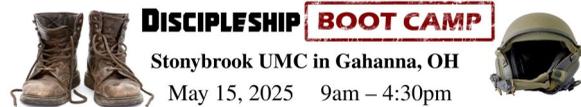


**PRESCHOOL GRADUATION**  
**MAY 8TH**  
**@ 6PM**  
**IN SANCTUARY**

**DISCIPLESHIP BOOT CAMP** 

**Stonybrook UMC in Gahanna, OH**  
 May 15, 2025 9am – 4:30pm

This workshop will help create intentional pathways that guide people from curiosity to commitment in their faith. Together, we'll explore strategies for fostering deeper connections and multiplying discipleship efforts in our ministry.

**Registration is open to all members**

If interested please contact Pastor Christian

Moms of Preschool - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**The Bible Mom Awards**

Join us as we celebrate Bible moms and You!

Sunday, May 11th  
 9:00am  
 Meet in the Blue Preschool Room

**UNTIL MAY 26**

**SHOE DRIVE**

Spring cleaning, give us your shoes!  
 any type, style and gender foot wear is accepted

DROP OFF AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
 M-TH. 8:30-1:30PM FRI. 8:30 - 12PM

QUESTIONS  
 419-238-0631

Proceeds from drive benefit mission trips.



**WHAT A VBS MESS!**

LEARN HOW GOD MAKES MESSY THINGS BEAUTIFUL

**JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**8:30AM - 11:30AM**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**113 W. CENTRAL AVE, VAN WERT**

*Graduation Sunday*  
 May 25, 2025

Our graduates are:

Mandy Burenga	Haydon Dowler
Evan Falk	Nate Gearhart
Olivia Snyder	

There will be a meal after church to celebrate our graduates. They will have card boxes with them before and after church.



# FIRST United methodist CHURCH

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



May 4, 2025  
 Youth Sunday

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.

May Prayer Partner

*prayer*

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. 2 Peter 3:18

“Heavenly Father, please hear my heart for (\_\_\_\_\_) as I petition for their spiritual growth. It is a personal decision that is between you and them, and I pray that they ultimately come to know you. I pray that you reveal your Holy Spirit to them and that they make you Lord over their life. I pray you would plant the seed, and help them grow in grace and knowledge of who you are God. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

"Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!'" Revelation 5:13

*\*indicates please stand if you are able*

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

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mandy Burenga

## PRELUDE

*Allegro*

by Tielman Susato (1510-1570)

Scott Turner

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Ella Pruden

Leader: God, you call us from the corners of the Earth.

**People: From the cities and the prairies, from the ghettos and the tables of the wealthy.**

Leader: God, you sing to us from the corners of the universe.

**People: In the gentle ocean breeze, in the colors that burst forth from our landscapes, in the faces of children ravaged by war.**

Leader: God, you speak to us from the corners of the Earth.

**People: To the east, to the west, to the north, and to the south, above us, below us, and within us, your voice rings clear.**

**All: Send your voice to sing in us, we pray, as we worship this day.**

## \*HYMN

*For the Beauty of the Earth v. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 #92*

Scott Turner

## \*OPENING PRAYER

Ashlynn Shaffer

God of love, we bring our very selves to worship. Our triumphs. Our failures. Our vulnerabilities. Our greatest joys and our deepest sorrows. In this time set apart, may we hear the voice of Jesus urging us to feed and be fed, to love and be loved. Amen.

*Altar Flowers given In Memory of Roy and Neal Souders*

*By Eleanor Souders*

### Leaders in Today's Worship

**Pastor:** Christian Taylor

**Worship Leader:** Jeremy Laukhuf

**Director of Music:** Scott Turner

**Acolytes:** Addison Karl & Heather Keen

**Screen Creators:** Melody Taylor

**Projectionist:** Noah Krites

**Sound Engineer:** Justin Siefker

**Videographer:** Kurt Massillo

**Usher Coordinator:** Neil Shaffer & Dave

Lichtle, Assistant

## SONG

*My God Can*

Jeremy Laukhuf

## CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN

*(Children remain in worship - no AWE)*

Lillie Best

Meah Johnson

## \*SCRIPTURE

John 21:1-19

Elijah Pollock

## SERIES

**Believing into Christ**

## MESSAGE

*Circling Toward Food Justice*

Pastor Christian Taylor

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Olivia Snyder

## ANTHEM

*On Eagles' Wings*

arr. Lloyd Larson

Chancel Choir

Gloria Wendel, accompanist

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY** *Adagio*

*by* Samuel Barber

Scott Turner

**\*DOXOLOGY** *Gloria Patri*

*#70*

Scott Turner

**\*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

## \*SPOKEN BLESSING

Pastor Christian Taylor

## POSTLUDE

*Sortie*

by Léon Boëllmann

Scott Turner

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

*Thank you for worshipping with us!*

Chronic Pain is an issue for many people. We are wondering if there is interest in a support group for people who are experiencing Chronic Pain. There is a sign up sheet on the Media Board. The initial meeting for those interested will be held in the Scheidt Room on May 18, 2025 following church service (11:45AM). If you have any questions, please contact Julia McGrath or Audrey Taylor.

### 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.