, please see Teresa at the Take 5 Cart in Krout. Items are needed by Nov. 14.
- **Poinsettia Time**—see the enclosed order form or contact the church office. Orders are due November 26th.
- **Healing Services**—We, the staff at First church, understand the tensions that have come along with the proposed changes to the discipline of the UMC. The future of our church is in a state of uncertainty as we walk through this season, and we understand how essential unity is for the health of that shared future. Pastor Christian, along with SPRC and staff, have worked to create a healing service for the members of this faith community. We do not expect this service to heal all divisions or to erase all of the hurt. However, we hope that it is a step to recovering the hope, joy, peace, and love that should permanently be embedded in our fellowship. We are having a handful of gatherings to ensure that the environment stays manageable and intimate. To attend Tuesday, November 28 or Tuesday, December 5 at 6:00pm sign up on the media board or contact the church office. This helps ensure that the groups are not so large that they fail to serve our purpose. We want to create a space where anyone and everyone has a platform to be heard. Your voice matters.

Church office—419-238-0631 ext. 302 or firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net

FIRST united methodist CHURCH

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



“Vulnerability: A Key to All Friendships”

November 5, 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, November 5, 2023

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2 NIV

**indicates please stand if you are able*

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

Welcome and Announcements:

Jana Thompson

Prelude: *Ammerland* by Jacob de Haan, arr. S. Turner

*Call to Worship:

Jana Thompson

Leader: Come, let us bow before the holy One.

People: Come, let us confess God's might.

Leader: Come, let us feel God's mercy.

People: Come, let us live in God's light.

Leader: As God's people, we lift our voices in praise.

People: Glory to you, gracious and loving God!

***Hymn:** *Maker, in Whom We Live*

#88

*Opening Prayer:

Jana Thompson

Gracious Lord, how shall we do your will today? Will it be in acts of praise, gifts shared, and prayers lifted? Who will you lead us to serve? Help us trust you. Help us listen. Bless this community as we come together in worship. Encourage us, comfort us, unite us, make our joy complete. Amen.

Hymn Chorus: *Come Thou Fount*

Chat with the Children:

Judy Krites

Children will remain in Worship

Life in the Church:

Jana Thompson

*Scripture:

Philippians 2:5-7

Anthem: *In Remembrance of Me* by Lloyd Larson

Chancel Choir
Kay Okuley, accompanist

Series:

Valuable Friendships

Message:

“Vulnerability: A Key to All Friendships”

Hymn Chorus: *Come to the Table*

Giving of Tithes & Offerings:

Offertory: *To a Wild Rose* by Edward Macdowell

***Doxology:** *Gloria Patri #71*

***Prayer of Gratitude**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion:

Prayers for the People

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Distribution of the Bread & Juice

*Spoken Benediction

Postlude: *Sing to the Great Jehovah's Praise* arr. Lani Smith

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

The Altar flowers today are in loving memory of
Dale Wilson by his family

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.**

Leaders in Today's Worship

Pastor: Christian Taylor

Projectionist: Jill Smelser

Director of Music: Scott Turner

Sound Technician: Kent Smelser

Acolyte: Dillon Staas

Videographer: Kurt Massillo

Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor

Usher Coordinators: Dave Lichtle, Neil Shaffer