

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. 23 Sunday after Pentecost November 5, 2023

What's your November?

For Davey Blackburn, a pastor in Indiana, one particular month has brought "the highest of highs and the lowest of lows." He was born in November, moved to a new church in November 2011 and learned he'd be a father in November 2013. But two years later, in November 2015, Blackburn's wife and unborn second child were murdered during a home invasion.

Despite that painful tragedy, the pastor determined not to "let the enemy have a claim over November" or "steal the many beautiful memories I once held" about it.

Since then, his church's worship team recorded an album one November, he proposed to his second wife another November, launched a new ministry one November and welcomed another child the following November.

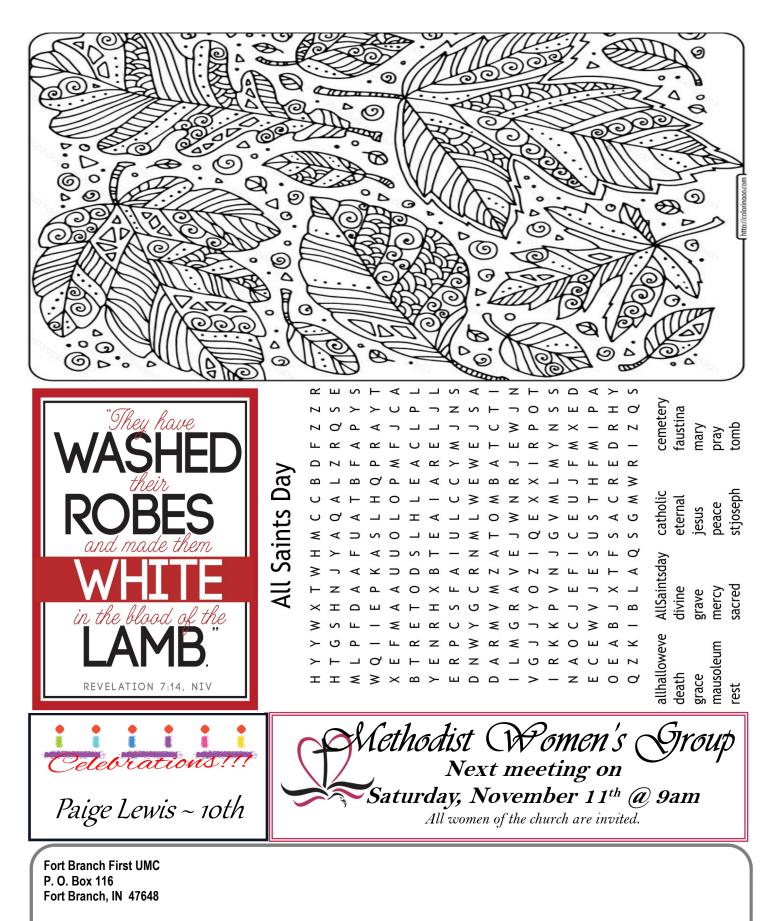
That journey, Blackburn says, is evidence of God's faithfulness to replace a spirit of despair with a garment of praise (see Isaiah 61:3). And it's an important reminder for the holiday season, with all its memories and traditions. Just as God wants to heal and restore, Blackburn writes, "Your [deceased] loved one would not want your 'November' to haunt your memory forever."

Blackburn, author of the forthcoming book *Nothing Is Wasted*, says everyone has a November but can choose what to do with it. Instead of letting your November haunt, you can let God use it to heal. —Stephanie Martin





Shoeboxes available now For pick up @ Fort Branch First UMC Fellowship hall



Deliver to:

* -This symbol, when found in the Order of Service invites you to stand - if able.

CCLI #2446518 Streaming License # 20701562



 \dagger Indicates location is Blythe Chapel Ω Indicates location is First UMC

<u>This Sunday:</u> All Saints' Day 9:00am † Worship 10:30am Ω Worship & Live streaming worship 2:00pm Ω CHARGE CONF. via ZOOM

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~ 6:30pm Ω Bible Study Tuesday: 6:00 pm Ω Psi lota Xi Meeting <u>Wednesday</u>: Thursday: ~ Office Closed ~ Friday: Saturday: 9:00am Ω Methodist Women Next Sunday: + Worship 9:00am 10:30am Ω Worship & Live streaming worship

> Complete Schedule @ www.fbfirst.org



All Saints' Day

Welcome to Worship

Rev. John Baylor, Jr.

PRELUDE

*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US*HYMN # 711For All the Saints

***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 # 723 Shall We Gather at the River

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

Jenna Schleter ~ Come Jesus Come

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

MESSAGE

"All Saints Day"

We call the roll this morning of those who have passed on to the next life over this past year: Effie Dilbeck and Don Colvin.

*REMBRANCE THROUGH CANDLE LIGHTING *ALL SAINTS DAY PRAYER

God of Abraham and Sarah, God of Miriam and Moses, God of Joshua and Deborah, God of Ruth and David, God of the priests and the prophets, God of Mary and Joseph, God of the apostles and the martyrs, God of our mothers and fathers, God of our children to all generations: We pause this day to remember those of our congregation who have gone before us this past year. Renew our communion with all your saints, especially those who we name before you: Effie Dilbeck and Don Colvin, along with others who we now name in our hearts *(silent remembrance)*. With them, and all your saints, may we run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ever looking to Jesus, the Pioneer and the Perfector of our faith; in whose name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN # 710

Faith of Our Fathers

*BLESSING Pastor *THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD Acolytes

***DEPARTING SONG:**

Hymn

In 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.

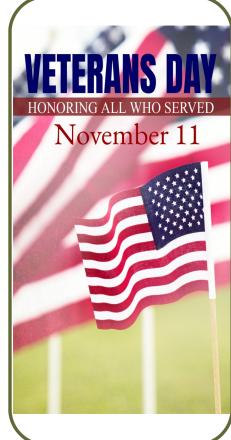
***PASSING THE PEACE:**

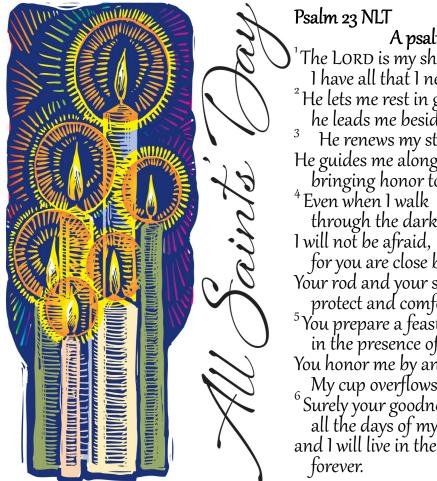
Let us greet one another with the peace of God.

POSTLUDE



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, Israel





A psalm of David The LORD is my shepherd; 1 have all that 1 need. ² He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. through the darkest valley, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. ⁵You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD

John 14:1–12 NLT

Jesus, the Way to the Father

14 "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. ² There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? ³ When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going."

⁵ "No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!"

⁸Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

⁹ Jesus' replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. ¹¹ Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do. ¹² "I tell you the truth anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done and even

¹² "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.

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

Listening Guide "All Saints Day" November 5, 2023

Scripture:	Psalm 23; John 14:1-12	
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How do we draw comfort in our loss?

God's our_____(Psalm 23:2-4)

God ______for Us (John 14:1-4)

We _____ Him (vs. 5-12)

Personal Application: Let me challenge you to figure out what you want your life legacy to be. Maybe it is something that you have seen in one you have lost this year or maybe it is a goal that you have set in following Jesus. What do you want your life legacy to be? Will you be bold enough to live it out?
