



PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Bonnie Bolton
 Becky Wells—back surgery recovery
 Matt Krites - cancer spots
 Olivia Ramos - health
 Kathy Welker - kidneys
 Janet Miller (food pantry volunteer)- Health
 Anita VandenBerg-lung transplant recovery
 Romaine Whetstone-carpal tunnel surgery
 Linda & Roy Jeknavorian- health
 Nancy Rhoades -rehab

Stacy Strick - surgery recovery
 Audrey Taylor - back and health
 Shirley Jarvis - chemo treatments
 Jared Myers- heart procedure recovery
 Dorothy Arnold - health
 Ceci Staas - treatments for
 autoimmune disease
 Many private concerns from people in
 our congregation
 The war between Israel and Gaza.

Please see the long term prayer list in the January Newsletter for other prayer needs or check the website under the drop down menu “newsletters” @www.vanwertfirst.net.

MILITARY

Gerald Christo-Baker, Dillon Ellerbrock, Ethan Glass, Michael Hellman, Greg Henry, Noah Sease, Kyle Spray, Austin Sudduth, Braden VanCleve, Bryan Zinsmaster

Missionaries & Ministries:

FUMC Preschool Board, Staff & Students, Lifewise Academy, Jeanne & Gaston Ntambo, Mission of Hope, Relief Workers in war zones.

FIRST^{United} methodist CHURCH

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



February 4, 2024

“Make a Joyful Noise (Hymns)”

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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.
 Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion be glad in their King.
 Psalm 149: 1-2 NIV

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

Welcome & Announcements Dillon Staas

Prelude *Prelude on "Lasst uns erfreuen"* arr. Douglas Wagner

***Call to Worship** Dillon Staas

Leader: Praise God! Praise God in this house of prayer;

People: Give praise throughout the mighty universe.

Leader: Praise God for the saving deeds of Christ;

People: Give praise for such exceptional love.

Leader: Praise God with the blast of trumpets;

People: Give praise with guitar and keyboard.

Leader: Praise God with timbrel and dance;

People: Give praise with violin and flute.

Leader: Praise God with drums and cymbals;

People: Give praise with a thundering organ.

Leader: Let everything that draws breath, praise God;

People: Praise, yes praise our wonderful God!

***Hymn** *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* #66

***Opening Prayer** Dillon Staas

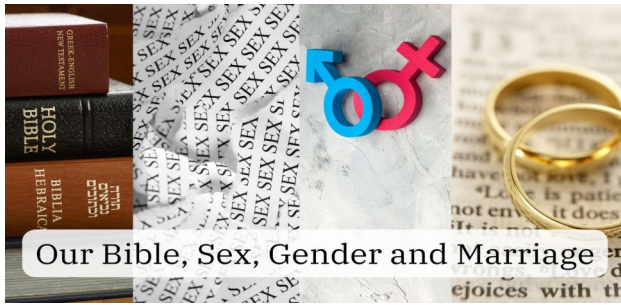
Lord, I come before you with joyful praises! Help me to always serve you with gladness. I come before You with singing and worship. I know and acknowledge you as Lord, You are God. It is You who made us, not we ourselves; we are Your people, the sheep of Your pasture. Thank you for making me Your sheep. You are a loving Shepherd and I trust You. I will enter Your presence with thanksgiving and praise. I come before You with a thankful heart and bless Your Name. For You are good, Your mercy is everlasting, and Your truth endures to all generations. Amen.

Song *He Has Made Me Glad*

Chat with the Children Lisa Johnson
Children will remain in worship

Life in the Church Dillon Staas

What's Happening THIS WEEK Come Join Us! 		
Sunday, 02/04	9:00am 8:45-10:00am 10:15am 11:30am 3:00pm	Sunday School for all ages Coffee & Donuts - Krout Worship Youth Group Cub Scout Leader Meeting
Monday, 02/05	10:00am 11:30am 12:30am 1-3:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm	Lifewise Class Staff Discipleship Staff Meeting Food Pantry Cub Scouts Boy Scouts M & M Life Group
Tuesday, 02/06	10:30am	Prayer Group
Wednesday, 02/07	6:30am 8:30am 1-3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 5:30pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:30pm	Men's Bible Study Men's Bible Study Food Pantry Women In the Word FEAST Meal Confirmation Class Seekers Life Group Handbell Choir Chancel Choir
Thursday, 02/08	8:30am 5:30pm	Clay Pots Van Wert Basketball Meal
Friday, 02/09	10:00-Noon 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Food Pantry Wedding Rehearsal Bread & Bowl Scout Rehearsal
Saturday, 2/10	3:30pm	Wedding
Sunday, 02/11 Scout Sunday	9:00am 8:45-10:00am Before Service 10:15am After Service 6:00pm	Sunday School for all ages Coffee & Donuts - Krout Youth Souper Bowl Fundraiser Worship Youth Souper Bowl Fundraiser Youth Group-Super Bowl @ Laukhuf's



Our Bible, Sex, Gender and Marriage

The Bible is a complex anthology. Many authors from many eras have poured into our Holy Scriptures. All of them trying to understand and articulate who God is. Join us for conversations about who we are as sexual beings in the eyes of a masterful creator.

The 7-week study will be **Sunday, February 18—March 24 and April 7 from 9-9:45 am in the Dining hall or 12-12:45 pm in the Scheidt room.** (no class Easter Sunday, March 31st). Seats are limited to encourage open and honest conversation. You may sign up on the Media Board next to Krout or by using the QR code on the screens around the church. Additional study times may be added during the week based on participation. You are more than welcome to get lunch after service and bring it to the 12 pm class.

If you'd like to know more about the study, contact Jeremy Laukhuf, Dr. Jeremy Stoller or Pastor Christian.

Follow and Like us on Facebook and Instagram

First Church Social Media Pages



Van Wert First United Methodist Church



First Church - Children's Ministry



First United Methodist Church Outreach



First Church Youth



Operation Back to School



On Instagram @firstum

*Scripture

Psalm 100

Anthem *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* arr. Tom Fettke

Chancel Choir
Gloria Wendel, accompanist

Series Message

Church Traditions
"Make a Joyful Noise (Hymns)"

Pastor Christian Taylor

*Song Medley

Jeremy Laukhuf & Scott Turner

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory *Theme* by Takanori Arisawa

***Doxology** *Holy, Holy, Holy*

#64 vs. 4

***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: *Flourish on "Salzburg"* arr. Douglas Wagner

*You are invited to be seated and enjoy the Postlude or leave quietly in peace.
Thank you for worshipping with us!*

The Altar flowers are given in loving memory of
Pat Dunn by her daughter, Lisa

Kid's Worship Kits

Today, our children will remain in worship instead of going to AWE. We have **Worship Kits** located in the Narthex if they would like something to work on. The kits include activities that go along with today's service. Please remember to return the kits after service. Thank you.

Leaders in Today's Worship

Pastor: Christian Taylor

Projectionist: Cayden Laukhuf

Director of Music: Scott Turner

Sound Technician: Kyle Wendel

Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf

Videographer: Dave Thompson

Acolyte: Dillon Staas

Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor

Usher Coordinator: Neil Shaffer and Dave Lichtle, Assistant

What's Happening

Ash Wednesday Service-February 14 at 6pm in Krout Memorial - We are excited for the start of this year's Lent Season. Please invite your friends and family to celebrate this season with you.

Food Pantry - February is Baking items month. Donations of flour, oil, sugar are suggested. Items may be placed in the baskets near our entrances.

February Mission Offering - This month's mission offering will go to the Festival of Sharing Cleanup Buckets and postage to send the kits in the Fall. Please use the special envelopes in your box, the church pews or write FOS on your check memo line.

Parent's Night Out - Drop your children off for an evening of Mad Science activities & games on Saturday, February 17th from 6-8:30pm. Registration and details are on the Children's Ministry bulletin board located by the offices. Volunteers are needed, so if you like watching things blow up and get messy, this is the event for you.

Preschool Open House March 7th at 10-11 am or 6-7:30 pm - Take a tour of our Christ-centered preschool which offers classes for children ages 3-5. Our curriculum is guided by the Ohio Department of Education. You may pick up information packets and register for the 2024-2025 school year at this time. Contact Marilyn Agler, Administrator, with any questions at marilyn.agler@vanwertfirst.net or 238-0631 ext. 308.

Souper Bowl is next Sunday! Back again this year, our youth will be selling Chicken Noodle, Vegetable (no Meat), Potato and Broccoli Cheddar soup before and after service Sunday, February 11th. This is a Youth mission fundraiser and the suggested donation is \$5/quart.

Teddy Bear Sunday - Our Women's Ministry team is collecting Teddy Bears on Sunday, February 18th. The bears will be given to hospitals and first responders to comfort a child. Bring in a bear no more than 12" tall with no child endangerment attachments and place it at the altar. Bears will be blessed during worship that morning.

Wednesday Meal - Come enjoy a hot meal and fellowship Wednesdays at 5pm in the basement dining hall. This week's meal is Taco Soup (cheese, Doritos, sour cream), Deviled Eggs, French Bread, Hot Dog/Bun, Tossed Salad and Dessert

Youth Confirmation - We will be confirming our confirmands on Easter Sunday. If you know a youth (6th grade or above) who would like to be confirmed and they have not been contacted, please see Teresa or Pastor Christian. Meetings begin this Wednesday, February 7th.



We have so many opportunities for you to engage with our church and our community. Here are just a few:

- **Acolyte** - The acolyte is an important part of our worship service and worshipping community. We are in need of your help to fill this position and we invite anyone in the congregation to learn what it is and what it means to be an acolyte. Contact the church office or Pastor Christian. **We invite anyone interested in being an acolyte or learning more about it to join us after service on Sunday, February 18th in the sanctuary. All are welcome.**
- **H2O Mentor program** - Our H2O middle school aged mentoring program is in need of more adults! Make a difference in a student's life by spending 40 minutes 1x/week with them at school. Find out what it's like by asking current mentor, Kay Okuley about it.
- Our Youth group needs some help with **meals** for their group meetings on Sunday. Nothing fancy. Grab a friend and make a pot of soup! Call Sierra or Teresa to sign up. **Meals are covered! Thank you.**
- **Greeters** on Sunday morning - need greeters and someone to help schedule them. Contact Jana.
- **Projectionist** for Sunday Mornings - we will train you. Contact the office.
- **Communion Stewards** and a **Coordinator**. Shirley Jarvis has been our coordinator, but needs to step back. Stewards prepare communion once a month. The coordinator schedules people.
- Middle School Students need a Sunday Morning **teacher** February - April. Contact Teresa.



Do you know Google Suite and have an eye for creating slides? You may be the person to help communicate our vision.

The Director of Communications assumes responsibility for representing the church and faith community in all internal and external communications necessary for the life of our community. This can include creating signs and graphics for various ministries and missions, coordinating and communicating with volunteers and staff, assisting with maintaining the public image of the church, maintaining the Church website, and maintaining the church's Social Media accounts in conjunction with the church office manager, business manager, the pastor, the staff members, and the administrative and ministry teams. It is a part-time position (20 hours/week). Duties include; Internal Marketing, PowerPoint Presentation for Speaker, Social Media Presence and Website Maintenance, Hospitality, and Other duties as appropriately assigned. If you are interested in this position, please email your