A wooden cross stands in a field of yellow and purple flowers under a blue sky. The cross is made of dark wood and is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The field is filled with a variety of flowers, including large yellow daisies and smaller purple and blue blossoms. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and serene.

CHRIST SUFFERED
FOR YOU
LEAVING YOU AN
EXAMPLE
THAT YOU SHOULD
FOLLOW
IN HIS
STEPS.

1 PETER 2:21, NIV

WESTERN RESERVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4580 Canfield Rd., Canfield, OH 44406

330-792-5805 | www.westernreserveumc.com

Pastor Joyce: 216-315-2481

Western Reserve United Methodist Church

April 26, 2026

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Joyce Hoile

Minister of Visitation: Rev. Don Christensen

Mission Statement: *Western Reserve Church will develop disciples who reflect Christ's love through worship, fellowship, and service.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

****Please rise in body or in spirit***

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

LEADER: We come to celebrate the presence and power of the Living God!

CONGREGATION: We come not to escape the world and our responsibilities to it. We come instead to praise God who created both the world and us in it.

LEADER: At this particular time, in this particular place, let us worship!

CONGREGATION: Yes, let us worship together in the joy of our Lord!

***OPENING HYMN**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (UMH #139 vv. 1-3,5)

***PRAYER (spoken in unison)**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us and we have gathered to pray with one heart and mind. As we rejoice in the gift of this new day of hope, so may the light of Your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for You; now and forever. Amen.

DEDICATION OF GIFTS, TITHES, AND OFFERINGS

*Doxology (UMH #95)

*Offertory Prayer

MORNING PRAYERS – Sharing our joys and concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

MUSICAL RESPONSE

"Open My Eyes That I May See" (UMH #454)

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Psalm 46

1 Peter 2:19-25

*John 10:1-10

RESPONSE

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"God in Dark Places"

***CLOSING HYMN**

"My Hope Is Built" (UMH #368)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Thank you to those assisting in our worship services.

Sermon: Rev. Don Christensen

Music: Amy Nash

Liturgist: Barb Irwin

Greeters: Bruce & Barb Irwin

Usher: Harriet MacAvoy

Church FAMILY —PRAYER LIST—

The logo features the word "Church" in a black cursive font at the top. Below it, the word "FAMILY" is written in large, bold, teal block letters. A small white icon of a church with a family silhouette inside is positioned over the letter "I" in "FAMILY". Below "FAMILY", the words "PRAYER LIST" are written in teal block letters, flanked by two horizontal teal lines.

Please keep the following friends in your prayers this week:

Those in Nursing Homes:

Park Vista of Youngstown: Linda Ward

Hampton Woods: Nancy Jarvis

Windsor House: Nancy Hull

St. Luke Lutheran Community: Margie Wagner

The Inn @ Glenellen: Richard Fox

The Addison @ Cornersburg: Ila Cochran

Those serving in our military:

Jeff Asch, Jared Eichert, JT Palmer, Riley Miller, Mark Kuntzman,
Jared Muntean

Those with other prayer concerns:

Bill Helsel, Sandra Ellis, Billy Tarr, Betty Brunswick, Tim Treleven,
Bill Robb, Ed Dambik, Terry Hassay, Jon Ramsbottom, Marjorie
Nelson, Halle Wright, Kennedy Turek, Brian Hassel, Marian Doerr,
Barb Rauschenburg, Stuart Hassel, Juanita Bloom, Chelsea
(Schmidt) Kachelries, Laurie Grischow, Lugene Pezzuto, Doug Price,
Jack Phillipson, Linda Daugherty, Pastor Joyce, Jim Grischow

THE PRAYER LIST IS UPDATED WEEKLY. If you would like to be included in the prayer list, please let the Church Office know and keep us updated as to the status of these prayer requests so that we can remain current on those needing special prayer. Thank you!



WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Today we gather together for a joint worship service as a united church family. We are grateful for your presence and pray that this time of worship will renew your spirit, strengthen your faith, and draw us closer to God and to one another. May you feel warmly welcomed and richly blessed as we worship together.

We extend a special welcome to all visitors joining us today. We are honored to have you with us and hope you feel at home in our congregation. If you have any questions or need assistance, please see an usher.

GUEST PASTOR: We thank Rev. Don Christensen for leading us in worship this morning as Pastor Joyce continues her recovery at home.



Weekend Update

Did you know that we send out a "Weekend Update" to our members every week? If you are not receiving these phone calls or emails and would like to, please contact Deanna in the Church Office to sign up.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS:

A huge thank you to all who helped make the Central Valley Spring Rally a success! Many of those attending expressed how impressed they were with our facility, the program and the refreshments.

Our next event is the Election Day Bake Sale on May 5 from 6:30 AM – 6:30 PM (or until sold out). We still need a few individuals to help sell items that day and we will need home-baked goods to sell. If you can help, please sign up at the Welcome Center at church or contact Diane Price or Ruth Baldwin. Your baked goods can be brought to the church on Monday, May 4 during office hours (9 am – 2 pm) or from 5 – 7 pm that evening, or early Tuesday morning. Thank you!

On Thursday, May 14 at 11:00 AM, we will meet for lunch at the Dutch Haus restaurant in Columbiana. We will be ordering off the menu. Afterward we can shop in the gift shops there or tour the Hippley Gardens nearby. Contact Diane Price for more information or to RSVP.



GAB SALE TEAM: We are looking for a team of up to 5 people who would be willing to lead the GAB Sale. You would meet with JoAnn to see how things are currently organized, visit the GAB Sale to experience it firsthand, and then begin meeting as a team to plan for next year. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please contact the Church Office. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Pastor Joyce or JoAnn.

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Judy Briggs in memory of her brother, Robert Briggs' birthday. Sponsors are needed for many Sundays in 2026, including May 24. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please sign up on the sheet at the Welcome Center. The cost is \$20.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

- **Men's Bible study** – Meets in the Fellowship Hall every Tuesday at 8:00 am except for the 1st Tuesday when they meet at Trek Coffee House (1588 Mahoning Ave.).
- **Adult Bible study & prayer group** – Tuesday at 6:00 pm in the Youth Room. If you would like more information or have any prayer requests for the group, please contact Laura (cell: 330-770-7017 or email: walton32000@yahoo.com). **PLEASE NOTE: THE PRAYER GROUP WILL BE MEETING OFF-SITE THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. PLEASE CONTACT LAURA FOR LOCATION.**

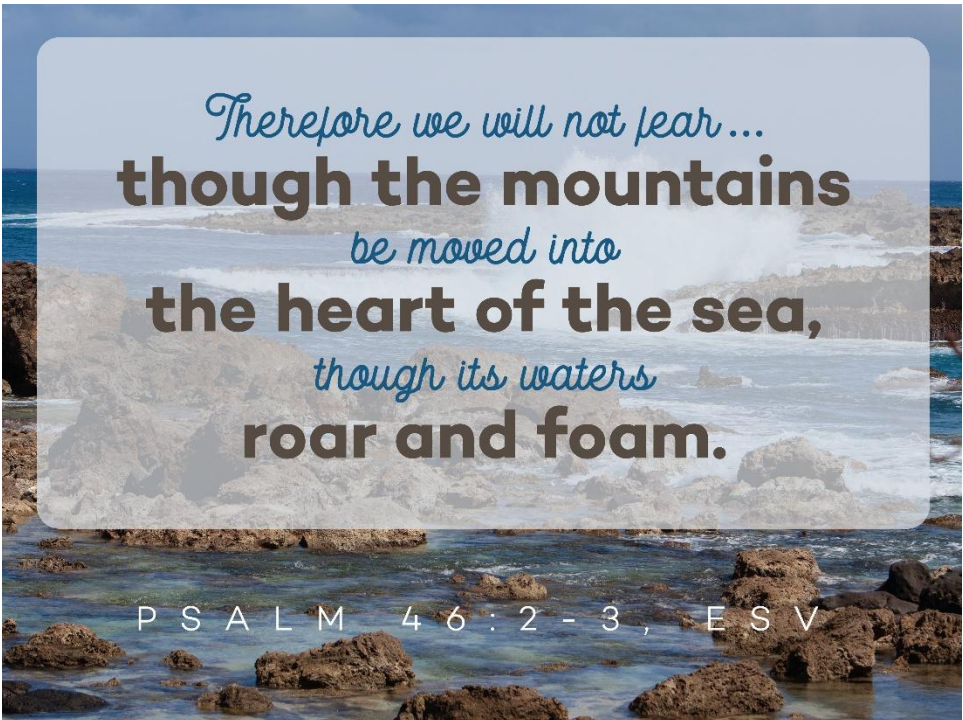


Painting
Minor Drywall Repairs
Furniture Assembling
Yard Work
Power Washing
Cleaning & Much More!
No Job Too Small

Erik: 330-398-7300
mklhandyman44@gmail.com

We celebrate with Erik & Joy at their excitement of opening their own Handyman business. If you see them today, please congratulate them! If you have any jobs that you need done, let them know! Erik's cards are located at the Welcome Center.

Do you have news you would like to share with your church family? Let us know so that we can celebrate with you!



Therefore we will not fear ...
though the mountains
be moved into
the heart of the sea,
though its waters
roar and foam.

P S A L M 4 6 : 2 - 3 , E S V

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED! GAB SALE



THE GAB SALE IS APRIL 30 - MAY 2 and your trash might be someone else's treasure! Donated items can be dropped off on Monday, April 20 through Tuesday, April 28. We are not accepting donations of magazines, textbooks, encyclopedias, televisions, computers, large appliances (stove, refrigerator, etc.), exercise equipment, or China cabinets.

We will pick up donations if needed, but we will need trucks, vans, and other larger vehicles in order to do this. If you can help pick up large items and have a truck or larger automobile, please let JoAnn know.

This event is really something special as it is an opportunity to come together with others within our church and community to share kindness and make a difference. Your time and heart can brighten someone's day and help support the ministry of WRUMC.

Volunteers of all ages are needed this week. Help is needed prior to the sale to set up, during the sale for carryout, door watchers, etc., and after the sale to clean up and tear down. Whether you can come for just a couple of hours, a day, or even for the whole time your help would be greatly appreciated! We even promise to feed you! Please sign up on the sheet on the Welcome Center if you can help. All proceeds will be given to help with church needs.

For more information contact JoAnn Truax (330-318-7952). Please leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible.

GIVING FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 19

Amount needed to meet weekly budget: \$6,631

Total Giving amount: \$8,309 (This includes electronic giving.)



Electronic Giving is available! Simply scan the QR code with your phone and you will be taken to the secure Vanco online giving platform where you can make your donation to WRUMC electronically.



PARKING LOT/FRONT DITCH PROJECT

Received to date: \$9,349

(after payments for work completed)

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GIVING TO
THE PARKING LOT/FRONT DITCH PROJECT!
WE STILL HAVE MORE WORK TO GET DONE!***

NOTES



TODAY

Sunday School (9:30 am)
Joint Worship Service (10:30 am)

TUESDAY

Men's Bible Study (8:00 am)
Sewing Circle (9:00 am)
Bible Study/Prayer Group (6:00 pm)

THURSDAY

GAB Sale (9:00 am - 4:00 pm)

FRIDAY

GAB Sale (9:00 am - 4:00 pm)

SATURDAY

GAB Sale (9:00 am - 1:00 pm)

COMING UP!

UWF Bake Sale (May 5)
Trustee Meeting (May 11 @ 6:00 pm)
UWF Lunch @ the Dutch House (May 14 @ 11:00 am)
Memorial Day - Church Office Closed (May 25)
Family Game Night (May 29 @ 6:00 pm)