

Robinson FUMC

THE HERALD

June 2026

THE PASTOR'S PEN: The Coffee Bean

Recently a good friend shared a book with me entitled "The Coffee Bean" written by Damon West. The story is a true account of the author's life. West had been a standout athlete in college, but the results of some poor decisions found himself facing a life sentence in prison.

As West entered the prison for the very first-time fear replaced the air within his lungs. He was new to this life and his only knowledge of prison was from movies and magazine articles. After the initial processing and acclimating to his new surroundings West was sent to his permanent cell to begin his life sentence. This is where he encountered his cell mate who would transform his life.

His cellmate asked West to share his story. He then laid back on the bunk and told West that he had three options during his time in in prison. He stated that you can be a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean.



He instructed West that a carrot starts out being pulled from its environment as firm and rigid. But when you place the carrot into hot water what will happen, he inquired? It becomes soft and easily is broken, West replied.

The cellmate than stated that eggs are soft and easily broken from the beginning. He then asked, "what happens when you place the egg into hot water? West again replied, how the egg becomes hard and not easily broken.

West cellmate then asked about the coffee bean. He stated that the coffee bean has a hard exterior but when you place the bean into the hot water what do you have? West stated, "You have coffee." His cellmate replied, "the bean transforms the hot water into something better." "The other two were transformed by their surroundings, but the bean transformed the surroundings."

As we, the church, move forward into the summer months let us all try to be the coffee beans in our area. Let us transform the environment around us by enriching the lives of all of God's people. As the waters of the church have been heated in the past several years, allow that heat to motivate the need to experience greater dreams, stronger connections, and positivity as we continue to serve Jesus Christ.

See you in church,
Pastor Terry



CONTACT PASTOR TERRY AT ROBINSONFUMCPASTOR@GMAIL.COM

www.robinsolfumc.org • 201 W. Walnut St. Robinson, IL • (618) 544-8016

What's Happening at Robinson FUMC?

What art can you offer in praise and thanksgiving to God?

Each week we have an opportunity to hear from you, Gods people, about how God is working in your life and in inspiring you to spread his message. The offering from the arts is not just a chance to take part in Christian Karaoke. If you can sing, dance, sign, play in instrument, recite poetry or have any other God gifted talents, we would love to see how they can help us all grow closer to God. If you need help finding a way to share please reach out to myself or one of the many talented people we have in our congregation for help. We are strong when we are united and I know of few things that unite us faster than raising our voices in praise.

Thanks,
Daniel Boatman

Stewardship: Bible Verse of the Month

The verse for June is:
1 Peter 4:10

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in the various forms.

The verse covers our three God-given resources of time, talents, and treasure. Your commitment to sharing these resources is answering God's call to support and hopefully, expand His Kingdom in our church, in our community and in the world.

Thank you for all you do!!
Finance Team

Card Shower

Please help us celebrate Shirley Treadway's birthday by sending her a card. She will be turning 85 on June 16. Cards may be sent to:

Shirley Treadway
1609 W. Walnut St.
Robinson, IL 62454



Robinson First United Methodist Church
VBS 2026

SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH - THURSDAY, JUNE 11TH

FREE for the whole family!
Dinner at 5:30 pm
Kids' VBS Program
& Adult Bible Study at 6:00 pm

SIGN UP TODAY AT
WWW.ROBINSONFUMC.ORG/VBS

RAINFOREST FALLS
Exploring the Nature of God

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

www.robsonfumc.org • 201 W. Walnut St. Robinson, IL • (618) 544-8016

CREW Corner

Soccer, softball, and graduations..... OH MY!!

Spring going into summer seems to always be a very busy time in life for everyone. The weather warms up allowing for those outdoor activities and sports to begin. Vacations start and the campers come out of storage. While the numbers for the weekly CREW evenings have been a little lighter than through the cooler months, the kids and I have definitely stayed busy with fellowship and activities not limited to the walls of the church. I am a firm believer that while attending church in the building is important, it is more important to follow the example of Jesus out in the world. Christianity is a way of life and putting a time clock on it for only Sunday mornings inside a specific building defeats the entire premise. Our Lord is in everything that we do, everyone that we interact with, and how we portray ourselves to the world. We have an extremely great youth following developing, and to see them out of the church walls and being active in the community is a very rewarding opportunity. We have youth that play tennis at the high school level. We have many youth who run track, both at the middle school level and the high school level. We have several that play soccer. Additionally, softball and baseball have both started for the summer and have made my calendar look very full. Graduations have happened at all levels and their futures look promising.

Being able to bring ministry to these events has shown me how simple acts can make such a huge difference in someone's life. I had a graduate at one level specifically text me to see if we were coming to the graduation ceremony. This particular person has had some things happen in their life where a bad decision or 2 could have easily derailed their path. Through the CREW program they were able to see that there are people who care about them. One particular softball game that we attended had many from our younger age group on the same team. As I was walking up to the stands to visit with some of their parents, I had the entire outfield stop, wave, and yell to the other players that I was there. Little moments like that make the planning, the cleaning up, and the many hours spent with and for our youth well worth it.

I want to take a moment to discuss our developing high school program as well. While getting consistent numbers will take more time, I have had several that come on a regular basis. I am enjoying the opportunity to get to know them more and more every time that we get together. I was able to attend their graduation and many of their parties. The evenings with them lately have been as much about overall fellowship and simply being there for one another. I am seeing new friendships develop. We have been spending some time in the kitchen, a simple yet rewarding act of making food together can bring closeness everyone craves. Lots of laughter has been occurring while making edible cookie dough, brownies, and many other items to come. We have been starting to get into some more difficult subjects during our discussions, and everyone wins when discussions are open. Recently my high schoolers have begun to help with our younger age CREW, and I found some of the results remarkable. One such evening I had one of the older high school girls lead the class with all middle school girls. I had finished with my group and went to check on her and her group. When I tell you that I have never heard these girls so quiet, I mean it. They had gotten into a serious discussion about mental health and the importance of taking care of oneself. I left the room so as to not interrupt the true fellowship and guidance that was being passed out. I kept all the others out of their room until they came out, which was well after everyone else was done, and even after the snack was prepared and done. If you know kids, then you know that it must have been meaningful for them to skip the food in lieu of lesson time. I left that evening feeling like differences were made, new friendships were made, and old friendships grew stronger.

As always, I truly appreciate the support that we have been receiving. I still get asked how people can help with the mission. Sometimes just being around and praising the kids and the program can help. There are times where I walk into the kitchen at the church and randomly there are snacks laying there with CREW listed on them. Candy, snacks, drinks, and even fruit are rarely not put to good use. Now, with the high schoolers enjoying cooking and baking so much, brownie mixes, cookie mixes, and other such items would be amazing. I have had several people say that they aren't sure what to get, or don't have the time, etc. I have honestly found from a planning standpoint, it's almost easier to simply have an extra tithing given from the heart that goes straight to youth development and fellowship. Simple things like these allow for some barriers to be broken down while building new foundations for the future. I am very grateful for our church family and continue to look forward to the future and the possibilities that arise.

Brandon Harmon

Care News from Stephen Ministry



Christ caring for people through people

**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

June 2026-

Find Joy in the Simple Things

So I commend enjoyment because there's nothing better for people to do under the sun but to eat, drink, and be glad. This is what will accompany them in their hard work, during the lifetime that God gives under the sun.

- Ecclesiastes 8:15

It's June! When you Google "What word describes the month of June?", the response is overwhelmingly "Radiant".

It's radiant for numerous reasons: school's out, the weather is warmer, flowers are in bloom, garden produce is available, festivals abound, swimming pools are open, softball and baseball games are in full swing, and hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill are yummy. June is terrific!

Consider this as an invitation to go out and find joy in the simple things. Take a second to recognize the vibrant flowers in a neighbor's yard. Smile at the child enjoying a popsicle. Slow down to follow the butterflies gracefully gliding in the breeze. Go to a farmer's market. Take a lawn chair to the park to watch a ballgame. Read a book outside. Text or phone a friend to share your precious moment of the day. Purposefully look for radiance in the simple things.

Let's find joy in the beauty of what God has given us.

If you are going through a difficult time and would like someone to talk with on a regular basis, please contact Janelle Oxford, (618 553-9598) or Marcia Schmidlin, (618 553-2710). Stephen Ministers are available to provide Christian Care.



**NOW PROGRAM CLOTHING
CLEAR OUT**

SALE

**JUNE 20TH
9AM - 12PM**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
201 W WALNUT ST - ROBINSON

FREE WILL DONATION -
TAKE WHAT YOU NEED,
GIVE WHAT YOU CAN

Odds & Ends

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/2 Debbie Goff
6/3 Jon Anderson
6/5 Sharon Miller
6/6 Katie Woods
6/7 Marnie Inboden
6/9 Chloe Kubiak
6/10 Brennan Tracy
6/15 Larry Bonnell,
Becky McNary
6/16 Susan Neely,
Shirley Treadway
6/17 Janis Daugherty
6/20 Tyler Veenstra
6/21 Steve Diel
6/23 Alice Taylor
6/25 David McGahey
6/29 Edna Frakes

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

6/3 Tricia & Jay Anderson,
Allison & Rusty Reinoehl
Heidi & Andy Wright
6/13 Greg & Janis Daugherty
6/20 Chris & Emily Midgett
6/21 Kirbie & Ben Ackman
6/22 Mike & Laurie Kubiak
6/27 Bob & Antje Pippin
6/28 Leonard & Debbie Goff

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Holley; Hazel DeDoming; Luke Campbell; Letha Stanford;
Bonnie Smith; Michelle Hall; Doreen Elmore; Mike Brady; Les
Thurston; Jeffery Roche; Brian Frost; Brad Salhani; Donna Beabout;
Ivy Lee Murray; Ron Legg; Miranda Bedwell; Brenna Ayd; Jon
Anderson; Louie Ferguson; Addie Hastings; Mary Ann Kidwell;
Keegan Pigati; Anne Tarran; Tanya Gullet; Tyler Wortheam;
Raymond Reynolds; Art Hall; Adam White; Tracy Jones; Mary
Kindt; Stephanie Batman; Mattie Davis; Dawn Keeton; Judy Rice;
Otie Tuttle; Rachel Tracy; Melinda Wehrle; Connie Carter; Ben
Ackman; Cooper Loll; Dewey Thurman; Barb Ross; Amy DeDoming;
Dorcas Sills; Kate Taylor and Family; Olivia Brinkman

NOW Program
Summer Lunches

TUESDAY, JUNE 2ND - THURSDAY, AUGUST 6TH
DAYS VARY DEPENDING ON TOWN
CHECK BELOW

.....

NOW Summer Lunches are free to Crawford County students, Pre-K -12th.

Robinson : Tuesday- Thursday, 10:30-11:30am
Robinson City Park & Harmony Park

Flat Rock: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30-11:30 am
Flat Rock Community Center

Oblong: Tuesday & Wednesday, 10:30 -11:30 am
Oblong Park

Palestine: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 am - 11:30 am
Palestine Red Pavilion

.....

Contact Kirbie with questions or volunteer opportunities!

FACEBOOK.COM/NOWPROGRAM

WE ARE ALWAYS NEEDING VOLUNTEERS! CONTACT KIRBIE TO GET INVOLVED!

www.robinsonfumc.org • 201 W. Walnut St. Robinson, IL • (618) 544-8016

June 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00 pm • Outreach Meeting	2 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	3 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 6:00 pm • Lay Leadership Meeting	4 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 1:00 pm • Office Closing	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6 9:00 am • Laundry Day • Library 50 th Anniversary Celebration
7 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School 5:30 pm • VBS	8 5:30 pm • VBS	9 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm • VBS	10 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm • VBS 6:00 pm • Stephen Ministry	11 9:00 am • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm • VBS	12 6:00 pm • Pool Party: CCRC	13
14 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	15 6:00 pm • Finance Meeting	16 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	17 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 11:30 am • Circle of Love 6:00 pm • Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm • Church Council	18 9:00 am • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	19 OFFICE CLOSED 	20 9:00 am • NOW Cleanout Sale
21 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School 	22	23 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	24 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 6:00 pm • Stephen Ministry	25 9:00 am • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	26	27
28 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	29	30 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches				