



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

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.fbfirst.org

P. O. Box 116, Fort Branch, IN 47648
Phone: (812) 753-4424
Fax: (812) 768-6441
melissa@fbfirst.org

Blythe Chapel **Fort Branch First**
8141 S. 450 W. 100 W. Vine St.
Owensville, IN 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
Parsonage: (812) 615-0053

Melissa Foster, Administrative Assistant
melissa@fbfirst.org

Sherry Michel
Musician @ First

Derek Robicheaux, Custodian @ First

Zella Frey, Custodian @ Blythe

Lynn Prieshoff,
Director of Music Ministries @ 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...



Christmas
Poinsettias

Last Day to
Order!!

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.

2nd Sunday of Advent  December 5, 2021



You are invited to a
Christmas Cookie Exchange

We will be doing a cookie exchange after church on
December 12th @ 11:45am
We would love to see both churches participate!!

Advent & Christmas Worship Services

Dec. 5th ... Advent Sunday ~ Love @ 9 & 10:30am
Dec. 12th ... Advent Sunday ~ Joy @ 9 & 10:30am
Dec. 19th ... Advent Sunday ~ Peace @ 9 & 10:30am

Dec. 24th ... Christmas Eve ~ 6pm @
Blythe Chapel & Fort Branch First
A very special outside service!

Dec. 26th ... 1st Sunday after Christmas Day



This is a service designed so you may participate from home, in front of Fort Branch First UMC, at Blythe Chapel UMC, on the streets of Fort Branch or by live streaming wherever you are in the world. We can all gather and pause with our hearts and minds on Jesus for a few moments, regardless of location or denomination of faith. FUMC & Blythe Chapel will start ringing their church bells at 6pm with everyone, everywhere invited to ring their own bell for 2 minutes. We have asked that other church bells ring with us...what a glorious sound that will be! Pastor John will read the Christmas Story LIVE from the bell tower steps. A Christmas carol will be sung as we all light a candle.

This is to be a community event, so be sure to spread the word and invite your neighbors to step outside for a few minutes.

Christmas Bells: They are rung to announce the arrival of the Christmas season, to proclaim the birth of Christ.

**Pastor John & Staff
Christmas Gifts**

will be given the week of Christmas. Anyone wishing to participate should mail their contribution either to the church office or

Don Steinmetz
253 E 750 S

Fort Branch, IN 47648.
You may also give them to Don in person or place in the offering plate by December 19th.



SECOND SUNDAY

OF

Advent



Our deepest sympathies...

*Alva Rostron, loss of his wife
Elizabeth
206 S West Street
Haubstadt, IN 47639*

*Bruce & Marilee, loss of his
mother, Elizabeth
10332 S 150 E
Haubstadt, IN 47639*

**December
Celebrations**

*Bill Frey ~ 7th
Phil Cauthen ~ 7th
Rick Wilson ~ 8th
Susan Ahlfeld ~ 9th
John & Karen
Windell ~ 9th*

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.

Nursery
Attendant:



12/5: Kristi Pflug
12/12: Janet McBee



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

This Sunday: 2nd Advent Sunday

9:00am † Worship
9:30am Ω Sunday School
10:00am † Hanging the Greens
10:30am Ω Worship & Live
streaming worship
Last day to order Poinsettias

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday:

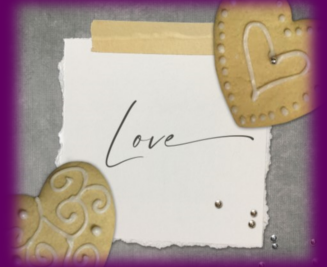
Next Sunday: 3rd Advent Sunday

9:00am † Worship
9:30am Ω Sunday School
10:30am Ω Worship & Live
streaming worship
11:45am Ω Cookie Swap



*Next Sunday Worship:
"The Gifts of the Christmas Event:
The Gift of Courage"*

God, you went ahead of Elijah to Zarephath to provide for him and the widow's family (1 Kings 17). Remind me that wherever I go this week, you're already there, preparing the way.



Welcome

Certified Lay Servant ~ Kristi Pflug



PRELUDE

*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

*HYMN #249 9:00am *There's a Song in the Air*
#249 10:30am *There's a Song in the Air*

*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 ~ Love

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 #211 9:00am *O Come, O Come
Emmanuel*
#242 10:30am *Love Came Down
at Christmas*

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:26-28 NCV

An Angel Appears to Mary

²⁶ During Elizabeth's sixth month of pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin. She was engaged to marry a man named Joseph from the family of David. Her name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel came to her and said, "Greetings! The Lord has blessed you and is with you."

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

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

"The Most Important Person in History"

*HYMN #238 9:00am *Angels We Have Heard on High*
#238 10:30am *Angels We Have Heard on High*

*BLESSING

Pastor

*THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD

Acolytes

*DEPARTING SONG: Hymn # 239 *Silent Night*

*Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.*

*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, Jake Prieshoff,
Lynn Prieshoff, Richard & Betty
Michel, Becca Manolov,
Carla Jackson, Kyle Stone,
Poppy Petry, Linda McKimmy,
Connie Osborn, Tommy
Osborn, Alec Taylor, Morgan
Whitehead, Lisa & Bill, Linda
Reed, Ryan Steele, Al Rostron,
Amy Casavant, Randy Jones,
Derek Barton, Wayne
Anderson, Dennis Woolston,
Sue Mounts, Jerry McBee
The Family of Elizabeth Rostron*

Christmas
BLESSINGS



As liaison between United Methodist Youth Home and our congregation, here is a wonderful opportunity to spread some Christmas cheer and make a difficult time of year happier for 17 youth who live at UMYH on Burkhardt Rd. in Evansville. These 9 young ladies and 8 young men are residents, having been court-ordered due to their own inadequate home environment. Please consult the posted suggestions for Christmas on the church bulletin board in the narthex. Unwrapped gifts or cash for gift cards will be accepted through Sunday Dec. 5th. Christmas Blessings to each of you. Darla Lewis



**UNITED
METHODIST
YOUTH HOME**

#StillServing

Their Christmas Wish List can be found on the hallway bulletin board or on their website

<https://umyh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-AFD-Letter-2.pdf>



• Christmas Poinsettia Orders

If you would like to help decorate and grace the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas with a poinsettia *In Honor of* or *In Memory of* someone, please fill out the order blank and place (with money) in the offering plate or mail it to the church at: PO Box 116, Fort Branch, IN 47648

We request you leave the plants until the Christmas Eve Service, and then take them home with you. We are offering red poinsettias in a 6" pot, approximately 12-18 inches tall with 4-5 blooms per plant for **\$20.00.**

Sunday, December 5th is the last day to order.

In Memory of / In Honor of (please circle one):

From: _____

Total Number of Poinsettias _____

advent CALENDAR

Perform a random act of kindness

1

two

Donate food to a local food bank

Have a coloring contest



four

Buy socks for a homeless shelter



5 Watch a favorite holiday movie

Make or buy a new Christmas ornament



6 seven

Let someone go in front of you in line

8 Clean out and donate outgrown toys



Build a snowman out of cotton balls



9

Take cupcakes to your local fire department



Decorate a gingerbread house



eleven

Help wrap a Christmas present



thirteen

Leave a happy note for someone to find



Have a game night in your PJs

14

Make paper snowflakes



17

Make Christmas cards



Drink hot cocoa



18

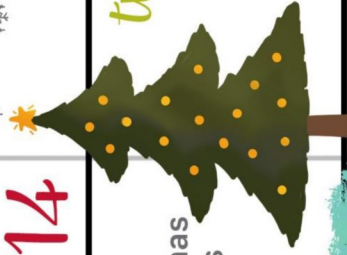
Bake Christmas cookies



Sing Christmas carols

twenty

Take a family photo in front of the Christmas tree



Read your favorite Christmas story

21

22

Take a car tour of your local light displays



23

Deliver Christmas cards to your neighbors



twenty-four

Watch or attend a Christmas Eve service



Read the Nativity story

25