



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

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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 & Blythe

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.

24th Sunday after Pentecost November 12, 2023

A Cornerstone of Inheritance

In Matthew 21:33-46, Jesus tells a parable in which vineyard tenants plot to kill the landowner's son and thereby to "get his inheritance." Of course, that's not how life works: Unless the owner of wealth *gives* it away freely, the recipients aren't heirs — they're *thieves*!

We are all tenants entrusted with the cultivation and harvest of God's worldly vineyard. As such, we are to turn the fruits of the vineyard back over to God. We have no need to hoard them because the divine Landowner provides all our needs. What's more, we *already* have an inheritance of life and love, brought to us by the Son. May we not see Jesus as a threat to our way of life but welcome him among us. May we not hoard what he brings but share it. And remembering these words of Scripture — "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone" (v. 42) — may we not reject Jesus but let him be the cornerstone of our lives.

—Heidi Hyland Mann



Church Decorating
Party
Nov. 26th
9am
Christmas Music, Hot Cocoa,
Coffee & Fresh Donuts

Blythe Chapel will decorate on
November 26th
after morning worship.



Fort Branch First UMC
is a drop off location!!

November 13 - 20
National Collection Week

PACK A
SHOEBOX

Samaritan's Purse[®]
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

Enter through fellowship hall on East side of building
from the large parking lot.

MONDAY, November 13, 2023.... 10:00AM - 12:00PM

TUESDAY, November 14, 2023.... 5:00PM - 7:00PM

WEDNESDAY, November 15, 2023.... 5:00PM - 7:00PM

THURSDAY, November 16, 2023.... 2:00PM - 4:00PM

FRIDAY, November 17, 2023.... 2:00PM - 4:00PM

SATURDAY, November 18, 2023.... 2:00PM - 4:00PM

SUNDAY, November 19, 2023.... 2:00PM - 4:00PM

MONDAY, November 20, 2023.... 10:00AM - 12:00PM
*VOLUNTEERS with heavy lifting ability
and trucks for transporting @ 3:00PM*



random
Acts of kindness

E1 Lewis, Thomas J.
Bravo Company, 3rd Platoon
3rd Battalion, 13th INF REGT
193 Infantry Brigade
4420 Jackson Boulevard
Fort Jackson, SC 29207-5022
(Graduation, Dec. 18th)

Paul & Jeanie Cardinal
516 S Ninth Ave
Haubstadt, IN 47639



Will Scott ~ 12th
Jeanie Cardinal ~ 14th
Alan Creamer ~ 15th
Zach Nurrenbern ~ 16th
Kurt Stone ~ 18th
Derek & Rexanne Robicheaux ~ 18th



Take time to recharge

"Then Jesus said, 'Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.' He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat" (Mark 6:31, NLT). Can you relate? Especially during the holidays, we're "coming and going" so much that we often run out of steam.

As an introvert, I learned an important lesson while navigating a busy graduation season for my son. I was happy to host a celebration for family and friends, but about 20 minutes into the party, fatigue clouded my spirit. My social battery was empty and desperately needed charging.

I sought out my cousin — who "gets" me — and admitted I needed a break. He kindly replied, "Then go into another room and just be. We've got things covered." I was heard and assured that it was okay to press pause. Even Jesus and his disciples sought privacy and rest.

In what ways do you need a break today? Even if you're an extrovert, how can you care for your whole self during the holiday rush? Pay attention and give yourself permission to proactively recharge your battery. —Janna Firestone

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:

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

9:00am † Worship

10:30am Ω Worship & Live
streaming worship

12:00pm EMM meeting

Complete Schedule @
www.fbfirst.org



Rev. John Baylor, Jr.

PRELUDE

*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

*HYMN # 451

Be Thou My Vision

*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 # 453

*More Love to Thee,
O Christ*

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.



CHILDRENS MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Derek Robicheaux ~ The Lord's Prayer

Jenni Schleter ~ Gratitude (video)

*SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Corinthians 12:1-10 NLT

MESSAGE

Faith in the Unchangeable

*HYMN # 454

Open My Eyes, That I May See

*BLESSING

Pastor

*THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD

Acolytes

*DEPARTING SONG:

Hymn

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

Will you let me be your servant?

Let me be as Christ to you?

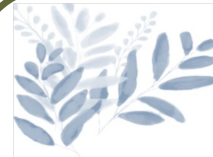
Pray that I may have the grace to

Let you be my servant, too.

*PASSING THE PEACE:

Let us greet one another with the peace of God.

POSTLUDE



Friends needing prayers

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

Jane Marginet, Richard Michel, Becca Manolov, Carla Jackson, Morgan Whitehead, Terri Jarboe, Derek Barton, Jo Eckert, Ruby Wilkerson, Scotti Pitts, Gretchen Young, June Regenhold, Brian Price, Triston, Tegan, Chad Windell, Pastor John, Thelma & Len Robicheaux, Wyatt Wagner, Kathy Trowbridge, TJ Lewis, Mary & Roy, Roberta & Duncan, Ova, Paul Cardinal



Pastor John & Staff Christmas Gifts

will be presented during Christmas Eve Worship.

Anyone wishing to participate should mail their contribution either to the church office or

Don Steinmetz

253 E 750 S

Fort Branch,

47648.

You may also give them to Don in person or place in the offering plate by

December 17th.

Christmas Candy, Cookies & Goodie Trays

December 10th

Pre-order or day of sales.

Small \$15 Large \$30

We will have some items for sale individually also.

Back School RASH

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. ²I 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. ³Yes, only God knows whether I was in my body or outside my body. But I do know ⁴that 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.

⁵That experience is worth boasting about, but I’m not going to do it. I will boast only about my weaknesses. ⁶If 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, ⁷even 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.

⁸Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. ⁹Each 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. ¹⁰That’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!

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

X	O	E	I	A	Q	H	E	A	R	D	P	D	K	V	O	W
L	N	S	P	I	H	S	D	R	A	H	Y	E	A	R	S	M
C	B	B	O	A	S	T	Y	C	I	D	R	T	R	U	T	H
S	I	S	K	U	F	V	Y	K	I	N	G	T	A	S	L	C
F	W	T	P	S	B	V	V	O	A	I	S	I	V	A	P	Z
D	I	F	I	C	U	L	T	I	E	S	U	K	Z	B	D	
C	C	Q	A	U	T	C	S	F	I	F	W	S	L	W	E	R
N	N	N	V	W	Z	H	V	E	C	A	R	G	J	T	P	E
T	C	E	F	R	E	P	G	V	G	V	W	T	R	P	S	W
Q	S	G	Z	Z	U	L	I	H	C	V	F	A	Y	S	O	
G	M	P	N	V	I	Y	K	N	L	H	R	U	D	H	J	P
E	C	N	U	O	I	N	F	J	O	E	L	S	F	Q	H	Y
M	H	B	K	U	R	P	X	W	E	P	D	X	Q	T	E	I
X	O	X	P	Z	A	T	T	N	E	I	C	I	F	F	U	S
A	F	E	C	H	L	L	S	X	H	V	V	M	B	W	K	K
T	H	O	R	N	S	P	K	H	A	J	N	T	S	D	E	Q
S	Q	S	N	A	I	H	T	N	I	R	O	C	N	H	S	C
sufficient	insults	power	heard	Paul	difficulties	delight	grace	years	strong	weak	thorns	Boast	hardships	perfect	truth	Corinthians

Listening Guide
“Faith in the Unchangeable”
October 29, 2023

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

How does faith carry us through the unchangeable?

Focus on _____ **(vs. 1-4)**

Focus on _____ **(vs. 5-7)**

Focus on _____ **(vs. 8-10)**

Personal Application: Sometimes the answer is, “No.” Does your faith flourish in those moments?





New to Fort Branch First UMC in 2023

A long tradition for Advent is to purchase individual plants for dedication to loved ones and enjoy them through the month of December during morning worship service. With prices on everything getting nearly unaffordable during an already budget taxing season, we want to try something new!

A display of live Christmas plants will be purchased for our sanctuary. By completing the DEDICATION FORM at the bottom and returning it with a \$10 donation, you will have the opportunity to honor loved ones at a fraction of the cost of last year.

You can place your dedication in the offering plate, or leave in Melissa's mailbox in the hallway or drop off during office hours.

Thank you for your consideration of trying a new twist on our tradition!



In Memory or In Honor
(please select one)

Dedicated to: _____

From: _____

Requested Donation of \$10 each _____

FBFUMC Worship Committee