



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June 11, 2026

UNSHAKEN FAITH: THE LEGACY OF REV. DR. LAMAR HARDWICK

Rev. Dr. Lamar Hardwick of the AME Church was known for his dynamic preaching style. He was described as brilliant and funny. He died of colon cancer at age 47, surrounded by his wife and three sons.

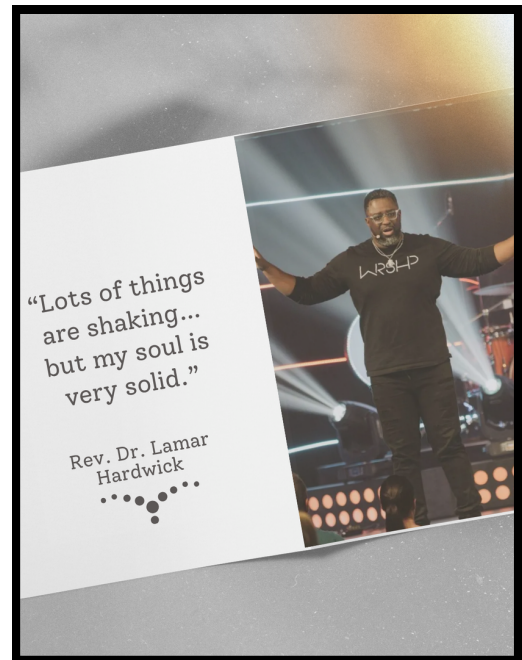
What makes Dr. Hardwick's story remarkable? He was autistic. Growing up, his family moved frequently due to his father's career in the military. Hardwick found comfort in the rhythms of the church.

Dr. Hardwick was a strong advocate for inclusion of persons who are differently abled, believing that everyone has gifts and a calling from God. He published a book, "Disability and the Church: A Vision for Diversity and Inclusion," that espoused ideas like providing sensory bags with fidget devices, noise canceling headphones, and other adaptive devices that would enable those with challenges to participate as fully as possible in the life of the church. His message was that congregations can better prioritize people with disabilities and learn from them a broader understanding of diversity in the Body of Christ.

Ministry Watch, an online source I find valuable, shared his story. Dr. Hardwick described, after his cancer moved to a stage four diagnosis, that his personal mantra came from the Psalms: "I will not be shaken." He elaborated, "It doesn't mean things are not shaking. Lots of things are shaking and moving and rocking and being flipped over all around me. But as far as my soul, I feel very solid."

I found Dr. Hardwick's story very convicting. How often do we look at someone else and make a snap judgment of their capabilities or calling? Do we take the time to get to know them? Every person is created in God's image, and God doesn't not make mistakes. Let's make sure that we are opening our hearts and minds to the full wonder of God's design.

Pastor Laura



Faith Seekers
Bible Study meets at 9:15 am
on Sundays.



ALL ARE WELCOME!



Jun 14, 2026	Jun 21, 2026
Greeters: Cheryl Krasnowski Amanda & Greyson Leffew	Greeters: Mike & Carol Runyan
Elevator Greeter: Mike Runyan	Elevator Greeter: Charlotte Summer
Ushers: Dorothy Rayburg Sally Fitzgerald Paul Anderson Karen Anderson	Ushers: Jason Leffew Cindy Kuntzman Cheryl Cyphers Bob Bowman
Liturgist: Jim Martin	Liturgist: Judy Bowman
Opening/Closing: Jim Martin	Opening/Closing: Jim Martin

New Kids' Fishing Club Coming to Franklin First!

Franklin First is launching a Kids' Fishing Club (elementary and junior high) focused on community, mentorship, and helping kids unplug to connect with faith and nature. Founded by retired superintendent Steve Price, this club pairs youth with adult mentors to build meaningful, cross-generational connections.



We need adult volunteers! Whether you're an expert angler or simply want to be a supportive presence, we invite you to join us.

What: Organizational Meeting (Continental breakfast provided)

When: Saturday, June 13 at 8:00 AM

Where: Fellowship Hall (Enter through the Third Street door)

Please RSVP to Pastor Laura or Steve Price if you plan to attend or [Click Here](#)

Galaxy Vacation Bible School

A fun, faith-filled experience for kids this summer!

Hosted together by Franklin First UMC & Hope UMC

Galaxy VBS Dates: July 29–31

Time: 6:00–8:00 PM

Kids (Preschool age 3+ through 6th grade, Fall 2026) will enjoy music, games, Bible stories, hands-on activities, and tons of fun while learning how to shine God's light in the world.

VBS Location (All 3 nights):

Franklin First United Methodist Church
303 S. Main St., Franklin, OH

Closing Celebration (Families invited):

Sunday, August 2 at 10:30 AM – Held at Hope United Methodist Church

Franklin First UMC Worship service will be held at Hope UMC on Aug. 2nd.

After service everyone is invited to stay for a picnic lunch (Optional: Bring a dish to share.)

Mark Your Calendar

Vacation Bible School Team Meeting

July 15th, 5:30 pm

Mission/Outreach Team Meeting

July 26th After Worship

Register by **July 20** at Noon at www.franklinfirstumc.org or [CLICK HERE](#)

We'd love for you to join us—and invite your friends and family!

Explore the stars. Grow in faith. Share God's love.

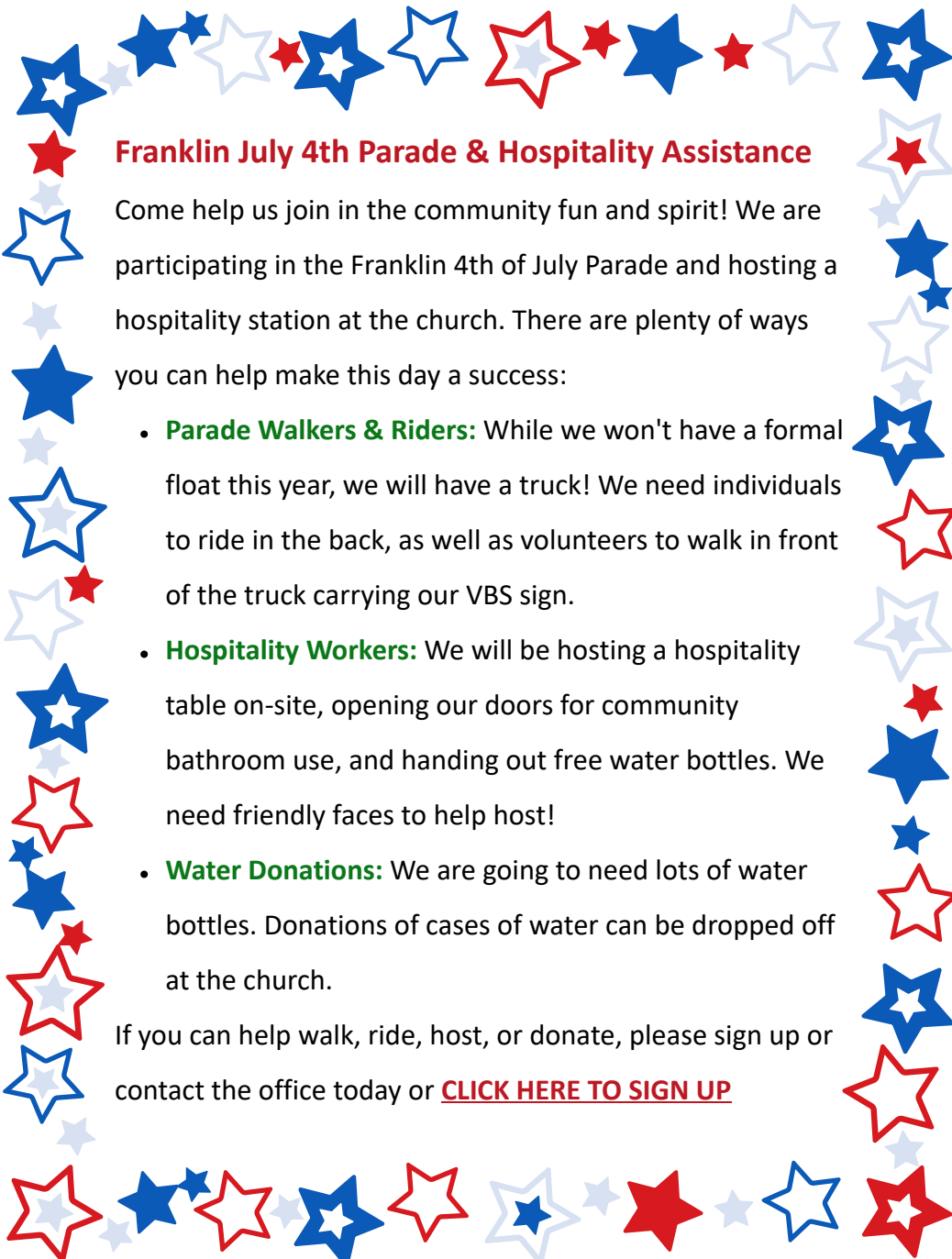


Franklin July 4th Parade & Hospitality Assistance

Come help us join in the community fun and spirit! We are participating in the Franklin 4th of July Parade and hosting a hospitality station at the church. There are plenty of ways you can help make this day a success:

- **Parade Walkers & Riders:** While we won't have a formal float this year, we will have a truck! We need individuals to ride in the back, as well as volunteers to walk in front of the truck carrying our VBS sign.
- **Hospitality Workers:** We will be hosting a hospitality table on-site, opening our doors for community bathroom use, and handing out free water bottles. We need friendly faces to help host!
- **Water Donations:** We are going to need lots of water bottles. Donations of cases of water can be dropped off at the church.

If you can help walk, ride, host, or donate, please sign up or [CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

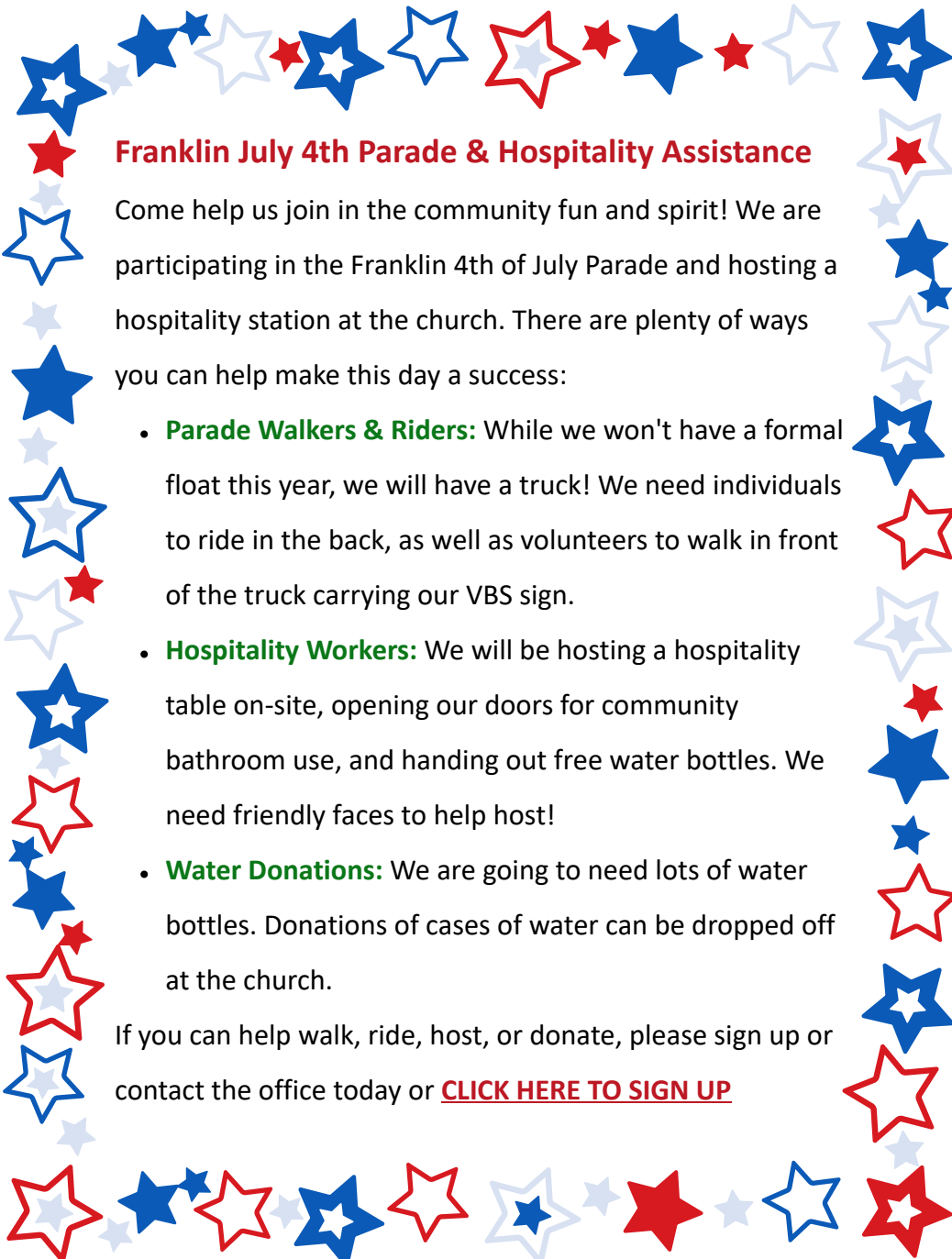


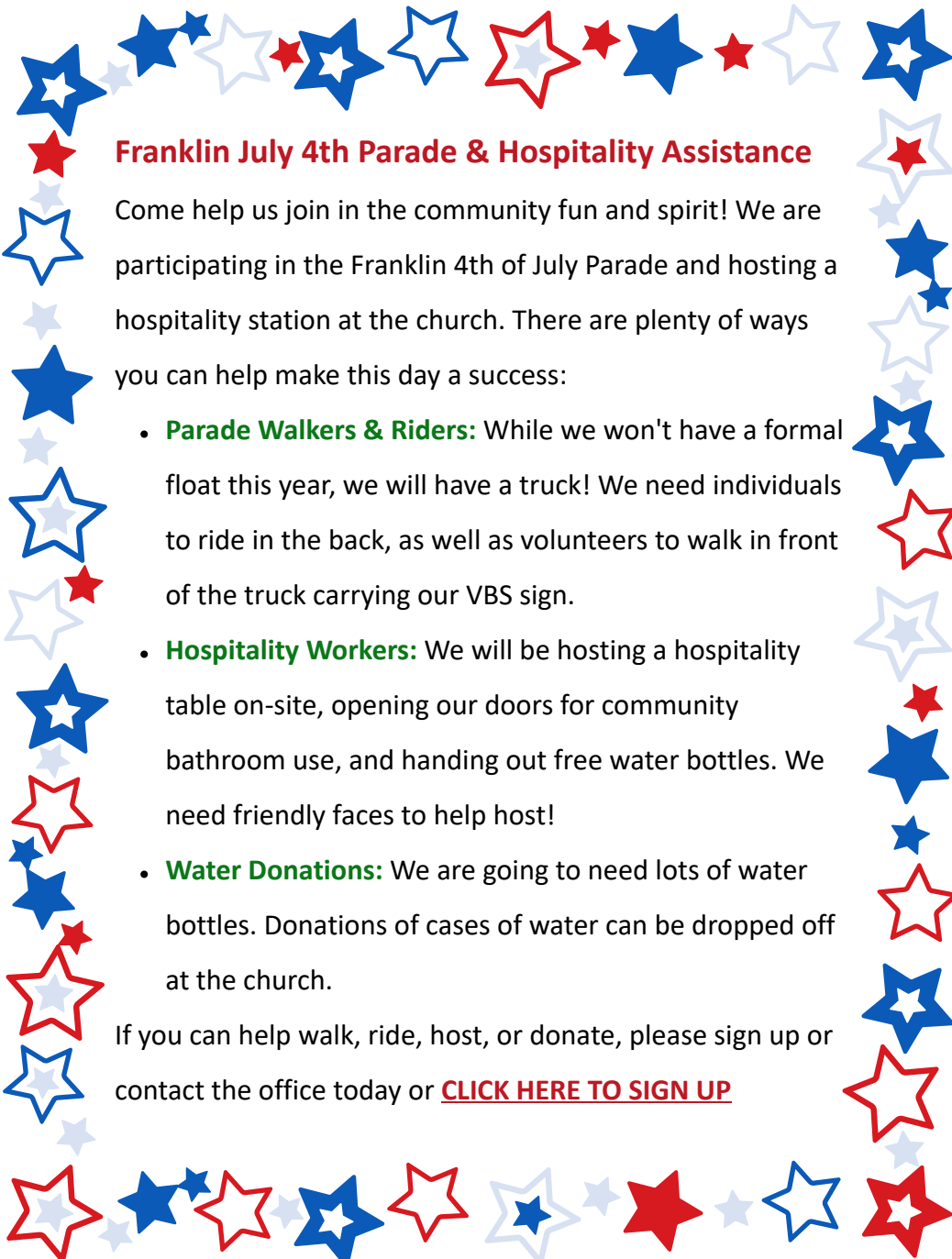
Franklin July 4th Parade & Hospitality Assistance

Come help us join in the community fun and spirit! We are participating in the Franklin 4th of July Parade and hosting a hospitality station at the church. There are plenty of ways you can help make this day a success:

- **Parade Walkers & Riders:** While we won't have a formal float this year, we will have a truck! We need individuals to ride in the back, as well as volunteers to walk in front of the truck carrying our VBS sign.
- **Hospitality Workers:** We will be hosting a hospitality table on-site, opening our doors for community bathroom use, and handing out free water bottles. We need friendly faces to help host!
- **Water Donations:** We are going to need lots of water bottles. Donations of cases of water can be dropped off at the church.

If you can help walk, ride, host, or donate, please sign up or [CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

- 
- Franklin July 4th Parade & Hospitality Assistance**
- Come help us join in the community fun and spirit! We are participating in the Franklin 4th of July Parade and hosting a hospitality station at the church. There are plenty of ways you can help make this day a success:
- **Parade Walkers & Riders:** While we won't have a formal float this year, we will have a truck! We need individuals to ride in the back, as well as volunteers to walk in front of the truck carrying our VBS sign.
 - **Hospitality Workers:** We will be hosting a hospitality table on-site, opening our doors for community bathroom use, and handing out free water bottles. We need friendly faces to help host!
 - **Water Donations:** We are going to need lots of water bottles. Donations of cases of water can be dropped off at the church.
- If you can help walk, ride, host, or donate, please sign up or [CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

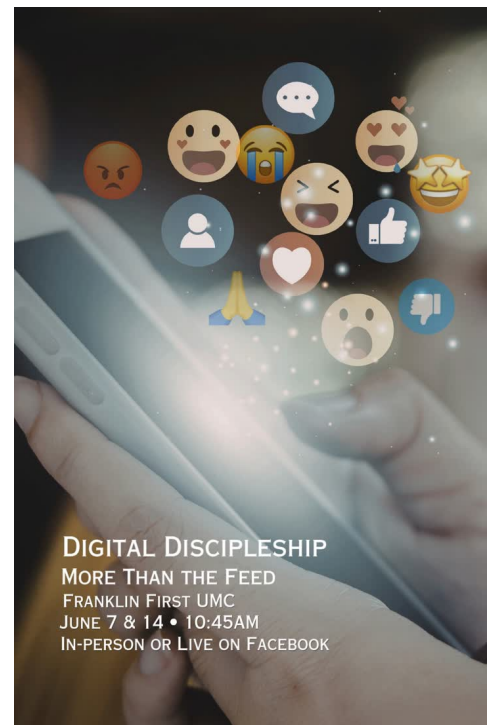


Franklin July 4th Parade & Hospitality Assistance

Come help us join in the community fun and spirit! We are participating in the Franklin 4th of July Parade and hosting a hospitality station at the church. There are plenty of ways you can help make this day a success:

- **Parade Walkers & Riders:** While we won't have a formal float this year, we will have a truck! We need individuals to ride in the back, as well as volunteers to walk in front of the truck carrying our VBS sign.
- **Hospitality Workers:** We will be hosting a hospitality table on-site, opening our doors for community bathroom use, and handing out free water bottles. We need friendly faces to help host!
- **Water Donations:** We are going to need lots of water bottles. Donations of cases of water can be dropped off at the church.

If you can help walk, ride, host, or donate, please sign up or [CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)



Water & Pop

We're in need of donations of water and pop to stock the beverage refrigerator—help us fill the cooler! Proceeds from the refrigerator support outreach ministries through Pastor Laura's discretionary fund.

Water & Pop

We're in need of donations of water and pop to stock the beverage refrigerator—help us fill the cooler! Proceeds from the refrigerator support outreach ministries through Pastor Laura's discretionary fund.



- 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



**THINGS JESUS
NEVER SAID**

**SUMMER SERMON SERIES
JULY 5 - AUGUST 30TH**

- Follow Your Heart
- Live Your Truth
- Believe in Yourself
- God Just Wants You to be Happy

**SUNDAYS, 10:45 AM
IN-PERSON OR LIVE ON FACEBOOK**

 FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
303 S. MAIN ST., FRANKLIN, OH 45005
WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG

**THINGS JESUS
NEVER SAID**

**SUMMER SERMON SERIES
JULY 5 - AUGUST 30TH**

- Follow Your Heart
- Live Your Truth
- Believe in Yourself
- God Just Wants You to be Happy

**SUNDAYS, 10:45 AM
IN-PERSON OR LIVE ON FACEBOOK**

 **FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
303 S. MAIN ST., FRANKLIN, OH 45005
WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG

- THINGS JESUS
NEVER SAID**

**SUMMER SERMON SERIES
JULY 5 - AUGUST 30TH**

 - Follow Your Heart
 - Live Your Truth
 - Believe in Yourself
 - God Just Wants You to be Happy

**SUNDAYS, 10:45 AM
IN-PERSON OR LIVE ON FACEBOOK**

 **FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
303 S. MAIN ST., FRANKLIN, OH 45005
WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG

**THINGS JESUS
NEVER SAID**

**SUMMER SERMON SERIES
JULY 5 - AUGUST 30TH**

- Follow Your Heart
- Live Your Truth
- Believe in Yourself
- God Just Wants You to be Happy

**SUNDAYS, 10:45 AM
IN-PERSON OR LIVE ON FACEBOOK**

 **FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
303 S. MAIN ST., FRANKLIN, OH 45005
WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG

**THINGS JESUS
NEVER SAID**

**SUMMER SERMON SERIES
JULY 5 - AUGUST 30TH**

- Follow Your Heart
- Live Your Truth
- Believe in Yourself
- God Just Wants You to be Happy

**SUNDAYS, 10:45 AM
IN-PERSON OR LIVE ON FACEBOOK**

 **FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
303 S. MAIN ST., FRANKLIN, OH 45005
WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG

FFUMC Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday 6/14/2026	Monday 6/15/2026	Tuesday 6/16/2026	Wednesday 6/17/2026	Thursday 6/18/2026	Friday 6/19/2026	Saturday 6/20/2026	Sunday 6/21/2026
Fellowship	Office Closed	Office Open 9—2:30 pm	Office Open 9—2:30 pm	Office Open 9 —2:30 pm	Office Closed	Office Closed	
9:15 am Faith Seekers							9:15 am Faith Seekers
10:45 am Worship Sanctuary Livestreamed	Pastor Laura works from the parsonage. 937-						10:45 am Worship Sanctuary Livestreamed
Fellowship in Dining Room Following Service				4:00—5:00 pm St. Mary's Community Dinner			

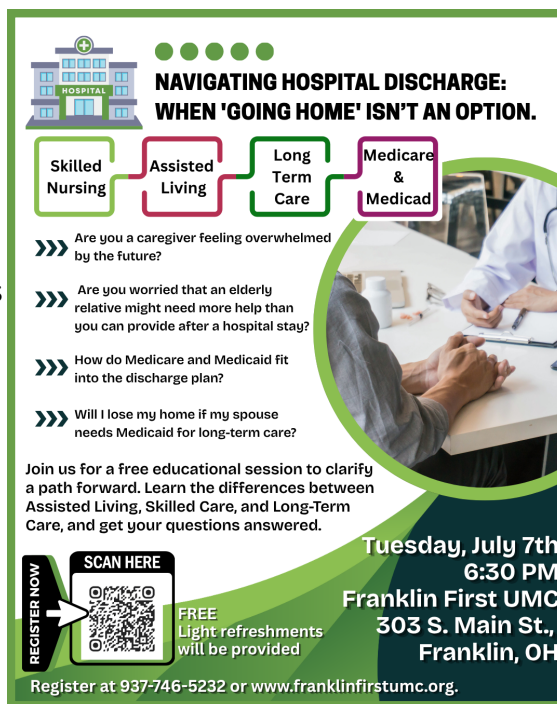
- Are you a caregiver feeling overwhelmed by the future?
- Are you worried that an elderly relative might need more help than you can provide after a hospital stay?

When a doctor says a patient is ready for discharge but cannot return home immediately, many families face uncertainty.

Join us for a free session to help understand the critical differences between Assisted Living, Skilled Care, and Long-Term Care, and answer essential questions about financing:

- How do Medicare and Medicaid fit into the discharge plan?
- Will I lose my home if my spouse needs Medicaid for long-term care?

Join us for a free educational session to clarify a path forward. Learn the differences between Assisted Living, Skilled Care, and Long-Term Care, and get your questions answered. Light refreshments will be provided. Register by contacting the office; on our website; or [CLICK HERE](#).



**NAVIGATING HOSPITAL DISCHARGE:
WHEN 'GOING HOME' ISN'T AN OPTION.**

Skilled Nursing → Assisted Living → Long Term Care → Medicare & Medicaid

Are you a caregiver feeling overwhelmed by the future?

Are you worried that an elderly relative might need more help than you can provide after a hospital stay?

How do Medicare and Medicaid fit into the discharge plan?

Will I lose my home if my spouse needs Medicaid for long-term care?

Join us for a free educational session to clarify a path forward. Learn the differences between Assisted Living, Skilled Care, and Long-Term Care, and get your questions answered.

**Tuesday, July 7th
6:30 PM**
Franklin First UMC
303 S. Main St.,
Franklin, OH

REGISTER NOW → SCAN HERE → FREE Light refreshments will be provided

Register at 937-746-5232 or www.franklinfirstumc.org.

Birthdays

- June 08 Connie Bolinger
- June 09 Julie Abell
- June 10 Megan Duff
- June 11 Stephen Rhude
- June 16 Shari Tutt
- June 18 Katie Trout
- June 26 Tyler Smith
- June 26 Lily Smith
- June 30 Kathy Martin

Anniversaries

- June 12 Andrew & Macie Goodpaster
- June 14 Rachel & Joe Chamberlain
- June 20 Jan & Jerry Truesdell
- June 27 Lee & Laura Saunders
- June 27 Carol & Bill Hatfield

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
- *For Lori Hemmelgarn – health concerns, neck surgery scheduled for June 23*
- *Cheryl Cyphers for husband Greg – awaiting heart testing results; daughter Ashley's job needs*
- *For Alvin Money – wrist surgery recovery*
- *John Lass for family of Dianne McDonald following her death*
- *Rocky Adams for granddaughter & family following her husband's suicide*
- *Ogdins – for Barb – more kidney stones; unspoken request*
- *Sherri Tutt - multiple family members in health crisis*
- *Dorothy Ragburg for the family and friends of Norma Beck upon her passing*
- Connie Bolinger for Ray McDaniel – discontinued cancer treatments because of heart disease
- Jo Steinberger – starting pulmonary rehab
- Mike & Vicki Jarvis – prayers needed for illness
- Regina Sams for Wyatt French – MIRACLE! out of coma, sitting up, writing messages, responding to commands. Moving from ICU to step down unit. Was presented graduation diploma in hospital.
- For Kim Chewning – recovery from knee replacement surgery
- For Jill Drake – MRI testing; for stepson Justin – on assignment for government job in CT till December
- Judy Deskins for son Jared – unspoken request
- Mary Harville for sister Sheila – metastatic cancer
- Chamberlains for Tami's Aunt Connie in WI – dementia & other health issues

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.