

Robinson FUMC

October 2026

THE HERALD



THE PASTOR'S PEN: Wild Ducks



Soren Kierkegaard, the Danish theologian & philosopher, told this parable, which he called "The Wild Duck of Denmark;

A wild duck was flying northward with his mates across Europe during the springtime. En route, he happened to land in a barnyard in Denmark, where he quickly made friends with the tame ducks that lived there. The wild duck enjoyed the corn and fresh water. He decided to stay for an hour, then for a day, then for a week, and finally, for a month.

At the end of that time, he contemplated flying to join his friends in the vast North land, but he had begun to enjoy the safety of the barnyard, and the tame ducks had made him feel so welcome. So he stayed for the summer.

One autumn day, when his wild mates were flying south, he heard their quacking. It stirred him with delight, and he enthusiastically flapped his wings and rose into the air to join them. Much to his dismay, he found that he could rise no higher than the eaves of



the barn. As he waddled back to the safety of the barnyard, he muttered to himself, "I'm satisfied here, I have plenty of food, and the area is good. Why should I leave?" So, he spent the winter on the farm.

In the spring, when the wild ducks flew overhead again, he felt a strange stirring within his breast, but he did not even try to fly up to meet them. When they returned in the fall, they again invited him to rejoin them, but this time, the duck did not even notice them. There was no stirring within his breast. He simply kept on eating corn which made him fat.

As we can see from our friend the wild duck complacency tends to have negative results. Our church in recent months has begun to soar on the winds in which God has supplied. We have a choice to continue to soar into heights that we have never experienced or have long been forgotten and experience God's plan for Robinson First. I encourage you to become an active part of the various ministries, nurture and outreach events allowing the winds to direct you. Is every program, outreach event, and ministry for everyone, no but you will never know how high you can soar till you spread out your wings. My prayers for each of us that we do not become complacent in our faith or our devotions to the kingdom of God and still possess the ability to soar as God has intended.

See you in Church
or on the winds of the Spirit,

Pastor T



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What's Happening at Robinson FUMC?

STEWARDSHIP

Bible Verse of the Month

The following verse is for October:

Acts 20: 35:

"It is more blessed to give than receive."

The Apostle Paul quoted Jesus in this verse as he spoke to the church leaders in Ephesus. In the verse, Jesus flips the idea that happiness comes from accumulating success and wealth, indicating that generously sharing our resources brings a deeper, more spiritual kind of joy.

Thank you for all you do!!

Finance Team

Second Wednesday Dinner

Breakfast/Brunch:

"A Delicious Feast"

Hosted by your

Stephen Ministry Team

October 14, 2026

5:30 PM

Trivia Night Postponed

Bible Trivia Night, originally scheduled for October 2nd, has been postponed! We will update you with the new date soon!



A HUGE Thank You to Shirley!

We would like to give a **HUGE "Thank You" to Shirley Treadway** for faithfully serving as our prayer chain coordinator for many years. We are so grateful for the time, care, and dedication she has given to this ministry!

Shirley has decided that it is time to step away from this position. Moving forward, **Kirbie and the church office** will be coordinating the prayer chain.

We are currently in the process of updating and revamping our prayer chain list, including making sure we have current email addresses.

If you would like to receive **urgent prayer notifications**, please reach out to Kirbie in the church office. All you need to do is send a quick email letting us know that you would like to be included.

We promise you will only receive **urgent prayer requests**—we will not overwhelm your inbox!

Thank you again to Shirley for her many years of faithful service and thank you to everyone who helps us continue to lift one another up in prayer. ❤️

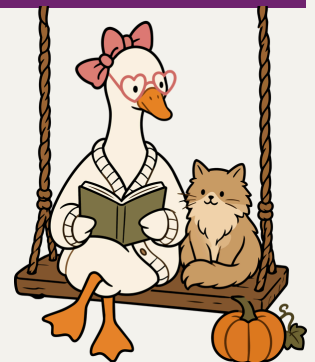
NOW PROGRAM

The Just One Item for October is Shampoo. Donations can be dropped off in the box outside the church office.

TRICK OR TREAT

It's October, so that means Trick or Treat is less than a month away! No need to panic, we've still got time. HOWEVER, we still need a bunch of volunteers to help make it another awesome event for the 600+ kids that come through!

There's a job for everyone! Planning, decorating, cooking, floating, counting, financial support... Want to know how you can help, or want to join the planning team? Call Jennifer at 618 843 0908. Also, sign-up sheets are in the Narthex!



SOMETHING TO ADD NEXT MONTH? EMAIL FIRSTUMCROB.COMMS@GMAIL.COM

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Care News from Stephen Ministry



Decades of Care Through Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers look for ways to expand their knowledge for providing care. Therefore, continuing education is a vital part of Stephen Ministry. The Stephen Ministers and Leaders learn and grow in their Stephen Ministry roles by participating in a variety of continuing education opportunities including: online educational presentations provided by Stephen Ministry, participating in book studies, meeting regularly with our church's Stephen Ministry team, and seeking out and learning from other ministries in our community. Collaboration with external organizations allows for Stephen Ministry to extend care into the wide community.

The Stephen Ministers met in Septembert with Tabitha Collier, a representative with Crawford County Cares. Tabitha shared the many ways the ministry helps members of our community. Crawford County Cares is continuously growing and expanding the services it provides. Stephen Ministers offered ways that their ministry may benefit Crawford County Cares.

Stephen Minister Mick Laflin will provide the October continuing education program, hospice/palliative care. He is the Chaplain for the Good Samaritan Hospice in Vincennes, Indiana. We know he is passionate about hospice care, and we look forward to learning more about the care provided.

If you would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry, request a Stephen Minister, or want to just have a chat, please contact Marcia Schmidlin, (618 553-2710). Your Stephen Ministers are here for you when you need kind and compassionate care.

Odds & Ends

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/1 Ka Su Kelly
10/4 Sabra Adams,
Maezie Fearday
10/6 Robert Quick
10/7 Rich Johnson
10/8 Ana Veenstra
10/10 Evelyn Salhani
10/11 David Anderson
10/13 Leavone Johnson,
Victoria McMillan
10/16 Jason Hartke,
Allysa Sibley
10/18 Olivia Brinkman
10/19 Colby McGahey,
Calvin Turner
10/21 Allen Lowry, Lindy Evans
10/27 Sydney Harmon
10/30 Julie Wilson,
Donovan Townsend

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

10/2 Gary & Susan Rodgers
10/7 Bill & Kaye Damron,
10/10 Ryan & Kaitlyn Kubiak
Daniel & Jennifer Boatman
10/21 Jack & Edna Frakes
10/27 John & Marcia
Schmidlin

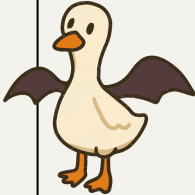
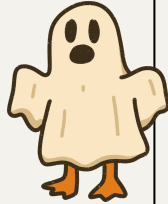
PRAYER REQUESTS

Hazel DeDoming; Nancy Holley; Miranda Bedwell; Brenna Aydt; Jon Anderson; Mary Kindt; Sherell Oxford; Jack Frakes; Pat Campbell; Tyler Wortham; David Anderson; Floyd Brinkman; Charlie Ferguson; Kevin Bradbury; Roxann Hermanson, Larry Quick, Lincoln Curry; Ivy Lee; Margo Rager; Cindy Wease; Ebony Williams; Michael Wilkerson; Cheryl Coyne; Susan Sills and family; Art Hall; Colton Allen; Jackie McDonald

To add or remove anyone from the Prayer List or Birthday/Anniversary lists, please contact the church office.



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	2 	3 8:00 am • 5K Your Way 9:00 am • Heath Harvest Festival 1:30 pm • Festival Parade
4 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	5 6:00 pm • Lay Leadership Meeting	6 6:00 pm • Outreach Meeting	7 	8 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	9	10 
11 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School Pastor Appreciation Day	12 OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 pm • SPRC Meeting	13 	14 5:30 pm • Second Wednesday Dinner 6:00 pm • Stephen Ministry	15 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	16 	17
18 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School 2:00 pm • Charge Conference	19 6:00 pm • Finance Meeting 	20 5:00 pm • Nurture Meeting	21 11:00 am • Circle of Love 6:00 pm • Education Meeting • Trustees Meetings 7:00 pm • Church Council Meeting	22 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	23	24 
25 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	26 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	27 	28 6:00 pm • Stephen Ministry	29 9:00 am • CHEW	30 5:30 pm • TRICK OR TREAT	31 