



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

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

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<b>Blythe Chapel</b> 8141 S. 450 W. Owensville, IN	<b>Fort Branch First</b> 100 W. Vine St. Fort Branch, IN
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**Office Hours**

Tuesday & Wednesday,  
9:00 am– 2:00 pm  
Closed Monday, Thursday and  
Friday

Rev. John Baylor, Jr., Pastor  
[john@fbfirst.org](mailto:john@fbfirst.org)  
Parsonage: (812) 615-0053

 Melissa Foster,  
Administrative Assistant  
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Rexanne Robicheaux  
Musician @ Blythe Chapel

Zella Frey  
Custodian @ Blythe Chapel

**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...*

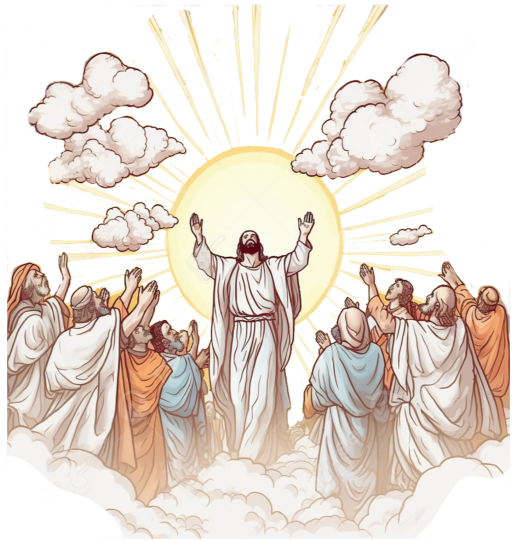
The earliest Christians were called *The People of the Way*.  
This weekly publication is provided to show  
how our congregations are living *The Way* today.  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter** **May 5, 2024**

**First-team followers**

Jesus' ascension into heaven shortly after his resurrection was "one of God's most audacious plays," according to Pastor Frank Ramirez. "Jesus, resurrected, is Master of space and time, yet he passes on the work of spreading the Good News to his imperfect disciples, who ultimately pass it on to us (who are also imperfect disciples)."

By contrast, most Old Testament patriarchs often stayed on the throne until they died. Many of them could have benefited from a timely "exit strategy," Ramirez notes.

"As a child, I always felt that the world would have been a better place if the resurrected Lord had just taken over everything," Ramirez continues. "But though Jesus is active with us ('For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them' — Matthew 18:20, NRSV), we're part of the first team now."



**Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

**CHURCH**  
**YARD**  
**SALE**

**Saturday,  
June 8**

**8am ~ 12pm**

*Donations can begin to  
be dropped off in  
fellowship hall on  
June 2, not before.  
Contact is Kristi  
812/664-1108*

*Please note, we will not be participating in the town wide event in August.*

Ascention day

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

prepare carried looking father  
 Clouds Heaven jesus place  
 taken love god see



Let us know who you are so we celebrate with you!

Sunday, June 2 will be Graduation Sunday

**Methodist Mountain Mission Pick Up**  
**Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**



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

### A house united

When President Lincoln declared in 1858, "A house divided against itself cannot stand," he was echoing Jesus. Scribes thought Jesus was casting out demons by Satan's power, so Jesus responded, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ... If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand" (Mark 3:23-25, NIV). There are countless modern examples: Civil wars. Families torn apart. Business partners going separate ways. Even churches splitting.

Jesus used the "house divided" image to point out the nonsense of the scribes' words. It takes someone *other than* the "strong man" (v. 27), or demon, occupying a space to cast that demon out. Evil can't drive out evil. Sin isn't stronger than sin. Hate doesn't solve hate. Violence doesn't end violence. Two wrongs don't make a right.

Jesus came to "bind" evil with goodness, conquer hate with love and teach us the same. Throughout the gospels, Jesus treats *all* people with love — even those who oppose him — so that, in the end, we all will be a house *united* by God's goodness.



**Methodist Women's Group**  
 Next meeting on  
**Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> @ 9am**  
*All women of the church are invited.*



*Curtis McCoy ~ 7th*  
*Sonya Teel ~ 10th*

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.



## The Week Ahead

† 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 ~

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday: ~ Office Closed ~

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday

9:00am Ω Methodist Women

Next Sunday: Mother's Day

9:00am † Worship  
10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship



# Welcome

*Rev. John Baylor, Jr.*

## PRELUDE

\*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

\*HYMN # 127 9:00am *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*  
# 445 10:30am *Happy the Home When God Is There*

## \*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 # 378 9:00am *Amazing Grace*  
#117 10:30am *O God, Our Help*  
(vs 1, 3, 6) *in Ages Past*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## 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 MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *Derek Robicheaux*  
*Jenni Schleiter*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Genesis 25:27-34; Genesis 33:1-4; Hebrews 12:14-17 NLT*

## MESSAGE

**"Why Grace? Part 1"**



**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**THE INVITATION**

**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 AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**THE COLLECT**

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are opened, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS**

**THE SERVING OF THE BODY AND BLOOD**

*In this church, all are welcome to the Lord's Table.*

\*HYMN # 140 9:00am *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  
# 61 10:30am (vs 1,3,4) *Come, Thou Almighty King*

\*BLESSING Pastor

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

\*DEPARTING SONG: #2152 *Change My Heart, O God*  
*Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.*  
*Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.*  
*You are the Potter, I am the clay.*  
*Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.*  
*Change my heart, O God make it ever true.*  
*Change my heart, O God may I be like you.*

\*PASSING THE PEACE:  
*Let us greet one another with the peace of God.*

**POSTLUDE**



*Prayer Requests*

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

*Jane Marginet, Richard Michel, Morgan Whitehead, Terri Jarboe, Ruby Wilkerson, Scotti Pitts, Gretchen Young, June Regenhold, Brian Price, Triston, Tegan, Pastor John, Len Robicheaux, Cathy Starky, Wyatt Wagner, Kim Stratman, Deanna Wilson, Scott Ingler, Laynie Speicher*

*The family of Kenny Shaw & Thelma Robicheaux*



*Derek & Rexanne, Len Robicheaux (mother & wife) 307 W. Locust Fort Branch, IN 47648*

*Diana Knapp, brother Kenny 300 N Polk ST, #8 Fort Branch, IN 47648*

*Bill & Zella Frey, nephew Kenny 4381 W SR 168 Owensville, IN 47665*

## Genesis 25:27-34 NLT

### Esau Sells His Birthright

<sup>27</sup> As the boys grew up, Esau became a skillful hunter. He was an outdoorsman, but Jacob had a quiet temperament, preferring to stay at home. <sup>28</sup> Isaac loved Esau because he enjoyed eating the wild game Esau brought home, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

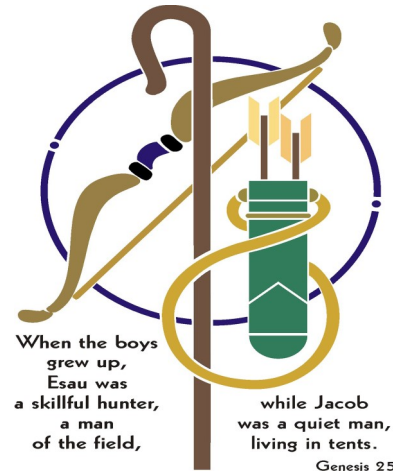
<sup>29</sup> One day when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau arrived home from the wilderness exhausted and hungry. <sup>30</sup> Esau said to Jacob, "I'm starved! Give me some of that red stew!" (This is how Esau got his other name, Edom, which means "red.")

<sup>31</sup> "All right," Jacob replied, "but trade me your rights as the firstborn son."

<sup>32</sup> "Look, I'm dying of starvation!" said Esau. "What good is my birthright to me now?"

<sup>33</sup> But Jacob said, "First you must swear that your birthright is mine." So Esau swore an oath, thereby selling all his rights as the firstborn to his brother, Jacob.

<sup>34</sup> Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and lentil stew. Esau ate the meal, then got up and left. He showed contempt for his rights as the firstborn.



When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field,

while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents.

Genesis 25:27

## Genesis 33:1-4

### Jacob and Esau Make Peace

<sup>33</sup> Then Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming with his 400 men. So he divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and his two servant wives. <sup>2</sup> He put the servant wives and their children at the front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph last. <sup>3</sup> Then Jacob went on ahead. As he approached his brother, he bowed to the ground seven times before him. <sup>4</sup> Then Esau ran to meet him and embraced him, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him. And they both wept.

## Hebrews 12:14-17

### A Call to Listen to God

<sup>14</sup> Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many. <sup>16</sup> Make sure that no one is immoral or godless like Esau, who traded his birthright as the firstborn son for a single meal. <sup>17</sup> You know that afterward, when he wanted his father's blessing, he was rejected. It was too late for repentance, even though he begged with bitter tears.

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

# JACOB & ESAU

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

- HUNTING
- JACOB
- BREAD
- GENESIS
- BLESSING
- STEW
- SHEEPSKINS
- BIRTHRIGHT
- NATIONS
- ABRAHAM
- REBEKAH
- TENT
- TWINS
- ISAAC
- LEAH
- ESAU

