

EASTER
APRIL
YTD

778 Total	225 Palm Sunday
	65 Maundy Thursday
	105 Good Friday
	383 Easter Sunday
917 Total	862 In-House
	55 Online
3,075 Total	2,845 In-House
	230 Online

ATTENDANCE

OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Preschool – 5th grade have Sunday School at 9AM | Sept – May

Preschool – 5th grade have **AWE** (Alternate Worship Experience) during Worship service | No AWE Communion Sunday

Infants & Toddlers have the Nursery Available during Sunday School and Worship service

Talk to Cristi Laukhuf

6th – 12th grade have Sunday School at 9AM | Sept – May

6th – 12th grade have Youth Group following Worship service

Talk to Teresa Shaffer or Sierra Poulson

Betty Jean Vogt

Patricia Ann Ford

Jan Lee Slagle

born
March 6, 1921
passed
February 3, 2026

born
July 15, 1935
passed
March 31, 2026

born
September 9, 1939
passed
April 10, 2026

May Prayer Partner

"Mighty God, thank you for providing me the opportunity to pray for (name). While I may not ever know the impact these prayers have had on (name), I am certain that you heard each and every one. With thanks and praise, Amen."

Use this month as an opportunity to pray for anything that comes to mind, big or small.

PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN OF OUR CHURCH

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. **James 5:16**

MAY Food Pantry
is PAPER Toilet Paper
GOODS Tissues
month and Paper Towels

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

SHUT-INS

Sandra and Andy Anderson
Homestead at Towne Center

Sue Corle
Vancrest Assisted Living

Carole Long
Celina Manor

Ernie Miller
Hearth and Home

Marilyn Miller
Homestead at Towne Center

Nancy Rhoades
Homestead at Towne Center

Joan Stripe
Hearth and Home

Homestead at Towne Center
240 Towne Center Blvd,
Van Wert, OH 45891

Vancrest Assisted Living
10357 Van Wert-Decatur Rd,
Van Wert, OH 45891

Celina Manor
1001 Myers Rd, Celina, OH 45891
Hearth and Home
1118 Westwood Dr,
Van Wert, OH 45891

BIRTHDAYS

May 1

Jerry Ramsay

May 2

Cindy Ramsay

May 4

Romaine Whetstone

May 5

Pat Jackson

May 6

Rob Balyeat

Rhea Foy

May 8

Lillian Massillo

May 9

Kendra Kalkreuth

May 10

Janet Bolton

Linda Mechling

May 15

Camden Schwab

May 16

Ed Carter

May 18

Sammi Joseph

May 20

Mitch Gearhart

May 22

Kaden Shaffer

May 23

Kristen Pollock

May 26

Christopher Hogan

May 27

Cheri Oechsle

May 28

Ruby Kennedy

May 29

Nick Gutierrez

May 31

Deb Davis

May 4, 1991
Kurt and Mona Massillo
May 7, 2011
Aaron and Kristen Pollock
May 14, 1994
Ed and Traci Carter
May 26, 1979
Ric and Nancy Kelly
May 29, 1987
D.J. and Kathy Muse
May 31, 1970
Kent and Judy Bradford

ANNIVERSARIES

"The two new books are the Second in their series, **8 Down & The Letter Keeper**, both full of Suspense. One I've not read is **The Good Thief**, a gift to us, which I'm hoping is just Fiction. Also gifted to us is **Chicken Soup for the Golden Years**. These, and the First books of their series, are on the desk between the book ends. I highly recommend the series by Charles Martin starting with **The Water Keeper** if you have teenage boys or girls. His imagination may work overtime, but he really addresses a serious problem raising children in today's world."

~ Romaine

WORSHIP SERIES

Sunday, May 3
Stories That Matter
You Know the Way
John 14: 1 – 14
Youth-Led
Communion

Sunday, May 10
Stories That Matter
The Story Abides
John 14: 15 – 21
Mother's Day

Sunday, May 17
Stories That Matter
So That They May Be One
John 17: 1 – 11
Mission Moment

Sunday, May 24
Stories That Matter
Spirit Unbounded
Numbers 11: 24 – 30
Acts 2: 1 – 21
Pentecost

Graduation | Senior-Led
Sunday, May 31
God Poured Out
Spirit in Partnership
Genesis 1: 1 – 2:4a
Matthew 28: 16 – 20
Children-Led

LIBRARY UPDATE

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED EVERY SUNDAY THROUGH MAY

Can you give up **one Sunday School or Worship** to support families with infants and toddlers? Sign up on Cristi's Office Door



UNO

WHAT TO DO!

Scan the QR code to find out more information about our events.

SAVE *the* DATE

- **Turkey Meal Drive-Thru** | Wed. May 6th, 2026 | 11am–1pm & 4pm until meals are gone

- Goedde Building | Door #8 on Jefferson St. side | Free and open to the public as a thank you for your support | Turkey & Noodles over mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, & cookie

- **Mother's Day** | Sun. May 10th, 2026

- Honoring our Mothers in service

- **Graduation Day** | Sun. May 24th, 2026

- Honoring our high school graduates in service

- **Memorial Day** | Mon. May 25th, 2026

- Building and Office Closed | NO Food Pantry



- **Vacation Bible School** | June 1st – 4th, 2026 | 8:30am – 11:30am

- Rainforest Falls - *Exploring the Nature of God* | Registration Open Now

- **Peony Festival** | Fri. June 5th, 2026

- Building and Office Closed | NO Food Pantry | NO Bread and Bowl

- **Car Wash** | Sun. June 7th, 2026 | 12pm

- Lee Kinstles Dealership | Mission Trip Fundraiser

- **Intergenerational Mission Trip to Woodbridge, VA** | June 14th – 19th, 2026

- **Juneteenth** | Fri. June 19th, 2026

- Building and Office Closed | NO Food Pantry | NO Bread and Bowl

- **Father's Day** | Sun. June 21st, 2026

- Honoring our Fathers

- **Box City** | Fri. July 17th, 2026 | 7pm following Concert | Youth overnight starts at 10pm

- Fountain Park | Raising awareness of homelessness in Van Wert

- **PreK – 8th Grade Operation Back to School** | Sun, July 29th, 2026 | 3pm – 5pm | Register through July 10th, 2026

- Fountain Park | Visit vanwertfirst.net and click on Operation Back to School for more information or to register.

- **High School Operation Back to School** | Thurs, August 20th, 2026 | 2:30pm – 6pm | Register through August 19th, 2026

- Goedde Gym | Visit vanwertfirst.net and click on Operation Back to School for more information or to register.

PRAYER WALL

John Auld – Recovery from Heart Stent Surgery

Janet Bolton – Knee Rehab

Lynn Bouillon – Cancer

Ruth Ann Covey – Leg Pain Recovery

Judy & Terry Fox: Judy – Stage 4 Cancer Infusions & Terry - Health

Mark Ganger – Health

Elizabeth Ganger – Health

Deb Germann – Healing

Sue Harting – Knee Rehab

Emmett Leeth – Rehab

Ashlynn Shaffer – Health

Long-Term Concerns

Sandra & Andy Anderson: Sandra – Parkinson's

Jim Davis – Cancer Treatments

Paula Goins – Multiple-Sclerosis

Bella Hurless – Cerebral Palsy

Roy Jeknavorian – Health

Trennon & Kaden (Marie Duff grandsons): Trennon – Swallowing

Janet Kreischer – Health

Jeannie Ziegler – Heart

Al & Dorothy Arnold: Al – Cancer & Dorothy – Pain & Health

Colleen & Linden Krouskop: Colleen – Fibromyalgia &

Linden – Spinal Stenosis

Jean Ann Auld – Health & Arthritis

Chris Turner – Back & Neck Pain

Kathy Welker – Health

Ilo Marvin – Health

Paul Stoodt (Dorothy Arnold's Brother) – Cancer

MAY Mission

Operation Back to School Planning

H2O Spring Outing