

Children's Ministry

AWE - 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.

Informational Meeting

2026 Summer Mission Trip: *Dominican Republic* Wed, Sept 24 5:30pm

Step out of your comfort zone ... Come check it out! SEE TERESA OR SIERRA

WEDNESDAY FEAST MEALS

Sept 24 MENU

Volunteer Sign-Up sheets are available outside of the Church Office for Cook, Clean-Up, and Desserts.

- Meat Loaf
- Cheesy Potatoes
- Mixed Vegetables
- Tossed Salad
- Hot dog/Bun - Rolls
- Desserts

CHILI COOK-OFF & COOKIE BAKE-OFF

Sunday, Oct 19
Sign up now at the Take 5 Cart

May the Best Recipe WIN!

SIGN UP FOR RICE MEAL PACKING EVENT

>>> SAT, NOV 22 <<<
9AM - 12PM | GOEDDE GYM

All ages welcome

- Invite friends, family, co-workers to join
- Suggested donation of \$20 to cover expenses
- Families can take a miniature church from the Take 5 Cart to collect coins at each meal

Sign up outside Teresa's office or call 419.203.0631 ext 307

A MEAL CHANGES EVERYTHING

September Partner Prayer

PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN OF OUR CHURCH
"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" *Isaiah 43:19*

Creator God, as the new school year begins, as seeds are being planted, I ask that you create a nurturing environment for _____. Create opportunities for _____ to grow spiritually, physically, and socially. Let this school year be good soil for making positive choices and necessary changes. I pray all this in your mighty name, Amen.

FIRST CHURCH YOUTH KICKOFF

TODAY

COUGAR HUDDLE SEPT 26
TAILGATE 4:30-6:30PM OCT 10
FREE TICKETS INTO THE GAMES FOUNTAIN PARK OCT 24

ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY

SCOTT TURNER PRESENTS A CINEMATIC RECITAL: THE MUSIC OF THE SILVER SCREEN

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025 | 3 PM | FREE ADMISSION
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
113 W CENTRAL AVE | VAN WERT | OHIO

WITH GUEST ARTISTS: MICHELE AMSTUTZ, ANNETTE HOVERMAN, JEREMY LAUKHUF, GLORIA WENDEL

Join us for Trunk or Treat. DECORATE YOUR TRUNK AND PASS OUT CANDY

Sign up at the Take 5 Cart.

SATURDAY OCT 26, 2025 10AM - 12 PM

Food Pantry
September is SOUP month

Drop donations in bins located at entrances.

FIRST United methodist CHURCH

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

I WILL CALL UPON THE LORD

September 21st, 2025

Mission Sunday - Blanket Sunday Youth Kick-Off

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

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

TITUS 3: 4 - 7

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS MARTIN BURCHFIELD

HANDBELLS CHOIR *Acclamation on Amazon* | arr. Arnold Sherman
GLORIA WENDEL, DIRECTOR

+ CALL TO WORSHIP: MARTIN BURCHFIELD

One: When we are surrounded on every side, wondering which way is up and which way is down...

All: Help us, God, for the glory of your name.

One: When we question which way to go and how to follow God's path for us...

All: Help us, God, for the glory of your name.

One: When we find our rest in God and long for others to know the sweet peace of God's embrace...

All: Help us, God, for the glory of your name.

One: Today, as we gather for worship, may we come ready to listen and discern God's help that meets us right where we are.

All: Help us, God, to receive your help and to extend your help to our neighbors, all for the glory of your name.

+ HYMN #133 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* | UMH

Leaders of Today's Worship

LEAD PASTOR CHRISTIAN TAYLOR	PROJECTION ELORA HOGAN	USHER(S) NEIL SHAFFER	SCREEN CREATORS MARY ANN FALK
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC SCOTT TURNER	SOUND/AUDIO KYLE WENDEL	DAVE LICHTLE, ASST.	MELODY TAYLOR
	VIDEOGRAPHER DAVE THOMPSON	ACOLYTE(S) JOVIE POLLOCK HEATHER KEEN	JEREMY LAUKHUF



+ OPENING PRAYER MARTIN BURCHFIELD

Loving and Gracious God, Holy one of Israel, tender one to all who call upon you with repentant and believing hearts: bless us, we pray, with your presence this day. Teach the little ones who have gathered to learn your ways, inspire those who seek your wisdom, energize those who are exhausted, comfort those who grieve, and strengthen those who are weak. Indeed, O God, fill all of our hearts with your praise and lead us in holiness and righteousness in this hour and in the hours to come. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

SONG *How Deep The Father's Love For Us* JEREMY LAUKHUF

CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN CHRIS GORDON
(CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED TO AWE - PRESCHOOL THROUGH 5TH GRADE)

MISSION MOMENT Blanket Sunday TERESA SHAFFER

+ HYMN #399 (v. 1, 3) *Take My Life, and Let It Be* | UMH

+ PSALMS 79: 1-9

I WILL CALL UPON THE LORD

Crying from the Rubble: The Gift of Lament for God's Glory
PASTOR CHRISTIAN TAYLOR

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
THE LORD'S PRAYER PASTOR CHRISTIAN TAYLOR

OFFERING SONG *Righteous One* JEREMY LAUKHUF
(CHILDREN RETURN FROM AWE)

+ SPOKEN BENEDICTION PASTOR CHRISTIAN TAYLOR

POSTLUDE *Postlude* | by Warren Ricker

*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.*