

THE CONNECTION

604 Gloria Ave., Lima, OH 45805
Email: office@limawestsideumc.com

Phone: (419)223-2881
Pastor: danleeaa@gmail.com
May 24, 2025

Love Worthy of Our Life

A Devotional shared by Winn Collier

William Temple, a 20th Century English bishop, once concluded a sermon to Oxford students with the words of the hymn “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”. But he cautioned against taking the song lightly. “If you mean (the words) with all your hearts, sing them as loud as you can.” Temple said. “If you don’t mean them at all, keep silent. If you mean them even a little, and want to mean them more, sing them very softly,” The crowd went quiet as everyone eyed the lyrics. Slowly, thousands of voices began to sing in a whisper, mouthing the final lines with gravity: “love so amazing, so divine/Demands my soul, my life, my all.”

Those Oxford students understood the reality that believing in and following Jesus is a serious choice, because it means saying yes to a radical love that demands everything from us. Following Christ requires our entire life, our whole being. He plainly told His disciples, “whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” Matthew 16:24. No one should take this choice flippantly.

Yet following Jesus is also the way to our deepest joy. Life with Him, we’ll discover, is the life we truly desire. It appears to be a great paradox. However, if we respond to God’s love, believe in Christ, and relinquish our selfish, shortsighted demands, we’ll find the life our soul craves. Matthew 16:25 *“Whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”*

The words to the hymn “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”.

“When I Survey The Wondrous Cross,/ On which the Prince of glory died,/ My richest gain I count but loss,/ And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,/ Save in the death of Christ, my God;/ All the vain things that charm me most,/ I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,/ Sorrow and love flow mingled down; Did o’er much love and sorrow meet,/ or thorns compose so rich a crown.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,;/ ’That were a present far too small;/ Love so amazing, so divine./ Demands my soul, my life, my all.”

LOOKING AHEAD FOR JUNE

June 8: Pentecost Sunday Worship at Faurot Park!

Sunday, June 1, 2025

7th Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, Family Life Center
10:15 a.m. Worship Service

Liturgist: Pam Ditto
Song Leader: Pam Ditto
Pianist/Organist: Eileen Hartles
K.I.D.'s Connection: Jessica Schelb

Scriptures: Acts 16:16-34; Psalms 97

Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

Sunday, June 15, 2025

Peace and Justice Sunday: Father's Day

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, Family Life Center
10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship

Liturgist: Deb Pedersen
Song Leader: Pam Ditto
Pianist/Organist: Eileen Hartles
K.I.D.'s Connection: Michelle Cole

Scriptures: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalms 8
Romans 5:1-6; John 14:8-17, 25-27



OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE AND NEWS

Church United Pantry (C.U.P.) appreciates and needs the non-perishable food items our church family shares with them. In addition each month specific items are requested.

Westside has been asked to assist in the month of:

June – Toothbrushes & Toothpaste; July – Toilet Paper

UPDATE ON HAPPENINGS AROUND OUR COMMUNITY AND CHURCH

- **June 8** is Pentecost Sunday. Elida St. Paul, Trinity, Forest Park, Shawnee, and Westside United Methodist Churches will celebrate with a combined worship service at The Rotary Pavilion at Faurot Park (in case of rain Bradfield Center). There will be a combined choir and the opportunity to participate in that choir is open. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jane Stevens. There will be shuttle van and golf cart service from the parking lot to the pavilion to and from the service. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the music one half hour prior to service at 10:30 and following worship for a half hour.
- Westside will be sharing our new Pastor Paul Scannell with Elida St. Paul Church. Therefore, you have chosen beginning July 6, 2025 our worship service time to be 9:00 a.m. Thank you to all who voiced their preference.
- Thank you to the folks who came to help with the spring clean-up work day. Many weeds got pulled and the outside of the building is looking ready for us to enjoy for the summer season. The front windows got cleaned as well as the grounds. Praise God – many hands make for light work! If you were unable to share in the work and fellowship, watch the calendar – there will soon be another opportunity to “spruce up” the play and picnic area in the back of the church for children and adults who visit our property.
- Come and celebrate with Pastor Dan & Vanessa as we show appreciation for their four years of leadership and wish them well as they begin a new journey in their lives. Sunday, June 22, bring your favorite food to share in a covered dish dinner in their honor. We will share in The Ark@Westside immediately following worship. Table service and drinks will be furnished.
- The Leadership Team will be meeting on the third Monday of the months beginning June 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Narthex of the church.

Connection ♥ ⇌ ♥ Corner

(Information and opportunities to help others and to help you!)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Delores Gossard
Connie battling breast cancer
Amanda Kunkleman Schramm
Dave & Helen McElderry
Dewey & Connie Taylor
Leonard Jacobs
Jack & Becky Crabtree
Loar Family in loss of brother & father

HOME/HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME

Springview Manor
Dewey Taylor
Home Bound
Beverly Shade



Anniversaries:

June 17 Phil & Sue Osmon
29 Kevin & Jessica Schelb

Greeting cards are in the Café for your use.
Help yourself to the one you need.

FUTURE DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

.....

June 8 10:30 a.m. United Methodist
Churches worship at Faurot Park celebrating
Pentecost Sunday

June 15 Father's Day,

June 16 7:30 p.m. Leadership Team
Mtg., Narthex of Church

June 22 10:15 Worship
11:15 Covered Dish Dinner in
honor of Pastor Dan

June 29 10:15 Worship Pastor Dan's last
Sunday.

MAY/JUNE UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

IN NEED OF A GREETING, GET WELL, BIRTHDAY CARD? CHECK OUT THE CARD
RACK IN THE CONNECTION CAFÉ – "TAKE A CARD – SEND A CARD"

Have a Blessed Week!