

September 6, 2026

Bringing Forth the Light		
Prelude	Jen Moser	
Welcome and Announcements	Pastor John	
Opening Prayer	Pastor John	
*Responsive Reading (Based on Psalm 27:7-8)	Pastor John	
Pastor: Hear our voice when we call, Lord;		
People: Be merciful to us and answer us.		
Pastor: Our heart says to us, “Seek his face!”		
People: Your face, Lord, we will seek.		
*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	“Shine, Jesus Shine”	Insert
*Prayer of Assurance	Bruce Bloch	
God of Unshakable Loyalty and Support, we bow before you in reverence and devotion. Help us to rise above the chaos and confusion of this world, as we seek to strengthen our covenant with you. Bless us in our efforts to fortify our faith and strengthen our commitment to you. In Your Invincible Name, we pray. Amen!		
Call to Confession	Pastor John	

Prayer of Confession
Lord, have mercy on us as we bow before you in humble contrition. We have once again failed to keep your Commandments and honor your Sacred Word, but we know that you are a God of great compassion, so we ask that you forgive our iniquities and cleanse our soul. In Your Benevolent Name, we pray. Amen!

Prayer of Preparation	Pastor John	
Leviticus 6:12-13	Pg. 108	Pastor John
Acts 2:1-4	Pg. 1140	Bruce Bloch
2 Timothy 1:6-7	Pg. 1248	Bruce Bloch
Matthew 5:14-16	Pg. 1011	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	“O Spirit of the Living God”	No. 539
Message	“Keep the Fire Burning”	Pastor John
Sacrament of Holy Communion	Pastor John	
Our Morning Prayer	Pastor John	
Presentation of Our Gifts	Pastor John	
*The Doxology	Pastor John	
*Hymn	“As a Fire Meant for Burning”	Insert
Benediction	Pastor John	
Postlude	Jen Moser	

* = An Invitation to Stand in Body or Spirit

WHAT’S COMING UP?

Special Thanks!
Sheri and I wish to thank all of you for the wonderful Anniversary-Birthday celebration last weekend. It was so nice of you to come, and your thoughtful cards and gifts are so greatly appreciated! We are so blessed by all of you!

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.

Looking Ahead
As we prepare to enter into another fall season, I wanted to share some ideas that we might consider for our church in the coming year. I recently attended a District Strategy Event and observed some interesting and exciting possibilities for ministry...

- ♦ Plant a vegetable garden for members of our church and those in the community
- ♦ Plant a flower garden similar to 4-H to enhance pollination
- ♦ Plant several fruit trees on church property to feed the hungry
- ♦ Add a “Clothing Closet” to our indoor pantry for those in need
- ♦ Construct a modest picnic pavilion on our property

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.



Praises and Prayers

Mighty and Majestic 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 the newly renovated Kister Water Mill
- *For Food Pantry, which continues to feed our neighbors
- *For the faith that we so readily share with others
- *For our Greeters, Ushers, and Communion Stewards
- *For the presence of God’s Holy Word in our church

Prayers

- *For Keri Merickel's friend who is scheduled for a biopsy
- *For healing for Keri Merickel's grandson Beckham
- *For Kane as he recovers from open-heart surgery
- *For Stephanie as she recovers from Achilles surgery
- *For young Lanie, who is experiencing seizures
- *For Tim, Dean, Drew, Ann, and Betsy, who have cancer
- *For Jennifer Adair as she recovers at West View
- *For Jen Moser’s friend, Tracy, who is dealing with cancer
- *For Lola, who is entering into Hospice Care
- *For the Schlauch Family following the passing of Connor
- *For Tim Pettorini, who is having heart issues
- *For Gio, who is preparing for cancer surgery in New York
- *For the Stillwagner Family as they navigate immigration issues
- *For Mark Stanley as he prepares for chemo and radiation
- *For Dave Preston, who continues to recover from surgery
- *For newborn Julietta, who is facing future surgery
- *For healing and comfort for Cora
- *For Monica as she explores her faith
- *For all those dealing with Parkinson's and ALS
- *For those dealing with memory issues
- *For those who are lukewarm in their faith

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...

Sunday 9/6	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
	Worship	10:30 a.m.
Monday 9/7	Labor Day	
Tuesday 9/8	Evangelism Team	1:30 p.m.
	Days for Girls	2:00 p.m.
	Girl Scouts	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9/9	Pantry Team	6:00 p.m.
Saturday 9/12	Wayne County Fair begins	

Looking Ahead

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	Worship Team	6:00 p.m.
Thursday 9/17	Membership Care Team	9:30 a.m.

Acorn Society

We are moving to the fourth Wednesday of the month. On September 23 we meet at Belle 220 in Ashland. Also note—because Thanksgiving and Christmas are in the fourth week, we will meet on December 2. All women are invited.

Card Shower

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

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.

Week’s Attendance..... 59 in person.....27 online
Last Week’s Offering..... \$2124

Upcoming Worship Service

September 13 Accessing Authenticity
September 20..... Escape the Exile
September 27..... If These Pews Could Talk

**Oak Chapel
United Methodist Church**



Today’s Message
“Keep the Fire Burning

September 6, 2026

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

John Finn, *Pastor*

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