

The First United  
Methodist Church of  
Fort Branch



**Our Mission....**  
*To make disciples of  
Jesus Christ for the  
transformation of the  
world .*

**Rev. Randy Anderson,**  
Pastor

randy.anderson@  
inumc.org  
812/568-4746

Melissa Foster,  
Administrative Specialist  
melissa@fbfirst.org

www.fbfirst.org  
P. O. Box 116  
100 W Vine ST  
Fort Branch, IN 47648  
Phone: (812) 753-4424  
Fax: (812) 768-6441  
melissa@fbfirst.org

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

*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.

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost September 15, 2024

### BEING CHRIST AMID PAIN

In December 2023, a tanker truck carrying 9,000 gallons of gasoline tipped on its side in Totona, Liberia. For two hours, a party atmosphere ensued as people living in poverty rushed to gather gas dripping from the vehicle. But then, the tanker suddenly exploded. Dozens of people died instantly or were severely burned. Thousands have endured deep trauma and grief. How could life go on? Where was God?

Yet, life did go on — not easily, but in this way: Medical staff and others rallied to care for all who were suffering physically and emotionally. A nearby church held comforting worship services, and its choir went to homes to sing messages of hope. Parishes and disaster-response ministries sent teams from near and far to support people through post-traumatic stress, income loss due to disability, the birth of babies whose young fathers had died in the blast, children's transition back to school and more.

These Christian caregivers and comforters couldn't bring instant, perfect healing. But by connecting with people who were grieving and struggling, they have become the presence of Christ.

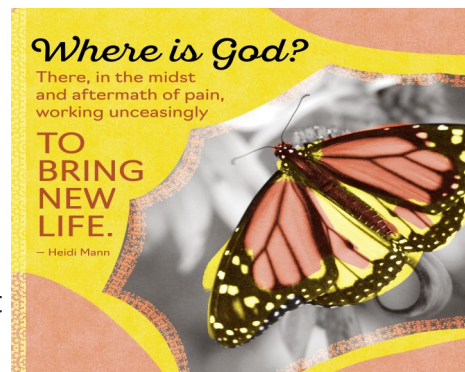
Where is God? There, in the midst and aftermath of pain, working unceasingly to bring new life.

*Where is God?*

There, in the midst  
and aftermath of pain,  
working unceasingly

**TO  
BRING  
NEW  
LIFE.**

— Heidi Mann



Blythe Chapel's Annual Weenie Roast

October 12<sup>th</sup>

@ 5:00pm



Fun for all...  
chili, wiener roast,  
& marshmallows provided.  
Bring your own drinks and lawn  
chairs and join in!



We will have a booth here selling our community renowned **HEAVENLY GOODIES**

A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board seeking some delicious home-baked sweets. Need more information? See Carla

**Proceeds for Back to School Bash online sign up**  
[www.fbfirst.org](http://www.fbfirst.org)

## Church clean-Out

Load up your items, leave a donation....

- 1 upholstered office chair
- 1 vinyl office chair
- 2 metal file cabinets (4 drawers)
- Desktop printer
- Vintage wooden executive desk
- Round dining table w/4 upholstered chairs

The above listed items can be seen in the Adult Sunday School room...table & chairs are in the church garage. Other items may become available as the parsonage is being remodeled too.

**Charge Conference**  
**Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup>**

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**Charge Conference Submission Deadline**  
**Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

### James 4:8 Close to God

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

between divided loyalty sinners purify  
 close hands will you the  
 wash heart and for God  
 the you is to come



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 provide a nursery, located in



#### This Sunday

10:30am ~ Worship & Live  
streaming worship

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~

Tuesday:

10:00am ~ Worship Meeting  
6:30pm ~ Bible Study

Wednesday:

Thursday: ~ Office Closed ~

Friday: ~ Office Closed ~

Saturday

#### Next Sunday:

10:30am ~ Worship & Live  
streaming worship



## *Rev. Randy Anderson*

PRELUDE

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.*

### WORSHIP THROUGH GATHERING

\*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US

\*HYMN #89

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, dead, and buried,**

**the third day he rose from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father**

**Almighty;**

**from thence he shall come to judge the quick and  
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYING

PRAYER HYMN #364

*Because He Lives*

SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS  
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.*

**WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING**

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.*

Hymn #95

**WORSHIP THROUGH HEARING**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SCRIPTURE

James 4:8, NLT

*<sup>8</sup> Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.*

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

MESSAGE

*"Come Close to God"*

**WORSHIP THROUGH RESPONDING**

\*HYMN #2088 X3

*Lord, I Life Your Name on High*

\*BLESSING



**PRAYER**  
list

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

*Jane Marginet, Terri Jarboe, Ruby Wilkerson, June Regenhold, Mark Fear, Kim Stratman, Deanna Wilson, Norman Bullock, Terry Phillips, Liz & Alan Creamer, Vivory Brewer, Frieda Lewis*

Joint Worship  
Committee

meeting with

Tuesday, Sept. 24

10:00am

Fort Branch First  
UMC



*Emerson Robicheaux ~ 26th  
Gayle Lewis ~ 28th  
Don & Sue Ann Steinmetz ~ 28th*