



STEEPLE BELL

JULY 2026 NEWSLETTER

SWEET TEA SUNDAY 2.0: PORCH HATS & PRAISE

Mark your calendar and grab your porch hat for Sweet Tea Sunday on July 19!

I have a confession to make. As your pastor, I love the deeply theological, intellectual, and reverent moments of our faith. But as a human being living in the summer heat, I also love an ice-cold glass of sweet tea.

The Prophet Isaiah once wrote, "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters..." Now, far be it from me to add to Holy Scripture, but I like to think that if Isaiah had ever experienced a blistering July afternoon on a shaded porch, he might have appended that invitation with, "...and maybe steep a few tea bags and drop some sugar into it."

This isn't your average Sunday morning. We are stripping away the formality and leaning entirely into the warmth of family. Here is the breakdown:

- Bring porch hats. I am officially declaring a holy dispensation from formal wear. Dress comfortably and casually, and most importantly, wear your finest porch hats. I'm talking straw hats, vintage bonnets, baseball caps, or whatever protects your face from the sun and makes you feel like you're sitting on a rocking chair.
- We'll be leaving the complicated music arrangements at the door and lifting the roof with your absolute favorite, old-school hymns. Come ready to sing out—loudly, proudly, and maybe a little off-key. The Lord loves a joyful noise, not a perfect one!
- The liturgy will be relaxed, the message practical, and the air conditioning will be cranked. Think of the sanctuary like God's front porch.

Immediately following the service, we will gather for a time of fellowship. We'll have yummy treats and pitchers of ice-cold sweet tea waiting (and yes, we will have an unsweetened version for those who think they're already sweet without the added sugar).

"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2).

Let's also practice gracious hospitality. If you see someone you don't know holding a solo cup, strike up a conversation and introduce them around. Let's make our porch big enough for everyone.

Dust off those hats, start humming your favorite hymn tunes, and come thirsty for the Word—and for tea. I can't wait to see you there!

Y'all come!
Pastor Laura

GRAB YOUR PORCH HAT & JOIN US FOR
SWEET TEA SUNDAY
JULY 19TH | 10:45 AM



Discover what Scripture really says about
"God helps those who help themselves"—
and join us for uplifting music, sweet
fellowship, baked goods, and refreshing
sweet tea!



FRANKLIN FIRST UMC
303 S. MAIN ST., FRANKLIN, OH 45005
WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG





BLAST OFF TO FAITH: VBS GOES GALACTIC!

Some of my favorite memories as a kid in church include summer VBS programs. When I was young, programs lasted two weeks, three hours each morning, Monday-Friday. God bless those dedicated volunteers! We had lessons, games, snacks, crafts, and chaos. While today's programs are shorter in duration, the format remains basically consistent.

Now, we are gearing up for the wildest, most joyful week of the summer, where our church building will be transformed into a high-octane wonderland of faith, fun, and snacks. This year's program is "Galaxy: Launching Kids on a Mission of God's Love." If you want to see The Bible come alive in the most chaotic and beautiful way possible, just stand in our sanctuary from 6:00-8:00 PM during VBS week July 29-31. There will be a whole lot of holy noise.

One of the things we are most excited about this year is our official partnership with sister church, Hope United Methodist! By linking arms with our neighboring congregation, we are doubling our energy, doubling our fun, and showing our kids a beautiful picture of the wider Kingdom of God.

Hope UMC will be hosting our closing VBS program and cookout on Sunday August 2 at 10:30. Franklin First, let's enjoy the blessing of worshipping together!

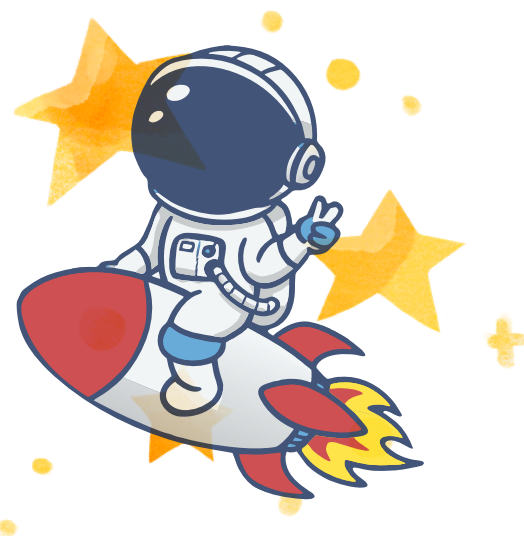
Here is the honest truth: we cannot do this without volunteers. To make this week a success for our kids, we need an army of loving, enthusiastic, and highly patient volunteers. Don't worry—you don't need a theology degree to help. You just need a willing heart and a high tolerance for Elmer's glue. We are currently looking for:

- Crew Guides: No teaching required! You just herd a small group of kids from station to station and keep them high-fiving.
- Craft & Snack Geniuses: Help us manage the glitter-pocalypse or slice enough fruit to feed a small nation.
- Prayer Warriors & Behind-the-Scenes Help: If your high-energy days are behind you, we need a team covering this week in prayer and helping with prep.

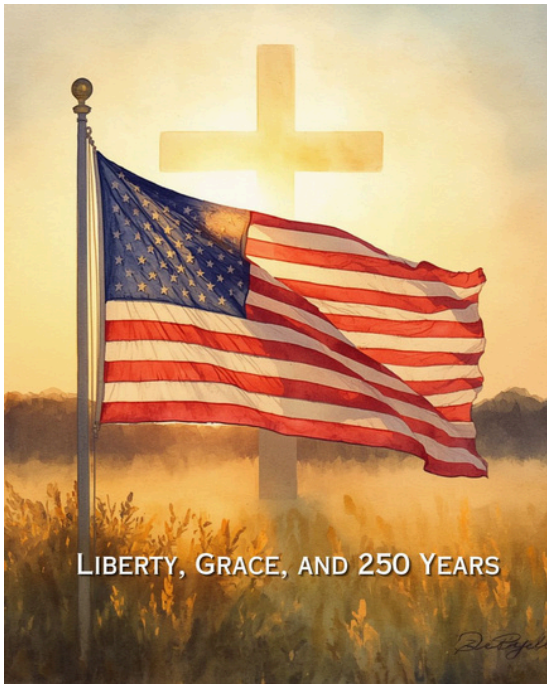
By volunteering, you aren't just babysitting for a few days; you are planting seeds of faith in these kids' hearts that will grow for decades. Plus, we promise a massive, well-deserved nap the following Sunday.

Registration is officially open for both kids and volunteers. Let's get ready to grow some kid-sized disciples for the Kingdom!

Pastor Laura



LIBERTY, GRACE, AND 250 YEARS: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!



This July 4th isn't just any Independence Day. It marks the 250th anniversary of the United States—our nation's Semiquincentennial. Two and a half centuries ago, a group of brave, flawed, and deeply hopeful individuals signed a document declaring that all people are created equal, endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights.

Galatians 5:13 reminds us, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."

True freedom, as scripture defines it, isn't just the right to do whatever we want. It is the hard-fought, grace-filled opportunity to do what is right—to love our neighbors, lift the broken, and build a community where everyone has a seat at the table.

250 years is a long time, but our story is still being written. Let's make sure the next chapter is marked by the same radical hospitality and grace that Jesus modeled for us.

Whether your family has been in this country for generations or you have recently arrived on these shores, you are a vital part of the fabric of our community. Let's celebrate the gift of our nation, acknowledge the work still ahead to fulfill its highest ideals, and rededicate ourselves to serving one another in love.

BACKPACK SUNDAY: SUPPORTING STUDENTS & TEACHERS

It's hard to believe, but a brand-new school year is just around the corner. As our local students prepare to head back to the classroom, we have a wonderful opportunity to make sure every child in our community starts day one with the supplies they need to succeed.

On Sunday, August 9th, we will celebrate Backpack Sunday. During our morning service, we will have a special moment to pray over our students, teachers, and administrators, lifting them up for a safe, fruitful, and blessed year ahead. In preparation for this event, we are collecting backpacks and school supplies.

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." — Hebrews 13:16

Between now and August 9th, we invite you to pick up a few extra items during your next shopping trip. We are collecting:

- Sturdy backpacks (elementary and high school sizes)
- Crayons, markers, and colored pencils
- Notebooks, loose-leaf paper, and folders
- Pencils, pens, child-safe scissors, and glue sticks

Please place your donations in the box in the front entryway. Let's come together to fill our students' hearts with the knowledge that their community stands firmly behind them!

A poster for Backpack Sunday. It features a yellow backpack filled with school supplies like pencils, pens, and markers. The text on the poster reads: "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", and "Franklin First UNITED METHODIST CHURCH".

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

ROLLIN' OUT THE WELCOME: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 4th, when our community is coming together for National Night Out—an annual, nationwide celebration aimed at building safer neighborhoods,

strengthening community partnerships, and honoring the local first responders who keep us safe every single day.

Our church is once again hosting a booth, and we want our station to be a beacon of joy and radical hospitality. Here is the game plan for what we are bringing to the event:

- We'll be running the ever popular "toilet seat horseshoes," where winners leave with a personal supply of toilet paper. New this year: "potty seat bean bag throw" for the little contestants. Winners receive their very own squishy.
- We are preparing some community handouts. Alongside info about our church, we want to bless our neighbors with practical items that make small tasks easier.
- Our main mission is to honor our local police officers, firefighters, and paramedics and say a heartfelt, "Thank you." They step into the gap for us during our worst moments, and on August 4th, we get to celebrate them during one of their best.

To pull this off, we need smiling faces. You don't need any special skills to help out—just a willingness to hand out prizes, manage a game line, and chat with our neighbors. Whether your gift is running a beanbag toss or just offering a warm smile, we have a spot for you.

We are looking for volunteers to split into short, easy shifts so everyone has time to explore the rest of the National Night Out festivities. We need help with set-up, running the games, distributing handouts, and tear-down.

Let's step outside the walls of our sanctuary and support our first responders. Contact the church office to sign up for your shift.



WHEN "GOING HOME" ISN'T AN OPTION

A hospital stay can raise tough questions—especially when returning home may not be the best choice. Decisions about skilled nursing, assisted living, long-term care, and Medicare or Medicaid can feel overwhelming.

Join us for a free session offering clear, practical guidance to help you understand your options and take confident next steps.

WHY IT MATTERS:

The right information can ease stress, prevent costly mistakes, and help you make wise, compassionate choices for yourself or a loved one.

- Tuesday, July 7
- 6:30 PM
- Franklin First UMC, 303 S. Main St.
- Presenter: Chris Womack, MSN, RN
- [Register Here](#) or contact the office.

Free—light refreshments provided

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.

REGISTER NOW

SCAN HERE

FREE Light refreshments will be provided

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

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

EQUIPPING LEADERS: UPCOMING LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES CLASSES



The West Ohio Conference has released its remaining Lay Servant Ministries (LSM) schedule for 2026. Whether you are looking to complete your initial foundational coursework or dive into advanced leadership topics, there is a class designed to meet you exactly where you are.

These sessions are fantastic options for anyone wanting to grow spiritually or serve their local congregation more deeply. Please take a look at the upcoming opportunities below and help us spread the word!

Foundational & Core Courses

If you are starting your Lay Servant journey or need to complete a core requirement, note these upcoming dates:

- **Intro to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course**
 - When: August 21 & 22, 2026
 - Where: In-Person (Hocking River District)
- **Leading Prayer**
 - When: August 16, 18, 20, 23, & 25, 2026
 - Where: Online via Zoom (Great Miami River District)
- **Methodist Heritage**
 - When: November 1, 3, 5, 8, & 10, 2026
 - Where: Online via Zoom (Olentangy River District)

Advanced Leadership Courses

For those looking to expand their specific ministry skills later this fall, consider these advanced topics:

- **Teaching Biblical Faith: Leading Small Group Bible Studies**
 - When: October 30 & 31, 2026
 - Where: Hybrid Option - Zoom or In-Person (Hocking River District)
- **Come! I Will Tell You a Story: An Introduction to Biblical Storytelling**
 - When: November 6 & 7, 2026
 - Where: Online via Zoom (Western Lakes District)

Ready to sign up? You can view full details, check registration deadlines, and secure your spot directly through the [West Ohio Conference LSM Class Schedule](#).

FAITH IN ACTION: SMALL STEPS, BIG IMPACT

Try one simple way to live your faith this week:

- Send a note of encouragement to someone
- Pray for a neighbor by name
- Offer a helping hand without being asked

Small acts of love reflect the heart of Christ in powerful ways.



UPCOMING SERIES: THINGS JESUS NEVER SAID

"Follow your heart."

"God won't give you more than you can handle."

"Everything happens for a reason."

They sound comforting. They show up on mugs, signs, and social media. But... did Jesus actually say any of these?

This summer, we're taking a closer look at some of life's most popular phrases and comparing them with what Scripture really teaches. Together, we'll uncover the difference between feel-good sayings and the deeper truth of Jesus' words.

Because what Jesus did say offers something even better—real hope, authentic grace, and a stronger foundation for everyday life.

Join us and discover the difference truth makes.

BISHOP'S MISSION APPEAL

Beloved Congregations and Clergy of
the Ohio Episcopal Area,



Hee-Soo Jung, Resident Bishop

Ohio Episcopal Area | West Ohio Conference



Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, the One who saves us and sends us.

One hundred forty years ago, Methodist Episcopal churches in Ohio sent Mary F. Scranton and Dr. William B. Scranton to Korea to share the grace and love of God in Jesus Christ. Their faithful witness planted a seed of mission that has grown into a great harvest of churches, schools, hospitals, Christian leaders, and global mission. Today, the Korean Methodist Church continues to bear the fruit of that sacred gospel partnership.

A central part of this history is East Gate Methodist Church, founded through the ministry of Dr. William B. Scranton. For Korean Methodists, this church has long been cherished as one of the sacred birthplaces of Korean Methodism and as a living testimony to the Ohio–Korea mission connection.

In recent years, the original site of East Gate Methodist Church was returned to the City of Seoul as part of a public project to preserve and restore the historic Seoul City Wall near the East Gate. While this project honors an important part of Korea's cultural heritage, it also resulted in the loss of a sacred Methodist site connected to the Scranton legacy and the earliest history of Korean Methodism.

Rather than allowing this legacy to disappear, the Seoul Annual Conference of the Korean Methodist Church has taken up the holy work of rebuilding nearby. Land has been purchased, and the Scranton Memorial Mission Center and Church are now being developed. The cost of the project is valued at approximately \$16 million. This center will honor the memory, sacrifice, and missionary vision of William and Mary Scranton while inspiring future generations for mission in Korea and around the world.

Therefore, we invite all clergy, laity, congregations, and ministry settings across the Ohio Episcopal Area to participate in the Bishop's Missional Appeal for the Scranton Memorial Mission Center and Church. This offering will begin in 2026 and continue through the 2027 Annual Conferences. It is not a single offering received only at Annual Conference, but a shared season of prayer, learning, remembrance, and mission giving across the whole Ohio Episcopal Area.

The Seoul Annual Conference is engaged in a major capital campaign for this sacred work. We in Ohio are not launching a capital campaign. Rather, we are receiving a holy mission offering as an act of partnership, thanksgiving, and living covenant with Korean Methodists. Congregations are encouraged to teach, pray, remember, and receive mission offerings in ways appropriate to their own settings. These gifts will be gathered as one shared expression of love, gratitude, covenant, and mission by the time of the 2027 Annual Conferences.

Our prayerful goal is to offer \$1 million toward this mission. This is a significant and hopeful goal, but it is possible when our churches join together in love. More than a financial gift, the Bishop's Missional Appeal offering will be a witness that the mission seed planted 140 years ago continues to bear fruit and become seed again for future generations.

A seed of mission became a harvest of grace. Now, by God's mercy, this harvest becomes seed again.

With gratitude and hope in Christ,
Bishop Hee-Soo Jung
Laura White, Fundraising Team Leader, East Ohio
Casey Wilson, Fundraising Team Leader, West Ohio
Bruce Hitchcock, Chairperson, Fundraising Team

HOW TO GIVE

Churches and individuals are encouraged to contribute by sending their contributions to:

**West Ohio Conference Center
32 Wesley Boulevard
Worthington, Ohio 43085**

[OR CLICK HERE TO DONATE.](#)



CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY BY BLESSING OTHERS

We believe every birthday is a chance not only to celebrate you, but also to share God's love with others. Through our Birthday Mission Giving Program, you'll receive a card each year letting you know a gift is being made in your honor—and you get to choose where it goes.

You can direct your birthday gift to:

- UMCOR – providing relief in times of disaster
- Abilities First – supporting individuals with developmental disabilities
- School Fees for Franklin Seniors – helping local students graduate
- Deardoff Senior Center – serving adults 50+ with programs, support, and community

We're excited to now include the Deardoff Senior Center, a local organization helping older adults stay active, connected, and supported right here in our community. If you're not receiving a birthday card, please get in touch with the church office so we can include you. Thank you for helping us turn celebrations into opportunities to give!

THE BEAUTIFUL TRUTH OF "UBUNTU": WHY WE NEED EACH OTHER

There is a beautiful, centuries-old philosophy from Southern Africa wrapped up in a single word: Ubuntu. Roughly translated, Ubuntu means "I am because we are." It is the profound realization that our humanity is caught up, inextricably bound, in the humanity of others. In an Ubuntu culture, a person's well-being is completely connected to the well-being of their neighbor. If one person is suffering, the whole community is diminished. If one person succeeds, the whole community is lifted. This isn't just a beautiful cultural concept—it is a deeply biblical one.



Long before the word Ubuntu traveled across the globe, the Apostle Paul described the exact same reality to the early Church. In 1 Corinthians 12:26, speaking about how we are all parts of one single body, he wrote: "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it."

We live in a world that constantly tells us to focus on the individual. We are taught to look out for "Number One," to protect our own time, our own space, and our own comfort. But Jesus invites us into a radically different way of living. When asked what the greatest commandment was, Jesus didn't just give one answer. He gave two that are permanently fused together: Love God, and love your neighbor as yourself. You cannot truly have one without the other.

Living out this interconnected faith doesn't require a plane ticket; it just requires open eyes. Here are three simple ways we can practice Ubuntu together this month:

- *Listen to understand:* Take five extra minutes to truly listen to someone else's story, especially if they are from a different generation or background than you.
- *Share the load:* If you know a family struggling with illness or stress, don't wait for them to ask for help. Drop off a meal, offer to mow their lawn, or send a note of encouragement.
- *Celebrate generously:* When someone hits a milestone or experiences a joy, celebrate it as if it were your own.

Our joy is multiplied and our burdens are divided when we remember that we belong to one another. I am, because we are.

JULY CALENDAR

Thursday, July 2, 2026
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Sunday, July 5, 2026
9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service

Thursday, July 9, 2026
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Sunday, July 12, 2026
9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service

Wednesday, July 15, 2026
5:30 pm VBS Team Meeting

Thursday, July 16, 2026
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Sunday, July 19, 2026 SWEET TEA SUNDAY
9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service

Thursday, July 23, 2026
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)

Sunday, July 26, 2026
9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service
After Worship Mission & Outreach Team

Tuesday, July 28, 2026
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM Community Dinner (Coffee Collab)

Wednesday, July 29, 2026
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School

Thursday, July 30, 2026
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Community Dinner (St. Mary's K of C)
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School

Friday, July 31, 2026
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 2, 2026 VBS SUNDAY
9:15 AM Faith Seekers Study Group
10:45 AM Livestream of Worship on Facebook
10:45 AM Worship Service
(HELD at HOPE UMC FOR VBS CLOSING & PICNIC)

“LET US NOT BECOME WEARY IN DOING
GOOD... AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY, LET US DO
GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE.”
GALATIANS 6:9-10

UMC - DID YOU KNOW?



In early America, Methodism spread through “circuit riders”—pastors on horseback who sometimes traveled over 5,000 miles a year to share the Good News with scattered communities. During the summer months—especially July—large outdoor camp meetings brought people together for days of worship, learning, and fellowship.

In many ways, today’s Vacation Bible School continues that tradition—gathering people (especially children!) to grow in faith, build community, and experience God’s love in meaningful and memorable ways.

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!

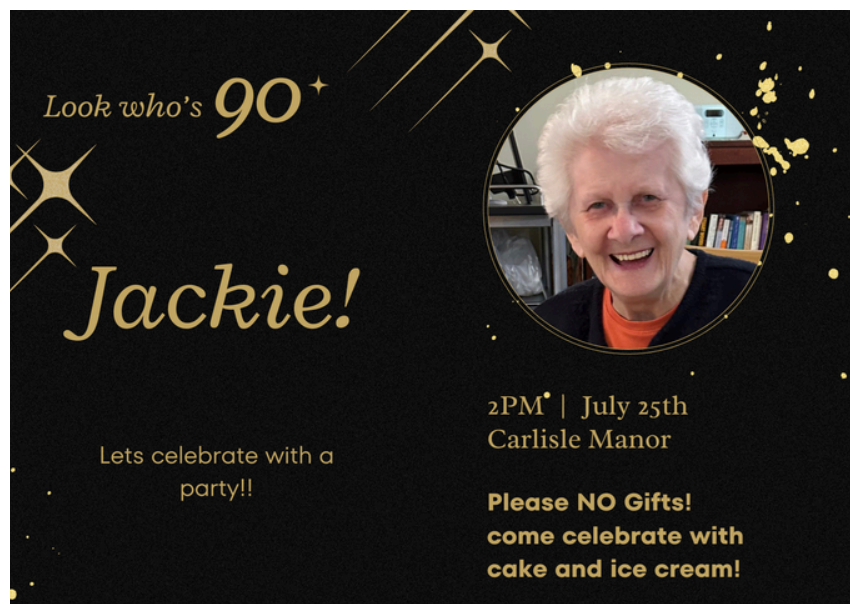
SPECIAL DAYS!

BIRTHDAYS

JULY 01	JO STEINBERGER
JULY 05	DEVYN JOHNSON
JULY 06	JAN TRUESDELL
JULY 07	JIMMY TROUT
JULY 21	CHRIS WOMACK LORTON
JULY 21	TAMI CHAMBERLAIN
JULY 22	EMILY HYNES
JULY 25	KATHY EICH
JULY 25	JACKIE MESSMORE

ANNIVERSARIES

JULY 03	JESSICA & DERIC LUCAS
JULY 11	TOM & JO STEINBERGER
JULY 16	BARBARA & GARY OGDIN
JULY 20	CHERYL & GREG CYPHERS



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!

A CROPPIN' GOOD TIME SAVE THE DATE



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

FAITH THAT BUILDS RESILIENCE

Life brings challenges—but faith gives us strength to keep going. Resilience isn't about avoiding hardship; it's about moving through it with hope. Scripture reminds us that we are not alone, and that God is still at work—even in difficult moments. Simple ways to build resilience through faith:

- Stay connected: Worship, small groups, and friendships strengthen us
- Care for your spirit: Prayer, Scripture, and gratitude refocus your heart
- Live with purpose: Serve others and take one faithful step forward each day

Resilience isn't just self-reliance—it's trusting God and leaning on one another.



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

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| July 4 | Franklin Independence Day Parade |
| July 19 | Sweet Tea Sunday |
| July 29, 30, 31 | Vacation Bible School (VBS) |
| August 2 | VBS Sunday (Service held at Hope UMC) |
| August 9 | Backpack Sunday |
| September 13 | Grandparent's Sunday |

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

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

