



We Seek to Better Understand  
the Teachings of Jesus—  
and Live those Teachings.

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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<b>Blythe Chapel</b> 8141 S. 450 W. Owensville, IN	<b>Fort Branch First</b> 100 W. Vine St. Fort Branch, IN
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**Office Hours**

Tuesday & Wednesday,

9:00 am– 2:00 pm

Closed Monday, Thursday and  
Friday

Rev. John Baylor, Jr., Pastor  
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Parsonage: (812) 615-0053

 Melissa Foster,  
Administrative Assistant  
[melissa@fbfirst.org](mailto:melissa@fbfirst.org)

Rexanne Robicheaux  
Musician @ Blythe Chapel

Zella Frey  
Custodian @ Blythe Chapel

**WELCOME**

Whoever you are,  
and wherever you find  
yourself on the journey of  
faith, you are welcome to  
this church as you are to  
receive the riches of  
God's grace...

*The Way...*

The earliest Christians were called *The People of the Way*.

This weekly publication is provided to show

how our congregations are living *The Way* today.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter** **April 7, 2024**

**Superimposed love**

Maybe you've heard how salvation is like a total solar eclipse: God doesn't see our sins because Jesus' holiness covers them completely. Or maybe you've heard how trials can cause an "eclipse of faith."

At WorldChallenge.org, Pastor Gary Wilkerson explains that in Greek, *eclipse* means "I am absent" or "I cease to exist," because people once thought the gods temporarily extinguished the sun. "For Christians, a 'spiritual eclipse' is a dark hour when God seems to be absent from our lives," Wilkerson writes.

Wilkerson points to Peter being sifted like wheat, Elijah and Jeremiah facing extreme discouragement, and David collapsing morally. Amid Satan's attacks, "God seems completely absent," writes the pastor. "In that dark moment of eclipse, the devil has created such chaos we can't possibly see a way out." During times of testing, Christians must cry out to God and trust his faithfulness.

Completing the eclipse analogy, Wilkerson shares Titus 3:4, the "love of God our Savior appeared" (NIV). The Greek meaning of *appeared* here is *superimposed*, he writes. God looks on our fraught-filled times of eclipse and "superimposes his divine love over us."



**The Joy of Jesus** The joy that Jesus offers his disciples is his own joy, which flows from his intimate communion with the One who sent him. It is a joy that does not separate happy days from sad days, successful moments from moments of failure, experiences of honor from experiences of dishonor, passion from resurrection.

This joy is a divine gift that does not leave us during times of illness, poverty, oppression or persecution. It is present even when the world laughs or tortures, robs or maims, fights or kills. It is truly ecstatic, always moving us away from the house of fear into the house of love, and always proclaiming that death no longer has the final say, though its noise remains loud and its devastation visible. The joy of Jesus lifts up life to be celebrated. —Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Lifesigns*

# CHURCH YARD SALE

Saturday,  
June 8  
8am ~ 12pm

*Donations can begin to  
be dropped off in  
fellowship hall on  
June 2, not before.  
Contact is Kristi  
812/664-1108*

*Please note, we will not be participating in the town  
wide event in August.*

Deaconess Gibson  
Hospital Auxiliary will  
have their annual fund-  
raiser/geranium sale on  
**April 15th and 16th  
from 9AM-4PM**

@ Princeton Public  
Library.

Proceeds are used to  
fund a \$1000  
scholarship to a senior  
student at each of the 3  
county schools who plan  
to enter the healthcare  
field.



Colors of  
choice this  
year are: red,  
salmon, pink,  
hot pink and  
white. The  
cost is \$6.50  
each  
cash or  
check  
only.

## Mighty metaphor machine

While moving to a new parish, Rev. Watt A. Hardworker lost his metaphor machine. His friend, Rev. Hesa Goodpastor, wondered how Watt could preach without metaphors. Another pal, Rev. Bloomingwhere I.M. At, remarked, "There isn't enough skill in all of us clergy to preach week after week without some metaphors! The 'Old, Old Story' has been told so often that people tune it out without metaphors to help them hear it afresh." He suggested organizing a metaphor collection to sustain Watt.

Hesa was open to the idea but worried that, with Easter approaching, Watt would be at a total loss. "What a catastrophe, especially starting out in a new church," said Bloomingwhere. "How can the poor pastor possibly preach Easter without any metaphors?"

Hesa added, "No 'butterflies emerging from the cocoon,' no 'awakening of daffodil bulbs after the long winter,' no 'flight of the Phoenix,' no 'resurrection as an image for a fresh start.'"

"He'll be left with nothing to say but that Jesus arose from the grave," Bloom exclaimed. "Just imagine!" —Stan Purdum

**APRIL**  
*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

*Tiffany Teel ~ 7th*  
*Alissa Fuhs ~ 12th*  
*Sydney Russler ~ 12th*

Fort Branch First UMC  
P. O. Box 116  
Fort Branch, IN 47648

Deliver to:

\* -This symbol,  
when found in the Order of Service  
invites you to stand - if able.

CCLI #2446518  
Streaming License # 20701562

### CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Children are welcome in the worship service! We do offer options. Following the Children's Sharing, children may attend Sunday School at Blythe Chapel or Nursery at Fort Branch First.



† Indicates location is Blythe Chapel  
Ω Indicates location is First UMC

### This Sunday

9:00am † Worship  
10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

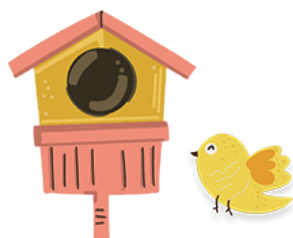
Thursday: ~ Office Closed ~

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday

### Next Sunday:

9:00am † Worship  
10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship



*Rev. John Baylor, Jr.*

### PRELUDE

\*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

\*HYMN #140 9:00am *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  
#310 10:30am *He Lives*

### \*GREETING AND PRAYER

*We offer a cordial greeting to all worshipers who have come to praise the Lord.  
Your presence helps lift our spirits, and we welcome you in Christ's name.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please add your name to the attendance register located in your pew and pass to the next person until reaches everyone in your row.*

### PRAYERS

#### SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYER HYMN #172 9:00am *My Jesus, I Love Thee*  
*Insert* 10:30am *At the Cross*

### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.

### THE OFFERING:

The Gathering of the Gifts

\*Presentation of Gifts with DOXOLOGY:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!  
Praise Him all creatures here below!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts!  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.**



**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

*Jenna Schleiter ~ What A Day That Will Be*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

*Luke 24:13-34 NLT*

**MESSAGE**

“The Emmaus Road”

\*HYMN #163 9:00am  
#370 10:30am

*Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know  
Victory in Jesus*

**\*BLESSING**

Pastor

**\*THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD**

Acolytes

**\*DEPARTING SONG: #2152 *Change My Heart, O God***

*Change my heart, O God,  
make it ever true.*

*Change my heart, O God,  
may I be like you.*

*You are the Potter,  
I am the clay.*

*Mold me and make me,  
this is what I pray.*

*Change my heart, O God  
make it ever true.*

*Change my heart, O God  
may I be like you.*

**\*PASSING THE PEACE:**

*Let us greet one another with the peace of God.*

**POSTLUDE**



*Prayer Requests*

*Prayer Requests —last names are printed for individuals requesting prayer for themselves or with explicitly given permission.*

*Jane Marginet, Richard Michel, Morgan Whitehead, Terri Jarboe, Ruby Wilkerson, Scotti Pitts, Gretchen Young, June Regenhold, Brian Price, Triston, Tegan, Pastor John, Thelma & Len Robicheaux, Wyatt Wagner, Mark Fear, Kim Stratman, Deanna Wilson, Kenny Shaw, Laynie Speicher, Scott Ingler, Cathy Starky, Duncan & Roberta Maikranz*



THEN  
*their eyes were*  
OPENED  
*and they recognized*

HIM.  
LUKE 24:31, NIV

Luke 24:13-34 NLT

**The Walk to Emmaus**

<sup>13</sup> That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. <sup>16</sup> But God kept them from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?"

They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days."

<sup>19</sup> "What things?" Jesus asked.

"The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. <sup>21</sup> We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.

<sup>22</sup> "Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. <sup>23</sup> They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! <sup>24</sup> Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said."

<sup>25</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. <sup>26</sup> Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, <sup>29</sup> but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So he went home with them. <sup>30</sup> As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!

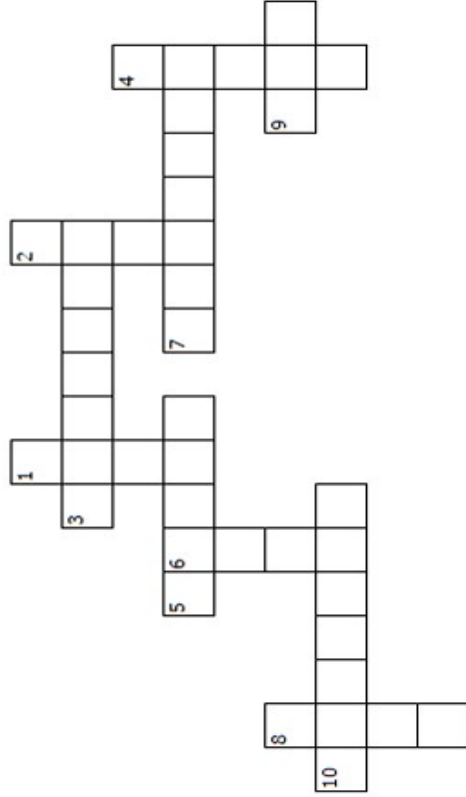
<sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them, <sup>34</sup> who said, "The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter."

RESPONSE: The Word of God, for the people of God.  
*Thanks be to God!*

# On the Road to Emmaus

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.  
 Luke 24:31a (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV)



## ACROSS

3. To put to death on a cross
5. The Old Testament man who received the Ten Commandments from God
7. A person who visits
9. A period of twenty four hours
10. Carrying on a conversation with someone

## DOWN

1. Not false
2. The organ which makes people able to see
4. A food made from flour and water, mixed together and baked
6. Not closed
8. To travel on foot

OPEN	MOSES	DAY	WALK	VISITOR
TRUE	BREAD	EYES	TALKING	CRUCIFY

# On The Road To Emmaus

E S U A M M E R Y B A N G E L S Q  
 D R G D M T S S E L C A R I M S P  
 E H N P E D E R A E P P A S I D L  
 G T I R L E K O V E M I S S I N G  
 G H S O A Z J M B S D X C Y Y L  
 E T S P S D M V W A L G I O B V Y  
 B E E H U I W W E G A S S A P N N  
 S R L E R Z G R H G C E V I L A S  
 I A B T E C B F O L L O W E R S H  
 S Z K U J I M S C R I P T U R E S  
 E A H B N E S I R E B P R V T H G  
 N N A N G N I N R O M E O I A G Z  
 E S U D D E N L Y R H S C S L Y I  
 G P W T O M B V O C O X E I K K D  
 S A P O E L C I A C C I E T I G K  
 W X Q P V U J E J T O E I O N J T  
 U P D N L X T Q T Y Q M J R G H K

disappeared scriptures    jerusalem    followers    blessing  
 miracles    nazareth    suddenly    genesis    passage  
 missing    morning    teacher    prophet    visitor  
 cleopas    talking    begged    angels    emmaus  
 risen    bread    alive    tomb