



STEEPLE BELL

AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER

EQUIPPING MINDS AND HEARTS

It's that time of year again—the buses will soon be rolling, pencils are sharpened, and a fresh school year is right around the corner. At Franklin First, we have a long tradition of standing with our local schools, supporting the students, teachers, and staff who shape our community's future. As Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, to "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

School Supply Drive & Backpack Sunday

Throughout the month, we are continuing our school supply drive to ensure local students & classrooms are fully equipped.

We invite you, your family, friends, and neighbors to join us on August 9th for Backpack Sunday:

- **10:45 AM Worship:** Students, teachers, and school personnel are invited to attend for a special blessing for the new school year.
- **12:00 PM (Noon) Supply Giveaway:** Free school supplies will be handed out following worship to support families in need.
- **Drop-Off:** Please drop off donations at the church. Needed items include headphones, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, folders, backpacks, and more.

Snack Packs & Tutoring

Our support goes far beyond the first day of class:

- **Snack Packs:** This year, we are excited to start providing weekend snack packs for students at both Gerke and Schenck buildings to help them stay nourished and focused – approximately 200 snack packs weekly.
- **Tutoring:** We are proudly continuing our tutoring tradition at Gerke Elementary with First Graders. It's a fun, meaningful way to connect with kids and support them early on—watch for more information on how you can join the effort!

Thank you for your continued generosity, prayers, and servant's heart. Consider where you can get involved. Together, we can make this school year a blessing for students and teachers in our community!

Backpack Sunday
AUGUST 9TH

10:45 am Service

Noon School Supply Giveaway

Join us for Worship -- students and all school personnel to receive a special blessing for the new school year.

Free School Supplies handed out after Worship!

303 South Main St., Franklin, OH 45005
www.franklinfirstume.org

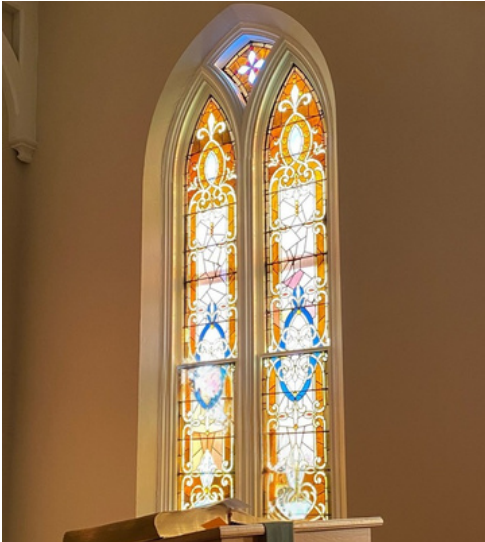
Franklin First UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Franklin First is collecting school supplies for our local teachers and students. All supplies will be donated to a student, teacher, or school. Purchase any of the below items and drop off to 303 S. Main St, Franklin.

- Headphones
- Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Markers
- Crayons
- Pens - blue, black, red
- Highlighters
- Loose leaf paper
- Spiral notebook 1 & 5 - subject
- Folders - with pockets
- Binder - 1.5", 2"
- Composition notebook
- Backpack - no wheels
- Glue sticks 4
- Pencil Box/Pouch
- Scissors
- Erasers
- Dry Erase Markers
- Binder Tab Dividers

EMBRACING THE NEW SEASON: ROOTED IN GRACE AND GROWTH



"THERE IS A TIME FOR EVERYTHING, AND A SEASON
FOR EVERY ACTIVITY UNDER THE HEAVENS."
ECCLESIASTES 3:1

As we move into August, a new school year approaches, and autumn begins to whisper through the trees, our rhythms naturally shift. Summer's relaxed pace gives way to the familiar energy of back-to-school routines, church program kickoffs, and fresh calendars. It is a season of transition—a time when we look ahead to new beginnings, new projects, and the changing landscape around us.

In the busyness of turning the page, Scripture offers a comforting and grounding anchor. We are reminded in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

Transitions can sometimes feel daunting, whether we are preparing for busy schedules or organizing our communities for the months ahead. Yet, in United Methodist theology, transitions are also viewed as sacred spaces of grace. We believe in prevenient grace—the divine love that goes before us, preparing our hearts and opening doors before we even take a step. God is already in our upcoming autumn, waiting to meet us in every new endeavor, classroom, church gathering, and quiet moment of reflection.

John Wesley often spoke about moving forward in faith through "connecting in grace" and growing together in our love for God and neighbor. As we step into this upcoming season of change, we are invited to cultivate our spiritual growth just as intentionally as we organize our daily lives.

Let this August transition be an invitation to lean into God's renewing spirit. When the calendar fills up and the days grow shorter, may we remember that our strength does not come from our own hurried efforts, but from the One who makes all things beautiful in His time.

As you embrace the approaching autumn, take a quiet moment this week to pause and breathe in God's grace. Consider how you might plant seeds of kindness, patience, and faith in your daily walk, trusting that the Lord who guides the changing seasons is lovingly guiding you, too.

SABBATICAL LEAVE AND RETIREMENT PLANS

Pastor Laura Saunders has announced an important transition for her family and for Franklin First as she supports her husband, Lee, through ongoing health challenges. With the approval of District Superintendent Suzanne Allen, Pastor Laura will take a sabbatical leave during August and September. During this time, guest speakers and designated pastoral care leaders will serve the congregation.

Pastor Laura plans to return in October with modified office hours before retiring on April 30, 2027. District Superintendent Suzanne Allen will work with the church to coordinate Franklin First's next pastoral appointment.

As Franklin First enters this season of transition, we ask everyone to keep Pastor Laura and Lee in their prayers. We are grateful for Pastor Laura's faithful leadership and trust that God will continue to guide our church with hope and purpose in the months ahead.





CASTING A NET: LAUNCHING KIDS' FISHING CLUB

We are looking forward to the upcoming launch of our brand-new Kids' Fishing Club!

The organizational meeting has been rescheduled and we are ready to go, this unique ministry is designed to help young people unplug from screens and reconnect with nature. Founded by retired superintendent Steve Price, the club goes beyond teaching the basics of fishing. At its heart, it builds community and mentorship by pairing youth with adult mentors from our congregation, fostering meaningful, cross-generational relationships rooted in faith and God's creation.

We are actively looking for adult volunteers. Whether you are an expert angler or simply want to offer a welcoming, supportive presence to our young people, your involvement matters.

Join Us for the Organizational Meeting

- When: Sunday, August 9th, at Noon (following the Sunday worship service)
- Where: Fellowship Hall

Please RSVP to the office (office@franklinfirst.org) if you plan to attend. Come help us build this wonderful new avenue for mentorship at Franklin First!

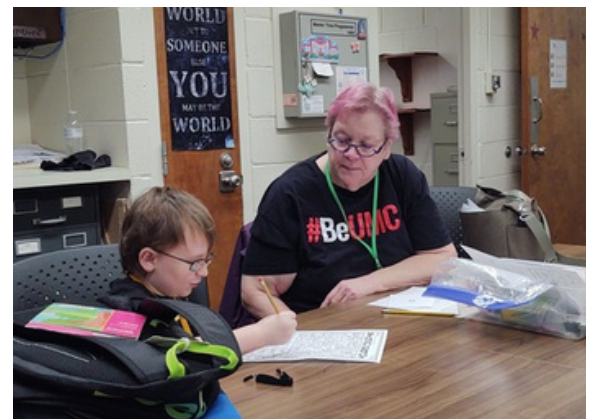
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GERKE ELEMENTARY TUTORING

Franklin First is excited to continue our tutoring ministry at Gerke Elementary this September, and we are looking for volunteers to make a difference in the life of a first-grade student.

Tutors are paired with students identified by their teachers as needing a little extra support with literacy skills. Gerke teachers provide easy-to-follow reading and literacy activities for each 10-week session, making it simple for volunteers to encourage learning, build confidence, and develop meaningful relationships with students.

Tutoring takes place on Thursday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. and requires just a small commitment of time each week. No teaching experience is necessary. A background check is required for all volunteers.

If you have a heart for helping children succeed and would like to be part of this rewarding ministry, please contact the church office to sign up. We look forward to partnering with Gerke Elementary and sharing God's love through encouragement, friendship, and learning.



GALAXY

Launching Kids on a Mission of God's Love

GALAXY VBS LAUNCHES KIDS ON A MISSION OF GOD'S LOVE

Galaxy Vacation Bible School was a wonderful success! Through our partnership with Hope United Methodist Church, we welcomed 38 children for three evenings of music, Bible stories, games, crafts, and faith-filled fun.



Centered on the theme "Launching Kids on a Mission of God's Love," children learned that God's love is bigger than the universe and that they are called to share that love with others.



A special thank you goes to our many volunteers whose energy and dedication made the week possible. We are especially grateful to Kaylee Glossip for her outstanding leadership and hard work in coordinating this year's VBS. We also thank our partners at Hope UMC for joining us in this meaningful ministry.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, and prayed for VBS. Together, we helped launch 38 children on a mission to share God's love with the world!



"LET US CONTINUE TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER, FOR LOVE COMES FROM GOD."
1 JOHN 4:7

SPARKLE AND SHINE: THE ANGEL SHOP OPENS FOR HOMECOMING SEASON!

High school students, get ready to shine at your upcoming homecoming dance! Whether you are looking for a stunning dress, a sharp suit, shoes, or the right accessories, The Angel Shop has a large selection of formal wear to help make your special night unforgettable. Best of all, everything is completely free of charge, because every student deserves a chance to feel like royalty regardless of their financial situation!



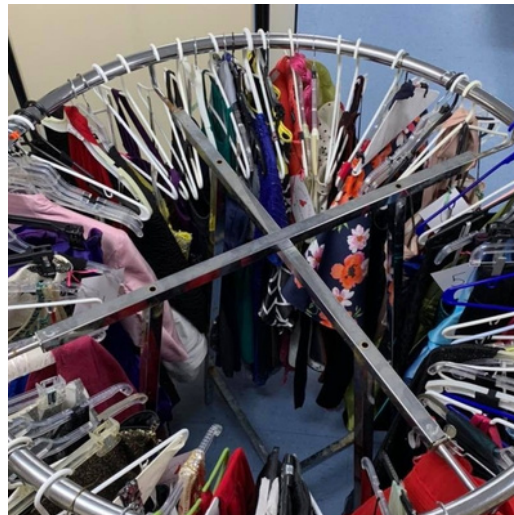
This outreach ministry is a labor of love for our community. While all items are completely free, if you feel inspired, you can consider donating to our outreach programs to help other students experience the magic too.

Homecoming Season Hours & Details:

- Dates: August 16th – October 11th (Note: Closed Labor Day weekend)
- Schedule: Sundays from 12:30 – 2:00 PM
- Location: Under the green steeple at 303 S. Main St., Franklin, OH (Please use the front entrance).

Donations Welcome: To keep this wonderful ministry running, we always appreciate support from our community! Don't forget to donate your clean, gently used formal dresses, men's suits, ties, shoes, purses, jewelry, and other accessories. Donations can be dropped off during Angel Shop hours or at the church on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM, and Thursday afternoons from 4:00 – 5:00 PM.

Bring your teens to browse and shop with us. We can't wait to see you there!



FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND FUN: WOMEN'S CIRCLE!

Looking for a way to connect with other women of Franklin First, share some laughs and contribute? We'd love to invite you to join the Women's Circle!

Whether we're diving into hands-on service projects, rolling up our sleeves for our famous annual noodle-making days, supporting local outreach, or just enjoying each other's company, our group is all about faith meeting action and friendships growing.

Kickoff Dinner & Meeting

We are getting together for a special organizing dinner and meeting to kick off our upcoming season, and we would love for you to join us:

- Date: Monday, August 24th
- Time: 6:30 PM
- Where: Church Dining Room
- Details: Meat and drinks are provided—just bring a dish to share!

Come on out for a relaxed evening of good food and conversation as we plan out a fun and purposeful season ahead.

We can't wait to see you there!



JOIN US FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Be sure to stop by our booth at this year's National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5th in Community Park from 5:30 -8:30 pm! We will be hosting our crowd-favorite Toilet Seat Toss, sharing information about our church's outreach ministries, and offering a drawing for school supplies to help local students start the school year strong.

We are also looking for volunteers to help staff the booth throughout the event. If you'd like to lend a hand for a shift, we'd love to have you join us!

Look for our booth, bring your friends and family, and help us make this a fun and meaningful day for our community. We can't wait to see you there!



CUT, CROP, AND CREATE: JOIN US FOR "A CROPPIN' GOOD TIME!"

Autumn is just around the corner, and if you are anything like us, you are probably ready to dive into some indoor projects. If you are an avid crafter or scrapbooker looking for a guilt-free weekend to finally catch up on your memory books, we have got just the thing for you.

Women's Circle is hosting "A Croppin' Good Time," and it is shaping up to be a great weekend. The fun kicks off on Friday, September 11, from 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM, and keeps rolling on Saturday, September 12, from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM right at the church on 303 South Main Street.

Over the course of sixteen hours, you will have plenty of room to spread out your supplies, finish up those layouts, and chat with fellow creators. We know how hard it is to find uninterrupted time at home to craft, so this weekend is all about giving you that dedicated space. Every crafter gets their own 5-foot table—round or rectangular—so you will have plenty of elbow room for your paper, cutters, and photos.

We will also keep you well-fueled so you can stay focused on your projects. Your \$50 registration fee includes a Saturday brunch as well as dinner. We will have Wi-Fi and electrical outlets ready to go—just be sure to toss your favorite extension cord into your bag before you head over.

Registration is \$50. You can sign up easily online by heading to franklinfirstumc.org. If you have any questions at all, feel free to reach out to Pam Trout at pktmango@yahoo.com. Grab your favorite scissors, clear off your workspace, and come spend a wonderful weekend making memories with us!



FAITH IN ACTION: SMALL STEPS, BIG IMPACT

"Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act." — Proverbs 3:27

Action Step: Look around your neighborhood or community this week and offer a helping hand to someone carrying a heavy load—whether it is bringing in a neighbor's trash bins, offering a kind word, or donating non-perishable items to a local food pantry.

A CALL TO LAITY: SHARE CHRIST IN EVERYDAY LIFE

By J. F. Knapp, III

From the beginning, God's vision has been a world alive with purpose, connection and hope, and God entrusted us to tend it. It's time to step boldly into that vision, to become churches that don't just sit and wait, but go and create, led by the laity, supported by our clergy and fueled by the call to evangelism.

SEE THE WORLD AS IT COULD BE

Genesis shows us a God who doesn't just create and walk away. In Genesis 1:31, God saw that creation was "very good," but God wasn't done. God invites us into the work. That's evangelism at its core: Seeing the world not as it is, but as it could be through Christ's love, and then doing something about it.

For too long, we've leaned on our clergy and church staff to carry the ministry load—preaching, teaching, visiting and even evangelizing. But John Wesley didn't design it that way, and neither did Jesus. Christ left his work, his ministry, in the hands of his disciples. This mission has been passed down from generation to generation, and has come to rest squarely on our shoulders.

The early church thrived because ordinary people shared the good news wherever they went. Today, that's you and me. Clergy equip us, train us and point us to Christ, but the work of ministry belongs to the laity!

EVERY CHRISTIAN IS AN EVANGELIST

Evangelism is driven by love, compassion and obedience to Christ's command. Evangelism can take many forms. It's not just about converting people, but about sharing Christ's love authentically, respecting others' free will and trusting the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts.

Evangelism isn't a program or a pastor's job. It's a lifestyle. It's seeing a coworker struggling and offering a prayer. It's a handwritten note or a text, just letting someone know how much you appreciate them. It's inviting a neighbor to church, not because we need more pew-sitters, but because we have something worth sharing.

Genesis 1:31 reminds us that God's creation is good, but sin has marred it. Evangelism is our opportunity to show people Christ, who makes all things new. And laity, you're the front line. You're in the workplaces, the grocery stores, the ballfields, the backyard barbecues—that is the mission field. It doesn't take a theology degree, just an open heart and a story about what Jesus has done for you.

REMEMBER WESLEY'S MODEL FOR THE CHURCH

We need to reimagine how we do church. Actually, I don't believe it is so much of a reimagining as it is a remembering or a rediscovering. We need to remember the model John Wesley built Methodism on: Churches that are lay-led, where we laity accept responsibility for the mission and the ministering.

Now, certainly a new creation demands a new way of reaching people, of connecting with people. Placing ads in the newspaper doesn't have the same reach as it used to. Even television is less effective. But understand, God's Word stands forever. The love of Christ is always! The message never changes! But the way we reach people, the way we connect to people, has to change with the times.

WHAT IS EVANGELISM?

Evangelism is the act of sharing the Gospel and inviting others into a relationship with Christ. It stems from the Greek word euangelion, and it was originally a journalistic word. It referred to some big news or announcement, usually about the emperor. But it was always good news, never bad news. People would be appointed to go from town to town sharing this good news, kind of like a town crier. These people were called evangelists – ones who shared the good news.

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MUSIC MINISTRY IS READY TO BEGIN A NEW SEASON!



As summer winds down, Franklin First's Music Ministry is gearing up for another exciting season of worship through music. If you enjoy singing, ringing handbells, or sharing your musical gifts, we invite you to join us!

Our first rehearsals of the season will be held on Wednesday, September 9, with Chancel Choir rehearsing at 6:30 p.m. and the Aspenleiter Handbell Choir at 7:30 p.m. Practices are held weekly during the school year, and new members are always welcome.

Whether you have years of musical experience or are simply interested in trying something new, there is a place for you. Franklin First's music groups are known for their welcoming spirit, and all levels of talent are encouraged to participate.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact the church office, Monica Rhude, Chancel Choir Director, or Tami Chamberlain, Handbell Choir Director. We would love for you to be part of our musical family as we lift our voices and bells in praise together!

PRAYING OUR KIDS INTO A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR

Backpacks are packed, new shoes are tied, and a brand-new school year is here! As our young people walk into their classrooms this August, we want them to carry a powerful message with them: You are loved, and you are called to do good!



From helping a friend on the playground to working hard in the classroom, our kids have endless ways to put faith into action this year. As a church family, our greatest gift to them is our constant support and prayer.

Join us in praying this blessing over our students:

"Lord, watch over our students as a new year begins. Give them eager minds to learn and big hearts to serve. Inspire them to do all the good they can wherever they go. When school feels challenging, remind them that You are near and that their church community is praying for them every single day. Amen."

A CALL TO LAITY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

SHOW THE WORLD JESUS' LOVE

Jesus' heart beats for the lost, the hurting and the ones who don't yet know him. Remember, those who don't know Jesus can't see God's miracles unfolding around them every day and they can't hear the Holy Spirit speaking to them. They can only hear and see the ways that we live...our love, invitation and action.

PICTURE THIS: A STRANGER WALKS INTO YOUR CHURCH, AND INSTEAD OF ASKING, "WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?," THEY ASK, "HOW CAN I JOIN THIS?" THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE'RE LAY-LED, CLERGY-SUPPORTED AND EVANGELISM-DRIVEN.

Let's show the world what "very good" looks like, trusting God to make all things new. And as we strive to show the love of Christ and share the good news, remember the guidance of St. Francis of Assisi: When all else fails, use words!

J. F. Knapp, III is the South Georgia Conference Lay Leader and the Lay Leader of Grace UMC in Thomasville, Georgia. Watch his [2025 Laity Address](https://www.umd.org/en/content/a-call-to-laity-share-christ-in-everyday-life). Article Taken From: <https://www.umd.org/en/content/a-call-to-laity-share-christ-in-everyday-life>

UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS

Join us for homemade treats and fellowship after service on:

- August 16th
- September 13th

AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday, August 2, 2026 **VBS SUNDAY**

10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service
(HELD at HOPE UMC FOR VBS CLOSING & PICNIC)

Tuesday, August 4, 2025

5:30 - 8:30 PM National Night Out

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

2:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 6, 2026

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Sunday, August 9, 2026 **Backpack Sunday**

9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service
Noon Youth Fishing Organizational Meeting

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

2:30 PM Endowment Meeting

Thursday, August 13, 2026

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM District One on Ones - S. Allen
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Sunday, August 16, 2026

9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service
After Service Fellowship

Thursday, August 26, 2026

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Sunday, August 26, 2026

9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service

Monday, August 24, 2026

6:30 PM Women's Circle Kickoff Meeting

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM Community Dinner (Coffee Collab)

Thursday, August 27, 2026

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

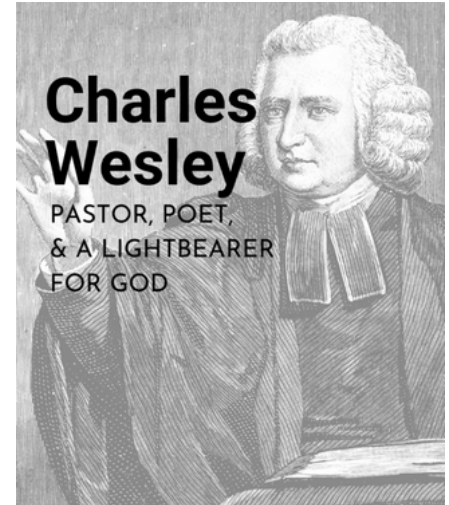
Sunday, August 30, 2026

9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service

UMC - DID YOU KNOW?

Methodism didn't just spread through preaching—it was sung into existence!

John Wesley's brother, Charles Wesley, wrote over 6,000 hymns in his lifetime. In fact, their father's church used to forbid musical instruments, so Charles focused entirely on crafting rich, poetic lyrics. These hymns served as portable theology, teaching complex doctrine to everyday believers as they sang along during long travels and Sunday services.



EASY WAY TO SUPPORT FRANKLIN FIRST: CHECK YOUR KROGER RECEIPT!

Did you know your weekly grocery run can support the ministries of Franklin First—at no extra cost to you?

When you shop at Kroger, linking your account to our Community Rewards helps fund ministry all year long. It's free, takes just a minute, and if you're already enrolled, no action is needed—this is only for new sign-ups with our new church number.

How to enroll:

- Visit www.kroger.com
- Register or Sign In
- Community
- Community Rewards
- Enroll Now
- Enter RK151



Thank you for supporting Franklin First in this easy and meaningful way!

"LORD MY GOD, I CALLED TO YOU FOR HELP,
AND YOU HEALED ME."
PSALM 30:2 (NIV)

SPECIAL DAYS!

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 01	CHERYL KRASNOSKI
AUGUST 01	CALLIE TROUT
AUGUST 02	DOROTHY RAYBURG
AUGUST 03	LINDA SMITH
AUGUST 03	MARNA ROGERS
AUGUST 05	JIM MARTIN
AUGUST 06	NANCY MASSEY
AUGUST 08	MIKE JARVIS
AUGUST 09	BRIAN GRAVES
AUGUST 18	ARYA BELL
AUGUST 19	TERESA LASS
AUGUST 19	CAROL SWENEY
AUGUST 22	PAUL ANDERSON
AUGUST 22	MALLORY CHILCUTT
AUGUST 24	DONNIE ROGERS
AUGUST 24	JENNIFER SCHRAMM
AUGUST 25	AMANDA LEFFEW
AUGUST 30	JOHN GOODPASTER

ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST 10	BILL & CINDY KUNTZMAN
AUGUST 27	RYAN & REGINA HYNES
AUGUST 31	JIM & KATHY MARTIN

GIVING MADE SIMPLE: SUPPORTING OUR MINISTRY ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

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!



SUNDAY MORNING HOSPITALITY

Did you know that one of the easiest ways to serve is by helping create a welcoming atmosphere on Sunday mornings? Whether greeting at the door, serving as an usher, or simply introducing yourself to a visitor, your friendly smile can make all the difference. If you're interested in serving on a hospitality team, contact the church office.



FALL MARKETPLACE

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 7!

Come shop your favorite local vendors, enjoy a delicious lunch, and grab a bag of our famous homemade noodles.

We'll be serving up all your autumn favorites, including chicken & noodles, ham & bean soup, and barbecue sandwiches. It's a community tradition we look forward to every year, and we can't wait to see you there!

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 Saunderson

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

August 2

VBS Sunday (Service held at Hope UMC)

August 9

Backpack Sunday

August 16

Angel Shop Opens for Homecoming

September 11 & 12

Croppin' Good Time

September 13

Grandparent's Sunday

November 7

Fall Marketplace

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

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



AUGUST