

The Altar Flowers are in honor of... *Larry & Carol Taylor's 43rd Anniversary and Robert & Rachel Cheney's 1st Anniversary*

“ Thank you to everyone who prayed for Charley Davis. His surgery went well, and he’s recovering great. Charley and Deb Davis are thankful for the prayers. Prayer is powerful! ”



Join us for Trunk or Treat. DECORATE YOUR TRUNK AND PASS OUT CANDY. More details at vanwertfirst.net

**SATURDAY
OCT 25, 2025
10AM - 12 PM**

CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED. DROP AT THE CHURCH OFFICE.



PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN OF OUR CHURCH

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” Hebrews 10: 23-25

Dear God, This school year, please draw two good friends to _____. We know that where three or more are gathered together, there you are. Let _____ and their friends feel your presence in their lives so they may have the strength to overcome challenges and guidance in making wise decisions. Glory and praise to you alone, Amen

OCTOBER PRAYER

Food Pantry

October is **CANNED VEGGIES** month

Green beans, carrots, kidney beans, corn, peas, baked beans



Your support makes a real difference in caring for others!

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PRESCHOOL

FRY PIE PICK UP TIMES

WED, OCT 22 - DURING FEAST MEAL
THURS, OCT 23 ~ 11:30AM - 1:30PM in Narthex
FRI, OCT 24 ~ 10:00AM - 12:00PM in Narthex
SUN, OCT 26 ~ AFTER CHURCH

Extras may be available on Sunday



WEDNESDAY FEAST MEALS

Oct 22 MENU

Chicken Encore Broccoli
Tossed Salad Hot dog/Bun - Rolls Desserts

TODAY! | 4PM - 6PM

Chili Cook-Off & Cookie Bake-Off

Come taste and vote!

FRIDAY, Oct. 24 | 4:30PM - 6:30PM

Cougar Huddle

Last one in October!

**SUN, Oct. 26 | 8:45AM - 9AM
9:55AM - 10:15AM**

UNICEF Trick or Treat

Kids collecting change at entrance doors.

FIRSTUnited
methodist **CHURCH**

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



October 19th, 2025

Our mission is to embrace, equip, and empower people to know and follow Christ.

Thanks for joining us today! 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! We pray your experience in our Worship today will be one that blesses you and uplifts your relationship with Jesus Christ. Please see the Welcome table - located inside the Jefferson St. entrance - or scan the QR code below to help accommodate your visit with us today.




SCAN FOR UPCOMING EVENTS



So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

ORDER of WORSHIP

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Dillon Staas V

+ CALL TO WORSHIP Dillon Staas V

Leader: We have gathered once again, Lord of all and Lord of us.
We come to list our prayers and to sing your praises once again.
We come to ask, hope, and long to see your justice in the land.
We worship in that hope and will work in that Spirit.

PRELUDE *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* | arr. Mark Hayes

+ OPENING PRAYER Dillon Staas V

God of Justice, we know that in this world, there are judges who neither fear God nor respect their fellow men. But you call us to remember the woman who gave a judge like that a hard time until he changed his mind because of her sheer stubbornness and faith in You. And we celebrate all those, women and men, who persist in the cause of right; who will not keep quiet. We celebrate them: steadfast, blessed with both stubbornness and courage, to change the world. Challenge us a new with this same Spirit, in Jesus' mighty name, amen.

+ HYMN #377 *It Is Well With My Soul* | UMH

BLESSING THE CHILDREN Jeremy Laukhuf

Children are dismissed to AWE - Preschool through 5th Grade*

MISSION MOMENT The Boaz Project Speaker, Maggie Cripe

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM *Praise His Holy Name!* | by Keith Hampton

Scott Turner, Accompanist

+ SCRIPTURE SERIES MESSAGE Dillon Staas IV

+ LUKE 18: 1 - 8
CHOOSING FAITH

PERSISTENT Faith

*AWE - Preschool through 5th Grade have an opportunity to build their relationship with Jesus through uplifting songs and impactful Bible lessons.

LEADERS OF TODAY'S WORSHIP

LEAD PASTOR
CHRISTIAN TAYLOR
DIR. OF MUSIC
SCOTT TURNER
WORSHIP LEADER
JEREMY LAUKHUF

PREACHING
DILLON STAAS IV
ACOLYTES
JOVIE POLLOCK
WILLOW SNYDER
ANNOUNCER
DILLON STAAS V

VIDEOGRAPHER
KURT MASSILLO
PROJECTION
NAOMI WHITE
SOUND/AUDIO
JUSTIN SIEFKER

SCREEN CREATORS
MARY ANN FALK
MELODY TAYLOR
JEREMY LAUKHUF
USHERS
NEIL SHAFFER
DAVE LICHTLE, ASST.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Dillon Staas IV

Leader: Merciful God, You call us to pray always and not lose heart, yet we confess how easily we grow weary. When answers do not come quickly, we give up, turn inward, or lose faith in Your justice.
People: Lord, forgive our impatience. Renew our trust in Your steadfast love.
Leader: You are the righteous Judge who hears the cries of Your people, yet we confess that we have often stopped crying out, too discouraged, too distracted, or too doubtful to persist. We have mistaken Your silence for absence and forgotten that You are faithful still.
People: God of mercy, hear our prayer. Strengthen our faith when hope feels far away.
Leader: Teach us the faith of the widow to keep praying when the world says stop, to keep believing when justice seems delayed, to keep trusting that You are at work even in the waiting.
People: Grant us persistent faith, so that when the Son of Man comes, He may find faith on the earth and in us. In Christ, who never gave up on us, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Dillon Staas IV

Leader: Hear the good news: The God who hears our persistent cries for mercy is also the God who responds in steadfast love. Christ did not give up on us, but endured the cross so that we might be restored and made whole.
People: Thanks be to God. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Leader: So do not lose heart. The One who began a good work in you will bring it to completion. Let us live as people of grace; faithful, hopeful, and persistent in love.
People: Amen.

SONG *The Love of God*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Dillon Staas IV

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING SONG *There is a Hope*  Place offerings in the tins coming through Pews, during Offering song.

Children return from AWE

+ DOXOLOGY #94 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* | UMH

+ SPOKEN BEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Sonata* | by W.A. Mozart

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.**

YOUTH

Youth groups and classes are a place where young people can grow in their faith, build lasting friendships, and have a lot of fun along the way. We're excited to offer a dynamic and engaging program designed specifically for students in grades 6-12. Scan the QR CODE to find out all of our Youth Sunday School, Classes, and More!



KIDS

Each Sunday the children can engage in worship, scripture memorization, bible stories, games, and crafts in both large and small group settings all designed to help them grow in their faith and understanding of our amazing and awesome God. Scan the QR CODE to check out all that we offer!