



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July 23, 2026

BETTER TOGETHER: LAUNCHING "GALAXY" VBS WITH HOPE UMC

When you enter the sanctuary on Sunday, you'll notice the heavens have entered our worship space. Cardboard cutouts and enthusiastic volunteers muttering song lyrics under their breath can only mean one thing: "Galaxy" Vacation Bible School is almost here!

This year, we are mixing it up. We are thrilled to be joining forces with our friends at Hope UMC to host VBS together! Now, I know what some of you might be thinking: "Pastor, can two different congregations really share glue sticks, high-energy dance moves, and crowd control without casualties?" The short answer? Absolutely. The longer answer? Not only can we do it, but it's how the Church was designed to work!

In 1 Corinthians 12, the Apostle Paul writes: "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body..." Paul was onto something big here—and honestly, he would have loved VBS planning. As we partner with our sister congregation, we get to see the Body of Christ in full action.

When we combine our gifts, we aren't just splitting the workload—we are creating an unforgettable experience that neither of our churches could have pulled off quite as well on our own. Plus, let's be honest: more volunteers mean more adult supervision, which is a big win for everyone involved!

More importantly, working together sends a powerful message to our entire community. When neighborhood families see two churches coming together to share ministry, they don't see competition. They just see the loving, welcoming, united family of God. We aren't called to build our own separate empires; we are called to share the love of Jesus together.

When our kids see leaders from different churches laughing together and serving side-by-side, they learn firsthand what the Kingdom of God looks like. They learn that no matter what church sign is outside the building, we are all on the exact same team.

Here is how you can help us make this partnership a massive success:

- Pray with us: for energy, safety, and clear voices for our storytellers, and—most importantly—that young hearts will encounter the life-changing love of Jesus.
- Welcome our partners: When you see volunteers and families from Hope UMC, give them a warm smile and introduce yourself!
- Bring the energy: whether you're helping with crafts, serving snacks, or just cheering from the sidelines, your enthusiasm makes all the difference.

As I write this, 38 kids have registered to participate! WHAT A BLESSING! Thank you for being a church that embraces partnership, values unity, and loves children well. Get ready for an amazing time—it's going to be the highlight of our summer!

Pastor Laura



Mark Your Calendar

Mission/Outreach Team Meeting

July 26th After Worship

Church Council Meeting

July 27th, 6:30 pm

Joint Worship Will be Held at HOPE UMC

on Sunday, August 2nd at 10:30 am at 3642 Shaker Rd,
Franklin, OH 45005 for the VBS Closing Celebration with
a picnic afterwards. All are WELCOME!

Jul 26, 2026	Aug 2, 2026	Aug 9, 2026
Greeters: Mike Smith Linda Smith Tyler Smith	JOINT WORSHIP WILL BE HELD AT HOPE UMC ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 2ND AT 10:30 AM AT 3642 SHAKER RD, FRANKLIN, OH 45005 FOR THE VBS CLOSING CELEBRATION WITH A PICNIC AFTERWARDS. ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND	Greeters: Barb & Gary Ogdin
Elevator Greeter: Amanda & Grayson Leffew		Elevator Greeter: Cheryl Cyphers
Ushers: Cheryl Cyphers Paul Anderson Dorothy Rayburg Lily Smith		Ushers: Nancy Massey Dorothy Rayburg Jason Leffew Sally Fitzgerald
Liturgist: Cindy Kuntzman		Liturgist: Peggy Darragh- Jeromos
Opening/Closing: Jason Leffew		Opening/Closing: Jim Martin

VBS Starts Next Week!

Thank you to everyone who has been helping prepare for this year's Vacation Bible School! We are excited to share that **38 children** are registered for VBS! We are looking forward to a wonderful week of faith, fun, and fellowship. Keep this ministry in your prayers this week!

With such a big group, we could use a couple more volunteers to serve as group leaders. If you can help, reach out to the office or Kaylee. It's a great time – consider joining us!

Please join us for the VBS Closing Celebration at HOPE UMC on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. as we support and celebrate our campers and volunteers. Following the service, everyone is invited to stay for a picnic at Hope. We hope to see you there!



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



Look who's 90+

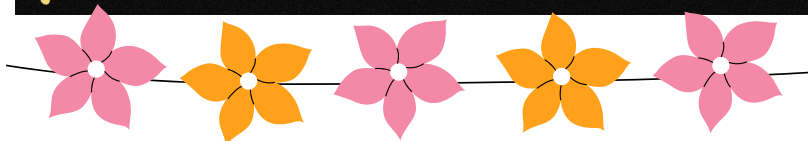
Jackie!

Lets celebrate with a party!!



2PM | July 25th
Carlisle Manor

Please NO Gifts!
come celebrate with
cake and ice cream!



FFUMC Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7/26/2026	7/27/2026	7/28/2026	7/29/2026	7/30/2026	7/31/2026	8/1/2026	8/2/2026
9:15 am Faith Seekers 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary Livestreamed	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	NO Faith Seekers 10:30 am Worship at HOPE UMC VBS CELEBRATION & Picnic
			VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 6-8 PM				

A CROPPIN' GOOD TIME

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026 - 6 -11 PM
 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 - 9 AM - 8 PM

SIXTEEN HOURS OF
 SCRAPBOOKING & CRAFTING, FUN
 WITH FRIENDS!

SATURDAY BRUNCH &
 DINNER INCLUDED

LEARN MORE AT: WWW.FRANKLINFIRSTUMC.ORG

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

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Birthdays

July 21 Chris Womack Lorton
 July 21 Tami Chamberlain
 July 22 Emily Hynes
 July 25 Kathy Eich
 July 25 Jackie Messmor
 August 01 Cheryl Krasnonski
 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

July 16 Barbara & Gary Ogdin
 July 20 Cheryl & Greg Cyphers
 August 10 Bill & Cindy Kuntzman
 August 27 Ryan & Regina Hynes
 August 31 Jim & Kathy Martin

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)
90th birthday party Saturday!
- Dick Taylor – home (8096 E. Lawn Dr., Franklin, OH 45005)

Our weekly prayer list:

- War with Iran
- *Connie Bolinger for family & friends of Ray McDaniel at his passing*
- *For Charlotte Summer – healing for broken ribs following a fall*
- *Jan Truesdell for sister Judy Deal – radiation treatments – going well*
- *Cheryl Cypher for husband Greg – starting a new job; daughter Ashley's job search & depression*
- *Judy Bowman for husband Bob – scheduled for knee surgery August 3*
- *For Julie Abell – recovery from cataract surgery of July 20*
- Nancy Massey for friend Bill Myers – broke ankle; granddaughter Samantha – surgery recovery
- For Lee Saunders – healing for two infections
- *Jo Steinberger – pulmonary health issues; 2 specific lung infections were identified this week; needs to quarantine at home and begin a new round of medications*
- Ogdins – for Barb – kidney stones – tests to determine underlying causes; unspoken request
- Dave Setser – recovery from surgery of July 6
- Tom Profitt – recovery from emergency surgery for severe bleeding ulcer
- Travel mercies for Andersons & Runyans
- Shirley Berold – health challenges
- 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.