

The altar flowers are given today:

*in loving memory of
Jon Rhoades
by his family*



*in honor of
Ike Marvin's 92nd Birthday
by her family*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Advent Festival/Hymn Sing, 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. Beginning at 6:30pm we will have a Hymn Sing in the Sanctuary. Let's celebrate advent together! Be sure to RSVP to Cristi today, for the meal!
- **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 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



November 12, 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 12, 2023

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

Matthew 5:9 NIV

**indicates please stand if you are able*

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

Prelude: *Give Thanks* arr. Fred Bock

***Procession of Flags**

Boy Scout Troop 31-First UMC

***Pledge to the American Flag**

***Pledge to the Christian Flag**

Welcome and Announcements:

Al Arnold

***Call to Worship:**

Al Arnold

Leader: Jesus commanded: Love one another.

People: We come to worship the God who is love that we may learn to love one another

Leader: Jesus said: No longer do I call you servants; now I call my friends.

People: We come to worship the God whose friends we are through Christ.

Leader: Let us sing praise to God

People: Let us live in love and friendship toward the human family through Jesus Christ.

***Song:** *Good, Good Father/Holy Spirit*

***Opening Prayer:**

Jeremy Laukhuf

Open our hearts today, Lord, to feel the power of your extravagant love for us. Help us to be free of our fears and prejudices so that we may see your love in action. Comfort and calm our spirits in readiness for us to become your disciples and friends. For we ask Your presence in and upon us in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Song: *Reconciliation Song*

Chat with the Children/Baptisms

Ruth Ann Dowler
Pastor Christian Taylor

Juniper Ann Fox - *parents Andrew and McKenna Fox*
Olivia Jade Ramos - *parents Jamie and the late Stuart Ramos*

The Lord's Prayer

Laying of Hands

Children are dismissed to AWE

***Scripture:**

Ephesians 2:11-22

Anthem: *For the Beauty of the Earth* by John Rutter

Chancel Choir
Gloria Wendel, accompanist

Series:

Valuable Friendships

Message:

“Tearing Down the Communication Walls”

***Song:** *Oh, The blood (Ho Damo)*

***Sung/Spoken Benediction**

Postlude: *Deliver Us (from the Prince of Egypt)* by Hans Zimmer

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

Fry pie time pick up times:

Nov 16, 3-5pm
Jefferson St entrance

Nov 17, 10a-12p
Jefferson St entrance

Nov 19, Before & After
service in Krout



Wednesday Night Feast Menu

Nov. 15
Glazed Ham
Sweet Potato Casserole
Italian Vegetables
Salad
Hot Dog/ Bun
Dessert

*This will be the last
Feast Meal of the year
until Jan 10th.*

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

Pastor: Christian Taylor

Announcer: Al Arnold

Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf

Director of Music: Scott Turner

Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor

Acolyte: Elora Hogan

Projectionist: Cayden Laukhuf

Sound Technician: Kent Smelser

Videographer: Kurt Massillo

Usher Coordinators: Dave Lichtle, Neil Shaffer