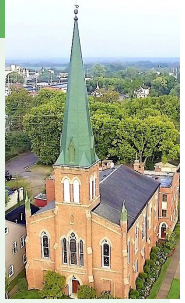




The Steeple Bell— July 2023

Franklin First United Methodist Church

“Under the Green Steeple”



4TH OF JULY TRIVIA

The United States was founded on the idea that human beings are endowed with “certain unalienable rights.” Our Constitution states that Freedom of Religion is foundational to those rights. Warren Burger stated, “The Declaration of Independence was the promise; the Constitution was the fulfillment.” How well do you know your U.S. history? Consider this trivia:

- * *The Declaration of Independence was signed by Continental Congress President John Hancock and Secretary Charles Thompson at the Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776; but wasn't signed by all 56 signers until August 2, 1776. This document declared independence from England, but the Revolutionary War was not won until 1783.*
- * *The Constitution of the United States became effective on March 4, 1789, and the Bill of Rights (the first ten amendments) were ratified on December 15, 1791.*
- * *The first 4th of July celebration was held in 1777, but July 4 was not made a federal holiday until 1870.*
- * *“The Star Spangled Banner” was written by Francis Scott Keys on September 14, 1814 during the War of 1812, and was declared the national anthem in 1931.*
- * *One president, Calvin Coolidge, was born on July 4, 1872. Three presidents have died on July 4th: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson in 1826 (the 50th anniversary) and James Monroe in 1831.*
- * *The U.S. population in 1776 was about 2.5 million people. Today, it is more than 336 million.*
- * *It was John Adam's idea to incorporate fireworks into 4th of July celebrations. According to the American Pyrotechnics Association, in 2022 Americans spent around \$2.3 billion on fireworks – amounting to about 500 million pounds.*
- * *Americans eat 155 million hot dogs on July 4th.*

How will you be spending your holiday? I plan on attending the “Wettest Parade in Ohio” so I can enjoy the Franklin fun. However we spend our day, let us remember the foresight and bravery of early colonists who worked so hard to give us the nation we have today.

Happy Independence Day!

Pastor Laura





Blessed Again!

Once again, Franklin First was blessed by community friends who attend another church but want to support the outreaches that we have in place to benefit Franklin and surrounding areas. They sent us a check for \$835 to further those ministries. I am grateful for their generosity, and I am also grateful for the faith and commitment of this congregation that generates those caring endeavors. It is wonderful to partner with neighbors who love the Lord and want to join in blessing the community.

Pastor Laura

Franklin's Wettest Parade

Main Street will be hopping on the morning of July 4th for a fun, fantastic celebration of Independence Day. The street will be lined with lots of folks sporting lawn chairs, super soakers, beach towels, sun glasses, and even bathing suits. Franklin certainly knows how to have fun! Franklin First will be having a drawing for two free Super soakers and we will be enjoying the festivities as well. Join us. You can sit behind the sidewalk if you choose not to get wet.



Worship in the Park at New Location: Franklin Community Park

Join us at a new location this year on July 16 for an outdoor 10:45 worship service. Bring your lawn chair, a dish to pass, wear your play clothes, and throw in some games. Our worship will be an informal camp-type service that is kid-friendly.

We have reserved the main covered shelter house complete with picnic tables. The area provides shade trees, and brand-new playground equipment. Hot dogs, buns, condiments, table service and drinks will be provided.

In case of inclement weather, we will meet back at the church for worship and the potluck. We will not be live-streaming the service, so if you are unable to join us we invite you to view one of our prior services online.

Worship in the Park
FRANKLIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, July 16th
10:45 am

Outdoor Worship
Franklin Community Park
301 E 6th St, Franklin

Noon - Picnic & Games

Casual Attire Welcomed

Franklin First
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

“Twists & Turns” Vacation Bible School

July 18-20 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Franklin First will be hosting VBS for our church kids and community friends alike. Again



this year will be a class for 4 & 5 year olds (Franklin First children only) and all kids up through those entering 6th grade will be welcome. The lessons are based on the Apostle Peter’s experiences of walking on the

water with Jesus, preaching on Pentecost, and sharing faith with Cornelius, a Gentile. In addition to these lessons, kids will enjoy music, crafts, snacks, and recreation. The closing program will be during worship on July 23. *Don’t wait to register! Grandkids, neighbor kids, all kids will have a great time.*

Backpack Sunday— August 6th

Again this year, we will be hosting Backpack Sunday during worship as we ask God’s blessing on our children and school staff who will be returning to classrooms. Invite family and neighbors to share in these blessings. **Please be collecting school supplies, as we will be giving them away to kids and staff alike.**

Backpack Sunday
AUGUST 6TH
10:45 AM

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.franklinfirstumc.org

Franklin First
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH



POLICE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

National Night Out

Once again, Franklin First is planning to participate in this local event to honor our Police Department. Last year was a great success, and we are going to man a booth with drawings for backpacks full of school supplies. We will also have games and give-aways for the kids. If you would like to be a part of this outreach, please contact Linda Smith or Karen Anderson for more information. We need smiling faces to greet our community and let them see we care. The event runs from 5:30 to 8:30. [Can you take a shift?](#)



Anthony Wayne Tutoring— Starting Early September

It was such a blessing to get back into the school to do literacy tutoring with AW elementary students this past winter. We have been in conversation with Principal Jim Rhoades, and he already has tutoring dates scheduled for the 2023 – 2024 school year. Yeah!

Tutors work with early elementary students who have been identified by school staff as in need of some special attention with reading skills. In the past, tutors have committed to be at Anthony Wayne from 3:00 – 4:30 on Thursday afternoons for sessions in both the fall and winter/spring. This year, we expect to run weekly from September 7 through November 16 (none

on November 2) and then again January 11 through March 21 (none on February 15). During that time, students have gym time, snack time, and lesson time. The lesson suggestions are provided by school staff.

We can use some new tutors in addition to our seasoned tutors. You will need a background check (if you haven't already had one) and you will get on the job training. We have substitute tutors who can fill in if you cannot make every week. This is a rewarding outreach! Tutors and their students often form a rich bond with one another. The kids love it so much and brag about it, that the other students at the school want to know if they can join in. What a way to bless a child! Talk to Linda Smith or Pastor Laura with questions or to volunteer.

FRANKLIN FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
303 SOUTH MAIN STREET
FRANKLIN, OH 45342

REGISTRATION 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Tuesdays
To Benefit the Uninsured &
Underinsured
.....
Questions: 937-746-5232

Free Medical Clinic

Dr. Chamberlain and a volunteer staff continue to hold the Free Clinic on Tuesday evenings weekly. Registration begins at 5:30 and continues until 6:30. Please pass the word! Those without insurance or who are underinsured have access to a physician and free basic care. Who do you know who might need this ministry?

Give Franklin First a Review!

Take a moment to tell others what you like about Franklin First. Use the link below to give us a review on Google. The more positive reviews and interaction, the better placement we receive when individuals search for a church in Franklin.

[https://q.page/r/
CebjXokui9PHEBO/review](https://q.page/r/CebjXokui9PHEBO/review)

Chamber Accolades

Each year, Chamber45005 honors organizations and individuals who help to make our community a great place to live and work.

Franklin First United Methodist Church was recently informed that we will be the recipient of the Ron Diver Friend of Education Award!

Franklin First was nominated and chosen because our team initiated and continues to partner with the Franklin City School community providing a variety of services like snack packs and paying off lunch fees to name a few! The award will be presented at the Chamber's Annual Awards & Meeting on July 19th.

A shout-out goes to all the Franklin First friends who have helped with our ministry with the Franklin City Schools.



Franklin First Online Giving

Online giving is a great choice for when you are unable to join us for Worship to continue to support the church. You can either set-up a recurring payment or give each time you visit the site.

Connect by using this link:

<https://franklinfirstumc.org/member-resources-%26-giving>



Healthy Conflict

HEALTHY COUPLES

a workshop for couples who want to go deeper



Conflict doesn't have to be scary! Couples often miss out on deeper levels of intimacy because they don't know how to have healthy conflict. In this three-hour session, you will get practical, moment-by-moment strategies for having healthier conflict, recovering from arguments, and talking with your partner about the most meaningful parts of life.

JULY 29, 9AM-12PM | COST \$160/COUPLE

Hosted at THE HIVE
1628 Hoffner St. Cincinnati, OH 45223

Register at
adambarlowthompson.com/cincinnati

About the Trainers:
Adam Barlow-Thompson is a speaker, trainer, and community specialist. He has been coaching teams and couples for 12 years.
Rev. Katie Steele works with couples in the Cincinnati area as they prepare for marriage, or renew their vows.



Sunday Worship

If you are interested in helping with Sunday Worship as an usher or greeter, please contact the [office](#).





Women's Circle

The Garage Sale is planned for August 9 –12th. Contributions can be dropped off at the church after July 21st.

Women's Circle Picnic, Monday, July

17th at 6:00 pm at the Rhude house. Bring a covered dish to share — meat and drinks provided. In case of bad weather, the picnic will be held at church.

Franklin First UMC
GARAGE SALE
August 9 - 12th

303 South Main St.,
 Franklin OH 45005
 franklinfirstumc.org

Sit, Soak, Shine Great Miami River- Thursday July 27 in Xenia



Registration is now open for the *Sit, Soak, Shine* Lay Staff (paid and unpaid) retreats!

Six retreats are planned throughout the conference for laity to join co - laborers in your district. [See a full list of retreats here.](#)

If you are unable to attend the event scheduled in your district, please feel free to attend a Sit, Soak, Shine in another district.

Bring your whole self and encounter God in a renewing way. Suzanne Bandy is the keynote speaker and will lead with prayer followed by prayer stations and reflections from other inspirational leaders.

[Learn more about the Great Miami River retreat on July 27 here](#)

Birthdays

July 01	Jo Steinberger
July 06	Jan Truesdell
July 07	Jimmy Trout
July 10	Olivia Hinds
July 14	Beverly Etter
July 16	Jerry Ragland
July 21	Tami Chamberlain
July 21	Chris Womack
July 22	Emily Hynes
July 25	Kathy Eich
July 25	Jackie Messmore

Anniversaries

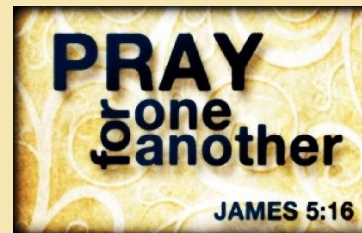
July 03	Deric & Jessica Lucas
July 11	Jo & Tom Steinberger
July 16	Barbara & Gary Ogdin
July 20	Cheryl & Greg Cyphers

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

1ST, 4TH, & 5TH TUESDAYS:
 4:30 - 5:30 PM
THURSDAYS: 4 - 5 PM

**303 SOUTH MAIN ST.
 FRANKLIN, OH**

HOSTED BY HOPE & RED LION UMC AND ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AT FRANKLIN FIRST UMC



Submit a Prayer Request Anytime

Use the link below to submit a Prayer

Request anytime. The link will send an email directly to the Pastor and our prayer warriors will begin the prayers for your request.

franklinfirstumc.breezechms.com/form/862a54

Missions Team Collections

Next Missions Meeting:

Sunday, July 23rd, after Worship Service

School Supply Collection Continues

The Missions Team is collecting school supplies for students and teachers during the months of June & July.

Items from Franklin City School include:

- Headphones
- Pencils
- Colored Pencils, markers, or crayons
- Pens - blue, black, red
- Highlighters
- Loose leaf paper
- Spiral notebook 1 an 5 - subject
- Folders (3) - 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



Permanent Endowment Fund

The Permanent Endowment Fund was established to provide a long-term source of income for Franklin First church. The intent is for the funds to be held in perpetuity, where only the income from the funds can be used. By giving to this fund through your will and estate planning, you can establish funding for future generations. This means that your grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren of the community will witness the love of God through the ministry of Franklin First. Contact Pastor Laura or Ken Smith for more information.



Franklin First UMC

Text An Amount To:
(937) 582-9009

TEXT TO GIVE

- Text the amount you would like to give.
- If it's your first time, you will receive a link to set up the account with your information.
- After the first time, you will just receive thanks for your gift reply.

SAVE THE DATE

Franklin First United Methodist Church

Homecoming
SEPTEMBER 24, 2023
CELEBRATING 225 YEARS

225th Anniversary of Methodism in Franklin – Part 7 (1948—1973)

This is the seventh article commemorating the 225th anniversary of forming the congregation that became the Franklin First United Methodist Church (FFUMC), the period from 1948 through 1973 is described today. Our congregation dates our founding to Monday August 14, 1798 when the Methodist Episcopal (M.E.) missionary Rev. John Kobler (1768-1843) held the first religious service in the frontier hamlet of Franklin. For than 50 years, irregular services were held by Methodist “circuit-rider” preachers. A full time minister was assigned to Franklin in 1853 and the current church building was constructed in 1860 and remains our Sanctuary until the present time.

Fig. 1. A winter photograph of the Franklin Methodist Episcopal Church prior to 1954 and when Main street in front of the church was U.S 25 and also state 73 and 123 routes.



In 1954, under the leadership of pastor H. Allen Cooper, a three story Education church building was constructed on land west of the 1860-built church that had been donated by Mrs. Nettie McCarthy. Bishop Hazen G. Werner consecrated the new building on September 29, 1954. It housed a church office, pastor’s study, youth and worship centers on the ground floor, and nursery, class rooms for children and young people, a choir room, and a Children’s Chapel on the upper two

floors. When arsonists destroyed the Franklin West public school in 1958, the displaced students found temporary refuge in our new education building.

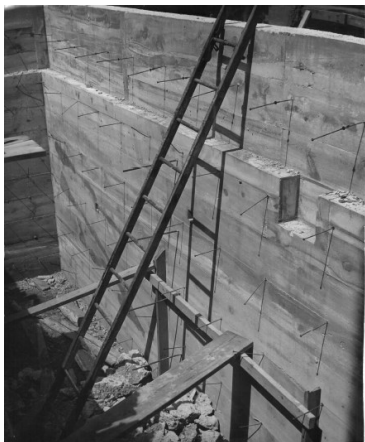


Fig. 2. Photograph of the foundation walls for the educational addition in September 1954.



Fig. 3. Church circa 1970s after addition of the new educational center along 3rd St.

Also, at this time many believed the Sanctuary was looking too old-fashioned and badly needed modernization. Among the changes made was the replacement of the old pipe organ with a state-of-the-art electronic console organ. This organ is an Allen Model C-3 with two consoles; pedal, including an additional percussion section consisting of harp, glockenspiel, celesta, carillon, and an extensive number of stops. The dedication of the new organ was held on Sunday evening April 28, 1957 with a guest organist Paul Ray Jones from the First Lutheran Church of Dayton OH performed a recital that included “Jesu, Joy of Man’s desiring” and “Tocatta and Fugue in D minor” by J. S. Bach as well as several other classic organ pieces.

After the installation the electronic organ and remodeling of the chancel in 1957, a complete remodeling of the sanctuary was conducted during 1958 under the guidance of Rev. Howard P. Spitnale. The new organ, new pews, a remodeled chancel with matching and coordinated furnishings, carpeting, lighting fixtures and wiring, as well as repainting of both the sanctuary and the stairways leading to it, gave the church a whole new look reflecting the tastes in the 1950s. The first

services after the remodeling were held on October 26, 1958.



Fig. 4. The Sanctuary Easter 1959 after the major renovations the previous year.

(Continued on page 9)

(One of a regular series of reports on the people and events associated with the history and ministry of the Franklin First United Method Church. Robert Bowman, Historian)

(Continued from page 8)

In 1967 the Franklin Rotary Club started holding their noon meetings nearly every week at the Methodist Church. Their luncheons were prepared and served on Fridays by the ladies of the Church for over five decades.

On April 23, 1968, The Franklin Methodist Church became the Franklin United Methodist Church when the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) denominations merged to form the United Methodist Church (UMC). However, formation of the United Methodist Church had minimal impact on the Franklin congregation other than its name change in 1968 as there

were no EUB churches located in town.



Fig. 5. Franklin Methodist quilters at work in circa 1955.

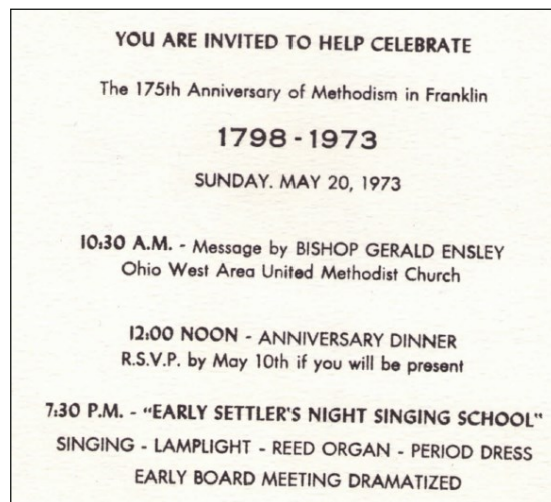
The “Quilters” group of women had started meeting nearly every Wednesday around 1920 to raise money for the church, Sunday school, and parsonage while providing a highly valued social outlet for fifty years. There were no bosses or organization of these ladies. They just met and quilted! There were usually two quilts in process at a time often with backorders of 10-20 more during the 1950s. The average charge for making a quilt was \$20 back in the 1950s. Between 1940 and 1965, for example, over \$4000 had been donated for banquet dishes, a refrigerator, bibles, carpeting, tables, a furnace, and other needed items. Anyone interesting in quilting was welcomed to join the group. A number of mother – daughters and daughters-in-law members were long time quilters. However, by the end of the 1960s many of the quilters were now in their upper 70s and 80s and it was decided to disband the group. On June 15, 1969 a Sunday morning dedication service for the quilters was held. The minister Rev. John W. Wedgewood presented each quilt member with the following note: “This note of appreciation is given to you for your devoted and faithful service given through your talent of hands to Franklin United Methodist Church as a quilter. May abiding satisfaction be yours for a work well done, and may your days be

filled with God’s Blessing”. The group was formally disbanded in 1970. The final gifts from the quilters were two reproduction paintings for the church’s dining room: “Autumn in Vermont” by Robert Wood and “The Last Supper” by Leonardo Da Vinci that are visible downstairs.

The remodeling of the entranceway of the church in 1971 included a new parlor-library, a memorial to all deceased members, and new restrooms. The parlor-library has provision for worshippers who cannot climb the stairs.

The FUMC tradition of hand making noodles for selling and serving during the Bazaar luncheon started in 1972. In the previous several years, two groups formed from the United Methodist Women (UMW) and those calling themselves the “Rotary Women” had been preparing weekly lunches for the members of the Franklin Rotary who met weekly at the UMC church. As plans were formulated for hosting that first bazaar, it was decided to serve chicken with homemade noodles as the focus of the luncheon. Hence, these “Rotary” ladies started making noodles and the legend began and has continued into the 2020s.

Fig. 6. Invitation to 175th Celebration.



FUMC congregation held a special celebration for the 175th anniversary of Methodism in Franklin in 1973. The week of May 13-20, 1973 was set aside for praise, thanks, and celebration of the 175th anniversary. Beginning with the sacrament of communion in an “old time method” on Sunday May 13th, the week included a Mother-Daughter Banquet; a Men’s Prayer Breakfast that was open to all men in the community had an old time breakfast menu including homemade bread and jellies that were served by coal oil lamp light; and a reunion party and rehearsal for all choir members past and present. Each day at noon the church bell was rung. On Sunday May 20th, the morning service was observed with a special message from Bishop F. Gerald Ensley. Also present were two former Franklin pastors, District Superintendent Howard P. Spitnale and Dr. Gerstle M. Haggard and their spouses. After the service, a congregation-

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

al dinner was served and all persons who were members of the church for 50 years or longer were honored. That evening's service was entitled "Early Settlers' Night" and featured a dramatization of an early church board meeting drawn from actual minutes of old meetings. There was a "Singing School" conducted by the FUMC music director Clarence Aspenleiter. There was also a visit from a "circuit rider" preacher very realistically dressed and bearded as portrayed by the youth director David Hughes. Many congregation members came in old time attire, adding to the evening's interest.

A commemorative booklet was produced for the 175th celebration that included a historical summary prepared by Marie Bryant as well as listings of past circuit riders, pastors, names of those who had been 50 or more years members in 1973, and various church honorees.



Fig. 7. David Hughes as the circuit riding preacher visiting during 175 celebration.



Trustee Update

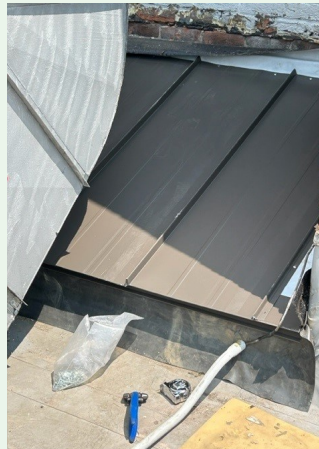
Spring continues to be a busy time for the trustees. Work on the leak above the Alter has been completed. A new framework and metal roof was installed over the old dome roof that

was up there. The rooftop heating and air unit had to be taken apart then re assembled to complete the work. The roofer offered a 10 year labor warranty along with a 10 year leak proof warranty. The metal roof should last up to 50 years with minimal maintenance. We will be checking the wall with a moisture meter, and when the reading is within tolerance, we will make the repairs.

Three contractors looked at the parsonage basement to do the needed repairs from the sewer backup. This included drywall replacement, priming all affected rooms, then painting all and replacing all trims. Also includes stripping wallpaper in the 1/2 bath, and painting, then installing the fixtures. Two quoted the work, one walked away stating he didn't want to do that type of work. We settled on a contractor, who is licensed, insured and carries workman's comp insurance. Waiting for the contract to sign. Work should start in approximately 6 weeks. Once the painting is completed, will get quotes on the flooring. LOOK FOR AN "SOS" FROM THE TRUSTEES. TO HELP MOVE BOXES AND FURNITURE, in the future.

After a long search of many options, a handrail for the front steps has been determined. Thanks to Michelle and Trish, a master carpenter was located who is replicating the original rail that was there. This will help maintain

the history and integrity of the historic building. No timeline has been established yet for completion.



HOW & HOW MUCH SHOULD I PRAY

For the longest time — and, well, *to this day* — I’ve struggled with the thought that I do not pray nearly enough as I should. It’s a cloud of guilt that seemingly follows me everywhere I go.

A big part of it had to do with how I viewed prayer. My parents modeled a prayer life that was fervent and dedicated. They would get up at the crack of dawn to go pray



with the church. When my dad couldn’t sleep, he’d go to church to pray. If he couldn’t make it to church, he’d go to his

office space at home and pray. For *hours*.

That’s what prayer looked like to me. I mean, we Koreans are the epitome of “prayer warriors.”

A regular practice of a Korean church is what we call *SaeByeok Gido* which is roughly translated to Dawn Prayer. People would show up to church at 5am (or 6am) for this prayer service. There usually is a short sermon given by the pastor and then the rest of the time (usually an hour) is spent in what’s called *tongsuh gido* which can be roughly translated to “praying out loud together.”

There would be wailing; pounding of chests; crying — quite literally people pouring out *everything* in prayer. Like the sports cliché, we would leave everything on the field (sanctuary).

For the longest time, if it didn’t match the intensity and fervency of the Korean style (and my parents’ style) of prayer, it didn’t feel like I was praying. And I quickly learned that I didn’t have the capacity to match that kind of fervency and intensity. So I stopped praying.

Then I started feeling even more guilty that I wasn’t praying which led to not praying even more.

A pastor who doesn’t pray?

Not praying at all brought even more guilt and shame — which further drove me away from wanting to pray because now I felt like I didn’t know how.

But here’s the thing: there’s no “wrong” way to pray. Nor is there a “right” way to pray.

Prayer, at the essence, is communing with God. I realized this more as a parent — there really is no “wrong” or “right” way for my son to spend time with me. I just want to be near his presence. And there’s no “wrong” or “right” way for my son to communicate with me.

My son is a 12-year old on the autism spectrum. His grasp of language is comparable to a 4-year old. I don’t expect him to talk to me like a 12-year old. I don’t expect him to use all the proper grammar and vocabulary. I *just* want to communicate with him.

That’s the kind of heart that God has for us: God just wants to *be* with us; to commune with us. We don’t have to have the perfect prayer formula or use formal King James vocabulary. Stuttering; blubbling; blabbering; incoherent words — I genuinely don’t think God minds — just that we are speaking to God.

As I began to develop a spiritual discipline of prayer, I started to do two things. The first was that I started keeping a prayer journal. Just writing out my thoughts for God to... read(?). I wrote my joys, my praises, my concerns, my insecurities, my hopes, just anything and everything.

And secondly, instead of spending hours on end in prayer, like my parents and other Korean Christians, I discovered breath prayers. You say short prayer as you inhale and a short prayer as you exhale. My go-to has been saying “into your hands” as I inhale and “I commend my spirit” as I exhale. It keeps me grounded and mindful of God’s presence. It calms my nerves and anxiety.

Those two things are the main way I engage in prayer. But also, I do go to church to pray like my dad continues to do — but not as often as he does. And that’s okay. That kind of prayer life gives *him* life.

Our faith journey and the spiritual practices we use in it are not a one-size-fits-all. If it works for me, it may not work for you.

The point I’m trying to make is that the *how* we connect to God shouldn’t be the focus (or bring about guilt) but, instead, we should just simply continue to engage God in our daily living.

Don’t get caught up on the “am I praying the right way?” And simply pray. You’ll discover that God wants nothing more than you.



Joseph Yoo is the author [When the Saints Go Flying in](#). He is a West Coaster at heart contently living in Houston, Texas with his wife and son. He serves at Mosaic Church in Houston. Find

more of his writing at josephyoo.com.

Taken from: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/how-and-how-much-should-i-pray>

Franklin First United Methodist Church

2023 Lay Leadership Ministry

Making disciples... Building Christian community... Transforming lives!



Church Council:

Church Council Chair	Mike Smith
Church Council Secretary	Amber Ramsey
Lay Leader	Mike Smith
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Charlotte Summer
Lay Member of Annual Conference Alternate	Kim Chewning
Treasurer	Tami Chamberlain
Membership Secretary	Lee Ann Lee
Communications Coordinators	Carol & Mike Runyan
Church Historian	Robert Bowman
Pastor	Laura Saunders

Ministry Team Representatives:

Staff-Parish	Julie Abell
Finance	Paul Anderson
Endowment	Ken Smith
Trustee Chairs	Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
Worship	Monica Rhude
Technology	Joe Chamberlain
Committee on Lay Leadership	Laura Saunders
Christian Education	Charlotte Summer, Chris Womack
Missions & Outreach	Linda Smith, Karen Anderson
Care Team	Lee Saunders
Hospitality & Events	
Welcoming Ministry	Dorothy Rayburg
Scouting Coordinator	
Member At Large	Amber Ramsey

Staff-Parish Relations Committee: Chair: Julie Abell

(Lay Leader: Mike Smith)

Terms expiring 2023:	Julie Abell, Judy Parker, Sue Fullen
Terms expiring 2024:	Sally Fitzgerald, Karen Anderson, Patti Noland
Terms expiring 2025:	Cheryl Cyphers, Mishelle Dicken

Trustees: Co-Chairs: Jim Martin, Mike Runyan

Terms expiring 2023:	Joe Chamberlain, Brian Graves
Terms expiring 2024:	Jan Abell, Jim Martin, Trisha Dicken
Terms expiring 2025:	Cody Chilcutt, Mike Runyan, Connie Bolinger

Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations):

Chair: Pastor Laura Saunders

Mike Smith, Lay Leader

Terms expiring 2023:	Sally Fitzgerald, Karen Anderson
Terms expiring 2024:	Ken Smith, Shirley Berold
Terms expiring 2025:	Kathy Martin, Peggy Darragh-Jeromos

Finance Committee: (By virtue of office.)

Chair	Paul Anderson
Treasurer:	Tami Chamberlain
Financial Secretary:	Julie Abell
Church Council Chair:	Mike Smith
Trustees Co-Chairs:	Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
Staff Parish Chair:	Julie Abell
Lay Leader:	Mike Smith
Lay Member of Annual Conference:	Charlotte Summer
Pastor:	Laura Saunders

Permanent Endowment Fund Committee

Chair of Finance Committee	Paul Anderson
Church Treasurer	Tami Chamberlain
Chair of Board of Trustees	Jim Martin
Chair of Church Council	Mike Smith
Lay Leader	Mike Smith
Member at Large (Term: 2022 only)	Monica Rhude
Member at Large (Term: 2022-2023)	Ken Smith, Chair
Pastor (non-voting member)	Laura Saunders

Worship Ministry Team: Chair: Monica Rhude

Choir Director:	Monica Rhude
Bell Choir Director:	Tami Chamberlain
Altar Design:	Kay Marksberry, Pam Bishop, Shari Tutt
Technology:	Joe Chamberlain
Usher Organizer:	Judy Parker
Lay Leader:	Mike Smith
Pastor:	Laura Saunders

Mission & Outreach Team:

Co-Chairs: Linda Smith, Karen Anderson

Lisa Dillon, Madelyn Lang, Tracy Easter, Ken Smith, Karen Anderson, Tami Chamberlain, Marna Rogers, Judy Parker, Sally Fitzgerald, Amber Ramsey

Technology Team: Chair: Joe Chamberlain

Joe Chamberlain, Trisha Dicken, Andy Kuntzman, Tami Chamberlain, LeeAnn Lee, Paul Anderson

Christian Education Team:

Co-Chairs: Charlotte Summer, Chris Womack

Jan Truesdell, Rachel Chamberlain, Madelyn Lang, Carol Runyan, Chris Womack, Charlotte Summer

Care Team: Chair: Lee Saunders

Lee Saunders (phone contact); Charlotte Summer, Dorothy Rayburg, Jan Truesdell, Judy Deskins (visitation team)

Communication Team: Mike & Carol Runyan, Linda & Mike Smith, Pastor Laura Saunders, Theresa Fultz

Upcoming Events

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

July 4

Franklin's Wettest Parade in Ohio

July 16

Worship in the Park

July 18-20

Vacation Bible School

July 23

Vacation Bible School Program at Worship

August 1

National Night Out

August 6

Backpack Sunday

September 24

Homecoming Sunday

STEEPLE BELL NEWSLETTER

Franklin First United Methodist Church

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Franklin, OH 45005

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E-mail: office@franklinfirstumc.org

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