

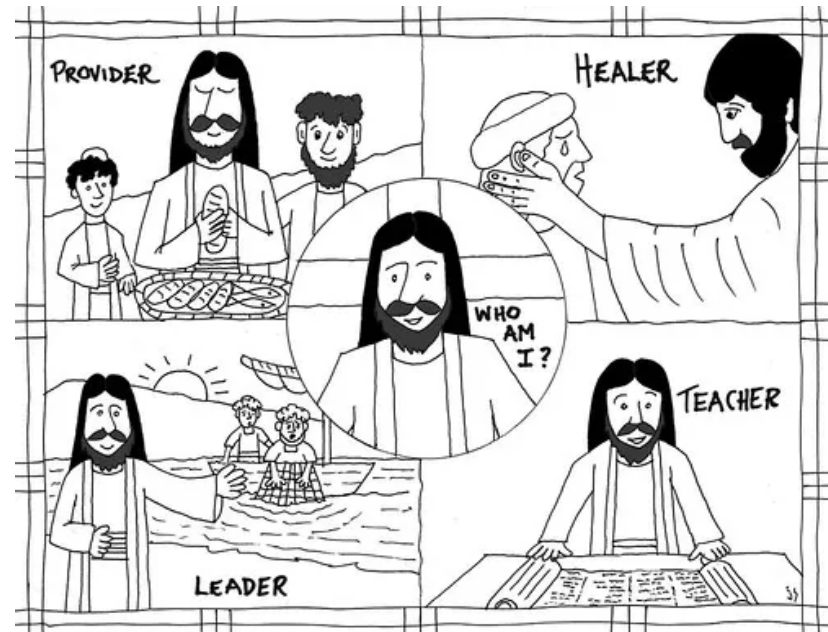
## Announcements

- Just a reminder that the Trustees Offering falls on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. The next date is September 20!
- Our Prayer Walking Group meets on Thursdays at 6:30pm. Please meet at the old cemetery entrance. All are welcome!
- We plan to have the "Blessing of the Backpacks" next Sunday, August 30th. All children are welcomed and encouraged to bring their backpacks!

**Visit our website!**  
**[www.wnmethodist.org](http://www.wnmethodist.org)**

## Church Staff

~ Lauren Cross, Organist/Secretary  
~Nick Yanan, Custodian



**West Newton Methodist Church**  
**The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 23, 2026**  
**9:30am Worship**

West Newton Methodist Church  
Sunday Morning Worship  
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 23, 2026

Prelude

Announcements

\*Call To Worship Louise Hritz

Leader: Praise the Lord with your whole heart! Bow down toward his holy temple.

**People: We give thanks to your name, O Lord, for your steadfast love and faithfulness!**

Leader: The Lord asks us today: "Who do you say that I am?"

**People: You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!**

Leader: On this rock, Christ builds his church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**All: Great is the glory of the Lord! Let us worship him in faith and strength.**

\*Opening Prayer (in unison)

**Heavenly Father, we thank you with our whole heart for your steadfast love and faithfulness. On the day we call, you answer us and increase our strength of soul. Clear away our doubts today so we may boldly declare that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Build our church upon this rock-solid faith. Perfect that which concerns us, and let your presence fill our worship this Sunday. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn "My Hope is Built" #368

\*The Apostles' Creed #881

\*The Gloria Patri

Old Testament Reading Psalm 138 Louise Hritz

Joys and Concerns  
The Prayers of Intercession  
The Lord's Prayer

All

The Holy Gospel Matthew 16:13-20 Louise Hritz

Sermon Rev. Tom Smith

Worshipping God through our Giving

Offering

\*The Doxology #95

\*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

**Generous God, you gift us with a variety of talents and call us into service together. As we offer our resources today, unite us in mission and purpose. May our gifts bring transformation and renewal to the lives of others through the ministry of your Church. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn "Open My Eyes" #454

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

## Church Calendar

Today – The 13th Sunday after Pentecost  
August 27 - Prayer Walking Group