



FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
OF ASHLAND ✦

August/September

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## Our Church Family is GROWING!

Hello friends,  
Please welcome all the new members we  
received into our Church family on Pentecost!

**Stacey Emery**  
**Cindey Jones**  
**Corey, Liz, Owen, and Aubrie Hosfeld**  
**Randy, Katy, Kim, and Sydney Endsley**  
**Tom and Kristine Barcroft**  
**Star Piskuran**  
**Bridgid McDonald**

As you can see, it was quite a lineup!



That day I also had the honor of baptizing little  
**Dawson Rowsey**, who has the distinction of being  
the first baby I've ever baptized who didn't cry!

Please pray for  
all these folks  
who are now a  
part of our  
community of  
faith. **Remember  
that we all took  
a vow to  
increase their  
faith, confirm  
their hope, and  
perfect them in  
love!**

Your Sheepdog,  
Vicar Derek



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## Thank You!

We want to thank everyone who came out to help pull weeds and trim hedges at our Spring Clean-Up day and thank you to **Randy Endsley** for putting it all together!

As the summer moves forward, the **war against the weeds carries on!** Anyone who feels so moved is always welcome to come out to the Church and pull weeds from the flower beds.



## Faith Together All-Church Picnic

We will be worshipping again with our Faith Together friends **August 31<sup>st</sup> at 10am!** We will be meeting at the green space that used to be the old middle school right next to First Presbyterian. We will have a big tent and worship God through an **old-style HYMN-SING**, with a **potluck** to follow.

First UMC is responsible for bringing **hot or starchy (like potatoes) side-dishes**. You can drop them off at the First Presbyterian Church beforehand. See you there!



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## New Sermon Series: FIVEFOLD FAITHFULNESS

Did you know that every single person that is confirmed or transfers into The United Methodist Church takes the same vow? The clergy asks, “**As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness?**” To which we respond in faith, “**I will.**”

That **fivefold pledge** gives shape to our lives as United Methodists. Starting on August 24<sup>th</sup>, and going until September 28<sup>th</sup>, Vicar Derek will be preaching a sermon series where we will dive deeply into each of those five vows, and unpack what it means to be a faithful member of our local church in 2025.



### Charge Conference

After our service on September 28<sup>th</sup>, everyone is invited to stay for our annual **Charge Conference**. It is basically a short meeting where we will talk a bit about the ministry of our church and where we feel God is leading us.

That morning, we will get to meet our brand new District Superintendent, Rt. Rev. Kelly Brown! (Be cool, everyone... he's Vicar Derek's new boss!)

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## Senior Lunch Bunch

We have a new lunch group starting in August! **The Senior Lunch Bunch** is a monthly group for seniors, especially those who are retired or have been widowed. The group will meet at The Greens Bistro & Pub on Monday, 8/4 at 11:30am. Please **RSVP to Kim Liston** in person or by sending her a text at 419-651-8793. The next lunches will occur on **Monday 9/8, 10/6, and 11/3.**



It's time for a **POOL PARTY!**  
**Thursday, August 7 | 4:00–7:00 PM**  
Hosted at Pam Uhler's Home  
815 Township Road 1524, Ashland, Ohio

Come dressed for the weather and (hopefully) ready to jump in the pool! Hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, and tableware will be provided. Please bring a dish to share and join us for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship.  
**Please RSVP by phone or text to Mary Kettering at 419-685-4989.**

## Mark These Future Events in your Calendar NOW!

Sunday, Aug. 31, Faith Together Hymn-Sing and Picnic, 10am.

Sunday, Sept. 7: Bring-A-Friend Day

Monday, Sept. 8, Senior Lunch Bunch

Sunday, Sept. 28, Charge Conference, after service

Saturday, Oct. 4: Blessing of the Animals







# Bring a Friend Day

## Notes from the Community Engagement Coordinator

Hello friends!

Bring a Friend Day is almost here! On **Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** we are all invited to bring a friend to church! We will worship together and share a potluck feast afterward!

**Start thinking NOW about who you would like to invite.** This is going to be a fun morning of sharing a place you love with people in your life who are important to you. This is not about *recruiting* people to join our church family, we are *not* trying to convert them to Christianity, and we are *not* trying to convince them to change memberships from their church to ours.

Here's one way to think about it: What is your favorite restaurant? When it comes up in conversation with friends, you want to take them there with you so that they can experience the food there too! This is the same idea. **It's about sharing the love of your church, the people in it, and this God that means so much to us, with the people in your life!** This is the perfect day to do that.

We will have a **potluck** immediately following the service so everyone can have a fun social time in fellowship together. This is another chance to show your friends how good Methodists are at cooking - which fits with the restaurant analogy!

We will have invitations ready for you to hand out to your friends so please make sure you grab a few of them when you're here. **If you need something that can be sent to them in a text message we can do that too!** Text me (Mary Kettering) at 419-685-4989.

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## Veterans' Ministry

Sending a card is a great way to let a veteran know that you're thinking about them and you love them, especially on their birthday! The Veterans' Ministry would like to invite you to send a card to those mentioned below who have birthdays in August and September..

**Brynn McKee 08-08**

1393 Twp Rd 523  
Ashland OH 44805

**Gary Coleman 08-12**

48 Rainbow Ridge Rd  
Franklin NC 28734

**Nathan Baum 08-27**

207 Clydesdale Cir  
Summerville SC 29486

**Dylan Campbell 08-30**

513 N Mt Vernon Ave  
Loudonville OH 44842

**Edmund Coleman 09-11**

200 River Mill Dr  
apt 126  
Asheville NC 28803

**Howard Smithhisler 09-23**

158 Cty Road 1302  
Polk OH 44866

If you have a veteran in your life that you would like to add to our card list, please contact the Church Office!

## Children's Ministry

Our Sunday morning children's ministry that takes place during the service will continue starting **Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>!**

As in the past, kids will be invited to go to their class after the First Lesson, and will be back in the service in time for communion.

If you are interested in being **a Sunday School teacher or assistant**, please contact Sandi Rowsey @ 419-651-9211.

And please remember, we live in a time when fewer and **fewer parents are making church a priority for their children.**

So if you know a young person who does not have Jesus in their life, whether they be a grandchild, niece or nephew, or even a friend of your family, it would be such a blessing for you to **pick them up on Sunday mornings** and bring them here. (Their parents would probably LOVE that!)

# Church Finances



	Ordinary Income/Expense		
	June 2025	June 2024	June 2023
<b>Income</b>			
Community Foundation annual distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00
Apportionments	0.00	0.00	25.00
Building use fees	628.00	157.00	475.00
custodial fees	132.00	93.00	0.00
withdrawal from endowments / memorials	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
Etithes & offerings	21,968.45	22,644.65	15,936.10
Misc. Income	0.00	20.00	46.86
Floose in plate	138.00	3.00	107.00
quarterly trust fund gift	0.00	12,691.16	12,201.29
Sunday School	0.00	19.00	24.00
VISA rewards income	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>27,866.45</b>	<b>40,627.81</b>	<b>28,815.25</b>
CY821 Contract Worship Leader	200.00	0.00	57630.50
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>23,333.52</b>	<b>31,383.62</b>	<b>26,096.74</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$4,532.93</b>	<b>\$9,244.19</b>	<b>\$2,718.51</b>

Deadline for submissions for the  
next Newsletter is 8am on  
September 22nd!