



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

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.fbfirst.org

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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
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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.

Epiphany Sunday, January 1, 2023

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



thank you

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

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.

Fresh starts

I suppose when we wake on January 1 the world will look the same. But there is a reminder of the Resurrection at the start of each new year, each new decade. That's why I also like sunrises, Mondays and new seasons. God seems to be saying, "With me you can always start afresh."

—Ada Lum



Time to Celebrate!

Sam Steinmetz ~ 4th

Melissa Almon ~ 6th

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

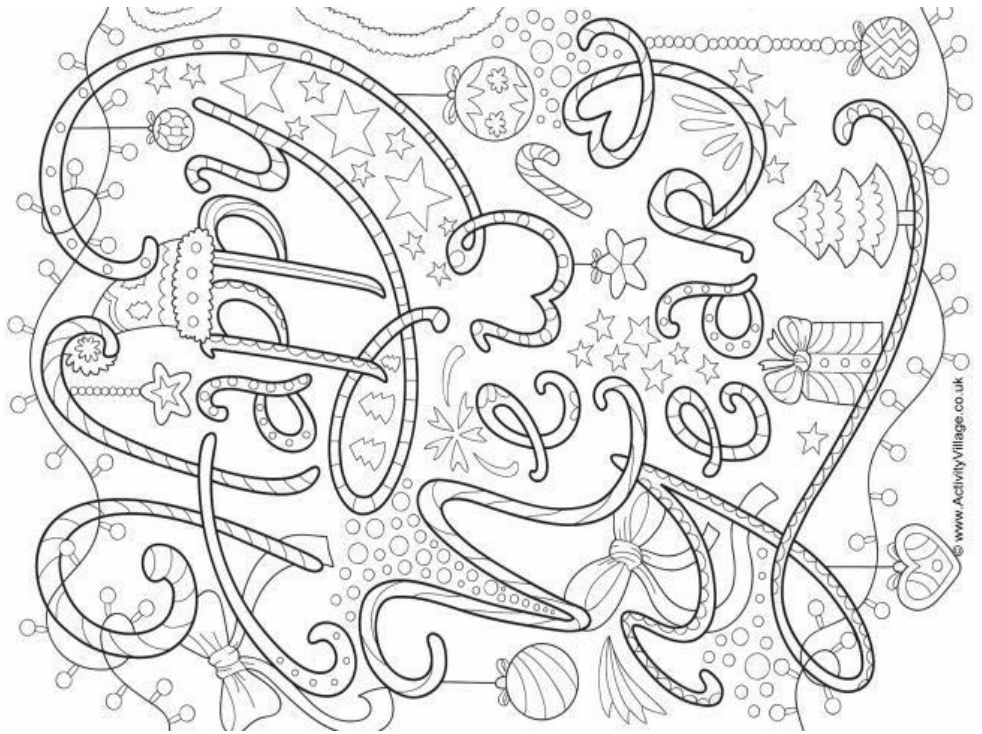


Pursue Jesus — and your passions

If you struggle with making and keeping resolutions, you're not alone. It can be discouraging to focus on what you're doing "wrong" and all the difficult changes in store. Yet January offers great opportunities to listen to God's direction. After all, Jesus came to give us abundant life and wants us to pursue him.

As you review the previous year, ask: What brought me joy? How did I grow? How did I help others? What did I do that no one else could have done? Whether your list includes spending time outside, mentoring or coaching young people or making crafts to give away or sell, continue doing what brings you joy. God gives us each unique gifts and circumstances, so live passionately for him this year! —

Janna Firestone



Methodist Women's Group

*Next meeting on
Saturday, January 14th @ 9am*

All women of the church are invited.

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

Deliver to:

**Methodist Mountain
Mission Pick Up
Tuesday, February 7th**



**Please use boxes when
collecting your donations and
stack neatly as possible in the
church garage.**

*-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 *New Year's Day*

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

Monday: ~ *Office Closed* ~

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday: ~ *Office Closed* ~

Saturday

Next Sunday:

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

Next Sunday:

“James—
Having an
Undivided Faith....
'Enduring Faith'
Part 1”

James 1:1-18



Rev. John F. Baylor, Jr.

PRELUDE

***THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US**

***HYMN # 131**

We Gather Together

***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.*

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 #130 *God Will Take Care of You*

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 9:1-20, NLT

MESSAGE

"A Call to Change"

Saul's Conversion

⁹ Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. ² He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.

³ As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?"

⁵ "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked.

And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!" ⁶ Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! ⁸ Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. ⁹ He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink.

¹⁰ Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord!" he replied.

¹¹ The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. ¹² I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he can see again."

¹³ "But Lord," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! ¹⁴ And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name."

¹⁵ But the Lord said, "Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake."

¹⁷ So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Instantly something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized. ¹⁹ Afterward he ate some food and regained his strength.

Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus for a few days. ²⁰ And immediately he began preaching about Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is indeed the Son of God!"

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

Thanks be to God!

Listening Guide
“A Call to Change”
January 1, 2023



Scripture: Acts 9:1-20

How does Saul answer the call to change?

He _____ His Need for Change (vs. 1-9)

He didn't Realize What God was _____ (vs. 10-16)

He _____ the Change (vs. 17-20)

Personal Application: Where do you fit today? Do you recognize your need for a change in your life? Do you realize that God is at work behind the scenes on your behalf? Is God trying to work behind the scenes with you on the behalf of someone else? Have you fully adopted the change that God wants to make in your life?
