



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 **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

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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.

2nd Sunday after Epiphany January 15, 2023

Epiphany is seen in the light of the star that led the magi to Bethlehem. The Season of Epiphany celebrates the Light of Christ overcoming the world. We discover anew the brightness of that light in our times of contemplative prayer. Jesus is the Light of the World. ~ Rev. John Windell

A pastor asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast. "Lord, I hate buttermilk", the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going. The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned.

Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour". The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen."

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today.

Stay strong, my friends, because our LORD is mixing several things that we don't really care for, but something even better is going to come when HE is done with it. AMEN!



Leave the light on

"We'll leave the light on for you," a motel chain once promised. In other words, they were expecting you and looking forward to your stay.

During the time of the high priest Eli, "the lamp of God had not yet gone out" (1 Samuel 3:3). Eli oversaw the tabernacle, so some people say this refers to an actual lamp. But the passage could have a deeper meaning. Although Eli had turned a blind eye to his sons' sins and neglected his duties, God knew that Eli could still be a divine instrument. God knew not to turn off Eli's light.

God was expecting Eli to still shine brightly for him, and eventually Eli figured out that Samuel, his young charge, was hearing God's voice.

So if your light seems dim or even burned out, be assured that your pilot light remains on! God has left the light on not just *for* you but also *in* you.

—Julie Lee

Time to Celebrate!

Marilee Rostron ~ 16th

Scott Wilson ~ 20th

Ashley Hauschild ~ 21st



koinohnia

3 things Jesus' love will never do

- Will never leave you broken-hearted (Psalm 147:3)
- Will never reject you (John 6:37)
- Will never leave you nor forsake you (Hebrews 13:5)



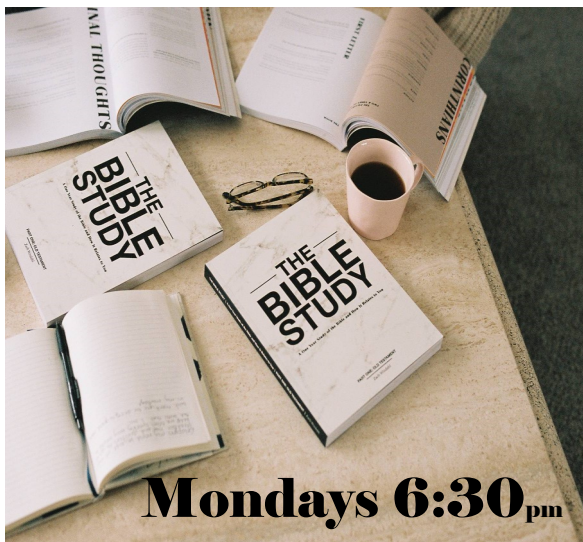
bi-ble-girl

So basically, Jesus is never gonna give you up, never gonna let you down, never gonna run around and desert you

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



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



Mondays 6:30_{pm}

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



**Stodghill Funeral
Home**

**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

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 2"

James 1:1-18



Special Guest Speaker John Hedge

PRELUDE

Sherry Michel

*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

*HYMN # 370 9:00am
467 10:30am

*Victory in Jesus
Trust and Obey*

*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 #347 9:00am

Spirit Song

#526 10:30am

What a Friend We

Have in Jesus

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 (insert)

Isaiah 49:1-7 NIV

MESSAGE

"Future Redeemer"

*HYMN #701 9:00am
#400 10:30am

***When We All Get to Heaven
Come, Thou Fount of
Every Blessing***

*BLESSING

Pastor

*THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD

Acolytes

*DEPARTING SONG: *Hymn 171

There's Something About That Name

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!
There's just something about that name!
Master, Savior, Jesus!
Like the fragrance after the rain.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!
Let all heaven and earth proclaim:
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away,
But there's something about that name!

*PASSING THE PEACE:

Let us greet one another with the peace of God.

POSTLUDE



PRAYER list

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, Terri Jarboe,
Derek Barton, Jo Eckert,
Ruby Wilkerson, Scotti Pitts,
Deanna Wilson, Don Colvin,
Gretchen Young, Effie Dilbeck,
Bill Conklin, Frances Burns,
June Regenhold
The family of Patti Knowles*

With the current tax laws,
not everyone will need to
itemize their

2022 Federal Income Taxes.



As to save our Financial
Secretary (aka volunteer)
a lot of extra work,
a financial statement
of your offerings and tithes
**will only be prepared for you
upon request.**

Please contact

Paul Cardinal

email: redbird937@hotmail.com
or via phone (812)677-0274

The Servant of the LORD


¹ Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant nations:
Before I was born the LORD called me;
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.
² He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.
³ He said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."
⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing at all.
Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand,
and my reward is with my God."

⁵ And now the LORD says—
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him
and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD
and my God has been my strength—
⁶ he says:
"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

⁷ This is what the LORD says—
the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—
to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation,
to the servant of rulers:
"Kings will see you and stand up,
princes will see and bow down,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

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

Thanks be to God!



The LORD
called me
before I
was born,
while I
was in my
mother's womb
he named me.

Isaiah 49:1, NRSV

Writing our life — with God's help

A journalist once said you can measure the quality of a piece of writing by the quality of what has been cut. No matter how beautiful or interesting a phrase or sentence is, the piece may be stronger without it.

Rabbi Evan Moffic applies this wisdom to life in general. Too often we refuse to let something — a habit, a memory, a process — go, even when it no longer serves us. Thinking of our life as a book, we can cut out, edit or rearrange some pages or sentences to reflect our new learnings and growth.

This is not always easy, but we don't have to do it alone. "God is our 'editor-in-chief,'" says Moffic, "and we are part of God's story. [While] God ... gives us free will to decide what to write on the pages of our lives, ... God is always there for conversation and consultation. And God left us a great guidebook called the Bible. Its lessons make our writing shine with truth and beauty." With God's guidance, what will you "write" in the new year?

