



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

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.fbfirst.org

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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 - Thursday, 9:00 am– 2:00 pm
Closed Monday and Friday

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Zella Frey, Custodian @ Blythe

Lynn Prieshoff,
Director of Music Ministries @ 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.

Transfiguration Sunday February 14, 2021



Our Very First Valentine

Ah, February: a month of groundhog predictions, presidents' birthdays, and love. Those first two are fun holidays, but I can think of no better example of absolute love than the love that Jesus Christ has for us.

The love of a God that sent His only Son to die for all of humanity. That's a powerful statement, and one we (as Christians) get used to hearing. And while it's true, it's also important to take the time to really comprehend what Jesus' love means.

To me, the love of Jesus is unending. It is all-knowing, and all-encompassing love that stretches from the beginning of time to the end and beyond. It lives in our hearts and guides us in the way we treat one another, the way we think, and the way we speak. It is the ultimate gift to humanity from a loving God.

The Valentine's Day, remember our very first Valentine: Jesus (Mom was our second!) May God bless each of you and keep you safe.



**Ash February 17th
Wednesday**



The coronavirus pandemic struck America during the middle of Lent, a season associated with deprivation. Some people made light of the shutdowns, joking, "I didn't mean to give up *this* much for Lent!" Others asked why the suffering was occurring in the first place.

Professor N.T. Wright, in an essay for *Time*, explains that asking "why?" but receiving no answer is key to biblical lamenting. Adding to the mystery, he says, is that God also laments — grieving at the wickedness of humans, despairing over Israel's unfaithfulness. Jesus cries at a friend's tomb; the Holy Spirit groans in anguish.

"Part of the Christian vocation," Wright concludes, is not being able to explain why but lamenting instead. "As the Spirit laments within us," he says, "so we become, even in our self-isolation, small shrines where the presence and healing love of God can dwell. And out of that there can emerge new possibilities ... new hope."



A quick update on Hearts for Haiti. I will be going with 3 others April 18. I have shipped 100 boxes with Midwest Distribution. If Ft. Branch First wants to participate in "Undie Sunday" or other ways, that will be great. I did purchase \$200 worth of children's underwear and have them in the shipment. Children's, women (size 5,6,7, few 8), men (sizes 28 to 32).

Dr. Bruce McIntosh will be teaching "Helping Babies Breathe" to the rural birth attendants

Four mobile medical clinics are planned (more if funded) Phil Cauthen will be making his first mission trip to Haiti (Darla Lewis family)

We need to work on a blind lady's house (\$1,000)

School tuition is needed (\$2,000) (2021-2022 year due in Aug)

Pews for Gobin can be sponsored at \$100 each

Of course, the daily requests for help.

We usually purchase \$1,000 of beans, rice, cooking oil, spaghetti, etc for distribution by us or the pastor after we leave

As you can see, the needs are many! Thank you to all who want to participate.

I am praying for a successful trip!
Deb



Fort Branch First UMC
Attn: Paul
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Fort Branch, IN 47648



Blythe Chapel UMC
8141 S 450 W
Owensville, IN 47665

**Methodist
Mountain Mission
Truck**



will pick up all donations placed in the church garage prior to

Tuesday, February 23rd

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02-14-2000

Pull the plug on classrooms, social media, web meetings and isolation this summer, and **plug into** faith, friends, and fun!

We are **amped** to share that church camp is back for 2021! COVID is obviously still a thing, so we're going to make some necessary adjustments. Grab a friend and make plans now to join us this summer for an **electrifying** camp experience!

Camp prices have been subsidized this year, making it that much more affordable, and [scholarships](#) are available. For schedules and pricing, visit impact2818.org/camps. Registration opens February 5!

Camp and That Thing Registration 2021

Registration opens February 5. That Thing Groups may register at 9am Eastern on February 19. Please check back January 29, 2021 for more details. Many churches are still navigating their own operational policies and financial concerns and we want to help everyone have an equal opportunity to plan for the summer.

Scholarship Processing Opens Monday, February 1, 2021

Many families and churches have been hit hard by the economic impact of COVID-19. Please, [apply for scholarships](#) early to ensure that camp is accessible for your family.

PLUGIN 
AT CAMP THIS SUMMER!



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

Deliver to:

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CALENDAR

THIS WEEK

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

This Sunday: Valentine's Day

9:00am *Worship online*

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~

Tuesday:

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday

9:00am The Lord's
Pantry is open to
all Haubstadt &
Fort Branch Residents

Thursday:

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

9:00am *Worship online*



Next Sunday Worship:



Love
LENT 2021
with all your
MIND | HEART | SOUL

"The Plot" John 11:45-57



"We love because
[God] first loved
us" (1 John 4:19, NIV).
Valentine's Day is fun,
but I pray, God, that
you show me how to
share your love every
day of the year.

Rev. John F. Baylor, Jr.

MESSAGE "The Heart of the Older"
Luke 15:25-32

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,
for ever and ever.

Amen



**Missed the LIVE message?
Don't have a Facebook
account?**

[https://www.facebook.com/
pg/FortBranchFUMC/posts/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/FortBranchFUMC/posts/)



**WORSHIP
@HOME**

**LIVE
STREAMING**

...UNTIL WE
GATHER AGAIN

Luke 15:25-32

“Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house,²⁶ and he asked one of the servants what was going on.²⁷ ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’

²⁸ “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him,²⁹ but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends.³⁰ Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’

³¹ “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours.³² We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”

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



Valentine's Day, a time when thoughts turn to love. But what is love? Is it a box of chocolates, or a pretty valentine? Is it a red rose, or maybe a dozen? Is it a peck on the cheek, a fond embrace, or a big bear hug?

Well, sometimes love is known in those ways. But love, real love, is how we relate to God and to one another if life is what it ought to be - beautiful!

Prayer **REQUESTS**

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

*Jane Marginet, Marty Marginet,
Joann Davis Fitch, Mark Dillion,
Jake Prieshoff, Lynn Prieshoff,
Richard & Betty Michel, Becca
Manolov, Carla Jackson, Kyle Stone,
Deven Pohl, Julia Gentry, Joyce
Kruse, Lucile Johnson, Poppy Petry,
Judy Basham, Thomas Brown,
Wayne Anderson, Connie Collins,
Linda McKimmy, Bruce Rostron,
Brooks Boger
The Family of Ed Paulin*



*We want to give God the Glory
for the many blessings in our lives.
Let's share these moments with
praise!*

*Let's
Celebrate*

*Marilee Rostron ~ 16th
Scott Wilson ~ 20th*

Listening Guide
“The Heart of the Older”
February 14, 2021

Scripture: Luke 15:25-32

What does the older son’s heart look like?

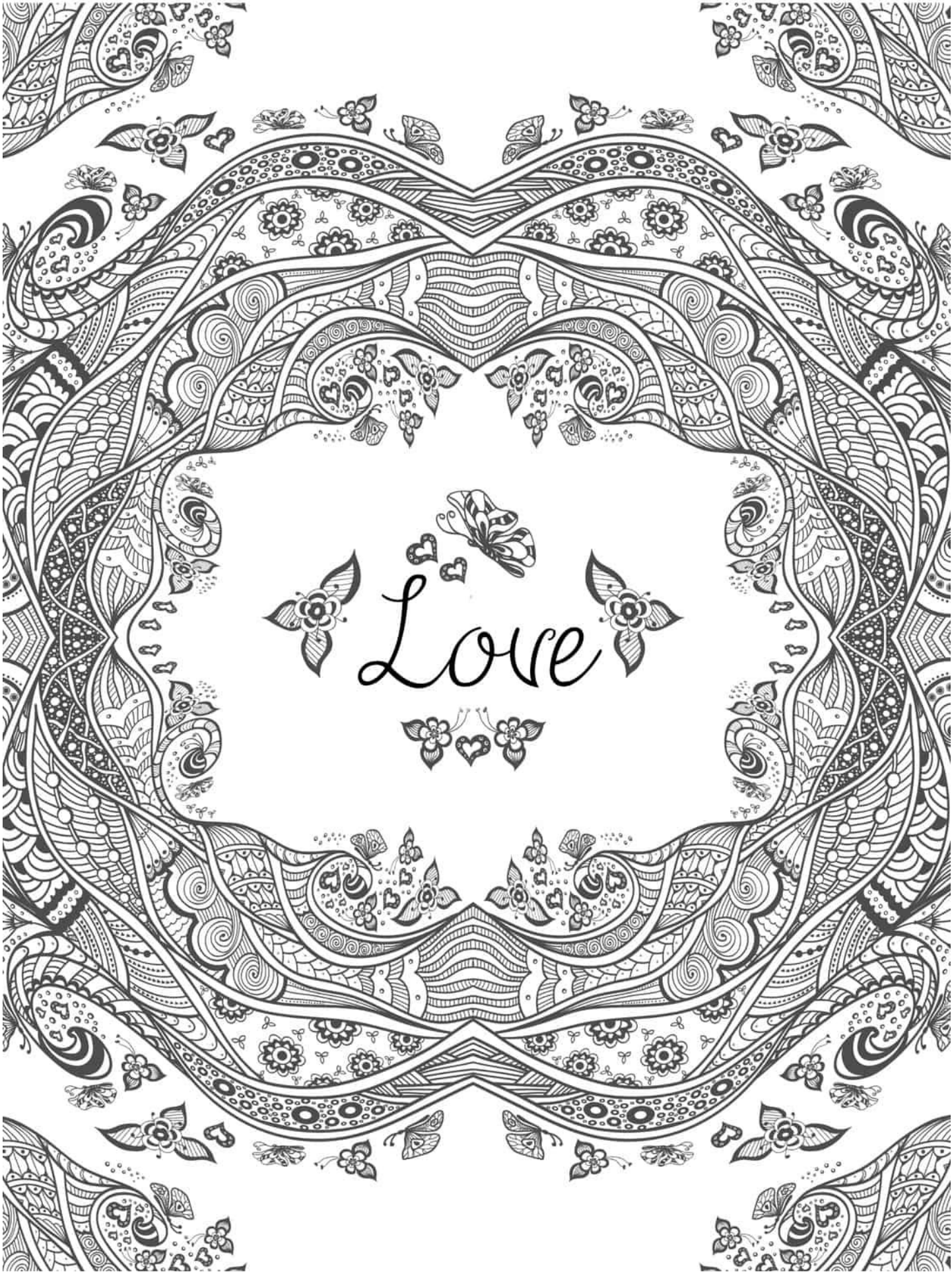
_____ (vs. 25-27)

_____ (vs. 28-30)

_____ (vs. 31-32)

Personal Application: Both boys’ hearts were corrupted. The younger boy changed and we don’t know about the older boy. Which son do you most identify with and why?





Love