



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

**THE UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

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

Tuesday & Wednesday
9:00 am– 2:00 pm
Closed Monday, Thursday
and Friday

Rev. John Baylor, Jr., Pastor
john@fbfirst.org
Parsonage: (812) 615-0053

Melissa Foster,
Administrative Assistant
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Rexanne Robicheaux
Musician @ Blythe Chapel

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.
3rd Sunday After Epiphany January 21, 2024

Women's Conference
**WE LOVE
BECAUSE
HE FIRST
LOVED US.**
1 JOHN 4:19
Fort Branch First UMC
100 W Vine ST, Fort Branch, IN 47648

February 24 9am-2pm
Guest Speaker
Jammy Whitehurst
\$25
conference, lunch & t-shirt
RSVP to Kristi Pflug 812/664-1108
by February 17, 2024
Please indicate t-shirt size.

One hooky day a year

On a random Saturday, I threw the to-do list out the window, packed up the kids and headed to the mountains. Because Saturdays are usually for catching up on chores, my sons were surprised by their new, carefree mom. We played, laughed and explored — all with no agenda. I introduced them to the concept of a hooky day.

As a child, my parents allowed me one of those per year. It wasn't a sick day but a day off, just because. I could take it any time (but not to avoid a test), and I didn't need to plan ahead. It was okay to wake up one morning and play hooky.

Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV) wisely states, "A merry heart does good, like medicine." What will you do with an impromptu day off? Will you set your own pace walking through a park? Maybe stop at a restaurant you've wanted to try? Whether a fun day off includes spending time alone or with a friend, make the most of it as a God-given gift.
—Janna Firestone

Jesus Told Nichodemus How to Be Saved

I S F U D K A T E M U B S D R K J
 S E A K U K E Q H S N N E L X H T
 N G I L S X A Y V E U M V Q E R N
 F M J T V Z Y C H D F B A F Y P E
 M S H F I A W N C T M X S O E H P
 I B A V M B T A S E I H Q R Q H E
 U D E V L M V I R I P A Y G W E R
 N V L I I V B E O X N T F I R V L
 T F Y T D O N A A N R S G V U E Y
 G W Q H C N R Z P W I V X E V I L
 H G W H I G D F V E G K T N C L L
 E Q R S U R M U L X I U X E O E G
 T S S E F N O C P U F U W S Y B F
 I P U T Q A A Y O L T P C S L X H
 M S W H N S A D O C L I Q E Y B Y
 D T E E W R R R K E R W W I E M L
 A O T A P X D X C H R I S T I A N



We are requesting rotation of cleaning, maintenance and general upkeep VOLTUNTEERS. We are off to a great start of purging and cleaning, but we all need to do a little to keep the momentum. Every little chore helps! There is a suggested list posted on the bulletin board. At this time, we are requesting volunteers for a 6 month period, if you can. Any questions or additions, see Don or Sue Ann Steinmetz or Larry Johnson.

accept	sinner	lord	faith
gift	forgiveness	confess	believe
admit	pray	saves	christian
salvation	repent	savior	sin



FREE 2024
 Wall Calendars are available in the narthex, courtesy of **Stodghill Funeral Home**

Give To
FAITH PROMISE
 * PARTICIPATE IN WHAT GOD IS DOING *
Live Generously

JANUARY
Birthdays and Anniversaries

Ashley Hauschild ~ 21st
 Alan McBee ~ 22nd
 Owen Foster ~ 23rd
 Izabella Hargiss ~ 25th
 Shane Springer ~ 25th
 Eli Robicheaux ~ 26th

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

THIS WEEK *At Church*

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

This Sunday:

9:00am † *Worship*

10:30am Ω *Worship & Live
streaming worship*

Monday: ~ *Office Closed* ~

6:30pm Ω *Bible Study*

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday: ~ *Office Closed* ~

Friday: ~ *Office Closed* ~

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

9:00am † *Blythe Chapel*

10:30am Ω *Fort Branch First &
Live streaming*

Complete Schedule @
www.fbfirst.org

Bible Study Mondays @ 6:30pm



Rev. John Baylor, Jr.

PRELUDE

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

***HYMN #384** 9:00am *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*
AV 10:30am *Here I Am to Worship*

***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 #298 9:00am *When I Survey the
Wondrous Cross*
AV 10:30am *Shout to the Lord*

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.**

Listening Guide
“The Rewards of Seeking”
January 21, 2024

Scripture: John 3:1-21

What are the rewards of seeking after Jesus?

Jesus _____ Us (vs. 1-3)

Jesus _____ (vs. 4-5)

Jesus’ _____ (vs. 16-17)

Jesus Removes _____ (vs. 18-21)

Personal Application: How are you seeking Jesus? What are you doing to draw closer to Him?



³ There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. ² After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.”

³ Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

⁴ “What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?”

⁵ Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. ⁷ So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can’t tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can’t explain how people are born of the Spirit.”

⁹ “How are these things possible?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ Jesus replied, “You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don’t understand these things? ¹¹ I assure you, we tell you what we know and have seen, and yet you won’t believe our testimony. ¹² But if you don’t believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man has come down from heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

¹⁸ “There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God’s one and only Son. ¹⁹ And the judgment is based on this fact: God’s light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. ²⁰ All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. ²¹ But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants.”

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