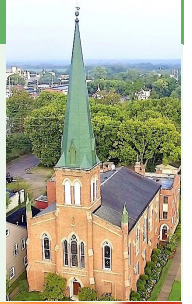




## The Steeple Bell— November 2023

Franklin First United Methodist Church

*“Under the Green Steeple”*



# HOW DO I DEVELOP A MORE THANKFUL HEART?

*“Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18.*

My devotion today raised the question of how to be more thankful. It is easy to give thanks when things are going well, and the sun is shining, and the doctor’s report was positive, and the kids are behaving. It’s a little more difficult to be thankful when circumstances don’t cooperate.

Let me tell you about a phone conversation I had yesterday. We all remember the ongoing challenges of COVID. We couldn’t meet for gatherings at church and were suddenly wondering how to worship together and maintain fellowship while keeping distance. Our congregation made the decision to quickly invest in technology that would allow us to live-stream our services and invest in more work hours for Theresa so that she could find training and have time to develop a comprehensive social media ministry.

God gave us people with skills and commitment. Joe Chamberlain and his tech crew found themselves on a rapid learning curve with new technology and many “first time” opportunities. Theresa grabbed the bull by the horns and found on-line training for the skills she needed to enhance our social media presence. She brought creativity and a “let’s just try this” approach to her work and the results have been great.

Now to the phone call...an old friend from NW Ohio called me this week. It had been a long time since we had connected, and it was good to

hear her voice. She called with a specific request. “I follow your church on social media, and your sites are amazing. I’m on the team to develop our church’s social media and I want to know how your church developed what you have.” She commented on the broad range of postings on our Facebook page, our great website, the live streaming of our services, and the amazing quality of our music.

Friends, we have much to celebrate in the effective use of technology that has developed over the last couple of years. New people have connected with our fellowship since our decision to put time and resources into electronic ministry. But here is my point: **WE PROBABLY WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN THESE STEPS OF FAITH, BELIEVING THAT GOD WAS GOING TO SUPPLY OUR NEEDS, WITHOUT THE CHALLENGE OF THE COVID SITUATION.** Romans 8:28 tells us that God uses all things for good for those who love the Lord and are called according to his purpose.

When we look back at the challenges in our lives, we often recognize in retrospect the good that came out of what looked like an impossible situation. God is always working on our behalf, and we can trust that He knows what we need, knows our limitations, and will bring people and resources together to bring blessing.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, let’s thank God for all aspects of our lives. He is worthy of our praise.

Pastor Laura

## Church Conference

One time each year, each United Methodist church has a conference to do the official business of the congregation. Ours is scheduled for Monday November 20 at 6:30 pm. Anyone from the congregation is welcome to attend, church members will have voting rights. Officers are expected to attend. Items on the agenda include reports from ministry teams, a membership report, the pastor's compensation package, and a presentation of our Breakthrough Goals for next year.



## Stewardship Blessings

The Franklin First congregation has been faithful in support of the church's ministries. Thank you for your continued generosity! As our year begins to draw to a close, let's make the commitment to stay strong in our giving as it enables ministry within our fellowship and out into the community.

During November, we will be focusing on stewardship for 2023. We give to God with our time, talents, resources, and service. We are asking that you prayerfully consider your commitment to God through Franklin First as we make that part of our Thanksgiving service on November 19.



## Prayers for Peace

As I write this, the war between Israel and Palestine rages on with terrible loss of life. The devastation is unimaginable. This dispute has a long and complicated history. Please join me in praying for a diplomatic end to hostilities and God's peace to reign. Pastor Laura

A graphic with a background of pine branches and a pine cone. The text "LOOKING AHEAD TO THE Holidays" is written in a mix of bold, sans-serif and cursive fonts. The word "Holidays" is in a large, red, cursive font. To the right of the text is a list of events for the month of November and December.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO THE Holidays**

- **NOVEMBER 19:** THANKSGIVING SUNDAY.
- **NOVEMBER 26:** HANGING OF THE GREENS FOLLOWING THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE.
- **DECEMBER 3-24:** THE FOUR SUNDAYS OF ADVENT WITH ADVENT WREATH LIGHTINGS AND A SERMON FOCUS ON "AN UNLIKELY ADVENT."
- **DECEMBER 3:** BLESSING OF THE NATIVITIES DURING WORSHIP. BRING A PIECE OF YOUR HOME NATIVITY SET.
- **DECEMBER 10:** CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM.
- **DECEMBER 17:** CHRISTMAS MUSIC CELEBRATION.
- **DECEMBER 24:** WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:45 AM.
- **DECEMBER 24:** CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT 7:00 PM.
- **DECEMBER 31:** WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:45 AM, INCLUDING A CAROL SING.



## All Saints Sunday - Nov. 5th

On November 5 in our Worship service, we will be remembering those who have joined the Church Triumphant since last November. It is always difficult when we lose a loved one, but through Christian faith we believe that the parting is temporary – that those who have died in faith are part of the Communion of Saints in the eternal presence of Almighty God. Join us as we celebrate their victory.



## CHRISTMAS FOOD & TOY BASKETS SIGN-UPS

For residents that are served by FACS

**Location:**  
Franklin First United Methodist Church  
303 S. Main Street

**Date/Times:**

- Monday, November 6th, 11:00 - 4:00
- Monday, November 13th, 11:00 - 4:00

**Requirements:**

- Photo ID
- Proof of (utility bill, insurance card, county paperwork, (anything with their name and current address)




## Men's Group Next Meeting

All men are invited to the monthly meeting of Franklin's Men's Group on the second Sunday of the month at 7:00 pm. Grow in faith and in service to others with Christian brothers. The next meeting is scheduled for November 12.



### Donate a Christmas Food Basket for a Family In Need



## Christmas Basket Ministry

Franklin First will once again be spearheading the Christmas distribution for the needy in our community. **New this year**, you can choose to sponsor a food basket for \$25 and/or buy children's gifts. Sign-ups will be the first two Mondays in November from 11:00 – 4:00. Tami Chamberlain is the coordinator. Contact her to see how you can help. Distribution will be held on Monday December 18 from 1:00 – 6:00. Recipients must have a photo ID and proof of residency.



## An Unlikely Advent

It's hard to believe that the Christmas season is on the horizon. I was in WalMart yesterday and they had aisles upon aisles of Christmas stuff out. No surprise there. I invite us to take our time getting into the Christmas spirit. The season of Advent precedes Christmas, and we observe Advent on the four Sundays before Christmas – this year beginning December 3.

Our Advent focus this year will be on the “extraordinary” people in the Christmas story. Our nativities include Joseph, Mary, and baby Jesus. But we never see Herod the Great in a nativity scene, with good reason. He

was a villain in a shining story. We will consider Herod, the smelly shepherds, and senior citizens Zechariah and Elizabeth as we flesh out details that show us that the “silent, holy night” was not quite as pristine as we typically envision.

## National Honor Society Snack Pack Support

Students from Franklin High School’s National Honor Society chose to donate food items to our Snack Pack Program as well as spend part of their community service hour time helping to load the packs to take to the school. Thanks to Advisor Kelly Rolfes and the students for their care and time to bless the elementary kids.



## Snack Packs

Franklin First has been packing snack packs for Anthony Wayne students who deal with food scarcity on the weekends at home. This school year, the need is great – as we are providing 225 packs per week. What a blessing to be able to help a child be his/her best self!



Have you checked the bottom of your Kroger's Receipt? If it does not list our church as your designated

Community Rewards Beneficiary, follow the instructions on the back and get signed up now! Please note our new church number! You do not need to change your current account; this is for new sign-ups.

KROGERS COMMUNITY REWARDS:

Go to: [www.krogers.com](http://www.krogers.com)

New account users: go to “Register”  
Create Account

Or Sign-in

Go to: Community – Community Rewards

Click: Enroll now

Church #: RK151

# FALL Marketplace

SATURDAY  
November 4, 2023  
9 am - 2 pm

VENDORS INCLUDE THIRTY-ONE, SCENTCY, HANDMADE HOLIDAY ITEMS, AND HOMEMADE CRAFTS

- LUNCH SERVED FROM 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- CHICKEN & NOODLES, BEAN SOUP, AND BARBEQUE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE BY THE QUART OR PINT:
  - CHICKEN & NOODLES
  - BEAN SOUP
  - BARBECUE
  - ONE-POUND BAGS OF DRY HOMEMADE NOODLES
- PRE-ORDERS RECOMMENDED AT [FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG](http://FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG)

"UNDER THE GREEN STEEPLE" AT 303 S. MAIN ST., FRANKLIN, OH



## Fall Marketplace

Our Women's Circle has been working diligently to prepare for the Marketplace on Saturday November 4 from 9:00 – 2:00. Lunch will be served; food and vendor items will be available for purchase. Thanks to everyone who has labored for this event.

## Oodles and Oodles of Noodles!

More than 25 individuals made **604 batches** of noodles over four weeks. Thanks to everyone who participated or donated towards the noodle-making effort.



## Franklin Community Trunk or Treat—October 21st

Smiling faces from Franklin First set up their vehicles for Trunk or Treat at Franklin Community park with candy to pass out. The church provided information and connected with our community. Thanks to everyone who participated and brought candy donations.



## Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday—October 15th



It was a meaningful worship service as we were reminded through music and message that God is with us in all our circumstances, and especially the difficulties of cancer diagnosis and treatment. We recognized cancer survivors, honored the deceased who had battled cancer with a pink ribbon remembrance wall, and used many pink symbols as means of retrospection.



The Women's Circle sponsored a bake sale to raise funds for breast cancer research. The proceeds amounted to \$403 and will be forwarded to research efforts. The Susan G. Komen Foundation is providing a TRIPLE Match to our donation. Thank you!



**Next Mission & Outreach Meeting**  
**Tuesday, Nov. 7th**  
**6:30 pm**





**FREE  
MEDICAL CLINIC**  
Tuesdays  
5:30 - 6:30 pm

To Benefit the Uninsured or Underinsured

Franklin First United Methodist Church  
303 South Main St.  
Franklin, OH  
937-746-5232  
WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG



## Free Medical Clinic

Tuesday of each week, Dr. Chamberlain and a volunteer staff welcome the uninsured and underinsured to receive free medical attention and prayer. Patients are treated with dignity and respect and are always grateful for the care they receive. We are grateful for the ministry opportunity and the staff that feels called to provide these services.

## Trustee Update

The Trustees complete two major projects this month.

Thanks to Ahrens Architectural Woodworking, LLC for doing an outstanding job restoring our church doors to their original glory. The restored doors are ready to welcome you with open arms.

Thanks to the diligent work of Jim and Mike. They repaired and painted the water damage that was caused by a leaky roof, and made sure that the wall behind the altar looked as good as new.



**TIME  
CHANGE  
NOV. 5TH**

DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR  
CLOCKS TO  
"FALL BACK" AN HOUR.




## Faith Seekers Sundays

Join our Faith Seekers group on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am.

All are invited!

## Current Mission Team Collections

**Paper Product Collection**



Franklin First  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**THE PANTRY**



Franklin • Springboro • Carlisle

**Personal Hygiene Product Collection for High School students**



Franklin First

**Snack Pack Items**



Anthony Walsh  
Franklin First



## Anthony Wayne Tutoring

Tutoring began in September and continues through mid-November, and then we will have a winter session beginning in early January. We are working exclusively with second grade students this year. Tutors arrive at the school by 3:15 and leave after their student's designated ride signs them out

around 4:30. Please consider tutoring for the winter session! A number of our current tutors head to warmer weather for the month of February and we will struggle to cover the number of students we serve. Talk to Linda Smith, Karen Anderson, or Pastor Laura for details.



## Women's Circle

Women's Circle will meet at the church on **Monday, November 13th at 6:30 pm**. Please come and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship as we make plans for our upcoming events.

Poinsettia Sale will be coming up soon. Watch for information in the announcements and bulletin.

Mark your calendar for **Women's Circle Annual Christmas Dinner** at the Bowman residence on **Monday, December 11th at 6 pm**.

## Franklin First Online Giving

Online giving is a great choice for when you are unable to join us for Worship to continue to support the church. You can either set-up a recurring payment or give each time you visit the site.

Connect by using this link:

<https://franklinfirstumc.org/giving-%26-member-resources>



## Living Legacy



## A Lasting Legacy

How would you like to leave a lasting legacy for your church? By giving to the Permanent Endowment Fund, you can ensure that your generosity will continue to bless future generations. Your gift will grow through wise investment and support the church's mission in many ways. You will be giving HOPE to:

- Those who seek God's grace and salvation.
- Those who find comfort and friendship in this church family.
- Those who learn about God's love as children and grow in faith.
- Those who celebrate life's joys and sorrows in this sacred space.

Those who serve and share Christ's peace in a troubled world. The Permanent Endowment Fund is a special way to extend your financial support. You can make a one-time gift (especially through estate planning) or regular contributions. Your legacy will live on as a gift of hope.



## November at Franklin First

### Wednesday, November 1

1:30pm Snack Pack Packing  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal

### Thursday, November 2

Anthony Wayne  
Teacher/Parent Conference Meal  
4:00 pm Community Dinner  
(St. Mary's)

### Saturday, November 4

Fall Marketplace

### Sunday, November 5

#### All Saints Sunday

9:30am Faith Seekers Study  
10:45am Livestream of Worship  
10:45am Worship Service  
11am Children's Church School

### Monday, November 6

11 am—3 pm  
Christmas Basket Sign Ups

### Tuesday, November 7

4:30pm Community Dinner  
(Hope/Red Lion UMC)  
5:30pm Free Medical Clinic  
6:30pm Mission/Outreach Team

### Wednesday, November 8

1:30pm Snack Pack Packing  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, November 9

3:15pm Anthony Wayne Tutoring  
4pm Community Dinner  
(St. Mary's K of C )

### Sunday, November 12

#### Fellowship Sunday

9:30am Faith Seekers  
10:40am Children's Nursery  
10:45am Livestream of Worship  
10:45am Worship Service  
11am Children's Church School  
7pm Men's Group

### Monday, November 13

11 am—3 pm  
Christmas Basket Sign Ups  
6:30pm Women's Circle Meeting

### Tuesday, November 14

5:30pm Free Medical Clinic

### Wednesday, November 15

1:30pm Snack Pack Packing  
2:15pm Finance Committee  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

### Thursday, November 16

3:15pm Anthony Wayne Tutoring  
4pm Community Dinner  
(St. Mary's K of C )

### Sunday, November 19

#### Thanksgiving Sunday

9:30am Faith Seekers  
10:40am Children's Nursery  
10:45am Livestream of Worship  
10:45am Worship Service  
11am Children's Church School

### Monday, November 20

6:30pm Church Conference

### Tuesday, November 21

5:30pm Free Medical Clinic

### Wednesday, November 22

1:30pm Snack Pack Packing  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

### Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving

### Sunday, November 26

Hanging of the Greens  
9:30am Faith Seekers  
10:40am Children's Nursery  
10:45am Livestream of Worship  
10:45am Worship Service  
11am Children's Church School

### Tuesday, November 28

4:30 PM Community Dinner  
(Hope/Red Lion UMC)  
5:30pm Free Medical Clinic

### Wednesday, November 29

1:30pm Snack Pack Packing  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

### Thursday, November 30

3:15pm Anthony Wayne Tutoring  
4pm Community Dinner  
(St. Mary's K of C )

## BIRTHDAYS

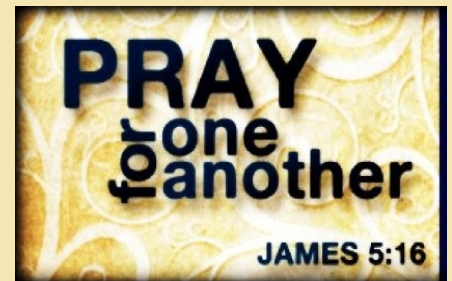
November 01 Macie Goodpaster  
November 02 Mary (Susie) Mears  
November 08 Rylee Humphries  
November 09 Shirley Berold  
November 10 Rick Dillon  
November 15 Jan Abell  
November 26 Joe Wright  
November 27 Nathan Glossip

## ANNIVERSARIES

November 13 Donnie & Marna Rogers

## Sunday Worship

If you are interested in helping with Sunday Worship as an usher or greeter, please contact the [office](#).



## Submit a Prayer Request Anytime

Use the link below to submit a Prayer Request anytime. The link will send an email directly to the Pastor and our prayer warriors will begin the prayers for your request.

[franklinfirstumc.breezechms.com/form/862a54](http://franklinfirstumc.breezechms.com/form/862a54)



## EXERCISE YOUR GRATITUDE MUSCLE

BY: RYAN DUNN

### *What are you grateful for?*

Some days it is extremely easy to answer that question. Other days, it's a struggle. After all, many real life circumstances leave us feeling more drained than thankful.

We know that gratitude is good. We feel compelled to realize gratitude. Scripture tells us we should feel constant gratitude. Is that possible? How do we cultivate gratitude when experiencing rough circumstances?

### *The gratitude muscle*

Gratitude works a bit like your bicep muscle. The more you work it out, the stronger and more capable it becomes. So let's identify gratitude's impact and how we can strengthen the gratitude muscle.

[Research shows](#) that expressing gratitude is linked to better sleep. College students who displayed more gratitude reported being less stressed, less depressed and felt less isolated at the end of their first terms. Grateful individuals experience more positive emotions, more satisfaction and report fewer negative emotions like anxiety and envy.

The Bible boasts at least 100 verses about gratitude. Perhaps the most popular is [1 Thessalonians 5:18](#), "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

It is notable the verse does not say we should feel grateful for all circumstances. Instead it suggests we express grateful *through* all circumstances. This recognizes there are circumstances we face—perhaps right now—that are less than savory. This verse and others like it remind us there are still things for which we can be grateful.

During anxious or cumbersome times are when we look at gratitude akin with working out a muscle. When new to working out, we cannot lift the heaviest weights. Instead, we have to train our way up, starting with lighter weights and working the muscle until we have the strength to lift something heavier. The more we work the muscle, the easier the movement and lifting becomes.

Gratitude works similarly: the more we lightly practice gratitude, the easier and more generous it becomes. Like

loosening a dam, there might be a trickle of gratitude in the beginning. But soon we will experience an increasing flood of gracious feelings.

### *Gratitude exercises*

Tradition provides for us a number of exercises that serve as gratitude workouts.

#### **Keep a Journal:**

Perhaps the most accessible practice for many of us is simply to [write down](#) a list of things for which we are grateful every day. Some use special journals for recording their gratitude. Others simply use sticky notes stuck up in prominent areas.

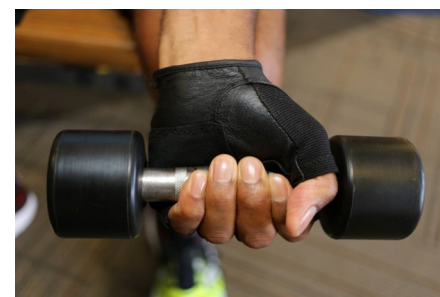
The act of recording is the source of grateful reflection. The pressure applied to self to fill the page (or note) forces us to consider the numerous blessings we encounter in life.

**Offer a Daily Prayer of Thanks:** When we are unable to form our own words, we can borrow from those who have come before us. Their words become our words. Their thoughts stir our own thoughts. Do a few "reps" by uttering one of these traditional prayers of thanksgiving listed to the right.

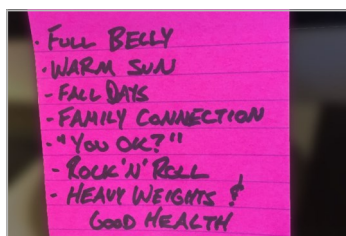
**Practice Mindfulness:** For centuries, contemplative Christians cultivated a sense of gratitude through deliberate, meditative practices. Perhaps one of the practices most vital in establishing an awareness of gratitude is known as the [Ignatian Examen](#).

The Examen includes five steps:

1. Become aware of God's presence. Practitioners sometimes light a candle as a physical reminder. More often, they simply pray an invitation to God to help them become aware of God's presence.
2. Give thanks. Sometimes direct questions are useful: "What moments are you most grateful for today?"
3. Pay attention to emotions. Again, there are questions to guide this step: "When did you feel most alive today? What moments drained life from you?"
4. Face shortcomings. When might you have missed the mark this day? When did you fail to show love?



*Gratitude works a bit like your muscle. The more you work it out, the stronger and more capable it becomes. A photo illustration of the Rev. Gary Henderson by Ronny Perry, United Methodist Communications.*



*Taking a moment to remember that for which we're grateful is a wonderful way to exercise your gratitude muscle. Photo by Ryan Dunn.*

*(Continued on page 11)*

(Continued from page 10)

5. Look forward to tomorrow. How might you show love tomorrow? What are your hopes the next day?

For more on the Examen and similar practices, visit [IgnatianSpirituality.com](https://www.ignatianspirituality.com).

Gratitude does not come easily or naturally in many instances. May these practices provide reminders of all for which we can be grateful.

*Ryan Dunn is the Minister of Online Engagement for the Rethink Church team at United Methodist Communications. Contact him via [email](mailto:ryan.dunn@umc.org).*

Taken from: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/exercise-your-gratitude-muscle>

## Prayers of Thanksgiving

### Psalm 100

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.  
Know that the Lord is God.*

*It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise.*

*Give thanks to him, bless his name.*

*For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures for ever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

### United Methodist Book of Worship #556

*O Supreme Lord of the Universe,  
You fill and sustain everything around us.  
With the touch of your hand you turned chaos into order,  
darkness into light.*

*Unknown energies you hid in the heart of matter.  
From you burst forth the splendor of the sun and the  
mild radiance of the moon.*

*Stars and planets without number you set in ordered  
movement.*

*You are the source of the fire's heat and the wind's  
might, of the water's coolness and the earth's stability.  
Deep and wonderful are the mysteries of your crea-  
tion. Amen.*

### For the Beauty of the Earth (hymn by Folliot Sandford Pierpoint)

*For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies.  
Lord of all to Thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

## Adam Hamilton in Mason on January 16

Rev. Adam Hamilton is touring Ohio with the release of his upcoming book, "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith."

This is an incredible opportunity to learn from a successful author of church resources and pastor of one of the most influential churches in America, The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City. Each stop will be 90 minutes with a short presentation followed by a Q & A about the book. The event is free, but registration is required. Books will be available to purchase on site.

**About *Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith* (releases December, 2023) Does your faith make room for questions?**

Everyone has doubts. Where is God when bad things happen? Does God hear our prayers? Is there a heaven? How can we know? Often we treat such questions as the enemy of faith. But uncertainty doesn't mean our belief is lacking. Doubt can be a path to a deeper, richer encounter with God.

In *Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith*, join best-selling author and pastor Adam Hamilton as he discusses some of our most significant sources of doubt and shows how a steady trust in God can emerge from them. You will delve into questions like:

"Does God exist? How can I know?"

"Is the Bible true?"

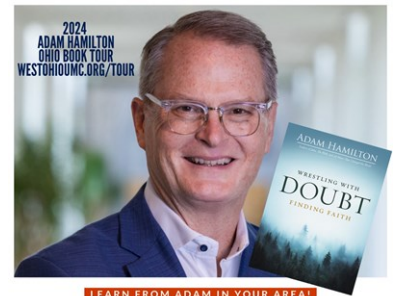
"Why do prayers go unanswered?"

Hamilton approaches these sources of doubt with honesty and insight, drawing on the rich wisdom of the Bible, Christian tradition, and his experience walking with thousands of people on their spiritual journey. Whether you're a long-time Christian or someone brand new to faith, this book will lead you to a trust in God that is unafraid of hard questions. Wrestle with doubt and find faith—belief and trust, not certainty; mystery rather than simple answers. Books will be available to purchase at each stop.

More about Adam Hamilton:

**Adam Hamilton** is founding pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, one of the fastest growing, most highly visible churches in the country. *The Church Report* named Hamilton's congregation the most influential mainline church in America, and he preached at the National Prayer Service as part of the presidential inauguration festivities in 2013. Adam has been married 40 years to LaVon. They have two grown daughters.

January 16th, 2024 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM, Mason UMC  
[Click Here to Register](#)



# Franklin First United Methodist Church

## 2023 Lay Leadership Ministry

*Making disciples... Building Christian community... Transforming lives!*



### Church Council:

Church Council Chair	Mike Smith
Church Council Secretary	Amber Ramsey
Lay Leader	Mike Smith
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Charlotte Summer
Lay Member of Annual Conference Alternate	Kim Chewning
Treasurer	Tami Chamberlain
Membership Secretary	Lee Ann Lee
Communications Coordinators	Carol & Mike Runyan
Church Historian	Robert Bowman
Pastor	Laura Saunders

### Ministry Team Representatives:

Staff-Parish	Julie Abell
Finance	Paul Anderson
Endowment	Ken Smith
Trustee Chairs	Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
Worship	Monica Rhude
Technology	Joe Chamberlain
Committee on Lay Leadership	Laura Saunders
Christian Education	Charlotte Summer, Chris Womack
Missions & Outreach	Linda Smith, Karen Anderson
Care Team	Lee Saunders
Hospitality & Events	
Welcoming Ministry	Dorothy Rayburg
Scouting Coordinator	
Member At Large	Amber Ramsey

### Staff-Parish Relations Committee: Chair: Julie Abell

(Lay Leader: Mike Smith)

Terms expiring 2023:	Julie Abell, Judy Parker, Sue Fullen
Terms expiring 2024:	Sally Fitzgerald, Karen Anderson, Patti Noland
Terms expiring 2025:	Cheryl Cyphers, Mishelle Dicken

### Trustees: Co-Chairs: Jim Martin, Mike Runyan

Terms expiring 2023:	Joe Chamberlain, Brian Graves
Terms expiring 2024:	Jan Abell, Jim Martin, Trisha Dicken
Terms expiring 2025:	Cody Chilcutt, Mike Runyan, Connie Bolinger

### Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations):

**Chair: Pastor Laura Saunders**

**Mike Smith, Lay Leader**

Terms expiring 2023:	Sally Fitzgerald, Karen Anderson
Terms expiring 2024:	Ken Smith, Shirley Berold
Terms expiring 2025:	Kathy Martin, Peggy Darragh-Jeromos

### Finance Committee: (By virtue of office.)

Chair	Paul Anderson
Treasurer:	Tami Chamberlain
Financial Secretary:	Julie Abell
Church Council Chair:	Mike Smith
Trustees Co-Chairs:	Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
Staff Parish Chair:	Julie Abell
Lay Leader:	Mike Smith
Lay Member of Annual Conference:	Charlotte Summer
Pastor:	aura Saunders

### Permanent Endowment Fund Committee

Chair of Finance Committee	Paul Anderson
Church Treasurer	Tami Chamberlain
Chair of Board of Trustees	Jim Martin
Chair of Church Council	Mike Smith
Lay Leader	Mike Smith
Member at Large (Term: 2022 only)	Monica Rhude
Member at Large (Term: 2022-2023)	<b>Ken Smith, Chair</b>
Pastor (non-voting member)	Laura Saunders

### Worship Ministry Team: Chair: Monica Rhude

Choir Director:	Monica Rhude
Bell Choir Director:	Tami Chamberlain
Altar Design:	Kay Marksberry, Pam Bishop, Shari Tutt

Technology:	Joe Chamberlain
Usher Organizer:	Judy Parker
Lay Leader:	Mike Smith
Pastor:	Laura Saunders

### Mission & Outreach Team:

**Co-Chairs: Linda Smith, Karen Anderson**  
 Lisa Dillon, Madelyn Lang, Tracy Easter, Ken Smith, Karen Anderson, Tami Chamberlain, Marna Rogers, Judy Parker, Sally Fitzgerald, Amber Ramsey

### Technology Team: Chair: Joe Chamberlain

Joe Chamberlain, Trisha Dicken, Andy Kuntzman, Tami Chamberlain, LeeAnn Lee, Paul Anderson

### Christian Education Team:

**Co-Chairs: Charlotte Summer, Chris Womack**  
 Jan Truesdell, Rachel Chamberlain, Madelyn Lang, Carol Runyan, Chris Womack, Charlotte Summer

### Care Team: Chair: Lee Saunders

Lee Saunders (phone contact); Charlotte Summer, Dorothy Rayburg, Jan Truesdell, Judy Deskins (visitation team)

**Communication Team: Mike & Carol Runyan, Linda & Mike Smith, Pastor Laura Saunders, Theresa Fultz**

## Upcoming Events

Franklin First United  
Methodist Church

Pastor  
Laura Saunders



**Sunday Worship  
Service**

10:45 am

Livestreaming on Facebook

**Faith Seekers Bible Study**

Sundays, 9:15 am

**November 4**

**Fall Marketplace**

**November 5**

**All Saints Sunday**

**November 19**

**Thanksgiving Sunday**

**November 23**

**Happy Thanksgiving**

**December 3**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**December 3**

**Blessing of the Nativities**

**December 10**

**Children's Christmas Program**

**December 17**

**Christmas Music Celebration**

**December 24**

**Worship Service—10:45 am**

**December 24**

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service - 7 pm**

**STEEPLE BELL NEWSLETTER**

Franklin First United Methodist Church

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Franklin, OH 45005

Phone: 937-746-5232

E-mail: [office@franklinfirstumc.org](mailto:office@franklinfirstumc.org)

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STAMP  
HERE

