

September 13, 2026

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John

Opening Prayer Pastor John

***Responsive Reading** (Proverbs 9:10-11) **Pastor John**
Pastor: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
People: And knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
Pastor: For through wisdom your days will be many,
People: And years will be added to your life.

***Apostles Creed** **Bruce Bloch**
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day, He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

Passing of the Peace Bruce Bloch

***Hymn** “How Firm a Foundation” **No. 529**

***Prayer of Assurance** **Bruce Bloch**
Lord God, we know that we have nothing to fear if we remain faithful, loyal, and obedient to you. Help us to exercise caution in all that we do, while asking that you grant us the courage to stand up to the evil forces in this world. This we boldly pray with great anticipation and expectation, now and forever. Amen!

Call to Confession Pastor John

Prayer of Confession **Pastor John**
Merciful God, we understand and appreciate the importance of caution, which enables us to make prudent decisions in the face of temptation. Yet, we continue to stumble and fall. Forgive us as we seek clarity to discern the difference between right and wrong as well as truth and deception so that we can avoid the snares of Satan. In Your Always Faithful Name, we pray. Amen!

Prayer of Preparation **Pastor John**
Ephesians 5:15-17 Pg. 1227 Pastor John
1 Corinthians 10:12-13 Pg. 1200 Bruce Bloch
1 John 4:1-3 Pg. 1280 Pastor John
1 Thessalonians 5:4-6 Pg. 1239 Bruce Bloch
Ephesians 6:10-13 Pg. 1228 Pastor John

Response
Pastor: Let us rejoice in God’s Holy Word!
People: For His Word brings us Light, Hope, and Joy!

***Gloria Patri**

***Hymn** “Abide with Me” **No. 700**
vs. 1-4

Message “An Abundance of Caution” Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer Pastor John
The Lord’s Prayer

Presentation of Our Gifts Pastor John
***The Doxology** Pastor John

***Hymn** “Forth in Thy Name, O Lord” **No. 438**

Benediction Pastor John

Postlude Jen Moser

** = An Invitation to Stand in Body or Spirit*

WHAT’S COMING UP?

Annual Worship and Picnic at the Lake
Our annual outdoor service will be held on Sunday, September 20, at the Lake at the end of Cherry Lane (just east of the church on Warner Hill). Please bring a dish to share and join us for an uplifting service and a delicious luncheon and cookout. Bring a chair and a friend or two as well. Hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages will be provided.

Kister Mill Celebration
The Boyer Family will be hosting an Authors’ Festival at Kister Water Mill (3595 Kister Road) on Sept. 26-27. Oak Chapel will have a booth that will serve as a fundraiser for the church. Donations of cookies would be greatly appreciated. We also need people to work shifts at our booth. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Water Shut-Off
Our Septic Project is making progress. There will be a day soon, when they will need to shut off the water to the church for up to five days. We will not know the days until it comes. They will give us as much notice as possible. This may happen as early as next week depending on the weather.

Look for it
Oak Chapel will soon be adding a new illuminated sign to the exterior of the church facing north. The sign will be lit from dusk to dawn.

Hygiene Kits Are Back
Thanks to the folks who went to the Mission Barn last month, we have a fresh supply of Hygiene Kits available for those in need. The kits are the second room to the right of the indoor pantry. Feel free to distribute to needy individuals and families, or stock some in your car in the event that you see someone who could benefit from having these supplies.



Praises and Prayers

Great and Glorious God, we give you thanks and praise for the many blessings you bestow upon us. We are also grateful for your everlasting covenant with us. We come before you again today, asking that you will hear our voices as we lift up our praises and prayers.

Praises

- *For Jeannie Haghiri’s friend who has recovered from a stroke
- *For Rosie Troutman, who was not seriously injured in a fall
- *For Dave Preston, who is back in Wooster after surgery
- *For the beautifully renovated Kister Water Mill
- *For Food Pantry, which continues to feed our neighbors
- *For the faith that we so readily share with others
- *For all those who serve the church in so many ways
- *For our Greeters, Ushers, Liturgists, and Communion Stewards
- *For the hospitality shown to all who worship with us
- *For health and healing
- *For the presence of God’s Holy Word in our church
- *For visitation by family and friends

Prayers

- *For 11-year old Emmet Sauers, who was killed last weekend
- *For Carly Trudy, who is dealing with serious health issues
- *For Keri Merickel's friend who recently had a biopsy
- *For continued healing for Keri Merickel's grandson Beckham
- *For Phil Duby as he recovers from a hip surgery
- *For Jennifer Adair as she recovers at West View
- *For Tim Pettorini, who is having heart issues
- *For Gio, who is preparing for cancer surgery in New York
- *For Stillwagner Family as they navigate immigration issues
- *For Mark Stanley as he prepares for chemo and radiation
- *For Tom Rife, who continues to recover from a broken arm
- *For travel mercies for Kim and Pam Domer
- *For travel mercies for Alex and Erica Merwin
- *For all those dealing with Parkinsons and ALS
- *For those dealing with memory issues

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...

Sunday 9/13	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
	Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Worship at Danbury	2:30 p.m.
Monday 9/14	Art and Soul	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday 9/15	Girl Scouts	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9/16	Staff Parish Relations Team	12:15 p.m.
	Worship Team	6:00 p.m.
Thursday 9/17	Membership Care Team	9:30 a.m.

Looking Ahead

Sunday 9/20	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
	Worship at the Lake	10:30 a.m.
Monday 9/21	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Trustees	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday 9/22	UWFaith Executive Team	12:15 p.m.
	Days for Girls	2:00 p.m.
	Girl Scouts	6:00 p.m.
	Outreach Team	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9/23	Acorn society	11:30 a.m.
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
Friday 9/25	Set-Up at Kister Mill	6:00 p.m.
Saturday	Kister Mill Festival	10 a.m.—5 p.m.

Acorn Society

We are moving to the fourth Wednesday of the month. On September 23 we meet at Belle 220 in Ashland. All women are invited to join us. Mark December 2, to bridge Nov. and Dec.

Card Shower

Our Card Shower for the Stillwagners continues. A box to collect the cards is in the Narthex.

Week’s Attendance..... 50 in person..... 21 online

Last Week’s Offering..... \$2564

Upcoming Worship Service

September 20..... Escape the Exile
September 27..... If These Pews Could Talk
October 4 What’s in it for Me?

Oak Chapel
United Methodist Church



Today’s Message
“An Abundance of Caution”

September 13, 2026

4203 West Old Lincoln Way
Wooster, Ohio
330-264-2537

John Finn, *Pastor*

*Serving God and Community
through Love, Compassion,
Fellowship, and Caring*