

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

Blythe Chapel **Fort Branch First**
8141 S. 450 W. **100 W. Vine St.**
Owensville, IN **Fort Branch, IN**

Fax: (812) 768-6441
melissa@fbfirst.org

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

Margie Beal,
Preschool Director @ First

Rexanne Robicheaux,
Director of Music Ministries @ First
rexanne@fbfirst.org

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...

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 Epiphany ***January 17, 2021***

THE CHURCH & COVID-19

Helping you lead well through this time

Dear Indiana United Methodists,

We are in a new year with new challenges and opportunities. May 2021 be a year of blessing, generosity, and adaptability.

I share this message as COVID-19 cases continue to increase and hospitals are near capacity. As your bishop who cares for you and the well-being of all of our families and communities, I ask you to stay the course with an abundance of caution.

I know it has been difficult not meeting in gathered sanctuary worship. Please continue moving forward for the foreseeable future using adaptive ways of connecting. **I believe it to be the better part of wisdom to continue to not meet in person at your churches.**

It may be months down the road, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. God is able, even in dark times. May we choose to be a blessing by reaching out and calling or writing or communicating support for one another. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).

Be encouraged,

Bishop Julius C. Trimble
Resident Bishop
Indiana Conference of The United
Methodist Church

WAITING UNTIL GOD IS HEARD

We're often taught that prayer is speaking to God. And of course, that's part of it. It's good to pray for the well-being and needs of others — even Jesus prayed for his disciples. It's okay to pray for our own growth in faith and love. It's a wonderful, powerful thing, modeled especially by the Psalmists, to give God thanks and praise. And God welcomes our cries of pain and sorrow, offering the Spirit's help when words fail us (Romans 8:26).

But through the ages, many deeply faithful followers of Christ have practiced contemplative prayer, centering prayer and other forms of stillness before God. Danish theologian Søren Kierkegaard (1813-1855) expressed it this way: "To pray does not mean to listen to oneself speaking. Prayer involves becoming silent, and being silent, and waiting until God is heard."

The state of Indiana has now added a new age group to their current requirements for an individual to register and receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

The new age requirement includes anyone 70 years of age or older. You may use the link below to get registered.

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/>

NUMBERING OUR DAYS

To fix what they call a disorganized date-tracking system, professors Steve Hanke and Dick Henry have developed a "permanent calendar." On it, January 1 is always a Monday, so holidays and birthdays occur on the same day every year. The 364-day calendar eliminates leap years, time zones, Halloween and every Friday the 13th. Instead of leap days, "every five or six years, we'll have an extra week at the end [of December] when you can party," says Henry.

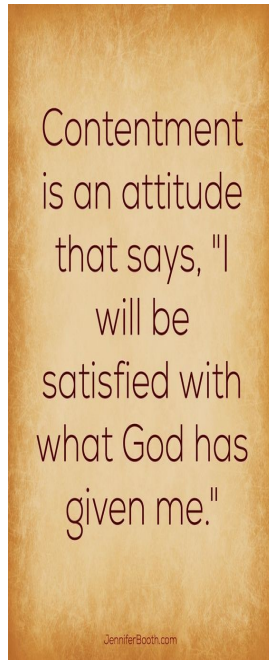
Because the permanent calendar is predictable, it reportedly would save money and time. Yet despite almost two decades of work, the idea hasn't taken off.

However we track our lives, we do well to remember this prayer: "Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. ... Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:1, 12 NIV).



Scott Wilson ~ 20th
Ashley Hauschild ~ 21st
Alan McBee ~ 22nd
Owen Foster ~ 23rd

SUFFICIENT FOR THE DAY



John Newton (1725-1807), author of "Amazing Grace," wrote: "We may easily manage if we will only take, each day, the burden appointed for it.

But the load will ... be too heavy for us, if we carry yesterday's burden over again today, and then add tomorrow's." This maxim might be easy to dismiss unless we knew about Newton's troubled life.

Having been pressed into naval service and then slavery, Newton was finally rescued but became a slave-ship captain. He faced abuse, contemplated murder-suicide, suffered a stroke and was caught in a storm. When he cried out to God, the waves subsided, prompting a spiritual conversion for Newton, who became a priest and abolitionist.

We never know how God will transform our sinful past into future good, but we can trust he will. That adds power to Newton's advice, which echoes Jesus' words: "Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (Matthew 6:34, ESV).

Fort Branch First UMC
Attn: Paul
PO Box 116

Fort Branch, IN 47648

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8141 S 450 W
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"Right again, God, but please wait until AFTER I ask the question to answer."

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CALENDAR

THIS WEEK

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

This Sunday:

9:00am † Worship
online

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

9:00am The Lord's Pantry
is open to all
Haubstadt & Fort
Branch Residents

Thursday:

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

9:00am † Worship online



Next Sunday Worship:

Reset for the New Year

"Don't Worry"
Matthew 6:25-34



**God of the Ages, I offer you my heart, anew with
this new year. Help me love you and my neighbors
all year long, one day at a time.**



Rev. John F. Baylor, Jr.

MESSAGE

"New Year Reset: Be Content"

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Our Father

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,
for ever and ever.
Amen

SVG PDF 



Missed the LIVE message?
Don't have a Facebook account?
[https://www.facebook.com/pg/
FortBranchFUMC/posts/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/FortBranchFUMC/posts/)

2 Corinthians 12:1-10 NLT

Paul's Vision and His Thorn in the Flesh

¹² This boasting will do no good, but I must go on. I will reluctantly tell about visions and revelations from the Lord. ² I was caught up to the third heaven fourteen years ago. Whether I was in my body or out of my body, I don't know—only God knows. ³ Yes, only God knows whether I was in my body or outside my body. But I do know ⁴ that I was caught up to paradise and heard things so astounding that they cannot be expressed in words, things no human is allowed to tell.

⁵ That experience is worth boasting about, but I'm not going to do it. I will boast only about my weaknesses. ⁶ If I wanted to boast, I would be no fool in doing so, because I would be telling the truth. But I won't do it, because I don't want anyone to give me credit beyond what they can see in my life or hear in my message, ⁷ even though I have received such wonderful revelations from God. So to keep me from becoming proud, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan to torment me and keep me from becoming proud.

⁸ Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. ⁹ Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. ¹⁰ That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

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

Thanks be to God!



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

—Mahatma Gandhi

Prayer REQUESTS

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

Jane Marginet, Marty Marginet,
Joann Davis Fitch, Mark Dillion,
Jake Prieshoff, Lynn Prieshoff,
Richard & Betty Michel, Becca
Manolov, Carla Jackson, Kyle Stone,
Deven Pohl, Julia Gentry,
Beeper & Joyce Kruse, Lucile
Johnson, Mark Fear, CJ Hinkle,
Poppy Petry, Judy Basham



*We want to give God the Glory
for the many blessings in our lives.
Let's share these moments with
praise!*

*Shelby Baylor has passed her first
license exam subtest to become a
teacher, several more to go!
Congratulations!*

*Hannah Bryant —Congrats on
making the U of Evansville
Deans list!*

*Owen Bryant — Congrats on
your many recent wins on the
wrestling mat!*

*Happy Birthday to Wayne
Anderson who recently celebrated
being 80 years young!!*



Listening Guide

“Be Content”

January 17, 2021

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

How does Paul model contentment?

In God’s _____ (vs. 1-4)

In His _____ (vs. 5-7)

In God’s _____ (vs. 8-10)

Personal Application: Are you content today? Where does that contentment come from? Is it in the same places that Paul found his?





BE Kind to YOURSELF

PHIL. 4:8