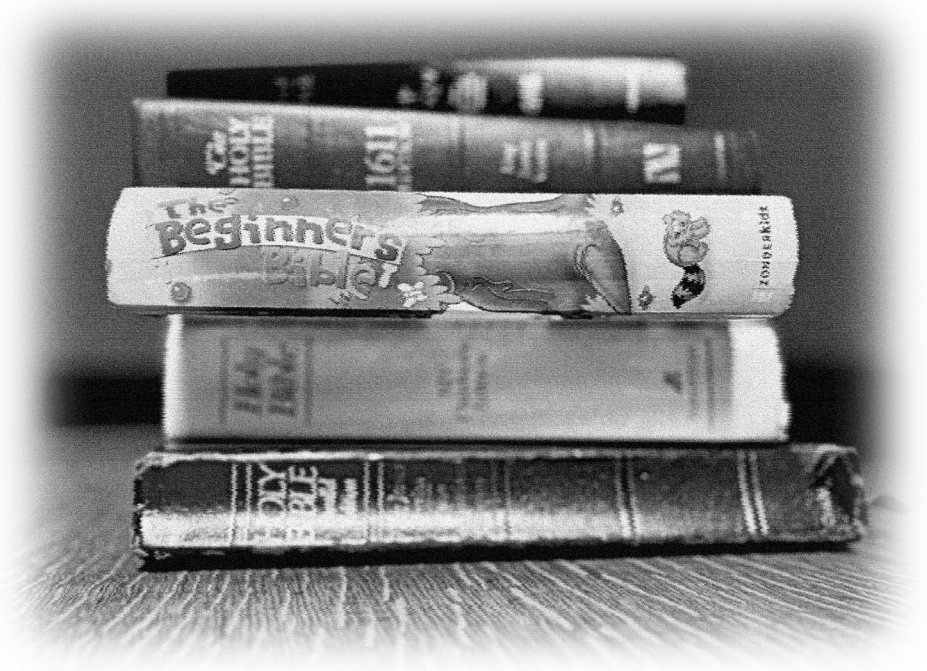


FRANKLIN UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

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Stories of Faith  
**The Lost Sheep**

Sunday August 25, 2024

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82 West Central Street, Franklin, MA  
508-528-1092

[franklinumc.org](http://franklinumc.org)  
[office@franklinumc.org](mailto:office@franklinumc.org)

# WELCOME TO FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

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This service of worship is gathering in-person at the church building, in-person via Google Meet, and streaming on YouTube.

This worship aid, or “bulletin,” will guide you through this service, offering you a brief outline and instructions for the service along with the responses, prayers, and lyrics to the songs we will sing together. Congregational responses are typically **bolded**.

Prayer requests can be made by filling out the offering form enclosed with the print bulletins, or by going to **[franklinumc.org/pray](http://franklinumc.org/pray)**. Confidential requests will be sent to the pastor. Non-confidential requests will be distributed to the Prayer Team.

Financial contributions can be made in the offering plate (cash or check made payable to “Franklin United Methodist Church”) or online by going to **[franklinumc.org/give](http://franklinumc.org/give)**.

To learn about ways you can volunteer, and sign up, go to **[franklinumc.org/volunteer](http://franklinumc.org/volunteer)**. You can also sign up to volunteer by filling out the offering form enclosed with the print bulletins. All persons who sign up to volunteer will receive an email confirmation of your volunteer registration.

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## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

God desires not that one single person be lost to their own brokenness.

**God comes to us to dwell with us that we might find healing and life.**

And to those beyond our walls, God continues to call.

**God's love knows no bounds. It reaches out to all, calling us all home.**

## SONG

## “SOFTLY AND TENDERLY”

No. 348, *UMH* (1989)

1.

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me;  
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

Come home, come home;  
you who are weary come home;  
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, O sinner, come home!

2.

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
mercies for you and for me?  
[Refrain]

3.

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,  
passing from you and from me;  
shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming,  
coming for you and for me.  
[Refrain]

4.

O for the wonderful love he has promised,  
promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
pardon for you and for me.  
[Refrain]

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **SILENT PRAYER**

### **COLLECT**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

### **“THE LOST SHEEP”**

*The Beginner's Bible (Zondervan, 2005)*

### **REFLECTION**

### **SONG**

### **“THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS”**

No. 138, *UMH* (1989)

1.

The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never.  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
and he is mine forever.

2.

Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth;  
and where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.

3.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me;  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

5.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6.

And so through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

## OFFERING

## DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## PRAYER

## SONG

## “COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING”

No. 400, *UMH* (1989)

1.

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of thy redeeming love.

2.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

3.

O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
seal it for thy courts above.

## SENDING

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## POSTLUDE

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

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We hope that you found, in our community, a place to experience meaningful relationship with God, grow in Christ, and reach out in love to others. We hope that this community has been a place where you feel welcome, acceptance, and love. If you have questions about the church, or are interested in becoming a member of the church, please feel free to contact any of the leaders listed below.

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## **franklinumc.org**

Franklin United Methodist Church  
PO Box 313  
82 W. Central Street  
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Paul Seaver, Custodian  
Linda Zardeskas, Chair of Church Council  
George Remus, Lay Leader & Treasurer  
Dawn Harlow, Financial Secretary  
Dawn Pokorny, Lay Member to Annual Conference  
Allen Smith, Chair of Personnel Committee  
John Milot, Chair of Resource Committee  
Inger Anderson, Chair of Committee on Ministry

# UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

## AUGUST COLLECTION

This month's Food Pantry collection is salad dressing. At the end of the month all items will be brought over to the Franklin Food Pantry.

## NEW STUDY/SMALL GROUP SERIES || UPWARD!

We will be starting a new study and small group discussion series on Sunday, September 8 at 8:45 am entitled *Upward!* based on the book by Steve Harper and Paul Chilcote. [\*Upward! : Wesleyan Formation in Three Movements\*](#) is an accessible primer on the Wesleyan way. It covers the theology, practices, habits, and attitudes that characterize the Methodist people. This study and small group discussion/gathering is an invitation to a life of wisdom and wonder in our world. It is appropriate for persons exploring their faith. It is also suitable for those interested in deepening their understanding of Methodism. We will meet in person in the chapel space off the sanctuary and via Google Meet. This group will be led by Pastor Jacob and will meet for 12 weeks. The exact schedule of Sundays will be determined by the group. Participants are encouraged to purchase their own book. You can buy the book through Cokesbury or your favorite book distributor. If you have questions please contact Pastor Jacob.

## COMMUNITY CLOSET VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteering is a great way to meet others (both those who are volunteering and those who are shopping). *Please note: volunteers must be able to navigate stairs as the Community Closet is in the old balcony of the church.* You can signup to volunteer at [franklinumc.org/volunteer](http://franklinumc.org/volunteer).

**The first and third Tuesdays are OPEN SHOPPING DAYS.**

**The second and fourth Tuesday is a day to SORT ONLY.** *The Community Closet will not be open for shopping on these days.*

If you would like to sign up a group to volunteer, outside the listed times, please contact Pastor Jacob at [jacob@franklinumc.org](mailto:jacob@franklinumc.org).

## BOOK CLUB

This month we will be reading "Go As a River" by Shelley Read . The next meeting will be on **September 17 at 7pm**. The group will meet in a hybrid format, at Linda's home for those who would like to meet in person, or online (<https://meet.goto.com/richp/churchbookclub>), or by phone (224-501-3412, access code is 789-141-869).