

Lessons in Leadership

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

ACCEPTANCE

First
Church



11am Service - August 30, 2026

WE GATHER

Welcome

Pastor Duane Carlisle

Prelude

Centering Words

L: Sometimes God calls us through burning bushes, telling us to go free a whole people despite our insecurities and fears.

P: God, help us accept your call on our lives.

L: Sometimes God calls us, and we don't understand the full meaning of the call, the ways our families, friends, and communities may resist the good news and us as messengers of it.

P: God, help us accept your call on our lives.

L: Sometimes God calls us to a path that is harder than we think we can handle, asking us to trust that God will provide what we need.

P: God, help us accept your call on our lives.

L: Beloved, take assurance in this: You are not alone. God is with us, and God's call can be trusted.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2026.

Opening Song

Blessed Assurance

Blessed Assurance UMH #369

Opening Prayer

Pour your light, Holy Spirit of God, into our hearts and minds. Help us to know more clearly and grasp more fully the Good News of Jesus. And help us then to know how to share it. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who with You and the Father, are One God. Amen.

From the Diocese of Zululand, South Africa. Found in Prayer Encircling the World: An International Anthology (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998), 105.

WE PROCLAIM

The Message to Young Disciples

The Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to mount Horeb, the mountain of God.

There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed.

Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up."

When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.

Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

L: The Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

P: Thanks be to God.

The New Testament Lesson

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good;

Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope; be patient in afflictions, persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord."

Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads."

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: The Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

P: Thanks be to God.

The Message

Rev. Mary Dicken

Message in Music

"Great is Their Faithfulness"

arr.Kathryn Cater & Sandy Norman
Mary Dicken, Harp
Ellie Boyer and Melissa Lonn, Flutes

WE RESPOND

The Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Duane Carlisle

The 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.

Invitation to Generosity

Sharing the Peace of Christ

WE GO FORTH

Closing Song

It Is Well With My Soul

It is Well with My Soul UMH #377

The Benediction

Rev. Mary Dicken

Beloved, when the path is easy and when the path is rough, when God calls through a burning bush or a still, small voice or a loving rebuke, remember: you are not alone. May God bless you with the courage and humility to accept God's call and with the assurance that if God calls you, God will equip you. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2026.

The Postlude

Blessed Assurance

Verse 1

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Verse 2

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Verse 3

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

It Is Well With My Soul

Verse 1

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Verse 2

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,

and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Verse 3

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Verse 4

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith
shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord
shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Prayers

Concerns Shared

Chip Rutledge
Sybil Morrison and family (sister of Perry
Brown)

All in need of prayer

Those In Memory Care

Pat Staver

Active Military

As we update our list of active military personnel, we invite First Church families to share the names of any immediate family members currently serving. Please contact the church office at info@fumcwl.org and include each military member's name and rank.

AWR1 Isaiah Hale
CDR James Beaty

LCDR Alex Turco
PFC Christopher Kuney

Worship Team

Audio/Visual

Livestream:

Dustin Coolman

Slides:

Sharon Wong

Soundboard:

Isabel Burton

Band

Acoustic Guitar:

Kory Pritchett

Flute:

Ellie Boyer

Melissa Lonn

Piano:

Charis Vander Plaats

Pastors

Lead Pastor:

Duane Carlisle

Assistant Pastor:

Kory Pritchett

Worship Leaders

Band Director:

Kory Pritchett

Bell Choir Director:

Kathy Lind

Director of Music and Arts:

Charis Vander Plaats

Quick Links



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To be put on the weekly announcement emails, contact the church office at
info@fumcwl.org

Copyright and licensing liturgy: Ministry Matters, www.umcdiscipleship.org, Music:
CCLI 1218620; CCSWorshipCast 6802

GET INVOLVED WITH FUMC



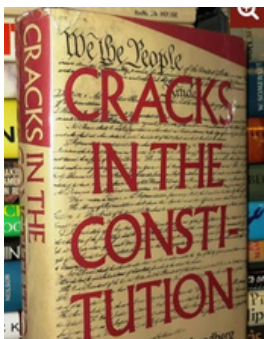
Opportunities for community

First Church Family Picnic is 4:00-6:00 PM **TODAY** at Wea Creek Orchard, 5618 S 200 E., Lafayette. The church will provide fried chicken and drinks. Bring a side dish to share.

We All Belong is organizing two free events at FUMC under the heading "Cracks in the Constitution:"

An interactive workshop on the U.S. Constitution will be 6:30-8:00 PM Sept. 24. Experts from Purdue, Wabash College and Ivy Tech will lead "Do we Really Know the Constitution?"

A new documentary film "Democracy Under Siege" will be shown here 2 PM Saturday, Oct. 3.



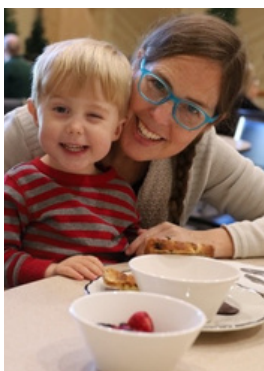
Shall we deal you in? Our monthly euchre night at FUMC is Sept. 9. Doors open at 5:45 and play ends about 8 PM. We play every second Wednesday. Email jnorberg@purdue.edu to get on the e-vite list.



Volunteer Opportunities

Join us for brunch 10a.m. Sunday 9/6/26. Help is needed before and after. Signup via the weekly e-news.

It's our turn to volunteer at the Tippecanoe United Food Pantry, 1314 Tippecanoe St. We have pledged to provide staffing Sept. 15-16 from 3:15-6:00 PM Tuesdays and 11:30 AM-3:00 PM Wednesday. Contact: Lynn Griffin, 765-743-8087.



FUMC supports the Lafayette Urban Ministry, a social safety net that provides financial assistance, food security, camps, and homeless services. Here are the ways to help:

Form a team and/or donate to LUM's Hunger Hike.

Designate the hike in a check to FUMC.

Signup to rescue food from Great Harvest, Fresh Thyme or Payless in Lafayette or Panera or Target in West Lafayette. Directions are at www.lum.org



Are you handy? Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers to provide minor repairs for its current homeowners. Visit lafayettehabitat.org.