

June 28, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Chapel in the Woods

Summer Worship Series:
A Curriculum of Love: Deepening our Love for God, our Neighbors, and Ourselves
Week Four: Trusting God

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (A Time for Quiet Meditation)

Children's Medley

Mark Hayes

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based in Psalm 89)**

One: Let us sing of God's steadfast love forever;

All: With my mouth I will proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.

One: Let us declare that God's steadfast love is established forever;

All: God's faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

***GATHERING SONG #39** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Faithfulness

(verse 1)

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(refrain)

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

(verse 2)

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

(refrain)

(verse 3)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

(refrain)

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CALL TO CONFESSION

One: We have been called to love our God with all our heart, mind, strength, and soul and to love our neighbor as ourselves, but our lives are constricted and self-consumed. We have failed to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves as we should. Let us confess our failures and shortcomings before God and others:

*Please stand as you are able.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of the risen Christ, you overcame the power of sin and evil. And yet we still live in bondage to forgetfulness, anxiety, and fear. We have failed to love you as we should. We have neglected to love our neighbor. Indeed, we have even failed to love ourselves. Release us from the tombs that terrify us, so that we can see your image in one another and in your creation. Free us from the graves of self-doubt and hatred, so that we can see ourselves as your children. Amen.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The mercy of the Lord is certain and sure. In Christ, we are forgiven and set free from the chains that bind us so that we can be your people.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

SONG OF RESPONSE #370

This Is My Father's World
(verse 1)

Terra Beata

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet on this discipleship road. Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace. Open us to discerning your will and help us to your way. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING *Psalm 121*

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

One: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

All: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

One: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

All: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

One: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

All: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Together Through the Storm
Musical Offering: Sean Bulanda

Tricia D.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 22:39-46*

³⁹ He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ When he reached the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.' ⁴¹ Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, ⁴² 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.' [⁴³ Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. ⁴⁴ In his anguish he

prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.]] ⁴⁵ When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, ‘Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’

THE MESSAGE

“Trusting God”

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING – Remembering the Manse

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

Morecambe

Timothy Shaw

***DOXOLOGY #37** *Let All Things Now Living*
(verse 2)

Ash Grove

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.

We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration, a song let us raise, till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

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***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Because we have peace with God through Christ, let us share this peace together. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

***SENDING SONG #837**

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine
(verse 1)

Showalter

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.
(refrain)

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms, leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

(verse 2)

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.

(refrain)

(verse 3)

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.

(refrain)

*Please stand as you are able.

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Come Christians, Join to Sing

Becki Slagle Mayo

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Worship Series

Week Four: Trusting in and Surrendering to God

Questions to Ponder/Discuss:

- What do you think of when you hear the word “surrender”?
- Have you ever had the experience of surrendering something to God? What happened?
- What would you be afraid of happening if you trusted completely in God’s will? What would you hope would happen?

Spiritual Practice:

We will practice a bodily gesture of trust and surrender. Choose one of the following to do for a few minutes every day (even at moments throughout the day). Sit with your eyes closed and place your palms up on your lap. Or stand with your palms facing forward at your hips and walk very slowly forward, your eyes soft and partially closed. Or kneel on a mat or carpet in Child’s Pose, with forehead on the ground and palms open before you. Think of a feeling, person, or situation that is overwhelming or concerning to you. In either of these positions, recite quietly or out loud, “I surrender ____ to you. I surrender ____ to you.” Note with curiosity any feelings, images, or wisdom that arises in this time.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



Healthy cereals (except Cheerios), anything for grilling season (ground meat, chicken, steaks, vegetables, etc.), milk, eggs, snacks, or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations. You can, also, leave them in the blue donation bin in the Narthex.

Faith Garden

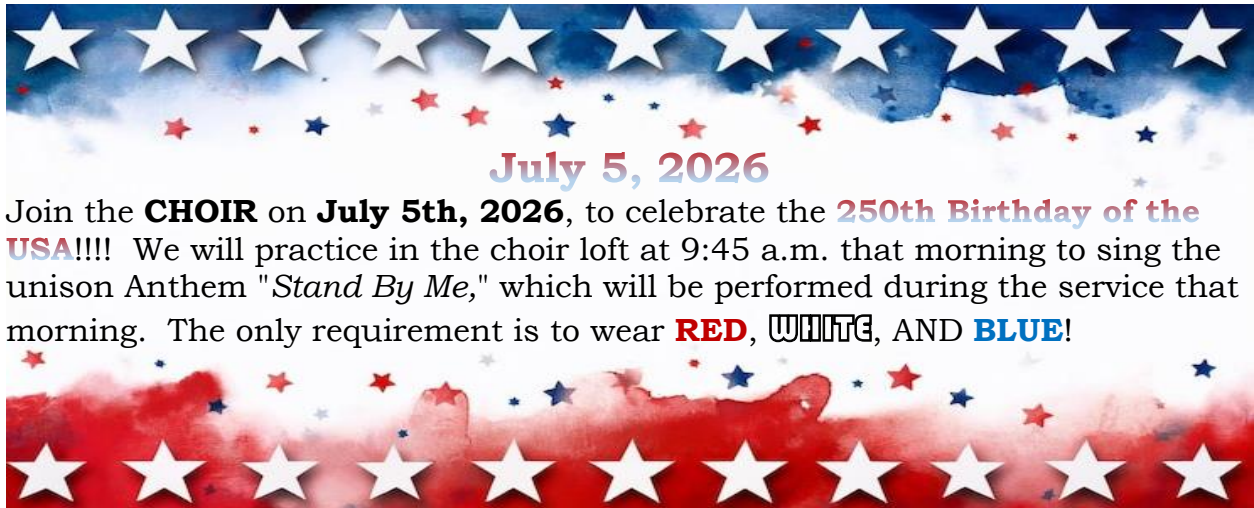
In Valley’s Faith Garden (located outside of the Church Library), we grow fresh produce to be donated to the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center Food Bank. There are garden gloves and tools in the shed, or feel free to bring your own. Summer garden workdays are below:

Summer Garden Workdays

Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

July 1, 15, 29

Pick-Up Choir



July 5, 2026

Join the **CHOIR** on **July 5th, 2026**, to celebrate the **250th Birthday of the USA!!!!** We will practice in the choir loft at 9:45 a.m. that morning to sing the unison Anthem "*Stand By Me*," which will be performed during the service that morning. The only requirement is to wear **RED, WHITE, AND BLUE!**

Knitting For Others

Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group.



**The group will meet on Sunday, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.:
July 12**

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but have not used quite all the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. We are currently making items for babies and young children. If you have any size-3 or 4 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked "yarn" in the Library. Thank you so much for your help.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl
502-553-7255

Bev Keough
330-888-5385

Wednesday Dinner and Entertainment

Join friends from Valley and beyond on **Wednesday evening, July 15**, from 6-8:00 p.m., for some food, drinks, and fun. The owners of Sharon James have agreed to donate ten percent of all sales (if you mention code VPC2026) back to the church. Enjoy the covered patio and performers (featuring comedy from Sean Bulanda) for open-mic night. Reservations are recommended but not required:

Sharon James Cellars
11303 Kinsman Road
Newbury, OH 44065
440-739-4065

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, July 17

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Saturday, July 18

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

Donations – Credit Card or Zelle

Credit card donations are available on-line at the Valley Presbyterian website below:

<http://valleypresbychurch.org>

Look for “Give Now” button. Can only be used for donations.

Can not pay for holiday flowers, VBS, books, etc. at this link.

Use the following QR Code to donate or purchase via **Zelle**:



VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Sean Bulanda

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Gerry Chittock