



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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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)  
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Melissa Foster,  
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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.  
**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2023**

We are planning on having a celebration/ potluck dinner  
on **Sunday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup>** following the 10:30 church service.  
You are welcome to attend even if you've only been attending  
our services for a short while. All are welcome!

Our church has important  
history that you may enjoy  
viewing after the meal. 150 years!  
What an accomplishment and  
important time in the life of our  
church! Many memories have been  
made!

Please sign up on the  
bulletin board so we can have a  
lunch count, as well as what you  
are willing to bring.



Thank You! Again, All are Invited!

In God's Grace,  
Methodist Women's Group  
Fort Branch First UMC

## Blessed with work

In the movie *Return to Me*, Grace works for her grandfather, Marty, in his restaurant, and the two live upstairs. After closing time one night, Grace looks through the apartment window and sees Marty cleaning tables. She yells down to ask if he wants help, and he replies, "No, dear, that's okay. I'm blessed with work."

Here's a man well past retirement age laboring extra hours after his staff has clocked out. Marty simply continues to delight in his work, despite the late hour.

Although this snippet had little to do with the movie's plot, I've always remembered Marty's words. But I don't think I've ever claimed to be "blessed with work." By contrast, I often sigh as I'm dealing with messes or long to-do lists. I can get so caught up in tasks that I overlook the incredible people around me. I miss out on the blessing — the joy — of work.

Ecclesiastes 5:19 (NLT) says, "To enjoy your work ... is indeed a gift from God." In what ways are you "blessed with work"?

—Janna Firestone

**2024  
CHARGE  
CONFERENCE  
Sun., Nov. 5th,  
2pm via Zoom**

**8/31/23 6pm,  
training via Zoom  
or....**

**9/7/23 1pm,  
training via Zoom**

**10/17/23 Charge  
Conference completed  
Packet SUBMISSION  
DEADLINE**

**10/27/23 Charge  
Conference approved  
packet SIGNATURE  
PAGE submission  
deadline**



*Javier Canizo ~ 8th*  
*Alyssa Moskos ~ 9th*  
*Mike Pflug ~ 9th*  
*Kasey Jo Breshear ~ 9th*

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

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: Labor Day

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

6:30pm Ω SPRC Meeting

Thursday:

1:00pm Ω Charge Conf.  
Training via Zoom

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday:

9:00am Ω Methodist Women

### Next Sunday:

9:00am † Worship

10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship

### *Next Sunday's Message:*



*"Faith and the Blind  
Man, Part 4"*  
John 9:35-41



*Rev. John Baylor, Jr.*

### PRELUDE

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

**\*HYMN # 479**

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

### \*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 # 405**

*Seek Ye First*

### 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.**

### CHILDRENS MOMENT

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

**\*SCRIPTURE LESSON** insert

*John 9:18-34 NLT*

### MESSAGE

*"Faith and the Blind Man, Part 3"*



## 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 # 394

*Something Beautiful*

### \*BLESSING

Pastor

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

Acolytes

### \*DEPARTING SONG:

Hymn # 334 Sweet, Sweet Spirit *Refrain*

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,  
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
without a doubt we'll know that we have been  
revived when we shall leave this place.

### \*PASSING THE PEACE:

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

### POSTLUDE



## Friends needing prayers

*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,  
Morgan Whitehead, Terri Jarboe,  
Derek Barton, Jo Eckert, Ruby  
Wilkinson, Scotti Pitts, Don  
Colvin, Gretchen Young, June  
Regenhold, Brian Price, Triston,  
Tegan, Chad Windell, Pastor  
John, Thelma & Len Robicheaux,  
Wyatt Wagner, Jared Huey*

## Celebrate Labor Day

Labor Day, first celebrated in 1882, provides a day of rest for working Americans, showing their importance to the country's well-being.

Christians see work as a gift and command from God. Adam was put in the Garden to "till it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15, NRSV). Even Jesus chose workers to help carry out his mission.

Rest is just as significant as work. God commanded us to rest one day each week (Exodus 20:10). The Sabbath is a time for worship, family activities, renewal and recuperation.

Labor Day is a reminder to be grateful for the creativity, ingenuity, minds and muscle power of countless workers — all gifts of God. That's worth setting aside a day to appreciate.

John 9:18-34 NLT

<sup>18</sup> The Jewish leaders still refused to believe the man had been blind and could now see, so they called in his parents. <sup>19</sup> They asked them, "Is this your son? Was he born blind? If so, how can he now see?"

<sup>20</sup> His parents replied, "We know this is our son and that he was born blind, <sup>21</sup> but we don't know how he can see or who healed him. Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself." <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who had announced that anyone saying Jesus was the Messiah would be expelled from the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> That's why they said, "He is old enough. Ask him."

<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called in the man who had been blind and told him, "God should get the glory for this, because we know this man Jesus is a sinner."

<sup>25</sup> "I don't know whether he is a sinner," the man replied. "But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!"

<sup>26</sup> "But what did he do?" they asked. "How did he heal you?"

<sup>27</sup> "Look!" the man exclaimed. "I told you once. Didn't you listen? Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?"

<sup>28</sup> Then they cursed him and said, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses! <sup>29</sup> We know God spoke to Moses, but we don't even know where this man comes from."

<sup>30</sup> "Why, that's very strange!" the man replied. "He healed my eyes, and yet you don't know where he comes from? <sup>31</sup> We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but he is ready to hear those who worship him and do his will. <sup>32</sup> Ever since the world began, no one has been able to open the eyes of someone born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he couldn't have done it."

<sup>34</sup> "You were born a total sinner!" they answered. "Are you trying to teach us?" And they threw him out of the synagogue.

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

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

he is of age	washed	spittle
clay	give god the praise	jews
pharisees	sabbath day	sight
opened	eye	siloam
light of the world	blind	Lord I believe
man of God	He is a prophet	A man called Jesus

**Listening Guide**  
**“Faith and the Blind Man – Part 3”**  
**September 3, 2023**

**Scripture:** John 9:18-34

**How is faith used to prove healing?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Questioned (vs. 18-23)**

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\_\_\_\_\_ **Questioned (vs. 24-27)**

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\_\_\_\_\_ **Cursed (vs. 28-34)**

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**Personal Application:** When reason doesn’t work, name calling happens. How would you have responded each time?

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