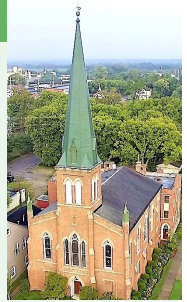




## *The Steeple Bell—December 2024*

Franklin First United Methodist Church

*"Under the Green Steeple"*



# CHRISTMAS MUSIC

What is your favorite piece of Christmas music? I love many of the Christmas carols. They carry such a message of hope. "Joy to the World," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and "O Come All Ye Faithful" are among my favorites. I start listening to Christmas music early in the season and am always disappointed when it disappears after the holiday.

Handel's "Messiah" is my all time favorite. Many years ago, Lee and I had the privilege of hearing it in its entirety at the Peristyle Theatre at the Toledo Art Museum. The acoustics in this 1750 seat auditorium are fantastic, and it was one of the best three hours of my entertainment life. Few musical pieces can compare with the final number "The Hallelujah Chorus."

I love so many things about celebrating Christmas. Our home Christmas tree boasts ornaments that include some treasures made by our kids years ago. Garland greenery, red ribbon, glowing lights, decorated cookies, and family gatherings. All are important.

I especially wouldn't miss the music of Christmas as presented by Franklin First's choral groups. The Chancel and Aspenleiter Bell Choirs, the Women's Ensemble, and this year - our new children's choir will bring us the Christmas message in song on December 22. I relish the stained-glass beauty of the sanctuary as we hear the strains of familiar tunes. The acoustics in our church are amazing, and our choirs outdo themselves every year.

The candlelight service on Christmas Eve is so special. I remember one year a while back that the weather was terrible and we had to cancel this service. So disappointing. Every year I pray that we can gather and that all in attendance will experience once again the sacred wonder of the night. God's Son born as a vulnerable infant in the humblest of circumstances. In a world where we hear of violence on a daily basis, the message of God's peace and good will toward his children is life changing.

As you journey through December this year, I pray that you will make sacred interludes to breath in God's message of love and peace. The temptation is to run through December and find ourselves frazzled and stressed on Christmas Day. Let's remember that life will not be perfect this month, but the reason for the season is a tiny bundle of perfection laid in a lowly manger. Joy to the World! The Lord is come!

Merry Christmas!  
Pastor Laura





## Your Generosity is a Blessing

The year 2024 is almost ready to draw to a close, and Franklin First has engaged in some amazing ministry this year:

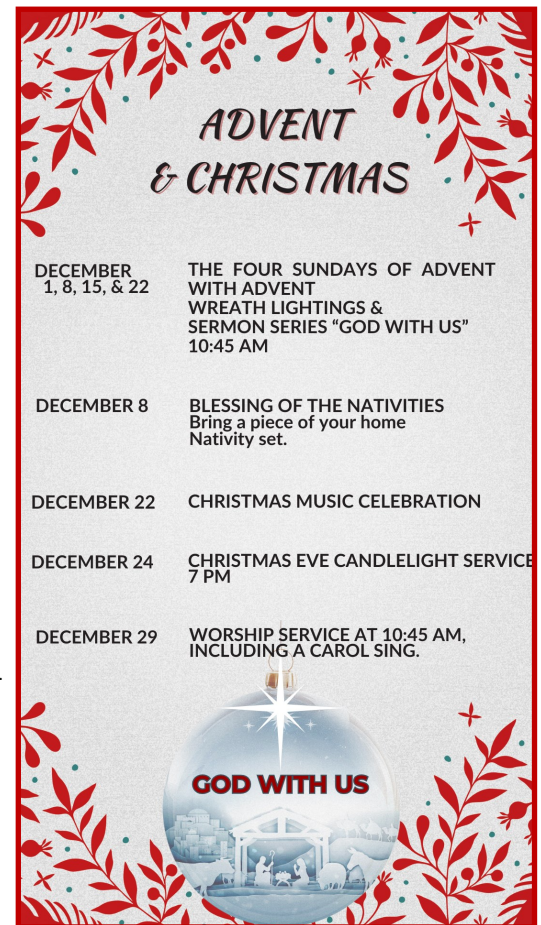


- \* About 5900 weekend snack packs will have been distributed to Anthony Wayne and Gerke children in need. This year, Franklin High School's National Honor Society has partnered with us to provide items for snack packs and student assistance with packaging the snack packs. We are so grateful for their help!
- \* We provided literacy tutoring for ten second grade students at Anthony Wayne during the winter term of 2024. These kids also received free books regularly for their home library. The students love the relationships they build with their tutors. We look forward to tutoring with Gerke first graders after the Christmas break.
- \* Our church has taken meals and appreciation gifts for Anthony Wayne and Gerke staff multiple times.
- \* We collected school supplies which were divided up between all the schools in Franklin.
- \* We have participated in community events like the Wettest Parade in Ohio (July 4), National Night Out, and the Community Trick or Treat – increasing our visibility in the area.
- \* Our Free Medical Clinic provided care for increasing numbers of uninsured or underinsured people this year. We also continue to offer free small-scale durable medical equipment such as walkers, crutches, braces, and bath aid devices.
- \* The Angel Shop Boutique was blessed with continued formal wear donations and welcomed almost 100 young people who chose their special occasion attire free of charge. Our Angel Shop benefited from grant money that allowed the purchase of display equipment and better advertising.
- \* Our FFUMC kids collected \$1,625 in the noisy bucket for Heifer Project International to provide animals for needy families around the world. They will be collecting again during Advent 2024.
- \* Monthly birthday contributions totaling \$765 will have been given to the following charities: The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), Abilities First, Big Brother/Big Sisters of Cincinnati, and Franklin High School Senior Fees.
- \* FFUMC is administering the Christmas food and gift ministry for approximately 60 families this month. The cost to sponsor a food basket is \$25 per basket.

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2)

- \* We have made quarterly contributions to the Franklin Community Pantry of paper products, baby items, cleaning supplies, and personal care items.
  - \* We are hosting and co-sponsoring an average of more than 350 community meals per month in partnership with St. Mary's Catholic Church and this year's new partner the Coffee Collab food truck. Previously with Hope and Red Lion United Methodist churches.
  - \* Our very active Women's Circle provided funeral dinners as requested, and supported Breast Cancer research in October with a \$324 donation from their bake sale – which was met with a triple match from the Susan Komen Foundation. The Fall Marketplace was another success, and workers prepared 572 batches of noodles.
  - \* Our music program has inspired us with the Chancel Choir, Women's Ensemble, and the Aspenleiter Bell Choir gracing our worship with their songs. They were an inspirational part of our Homecoming celebration in September. Worship was followed by a delicious complimentary meal from the Coffee Collab . Our music groups held a Broadway concert, which raised \$720 for the Franklin High School Music/Drama Department.
  - \* Emphasizing our social media presence and on-line worship has increased the visibility of our church in the greater Franklin area and beyond. Theresa Fultz and Joe Chamberlain have spearheaded this ministry.
  - \* By the end of 2025 and since the inception of our grant awards, Franklin First will have received more than \$95,000 in grants from the Great Miami River District and the West Ohio Conference - enabling a greater impact in ministry than we could financially do on our own. These grants were made possible by paying 100% of our apportionments.
  - \* Community friends have partnered with us to provide financial resources in support of our ministry. The Ruppert Family Foundation, Franklin-Carlisle Rotary Club, the Carlisle Alumni Association, and generous people from the Franklin area have all contributed to our various ministries.
- Your faithful stewardship has enabled this and more. Thank you for your year-end generosity that keeps our ministries vibrant! Pastor Laura



## Women's Circle News

### CHRISTMAS GATHERING!

Women's Circle members, mark your calendars for Monday December 9 to celebrate Christmas at the Bowman home.

Thanks to Judy and Bob for their hospitality. Bring a covered dish and gifts for the adopted family. We will also have an ornament exchange.





## Good News for 2025

We have been notified that we will be receiving the following grants next year.

- \* A Great Miami River District “Community Connection” grant in the amount of \$2,500 to support the outreach work we do locally.
- \* A Great Miami River District “Snack Pack” grant in the amount of \$4,000.

Once again we are benefiting from being part of a “connectional church” where apportionment dollars are reallocated to the ministries of those churches who are doing good in the community. One eligibility requirement for these grants is to have paid and continue to pay 100% of our apportionments. Your continued faithful support of the church has resulted in some real financial blessings.



## Angel Shop—Successful Donation Day

We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible support shown during our Donation Day for the Angel Shop. Thanks to your generosity, we received 14 dresses, 3 suits, and a bunch of accessories! We couldn't serve our local teens without the unwavering support of our amazing community. Your contribu-

tions make a significant difference in the lives of many young people.

Missed our Donation Day? No worries! We accept donations year-round.



## Christmas Gift Ideas

As you plan your Christmas gift list, do you have someone who is particularly tricky to shop for? Consider making a donation in their honor to a special project at the church. We can provide

a gift card for you to give them, explaining which ministry or project your gift supports. Options include the music ministry, Franklin First's children's ministry, the snack pack program, the permanent endowment fund, or another choice. For more details or ideas, please contact Treasurer Tami Chamberlain or Pastor Laura.

## SNEEK PEAK: WHAT'S COMING IN 2025

**JANUARY 25**  
**CHILI COOK OFF**

**MARCH 7-8**  
**CROPPIN' GOOD TIME**

**HOLY WEEK**  
**APRIL 13 - PALM SUNDAY**  
**APRIL 17 - MAUNDAY THURSDAY**  
**APRIL 18 - GOOD FRIDAY**  
**APRIL 20 - EASTER SUNDAY**

**APRIL 27**  
**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

**MAY 11**  
**MOTHER'S DAY**

**JUNE 8**  
**PENTECOST**

**JUNE 15**  
**FATHER'S DAY**

**SEPTEMBER 19 -20**  
**CROPPIN' GOOD TIME**

**SEPTEMBER 21**  
**HOMECOMING SUNDAY**

**NOVEMBER 1**  
**FALL MARKETPLACE**



## Spreading Cheer with our Christmas Basket Ministry

This Christmas season, Franklin First UMC is excited to announce our annual Christmas Basket Ministry. This year, we are honored to serve 59 families with food baskets as well as 94 children and 35 teenagers with gifts.

Three Ways to Get involved:

- ◆ Donate funds for a food basket or teenager gifts. For just \$25, you help us provide a food basket for a local family in need. Imagine the joy and gratitude you will bring to a family struggling to put food on the table. Visit our website ([www.franklinfirstumc.org](http://www.franklinfirstumc.org)) to make a financial donation. To date we have received donations for 42 of the 59 baskets.
- ◆ Get involved by picking a gift tag off our Giving Tree in the Front Entrance to purchase a gift for a child,
- ◆ Volunteer your time to assist with assembling baskets on **Saturday, December 14th at 9 AM**, and/or on **Thursday, December 19th from 1 PM to 6 PM** to help hand out and load the food baskets and gifts into cars.

Together, we can make this Christmas a time of joy and giving for everyone in our community. Thank you for your generosity and support!

## 2025 Virtual Laity Discernment Retreats

Do you feel God's call on your life but are uncertain how to discern that call or what to do next? If so, then this is the Retreat for you!

At the Laity Discernment Retreats, we will talk about call, discernment and what it means to be "called by our baptism." We will learn ways to intentionally enter into a time of prayer about discernment and we will discover Spiritual Rhythms that can help guide our journey. We will also discuss the variety of ways Laity can serve both in our churches and in our communities.

The virtual laity discernment retreat will consist of two, two-hour ZOOM sessions, followed 6 weeks later by a two-hour ZOOM debriefing. In the 6 weeks between sessions, there will be opportunities to read, reflect, and practice Spiritual Rhythms that will lead you to a better understanding of your own call. [Register Now!](#)

Dates (please plan to attend all 3 sessions):

- ◆ Tuesday, February 18, 2025, 6:30-8:30 pm
- ◆ Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 6:30-8:30 pm
- ◆ Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 6:30-8:30 pm

For more information, contact Kim LaRue at [kimlarue@powellumc.org](mailto:kimlarue@powellumc.org).



## Thanksgiving Offering Thank You!

We are thrilled to announce that our special Thanksgiving offering collected **\$406** on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 24th. This generous contribution will be used to purchase gifts for teenagers for our Christmas distribution this year.

Thank you for your incredible support and for helping us bring joy to local teens this holiday season.



## Trustee Update—Insurance Update

As you may know, we were notified last May, our insurance for the church would not be renewed. The trustee's started searching for a replacement company then. As we worked the process of finding new coverage, we were surprised with the findings. The number of companies offering coverage for churches continues to shrink in size. Being offered coverage comes with a lot of demands, and churches with large steeples are an issue. We were denied insurance from approximately seven companies.

We were finally offered coverage by three companies. The first had an unrealistic premium, the second was liability only. We settled on Mennonite Mutual who offered catastrophic coverage at a reasonable premium, but a very large deductible. After a building inspection by Mennonite Mutual, we were required to upgrade and complete some building maintenance to comply with their requirements. Those were completed, along with pictures, and invoices for the work, and a second inspection. We submitted the application for insurance, and will have binding coverage as of this writing.

The insurance company was impressed with was, how well the building has been cared for, based on it's age, and the obvious pride of the congregation.

### 2024 at Franklin First

#### December

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | First Sunday of Advent                  |
| 3  | Free Medical Clinic, 5:30 pm            |
| 4  | Snack Pack Packing, 1:30 pm             |
| 8  | Second Sunday of Advent                 |
| 8  | Fellowship Sunday                       |
| 8  | Blessing of the Nativities              |
| 9  | Women's Circle Christmas, 6:30 pm       |
| 10 | Free Medical Clinic, 5:30 pm            |
| 11 | Snack Pack Packing, 3:00 pm             |
| 15 | Third Sunday of Advent                  |
| 17 | Free Medical Clinic, 5:30 pm            |
| 18 | Snack Pack Packing, 1:30 pm             |
| 19 | Christmas Basket Distribution, 1—6 pm   |
| 22 | Fourth Sunday of Advent                 |
| 22 | Christmas Music Sunday                  |
| 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service; 7 pm |
| 25 | Christmas Day                           |

### Advent Noisy Bucket

This December, Franklin First kids will be collecting change during Advent for the Noisy Bucket, supporting Heifer International. This mission provides animals, clean water wells, and education for girls in underdeveloped countries. Save your change and help communities in need!





## Honor a Loved One with a Christmas Poinsettia

This Christmas, you can honor or remember a loved one by purchasing a beautiful poinsettia for just \$12. These lovely flowers will adorn our altar,

adding a touch of festive beauty to our celebrations.

**Bonus:** You can take your poinsettia home after our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service!

Join us in this meaningful tradition and make this season even more special.

### How to Purchase:

- Cost: \$12 per poinsettia
- Order on our website ([franklinfirstumc.org](http://franklinfirstumc.org)) or Contact the office at: [office@franklinfirstumc.org](mailto:office@franklinfirstumc.org) or 937-746-5232

Thank you for helping us celebrate the season with beauty and remembrance.

## Homemade Dry Noodles Still Available

Franklin First United Methodist Church

**FOR SALE**

**DRY**

**HOMEMADE NOODLES**

**1 LB. BAG - \$6.50**

SEE A WOMEN'S CIRCLE MEMBER OR THE OFFICE TO PURCHASE.

[www.franklinfirstumc.org](http://www.franklinfirstumc.org)

The Women's Circle still have a few 1 lb. bags of dry noodles available for \$6.50 each. If you would like to purchase some reach out to the office or a Women's Circle member.

## Birthday

November 17	Bessie Long
November 26	Joe Wright
November 27	Nathan Glossip
December 04	Ken Smith
December 08	Ken Lang
December 10	Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
December 11	Mishelle Dicken
December 11	Greyson Roberts
December 12	Lisa Dillon
December 16	Caleb Humphries
December 17	Andrew Goodpaster
December 20	Judy Bowman
December 21	Mike Smith
December 23	Joseph Chamberlain
December 25	Janet Kirby
December 26	Amber Ramsey
December 26	Gary Ogdin
December 27	Gracelynn Lucas
December 29	Karen Anderson
December 31	Cody Chilcutt

## Anniversary

December 16	Marisa & Caleb Humphries
December 27	Jan & Julie Abell
December 28	Robert & Judy Bowman





## Make Room For Christmas

by Joe Iovina

Every year, Christmas causes us to make room in our homes

and schedules. Our routines are disrupted as we get ready to celebrate and find ourselves busy with events and gatherings.

As you go through your preparations and celebrations, these devotions provide opportunities to pause and reflect on how you will make room for the best things — others, hope, peace, joy and love — this Christmas.

### MAKE ROOM FOR OTHERS

*The light was in the world,*

*and the world came into being through the light,  
but the world didn't recognize the light.*

*The light came to his own people,*

*and his own people didn't welcome him.*

*But those who did welcome him,*

*those who  
believed in his  
name,*

*he authorized  
to become God's  
children. —*

*John 1:10-12 CEB*



Christmas is a time of welcome!

The Christmas celebration Las Posadas comes from the Hispanic traditions of Latin American countries, especially Mexico. It dates back to the 16th century.

Every evening from December 16-23, with a special service on Christmas Eve, those celebrating Las Posadas travel together to a predetermined place where they knock on the door of a darkened home to begin a liturgy.

The community gathered outside asks for lodging in the voice of Joseph. "We have come exhausted from Nazareth," the United Methodist Book of Worship reads.

The people inside give a rational response, "We do not give lodging to strangers."

Readings from Scripture follow until the people inside the home turn on the lights and invite the travelers to come inside. "Lodging we will give you with much happiness,"



they say, "enter, good Joseph; enter with Mary." When everyone is inside, it is time to celebrate!

Making room for Jesus includes making room for our neighbors. Jesus taught that

what we do for others, we also do for him.

What rituals will you go through to prepare for Christmas? How will you make room in your life in the days ahead? How will you reach out in love and service to your neighbors around the corner and around with world?

How will you make room for others this Christmas?

Prayer: O God, open my eyes to see those with whom I can share your love this week. Amen.

### MAKE ROOM FOR HOPE

*Mary said,  
"With all my  
heart I glorify  
the Lord! ...*

*He has shown  
strength with  
his arm.*

*He has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and  
proud inclinations.*

*He has pulled the powerful down from their thrones  
and lifted up the lowly.*

*He has filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty-handed." — Luke 1:46,  
51-53 CEB*



At Christmas, we can lose focus on what is most important, thinking more about what we want than what we already have in Christ.

In the United States this year, Amazon.com released its first-ever, print, toy catalog for Christmas. It even included stickers to help family members highlight the items they most want this year.

We sometimes come to Christmas from a place of lack. We ask our kids what they want for Christmas and make wish lists of our own. We worry about having enough money to get everyone the gifts we've imagined they so desperately want.

*(Continued on page 9)*



*(Continued from page 8)*

We do all of this in celebration of the birth of Jesus, who had nearly nothing — not even a proper place to be born. Yet we proclaim this child to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Clearly there is more to Christmas than the gifts we exchange. It is the gift we receive in Christ.

The baby with “nothing” is the hope for the world.

What do you want for Christmas? Where do you sense lack? How will you refocus your attention on the hope found in Jesus Christ?

How will you make room for hope this Christmas?

Prayer: O God, refocus me on the hope I already have in Christ. Amen.

### MAKE ROOM FOR PEACE

*Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord’s angel stood before*

*them, the Lord’s glory shone around them, and they were terrified.*

*The angel said, “Don’t be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you — wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David’s city. He is Christ the Lord.” — Luke 2:8-11 CEB*

Christmas is busy! There is so much to do!

The decorating needs to be done. We need to prepare for the arrival of guests. You may be expected to attend the company Christmas party with your spouse.

The [kids’ pageants at the church](#) are coming up. Shopping and baking still needs to get done. We wonder every year how we’re going to fit it all in.

But it’s not this way only at Christmas time. Some of us live similarly the other 11 months of the year also. We expend so much energy going from here to there, accomplishing to-do list item A through to-do list item Z with little room to pause and ponder.

Maybe that’s one of the reasons [the shepherds](#) were the first to hear about the birth of Jesus. They were “living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night.” It must have been quieter with their flocks than it was

with the crowds in town who’d arrived for the census.

In the midst of our busyness at Christmas and other times throughout the year, we need to take time for wonder, awe and peace.

Have you been busy as you prepare for Christmas? How will you take time to go out to the fields and look up into the sky? How will you pause, process and give thanks for all that God is doing in and for you?

How will you make room for peace this Christmas?

Prayer: O God, slow me down so that I might experience the wonder, awe and peace of Christmas. Amen.

### MAKE ROOM FOR JOY

*Since Joseph belonged to David’s house and family line, he went up*

*from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David’s city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant.*

— Luke 2:4-5 CEB

As Mary and [Joseph](#) traveled to his hometown, many of us go home for Christmas as well. We journey near and far to gather with family and friends, some of whom we may not see at any other time of year.

For infrequent travelers, the idea of getting on an airplane or packing the car can seem overwhelming. Where is that suitcase? Is this too big to be a carry-on? Do we have everything the kids will need? How will we travel with the gifts we’ll give and later return with the ones we’ll receive?

Many will over pack, only to realize later we didn’t need to take *everything* with us.

In our everyday lives, we can also carry a lot of negative, emotional “baggage.” Anger about that event long ago still travels with us. Hurt from a difficult relationship seems always nearby. Internal struggles about money, time, and other resources are held onto. We need to pack lighter.

When we carry too much, we hinder our ability to receive. Our hands must be empty to embrace the joy of

*(Continued on page 10)*



Christ, to receive the love from our neighbors, friends and family.

Do you tend to over pack? What might you leave behind? What good things have you missed because you were clutching onto something else? What negativity do you need to release?

How will you make room for joy this Christmas?

Prayer: O God, grant me the strength and courage to carry less “baggage” this Christmas.

### MAKE ROOM FOR LOVE

*A voice is crying out:  
“Clear the  
Lord’s way in  
the desert!*

*Make a level  
highway in the wilderness for our God!  
Every valley will be raised up,  
and every mountain and hill will be flattened.  
Uneven ground will become level,  
and rough terrain a valley plain.*

*The Lord’s glory will appear,  
and all humanity will see it together;  
the Lord’s mouth has commanded it.” —Isaiah 40:3-5, CEB*

While preparing for Christmas, many of us move things around to make room.

The furniture is rearranged to make a place for the Christ-

mas tree. Knick-knacks on a hearth or living room table are cleared to accommodate [the Nativity set](#). Wall hangings are shuffled to provide a spot to display the Christmas cards we receive.

The contents of the pantry, refrigerator and freezer are consolidated so there will be room for ingredients and special Christmas food. We clean out the extra bedroom to offer our guests. We may even prune some trees in the yard and clean the gutters to make space for Christmas decorations.

Advent is a time when we are comfortable moving things around to make room in our homes for Christmas.

This makes sense. Christmas is about the birth of a child, and [every parent](#) knows what it is like to lovingly prepare their homes for the day the child arrives and changes their lives.

How will things be moved around in your home this Christmas? What needs to be rearranged in your life to make room for the Christ child? What changes will you make to carry Christ with you every day?

How will you make room for love this Christmas?

Prayer: O God, show me how I can share the hope, peace, joy and love of Christmas with others. Amen.

Taken from: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/make-room-for-christmas-advent-devotions>

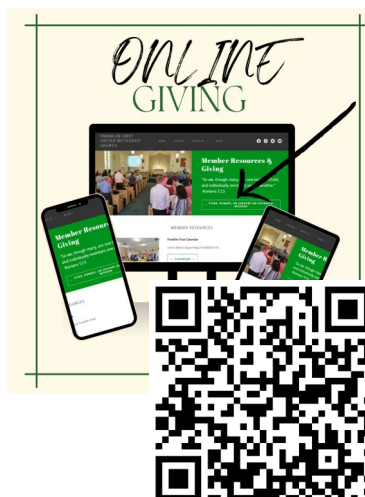


### Franklin First Online Giving

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/giving-%26-member-resources>



### Kroger Community Rewards

Have you checked the bottom of your Kroger’s Receipt? If it does not list our church as your designated Community Rewards Beneficiary, follow the instructions on the back and get signed up now! Please note our new church

number! You do not need to change your current account; this is for new sign-ups.

Go to:  
[www.krogers.com](http://www.krogers.com)

New account users:  
go to “Register”  
Create Account  
Or Sign-in  
Go to: Community –  
Community Rewards  
Click: Enroll now  
Church #: RK151



# Franklin First United Methodist Church

## 2025 Lay Leadership Ministry

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



### Church Council:

Church Council Chair	Mike Smith
Church Council Secretary	
Lay Leader	Mike Smith
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Tami Chamberlain
Lay Member of Annual Conference Alternate	Kim Chewning
Treasurer	Tami Chamberlain
Membership Secretary	Cheryl Cyphers
Financial Secretary	Theresa Fultz
Church Historian	Robert Bowman
Pastor	Laura Saunders

### Ministry Team Representatives:

Staff-Parish	Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
Finance	Paul Anderson
Endowment	Paul Anderson
Trustee Chairs	Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
Worship	Monica Rhude
Technology	Joe Chamberlain
Committee on Lay Leadership	Laura Saunders
Christian Education	Mike Smith, Rhonda Roberson
Missions & Outreach	Linda Smith, Karen Anderson
Care Team	Lee Saunders
Hospitality & Events	Carol Runyan
Welcoming Ministry	Dorothy Rayburg
Women's Circle	Monica Rhude
Member At Large	Kaylee Glossip
Member At Large	Amanda Leffew

### Staff-Parish Relations Committee:

Chair: Peggy Darragh-Jeromos	Lay Leader: Connie Bolinger
Terms expiring 2025	Cheryl Cyphers, Mishelle Dicken
Terms expiring 2026	Sue Fullen, Peggy Darragh-Jeromos, Pam Trout
Terms expiring 2027:	Sally Fitzgerald, Karen Anderson, Cindy Kuntzman

### Trustees: Co-Chairs: Jim Martin, Mike Runyan

Terms expiring 2025:	Cody Chilcutt, Mike Runyan, Connie Bolinger
Terms expiring 2026:	Gary Ogden, Joe Chamberlain, Joe Wright
Terms expiring 2027:	Jan Abell, Jim Martin, Trisha Dicken

### Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations):

Chair: Pastor Laura Saunders	Lay Leader: Connie Bolinger
Terms expiring 2025:	Kathy Martin, Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
Terms expiring 2026:	Sally Fitzgerald, Karen Anderson
Terms expiring 2027:	Barb Ogden, Charlotte Summer, Brian Graves

### Finance Committee: (By virtue of office.)

Chair	Paul Anderson
Treasurer:	Tami Chamberlain
Financial Secretary:	Theresa Fultz
Church Council Chair:	Mike Smith
Trustees Co-Chairs:	Jim Martin, Mike Runyan
Staff Parish Chair:	Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
Lay Leader:	Connie Bolinger
Lay Member of Annual Conference:	Tami Chamberlain
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	Connie Bolinger
Member at Large (Term: 2024-25)	Ken Smith
Member at Large (Term: 2025-26)	Jerry Truesdell
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:	Connie Bolinger
Pastor:	Laura Saunders

### Mission & Outreach Team:

Co-Chairs: Linda Smith, Karen Anderson  
Madelyn Lang, Karen Anderson, Tami Chamberlain, Marna Rogers, Sally Fitzgerald,

### Technology Team: Chair: Joe Chamberlain

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

### Christian Education Team:

Co-Chairs: Joe Wright (Adult) Rhonda Roberson (Children)  
Jan Truesdell, Rachel Chamberlain, Madelyn Lang, Carol Runyan, Mike Smith, Rhonda Roberson

### Care Team: Chair: Lee Saunders

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

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

- |             |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| December 1  | First Sunday of Advent            |
| December 8  | Blessing of the Nativities        |
| December 22 | Christmas Music Sunday            |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service |
| December 29 | Carol Sing, Worship Service       |



Franklin First United Methodist Church

303 South Main St.  
Franklin, OH 45005

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