



# STEEPLE BELL

OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

## OVERFLOWING WITH THANKS

Dear Church Family,

It is hard to put into words how wonderful it feels to write to you again as I return from my two-month leave. Transitioning to a new residence is always a major milestone, filled with the sorting to downsize, the endless boxes, and heavy lifting. Yet throughout these past eight weeks, what stood out far above the moving logistics was the incredible wall of support, love, and grace surrounding us.

First and foremost, thank you for your prayers. Knowing that you were lifting us up in prayer brought peace and strength during the busiest days of our move. We are also deeply moved by the outpouring of love we received in so many tangible ways:

- Your inquiries about Lee's health. The IV antibiotics finally helped him turn the corner toward improved health. You may even see him in church soon!
- The phone calls, texts, and cards: hearing from you and reading through your thoughtful notes, blessings, and words of encouragement gave us continuous moments of warmth and connection.
- Fresh garden produce: Our meals were frequently blessed with delicious, homegrown vegetables, a true taste of home and community.
- Gift cards: the gift cards for local restaurants and groceries were such a timely blessing, especially on those exhausting evenings when cooking was simply out of the question!
- A huge thank you to those who stepped in to fill the voids left by my absence. It is hard to be gone, but I've known that dedicated leaders have kept things moving.

Moving was a huge shift, but being part of a community so rooted in generosity and care makes every transition easier. As I step back into full ministry this month, my heart is overflowing with thanksgiving for each of you.

I look forward to seeing you, worshipping together, and continuing our shared journey of faith in the days ahead. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ to our family. We have missed you and look forward to face-to-face reconnection.

Pastor Laura



## CREATING SAFE SPACES FOR OUR CHILDREN: SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

Anyone who works with children in our church must have a background check and Safe Sanctuary training every three years. Whether you participate in Children's Christian Education, the Fishing Club, Tutoring, or any other child-friendly ministry, this is an imperative.

The training will take place immediately after church on the 18<sup>th</sup> in the fellowship hall back by the offices. A light lunch will be provided, and

the training will take approximately one hour. Please register through the office so that we have enough food and supplies.



**Safe Sanctuary Training**

**Sunday, Oct. 18th**  
**Noon, After Service**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Light meal will be served.  
Contact the office or visit our website to sign-up.

Join us for a vital training session that ensures the safety and well-being of our youngest members.

## CALLED TO SERVE: FINDING YOUR PLACE IN MINISTRY COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP BEGINS ITS WORK

The purpose of the Committee on Lay Leadership is to discern and arrange for the church's leadership for the next calendar year. The pastor chairs the committee, which prayerfully meets to match people with the necessary skill sets and calling to various responsibilities in the church. Some of the ministry teams operate under three-year term commitments, and some are year-to-year. We will be staffing Trustees, Staff-Parish Relations, and the Lay Leadership groups, as well as worship, care team, and Christian Education.



The church cannot exist without the skills and calling of lay people. Do you have an area of ministry that you feel called to serve? Talk to Pastor Laura. If asked to serve in a particular capacity, please prayerfully consider your answer.

## PACKING A LITTLE LOVE: SNACK PACKS ARE BACK!

Franklin First began packing Snack Packs again in September, and this year we are packing for Schenck Elementary Pre-K and Kindergarten students, as well as Gerke Elementary First Graders. We are providing around 200 packs per week on this invaluable ministry. Packing was done Sunday during fellowship time, and folks enjoyed working together to get the ministry started. If you'd like to donate, you can purchase shelf-stable food items or designate an offering for "snack packs."



## REMEMBERING THE SAINTS WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

Looking ahead, all Saints Sunday will be observed November 1. We will be remembering those who have joined the Church Triumphant since All Saints Day last year. You are welcome to submit a picture of your loved one by October 27th for use in the worship service.

## CANDY, COSTUMES & COMMUNITY: FRANKLIN'S TRUNK OR TREAT

It is always fun to greet the children with smiling faces and candy treats in our city's annual Trunk or Treat festival. You can set up your vehicle (decorated as you choose) and put on a costume (optional) to hand out goodies to the hundreds of kids who gather for the event. The church will be creating a photo shoot opportunity, always a yearly hit.

Even if you decide not to be present, you can provide candy. Make sure your donations are individually wrapped. Bring them on Sunday or visit during the week and leave them in the office.

## GET HOOKED ON FISHING! FISHING CLUB'S FIRST OUTING

Time for the Fishing Club to Throw Out Their Lines! October 11 is planned as the first outing of the Fishing Club, where adult fishermen or women will accompany kids aged 5 to 12 years old to a local pond and teach them to fish. We are praying for good weather and lots of fun. Please register your youngsters by Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Steve Price and Rick Chamberlain for taking the lead of this fun activity. Fishing is a sport that can be enjoyed by anyone at any age.



**Franklin First UMC FISHING CLUB**

**Upcoming Fishing Outing**

**Sunday  
October 11, 2026  
Noon**

Kids ages 5–12 are invited for an afternoon of fishing, learning, and outdoor fun.

Meet at Franklin First UMC  
303 S. Main St.,  
Franklin, OH 45005  
before heading to a local pond.

Never fished before? No problem! Come learn, explore, and enjoy God's creation with us

**Cast a Line. Make a Friend. Have Some Fun!**

**SIGN UP NOW**

**SCAN ME**

Visit [www.franklinfirstumc.org](http://www.franklinfirstumc.org) for more information or register.



## MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE: THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU!

Franklin First is blessed with many talented musicians, and they resumed their ministry practices after Labor Day. It is a joy to welcome some new members this year. Megan is a joy at the piano, Trisha keeps the beat going, and others share their instrumental talents as well. Thanks to everyone who shares their musical skills. You do not have to have perform solos to be a part of our music program. Talk to our directors, Monica and Tami, and see where you can plug in.



**"LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE."  
1 CORINTHIANS 16:14**



## OODLES OF NOODLES & HELPING HANDS

Our Women's Circle has begun its yearly work of preparing noodles for the Fall Marketplace on November 7. On Mondays, you'll find a large team of workers mixing, rolling, and cutting noodles, which then dry on tables until they are bagged on Wednesdays. This is a huge part of the Circle's fundraising efforts, with proceeds typically supporting projects related to church maintenance and beautification. But noodle-making is about more than fundraising. It's also a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, and working together for the good of our church. Thanks to all those who make this ministry happen!

This work team would love to include you! If you've never made noodles, this seasoned crew will be glad to share their hands-on experience. There's a job for every skill level, and an extra set of hands is always welcome. Monica Rhude can answer any questions.



## A PERFECT FIT: THE ANGEL SHOP MINISTRY

Franklin Schools publicized our Angel Shop since school started, and as a result, the boutique has done a booming business during the Homecoming season so far this year. Jenny Chilcutt has done a great job heading this ministry as young people from the area have enjoyed shopping for their formal attire for Homecoming celebrations. With a stock of about 400 beautiful dresses, shoes, jewelry, and men's suits and shirts, there is much from which to choose.

All items have been donated from supporters in the community. Our stock of men's wear (including some brand-new shirts) is much larger, due to big donations from some area organizations. They are then made available for free. This valuable service will be made available again after the first of the year at prom time. Thanks Jenny and crew!



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

Looking for friendship, fellowship, and opportunities to serve? Join the Women's Circle at Franklin First! We enjoy connecting with one another while supporting church ministries, community outreach, and special projects throughout the year.

Next Meeting:  
Monday, October 12  
6:30 PM  
Church Dining Room

All women are  
welcome.

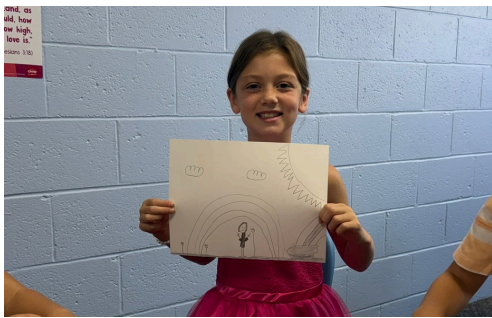
We'd love to have  
you join us!



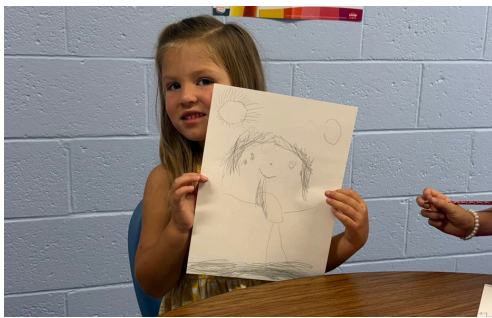
## A NEW SEASON OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IS UNDERWAY!



We are excited to share that CCEP (Children's Christian Education Program) is officially underway at Franklin First! It has been wonderful to see our children gathering on Sunday mornings to learn, create, ask questions, and grow together in their faith. Children through fifth grade meet at 10:00 a.m. in the third-floor classroom before worship.



Using the Simply Loved curriculum, each week brings a Bible lesson along with discussion and hands-on activities designed to help children discover how God's Word connects with their lives. During worship, children can continue exploring the morning's lesson through Praise Packets while participating in worship with their church family.



One of the things we are most excited about is seeing our whole church family become part of this ministry. Volunteers are sharing their gifts by reading lessons and stories, leading crafts, helping in the nursery, preparing Praise Packets, providing snacks, and supporting our children in many other ways. There is a place for everyone to help, whether you enjoy working directly with children or prefer serving behind the scenes.

We are grateful to Kaylee Glossip, our volunteers and everyone who has helped bring this new vision to life. As CCEP continues to grow, we hope even more members of our church family will find a way to become involved. It truly takes a church family to nurture a child's faith, and we are excited to see where God leads this ministry in the months ahead.

And don't forget: Sunday School begins at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. Come grow with us!

*Look at these beautiful faces, each made in the image of God! During Week 2 of our new Pre-Service Children's Sunday School, the children created self-portraits while learning what it means to be created in God's image.*



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.



## SHOP, SAVOR & CELEBRATE AT THE FALL MARKETPLACE!

One of Franklin First UMC's favorite fall traditions is almost here! Join us Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the annual Fall Marketplace, a day of shopping, good food, fellowship, and community. Browse local vendors and get a head start on your holiday shopping, then stay for lunch, served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The menu includes chicken & noodles, bean soup, and barbecue, with favorites also available by the pint or quart to take home. And, of course, don't forget to stock up on the Women's Circle's famous dry homemade noodles by the pound! Last year, volunteers made more than 425 batches as part of this longtime Franklin First tradition. Pre-orders are now open! Contact the church office or visit our website to reserve your Fall Marketplace favorites.

The Marketplace is more than a fundraiser. It is a wonderful opportunity to welcome our neighbors, enjoy fellowship, support local vendors, and support the work of the Women's Circle. Mark your calendar, bring a friend, and come shop, eat, and enjoy the day with us!

## BUILDING UP, NOT TEARING DOWN: OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

October is National Bullying Prevention Month, a time to stand together against behaviors that can cause lasting pain and harm. In a world that can feel increasingly divided, our church is called to be a haven of unity, compassion, and love for everyone. We often think of bullying in a school context, but our society's communication has devolved into bullying as a means of coercion.

Bullying, whether it's in person or online, goes against the very core of our Christian values. It is a painful abuse of power that tears down others and isolates those who need our support the most. Our faith teaches us to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31) and to "do to others as you would have them do to you" (Luke 6:31). This means treating every person with the dignity and respect they deserve as a child of God.

During this month, we are encouraged to be more than just bystanders. We can be "upstanders" by speaking out against injustice, offering support to those who are being targeted.

We can start by:

- Asking for the Holy Spirit to guide our words and actions.
- Modeling kindness and respect, even when we disagree with someone.
- Listening to those who have been affected by bullying.
- Speaking out against hurtful behavior, even if it feels uncomfortable.

Praying for both those who are bullied and those who are doing the bullying





## RAIN COULDN'T STOP THE FUN!

A little rain couldn't put a damper on our Family Cookout Party! When the weather moved the festivities indoors, Franklin First's Dining Room quickly filled with more than 100 neighbors and friends enjoying hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, ice cream, cookies, balloon animals, games, and plenty of good fellowship.

A huge thank you to Coffee Collab for hosting the evening, to the many volunteers who supported the event, and to the Warren County Health District for being on hand to offer free flu and COVID vaccinations and other health-related information.

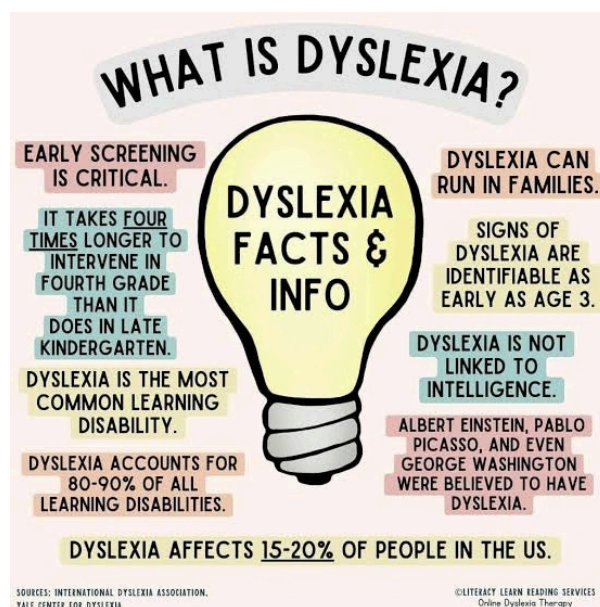
Rain or shine, it was a wonderful evening of food, fun, and community under the Green Steeple!



## WONDERFULLY MADE: CELEBRATING DIFFERENT WAYS OF LEARNING OCTOBER IS DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month, a time dedicated to understanding and supporting individuals with this common learning difference. Dyslexia isn't about intelligence; it's a neurological difference in how the brain processes language. It affects how a person reads, spells, and writes, but it's important to remember that many people with dyslexia are highly creative, strategic thinkers, and problem solvers.

Our church community is a place where everyone, regardless of their learning style, should feel welcomed and valued. By raising awareness, we can better support our children and adults who may be navigating the challenges of dyslexia. Let's use this month as an opportunity to learn more, ask questions, and celebrate the unique gifts of all our members. Recognizing and embracing these differences strengthens our community and helps everyone feel seen and loved for who they are.



## PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE



**Your Gift. Their Future.**

Help Franklin First thrive for generations through the Permanent Endowment Fund. A gift today can provide lasting support for the church and its ministries well into the future.

Plant a seed of faith that keeps growing. Contact Pastor Laura Saunders to learn more.

# 7 WAYS PEOPLE OF FAITH CAN DEAL WITH STRESS

By Laura Buchanan

We say that we trust God, but do we really?

In a world full of hardship and conflict, it is easy to fall into the habits of overthinking, worrying, and stressing about our present and our future. Each time we feel anxieties rise, we can take steps to ground ourselves and remember that God is with us, takes care of us, and can relieve us of our stress.

“There’s nothing in life worth stressing over. I virtually live stress free now. I want others to experience the same thing,” says Thomas Mayberry, author, speaker, and United Methodist layperson. After decades of wrestling with stress, anxiety, and depression, he committed to spiritual disciplines to find relief.

He offers these suggestions:

## 1. FIND THE SOURCE OF YOUR WORRY

Take time to reflect deeply and figure out where exactly your stress is coming from. Work? Family tension? Finances? The news?

“There are so many things that are filtering into us that stack on top of each other. The only way you’re going to fix a problem is if you understand that you have a problem and then figure out where it’s coming from,” Mayberry points out. “Then you can shift. Lean into your faith and build a stronger relationship with God, who’s on your side all the time.”

## 2. TAP INTO GRATITUDE

“Sometimes we focus so much on our stress that we don’t recognize all the good things that are in our lives. We have tunnel vision. Change that to a focus of joy and gratitude. It might be little things, like a beautiful sunset, and we can say, ‘God, thank you for that,’” Mayberry shares.

## 3. FOCUS ON OTHERS

“As you change your focus, you also start to focus on others instead of yourself,” offers Mayberry. “That might be in the form of serving others, where you are concentrating on somebody else’s wellbeing more than your own. The more you take that focus off of yourself, you’re not thinking about your stress anymore, you have something different on your mind.”

## 4. HOLD ONTO PROMISES IN SCRIPTURE

When you are feeling stressed, it can help to recite comforting words from Scripture. Find a Bible verse that relates to your situation and have a conversation with God about it. Ask what God is trying to tell you. Then listen.

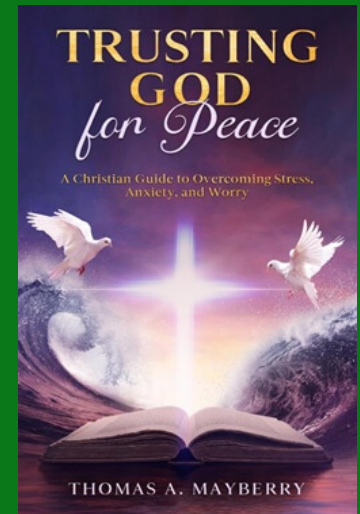
Mayberry mentions Proverbs 3:5-6, which says, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

“That stretch in the middle, ‘lean not on your own understanding,’ is crucial because we get this vision of, ‘This is the only thing that’s possible,’ but what God can do is unlimited,” Mayberry observes. “We need to trust him and realize that [our circumstances] might just be stepping stones towards where God wants us to be.”

## 5. LET GO AND ALLOW GOD TO LEAD

Our human dreams are small and shortsighted compared to what God envisions for us. This is something Mayberry has experienced firsthand.

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT



Mayberry’s latest book, *Trusting God for Peace*, draws from biblical wisdom and real-life insights. Readers will discover how trusting God can replace worry with hope, fear with faith, and anxiety with lasting peace.

The book also includes a forty-day Bible reading plan, which includes Scripture verses, reflection questions, and prayers that will help you better deal with stress, anxiety, and depression while you learn to trust God’s ever-present care.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



## SPECIAL DAYS!

### BIRTHDAYS

|            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| OCTOBER 02 | SALLY FITZGERALD  |
| OCTOBER 04 | BILL HATFIELD     |
| OCTOBER 05 | MORGAN SCHRAMM    |
| OCTOBER 05 | MATTHEW SCHRAMM   |
| OCTOBER 08 | BRADY CHAMBERLAIN |
| OCTOBER 10 | ROBERT BOWMAN     |
| OCTOBER 12 | DAVID SETSER      |
| OCTOBER 15 | SUE FULLEN        |
| OCTOBER 15 | COSETTE SAMS      |
| OCTOBER 19 | MAVERICK LINE     |
| OCTOBER 24 | STEPHEN BISHOP    |

### ANNIVERSARIES

|            |                             |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| OCTOBER 11 | MIKE & CAROL RUNYAN         |
| OCTOBER 12 | MIKE & LINDA SMITH          |
| OCTOBER 19 | RICK & KAY MARKSBERRY       |
| OCTOBER 23 | JENNIFER & CODY CHILCUTT    |
| OCTOBER 26 | DON & ERNESTINE CHAMBERLAIN |
| OCTOBER 27 | KEN & MADELYN LANG          |

## 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](https://franklinfirstumc.org/giving-%26-member-resources)

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

## 7 WAYS PEOPLE OF FAITH CAN DEAL WITH STRESS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

After years of chasing corporate success, Mayberry was tired. He placed his career in God's hands and dug into the work he had in front of him. Soon after, he was offered a promotion, which led to four others. He continues to proceed with integrity and prayer, living his faith at work.

### 6. CHAT WITH GOD

Prayer doesn't have to be formal or held to a specific time or place. Try having an ongoing dialogue with God. Mayberry shares, "I have as much conversation with God throughout the day as I can. I constantly try to be aware of his presence, talk to him, and say, 'Thanks for that' or 'I need help on this' or 'Give me the right words.'"

### 7. MOVE YOUR BODY

Physical movement helps our bodies regulate stress, distracts our minds, and promotes sleep. Try chair yoga, walking in your neighborhood, or a nature hike. Mayberry is a long-distance runner, something he began in his 50s. Although he had never run more than a mile, he decided to train for a half-marathon and use the time to talk with God. The practice proved so healing that he continued and has now completed 25 half-marathons and five marathons.

### KEEP EXPERIMENTING

We all need to manage stress, but the ways we do so are widely varied. Mayberry encourages, "Nothing will be a cookie cutter answer. Some people write in a journal, some people do a morning prayer time or read a daily devotional. Find something that works for you."

Taken from: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/living-faithfully-john-wesleys-three-general-rules>

## UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Join us for homemade treats and fellowship after service on **October 25th**



# OCTOBER CALENDAR

## Thursday, October 1

3 PM – 4:30 PM Gerke Tutoring  
4 PM – 5 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C )

## Sunday, October 4

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM Faith Seekers Study Group  
10 AM – 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School  
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship | Facebook  
10:45 AM Worship Service  
12:30 PM – 2 PM Angel Shop

## Monday, October 5

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Noodle Making

## Tuesday, October 6

6:30 PM Lay Leadership Meeting

## Wednesday, October 7

9:00 AM Noodle Packaging  
2:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting  
3:00 PM Snack Pack Packing | NHS students  
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, October 8

4:00 PM Community Dinner | St. Mary's K of C

## Sunday, October 11

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM Faith Seekers Study Group  
10 AM – 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School  
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship | Facebook  
10:45 AM Worship Service  
Noon Fishing Club Outing  
12:30 PM Angel Shop

## Monday, October 12

9:00 AM Noodle Making  
6:30 PM Women's Circle Meeting

## Wednesday, October 14

9:00 AM Noodle Packaging  
2:30 PM Endowment Meeting  
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, October 15

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

## Saturday, October 17

5 PM – 7 PM Franklin's Trunk or Treat

## Sunday, October 18

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM Faith Seekers Study Group  
10 AM – 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School  
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship | Facebook  
10:45 AM Worship Service  
Noon Safe Sanctuary Training

## Wednesday, October 21

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, October 22, 2026

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM Gerke Tutoring  
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner | St. Mary's K of C

## Sunday, October 25

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM Faith Seekers Study Group  
10 AM – 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School  
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship | Facebook  
10:45 AM Worship Service

## Tuesday, October 27

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM Community Dinner | Coffee Collab

## Wednesday, October 28

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, October 29

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

## 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](http://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!



# 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

October 4

World Communion Sunday

November 7

Fall Marketplace

November 29

Advent Begins

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



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

Phone: 937-746-5232  
E-mail: [office@franklinfirstumc.org](mailto:office@franklinfirstumc.org)

