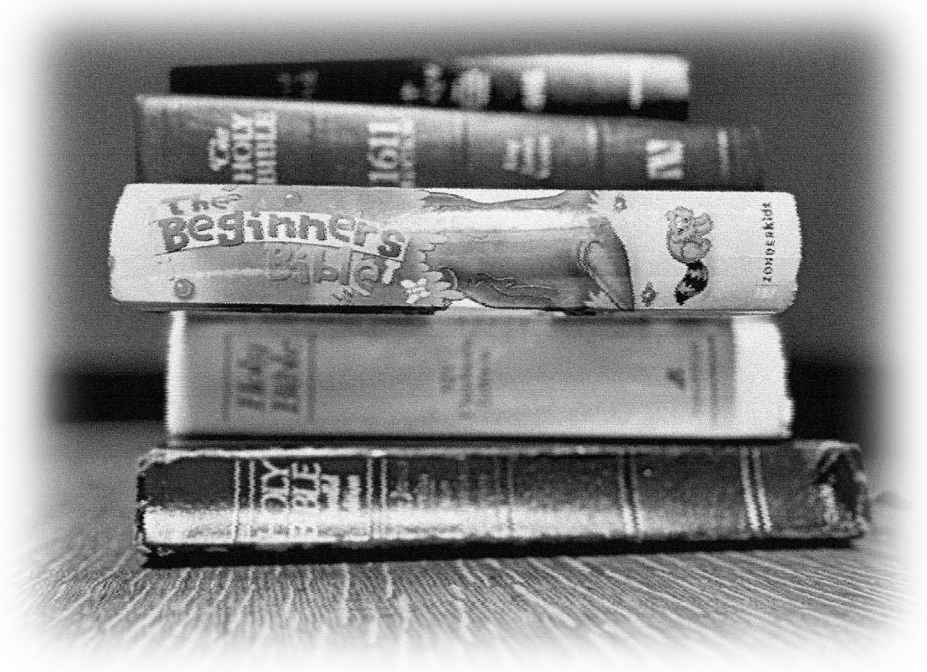


# FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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## Stories of Faith Fiery Furnace

July 6, 2025

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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**. 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**.

To learn about ways you can volunteer, and sign up, go to **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

What God do you worship?

**We worship the Lord our God—Creator of heaven and earth, Redeemer of all, Sustainer of life.**

Do you bow to idols fashioned by human hands or to golden statues of power and pride?

**No, we lay aside all idols—of wealth, of success, of self. We refuse to serve what cannot save.**

Then come, and worship the God whose love knows no end, whose grace is poured out freely, who is holy and ever faithful.

**We come to worship the God revealed in Jesus Christ—whose love reaches out, whose justice is merciful, whose invitation is for all.**

## SONG

## “GOD WHOSE LOVE IS REIGNING O’ER US”

No. 100, UMH (1989)

God, whose love is reigning o’er us, source of all, the ending true;  
hear the universal chorus raised in joyful praise to you:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, worship ancient, worship new.

Word of God from nature bringing springtime green and autumn gold;  
mountain streams like children singing, ocean waves like thunder bold:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, as creation’s tale is told.

Holy God of ancient glory, choosing man and woman, too;  
Abram’s faith and Sarah’s story formed a people bound to you.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, to your covenant keep us true.

Covenant, new again in Jesus, Starchild born to set us free;  
sent to heal us, sent to teach us how love’s children we might be.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, risen Christ, our Savior he!

Lift we then our human voices in the songs that faith would bring;  
live we then in human choices lives that, like our music, sing:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, joined in love our praises ring!

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**  
**SILENT PRAYER**  
**COLLECT**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**THE FIERY FURNACE**

**REFLECTION**

Pastor Jacob

**SONG**

**“SING OF THE LORD’S GOODNESS”**

No. 3010, W&S (2011)

Sing of the Lord’s goodness Father of all wisdom,  
come to him and bless his name.  
Mercy he has shown us, his love is forever,  
faithful to the end of days.

***Refrain:***

*Come, then, all you nations,  
sing of your Lord’s goodness,  
melodies of praise and thanks to God.  
Ring out the Lord’s glory,  
praise him with your music,  
worship him and bless his name.*

Power he has wielded, honor is his garment  
risen from the snares of death.  
His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken,  
new life he now gives to all.

***Refrain***

Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow,  
Spirit of our God most high;  
solace for the weary, pardon for the sinner,  
splendor of the living God.

***Refrain***

Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet  
praise God with the lute and harp;  
praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing,  
praise God till the end of days.

***Refrain***

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**Merciful God,**

**We confess that we do not trust you to see us through life's fiery trials.**

**We do not trust you to care for us when following you risks our jobs, our reputations, or our sense of security.**

**We grow afraid when confronted with the limits of our own strength, rather than leaning on your providential care.**

**We question whether the sacrifices you call us to make are really worth it in light of all the other things we could acquire, achieve, or become.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Free us to live lives in joyful obedience to your high calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

...In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

## **RESPONSE**

## **“GLORY BE TO THE FATHER”**

*No. 70, UMH (1989)*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this cup we may know the presence of the living Christ and be renewed as the body of Christ for the world, redeemed by Christ's blood, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at your table for ever.

**Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty  
God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)**

No. 3068, *UMH* (1989)

**Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
for thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and glory forever. Amen. Amen.**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

**RESPONSE**

**"PEACE BE TO THIS CONGREGATION"**

Words by Charles Wesley TUNE: PROMISE (No. 707, *UMH*)

Peace be to this congregation,  
peace to ev'ry soul therein,  
peace, which flows from Christ's salvation,  
peace, the seal of cancelled sin,  
peace that speaks its heavenly Giver,  
peace, to earthly minds unknown,  
peace divine that lasts forever  
here erect its glorious throne.

Jesus, Prince of peace, be near us;  
fix in all our hearts your home;  
with your gracious presence cheer us;  
let your sacred kingdom come;  
raise to heav'n our expectation,  
give our favored souls to prove  
glorious and complete salvation,  
in the realms of bliss 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  
Franklin, MA 02038

508-528-1092  
office@franklinumc.org

Rev. Dr. Jacob W. Juncker, Pastor  
jacob@franklinumc.org

Deidre Bassignani, Administrator  
deidre@franklinumc.org

Paul Seaver, Custodian  
Linda Zardeskias, 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

## INTERESTED IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH?

**Sunday, July 13 after worship**

You're invited to join the Community Outreach Team as they seek to build bridges between the church, other communities of faith, and the surrounding community. We'll be discussing the Community Closet, Concerts, and Cookouts among other things. If you have any questions about this team or upcoming meetings, please contact Tricia Prewitt ([pptricia198@gmail.com](mailto:pptricia198@gmail.com)).

## LUNCH BUNCH

The next gathering will be at **Mak's Roastbeef, 451 West Central St, Franklin, on Wednesday, July 16 at 12 PM.** All are welcome.

Please notify Nancy Boates by phone 508-654-2833 or email [NancyBoates49@hotmail.com](mailto:NancyBoates49@hotmail.com) by 10 am if attending.

## COMMUNITY CLOSET: NEW HOURS!

Looking for a closet refresh - or shopping for those with a need ? The generosity of our community and the staffing by volunteers helps us provide pre-loved and new clothing to all. The closet is now open every Tuesday 12p-2p. You can shop or sign up to volunteer at [franklinumc.org/volunteer](http://franklinumc.org/volunteer).

## MONTHLY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

It's summer! Assorted chips 8-10 oz or assorted cookies 8-12 oz. are asked for by the Franklin Food Pantry. Everything will be delivered to the Pantry at the end of the month. Thank you!

## FISH OF FRANKLIN SEEKS VOLUNTEERS:

FISH of Franklin's mission is helping Franklin residents get to their medical appointments. Volunteers are needed to either answer telephone requests from those needing rides and volunteers willing to drive clients to medical appointments once a month. If you are interested in volunteering, call 508-528-2121, leave a message and a member of the Steering Committee will return your call.

## MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Franklin Meals on Wheels office is looking for onsite volunteers, weekday mornings at the church. Meals on Wheels provides nutritious meals to in-need, homebound seniors in Franklin, Bellingham, Blackstone, and Medway. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Jeanne (Monday through Friday, 10a-1p) by phone at [508-520-1422](tel:508-520-1422).

## 2025 COMMUNITY COOKOUTS!

**Saturday August 23, & September 27!** Free burgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be served from 5:30-6:30p in the grassy area behind the church. Vegetarian options will be available. All are invited. In case of rain, these events are cancelled. To learn more, go to [franklinumc.org/community/cookouts](http://franklinumc.org/community/cookouts).