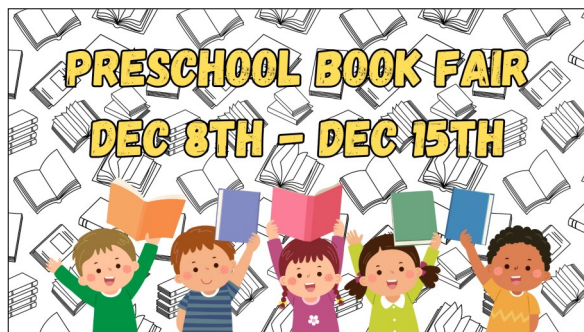


## December Prayer Partner *prayer*

*Be Kind and Compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,  
just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32*

Dear Lord, I pray that you fill ( ) heart with compassion. Give them compassion for the people they will come in contact with at school-friends, teachers, classmates, etc. I ask that you would help ( ) see these people through your eyes and show them the love of Jesus. I also ask for those working with and surrounding this child to have compassion as well. In Jesus' name. Amen."



*Thank you for caring for others!*

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST**  
**Food Pantry**

**December is**  
**BAKING**  
**MIXES**  
**Month**



*Cake, brownie, cookie mixes*

*Please place your donations in baskets located at either entrance.*

6/30/2023

**REMINDER:**  
Angel Tree gifts are to be returned  
December 22<sup>nd</sup>.



*Thank you for your continued support of this outreach.*

# FIRST united methodist CHURCH

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



December 8, 2024

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

"Out of the depths, I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!" Psalm 130:1-2 NIV

*\*indicates please stand if you are able*

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

**Welcome & Announcements** Al Arnold

**Prelude** *Grown-Up Christmas List* arr. Mark Hayes

**\*Gathering Meditation:** Al Arnold  
 Get the road ready for the royal visit: make a straight path for Christ to travel!  
 The winding roads must be straight, and the rough places must be smooth.  
 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**Advent Candle Lighting** Harting/Karl Families

**Congregational Response** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Verse 2

**\*Hymn** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #230 Verse 1, 3, 4

**\*Voluntary** *Improvisation on Away in A Manger* arr. Scott Turner

**\*Opening Prayer** Al Arnold  
 God our Savior, we turn our wandering minds to you and seek a new vision of your love and direct guidance from Jesus Christ by the Spirit. Prepare us to celebrate the first coming of our Lord Jesus and to do your work in expectation of his Second Coming in power and great glory. Amen.

**\*Song** *Holy Spirit/Blessed Is He Who Comes*

**Chat with the Children** Chris Gordon  
*Children are dismissed to AWE - Preschool through 5th Grade*

**Life in the Church** Al Arnold

**Anthem** *There's a Light A Comin'* arr. David Lantz Chancel Choir  
 Gloria Wendel, accompanist

**\*Scripture** Malachi 3:1-4

**Series** **Come, Let Us Adore Him**  
**Message** Passion Pastor Christian Taylor

**Prayers of the People** Pastor Christian Taylor  
 The Lord's Prayer

**Giving of Tithes & Offerings** (Children return from AWE)

**Offertory** *Away in a Manger* arr. Scott Turner

**\*Doxology** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* (Tune: Greensleeves. See Insert)

**\*Prayer of Gratitude**

**\*Hymn:** *Angels We Have Heard on High* #238 Verse 1, 2

**\*Spoken Benediction**

**Postlude** *On a Festive Hymn* arr. David Warren

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

*Thank you for worshiping with us!*

**We are looking for Volunteers:**

Graphics Creator | Contact the office  
 Sound Technician | if interested  
 Projection Operator

**VOLUNTEER**

**The Church & Office will be closed Dec 25th & 26th**

**Christmas Musical**  
 Don your ugliest Christmas sweater, and have a dickens of a good time with *A Christmas Yarn*  
 A Christmas Carol-esque journey that brings the beautiful good news of Christmas!

**Sunday, December 15th 6:30pm**

**ORGAN CONCERT**

PERFORMED BY DR. RYAN KENNEDY

**TODAY • 4 PM**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Free Concert Open To The Public

**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 and return during offering time. AWE will not meet Communion Sunday which is the first Sunday of the month.

**Leaders in Today's Worship**

**Pastor:** Christian Taylor  
**Worship Leader:** Jeremy Laukhuf  
**Director of Music:** Scott Turner  
**Acolytes:** Anna Stoller/Jovie Pollock  
**Screen Creators:** Cheri Oechsle & Melody Taylor

**Projectionist:** Noah Krites  
**Sound Technician:** Ron Allison  
**Videographer:** Dave Thompson  
**Usher Coordinator:** Neil Shaffer & Dave Lichtle, Assistant