

# THE JULY SPECIAL OFFERING GOES TOWARD COUGAR HUDDLE TAILGATE



- **Fri. July 17** | **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 to complete registration and parent permission forms
- **Sun. July 26** | **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** | **IGNITE Orientation Dinner** | 5:50pm | Calvary Evangelical Church
- **July 30 – August 1** | **IGNITE Van Wert 2026** | 7am – 7pm | Work on Projects; Share life with a homeowner for a day; Prepare, serve, clean up meals; Clean host facilities; Transport materials
- **Mon. August 03** | **First UMC Preschool Open House** | 10am – 11:30am | 5pm – 6:30pm | Find more at [vanwertfirst.net/preschool](http://vanwertfirst.net/preschool)
- **Thurs. August 20** | **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



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

**Celebrate and Remember with Flowers**  
Want to honor a special person or commemorate a significant event? Consider providing an altar arrangement on an available Sunday.  
**The calendar is on the bulletin board in the kitchenette and ready for you to add your name to any open Sunday.**

**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.

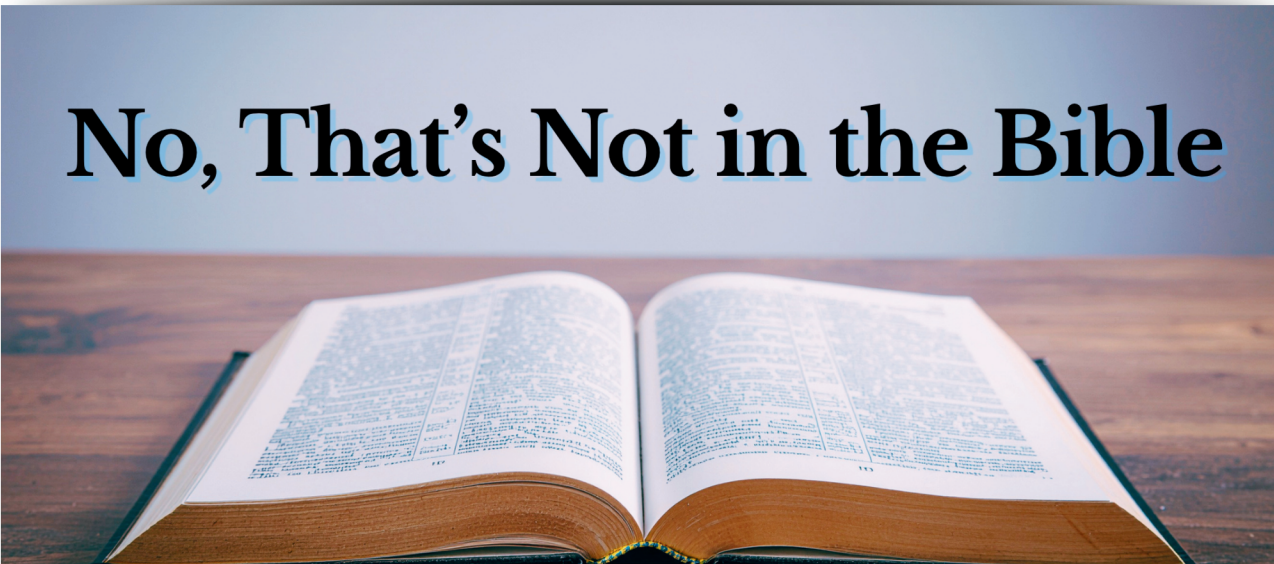
**July 16 @ 6pm**  
Scheidt Classroom  
**Fair Committee Meeting**

**HELP US LAUNCH OUR FAIR FOOD STAND!**  
**NEW MISSION FUNDRAISER PROJECT**  
Planning Committee Forming NOW  
ALL SKILLS AND EXPERTISE NEEDED!  
Support local missions & community awareness  
Contact Storm in the church office to join

**FOR CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE RECENT NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT THE \$12,500 "GO GRANT" FOR THE HAVEN OF HOPE COMMUNITY CENTER, PLEASE VISIT [VANWERTFIRST.NET](http://VANWERTFIRST.NET) AND CLICK ON NEWS AND UPDATES**



113 West Central Ave | Van Wert, OH 45891 | 419-238-0631 | [vanwertfirst.net](http://vanwertfirst.net)



**JULY 12, 2026**  
**10:30AM**

*Pastor Craig Arnold*

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.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them **Mark 7:15**

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS .....MARTIN BURCHFIELD

PRELUDE ..... *Prelude* | by Marcy Heisler ..... SCOTT TURNER

+ CALL TO WORSHIP .....MARTIN BURCHFIELD

Leader: We gather today amid busy lives mirroring the world around us.  
**People: We come to set our minds on the guidance of the Spirit.**  
Leader: We gather as people inundated with constant information, vying for our attention.  
**People: We come to set our minds on the guidance of the Spirit.**  
Leader: We gather as people seeking to anchor ourselves in the faith as the world around us is blown here and there by waves of fear, scarcity, and reactivity.  
**People: We come to set our minds on the guidance of the Spirit.**  
Leader: Come to find rest, grounding, and guidance in the Spirit who dwells in you.  
**People: We come to set our minds on the Spirit who guides us and draws us together toward life, peace, and flourishing. Amen.**

HYMN #500 ..... *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* | UMH ..... SCOTT TURNER  
V. 1, 4, 5

+ OPENING PRAYER .....MARTIN BURCHFIELD

Holy God, You call us to worship with hearts that are sincere, not just with outward actions or traditions. Search us today and reveal anything that keeps our hearts distant from You. Cleanse us from habits that have become hollow and from attitudes that do not reflect Your grace. Keep us from acts of ‘cheap grace’ that look good but keep us empty inside. As we gather, make our worship genuine and our spirit full. Renew our thoughts, reshape our desires, and guide our steps. May what flows from our hearts be pleasing in Your sight and rooted in Your transformational love. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Read over these commonly used phrases and sayings. Check those you think ARE in the Bible (and where found), cross out those are **NOT**. **GO!**

|                                |                        |                         |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| “Ashes to ashes; dust to dust” | “The prodigal son”     | “The Lord’s Prayer”     |
| “The apple of my eye”          | “A drop in the bucket” | “This, too, shall pass” |
| “Eat sour grapes”              |                        |                         |

TIME OF GREETING ..... MARTIN BURCHFIELD

CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN .....JULIE BURENGA  
Children are dismissed to AWE - Preschool through 5 grade

+ SCRIPTURE ..... *Mark 7: 1 – 9, 13 – 23* .....PASTOR CRAIG ARNOLD  
P. 997

SERMON ..... No, That’s not in the Bible: *“Cleanliness is Next to Godliness”* .....PASTOR CRAIG ARNOLD  
SERIES

+ SONG ..... *Give Us Clean Hands* .....JEREMY LAUKHUF

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
THE LORD’S PRAYER .....PASTOR CRAIG ARNOLD

OFFERTORY #393 .....JEREMY LAUKHUF  
*Spirit of the Living God* | UMH  
Place your Offerings in the Plates coming through the Pews | Children return from AWE

+ DOXOLOGY #71 ..... *Gloria Patri* | UMH .....SCOTT TURNER

+ CLOSING HYMN #399  
*Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated* | UMH

+ BENEDICTION ..... PASTOR CRAIG ARNOLD

POSTLUDE ..... *Grand Choeur* | by Paul Fey .....SCOTT TURNER

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

THE ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN...

*in Honor of Joe and Mary Ann Falk’s Anniversary and to 30 years of Marriage.*

**LEADERS OF TODAY’S WORSHIP**

**PASTOR**  
CRAIG ARNOLD

**SPEAKER**  
MARTIN BURCHFIELD

**CHILDREN’S CHAT**  
JUDY KRITES

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**  
SCOTT TURNER

**WORSHIP LEADER**  
JEREMY LAUKHUF

**VIDEOGRAPHER**  
KURT MASSILLO

**USHERS**  
YOUTH  
NEIL SHAFFER  
DAVE LICHTLE, ASST.

**PROJECTIONIST**  
ELORA HOGAN

**SOUND ENGINEER**  
KYLE WENDEL

**SCREEN CREATORS**  
MARY ANN FALK  
JEREMY LAUKHUF



Scan to Read more.  
Important Updates  
Regarding Our Church Communications.