



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

Fax: (812) 768-6441

melissa@fbfirst.org

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

john@fbfirst.org

Parsonage: (812) 615-0053

Melissa Foster, Administrative Assistant



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.

Baptism of our Lord January 8, 2023

Baptism is serious business!

Baptizing people into God's family has always been a ministry highlight for Pastor Stan Purdum. One Sunday, he had the privilege of welcoming three infants and two young boys to the baptismal font, along with all their parents. After baptizing the babies, Purdum turned toward the families with older children, who'd been instructed to have their boys step forward one at a time.

Immediately, the 3-year-old shouted, "Not me!" and bolted for the exit. His father caught the youngster and carried him back as the congregation chuckled. This time, Purdum wasted no time completing the sacrament.

"Maybe this young boy was not greatly wrong to try to duck baptism," he later pondered. "Far from being a harmless little ceremony, baptism begins a lifetime commitment to God, which over the long haul is no easy thing. It lays upon us the responsibility to live up to the vows we have made." How seriously do you take your baptismal vows?

*Baptism
of our Lord*



Aren't they just the cutest?

*Happy 60th Wedding
Anniversary*



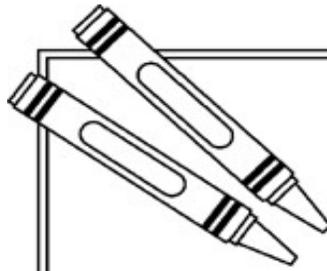
Alan & Elizabeth Creamer

Time to Celebrate!

Kay Weber ~ 8th

Kathy Trowbridge ~ 10th

Wayne Anderson ~ 11th



Just for KIDS

The Books of the Bible Seek and Find

*All of the books of the Bible are hidden in this puzzle
There are 39 from the Old Testament and 27 from the
New Testament. Use your Bible to help you find the names.
Circle each one. The names can go → ← ↓ ↑ ↘.*

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

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

Methodist Mountain Mission Pick Up Tuesday, February 7th



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

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:

*-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:

Special Guest
Speaker,

John Hedge



Rev. John F. Baylor, Jr.

PRELUDE

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

***HYMN # 381** *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

*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 #382 *Have Thine Own Way, 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.**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

SCRIPTURE LESSON

James 1:1-8, NLT

MESSAGE

*James — Having an Undivided Faith
“Enduring Faith—Part 1”*

***HYMN #454**

Open My Eyes, That I May See

***BLESSING**

Pastor

***THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD**

Acolytes

***DEPARTING SONG: *Hymn**

Thank You, Lord

*Thank You, Lord, for saving my soul!
Thank You, Lord for making me whole;
Thank You, Lord for giving to me
Thy great salvation so rich and free.*

***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, Patti Knowles,
Don Colvin, Gretchen, Effie
Dilbeck, Ida Miller, Bill Conklin,
Frances Burns, June Regenhold,
The family of Betty Jackson*



random
Acts of kindness

*Bill Conklin, hospitalization
4409 E 950 S
Haubstadt, IN 47639*

*Terry & Debi Phillips,
passing of her mother,
Betty Jackson
104 W Walnut
Fort Branch, IN 47648*

Greetings from James

¹ This letter is from James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am writing to the “twelve tribes”—Jewish believers scattered abroad.

Greetings!

Faith and Endurance

² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

⁵ If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. ⁶ But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

⁹ Believers who are poor have something to boast about, for God has honored them. ¹⁰ And those who are rich should boast that God has humbled them. They will fade away like a little flower in the field. ¹¹ The hot sun rises and the grass withers; the little flower droops and falls, and its beauty fades away. In the same way, the rich will fade away with all of their achievements.

¹² God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, “God is tempting me.” God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. ¹⁴ Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. ¹⁵ These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

¹⁶ So don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. ¹⁸ He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

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

Thanks be to God!

Listening Guide
“Enduring Faith”
January 8, 2023

Scripture: James 1:1-18

How does one develop an enduring faith?

Seek _____ in Troubles (vs. 1-4)

Seek _____ (vs. 5-8)

Seek _____ (vs. 9-11)

Seek _____ (vs. 12-18)

Personal Application: We’ve seen some things that we should seek after as Christians to have an enduring faith. Do we?
