

The First United
Methodist Church of
Fort Branch



Blythe Chapel United
Methodist Church
8141 S 450 W
Owensville, IN 47665

Our Mission....
To *make disciples of*
Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the
world .

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Office Hours
Tuesday & Wednesday,
9:00 am— 2:00 pm
Closed Monday, Thursday
and Friday



The Upside-Down Blessing

The Beatitudes are more than poetic lines from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. They're a radical redefinition of what it means to be blessed. The Greek word *makarios* doesn't just mean "happy." It describes a deep, untouchable joy that pain, loss or hardship cannot erase. As scholar William Barclay wrote, it is "the joy which shines through tears."

Jesus flips the world's idea of success upside down. The "blessed" aren't the powerful or prosperous, but the poor in spirit, the mourners, the meek and the merciful. Imagine reading them as "Congratulations, you who feel broken, God's kingdom belongs to you!" His words assure us that, even in suffering, we stand in God's favor.



Real blessing isn't about shiny possessions or smooth sailing. It's the steady, saving presence of God — a life preserver tossed to us when we're struggling to stay afloat. And it's not just an individual promise. Jesus spoke these blessings to a community, a we more than a me. Together, as the body of Christ, we find comfort, strength and the courage to live with joy that nothing in life or death can take away.

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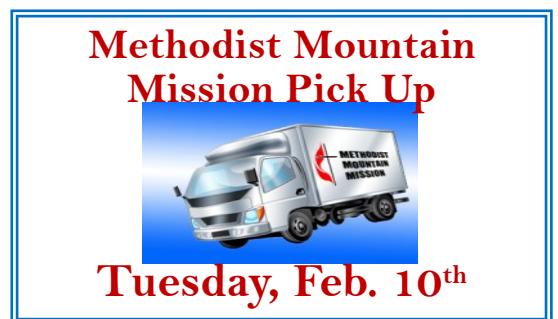
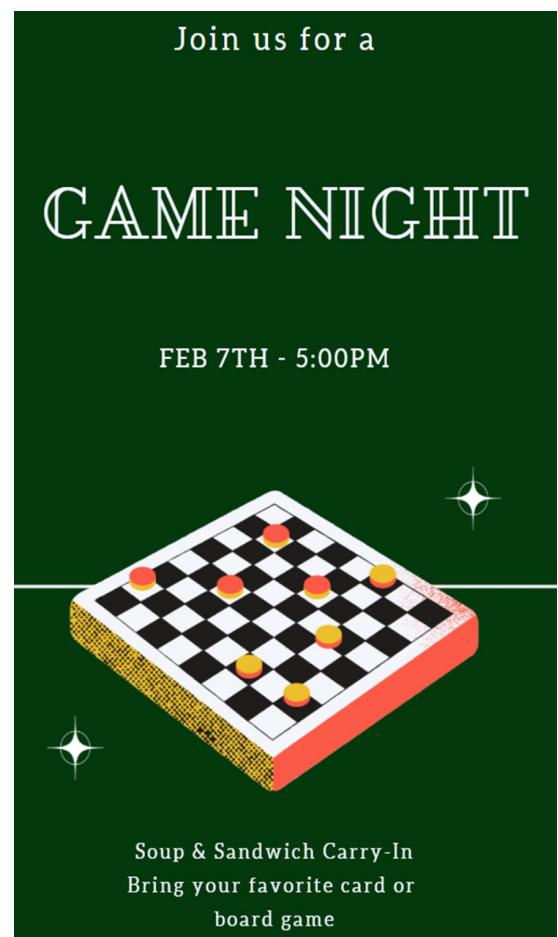
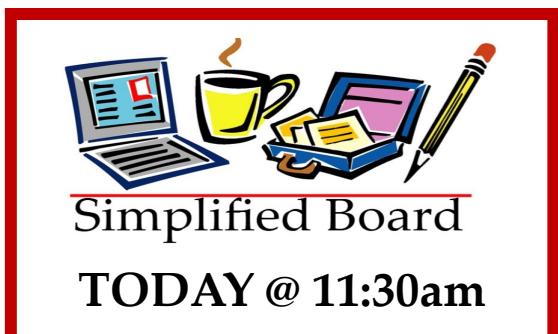
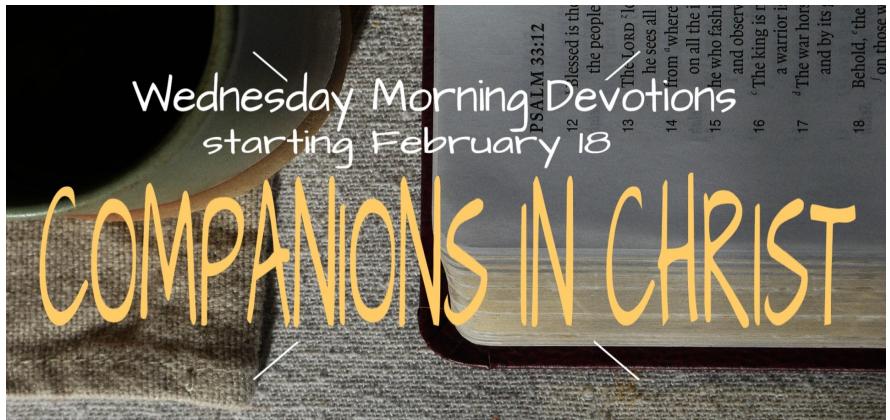
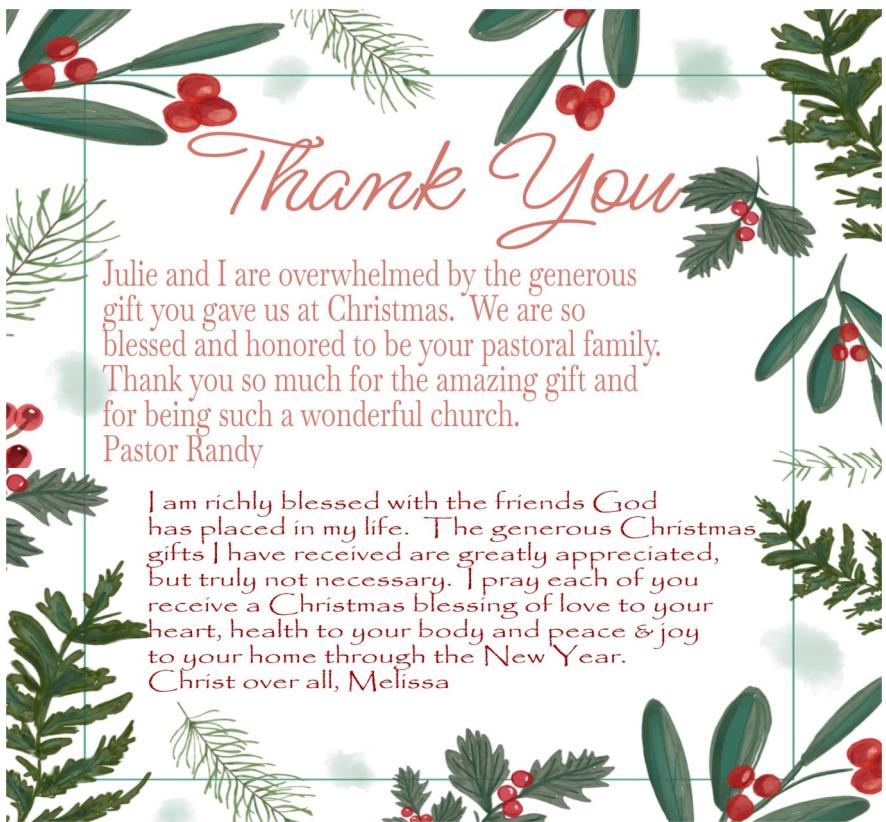
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One Church
Two Locations

January 11, 2026

The Beatitudes

PURE OF HEART
PEACEMAKERS
INHERIT THE EARTH
MERCIFUL MEEK
SATISFIED
CHILDREN OF GOD
POOR IN SPIRIT
THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
SEE GOD
MOURN
HUNGER AND THIRST
OBTAI COMFORTED
SEE GOD
MERCY FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS
PERSECUTED



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 provide a nursery, located in the education wing near the restrooms.

@Church

This Week

This Sunday:

10:30am ~ Worship & Live streaming worship
11:30am ~ Simplified Board

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~

Tuesday: ~ Yoga, for everyone
4:00 pm

Wednesday:

Thursday: ~ Office Closed ~
8:30am-3pm ~ Finish It

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday:

Next Sunday: ~ Worship & Live streaming worship

Rev. Randy Anderson

PRELUDE

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.

WORSHIP THROUGH GATHERING

*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

*HYMN # 577 vs 1,2 &4

God of Grace and God of Glory

*RESPONSIVE READING

-The Beatitudes, Matthew 5:3-16 (ESV)

adapted from Christ-Centered Worship by Bryan Chapell

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

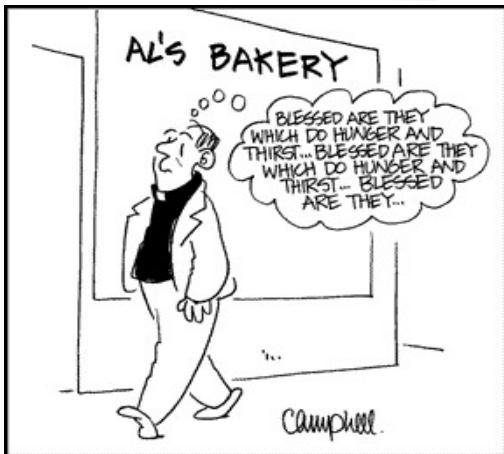
You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYING

PRAYER HYMN #578 vs 1,2&4 *God of Love and God of Power*



SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

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.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

THE OFFERING: The Gathering of the Gifts

*Presentation of Gifts with Offertory Response: **Hymn #70**

***Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.***

WORSHIP THROUGH HEARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SCRIPTURE **The Sermon on the Mount** *Matthew 5:1-5, NLT*

5 One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, **2** and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

3 "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

4 God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.

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

MESSAGE

"Blessings Come from Lowness"

WORSHIP THROUGH RESPONDING

*HYMN #580

*BLESSING

*BENEDICTION #672 vs 3 ***God Be With You till We Meet Again***

Prayer Requests

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

Jane Marginet, Mark Fear, Terri & Steve Jarboe, Liz & Alan Creamer, Paul & Jeanie Cardinal, Zach Anderson, Morgan Whitehead, Roger & Nancy Jones, Julie Anderson, Carolyn Jones, Jim Feutz, Kathy Trowbridge, Kelsey Holder, Sherry Holder, Mona Davis, Kenny Fehrenbacher,



**Wayne
Anderson ~ 11th**
**Marilee Rostrom
~ 16th**

