



Welcome to Urbana First United Methodist Church!

*Our mission is to journey with people to get them
connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; to
one another; and to the community, through
intentional discipleship!*

August 23rd, 2026
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Liturgical Color: Green

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

PRELUDE

Hannah Freeman-Choi, *piano*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

David Gordon, *liturgist*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

We humbly come to you with grateful hearts, Loving God.

Here are your children Loving God, ready to experience renewal!

Discernment, determination, and commitment join us today.

Here are your children Loving God, ready to experience renewal!

We offer you a living sacrifice by reaching and touching those in need.

Here are your children Loving God, ready to experience renewal!

We bring our lives in presence and action as the offering you expect from us.

Receiving what we offer, you will transform all!

(Breakthrough Ministries)

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

OPENING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 and ever. Amen.

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.
3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.
7. In Christ, your head, you then shall know,
shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below,
and own that love is heaven.

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; The third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Hannah Freeman-Choi, *piano*

+PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERING

UMH no. 95

All: 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.

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 12:1-2

Liturgist

SONG OF PREPARATION *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Caitlin Richardson, *soloist*
(arr. L. Larson; CCLI 5202805)

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Robert K. Freeman, *directing pastor*

TIME OF REFLECTION & PRAYER

You are invited to come and pray at the altar, light a candle to illuminate your prayers before God, come forward for one of our liturgists for a blessing, or remain where you are for a time of contemplation and reflection during the musical selection.

+HYMN OF RESPONSE *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* TFWS no. 2153

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
2. I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
3. I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
4. I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Hannah Freeman-Choi, *piano*

+ Please stand as you are able

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 12:1-2, A Living Sacrifice (ESV)

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Sermon Notes

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Urbana First UMC News and Announcements

WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is how we communicate with God. In prayer, we share our hearts. We also pause to listen for wisdom and guidance. As John Wesley wrote, "All that a Christian does, even in eating and sleeping, is prayer, when it is done in simplicity, according to the order of God." Please be in prayer for these members & friends of the Urbana First Community:

- Prayers for Urbana First to continue our mission of helping people to get connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to one another, and to the community
- For God's healing Spirit to move in our nation amid division and violence
- For God's peace in regions of the world affected by conflict and war
- For those who are ill or hospitalized, that they may receive healing and comfort
 - Lindsey Rivest, Averie Spencer and Family, Pastor Freeman, Darla Kvidera, Shirley and Tom Gordon, Nancy and Steve Moser, Nancy Merz, Nancy Lopeman (rehab), Pat Smith, Donna Roberts-Luttrell (Paige B.'s Mom, back surgery), Susan Chapman (knee surgery)
- For those who are unable to join us in person, that they may feel God's presence, and remain connected through the love and prayers of the church family
 - Ruth Abbott, Gladys Baxley, Anne Brown, Bob Burnett, Judith Cramer, Joyce Dilley, Gary and Anna Engelgau, Mary Lou Fisher, Jodie Frink, Tom & Shirley Gordon, Kenneth Johnson, Darla Kvidera, Marjorie Mead, Nancy Merz, Peggy Pennell, Mary Jane Ross, Fred Shep, Joyce Smith, Chris Walker (Janis Moment & Mary Lee Krumins' Brother)
- For loved ones and friends in hospice care or nearing the end of life, that they may know God's presence and peace
- For caregivers supporting those with physical or cognitive challenges, that they may be strengthened and encouraged
- For those grieving a loss of a loved one, either through death or a broken relationship, that they may find comfort and hope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Margie Jobe (August 1), Nancy Moser (August 3) Kaley Spencer (August 11), Debbie Aurelius-Muir (August 19), Paige Banovz (August 22) Bob Burnett (August 26), Prentice Freeman-Choi (August 27), Linda Bailey (August 29), Nelson Bond (August 29), Donna Blume (August 31)

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH KICK-OFF: AUGUST 30TH



Ladies, ladies, ladies! Come join the Women of Faith for a light lunch and camaraderie to kick-off the new season on Sunday August 30th at 11:30 in the Church Library. As women, we need each other's support, gifts, talents, and ears.

Let's grow our sisterhood! 🤝🤝🤝🤝❤️❤️❤️

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY RETURNING!

Midweek Bible Study is returning for the fall season and we're planning a gathering to catch up and talk about what we've been up to this summer! Join us for this fellowship on Wednesday, August 26th at 10:30 a.m.! Midweek Bible Study will begin meeting weekly after Labor Day weekend, on September 9th.

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE SANCTUARY CHOIR OPEN HOUSE

All are invited to join our Sanctuary Choir for an open house on Wednesday, September 9th, beginning at 6:00 p.m.! There will be light refreshments and time for fellowship and then we will join together in our first rehearsal for the season! This is a great opportunity if you have been wondering about joining to choir. Please come out and join us for a wonderful evening full of joy and music.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY: OPERATION CHRISITMAS CHILD

The "BIG RED BOX" is out and ready to fill! This year's items in need are:

- Boys socks (sizes M & L), Boys underwear (sizes 6-14), Boys tops and shorts (sizes 6-16)
- Girls socks (sizes M & L), Girls underwear (sizes 6-16)
- Washcloths



CORPORATE PRAYER SUNDAY MORNINGS

Corporate Prayer is available every Sunday in the Sanctuary from 8:45 to 9:00 a.m.. The prayer services will not be streamed live, they will meet in person each Sunday and online one Sunday per month. This will be an opportunity for anyone with a prayer request to pray with our church family; you can also email your requests. On the 2nd Sunday of the month, we will offer prayer for our online community from 8:45-9:00am.

If you are interested in joining the prayer team please email the church office at office@urbanafirstmethodist.org

NOISY OFFERING FOR JULY & AUGUST: MIDWEST MISSION BIRTHING KITS

Jesus arrived in this world in less-than-ideal circumstances, just as so many babies do today. From midwives who hike miles into the mountains, to doctors and nurses in rural clinics, these medical professionals rely on birthing kits to help mothers and families welcome new life with greater safety, dignity and hope. Each birthing kit makes safe delivery possible, even in the most challenging environment. At \$12 per kit, let's see how many babies we can help!



THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Hannah Freeman-Choi (Pianist), David Gordon (Liturgist), Rich Govert and Michael Reynolds (Ushers), Linda Bailey and Margie Jobe (Children's Church), Johnie Wilson, Jack Marshall, & Joseph Tingling (Tech & Stage Team), Paige Banovz (PowerPoint & Bulletin)

This Week at Urbana First

Sunday, August 23

8:45 a.m.—Corporate Prayer (*Sanctuary*)
9:15 a.m.—Adult Sunday School (*Library*)
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship (*Parlor*)
10:15 a.m.—Children's Church, Toddler-2nd
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service (*Sanctuary*)
10:50 a.m.—Children's Church, 3rd-5th

Monday, August 24

5:45 p.m.—Dance Rehearsal (*FH*)
6:00 p.m.—Finance Meeting (*Library*)

Tuesday, August 25

9:00 a.m.—Church Office Open
6:00 p.m.—People's Chorus (*FH*)

Wednesday, August 26

9:00 a.m.—Church Office Open
6:00 p.m.—GSA Brownies (*Fellowship Hall*)

Thursday, August 27

9:00 a.m.—Church Office Open
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts (*Fellowship Hall*)

Friday, August 28

Staff Sabbath Day

Sunday, August 30

8:45 a.m.—Corporate Prayer (*Sanctuary*)
9:15 a.m.—Adult Sunday School (*Library*)
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship (*Parlor*)
10:15 a.m.—Children's Church, Toddler-2nd
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service (*Sanctuary*)
10:50 a.m.—Children's Church, 3rd-5th
11:30 a.m.—Women in Faith (*Library*)

Connect With Us!

If you're visiting with us today, please let us know! We'd love to connect with you and share more about our church.



Church Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Daycare Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.



“Helping people to get connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to one another, and to the community!”

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KATIE BEAULIN, DAYCARE DIRECTOR
RACHEL HARP, ASSISTANT DAYCARE DIRECTOR