

The Bulletin

Franklin United Methodist Church

Week beginning Sunday, September 13, 2026

Lections

Assigned Scripture Readings for This Week

JOHN 13:34-45

³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

ACTS 2:42-47

⁴² [The followers of Jesus] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reflections

Questions based on the weekly lections and theme for further thinking and reflection.

Where are you being invited to deeper vulnerability or shared life?

How is Christ shaping the way you relate to others in the community?

Where are you being invited to practice reconciliation or collaboration?

How can you help extend Christ's love beyond our congregation into the wider neighborhood?

Onsite Wi-Fi Access

SSID	FranklinUMC GUEST
PW	URwelcome

Give Now



Sunday Worship

10am

Join in-person in the sanctuary, via Google Meet, livestream or watch archived on YouTube. Joining information and past worship services can be found at franklinumc.org.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come as learners

students of the Way.

We come as followers

toddling after Christ.

We come to this place

seeking to live in community.

SONG

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

No. 557, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

PRAYER

This time of prayer is closed with "The Lord's Prayer" which is No. 895 in *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

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.

READ

REFLECT

with Pastor Jacob

SONG

"Jesus, United by Thy Grace"

No. 561, *United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

GIVE

DOXOLOGY No. 95, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

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

"Gather Us In"

No. 2236, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

GO IN PEACE

franklinumc.org

Franklin UMC Announcements

FRANKLIN FOOD PANTRY

We will be collecting Personal Care items: Toilet Paper, Soap, shampoo/conditioner, etc. All items will be brought over to the Franklin Food Pantry monthly.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club is reading *Future Boy* by Michael J Fox. The next meeting is Monday September 14th at 6:30 pm. The group will meet in a hybrid format at Dawn P's home. For the address and link, view the group's page in Realm Connect.

LUNCH BUNCH

We will meet on Wednesday September 16th at Mak's, 451 W Central St, Franklin. All are welcome. Please notify Nancy B by phone or email by 10 am if attending.

SENIOR CENTER EXPO

The Franklin UMC will be participating in the Senior Center Expo on Friday, October 2, from 10a-1p. We will be handing out information about the Community @FranklinUMC. If you would like to help staff the booth, please reach out to Pastor Jacob.

SAVE THE DATE

September 26	Community Cookout
October 2	Senior Center Expo @Franklin Senior Center
October 18	Blessing of renovated education space
October 24	Trunk or Treat
November 22	Interfaith Thanksgiving Service @Franklin Federated Church

Live in Community @franklinUMC

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY SERIES

John Wesley wrote that "the gospel of Christ knows no religion but social; no holiness but social holiness." In other words, Christian faith is never a solitary endeavor. You cannot be a Christian on your own. The core of Christianity is the command to love and that always requires someone else. Christian faith is always shaped, strengthened, and expressed in community.

The rubric below is meant to help us understand how disciples grow into this vision of social holiness. Each stage (impress, engage, experiment, become) describes what a disciple experiences, how scripture guides that moment, and the practical strategies that help them take their next faithful steps.

STAGE	DISCIPLE'S VOICE	SCRIPTURE	STRATEGY
IMPRESS	Show me how to live in community	Ephesians 4:2-3	Model authentic Christian community by practicing visible hospitality; greet newcomers by name, offer a handshake, listen to their story and share a little of your own; offer to assist in navigating the space; be friendly; and extend an invitation to return.
ENGAGE	Invite me to live in community.	Hebrews 10:24-25	Invite to worship, meals, small groups, fellowship events, create low-barrier entry points.
EXPERIMENT	I find my place in community.	Acts 2:42-47	Attend worship regularly, join a small group, volunteer, practice vulnerability and shared life.
BECOME	I live in Christ-like community.	John 13:34-45	Live in and shape Christlike community practicing reconciliation, collaboration, and mutual care. Mentor others, take on roles that strengthen the body of Christ, and help extend Christlike community beyond the congregation into the wider neighborhood.

If you'd like to reflect more on this part of our discipleship pathway, go to franklinumc.org/discipleship/.