

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

TODAY, Sunday, August 16 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM -Worship Service

Rise Against Hunger meeting after worship

WORSHIP LEADER: *Don Sheaffer*

GREETER: *Alana Gipson*

USHERS: *Gloria Womer & Paul Wrona*

TUESDAY, August 18

7:00 PM -Women's Prayer Group (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, August 19

6:00 PM -Casual Church

SUNDAY, August 23 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM -Worship Service

WORSHIP LEADER: *Gloria Womer*

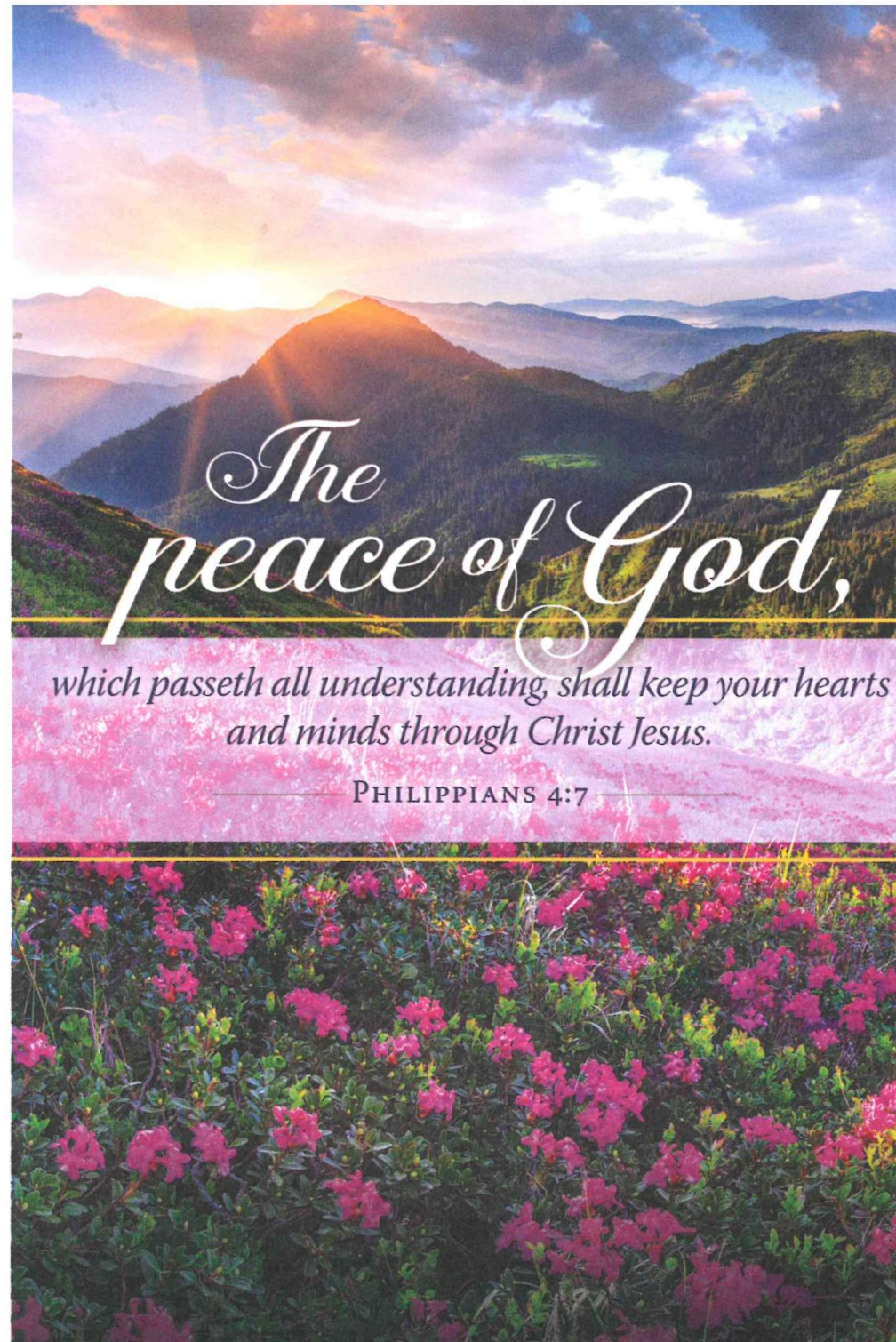
GREETER: *Don & Brentta Sheaffer*

USHERS: *Janel Cibik & Pat Daugherty*



The ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my husband, Ed and in celebration of my grandson Nick's birthday on August 18 by Pat Daugherty.

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



First United Methodist Church

"Growing, Loving & Serving in Christ's Name"

Rev. Sara J. Wrona, Pastor
Gloria Womer & Don Sheaffer Co-Lay Leaders
Gail Varine, Organist / Choir Director

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Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

❖ We know that everyone is differently abled so please stand or sit as best suits your comfort level.

Greetings & Announcements

Prelude

As the music begins, be silent, be thoughtful, and be reverent, for this is the House of the Lord. Before the service, speak to the Lord. During the service, let the Lord speak to you. After the service, speak to one another.

❖ Centering Chorus #140 Refrain
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

❖ Call to Worship

This is a Sabbath dedicated to our God.
Let this gathering place be a home for all people.

May God be gracious to us and bless us.

May God's face shine over all the earth's people.

Let all the people praise the God of all nations.

Let us give thanks and enjoy the blessings God gives.

May God grant us understanding and courage.

May faith grow beyond our doubts.

The earth has yielded its blessings.

Let all the ends of the earth revere our Creator.

God brings us together in unity of purpose.

May our circle grow as we welcome newcomers. ☩

❖ Opening Hymn "O For a Thousand Tongues" #57

❖ Opening Prayer (in unison)

How good and pleasant it is, O God, when kindred live together in unity. Draw us now into the community you intend for all your people. Help us to listen and

understand, both your word for us and our sharing with one another. Keep us from being misled by popular acclaim and the wisdom of the marketplace. May we not be unobservant guides to one another but rather be fully open to your gifts and obedient to your call. Come to us now with healing and blessing. Amen. ☩

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Gloria Patri #70

Children's Moment Pastor Sara

Sung Prayer of Illumination Refrain (x2) #601
"Thy Word Is a Lamp"

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 56:1, 6 - 8 #636

❖ Gospel Lesson Matthew 15:10 - 28 #849

Message Pastor Sara J. Wrona
"A Change of Heart"

❖ Hymn "This Is a Day of New Beginnings" #383

Offertory

They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed; all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.
Deuteronomy 16:16b-17

❖ Doxology

❖ Prayer of Dedication

❖ Closing Hymn "Victory in Jesus" #370

❖ Benediction

❖ Community Blessing "He Leadth Me" #128 Refrain

Postlude

☩ Gathered by Love, Lavon Bayler ©2001 by The Pilgrim Press



Thank you to everyone who helped at the Pot Love lunch yesterday. Whether you donated money, provided brownies, and/or helped prepare pack, and distributed the lunch bags for the people of our community, your time and service were appreciated.

Sincerely, Carla

ALTAR FLOWERS

We were notified from Leechburg Floral that beginning September 1, there will be an increase of altar flowers to \$40 from the previously \$32.

COOLING STATION

The Trustee Committee approved the church fellowship hall being used as a cooling station on days where the temperature is 90 degrees and above. The church will be open and available Tuesdays - Fridays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. when needed.

PLASTIC BAGS NEEDED

The Leechburg Food Bank is asking for used plastic bags for their food distribution. They use 300 bags every time they pack monthly. Please bring them in and put them in the overflow area. Thanks for your help!



First United Methodist Church, Leechburg

Prayer List

“...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.”

2 Chronicles 7:14 - 15

Please be in prayer for Family and Friends:

Aaron, Tracy Albert, Alex Anto, Bryan, Larry Blankenship, Katie Brayshaw, Brendan, Ray Bryan, Randall Campitella, John Coyle, Dan, Bob Davis (Pr. Sara's stepdad), Delayne and family, Emily, Esther, Helen Grimm, Richard & Marilyn Harmon, Debbie Hill, Joshua Hobbins, Theresa Hunter, Ruth Hyer, family friends of Shawna Johns, Gil Lanzarotti, Denise Linger, Beth Learn, Colleen Morrill, Duncan Morrill, Niko and family, Cindy Rimel, Carla Shaffer, Beverly Shellhammer, Rose Sklar, Paula Smith, Tim, Victoria Taylor, Chloe Womer, and the families of Leroy Davis, Judy Darrow, Susie, Patty Biss, Gabbie Waner and Sue Harwick.

Our Homebound Members:

Margie Anto, Norma Ewing, Dolores Hepburn, Betty Hunter, Polly Lambing, Phyllis Lamison, Lois Learn, Rodger & Gina Morrill, Carol Parsons, Stan & Sally Pepler, Grace Pettner, Dave Sherbondy, Bob & Vange Stewart, Dick & Dee Waugaman, Helen Weaver.

Any changes please let Pam know in the office.

Our Church Leadership

Clergy & churches with appointment changes

Central District Superintendent Rev. Deb Ackley-Killian

Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball
& the WPAUMC Appointive Cabinet

WPAUMC Conference Staff

UMC Council of Bishops

The Church Universal

Our Nation

All those in areas of conflict

Church Missionaries & Agencies throughout the World

Those Who Are Marginalized throughout the World

West Middlesex UMC



The first Sunday of each month we will collect a special offering for Rise Against hunger. **The packing event is on Saturday, September 12th. We are the host for this year's event.**

Money raised so far: \$1,720.00

Money still needed: \$280.00

UPCOMING NEWSLETTER ITEMS

If you have anything for the upcoming September/October newsletter, please have your items to Pam by **Monday, August 24th**. Thanks!

CELEBRATING GAIL

We will be having a celebration to honor Gail after church on Sunday, August 30th. Please sign up if you are coming on the sheet in the vestibule.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School begins again on September 6th at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

MISSION JOURNEY T-SHIRT SALE

This year the Mission Team is opening up our Mission Journey T-shirt design to the congregation. You are a vital part of our team and so we offer these as part fundraiser and part appreciation for your support. We have two choices...last year's "Love Like Jesus" design and the design for this year "Serve Like Jesus". Short sleeve shirts are \$25 and long sleeve shirts are \$30. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule with pictures and colors of each shirt. Please place money in the special envelope along with the order form and place in the offering plate. Balance must be paid in full by September 14th.

MISSION JOURNEY FUNDRAISING/OPPORTUNITIES:



October 11 - 16, We are going to Red Bird Mission! There are still open spots available. If you want to be a part of the team but can't join us for the week, please consider helping us financially by donating through the following

opportunities: loose change collection jars and the envelope fundraiser.

The team has chosen to collect items for the Baby Pantry, which provides a monthly bag of supplies for children from birth to age 3. Each bag includes a pack of diapers, a pack of baby wipes, clothing appropriate for the child's size, gender, and season, a pair of socks, as well as a book, a hygiene item, an age-appropriate toy, and an item for the mother.

We are asking for donations of the following items:

- Bibs
- Socks
- Sippy Cups
- Baby Spoons
- Snack Cups
- Board Books
- Toys - birth to age 3 appropriate
- Pacifiers (should be individually packaged)
- Baby Toothbrushes (should be individually packaged)

We are NOT collecting diapers or wipes. Red Bird has donors who donate those items by the case.

Many (if not all) of these items can be purchased at the dollar store. We will be collecting these items through October 4, 2026.