



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 13, 2026

FINDING GOD IN THE EVERYDAY

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." — Matthew 11:28

Let's be honest: life right now feels like a never-ending group project where you're doing all the work. Between keeping up with endless schedules, meeting everyone else's expectations, and managing the invisible mental load we all carry, it's exhausting. We move at such a breakneck pace that even when we finally crash on the couch, our brains are still spinning with tomorrow's to-do list.

Jesus completely got this. He knew exactly what it felt like to be weighed down by the heavy, noisy demands of life. That's why His invitation is such a relief. He doesn't say, "Come to me once you finally get your life together," or "Show me your resume so I can see if you've earned a break." He just says, "Come as you are." No performance required, just unconditional grace and a genuine place to breathe.

We often think we have to find God in these massive, cinematic moments. But more often than not, the divine shows up in the ordinary, messy corners of our actual lives:

- A text from a friend right when you needed it.
- A quiet, uninterrupted five minutes with a hot cup of coffee.
- The sound of kids laughing, or just a breeze during a quick walk outside.

When we actually pause long enough to notice them, these small moments feel like a deep exhale—a quiet reminder that we are loved.

As United Methodists, we talk a lot about grace being this active, constant force that's always chasing after us, trying to connect us to God and each other. So this week, give yourself permission to drop the weights you weren't meant to carry. You don't have to do it all, and you definitely don't have to do it alone. The One who made you is walking right next to you, ready to share the load and give you your second wind.

A Simple Prayer for the Week

God, thank You for being a safe place to land. When the noise gets too loud and the stress builds up, remind me that I can pause and rest in You. Open my eyes to the small blessings in my day, and help me remember that You've got my back. Amen.



Aug 16, 2026	Aug 23, 2026
Greeters: Cheryl Krasnowski Grayson & Amanda Leffew	Greeters: Paul & Karen Anderson
Elevator Greeter: Mike Runyan	Elevator Greeter: Mike Runyan
Ushers: Cheryl Cyphers Paul Anderson Karen Anderson Volunteer Needed	Ushers: Nancy Massey Dorothy Rayburg Gracie Lucas Volunteer Needed
Liturgist: Peggy Darragh- Jeromos	Liturgist: LeeAnn Lee
Opening/Closing: Jim Martin	Opening/Closing: Jim Martin



Mark Your Calendar

Monday, August 24

Women's Circle

6:30 pm

Friday/Saturday, Sept. 11/12

Croppin' Good Time

Tuesday, Sept. 15

Mission & Outreach Team

6:30 pm

Thursday, Sept. 17

Tutoring Starts

Monday, Sept. 21

Church Council

6:30 pm

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Lay Leadership Meeting

6:30 pm

Wednesday, Oct 7th

Finance Meeting;

2:30 pm



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!

Youth Fishing Club

We had a great first meeting, and we're excited to announce that our first Kids' Fishing Club event is scheduled for **Saturday, October 10th at noon**. The Club will welcome kids ages **5 -12 years**. We can't wait to get started!

A couple of important reminders:

- Any adults planning to volunteer must complete a **Permission to Obtain a Background Check Form** so the church office can process the required background check before October 10th.
- Also, please help us spread the word and invite families to participate. A sign-up link for children is included below. Paper copies available in Fellowship Hall. <https://franklinfirstumc.breezechms.com/form/73053d17478682354>



**The Angel Shop
Opens This Sunday!
Help Spread the Word.**

Sundays, August 16 – October 11
(Closed Labor Day Weekend)
12:30–2:00 PM

Most Needed Donations

Khaki pants (all sizes)
Men's dress shoes
Men's socks
Men's belts



Gerke Elementary Tutoring Starts September 17!

We're looking for volunteers to serve as tutors at Gerke Elementary. Tutors are matched with first-grade students who could use a little extra support and meet with them weekly on Thursday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. for 10 weeks each semester using literacy activities prepared by Gerke staff.

It's a great opportunity to make a difference in a child's life and support students in our community.

Interested? Contact Pam Bishop or the church office for more information.



Welcome to
Little Callie Jane Bagwell
Born on August 8, 2026
at 9:55 pm | 5 lbs 7 oz
Congratulations to parents
Molly & Alex and grandparents
Tami & Rick Chamberlain.

FFUMC Weekly Calendar

A current Franklin First Calendar can also be found on our [website](#).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8/16/2026	8/17/2026	8/18/2026	8/19/2026	8/20/2026	8/21/2026	8/22/2026	8/23/2026
Fellowship Sunday 9:15 am Faith Seekers 10:45 am Worship Service Livestreamed After Service Fellowship & Snack Packing 12:30 - 2 pm Angel Shop	Office Closed	Office Open 9—2:30 pm	Office Open 9—2:30 pm	Office Open 9 —2:30 pm 4:00—5:00 pm St. Mary's Community Dinner	Office Closed	Office Closed	9:15 am Faith Seekers 10:45 am Worship Service Livestreamed 12:30 - 2 pm Angel Shop



DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS

FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Help Us Support Our Students!

Your donations will make a big difference, helping young people in our community feel confident and ready to succeed.

What We Need:

- Small or Travel-size toiletries: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, etc.
- Menstrual care products: pads, tampons, menstrual cups, and liners.

Together, we can ensure every student has the resources they need to thrive. Thank you for your generosity and support!



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

- Birthdays**
- 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



Faith Seekers
Sunday Bible Study
9:15 am
Fellowship Hall
All Are Welcome!

PRAYER LIST

-Italicized green text indicates a new prayer request since last week's announcements.

Our confined members:

- JoAnn Achtermann – home (6734 Catskill Dr. Franklin 45005)
- Don Chamberlain – home (6338 Decker Rd. Franklin)
- Hiram Fullen – home (6649 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Franklin)
- Jackie Messmore – Carlisle Manor (730 Hillcrest Ave. Carlisle 45005)
- Dick Taylor – home (8096 E. Lawn Dr., Franklin, OH 45005)

Our weekly prayer list:

- War with Iran
- *Ogdins for Cheryl, who is hospitalized; and Dakota- infection in her stint.*
- *Lang's for Judy & Bill Lofty – Bill is moving to a nursing home, and recently they were scammed out of their retirement and savings; for Tim Lampy - brain cancer*
- Lisa Dillion recovery from cataract surgery
- Jo Steinberger – 2 specific lung infections, quarantine at home & getting meds
- For Charlotte Summer – healing for broken ribs, rehabbing at daughter's house
- Judy Bowman for husband Bob – scheduled for knee surgery August 3
- Monica Rhude for son Steve's fiancé Brooke Franks – hospitalized/dialysis
- For Lisa Dillon – cataract surgery scheduled for August 3, Rick's healing for toe injury
- Cindy Kuntzman for husband Bill – vertigo
- Julie Abell – PRAISE that Marshall is doing good after being hit by car on his scooter
- Jan Truesdell for sister Judy Deal – radiation treatments – going well
- Cheryl Cypher for daughter Ashley's job search & depression
- Nancy Massey for friend Bill Myers – broke ankle; granddaughter Samantha – surgery recovery
- Ogdins – for Barb – kidney stones; unspoken request
- Shirley Berold – health challenges & black mold issues at condo
- Mary Harville – undergoing treatment for non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, sister Sheila under Hospice Care
- Gib Woody for sister-in-law Nancy Woody – undetermined health issues
- Linda Rose & family – in Hospice
- Mike Smith for Eddie & Michelle Wallace – Eddie on quality of life care
- Sherri Tutt - multiple family members in health crisis
- Mike & Vicki Jarvis – prayers needed for illness
- Judy Deskins for son Jared – unspoken request

Contact Theresa or Pastor Laura to make additions or changes to this list



IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE PRAYERS?

Text or call request sent to our Prayer Chain.

If you have an immediate prayer request, text Lee Saunders at 513-833-6920 & Lee will forward it to our prayer warriors.

SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST ANYTIME

Your church family cares for you. Whether you're carrying a burden or celebrating a joy, we are here to pray with you. Your request goes directly to Pastor Laura and will be added to our prayer list as indicated in your request.

[Click here](#) or visit our [website](#)—to share your Prayer Request.