

August Newsletters available on the Bulletin Board in the Kitchenette off of the Krout  
"Welcome Center" or on the Church Office door

Daily Devotionals available at both entrances – \$5 Donation for Discovery books

- FESTIVAL OF SHARING** | Festival of Sharing Kits Due Back Sept. 13 | Stop in Krout "Welcome Center" to pick up Kit instructions or visit [vanwertfirst.net/events](http://vanwertfirst.net/events) | Make a Kit - School (Kids) Kits, Period Packs, or Hygiene Kits | OR Provide Funds to make cleanup buckets or for shipping
- Tues. August 11** | Fair Planning Committee Meeting | 7pm | Scheidt Classroom
- Sun. August 16** | Blessings of the Backpacks | 10:30am Worship
- Thurs. August 20** | High School Operation Back to School | 2:30pm – 6pm | Goedde Gym | Register through August 19, 2026 | Visit [VanWertFirst.net/Events](http://VanWertFirst.net/Events) for sign up and information
- Fri. August 21** | Van Wert High School Home Football Game | **Cougar Huddle Tailgate** | 4:30 - 6:30pm | Fountain Park | VOLUNTEERS can sign up now in Krout "Welcome Center" | Set up, tear down, serve food, make cookies/brownies, interact with kids.
- Sun. August 23** | Children's Ministry Meeting | Following Service
- Wed. August 26** | H20 Volunteer Banquet and New Mentor Informational Meeting | 7pm | Krout | Anyone considering Mentoring is welcome
- Fri. August 28** | Van Wert High School Home Football Game | **Cougar Huddle Tailgate** | 4:30 - 6:30pm | Fountain Park
- SAVE THE DATE | Tues. September 1 – Mon. September 7** | First UMC Food Concessions at Van Wert County Fair | Workers will be needed throughout the day in 4-hour shifts | Teens and Adults invited to serve | CHECK YOUR CALENDAR, AND SIGN UP WITH TERESA SHAFFER | Visit Donation Board in Krout "Welcome Center" to help with our supplies
- Wed. September 2** | Preschool First Day
- Sun. September 13** | Fall Kick-Off and Service Sunday | First day of Sunday School | Introduction and Prayer over Preschool teachers and Sunday School teachers | Third Grade Bible Presentation | Recognize our Volunteers
- Fri. September 18** | Van Wert High School Home Football Game | **Cougar Huddle Tailgate** | 4:30 - 6:30pm | Fountain Park
- Fri. October 2** | Van Wert High School Home Football Game | **Cougar Huddle Tailgate** | 4:30 - 6:30pm | Fountain Park
- Fri. October 16** | Van Wert High School Home Football Game | **Cougar Huddle Tailgate** | 4:30 - 6:30pm | Fountain Park

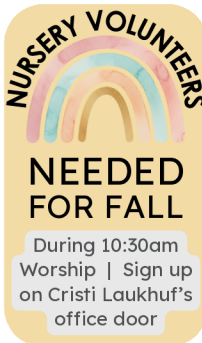
## Celebrate and Remember with Flowers

Sign up to put Flowers on the Altar on any available Sunday – Bulletin board in the Kitchenette off of Krout

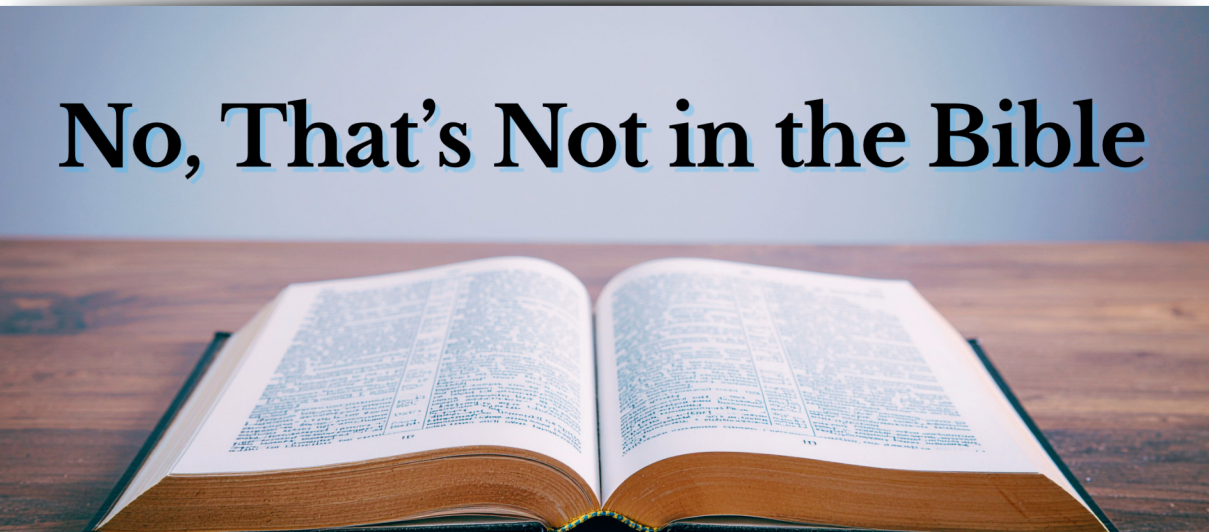


### SHARE YOUR GOD SIGHTINGS

Have you had a moment this week where you saw the true nature of God?  
Stop by the Tree in the Krout "Welcome Center" 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.



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



# AUGUST 9, 2026

## 10:30AM

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

After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. **ACTS 16:10**

+ THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE RISE

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** ..... Matt Krites

*Please fill out the attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor*

**PRELUDE** ..... ***Spirit of the Living God*** ..... **arr. Victor Johnson**

**+ CALL TO WORSHIP** ..... Matt Krites

Micah 6:8  
Leader: Dear Christians, what worship does God desire of us?  
**People: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.**  
Leader: In our life together as the body of Christ, what worship does God desire of us?  
**People: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.**  
Leader: When we share the good news with all creation, what worship does God desire of us?  
**People: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.**  
Leader: Come, let us worship God with justice, kindness, and humility!  
**People: We come to worship God with our voices and our lives. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**+ HYMN** ..... ***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*** ..... **UMH #127**

**+ OPENING PRAYER** ..... Matt Krites

Holy Spirit, Breath of God, lead us beyond our own wisdom and into Your truth. Quiet every competing voice so we may hear Your whisper. Soften our hearts where they have grown stubborn and strengthen our courage where fear has taken root. Shape our desires, guide our steps, and align our lives with the way of Jesus. When we are uncertain, grant discernment. When we are weary, grant renewal. When we are bold, grant humility. Fill us, Holy Spirit, that we may walk in love, serve with joy, and bear witness to Your transforming grace. Amen.

**TIME OF GREETING**

**CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN** ..... Chris Gordon

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

**+ SCRIPTURE** ..... **Acts 16: 6 – 10** ..... **Pew Bible Page #1096**

**+ RESPONSIVE HYMN** ..... ***Gloria Patri*** ..... **UMH #70**

**SERMON** ..... No, That's Not In The Bible: ..... Rev. Craig Arnold  
*"When One Door Closes, God Opens Another"*

**+ SONG** ..... ***Micah 6:8***

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**  
**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY** ..... ***Word of God Speak***

*Place your Offerings in the Plates coming through the Pews | Children return from AWE*

**+ DOXOLOGY** ..... ***Majesty, Worship His Majesty*** ..... **UMH #176**

**+ CLOSING HYMN** ..... ***Here I Am, Lord*** ..... **UMH #593**

**+ BENEDICTION** ..... Rev. Craig Arnold

**POSTLUDE** ..... ***Festive Postlude*** ..... **by Edward Broughton**

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

**THE AUGUST SPECIAL OFFERING GOES TOWARD**



**FESTIVAL OF SHARING**



LIST OF MISSING LIBRARY BOOKS.  
SCAN TO SEE THE LIST. Then check you shelves at home.



**LEADERS  
OF TODAY'S  
WORSHIP**

**Pastor**  
Rev. Craig Arnold  
**Liturgist**  
Matt Krites

**Director of Music**  
Scott Turner  
**Worship Leader**  
Jeremy Laukhuf

**Projectionist**  
Elora Hogan  
**Sound Engineer**  
Kyle Wendel

**Videographer**  
Kurt Massillo  
**Screen Creators**  
Mary Ann Falk  
Jeremy Laukhuf

**Ushers**  
Youth  
Neil Shaffer  
Dave Lichtle, Asst.