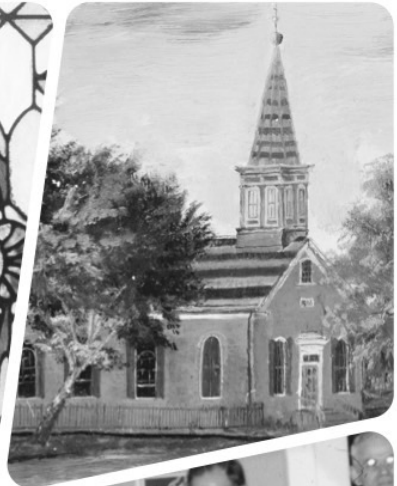


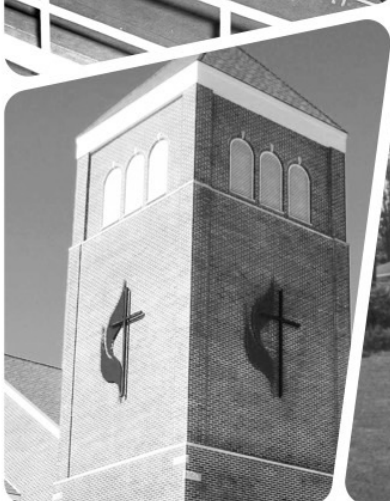
ROBINSON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • JULY 2021

THE HERALD

Listening to God's Heart from the heart of the city.



**175th Anniversary
1846 - 2021**



FIRST LEADS

As we begin a new appointment year, we look back at pastoral and congregational leadership, those whom our congregation has sent into ministry, and how our active lay leadership moves us into the future.

From the Pastor's Desk

Welcome to year eight of ministry together! In some ways, it seems like we've been together for decades, but when I think about the fact that we're celebrating 175 years of ministry in 2021, I'm very much aware that my time with you really hasn't been and won't be that long. I stand on the shoulders of some amazing men and women. Pastors come and go (in fact, the church history shows that the first pastor, L.C. English, served here in 1851, again from 1865-1868, and again from 1884-1886!), but our ministry and mission continues.

That's really the case for all of us, and our relationship to First United Methodist Church. Whether you've been here six months or 60 years, you're only a small part of a ministry that went on long before you came here, and (God willing) will continue long after you move on from here. We're part of a legacy, and we're also leaving a legacy for future generations of people who will come and be a part of this congregation.

We're all in this together! The ministry of the church depends on the work of the pastor and active laypersons who work together for our common mission, where we make disciples of Jesus Christ and share the love of God in word and in deed. When we focus on that mission, we will continue to do great things. I want to give thanks today for what has been, for what is, and what will be.

As I continue my dissertation work, it's been a blessing to look through the archives. And, over the rest of the summer, I will be developing questions to interview our previous living pastors) about their ministry and time here at First UMC. I look forward to hearing their stories, how they feel they fit into the continuum of ministry here, and their hopes for the future of our congregation.

In the meantime, our ministry continues! Our committees are hard at work planning celebrations for the 175th anniversary. We're putting things in place to move further toward a full reopening. We are the church now - today! It's time for all of us to lay aside our wants and preferences and come together for the sake of the church's mission and ministry, because our best days as a congregation are ahead of us.

I will see you in worship!



Pastor Jay

Rocky Railroad

All aboard for VBS! Robinson First United Methodist Church is offering Rocky Railroad with both in-person and Zoom options on July 12-16. It is open for students who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade. In-person space is limited, so be sure to sign up today! To sign your child up, contact the church office or find the form link at www.robinsonfumc.org/VBS.



Our Pastors and Leaders

Did you know that in the course of our 175 year history, First United Methodist Church has had 42 different pastors? The average tenure (based on those figures) has been four years, although the historical records indicate that in the early years, a pastor's ministry in a particular place lasted only 1-2 years. Our pastors have been L.C. English (three times), W.H. St. Clair (twice), John Glaze, William Grant, David Williamson, W.D. Marby, V.D. Linzenfetter, W. E. Ravenscroft, T.J. Massey, Silas Green, J.W. Field, VY. Johnson, J.W. Jackson, Josiah Harmon, C.A. Beckett, J. W. McNeil, F.M. Van Treese, J.H. Ford, J.D. Shadrack, M.H. Loar, L.S. McKown, J.S. Cummins, J.H. Cudlipp, P.R. Glotfelty, J.R. Slaten, J.G. Tucker, C.L. Lamp, O.E. Connett, H.G. Hurley, W.M. Brown, L.B. Walkington, Ernest Dycus, James Owens, Dale Harmon, Judson Souers, David Babb, Louis Youngs, James Barnett, Robert Foulk, Max Borah, Tiffany Black, and Jay Regennitter.

Did you know where pastors come from? They come from people in churches who hear God's call to ministry. First UMC has raised up the following pastors from among its people: Rev. Gene Matthews (as a missionary), Rev. Paul Baker, Rev. Preston Brown, Rev. Victor Ramsey, Rev. Norman Sloan, Rev. Marion Ford, Rev. Bob Lowry, Rev. Richard Boyd, Rev. John Davis, Rev. Kirk Galloway, Rev. Mildred Sloan, and Rev. Sherry Foote.

Of course, no church exists without laypersons who lead us. This year's leaders are:

- **Church Council:** Robert Quick (chair), Lori Treadway (lay delegate to annual conference), Pam Bell (alternate lay delegate to annual conference), Pam Cooper (at-large), Brennan Tracy (at-large), Lois Ulrey (at large), and all other committee chairpersons or representatives.
- **Staff-Parish Relations:** Justin Aydt (co-chair), Kaitlyn Kubiak (co-chair), Joyce Owen, Edna Frakes, Bob Bell, Becky Veenstra, Sharon Freeland, Kay Albin, Colby McGahey, Ken Mattsey (lay leader)
- **Finance:** Sue Roales (chair), Kirbie Ackman (financial secretary), Co Botterbusch (treasurer), Lois Ulrey, Lori Treadway (lay delegate), Ken Mattsey (lay leader), Robert Quick (church council), Phuong Quick, and representatives from SPRC and Trustees
- **Trustees:** Chris Midgett (co-chair), Ryan Kubiak (co-chair), Amy DeDoming, Matt Elliott, Sharon Miller, Jan Stuckey, Dave Freeland, Mike Bell, Dalton Davis
- **Lay Leadership:** Pastor Jay (chair), Kaye Damron, Janis Daugherty, Janet Clark, Madison Utterback, Daniel Boatman, David McGahey, Brenda Graham, Sandy Anderson, Nancy Berty, Ken Mattsey (lay leader)
- **Education:** Robin Davis (chair), Korie Schaefer, Melinda Harmon, Michele Elliott, Cash Veteto, Tomi Skaggs, Shirley Treadway, Tricia Anderson, Marcia Schmidlin
- **Outreach:** Jennifer Boatman (chair), Debbie Goff, Jeff Murrell, Amy Hartke, Katie Aydt, Lisa Hartrich, Nancy Mattsey, Erica List, Larry Quick
- **Worship:** Doug Finkbiner (chair), Antje Pippin, Jeanette Berty, Sheri McGahey, Yvonne Newlin, Liam Osborne, Madelyn Storckman, Donna Dart
- **Foundation:** Victoria McDonald (chair), Garrett Graham, Connie Calvert, Jason Sutfin, Gary Oxford, Ron Veenstra, Bonnie Wright

July Reopening Update

At our June church council meeting, reopening plans continued to be developed.

Regarding worship: We will continue to hold the 9:00 am service as-is, with masks required, and the 10:30 am service offered with masks only. We will be roping off further pews, but still encourage social distancing. Capacity limits for worship are lifted beginning July 4, and you will no longer need to register or have your temperature taken. If you feel ill, please stay home. The responsibility for reporting COVID and contacting those who may have been exposed now lies with the individual person. In accordance with CDC guidance, if you have not yet been vaccinated, you are encouraged to do so. Non-vaccinated persons are encouraged to wear a mask.

Regarding Sunday school: In the next couple of weeks, we will be installing additional equipment in Sunday school rooms to facilitate hybrid learning opportunities, since we still have people who will be participating remotely. Once the equipment is installed and we have secured all Sunday school teachers, we will be able to return to in-person Sunday school, and committee meetings will resume in a hybrid format. Please stay tuned to e-news for further updates regarding the timing of that portion of reopening.

Regarding other gatherings: if you are having meetings in the building or other gatherings, masks are not required, but please be aware of those who may still need to wear a mask, and social distance for their sakes

NOW Program

Summer Lunches will be in full swing this month! We will be back to both parks and will need plenty of help! Please use this link to sign up for a day this summer to hand out lunches, a very easy way to get involved! <https://signup.com/go/NaDfaDT>

On July 10th NOW will be a part of the United Way's FUNdraiser at Cross Street Station. The event will run from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm and our table will be a bake sale! It will be a free will donation event. If anyone is interested in donating some baked goods that can be individually wrapped please let Kirbie know or bring them to the church before noon on Friday, July 9th. NOW gets to keep any of the funds raised and with the shopping day right around the corner we will need all the help we can get!

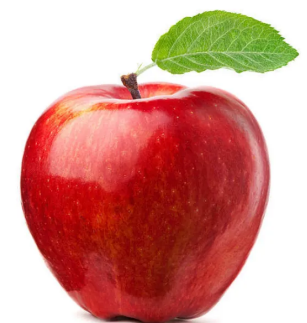
The Back to School Shopping Day is only a month away! We are in need of volunteers to help set up the shopping day and for the shopping day itself!

Shopping Day Set Up: Thursday, August 12th starting at 8:00 am and going until done!

Back to School Shopping Day: Friday, August 13th, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If you would like to volunteer please let Kirbie know!

The Just-One Item this month will be school supplies for the Shopping Day. We are in desperate need of composition notebooks, one subject notebooks and loose leaf paper. If you would like to donate please drop them in the box right outside the church office.



Care News from Stephen Ministry

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. -Acts 6: 8

What do we, the people of The United Methodist Church, believe about leadership?

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership

The gift of leadership is a visionary, and forward looking gift that enables people to stay focused on where God might be leading us as individuals, congregations, and communities at any given time. Leaders look more to where we are going rather than where we currently are, or where we have been. Leaders motivate others to work together in ways that help them achieve more together than any could on their own. Leaders provide examples of how we should order our lives to honor and glorify God.

Who are Stephen Leaders?

Stephen Leaders are lay people, church staff, and pastors of all ages and from diverse backgrounds who share a common passion: bringing Christ's love and care to hurting people. They use their gifts of teaching, leadership, organization, and administration to help make Stephen Ministry happen. Stephen Leaders recruit, train, lead, and support Stephen Ministers—lay caregivers who use their gifts of empathy, listening, mercy, and service to provide one-to-one, distinctively Christian care to people experiencing life difficulties. You do not need to be trained as a Stephen Minister to serve as a Stephen Leader. The steps to becoming a Stephen Leader are to attend the Bridge Leader's Training Course and then be commissioned by your congregation.

What do Stephen Leaders do?

Stephen Leaders work as a team to implement Stephen Ministry by carrying out these tasks:

- Planning and administering—overseeing and managing the system that will keep Stephen Ministry running smoothly and going strong in the congregation.
- Publicizing, educating, and casting a vision for Stephen Ministry inside and outside the congregation.
- Recruiting, selecting, and training Stephen Ministers—identifying and equipping congregation members to serve effectively as lay caregivers.
- Identifying care receivers and matching them with Stephen Ministers for one-to-one caring relationships.
- Coordinating Small Group Peer Supervision to ensure Stephen Ministers receive the ongoing support they need.
- Leading continuing education to help Stephen Ministers keep honing their skills and growing as caregivers.



Who are the Stephen Leaders at Robinson FUMC?

The Stephen Leaders at Robinson FUMC are Pastor Jay Regennitter, Janis Daugherty, Janelle Oxford, and Marcia Schmidlin. They completed their training in Orlando, Florida in June 2019.

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. -Galatians 6:2

Currently there are over 75,000 Stephen Leaders worldwide who have trained over 600,000 Stephen Ministers in 13,000 congregations.

Sources: <https://www.umc.org/en/what-we-believe> www.stephenministries.org

Thank You!

I'd like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers. I am doing just fine!
God bless each one of you,
- Mary Etta Whitmer

July Birthdays

7/1	Jeanette Berty, Pam Cooper
7/3	Dave Freeland, Jeremy Markello, Sheri McGahey
7/5	Roy Schlosser
7/6	Kellen Fuller
7/7	Hunter Murret
7/10	Jay Regennitter, Ruth Boatman, Tom Cooper
7/11	Tricia Anderson
7/14	Izabella Hays
7/16	Brandon Harmon
7/19	Lea Ann Alberda, Monroe Nethery
7/20	Barbara Ross, Kollin Ramos
7/21	Lou Bonnell
7/24	Annika List, Mikayla Hardiman
7/25	Cash Veteto
7/26	Jack Wright
7/27	William Damron, Linda Null
7/29	Chris Freeland, Audra Bell
7/31	Jay Anderson, Ben Ackman

July Anniversaries

7/4	Jack & Nina Davis Libbi & Dan Fearday
7/6	Jay & Alice Holtzhouser Valerie & Brian Weck
7/7	Gary & Janelle Oxford
7/15	Jeff & Sherri Murrell
7/17	David & Sheri McGahey
7/21	Rich & Leavone Johnson

Prayer Requests

Jeremy Markello; Carol Wolf; Carl Blanton; Michael Brady; Cathy Thomas; Judson Richardson; Julie Zhang; Bill Thompson; Michael Keene; John Larrabee; Nicole Young; Evan Prah; Richard Youngs; Kay Young; Nancy & Charlie Young; Vonnetta Shipman; Becky Goodwin; Caius Bell; Ray & Nelda Dotson; Kim Collins; Claudette Mejean; Ava Seaney; Demmie Long; Emma Bodine; Charles Hough; Sheltyn James Henry; Rick Pritchard; Laurie Vaughn; Kay Bonnell; Wally Leggit; Cathy Frakes, Judy Eckert; Lisa Schaefer; Matthew Williams; Bob Callier; Larry Potts; Patricia Hodgson; Pamela Hart; June Watson; Paul Davis; Kathy Kennedy; Tina Klender; Paul Clinton; Duane Parker; Ruth Fiscus; Charlie & Janet Clark; Jan Riker; Carolyn Leggett; Dustin Ikemire; Robin Bray; Greg Faylor; Susan Rodgers; Melinda Ashby; Brad Smith; Floyd Brinkman; Leah Buser; Kamillah Rollins; Cuma Barnett; Donna Ferry; Rachel Tracy; Janice Woods; Carl Janney; Garnet Van Horn; Lou Bonnell; Cathy Devalle; John Youngs; Laddie Storckman; Heather Karbach; Steve Diel; Ford Bond; Mike Bell; Dan Davis; Gary Null; Dion Wright; Nay Owens; Teagan Eastridge; Hart Odom; Jennifer Newlin; Stacy Baize; Marsha Strader; Kirtina Carter; Andrea Tully

Employee of the Month

SPRC has named Jennifer Boatman to be the Employee of the Month for July. Congratulations, Jennifer!



July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches Office Closed 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7:30 am - Grand Sweep Class (Zoom) 9:00 am - Worship (In-Person with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (In-Person, Mask Optional) - Sunday school (Zoom)	Office Closed 10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm - Holy Fire Study	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	Office Closed 10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches Office Closed 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches Office Closed 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	8:00 am - FUNdraiser at Cross Street Station
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
7:30 am - Grand Sweep Class (Zoom) 9:00 am - Worship (In-Person with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (In-Person, Mask Optional) - Sunday School (Zoom) 4:30 pm - Stephen Leaders (Zoom)	9:00 am - VBS Rocky Railroad 10:30 am - Now Summer Lunches 2:00 pm - VBS Rocky Railroad	9:00 am - VBS Rocky Railroad 10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 2:00 pm - VBS Rocky Railroad 6:30 pm - Holy Fire Study	9:00 am - VBS Rocky Railroad 10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 2:00 pm - VBS Rocky Railroad 6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry Meeting	9:00 am - VBS Rocky Railroad 10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 2:00 pm - VBS Rocky Railroad	9:00 am - VBS Rocky Railroad 10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 2:00 pm - VBS Rocky Railroad	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
7:30 am - Grand Sweep Class (Zoom) 9:00 am - Worship (In-Person with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (In-Person, Mask Optional) - Sunday School (Zoom)	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm - Holy Fire Study	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
7:30 am - Grand Sweep class (Zoom) 9:00 am - Worship (In-Person with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio) 10:30 am - Worship (In-Person, Mask Optional) - Sunday School (Zoom)	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm - Holy Fire Study	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry Meeting (Zoom)	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	10:30 am - NOW Summer Lunches	

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Jay Regennitter

Office Manager: Kirbie Ackman

Director of Christian Education: Nina Davis

Communications Coordinator: Brennan Seth Tracy

Music Director: Antje Pippin

Organist/Pianist: Brenda Graham

Custodians: Amy DeDoming, Mark DeDoming

Nursery Staff: Jennifer Boatman, Anita Cohoon,

Marnie Inboden, Jordyn Weger

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