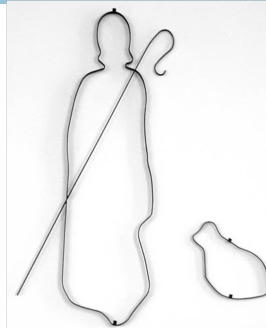


Uhrichsville First Methodist Church

A local ministry of the Global Methodist Church
July / August 2024



The Visitor



Have you ever stood beneath a vast night sky sprinkled with stars and felt something stir deep within your soul? Or maybe you've watched a sunrise paint the horizon with breathtaking colors and sensed that there's more to life than what meets the eye? These moments of awe and wonder are not mere coincidences; they point to a more profound truth. According to the Apostle Paul in Romans 1:18-32, "Ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can see His invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God" (Romans 1:20, NLT). This passage emphasizes that God reveals Himself through creation, inviting us to recognize His hand in the beauty and complexity of the world around us.

Every element of creation—be it the towering mountains, the vast oceans, the melodious songs of birds, or the rhythmic changing of the seasons—testifies to the existence of a Creator who is not only powerful and transcendent but also intimately personal. Within each human heart lies a God-shaped void, an inherent longing for something greater than ourselves. As Paul writes, "They know the truth about God because He has made it obvious to them" (Romans 1:19, NLT). This innate awareness of God serves as a compass, guiding us toward truth and fulfillment.

But what occurs when individuals choose to overlook this truth? Paul warns that when humanity turns its back on God, darkness prevails. He says, "Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship Him as God or even give Him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused" (Romans 1:21, NLT). This decline into confusion and darkness illustrates the dangers of rejecting divine truth. When we dismiss God, we open ourselves up to deception, allowing our minds to be clouded by misguided beliefs and empty philosophies.

In verse 22, Paul offers a striking observation: "Claiming to be wise, they became utter fools." This paradox highlights that when individuals abandon the objective truth of God, they often become trapped in their misguided thinking. While they may consider themselves enlightened or progressive, their wisdom, lacking a divine foundation, usually degenerates into foolishness. This is a poignant reminder that humanity, in its quest for understanding and meaning apart from God, can easily lose its way, trading profound truths for shallow ideologies.

Today, this phenomenon is all too evident. Our world is saturated with voices that deny the existence of God, distort truth, and attempt to craft a reality based solely on individual autonomy. Modern culture clamors for answers through avenues like wealth, success, scientific advancement, or the pursuit of personal freedom. Yet, despite these pursuits, many find that none of these can honestly fill the God-shaped void in their hearts. Apart from God, human endeavors often lead us into more profound valleys of confusion, despair, and existential emptiness.

The absence of God thrusts the world into chaos and brokenness. In our attempts to exchange the truth for falsehoods, we end up worshiping created things—such as fame, material possessions, or ideologies—rather than the Creator Himself. Consequently, we pursue selfish desires that usually lead to suffering, addiction, division, and a pervasive sense of disconnection.

(Continued on Page 4)

Inside this issue

Page 2 - Worship Team, B'days, Anniversaries, Buzz, Cards, etc.

Page 3 - Lifewise, Prayer List, Summer Festival, Membership Class

Page 4—Camp Zimmerman Worship, First Church Women

Page 5—Calendars

First Methodist Church

225 N. Dawson St.

PO Box 426

Uhrichsville, OH 44683

Email: methodists@att.net

Web: uhrichsvillefirstchurch.org

Phone: 740-922-3881

Office Hours

8am to Noon Monday—Thursday

Worship 11am

Sunday School 10am

Pastor Kory Rowland

Editor/Secretary: Sally Murry

Our Mission: To KNOW Christ, GROW in Christ, & GO share Christ's love with the World!



July Birthdays

July 2 - Carley Henry
 July 4 - Avy Neining & Eric Harmon
 July 8 - Layken Pennel
 July 10 - Chrissy Yackey
 July 11 - Cruz McMillan
 July 12 - Zoey Smart
 July 13 - Cindy Huyghe
 July 14 - Kale McConnell
 July 15 - Sonny Terakedis, Larry Roth
 July 17 - Linda Ohler
 July 18 - Susan McMillan
 July 19 - Bob Cerana (92!), Evan Tedesco
 July 26 - Polly Clark
 July 26 - Casey McMillan
 July 27 - Connie Clark,
 July 30 - Hanna Clark, Susan Peters

July Anniversaries

July 3 Jay & Diana Henry
 July 7, Austa (Pearch) & Sam Massey
 July 23 Rev. John & Connie Clark

August Birthdays

August 2 - Nicole Raber
 August 3 - Tristen Jackson
 August 6 - Linda Simpson
 August 11 - Paul Davis
 August 15 - Kate King, Tom Mason,
 Canaan Massey
 August 16 - Cathy Hindman
 August 18 - Jessica Chilson,
 Emery Massey
 August 19 - Sallie Jones
 August 24 - Warne Edwards
 August 27 - Dana West, Brenda Fellers
 August 28 - Eleanor Hamilton
 August 30 - Harold Hill, Carla Harmon

August Anniversaries

August 2 Sonny & Kris Terakedis
 August 3 Jim & Colette Shaver
 August 11 Brett & Anna Hillyer
 Aug. 12 Jim & Linda Egan
 Aug. 16 Laurie & Greg Quillen
 Aug. 24 Jim & Deb McConnell
 24 - Kim & Patti Abbuhl
 24 - Jarrod & Ashlee Plotts

Thanks/Congrats

—**Thank you** to Mark & Deana Kress for landscaping all around the church building & parsonage! It looks wonderful! We appreciate all your hard work!

—**Thank you** to everyone who worked our booth at the Dennison Railroad Festival! Your help was so appreciated!

—**Hello Church family.** Thank you for the cards, phone calls, texts, food and prayers that came my way during recovery. And for the gift of a quilt and communion delivered to me. God is good and I thank him for my church family all the time!
 Linda Ohler

—**Thank You** to Director Sandy Brown and the many folks who helped with our Vacation Bible School this year! We all learned about how “Jesus’ Power Pulls Us Through when we put our trust in Him!”

—**Thank you** to Cathy & Roger Hindman for donating a new canopy tent to the church! (The old one was broken in the wind & rain storm while we were set up at the Dennison Railroad Festival.)

Sunday Buzz

Stay after each Worship Service for coffee, fellowship and yummy snacks!

You are invited to sponsor the snacks one Sunday—pick a date!

Sign up sheet is on the table in the narthex.

See Deana Kress.



Compassionate Card Ministry!



If you know of someone in our church who needs a card, please contact our Coordinator, Sheila Jackson @ 330-407-5947.

Donations of cards and stamps are always appreciated.



We are looking to enlarge our pool of volunteers for the Children's Message and/or the Children's Church on Sundays!

See Sally in the church office.



July 6—Liturgist: Blair
 Sound: Beth
 Projection/Streaming: Sally

July 13—Liturgist: Avy
 Sound: Sally
 Projection/Streaming: Kale

July 20— Liturgist: Cathy C
 Sound: Beth
 Projection/Streaming: Sally

July 27— Liturgist: Cathy W.
 Sound: Beth
 Projection/Streaming: Cathy/Claire

Aug 3—Liturgist: Blair
 Sound: Beth
 Projection/Streaming: Sally

Aug 10—Liturgist: Sandy
 Sound: Beth
 Projection/Streaming: Kale

Aug 17— Combined Worship at Camp Zimmerman

Aug 24— Liturgist: Brad
 Sound: Beth
 Projection/Streaming: Sally

Aug 31— Liturgist: Beth
 Sound: Beth
 Projection/Streaming: Cathy C

If you would like to serve on the Worship Team as a Liturgist, on the Sound Board, as Projectionist, and/or as an Acolyte, please contact Sally in the church office 740-922-3881.

Announcing the birth of
Lincoln Richard Martinelli

Born 5-30-2025



Parents: MaKayla Grant & Ricky Martinelli, Grandparents: Michele & Matt Grant, Great-Grandmother: Rose Marie Arn.

Congratulations to all!

Lifewise:

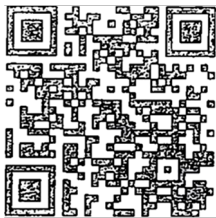
Hello Church Family, I hope this message finds you well. I am pleased to announce an exciting new initiative that our school system is launching this fall—Lifewise Academy. This program is designed to provide our children with a solid Biblical education during school hours. Thanks to Governor DeWine's legislation, children will have the opportunity for one hour of release time for religious education, even though the program cannot be conducted on school property.

I invite all of you to join me in praying for the success of this program. Lifewise Academy has already made a positive impact in the Columbus area, and we now have an excellent opportunity to extend its reach to Claymont, Indian Valley, and surrounding schools, sharing the Gospel with our community.

While I recognize that this initiative has generated varying opinions, even among those of the Christian faith, I genuinely believe that Lifewise Academy represents a valuable opportunity for our students. Teaching Biblical principles and values is essential, and I encourage every Jesus-loving, God-fearing individual to consider the merits of this program.

If you are interested in learning more about Lifewise Academy, pledging your support, volunteering, or exploring available positions, please follow the QR code attached. Additionally, I welcome any questions or concerns you may have, and I encourage open dialogue so that we may discuss this important, Bible-based initiative further. Thank you for your continued support and engagement in our community.

Maranatha,
Pastor Kory



Have you ever considered becoming a Professing Member of our church? It's an excellent opportunity to deepen your faith and connect more closely with our community! I'm excited to offer a Membership class this fall, and I would love for you to be a part of it. If you're interested in joining us, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your journey toward membership could be a meaningful step in your spiritual walk, and I'm here to support you every step of the way!

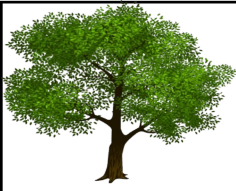
Pastor Kory

Prayer LIST

Linda Ohler, Austin Weaver, Gregg Clark, Cindy Wagstaff, Paula Hairfield, Ashley Hite, the family of Jennifer Smith, family of Sandra Duncan, Bob Murphy, Bo Bennington, floods in Texas, Rev. Larry Malterer, Carol Weaver, Katie Hilliker, Israel & Iran, Nigerian Christians, Dee Peck, Sheila Jackson, Avy Neiningner, family of Larry Wood, Tom Shaw, Rick W., Crystal Fouts, James, Mike Mossor, Todd Lehigh, Karen Hill, Cindy Shinaberry, Ginger Conrad, Kaytee Meek, Jennifer Love, Sandy Brown, Cathy England, Melissa Moro, Larry & Donna Roth, Jean Black, Roberta Wilson, Relationships, Unspoken Requests, Health Care Workers, First Responders, Those fighting Cancer, Mental Illnesses, Our church family & friends who are Homebound, in Assisted Care, or Nursing Homes, those in Hospice, the Global Methodist Church, Our Government, Our World, Our Military, Revival, and for the peace of Jerusalem.



Volunteers are needed & Food Donations are needed.
See Jimmy and/or Denise McConnell for more info.



Worship Together @ Camp Zimmerman!

**August 17th 10AM
Worship In the Lodge**

Covered Dish lunch and fellowship!
(Please bring covered dish, table service & drink)

10397 Williams Rd. SW
Gnadenhutzen

Directions: Take 36W to Port Washington, turn left at the light, cross the tracks & river. Follow the red "Z" signs.

Get ready for a fantastic day at Camp Zimmerman! Join us and our sister churches, Midvale and Newport, on August 17th at 10:00 AM for a tremendous church service that you won't want to miss! Afterward, dive into the fun with a delicious covered dish dinner, a splashing pool party, and a variety of games that everyone will enjoy! Bring your children, grandchildren, and all their friends for a day filled with joy and laughter. Let's make unforgettable memories together! I hope to see you there! Pastor Kory

(Pastor's Message, continued from page 1)

The darkness grows denser the further humanity strays from its Creator, and the brokenness visible in our daily lives—hatred, violence, addiction, and confusion—is not a novel occurrence. Instead, it is the predictable outcome of attempting to navigate existence without the One who designed us.

However, amidst the chaos, there is an undeniable thread of hope. God has not abandoned us in our darkness. His love continually calls out to each of us, inviting us to return to Him. Jesus embodies this hope; He came to rescue us from our brokenness, to heal our wounded hearts, and to fill that God-shaped void with His presence, purpose, and peace. His sacrifice on the cross represents God's ultimate display of love and redemption, offering a pathway back to a relationship with the Creator.

If you already believe, let this be a call to action, a reminder to share the transformative message of the Gospel with bold confidence. The world urgently needs the light of Christ to pierce through the pervasive darkness. And if you've never taken the step to turn to God, know that the invitation is open today. Take a moment to reflect on the beauty of creation around you, whether it's the intricate design of a flower, the majesty of a mountain, or the kindness of a neighbor. Listen to the gentle tug on your heart, an invitation to explore a relationship with the God who made the universe and intricately crafted you. He longs to fill that void, offering you purpose, meaning, and the peace that surpasses understanding. The journey of faith begins with a single step, and there's no time like the present to seek the One who truly satisfies you. "For God says, 'At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you.' Indeed, the 'right time' is now. Today is the day of salvation" (2nd Corinthians 6:2, NLT).

Maranatha,
Pastor Kory



If you're interested in receiving baptism, I invite you to reach out! We're excited to host a Baptism service at Camp Zimmerman on August 17th at 10:00 a.m.

It's an excellent opportunity for anyone looking to be baptized for the first time or for those who wish to reaffirm their

baptism. If you're interested in participating, let's schedule a meeting before August 17th to discuss this significant step in your faith journey.



I encourage you to take this opportunity—it's a beautiful way to celebrate your commitment and deepen your spiritual journey.

Pastor Kory

First Church Women's Meeting

First Church Women met at Big Bend Golf Course on May 14th. Pres. Lois welcomed the group, and the Guest speaker: Vikki O'Hara

Care Cards were signed. Grace was offered before the meal.

Secretary & Treasurer's Report:

-The minutes from the January meeting were read and approved as presented. Linda offered stats & information on Tuff Bags. One hundred percent of the donations are for meals.

Guest speaker:

Vikki O'Hara presented information on LIFEWISE ACADEMY. This program offers Bible education for public school students during school hours. Classes are held off school property, privately funded and parent oriented. She is on the steering committee to seek support and donations that will bring LIFEWISE ACADEMY to the students at Claymont City Schools. The committee has brought the idea to the local church pastors who have given their support. She asked the women of the group for their prayers for this opportunity, hoping to reach students in the community with the gospel. (Information about the program and how to donate to it can be found on the bulletin board. A petition is also available to sign online or at Big Bend Golf Course.)

New business:

-A motion to donate \$100 to the church festival, \$100 to Tuff Bags and \$100 to LIFEWISE ACADEMY was moved & approved.


-A motion to donate \$100 to Samaritan's Purse was moved & approved.

-Pres. Lois presented a "master list" for the funeral dinners. All were invited to sign the list with what item or job they would be willing to provide. Discussion was heard about the future of this service the women & other volunteers do for the church.

Next meeting is Noon on July 9th at Big Bend Golf Course Restaurant. Linda will have the devotion.

<> God's blessings,
Cathy, secretary

JULY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10a Sunday School 11a Worship		1 10a Morning Bible Study	2	3 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study - Here	4 	5
6 Pastor away—Rob Murry preaching	7 9a Chapel Prayer Time	8 10a Morning Bible Study	9 Noon First Church Women @ Big Bend	10 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study—Here	11 10a Men's Bible Study	12
13	14 9a Chapel Prayer Time	15 10a Morning Bible Study	16	17 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study—Here	18 10a Men's Bible Study	19 Noon-4p SUMMER FESTIVAL! Join the Fun!
20	21 9a Chapel Prayer Time No Finance/Ad Council mtgs	22 10a Morning Bible Study	23	24 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study - Here	25 10a Men's Bible Study	26
27 Pastor away—Rob Murry preaching	28 9a Chapel Prayer Time	29 10a Morning Bible Study	30	31 Canceled: Pastor's Bible Study		

AUGUST 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10a Sunday School 11a Worship					1 10a Men's Bible Study	2
3 Pastor away—Bob Miller preaching	4 9a Chapel Prayer	5 10a Bible Study	6	7 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study @ Newport	8 10a Men's Bible Study	9 Sanctuary & F. Hall reserved
10	11 9a Chapel Prayer	12 10a Bible Study	13	14 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study @ Newport	15 10a Men's Bible Study	16
17 Combined Worship—Camp Zimmerman! 10AM	18 9a Prayer 5:30p Finance/Ad Council	19 10a Bible Study	20	21 Pastor's 6:30p Bible Study @Newport	22 10a Men's Bible Study	23
24 31	25	26 10a Bible Study	27	28 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study @ Newport	29 Canceled —Men's Bible Study	30

Published By-Monthly
1st Methodist Church
225 N. Dawson St. PO Box 426
Uhrichsville, OH 44683
Issue: July-August 2025
Mailing Date: **7-9-2025**

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #50
GNADENHUTTEN,
OH 44629

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

