



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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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

Sherry Michel
Musician @ First

Derek Robicheaux, Custodian @ First

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.

18th Sunday after Pentecost September 26, 2021

Oh Boy!

Alston James

September 20th

7lbs 2 oz

20.5 inches

Parents are
Grant & Jennifer
Holder



Proud Grandparents
Bruce & Sherry Holder
Bill & Donna Nix



*I knew you before I formed
you in your mother's womb.
Before you were born, I set
you apart. Jeremiah 1:5*



Your support of the
recent
BBQ Pork Dinner
is greatly appreciated.
The dinner raised
\$870 for the
Women's Conference
20202

Thank you!

Fort Branch First
Annual
Incorporation
Meeting

Thursday Oct 7th
6:30PM

CHARGE CONFERENCE

**Sunday, October 31st 2021 @ 11:45am
FB First**

Submission deadline Thursday, October 14th

1st UMC Ladies,

Thanks so much for the wonderful meal.

What a great outreach program to grieving families.

This church was a very important part of dad's life.

Again, many thanks from the family of Robert Maikranz



LEARN FROM LEAVES

As you're enjoying the fall colors and sipping apple cider, ponder this saying: "Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go."

When leaves stop producing chlorophyll, they turn vibrant shades of yellow, orange and red. This yearly spectacle makes way for the leaves to let go and fall. It also serves as a good reminder of things we may need to drop: clutter around the home, a desire for control, commitments that no longer bring joy, personal expectations that cause added stress, a need to always be right and so on.

Just as the Israelites had to let go of their past as slaves in Egypt and Saul-turned-Paul had to abandon his persecuting ways, we, too, can let go of what weighs us down and gets in the way of God's best for our lives. Embrace fall as a season of change and see just how beautiful it is to let things go!

—Janna Firestone



The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



JOHN THE BAPTIST Mt 3:4

Before 'Chips & Salsa' there was.. 'Locusts and Honey'.

love
IN
action

Alec Taylor, encouragement through treatment

2708 E 10th St, Apt 8
Bloomington, IN 47408

Brent & Pam Mabrey, encouragement

106 E Ulen Street
Fort Branch, IN 47648

September Celebrations

Emerson Robicheaux ~ 26th
Duke Robinson ~ 26th
Gayle Lewis ~ 28th
Don & Sue Ann Steinmetz ~ 28th
Max Marenholz ~ 29th
Phil & Gina Cauthen ~ 29th
Taran Blaize ~ 1st
Diane Marenholz ~ 1st
Chris & Monica Bryant ~ 1st

October

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 First.

Nursery
Attendant:



9/26: Darla Lewis
10/3 : Sherry Michel

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

This Sunday:

9:00am † Worship
9:30am Ω Sunday School
10:30am Ω Worship & Live
streaming worship
1:00pm Ω Private ~ Mabrey

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~
6:30pm Ω Women's Bible Study

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

6:30pm Ω Trustees Meeting

Thursday:

6:30pm Ω Finance Meeting

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

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

Next Sunday Worship:



"Qualifying the Disqualified"
Romans 9:7-19



Certified Lay Speaker
Kristi Pflug



PRELUDE

*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

*HYMN #110 9:00am *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*
#395 10:30am *Take Time to Be Holy*

*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

PRAYERS

SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYER HYMN # 526 9:00am *What a Friend We
Have in Jesus*

#328 10:30am *Surely the
Presence of the Lord*

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.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

John 3:22-30 NCV

Jesus and John the Baptist

²² After this, Jesus and his followers went into the area of Judea, where he stayed with his followers and baptized people. ²³ John was also baptizing in Aenon, near Salim, because there was plenty of water there. People were going there to be baptized. ²⁴ (This was before John was put into prison.)

²⁵ Some of John’s followers had an argument with a Jew about religious washing. ²⁶ So they came to John and said, “Teacher, remember the man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan River, the one you spoke about so much? He is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.”

²⁷ John answered, “A man can get only what God gives him. ²⁸ You yourselves heard me say, ‘I am not the Christ, but I am the one sent to prepare the way for him.’ ²⁹ The bride belongs only to the bridegroom. But the friend who helps the bridegroom stands by and listens to him. He is thrilled that he gets to hear the bridegroom’s voice. In the same way, I am really happy. ³⁰ He must become greater, and I must become less important.

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

MESSAGE

“Decrease and Increase”

***HYMN #396** 9:00am
#370 10:30am

*O Jesus, I Have Promised
Victory in Jesus*

***BLESSING**

Pastor

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

Acolytes

***DEPARTING SONG:** Hymn #557 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

*Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.*

***PASSING THE PEACE:**

Let us greet one another with the peace of God.

***THE OFFERING**

*Please place your tithes and gifts in the offering plates
located at any of the three main sanctuary exits.*

POSTLUDE



Prayer Requests

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

*Jane Marginet, Jake Prieshoff,
Lynn Prieshoff, Richard & Betty
Michel, Becca Manolov,
Carla Jackson, Kyle Stone,
Joyce Kruse, Poppy Petry,
Judy Basham, Connie Collins,
Linda McKimmy, Kim, Connie
Osborn, Tommy Osborn,
Alec Taylor, Connie Dunn,
Aimee Emmons, Morgan
Whitehead, Lisa & Bill,
Linda Reed, Ryan Steele,
Al & Elizabeth Rostron,
John Boss, Marry Wallace*

Decorative floral graphic in the top right corner of the box. Below it are several horizontal lines for writing.

*Prayers of
GRATITUDE*

*Hand of God
IN MY LIFE*

Below the 'Hand of God' text are several horizontal lines for writing.



Below the pink floral graphic are several horizontal lines for writing. The word 'Requests' is written in a cursive font at the bottom right of the box.

Pray for your pastor

October is

Pastor Appreciation Month

...thank your pastor!

<p>1. Walk with God. May he have a close walk with God and love the Lord with all his heart, soul, and mind. (Matt. 22:37, Prov 3:5-6)</p>	<p>2. Passion for Scripture. May he delight in Your Word and meditate on it day and night. (Ps 119:15-16)</p>	<p>3. Prayer Life. May he be a man of prayer, devoting himself to prayer and communion with You. (Col 4:2)</p>	<p>4. Character and Integrity. May he be a godly man, having integrity of heart and being a faithful doer of the Word. (Ps 78:72, James 1:22)</p>	<p>5. Humility. May he be kept from pride and self-interest, remain teachable and humble to your instruction. (Gal 6:14-15)</p>	<p>6. Obedience. May he obey your commands and faithfully follow Your leading in his life. (John 14:15, Rom 6:16)</p>	<p>7. Health. Give him good health and help him to care for his physical body, for it is your temple of the Spirit. (1 Cor 6:19-20, 3 John 1:2)</p>
<p>8. Thought Life. May he hold every thought captive for Christ and be continuously transformed by the renewing of his mind (2 Co 10:5, Rom 12:2)</p>	<p>9. Peace and Joy. Grant him peace, joy, hope, and a deep trust in You. Help him to not be anxious, but to be thankful and prayerful in all things. (Rom 15:13, Phil 4:6)</p>	<p>10. Temptation. May his heart be kept guarded and pure. Keep him from falling into temptation of body or mind. (Prov 4:23, Ps 119:9, Matt 26:41)</p>	<p>11. Rest and Refreshment. Help him find the rest he needs, and may he find refreshment in your presence. (Ex 33:14, Matt 11:28-30, Mark 6:31)</p>	<p>12. Protection. Protect him and his family. Bless the work of his hands, delivering him from the schemes of the enemy. (Job 1:10, Ps 34:7, Ps 91)</p>	<p>13. Marriage. Establish his marriage and protect it. May they put each other's needs above their own. (Eph 5:22-33, 1 Peter 3:7)</p>	<p>14. Wife. May she love and respect him. May she walk with You and find support and encouragement to thrive in her unique position. (Eph 5:22-33)</p>
<p>15. Children. Help him to keep the way of the Lord in his household and train up his children to love and follow you. (Prov 20:7, Gen 18:19, Prov 22:6)</p>	<p>16. Finances. Provide for his needs and keep him from a love of money. May he be generous and a good steward. (Prov 3:9-10, 1 Tim 6:10-11, Heb 13:5)</p>	<p>17. Priorities/Time. May he seek your kingdom above all else. Guide him in setting priorities and managing his time. (Matt 6:33, Eph 5:15-17, Ps 90:12)</p>	<p>18. Love for Others. May he love others with the love of Christ. Help him to humbly put his love into action. (John 13:34, Phil 2:3-4, James 2:14-17)</p>	<p>19. Shepherd's Heart. May he have a heart for those you have placed in his care and an appropriate sense of responsibility. (Acts 20:28-29)</p>	<p>20. Heart for the Lost. May he proclaim the gospel with compassion and truth. Help him to have Your heart for the lost. (Mark 16:15, Matt 28:19)</p>	<p>21. Conflicts. Help him to handle conflict biblically and with love. Give him discernment in difficult situations. (Matt 18:15-17, Prov 15:1, 1 Cor 13)</p>
<p>22. Elders/Leadership. May they be godly, unified in purpose, good examples to others, and serving You joyfully. (Heb 13:17, 1 Cor 1:10, 1 Peter 5:1-4)</p>	<p>23. Godward Focus. Help him to keep his eyes fixed on you in every effort and in the face of any challenge. (Prov 4:25-27)</p>	<p>24. Wise Counsel. May the scripture be his first counsel. Support him through godly counselors who strengthen and guide him with wisdom. (Prov 24:5-6, 19:20-21)</p>	<p>25. Encouragement. May his hope be found in You. Bring encouragers into his life to build up and support him. (1 Thes 5:11, Is 41:10, 1 Tim 5:17)</p>	<p>26. Discernment. May he listen to your voice as you direct his path. Grant him godly wisdom and understanding. (Isa 30:21, Prov 3:13-18)</p>	<p>27. Biblical Faithfulness. May he understand and hold firm to the truth, teaching it and rebuking those who contradict it. (Titus 1:9)</p>	<p>28. Sermon Preparation. Grant him the time and focus to prepare his message, and give him the ideas and words to present it clearly. (Col 4:5)</p>
<p>29. Teaching. May Jesus be exalted in every message. May he rightly divide the word of truth and may the hearts of your people be open to it. (2 Tim 2:15)</p>	<p>30. Vision. May he lead the congregation by the Spirit. Impart to him your vision for the church (Jer 3:15)</p>	<p>31. Blessing. May he be blessed by the Lord and by the congregation. May it be received humbly and for your glory. (1 Tim 5:17, 1 Thes 5:12-13, Num 6:24-26)</p>	<p>And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding. – Jeremiah 3:15</p> <p>Prayer Calendar by Proverbialhomemaker.com for TheRoadto31.com</p>			

