



STEEPLE BELL

APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

WHEN THE EASTER GLOW MEETS REAL LIFE

If you're anything like me, your post-Easter "glow" usually lasts about as long as the deviled eggs. We spend weeks preparing for the Resurrection, singing "Christ is Risen!" with enough gusto to rattle the stained glass, only to return to a routine that looks... well, remarkably un-resurrected.

The lawn mower won't start, the evening news is a headache, and the family is still expecting food on the dinner table. It can feel like we've gone from the mountain top straight back into the valley of "Where are my keys?"

There is a certain humor in our human condition. We are people of the Resurrection living in a world of "Reduced for Quick Sale." We carry the hope of eternity, yet we still struggle to program the thermostat. But there is a deep, theological truth in that tension.

In John 16:33, Jesus is refreshingly honest with us: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Notice he didn't say, "In this world, you will have a five-step plan to avoid all stress." He promised trouble. He promised that life would sometimes feel like a puzzle with three key pieces missing. But the hope of Easter isn't that the brokenness has vanished; it's that the brokenness no longer has the final word.

Living with Easter hope doesn't mean we walk around with a permanent, fake smile while the roof is leaking. Real hope is grittier than that. It's the ability to look at an unpaid bill, a broken relationship, or a global crisis and say, "This is heavy, but it isn't the end of the story."

Think of the disciples. On that first Easter, they weren't throwing a party; they were hiding in a locked room because they were terrified. And then, Jesus showed up—scars and all.

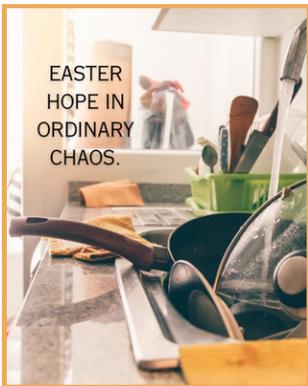
Those scars are important. They tell us that God doesn't just bypass our pain; He carries it. Easter hope is the audacity to believe that even the deepest wounds can become part of a story of healing. It's knowing that while we are currently living in the "Saturday" of life—where things are quiet, dark, and confusing—"Sunday" has already been won.

So, as we navigate the weeks following our big celebration, let's be "Easter People" in the middle of the mess.

- Be the one who laughs: not because life is perfect, but because you know the Punchline of the Universe is a tomb that couldn't stay shut.
- Be the one who serves: because when the world feels like it's falling apart, a small act of kindness is a rebellious act of faith.
- Be the one who rests: trusting that the same power that rolled away the stone is more than capable of helping you handle your lawn mower crisis.

Life is messy, and the world is definitely cracked. But as the poet Leonard Cohen once said, "There is a crack in everything; that's how the light gets in." This month, let's look for the light.

Happy Easter!
Pastor Laura





SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Have you enjoyed the “Seven Last Words of Christ” dialogue series? Jeff Sams and I are continuing the series through Easter Sunday. It is easy, when we are very familiar with a Bible story, to skim over it lightly and not allow the nuances of the narrative to deepen our faith. There is a lot of detail in each piece of the passion that will broaden our understanding of the sacrificial death and miraculous resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Thanks to Jeff, and in his absence Chris Womack Lorton and Brian Graves, for lending their talents to this unique form of message-sharing.

SONGS OF PRAISE FOR MOTHER’S DAY



Music Sunday is coming on May 10—beautifully aligned with Mother’s Day—and our talented music groups are tuning up for a powerful morning of worship. From choirs to instrumental ensembles, each group is preparing uplifting pieces that will share the message of faith in a way only music can.

This is a wonderful Sunday to invite friends, neighbors, and family to join you. Come celebrate the gift of music, honor the mothers in your life, and enjoy a worship service filled with harmony, joy, and heartfelt praise.

A JOYFUL START TO HOLY WEEK: PALM SUNDAY

This past Sunday, our congregation gathered with joyful hearts to begin the journey of Holy Week. The atmosphere was celebratory as we marked Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

It was a beautiful sight to see all the children in attendance participating, waving their palm branches high as they led our processional down the aisle. Their enthusiasm set a wonderful tone for the entire morning.



MAKING JOYFUL NOISE FOR HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

Heifer International will be the recipient organization for the funds collected by our kids in their noisy bucket campaign during Lent. Heifer International provides animals, water wells, and girl’s education in impoverished areas around the world. Our campaign has wrapped up, and our Franklin First kids will decide how they want to use the money collected. You are always generous with your support for this worthwhile mission.



SMILES, STORIES, AND SUCCESS: LITERACY PROGRAM WRAP-UP

We are thrilled to celebrate the successful wrap-up of our first-grade literacy tutoring program! Over the past school year, our students have worked tirelessly to master letter sounds, sight words, and the joy of reading to understand the material. Seeing their initial hesitation transform into the proud smiles has been the highlight of our season.

This achievement belongs to our incredible team of volunteer tutors. Their patience and personalized encouragement turned challenging lessons into breakthroughs. Because of this community effort, these students have received positive affirmation and reinforcement of the curriculum they have been working on throughout the day.

We especially appreciate Gerke's Title One Teacher Carly Green for the preparation of our weekly curriculum and to Principal Jim Rhoades for his dedication to bettering the lives of every student in his care. Thank you to the tutors, parents, and supporters who made this possible. We've done more than teach reading; we've opened doors to a lifelong love of learning.



HONORING THE EVERYDAY HEROES OF GERKE ELEMENTARY

If you have ever attempted to explain to a first grader a consonant digraph (the sounds that "th" or "ch" or "sh," etc. make in words,) you know that instruction is less of a job and more of a heroic feat of endurance. Teachers and other staff members are the quiet architects of our kids' education, building foundations of knowledge and character one day at a time. They don't just hand out worksheets; they hand out keys to the future, often while balancing a cold cup of coffee and a very full calendar.



In Galatians 6:9, we are reminded: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Our local educators live this verse every single day. They show up through rainy mornings, squiggling students, and the endless "why?" questions, planting seeds of curiosity that will bloom for decades to follow. Their patience is a ministry in itself, and their dedication to our children is a gift that echoes far beyond the four walls of a classroom.

To say a heartfelt "thank you" for all they do, our church is thrilled to host a Continental Breakfast on Monday, May 4 for the staff at Gerke Elementary. We want to provide a morning of refreshment to start their day, offering a spread of fresh pastries, fruit, and hydration to fuel their vital work. It is a small gesture of our immense gratitude for those who pour so much of themselves into the next generation. We look forward to serving those who serve our children so faithfully.

JILL DRAKE

FAITH, FAMILY, & FINDING A CHURCH HOME



Jill grew up in a lively household as the youngest of nine children—three boys and six girls. Surrounded by siblings, family was always at the center of life. That love of family carried into adulthood as Jill raised two sons, Chris and James, and later welcomed a stepson, Dustin, when she married her husband, Tim.

Jill describes Tim as more than a husband and provider—he was her best friend, and they were married for 11½ years when Tim passed away at the age of 56. Their time together was filled with love, laughter, and building a life centered around family.

“My relationship with God is a learning process every day.”

GROWING IN FAITH

Since becoming part of the church community, Jill says her relationship with God continues to grow. After losing Tim, prayer became part of her daily life.

“Most days are good and well. Some are not,” she shares honestly. “But I will get through this with God. My relationship with God is a learning process every day.”

Her favorite scripture passage is Luke 2, the story of Jesus’ birth. It holds special meaning for her, especially when it is read during the Christmas Eve service.

MOMENTS THAT MATTER

Some of Jill’s favorite moments at church are simple but meaningful. She especially loves the joy and energy of Children’s Time during Sunday worship and the warmth and beauty of Christmas Eve services.

She also finds joy in watching the church grow. “I enjoy seeing the new babies and families,” she says. “I love seeing the children grow up and graduate.”

FINDING STRENGTH THROUGH LOSS

When Tim passed away, Jill faced one of the most difficult seasons of her life. Grief brought many hard days, but it also became a time when her faith began to deepen in new ways.

On the weekend of Tim’s death, Dr. Chamberlain invited her to visit Franklin First UMC. Jill says she has never regretted coming. “It is very welcoming,” she says. “Thanks to being here, I began to learn and accept God back into my life.”

Though she was raised Catholic, Jill admits that when she was younger she didn’t fully understand church. Today, worship has become something she truly looks forward to each week.

FINDING COMMUNITY

One of the things Jill appreciates most about church life is the sense of community she has found. Whether volunteering or simply sharing conversation, the relationships she has formed have become an important part of her life.

While recovering from shoulder surgery, Jill enjoyed helping the Women’s Circle that makes homemade noodles for the Fall Marketplace. “It’s a great group,” she says. “I enjoyed talking and laughing while we worked.”

Even with long Mondays at work—helping patients and making nurse visits—Jill still values the chance to serve when she can.

“The church community has impacted my life in a wonderful way,” she says. “When I had surgery, I had help getting to church, making noodles, and even getting my haircut. I enjoy sitting next to wonderful people each week.”

A PLACE THAT FEELS LIKE HOME

Today, Jill says the church has become more than a place to worship—it’s a place where she feels welcomed, supported, and at home. “I want to thank everyone for accepting me into the fold,” she says. “It feels like home.”

LIFE BEYOND CHURCH

Outside of her church community, Jill’s greatest joy is her family; she treasures every moment spent with her children.

She is a gardener who loves getting her hands dirty in her vegetable and flower beds throughout the spring, summer, and fall. When the weather clears, she looks forward to spending more time hiking and horseback riding. She has also recently started working out at a gym.

An eclectic reader, Jill enjoys everything from the thrillers of Tom Clancy and Stephen King to the romances of Nicholas Sparks and Johanna Lindsey. She enjoys all genres of music, but her favorite weekly ritual is on Sundays when she can cook a hot breakfast and ditch her nursing scrubs for the day.



EGG-CELLENT EASTER FUN AT FRANKLIN FIRST!

The church was filled with laughter, excitement, and colorful Easter fun on Saturday, March 29, as the Women's Circle hosted this year's annual Easter Egg Hunt. Children dashed throughout the building in search of bright eggs tucked into every nook and cranny, while families cheered them on from the sidelines.



From overflowing baskets to surprise candy treasures, the afternoon was filled with smiles and festive energy. The Women's Circle once again created a fun event for our church family — complete with plenty of photo-worthy moments.

We're grateful to everyone who helped prepare, hide eggs, organize activities, and greet families with joy. It was a beautiful day of fellowship, fun, and celebration of the season.

Thank you to all who joined us and made the event so memorable!



ARE YOU MISSING AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT FRANKLIN FIRST? CHECK YOUR KROGER RECEIPT!

Did you know your weekly grocery run can help support the ministries of Franklin First—at no extra cost to you? Many of us shop at Kroger, but if our church isn't listed at the bottom of your receipt as your Community Rewards Beneficiary, you may be missing out on a simple way to give back.

Signing up is quick, free, and makes a meaningful difference. Even better—if you're already enrolled, you don't need to change anything. This update is only for new sign-ups, and we have a new church number to use!

How to Enroll

1. Visit www.kroger.com
2. New to Kroger online?
 - Click Register to create an account
 - Or simply Sign In if you already have one
3. Navigate to: Community → Community Rewards
4. Select Enroll Now
5. Enter our church number: RK151

A minute of your time helps fuel ministry all year long—thank you for partnering with us in this easy and impactful way!

RESURRECTION MATTERS: LIVING OUT THE POWER OF RESURRECTION EVERY DAY

BY JESSICA L. ANSCHUTZ

A SURPRISING ENCOUNTER WITH THE DIVINE

It was very early in the morning when Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, and the other women came to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. They did not expect what they found. The stone was rolled away. Jesus' body was not there. They were frightened as they found two divine messengers in gleaming white clothing who asked, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He isn't here but has been raised. Don't you remember he told you that he must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and on the third day rise again" (Luke 24:5-7). And with that we are told the women remembered the words of Jesus. They went and told the disciples and others who were gathered, but they did not respond shouting, "Christ is Risen!"

Resurrection matters because in the midst of the empty tomb and the mystery of the resurrection, God overcomes the finality of death.

THE APOSTLES' DOUBT

Luke's gospel tells us that the apostles thought what the women had to say in the first ever Easter Sermon was nonsense, an idle tale. The apostles don't believe it.

Peter runs to the tomb, sees it is empty other than the linen cloth, and he goes home wondering what happened. Having seen for himself, he still does not believe. He seems convinced that Jesus died, death has won. The women, on the other hand, remembered what Jesus told them. The women knew that resurrection was not a matter of nonsense, but of joyful faith. They understood that through the resurrection God was creating new ways of being in this world.

TRUST THE MYSTERY OF THE EMPTY TOMB.

There is pain and suffering in the world today, just as there was when Jesus experienced the pain of the crucifixion. If the resurrection matters to us, then we know that even amid suffering, pain, and loss, we must trust in the mystery of the empty tomb. We must trust in the resurrection of Jesus, and we must look for signs of resurrection in the world around us

Even in the midst of suffering, pain, and loss, God is at work in our broken and hurting world. As those who follow in the



footsteps of Jesus, we are called to be agents of change, healing, and good news.

Resurrection matters. Without it we would not gather for worship to proclaim "Christ is Risen!" Resurrection matters because in the midst of the empty tomb and the mystery of the resurrection, God overcomes the finality of death. God does something new. God brings forth new life.

THE JOY OF PROCLAIMING "CHRIST IS RISEN" IN WORD AND DEED

Easter is not only a day, but a season for proclaiming "Christ is Risen" and joyfully singing alleluia. But there's more to celebrating the resurrection than praying, singing, and joyfully proclaiming "Christ is Risen!" Mary and the other women who went to the tomb with her that morning understood this. They did not keep the matter of the resurrection to themselves. They went and shared the news with others. Now some thought what they were sharing was garbage, but we know that what they were sharing was not only life-changing, but world changing.

Our task at Easter is not simply to celebrate, but also to share. To proclaim that we believe resurrection matters. To share with others the impact our faith makes in our own lives and to help others to know in their heads and in their hearts that the resurrection matters. It matters not only for a season, but every day of our lives.

We are called to live our lives after the example of
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RESURRECTION MATTERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Jesus who preached, taught, healed, and loved, bringing people from the margins of society to the center.

May we proclaim, "Christ is Risen!" not only in the words we speak, but in the way we treat one another so that those we encounter may experience God's transforming love through us. May we be open to resurrection not only in the world around us, but also in ourselves. So that God's mysterious, powerful, and transformational work continues to make a difference in our broken and hurting world. Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

TAKEN FROM: [HTTPS://UM-INSIGHT.NET/IN-THE-CHURCH/PRACTICING-FAITH/RESURRECTION-MATTERS-LIVING-OUT-THE-POWER-OF-RESURRECTION-EV/](https://um-insight.net/in-the-church/practicing-faith/resurrection-matters-living-out-the-power-of-resurrection-ev/)

WOMEN'S CIRCLE UPCOMING MEETING



Looking for connection, purpose, and friendship? The Women's Circle is a vibrant group of faith-filled women who would love for you to join us!

Our next meeting is Monday, April 13th at 6:30 PM in the Church Dining Room. All women are welcome! Contact the church office with any questions.

THE PANTRY — HELP PROVIDE INFANT CARE ESSENTIALS

This quarter (April–June), Franklin First is collecting infant care items for The Pantry. These small but important necessities make a big difference for families with little ones.

Items Needed:

- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby wipes
- Infant shampoo & body wash
- Diaper cream
- Baby lotion
- Formula & baby food (unopened, in-date)
- Bottles, pacifiers, and other baby essentials
-



Your donations help ensure that families in our community can meet their infants' most basic needs with dignity and care. Please place your items in the designated collection bins at the church.

Thank you for helping support our youngest neighbors!

PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE



Want to help our church thrive for generations?

The Permanent Endowment Fund supports long-term ministry by investing your gift so it continues giving year after year.

A "Forever Gift"

- Your principal stays intact.
- The earnings support future ministry.
- Your generosity keeps working long after today.

Why It Matters

- Builds a legacy of faith
- Provides stability in every season
- Blesses future generations of families

Learn More

A one-time gift or estate designation can make a lasting impact.

Contact Pastor Laura Saunders to explore how you can leave a legacy of hope.

COMMUNITY MEALS AT FRANKLIN FIRST UMC

Franklin First United Methodist Church is grateful to be part of a communitywide network of churches and organizations working together to ensure meals are available throughout the week for our neighbors in need. At Franklin First, community dinners are served every Thursday from 4:00–5:00 PM, hosted by St. Mary’s Knights of Columbus. These weekly meals offer not only nourishment but a welcoming place to gather, connect, and share fellowship.

The Coffee Collab also hosts a meal on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 5:00–6:00 PM, continuing the spirit of hospitality and community care. Through these shared efforts, we are thankful to help meet needs and extend Christ’s love—one meal at a time.



SPECIAL DAYS!

BIRTHDAYS

- APRIL 04 TRISHA DICKEN
- APRIL 05 DAKOTA RAYNOR
- APRIL 11 LILLIAN RUSSELL-CHEEK
- APRIL 12 GREG TROUT

ANNIVERSARIES

- APRIL 13 LISA & RICK DILLON
- APRIL 15 NATHAN & KAYLEE GLOSSIP
- APRIL 20 BRAD & CHRIS LORTON
- APRIL 29 JENNIFER & MATTHEW SCHRAMM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Franklin Area Churches:
			1 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	2 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 2 pm	3 Second Time Shop 2-4 pm St Paul Lutheran	4 Vine DT, 9 - 1 * 4Life 6 pm Then meal *	Second Time Thrift Store St. Paul Lutheran Church, 500 E. Second St. FUMC: First United Methodist Church, 303 S. Main St. Vine DT: Vineyard Downtown, 8 E. Fifth St. 4Life Worship, 215 S. Main St. (937)479-4479 St. Mary's Knights of Columbus, Springboro Clothing Ministry Franklin First Baptist Church 16 W. 2nd St. (includes food pantry 11 - 1 pm) Coffee Collab: 937-367-7003 Pathway Church Deardoff Senior Center 605 S. River St
5 Ⓜ denotes Dinner being Served	6 Second Time Shop 9-12 pm St Paul Lutheran	7	8 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	9 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 2 pm	10 Second Time Shop 2-4 pm St Paul Lutheran	11 Vine DT, 9 - 1 * 4Life 6 pm Then meal *	
12	13	14 St. Paul Lutheran 5:00 PM *	15 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	16 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 2 pm	17	18 Vine DT, 9 - 1 * 4Life 6 pm Then meal *	
19 Pathway Church 12-1:30 PM*	20	21 St. Paul Lutheran 5:00 PM *	22 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	23 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 2 pm	24	25 Vine DT, 9 - 1 * 4Life 6 pm Then meal *	
26	27 Second Time Shop 9-12 pm St Paul Lutheran	28 Coffee Collab At FUMC 5 to 6 pm*	29 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	30 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 2 pm			Questions Call: Debra Hollingsworth SERENITY VINE 937 572 9027

A CROPPIN' GOOD TIME RECAP & SAVE THE DATE

On March 6–7, crafters gathered for A Croppin' Good Time, enjoying sixteen hours of scrapbooking, creativity, and fellowship. The relaxed weekend included shared meals, plenty of space to create, and lots of progress on creative goals.

Save the Date: The next A Croppin' Good Time will take place September 11–12. More details coming soon!



KEEP OUR MINISTRY MOVING—WHEREVER LIFE TAKES YOU

Life can get busy, but your generosity can stay steady. With Franklin First's updated Online Giving platform, supporting the ministries you care about is easier than ever—anytime, anywhere.



Why Give Online?

- Quick & Convenient: Make one-time or recurring gifts in just seconds—no cash, checks, or Sunday-morning rush needed.
- Consistent Impact: Regular giving helps our ministries plan wisely and serve our community with confidence.
- Safe & Secure: Our trusted system protects your personal information and ensures every transaction is secure.

Your gifts make life-changing ministry possible. Ready to take the next step?

Start today: franklinfirstumc.org/giving-%26-member-resources

Thank you for your faithful generosity and for helping us share the love of Christ in powerful ways!

APRIL CALENDAR

Apr 1, 2026

2:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Apr 2, 2026

4:00 pm Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)
7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service

Apr 3, 2026

7:00 pm Good Friday Service

Apr 5, 2026 - Easter Sunday

9:30 am Faith Seekers Study Group
10:40 am Children's Church & Nursery for Worship
10:45 am Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 am Worship Service

Apr 7, 2026

6:30 pm Staff Parish Relations Committee

Apr 8, 2026

2:30 pm Endowment Meeting
3 pm Snack Pack Packing
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Apr 9, 2026

4 pm Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Apr 11, 2026

8 am Free Dental Clinic

Apr 12, 2026 -Fellowship Sunday

9:30 am Faith Seekers Study Group
10:40 am Children's Church & Nursery for Worship
10:45 am Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 am Worship Service

Apr 13, 2026

6:30 pm Women's Circle Meeting

Apr 14, 2026

6:30 pm Mission/Outreach Team Meeting

Apr 15, 2026

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

Apr 16, 2026

4 pm Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Apr 19, 2026

9:30 am Faith Seekers Study Group
10:40 am Children's Church & Nursery for Worship
10:45 am Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 am Worship Service

Apr 20, 2026

6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

Apr 22, 2026

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

Apr 23, 2026

4 pm Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Apr 26, 2026

9:30 am Faith Seekers Study Group
10:40 am Children's Church & Nursery for Worship
10:45 am Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 am Worship Service

Apr 28, 2026

4:30 pm Community Dinner (Coffee Collab)

Apr 29, 2026

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

Apr 30, 2026

4 pm Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Franklin First United Methodist Church

2026 Lay Leadership Ministry

Church Council

Church Council Chair	Karen Anderson
Church Council Secretary	Cheryl Cyphers
Lay Leader	Cindy Kuntzman
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Tami Chamberlain
Treasurer	Tami Chamberlain
Financial Secretary	Theresa Fultz
Membership Secretary	Cheryl Cyphers
Church Historian	Robert Bowman
Pastor	Laura Saunders

Ministry Team Representatives

Staff-Parish	Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
Finance & Endowment	Paul Anderson
Trustee Co-Chairs	Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
Worship	Monica Rhude
Technology	Joe Chamberlain
Committee on Lay Leadership	Laura Saunders
Christian Education Co-Chairs	Mike Smith, Kaylee Glossip
Missions & Outreach Co-Chairs	Linda Smith, Karen Anderson
Hospitality & Events	Carol Runyan
Care Team	Lee Saunders
Welcoming Ministry	Dorothy Rayburg
Women's Circle	Monica Rhude
Member at Large	Amanda Leffew

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Chair: Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
 Lay Leader: Cindy Kuntzman
 Terms expiring 2026
 Sue Fullen, Peggy Darragh-Jeromos, Pam Trout
 Terms expiring 2027
 Sally Fitzgerald, Cindy Kuntzman
 Terms expiring 2028
 LeeAnn Lee, Cheryl Cyphers, Joe Chamberlain

Trustees

Co-Chairs: Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
 Terms expiring 2026:
 Joe Chamberlain, Chris Womack Lorton
 Terms expiring 2027
 Jim Martin, Trisha Dicken, Jan Abell
 Terms expiring 2028
 Mike Runyan, Brian Graves, Jason Leffew

Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations)

Chair: Pastor Laura Saunders
 Lay Leader: Cindy Kuntzman
 Terms expiring 2026:
 Sally Fitzgerald, Karen Anderson
 Terms expiring 2027:
 Barb Ogden, Charlotte Summer, Brian Graves
 Terms expiring 2028:
 Peggy Darragh-Jeromos, Pam Bishop, Kathy Martin

Finance Committee (By virtue of office.)

Chair: Paul Anderson
 Treasurer: Tami Chamberlain
 Financial Secretary: Theresa Fultz
 Church Council Chair: Karen Anderson
 Trustees Co-Chairs: (one vote) Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
 Staff Parish Chair: Peggy Darragh – Jeromos
 Lay Leader: Cindy Kuntzman
 Lay Member of Annual Conference: Tami Chamberlain
 Pastor: (non-voting member) Laura Saunder

Permanent Endowment Fund Committee

Chair of Finance Committee Paul Anderson (**Chair**)
 Church Treasurer Tami Chamberlain
 Chair of Board of Trustees Jim Martin
 Chair of Church Council Karen Anderson
 Lay Leader Cindy Kuntzman
 Member at Large (Term: 2025-2026) Jerry Truesdell
 Member at Large (Term: 2026-2027)
 Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
 Pastor (non-voting member) Laura Saunders

Worship Ministry Team

Chair: Monica Rhude
 Choir Director: Monica Rhude
 Bell Choir Director: Tami Chamberlain
 Altar Design: Pam Bishop, Shari Tutt, Carol Runyan
 Technology: Joe Chamberlain
 Lay Leader: Cindy Kuntzman
 Pastor: Laura Saunders

Mission & Outreach Team

Co-Chairs: Linda Smith, Karen Anderson
 Madelyn Lang, Karen Anderson, Tami Chamberlain,
 Sally Fitzgerald, Cindy Kuntzman

Technology Team

Chair: Joe Chamberlain
 Joe Chamberlain, Trisha Dicken, Andy Kuntzman, Tami Chamberlain, Rick Chamberlain, LeeAnn Lee

Christian Education Team

Co-Chairs: Adult: Mike Smith/Children's: Kaylee Glossip
 Jan Truesdell, Rachel Chamberlain, Madelyn Lang, Carol Runyan, Mike Smith, Kaylee Glossip

Care Team

Chair: Lee Saunders
 Lee Saunders, Dorothy Rayburg,
 Jan Truesdell, Judy Deskins



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5 Easter Sunday

May 10 Music Sunday
Mother's Day

May 24 Pentecost

May 31 Graduation Sunday

June 21 Father's Day

Franklin First United Methodist Church
303 South Main St.
Franklin, OH 45005

Phone: 937-746-5232
E-mail: office@franklinfirstumc.org

Please
place
stamp
here

