



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

#### THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

[www.fbfirst.org](http://www.fbfirst.org)

P. O. Box 116, Fort Branch, IN 47648

Phone: (812) 753-4424

Fax: (812) 768-6441

[melissa@fbfirst.org](mailto: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](mailto:john@fbfirst.org)  
Parsonage: (812) 615-0053



Melissa Foster,  
Administrative Assistant  
[melissa@fbfirst.org](mailto: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.

<sup>4</sup><sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter April 30, 2023

## Fort Branch First United Methodist Church DISCUSSION ON DISAFFILIATION/ AFFILIATION



### Jesus answers our uncertainties

Thomas didn't believe the other disciples when they said Jesus had risen. The two travelers to Emmaus despaired over Jesus' death, uncertain what might come next.

During our life of faith, we all face questions, doubts and despair. In *Fearless*, Max Lucado says Jesus' responses to us echo his responses to the disciples. His answer to our doubt is the same as with Thomas: "Touch my body" — which we do every time we connect with the church (the body of Christ), wounds and all. As with the Emmaus disciples, Jesus urges us to ponder his story found in Scripture — which we do through Bible reading and study. Today, just as long ago, Jesus meets his followers — in his body, in his Word — and strengthens our faith.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

# Baby Shower



HONORING

## Shelby (Baylor) Workman

May | 13 | 2023

10:00am

First Christian Church Indoor Shelter House  
2845 Beaumont Drive, Evansville, IN

Registered on Amazon

Please RSVP to: Rachel Smith, 812-457-8289



My Church Family,

*I truly appreciate your prayers, visits, cards, phone calls, meals and texts since my surgery. I still have a long road of recovery, but feeling stronger each day.*

*Margie Beal*

Finance  
Committee  
meeting with  
Danny Cathro  
from Edward Jones  
Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
11:00am  
Church Office

**Back to School BASH**  
Backpack & School Supply  
DRIVE-THRU  
July 29, 2023



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



UNITED  
METHODIST  
YOUTH HOME  
*#StillSewing*



**EMM**  
Emerging Mission Ministries, Inc.

Because of generous donations already received in 2023, each of these missions received \$350 from the **Faith Promise Fund**.

*Thank You!!*



**Methodist Women's Group**  
Next meeting on  
**Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 9am**  
*All women of the church are invited.*

Cold Sodas in the church kitchen fridge, hot drink station and the snack counter in fellowship hall all benefit the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to School Bash.



*Heather Scott ~ 30<sup>th</sup>*

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 Fort Branch First.



† 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:

11:00am Ω Finance Meeting w/  
Danny Cathro @EJ

Wednesday:

3:30pm Ω Port Gibson 4-H

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday

Next Sunday:

9:00am † Worship

10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship

Complete Schedule @  
[www.fbfirst.org](http://www.fbfirst.org)

*Next Sunday's Message:*

*Peter's Restoration,  
Part 1*



*Rev. John Baylor, Jr.*

#### PRELUDE

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

**\*HYMN #430** *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

#### **\*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 #534**

*Be Still, My Soul*

#### 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.**



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Jenni Schleiter ~ Thank You for the Blood*

## \*SCRIPTURE LESSON

*John 20:24-29 NLT*

## MESSAGE

"Doubting Thomas"

## \*HYMN # 452

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

## \*BLESSING

Pastor

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

Acolytes

## \*DEPARTING SONG:

*At Calvary*

*Mercy there was great,  
and grace was free;  
Pardon there was multiplied to me;  
There my burdened soul  
found liberty, At Calvary.*

## \*PASSING THE PEACE:

*Let us greet one another with the peace of God.*

## POSTLUDE



### *Facts, not futility*

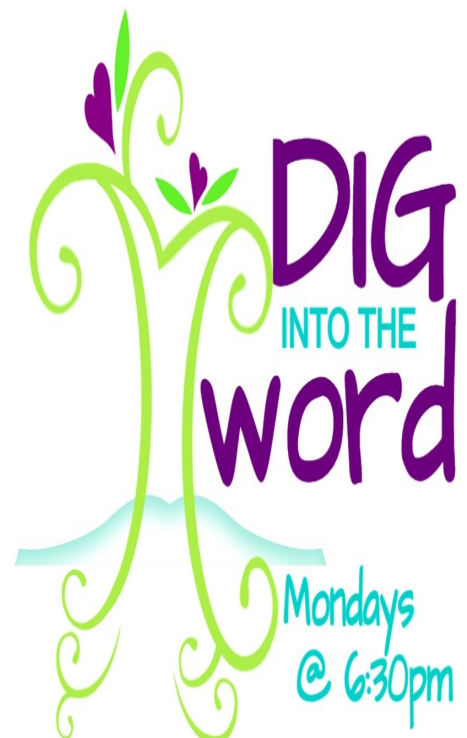
"If the resurrection of Jesus Christ did not happen," writes Mary Fairchild, "then the apostles were all fakes and everyone throughout history who has ever testified of Christ's power is a liar. If the resurrection did not happen, then Jesus Christ has no dominion over life and death, and we remain lost in our sin, destined to die. Our faith is useless." Paul sounds a similar tone in 1 Corinthians 15:14-19, saying unless Christ was raised, any preaching about him is "in vain" and our faith is "futile" (ESV).

Praise God that he doesn't leave us in suspense. Unlike Thomas, we don't need to doubt Easter's good news. With utter certainty, Paul continues: "But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (vs. 20, emphasis added). So let us rejoice with the apostle: "Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (vs. 57)!

## PRAYER list

*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,  
Connie Osborn, Tommy Osborn,  
Alec Taylor, Morgan Whitehead,  
Terri Jarboe, Derek Barton,  
Jo Eckert, Ruby Wilkerson,  
Scotti Pitts, Deanna Wilson, Don  
Colvin, Gretchen Young,  
Effie Dilbeck, Frances Burns,  
June Regenhold, Margie Beal,  
Lesa Prater, Brian Price,  
Roger & Nancy Jones, Kathy  
Trowbridge, Triston, Tegan,  
Amy Casavant  
The family of Linda Baylor*



## John 20:24-29 NLT

### Jesus Appears to Thomas

<sup>24</sup> One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> They told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he replied, “I won’t believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side.”

<sup>26</sup> Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don’t be faithless any longer. Believe!”

<sup>28</sup> “My Lord and my God!” Thomas exclaimed.

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.”

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

*Thanks be to God!*

## Doubting Thomas

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

disciple

prayer

john

cross

faith

bible

peter

jesus

church

jerusalem

doubt

Thomas

## “Doubting Thomas”

April 30, 2023

Scripture: John 20:24-29

What does Thomas teach us about faith?

Begins with \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 24-25)

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A \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 26-27)

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Jesus' Deity is \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 28-29)

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**Personal Application:** We are all doubting Thomas' at some point. What's your process that leads you from doubt to belief?

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