





Have you signed up for this free service offered to First UMC? Think of this as the Netflix of Bible Studies and Kid Friendly content.. All you have to do is contact us today!





The Women's Ministry is collecting Teddy Bears to be distributed to hospitals for kids dealing with trauma.

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."

FIRST united methodist CHURCH

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



January 12th, 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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." Isaiah 43:2

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Elegy by Nicholas Bowden Scott Turner

*Choral Introit Cherish That Name Chancel Choir

*Call To Worship: Susan Burchfield

Leader: When we pass through the cleansing waters of baptism

and the troubled waters of our lives; God declares:

People: I will be with you.

Leader: When we go through the fires that refine us and the fires

that threaten our livelihoods, God declares:

People: I will be with you.

Leader: Even when we travel to the far corners of the earth or down

into the depths of our souls, God declares:

People: I will be with you.

Leader: So come, let us worship God whose love never fails, whose presence never leaves, whose mercies never end.

People: Praise be to God who, in the form of Jesus, waded into the waters of baptism to prove God's solidarity with us! Amen.

*HYMNS

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me Blessed Assurance (#521) Vs. 1, 2, 3 (#369) Vs. 1 & 2 Scott Turner, accompanist

Susan Burchfield

*OPENING PRAYER

Susan Burchfield

Eternal Father, at the baptism of Jesus you revealed him to be your Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful to their calling as your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Leaders in Today's Worship

Pastor: Christian Taylor
Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf
Director of Music: Scott Turner
Acolytes: Ceci Staas & Anna Stoller
Screen Creators: Melody Taylor

Projectionist: Noah Krites Sound Engineer: Kyle Wendel Videographer: Kurt Massillo

Usher Coordinator: Neil Shaffer & Dave

Lichtle, Assistant

***Song** O Praise The Name (Anástasis)

CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children are dismissed to AWE - Preschool through 5th Grade)

LIFE IN THE CHURCHSusan Burchfield

ANTHEM Breathe On Me, Breathe of God arr. Lloyd Larson Chancel Choir Gloria Wendel, accompanist

***SCRIPTURE** Luke 11:29-30

MESSAGE The Bible for Normal People Guest Speaker Jared Byas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Christian Taylor

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS (Children return from AWE)

OFFERTORY Adoration by Florence Price Scott Turner *DoxoLogy Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow (#95)

*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

*HYMN 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Vs. 1: All, 2: Women, 3: Men, 3: All

Jeremy Laukhuf

(#462) Vs, 1,2, 3

Julie Burenga

*Spoken Benediction Pastor Christian Taylor

*Choral Benediction Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Fanfare and Variations on a Gaelic Hymn arr. Eugene Butler Scott Turner

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

Thank you for worshipping with us!

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.



Wednesday Night Feast Volunteers WNF begins Jan 15th Every Wednesday @ 5pm We are in need of volunteers

Sign up sheets are on the table outside the church office

