

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IS LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER**  
**AN ASSISTANT TEACHER**  
**FOR K-2 ROOM**  
**SEE CRISTI TO VOLUNTEER**



**TEDDY BEAR SUNDAY**  
**FEB 16TH**



The Women's Ministry sponsors this drive. Teddy Bears are donated to the hospital and other 1st Responders to give to children dealing with trauma.

**Are you receiving the weekly emails from the Church?**  
 This is a good way to stay in-touch with the current activities and needs of the Church. If you would like to receive it, please contact Jana Thompson at [jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net](mailto:jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net). Or text her at 419-203-1137. Thank You

**SIGN UP TO -**  
**FEED THE YOUTH!**

Pick your date!

20-25 kids  
 main dish, side & dessert  
 Sunday's at 11:30am  
 You provide a meal, serve, eat with the kid and clean up

**SIGN UP ON THE SHEET**



Thank you for caring for others!

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST Food Pantry**



**January is PASTA Month**  
 Pasta sauces, pastas (spaghetti, rice, noodles)

Please place your donations in baskets located at either entrance.

# FIRST United methodist CHURCH

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



## Re-Membering The Body

January 5th, 2025

**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.

### January Prayer Partner *prayer*

*Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but who delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. Psalm 1:1-2*

“Father God, my heart breaks for these kids. There is so much pressure to be everything: perfection, the way they look, the things they have...but your Word tells us to delight in YOU, God. I ask that you would help ( ) meditate on your Word day and night and walk in step with you. Keep them from falling into temptation and fill them with your comfort in times of loneliness. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.”

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.” Isaiah 60:1-2

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

**Welcome & Announcements** Aubrey Osburn

**Prelude** *Hymn Medley* arr. Eugene Ritter & Carol Eddins Chancel Choir

**\*Call To Worship:** Lillie Best

Leader: Children of God, we enter the new year as we ended the last: gathered together for worship!

**People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

Leader: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from deep in the past: “Arise, shine, for your light has come.”

**People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

Leader: The magi followed a star to find a small child who is the Light of the world.

**People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.**

Leader: So, let us receive the call of Isaiah and follow the example of the magi as we begin this new year, turning our faces to God, whose glory shows up among us as a vulnerable child, a poor carpenter, and a foot-washing servant who is the salvation of the world.

**People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light today and every day. Amen.**

**\*Hymn** *There’s a Song in the Air* (#249) Scott Turner

**\*Opening Prayer** Ella Pruden

**Dear God, reveal to us this day what our eyes look for but cannot see; what our ears hear and cannot understand. Shine your light on the pages of our lives. In the places where we share the dark, everyone looks bright, and everything looks right. We are not anxious to move out of our darkness where we are fooled. In the darkness, our motives are not clear, our ideas are not voiced, and our relationships are not questioned. But when your light shines, everything is like an open window. We see clearly. Help us to move on with you, Light of Lights. We praise you and pray in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

**\*Song** *Open the Eyes of My Heart* Jeremy Laukhuf

## Leaders in Today’s Worship

<b>Pastor:</b> Christian Taylor	<b>Projectionist:</b> Noah Carter
<b>Worship Leader:</b> Jeremy Laukhuf	<b>Sound Engineer:</b> Kent Smelser
<b>Director of Music:</b> Scott Turner	<b>Videographer:</b> Kurt Massillo
<b>Acolytes:</b> Jackson Osburn & Vivian Laukhuf	<b>Usher Coordinator:</b> Neil Shaffer & Dave Lichtle, Assistant
<b>Screen Creators:</b> Melody Taylor	

**Chat with the Children**

**Aiden Bockrath & Maddy Laukhuf**  
*(Children Remain in Worship)*

**Life in the Church**

**Elijah Pollock**

**\*Hymn** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* (#64) Vs. 1, 2, 4 Scott Turner

**\*Scripture** *Matthew 2:1-12* Nate Gearhart

**Series Message** **Re-Membering the Body** Pastor Christian Taylor  
*They All Gather Together*

**Anthem** *Taste and See* arr. J. Moore Chancel Choir

**Gloria Wendel**, accompanist

**Holy Communion** Leah Krites & Meah Johnson  
**Prayers of the People** Pastor Christian Taylor  
**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Giving of Tithes & Offerings**

**Offertory** *Interlude* by Franklin Ritter Scott Turner

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

**\*Prayer of Gratitude**

**\*Spoken Benediction** Pastor Christian Taylor

**\*Choral Benediction** Chancel Choir

**Postlude** *Hymn Tune Setting* arr. Lani Smith Scott Turner

## 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.



**If you have not turned in your 2025 Pledge**, please drop them off in the office at your earliest convenience. 2024 Donation statements will be distributed by January 31, 2025. If you need any information, please contact Jana Thompson at [jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net](mailto:jana.thompson@vanwertfirst.net). Thank you.