

- [Fri. July 3, 2026](#) | Independence Day | **Building & Office Closed** | NO Food Pantry | NO Bread and Bowl
- [Sun. July 5, 2026](#) | **Welcome Pastor Craig Arnold** and his family
- [Sat. July 17, 2026](#) | **Haven of Hope Box City** | 7pm Following Concert | Youth Overnight Starts at 10pm | Fountain Park | **Raising Awareness of Homelessness** in Van Wert | Scan QR code for more information and to complete registration and parent permission forms
- [Sun. July 26, 2026](#) | **PreK – 8 Grade Operation Back to School** | 3pm – 5pm | Fountain Park | Register through July 10, 2026 | Scan QR code for more information or to register
- [Wed. July 29, 2026](#) | **IGNITE Orientation Dinner** | 5:50pm | Calvary Evangelical Church
- [July 30 – August 1, 2026](#) | **IGNITE Van Wert 2026** | 7am – 7pm | Work on Projects; Share life with the homeowner for a day; Prepare, serve, clean up meals; Clean host facilities; Transport materials
- [Thurs. August 20, 2026](#) | **High School Operation Back to School** | 2:30pm – 6pm | Goedde Gym | Register through August 19, 2026 | Scan QR code for more information or to register

Women's Bible Study

EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY STARTING JUNE 24

TWO TIMES AVAILABLE: 1:30 PM or 5:30 PM

Meeting days
June 24 July 8 July 22 Aug 5 Aug 19
See Jana Thompson
for more info

Will be studying the book of Psalms | SIGN UP IN THE
WELCOME CENTER (in Krout) or THE CHURCH OFFICE



Trinity Friends and First UM Churches
hosting on **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**
JUNE 10 - JULY 22, 2026 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM
at First Church - Scheidt Room

Celebrating Ministry Milestones!

✨ Certified Lay Ministers Congratulations
to Jamie Ramos & Jana Thompson

✨ Provisional Elder Commissioning
Congratulations to Pastor Christian Taylor

**Thank you for leading our
community with bold faith!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
EVENT SIGN-UPS, AND
PERMISSION SLIPS:
Scan the QR CODE



113 West Central Ave | Van Wert, OH 45891 | 419-238-0631 | vanwertfirst.net

Forming a Family,
Preparing a People



JUNE 21 2026

10:30 AM

Father's Day

Our Mission, here at First United Methodist Church, is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who **Love Boldly**, **Serve Joyfully**, and **Lead Courageously** in our local community and around the world. Whatever your circumstances and no matter where you have been, you matter to God and to us.
You Belong Here! We pray your experience in our worship today will be one that blesses you and uplifts your relationship with Jesus Christ.

SHARE YOUR GOD SIGHTINGS

Have you had a moment this week where you saw the true nature of God?

Stop by Cristi's office and post your God sighting, and read about others' sightings.

This is for all ages. Let's share how God shows up in our lives.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

You are the God who sees me | Genesis 16:13 NIV

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



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTSVIVIAN LAUKHUF

PRELUDE *As the Deer* | by Martin Nystrom SCOTT TURNER, PIANO

+ CALL TO WORSHIPADDISYN KARL

Leader: When we feel abandoned and alone, unable to find a way out of the wilderness that surrounds us, we cry out to God...

People: And God listens to us.

Leader: When we feel discouraged and defeated, unsure we will ever really be able to make ends meet, and worried that no matter how hard we work, it will never be enough, we cry out to God...

People: And God listens to us.

Leader: When we feel lost and forgotten, unable to find the words for the grief, isolation, and despair that we feel, our hearts cry out to God...

People: And God pays attention to us.

Leader: As we gather in this place and time, remember: You are not alone. God knows where you are, and God listens to the cries of our hearts.

People: May we also listen to one another as God guides us toward the cool, refreshing waters we need to continue on our journey as the family of God.

+ OPENING PRAYER ELLA PRUDEN

God of the wilderness and the journey, You are the One who sees us, hears us, and walks beside us. When we are weary, uncertain, or afraid, You remain faithful and attentive to our cries. Today, as we gather as Your family, we thank You for Your presence among us through every road traveled, every conversation shared, and every life touched through this mission journey. Open our hearts to hear the stories and testimonies shared today. Help us recognize Your hand at work not only in distant places, but also within our own lives and community. Teach us to listen to one another with compassion, to serve with humility, and to trust You in every wilderness season. Refresh us with Your living water, renew our faith for the journey ahead, and remind us that no one is forgotten in Your sight. In the name of Jesus Christ, who calls us to love and serve the world, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #474 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* | UMH SCOTT TURNER

TIME OF GREETING ELORA HOGAN

CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN JUDY KRITES

PreK - 5 Grade are dismissed to AWE*

+ SCRIPTURE Genesis 21: 8 - 21 AIDEN BOCKRATH

SERIES

Forming a Family

MESSAGE Seen in the Wilderness AIDEN BOCKRATH

CARDBOARD TESTIMONIES

MISSION TRIP TESTIMONIES TERESA SHAFFER & SIERRA POULSON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYERPASTOR CHRISTIAN TAYLOR

OFFERTORY *God of Wonders/Build My Life*JEREMY LAUKHUF

Place your Offerings in the Plates coming through the Pews

+ DOXOLOGY #94 SCOTT TURNER

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow | UMH

+ SPOKEN BENEDICTIONPASTOR CHRISTIAN TAYLOR

POSTLUDE *Postlude* | by Anna PageSCOTT TURNER

Thank you for worshiping with us, and for your continued generosity and support.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN...

in Memory of
Bob Sowers on
his Birthday

BY PAT SOWERS AND FAMILY

THE ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN...

to the Glory of God and
in Honor of our 56th
Wedding Anniversary

BY JOHN AND JEAN ANN AULD

LEADERS OF TODAY’S WORSHIP

PASTOR
CHRISTIAN TAYLOR

SPEAKER(S)
MISSION TRIP MEMBERS

CHILDREN’S CHAT
JUDY KRITES

USHERS
YOUTH

NEIL SHAFFER
DAVE LICHTLE, ASST.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
SCOTT TURNER

WORSHIP LEADER
JEREMY LAUKHUF

VIDEOGRAPHER
DAVE THOMPSON

PROJECTIONIST
NOAH KRITES

SOUND ENGINEER
JUSTIN SIEFKER

SCREEN CREATORS
MARY ANN FALK
JEREMY LAUKHUF

Adults...
Summer-time Sunday School
9:15AM - 10:15AM
Scheidt Classroom

Studying
1 Kings & 2 Kings
Childcare will be provided