

**Calling All Young Adults!**

Are you in your college years, 20's, or early 30's? Want to explore your faith and build genuine connections with young adults who 'get' what you're going through? You are invited to join a group of other young adults who want to do the same.

**When:** Every other Wednesday at 6 PM  
**Where:** The Youth Room  
**July 16, July 30, Aug 13,**

**JOIN US**

**COMMUNITY RELIEF**  
Loving and Serving

**IGNITE**

**Van Wert 2025**  
**July 17 - 19**  
 ORIENTATION DINNER July 16

**MORE INFO at Take 5 Cart**

Share the love of Christ in mission to your local community.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

10th Annual **OPERATION BACK TO SCHOOL**

July 27, 2025 ★ 3:00-5:00 PM  
 Fountain Park, Van Wert, OH  
 vanwertfirst.net

**Mentor Appreciation & New Mentor Info Banquet**

Thursday, Aug 7 at 6 PM  
 First UM Church

Come or invite a friend who may be interested in being a mentor.  
 RSVP to Teresa Shaffer

Mentors Needed

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**PRE-SCHOOL**  
 Where kids love to learn & discover

**OPEN HOUSE - AUG 7**  
 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM or 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Come tour our Christ-centered preschool for ages 3-5, where our curriculum follows Ohio Department of Education guidelines. Information packets and 2025-2026 registration will be available. For more information, contact Marilyn Agler at 419.238.0631 x308 or marilyn.aglerevanwertfirst.net

**Food Pantry**

July is **HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS** month

Detergent, dish soap

Your support makes a real difference in caring for others!

Please place your donations in the baskets located at the entrances.

**KIDS**

**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 are released to AWE during the Chat with the Children and return after the Message.

The Altar Flowers are given...

In Celebration of our new grandson's birth, Henry Burch-Lickenbrock, on June 5<sup>th</sup>, to Alex (Burchfield) and Matt Burch-Lickenbrock

by Martin & Susan Burchfield

**FIRST** united  
 methodist **CHURCH**

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



# July 13th, 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

+ THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE RISE  
PLEASE FILL OUT THE ATTENDANCE PAD AND PASS IT TO YOUR NEIGHBOR

*“No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.”*

Deuteronomy 30:14

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** SUSAN BURCHFIELD

**PRELUDE** Londonderry Air | arr. Noreen Grey Lienhard  
SCOTT TURNER, ORGAN

**+ CALL TO WORSHIP:** SUSAN BURCHFIELD

One: Children of God, are you listening? Have you noticed? God has planted seeds of hope among us.

**All: We have heard of this hope!**

One: Are you listening? Have you noticed? God nurtures hope among us, helping us bear the fruit of faithfulness in this world.

**All: We seek this hope as we learn to live in faith!**

One: Are you listening? Have you noticed? The hope of God's good news forms you to love one another with the love of Christ.

**All: We cling to this hope as we grow in love of God, self, neighbor, and all creation.**

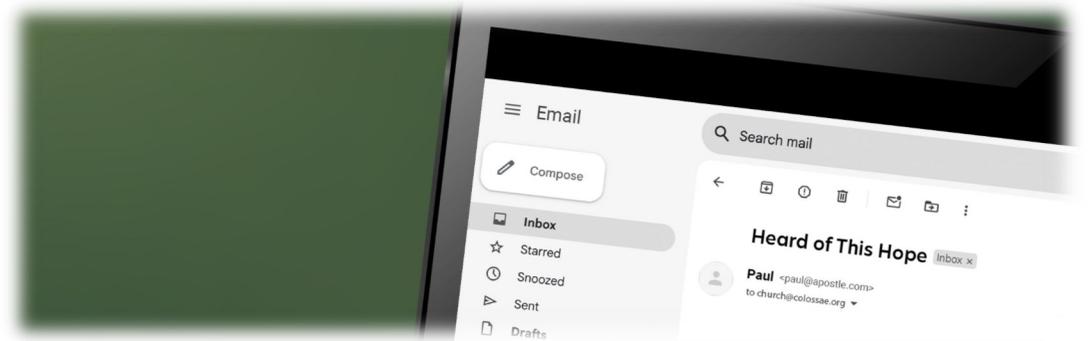
One: Children of God, come! Come, let us worship God who graciously offers us the gift of hope.

**All: Come, let us worship God who empowers us to put our hope into faithful and loving actions!**

**+ HYMN #368** My Hope Is Built | UMH MARY ANN FALK, LEAD

## LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

PASTOR	Christian Taylor	PROJECTIONIST:	Naomi White
WORSHIP LEADER	Jeremy Laukhuf	SOUND ENGINEER:	Justin Siefker
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Scott Turner	VIDEOGRAPHER:	Kurt Massillo
ANNOUNCER:	Susan Burchfield	CHILDREN'S CHAT:	Ruth Ann Dowler
USHER COORDINATORS	Neil Shaffer & Dave Lichte, Asst.	SCREEN CREATORS:	Mary Ann Falk, Melody Taylor, & Jeremy Laukhuf



**+ OPENING PRAYER** SUSAN BURCHFIELD

Holy God, we come as people who would like to think that we love you with all our hearts and souls, with all our might. Still, many other things in our lives clamor for our attention. We relegate you to Sundays, Wednesdays, and times when we want to be rescued. Most of us really do want you to be the one in whom we live and move and have our being. We really do want to listen to your voice above all of other voices in our lives. But we get bogged down in our daily routine. We forget who we are. We forget who you are. We forget what the church is supposed to be. So here we are, gathered before you today, asking that you would make yourself known to us, that you would continue to challenge us, inspire us, and make us into the people you want us to be. Amen.

**SONG** Open the Eyes of My Heart JEREMY LAUKHUF

**CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN** RUTH ANN DOWLER

(CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED TO AWE - PRESCHOOL THRU 5TH GRADE)

**+ SCRIPTURE** Colossians 1: 1 - 14

**SERIES** Dear Children of God: Part 2

**MESSAGE** Heard of this Hope PASTOR TAYLOR

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**+ CHORUS** The King is Among Us JEREMY LAUKHUF

(CHILDREN RETURN FROM AWE)

**+ SPOKEN BENEDICTION** PASTOR TAYLOR

**POSTLUDE** Ode to Joy | arr. Noreen Grey Lienhard  
SCOTT TURNER, ORGAN

You are invited to be seated and enjoy the Postlude or leave quietly in peace.  
Thank you for worshipping with us, and for your continued generosity and support.



**TITHES & OFFERINGS** - can be placed in the wooden boxes located: in the sanctuary at the end of the ramp, in front of the video stand; in the Krout by coat rack; and before the double doors, entrance of the sanctuary, on the table.