



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

#### THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

[www.fbfirst.org](http://www.fbfirst.org)

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

Phone: (812) 753-4424

Fax: (812) 768-6441

[melissa@fbfirst.org](mailto:melissa@fbfirst.org)

Blythe Chapel  
8141 S. 450 W.  
Owensville, IN

Fort Branch First  
100 W. Vine St.  
Fort Branch, IN

#### Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Closed Monday and Friday

Rev. John Baylor, Jr., Pastor

[john@fbfirst.org](mailto:john@fbfirst.org)

Parsonage: (812) 615-0053

Melissa Foster, Administrative Assistant



[melissa@fbfirst.org](mailto:melissa@fbfirst.org)

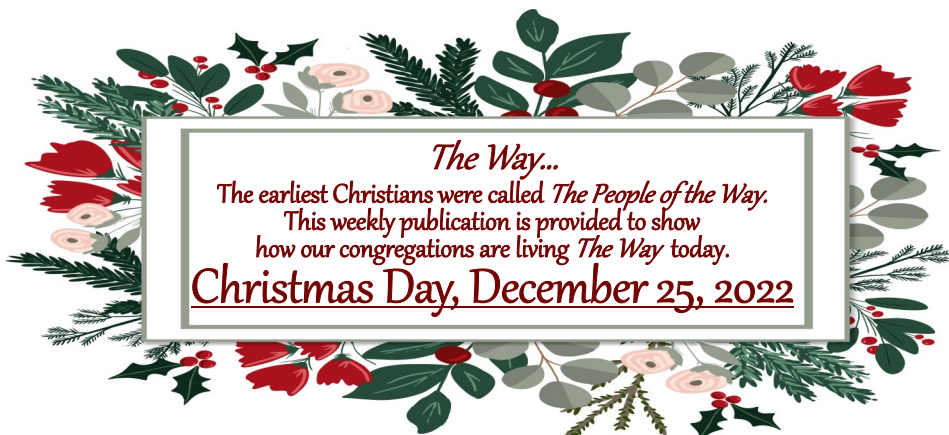
Rexanne Robicheaux  
Musician @ First

Derek Robicheaux  
Custodian @ First

Zella Frey  
Custodian @ Blythe

#### 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.

**Christmas Day, December 25, 2022**

*Dear Church Families-*

*Thank you to both congratulations for your generous Christmas gifts. We were overwhelmed by your love shown to us in this way. It continues to be a privilege to serve among you. Blessings on your 2023.*

*The Baylor Family*



Dear Church Family,

We are overwhelmed by your  
generosity and blessed with  
your love. Thank you so much  
for the kind Christmas Gift.  
We wish all of you a healthy  
happy New Year!  
Derek & Rexanne

*thank you*

I am blessed with the friends God  
has placed in my life's journey. I  
truly could not have gotten  
through the past year without each  
of you and my Savior!

The generous Christmas gifts I  
have received are greatly  
appreciated, but not necessary.  
Kelly and I pray each of you receive  
a Christmas blessing of love to  
your heart, health to your body  
and peace & joy to your home  
through the New Year.

GLORY TO THE  
  
newborn  
king



**Hot Chocolate &  
Coffee will be served  
on your way into  
Christmas Day service.**

**NEW BIBLE STUDY...  
FOR EVERYONE!**

**Beginning  
Monday,  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>**



**Please sign up by  
December 30th.  
Sign up sheet on the  
hallway bulletin board  
or contact Kristi.**

*Time to Celebrate!*

*John Baylor, Jr. ~ 24th*

*John Jenkins ~ 24th*

*Trista Teel ~ 26th*

*Derek Robicheaux ~ 29th*

**FREE 2023 Wall Calendars  
are available in the  
narthex, courtesy of  
Stodghill Funeral Home**



**Our  
Church Office  
Is Closed**

*December 23 through  
January 2*



*Merry Christmas and a very  
Happy New Year*

**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 First.



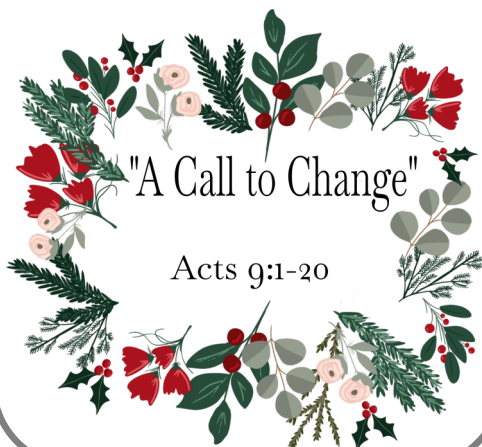
† Indicates location is Blythe Chapel  
Ω Indicates location is First UMC

This Sunday Christmas Day  
9:00am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~  
Tuesday: ~ Office Closed ~  
Wednesday: ~ Office Closed ~  
Thursday: ~ Office Closed ~  
Friday: ~ Office Closed ~  
Saturday

Next Sunday: New Year's Day  
9:00am † Worship  
9:30am Ω Sunday School  
10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship

*Next Sunday:*



*Rev. John F. Baylor, Jr.*

### PRELUDE

\*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

\*HYMN # 217

*Away in a Manager*

### \*GREETING AND PRAYER

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

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING ~ Christmas Candle

### 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 #239

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### 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

*A Christmas Offering*

**Derek Robicheaux & Jenni Schleter**

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Luke 2:1-20, NLT*

### MESSAGE

*"The New King"*



# Christmas Communion

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**  
**THE INVITATION**  
**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 AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**  
**THE COLLECT**

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are opened, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS**  
**THE SERVING OF THE BODY AND BLOOD**

*In this church, all are welcome to the Lord's Table.*

**\*HYMN #246**

*Joy to the World*

**\*BLESSING**

Pastor

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

Acolytes

**\*DEPARTING SONG: \*Hymn #234 *O Come, All Ye Faithful***

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord*

**\*PASSING THE PEACE:**

Let us greet one another with the peace of God.

**POSTLUDE**

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REQUESTS

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

*Jane Marginet, Jake Prieshoff,  
Richard Michel, Becca Manolov,  
Carla Jackson, Connie Osborn,  
Tommy Osborn, Alec Taylor,  
Morgan Whitehead,  
Derek Barton, Jo Eckert,  
Ruby Wilkerson, Terri Jarboe,  
Scotti Pitts, Deanna Wilson,  
Patti Knowles,  
Don Colvin, Gretchen,  
Effie Dilbeck, Ida Miller,  
Marcy Marvel, Frances Burns,  
June Regenholt*



*Merry Christmas! Welcome to the manger,  
which cradles the very Word made flesh.*

## The Birth of Jesus

<sup>2</sup> At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. <sup>4</sup> And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. <sup>5</sup> He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.

<sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. <sup>7</sup> She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

### The Shepherds and Angels

<sup>8</sup> That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, <sup>10</sup> but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. <sup>11</sup> The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! <sup>12</sup> And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in highest heaven,  
and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

<sup>16</sup> They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. <sup>18</sup> All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, <sup>19</sup> but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

RESPONSE: The Word of God, for the people of God.

*Thanks be to God!*

**Listening Guide**  
**“The New King”**  
**December 25, 2022**

**Scripture:** Luke 2:1-20

**What changes does the new King bring?**

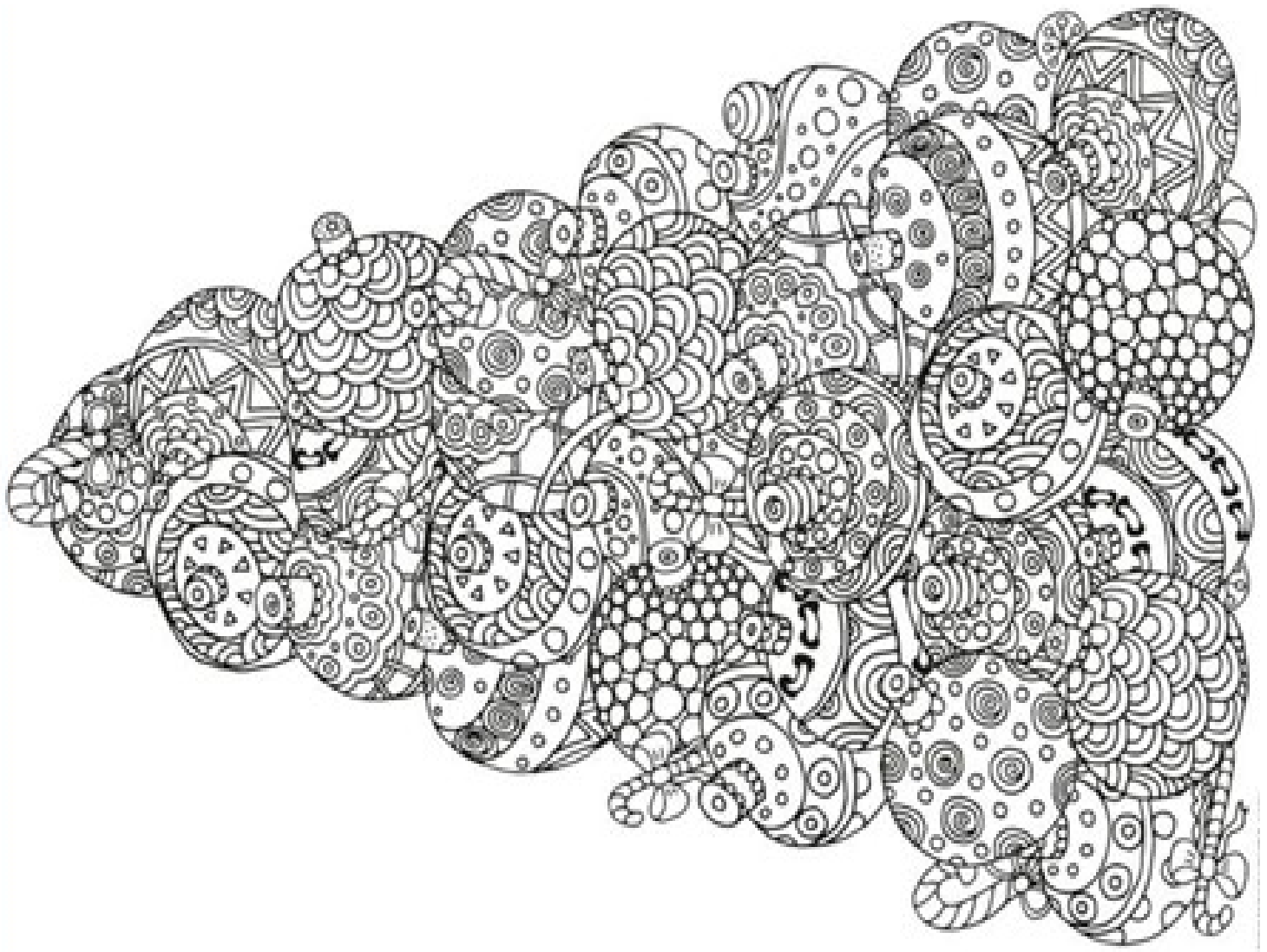
**Changes in His** \_\_\_\_\_



**Changes in** \_\_\_\_\_

**Changes in** \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Application:** As we get ready to share from the Lord’s Table in just a few minutes, let’s stop. Let’s rejoice. Let’s worship. This King, King Jesus is different than any other king ever. Let’s bow before Him and show our gratefulness for His work in our lives.



*In Memory of Tom Lewis, Sr.,  
The Parents of Tom Lewis, Sr. & Darla Skelton Lewis*

~ Darla Lewis & family

*In Memory of Marvin & Dorothy Steinmetz  
And Allen & Margie Cornelison*

~ Don & Sue Ann Steinmetz & family

*In Memory of Cameron Foster*

~ Kelly & Melissa

Brandon, Lauren, Owen, Caleb & Chase



## *POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS*

*In Memory of Jon Teel*

- Todd & Sonya Teel and family

*In Memory of Mary Godley*

- The Todd & Sonya Teel and family

*In Memory of Ralph, Butch, Terry Davis, Kolin Clutter,  
Joann Fitch, Charles, Kay Boss, Jean Dawson*

- John & Bev Boss

*In Memory of James David Trowbridge*

- Trowbridge Family

*In Memory of David L. Trowbridge*

- Trowbridge Family

*In Honor of Our Family & Friends*

- Bruce & Sherry Holder

*In Memory of Our Grandparents,*

*Dr. & Mrs. Leroy Holder and Carl Kriete*

- Grant, Kelsey & Blake Holder

*In Memory of Fred Fuhs & Grandparents*

- Wayne Anderson & David & Sarah Fuhs Family

*In Memory of Linda Anderson & Grandparents*

- Wayne Anderson & David & Sarah Fuhs Family

*In Memory of Russell Butts & Daughter*

- Carolyn Butts

*In Memory of Bill & Martha Jane Russler*

- Mike & Sydney Russler

*In Memory of Our Siblings: Judy, Tammy & Pam*

- Phil & Marla Scott

*In Honor of Ennes & Ruby Woolston and*

*Hubert & Dorothy Frey*

- Bill & Zella Frey

*In Memory of Joe Howland*

- Trevor, Alyssa & Gracelyn Moskos