



The Word

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Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month we will be starting a new sermon series working through the Book of Revelation. Many Christians avoid the Book of Revelation because the strange imagery can be hard to figure out. The book of Revelation contains the visions of man called John, who finds himself imprisoned on an island called Patmos. Most likely this is not the Apostle John who wrote the Gospel of John along with the epistles of 1-3 John.

John has found himself in exile because of his faith in Christ. He is writing at a time when Christians are being persecuted by the Roman empire, with many being killed. In his Revelation, he reminds us that Jesus is the true Lord of the universe and holds eternity in his hand. John reminds his readers that through Jesus, God is going to bring creation to a climax through the birth of a new creation. Like any birth, the end result is joy and celebration, but there is also real pain getting to that place. John tells his readers that the forces of evil in this world will be defeated through the blood of the lamb and his bride, The Church.

Oftentimes, the modern Christian allows the graphic imagery of John's writing, to drown out the message of the book, which is that in times of great darkness, we can have hope that God's glory still shines through. That at the end of the day, God is in control and will have final victory.

We are embarking on this journey through Revelation because I believe the book contains a message of hope that we desperately need today. We will be providing anyone interested with a reading plan, so that during our time in Revelation, you can work through the book in bite size pieces. It is my prayer that the words John wrote in Revelation 1:3 will hold true for us; "favored is the one who reads the words of this prophesy out loud, and favored are those who listen to it being written, and keep what is written in it, for the time is near. I pray that God blesses each of us as we work through the final book in God's grand story.

In Christ,

Pastor Josh

Celebrations and Concerns

September Birthdays!



1	Janice Elsass	13	Joe Metzger
2	Sue Evans	15	Freddie McDaniel, Sr.
4	Arliss Martin	15	Andrew Wayman
5	Emily Klopfenstein	16	Don Wittwer
5	Ken Numbers	17	Ned Davis
6	Aaron Longsworth	18	Joseph Welker
8	Gracelyn Thuman (8)	19	Jean McCormick
9	Jordan Bowers	19	Penny Zink
9	Rebekah Lee	20	Karmyn Schneider
9	Whitney Webb	23	Roland McCormick
10	Terri Dicke	25	Donna Richardson
10	Denny Swank	27	Tony Montgomery
10	Joanne Wolfe	29	Adam Copeland (4)
11	Brenda Bradford	30	Priscilla Keller
13	Jonelle McKee		

Concerns: Nick Welker, Chris Baightel (PLEASE NO VISITORS), Jane Engle, Bev Vernon, Jean McCormick, David Armer, Elliana Phillips, Marlene Sigler, Lucy Noyes

Lead Team

The next Lead Team meeting is Tuesday, September 10th, at 6:30. This is an open meeting, and all are invited to attend. Please come and contribute to the leadership of our church. The current Lead Team members are: Lonnie Pedersen-Chairperson, Les Bowers, Donna Grimm, Ron Latimer, Phil Metz, Mike Powell, Joyce Thuman, Karen Tullis, Amber Vernon, and Jan Yinger.

Ministry Update

Acolytes

The tradition of the acolyte in the church started around 800 A.D., and is symbolic of bringing "The Light of Christ" into a sanctuary of worship and carrying the "Light" into the world at the close of the worship service. As spoken by Jesus, "I am the Light of the World". Although being the carrier of the flame is the primary purpose of the acolyte, these individuals may also act as the assistants to the Pastor during the worship service doing such tasks as assisting with the gathering of the weekly tithes and offerings, and with the sacraments of communion.

First United Methodist Church welcomes all youth being 4th grade and older to participate as an acolyte for the 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service. For more information, please contact Kim Palmer at 419-371-3292 or by email at kim@beeryinsurance.com. The acolytes will begin the 2019-2020 worship season on September 8.

Mary Hannah Unit

Come one! Come All! You won't want to miss the next Mary Hannah Unit meeting! Our fall session will resume on Monday, September 16, 2019 in the church lounge. There is no need to make a reservation. Just come for food, fellowship, and fun. Nan Stiger will be giving the program on our theme of "Women Who Answer God's Call." The meeting begins at 12 noon, and lunch will be provided by hostesses, June Keiber and Diane Elshire.

Bible Study

Pastor Josh will be giving a Bible Study at The Gardens, every Wednesday beginning on September 11th at 10:30 am. Everyone from our congregation is invited.

Outreach

First Church once again this year partnered with Job and Family Services to distribute school supplies on Wednesday, August 14th. Mercy Unlimited provided clothing, a Dare officer was in attendance and our upcoming *Cooking with Friends* cooking class served samples of foods we will be making together. 132 children were given school supplies and clothing. As families shopped, they were assisted by a personal shopper which helped First Church build relationships with those attending. Families were made aware of the programming that First Church has to offer them. Hot dogs, chips, Little Debbie snacks and drinks were provided.

Music Ministry

Chancel Choir - The Chancel Choir practices on Wednesdays in the sanctuary from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. and will be singing each Sunday at the 10:30 am service. All voices are welcome! Contact Linda Temple at 419-738-8452 or gtemple@woh.rr.com with any questions you may have.

Bell Choir - Handbell Choir practices on Wednesdays at **6:45 pm**. New bell ringers (5th grade through adult) are invited to join us. We play on the 3rd Sunday of the month for the 10:30 am service. Meet in Room 102.

Worship Connection

September 1, 12th Sunday after Pentecost

One service at 10:00 – No Sunday School or Children's Church

Liturgist: Chuck Mullenhour
10:00 Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters: Kim & Les Bowers
Ushers: June Keiber, Leslie Steining, Karli Schmerge, Gretchen Schneider

September 8, 13th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters: Ron & Cathy Latimer
Ushers: Jackie Williams & Gregg Rupert
Liturgist: Karen Tullis
9:15 a.m. Contemporary Service with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters: Josh & Heather Frey
Ushers: June Keiber, Leslie Steining, Karli Schmerge, Gretchen Schneider
Liturgist: Chuck Mullenhour
9:15 & 10:30 Sunday School
10:30 Children's Church

September 15, 14th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters: Ron & Cathy Latimer
Ushers: Gary & Deb Walls
Liturgist: Karen Tullis
9:15 a.m. Contemporary Service with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters: Kim & Les Bowers
Ushers: June Keiber, Leslie Steining, Karli Schmerge, Gretchen Schneider
Liturgist: Chuck Mullenhour
9:15 & 10:30 Sunday School
10:30 Children's Church

Worship Connection (continued)

September 22, 15th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters:	Ron & Cathy Latimer
Ushers:	Jackie Williams & Gregg Rupert
Liturgist:	Karen Tullis
9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters:	Kim & Les Bowers
Ushers:	June Keiber, Leslie Steining, Karli Schmerge, Gretchen Schneider
Liturgist:	Chuck Mullenhour
9:15 & 10:30	Sunday School
10:30	Children's Church

September 29, 16th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters:	Ron & Cathy Latimer
Ushers:	Gary & Deb Walls
Liturgist:	Karen Tullis
9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
Greeters:	Kim & Les Bowers
Ushers:	June Keiber, Leslie Steining, Carolyn Eakins, Jim Bowersock
Liturgist:	Chuck Mullenhour
9:15 & 10:30	Sunday School
10:30	Children's Church

Weekly Church Attendance

	8:00	9:15	10:30	Total
July 28, 2019	70	27	119	216
August 4, 2019	49	25	111	185
August 11, 2019	66	35	99	200
August 18, 2019	53	32	102	187
August 25, 2019	62	33	117	212

Ministry Update (continued)

The Annual Church Auction is September 22 at Grand Plaza. The Church Auction Committee is in high gear collecting items for the live auction and the silent auction. Donations can be dropped off at the church office or at the home of Donna Grimm (1617 Springfield Ave., Wapakoneta, OH). Quilts, paintings, furniture, gift baskets, vacations and time shares, as well as gift cards in any denomination, are things that the committee is still looking for to make this year's auction one of our biggest and best. Tickets are \$20 a piece or a table of eight may be purchased for \$150. "LuLu's" will be catering the meal which includes: chicken breasts, beef tips, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls, dessert, and drinks.




Donna Grimm will be in the Narthex the next four Sundays after services with tickets. Each Sunday, she will also be displaying some of the unique donations that will be for sale. This year 200 tickets have been printed, and we would like to sell them all. Our theme is "Over the Moon," so look for an auction that picks up where our summer moon festival left off - with a little something for everyone. Over the last five years, proceeds from the auction have supported our youth, our community, and several special needs at the church, including part of the purchase price of our church van. This year, the committee is emphasizing participation. If you have never donated to the auction, do it this year. If you have never attended the auction, do it this year. If you have never offered to donate a dessert for the auction, do it this year. If you have never invited someone to the auction, do it this year. Consider inviting neighbors, friends, relatives, and folks from other churches. We want this not only to be a First Church event but also a community event.

On Sunday, September 22, the meal will begin at 5:00 p.m. Grand Plaza will be open by 4:30 p.m. so those attending can come early and starting bidding on the silent auction items. The live auction begins promptly at 6:00 p.m. Word has it that Pastor Josh and Wally Grimm may be brushing up on their cooking and grilling techniques to offer that special dinner for six again this year, and Larry James is fine tuning his recipe for peanut butter fudge. Will someone step up and offer a homemade pie every month for a whole year? And how about all that wonderful produce offered by the Welkers? Ernie Hollenbacher's master wood crafting skills will definitely be a part of this year's event, and the quilters have been putting their talents to work week after week in order to beautify someone's home in a special and unique way. Come join the fun on September 22.

**DINNER
AND
AUCTION**

September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 Traditional No Sunday School No Children's Church	2 Office closed 	3	4 8:30 am Quilters 5:45 4:12 6:45 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	5 4:30 pm Cooking Class	6	7
8 8:00 Traditional 9:15 Contemporary 10:30 Traditional 9:15 & 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Children's Church	9 6:30 Praise Team 7:00 Scout Parents Mtg.	10 6:30 Lead Team	11 8:30 am Quilters 5:45 4:12 6:45 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	12 4:30 pm Cooking Class	13	14
15 8:00 Traditional 9:15 Contemporary 10:30 Traditional 9:15 & 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Children's Church	16 Noon – Mary Hannah 6:30 Praise Team 7:00 Scouts	17	18 8:30 am Quilters 5:45 4:12 6:45 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	19 4:30 pm Cooking Class	20 Word articles due	21
22 8:00 Traditional 9:15 Contemporary 10:30 Traditional 9:15 & 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Children's Church 5:00 Dinner & Auction	23 6:30 Praise Team 7:00 Scouts	24	25 8:30 am Quilters 5:45 4:12 6:45 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	26 4:30 pm Cooking Class	27	28
29 8:00 Traditional 9:15 Contemporary 10:30 Traditional 9:15 & 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Children's Church 3:00 Gospel Concert & Festival	30 6:30 Praise Team					

First United Methodist Church
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STAY CONNECTED WITH FIRST CHURCH

From the latest news to catching up with the latest sermon, there is a wealth of content at wapakfirst.org. Subscribe to updates to stay on top of what God is doing in our community. Don't forget to join us on Facebook.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Regular office hours are Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-4:30pm, Closed 12-1:00 for lunch, Closed Friday. Contact our office by phone during regular business hours at (419) 738-8168 or email us at fumc@bright.net.



www.wapakfirst.org



[Facebook.com/wapakfirst](https://www.facebook.com/wapakfirst)



419-738-8168

The worship services are recorded, and distributed via television.
They are televised every Thursday on TSC channel 2, at 3:30 pm.

Pastor Josh's sermons are now on You Tube.

Please have any articles you wish to have published in October's newsletter
to the church office by September 20, 2019.