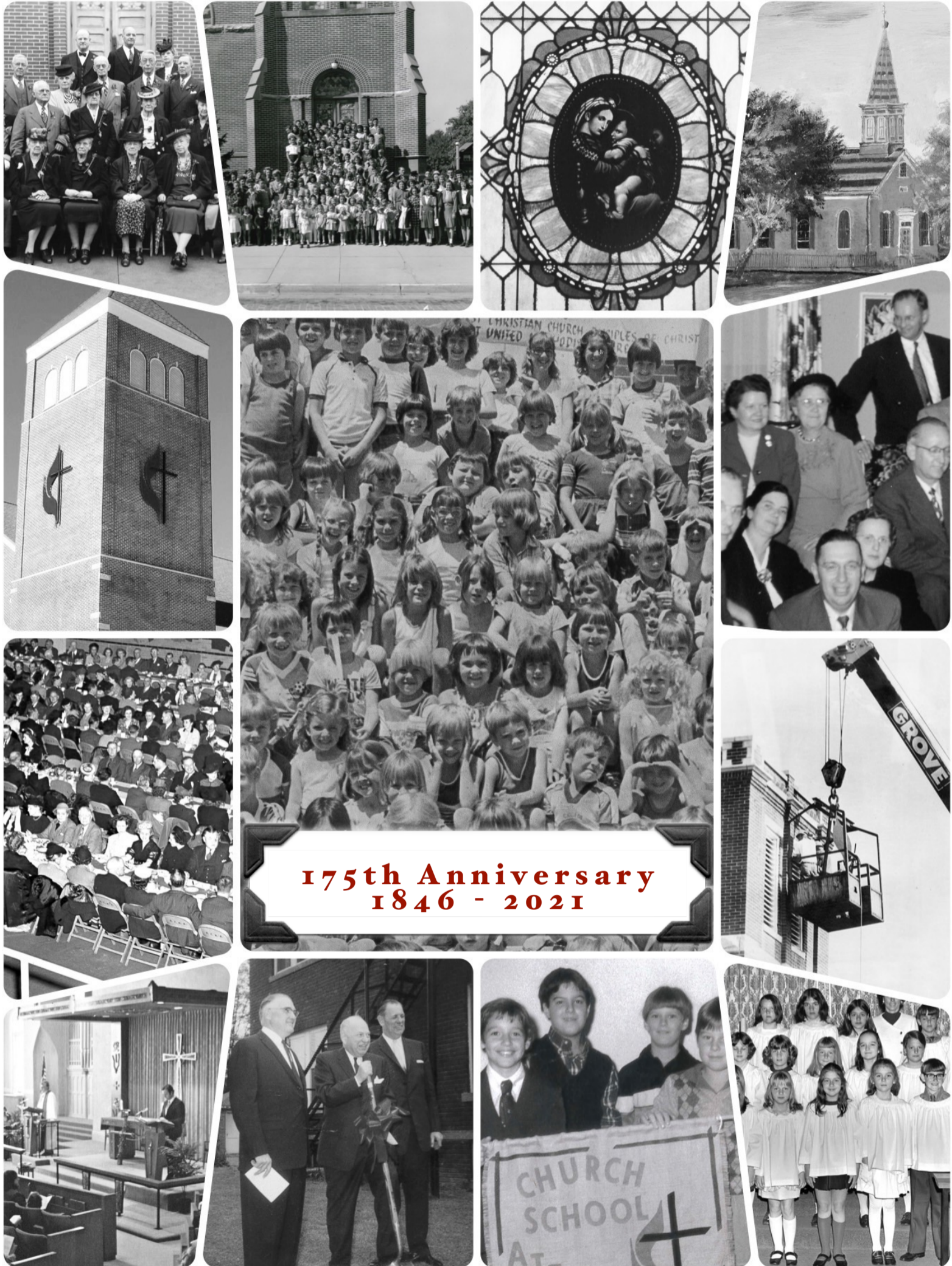


ROBINSON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • SEPTEMBER 2021

THE HERALD

Listening to God's Heart from the heart of the city.



**175th Anniversary
1846 - 2021**

CHILDREN FIRST

Our ministries to children and students have long been a hallmark of our congregation.
Take a look inside to see what have we done and what are we doing now.

From the Pastor's Desk

I have to tell you that, over the last eighteen months, one of the things that has been hardest for me as your pastor has been not having regular interaction with our students. I was grateful for the attempts we made early on in the pandemic to meet with students in Refresh and Kids' Club over Zoom. It was such a joy to have a Zoom Vacation Bible School in 2020 and have children from all over the country participate with us. Being able to offer Sunday school virtually for our students meant a lot to me, even if I only got to see the students for a few minutes as we gathered and prayed together (since I was teaching an adult class). I looked forward to my interactions with middle school students in our modified Refresh format each week last school year.

In the past few months, we've been able to engage with children in worship; we've launched hybrid Sunday school (in-person and on Zoom at the same time), held an in-person Vacation Bible School in July, and took students on a day mission trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Each of those steps forward warmed my heart, and made me long for more opportunities. I am looking forward to the re-launch of Refresh and Kids' Club this month (with some modifications as we continue to navigate COVID) and having greater interaction with our students of all ages.

First UMC has always cared about children. The development of Sunday school in the 19th century attests to their importance. Decades of engaging children in worship shows that we have believed children should be seen AND heard. We've had some sort of youth ministry for close to a century. Walnut Street Kids and many other ministries for children and students have led us to where we are now. Since children and students have long been a focus of our congregation's ministry, there is no reason for us to stop investing time, energy, and resources there - in fact, it's all the more reason why we need to continue to do so. What we do is making a difference in helping our youngest disciples follow Jesus! Let's keep up the good work as we head into another school year.

I will see you in worship, classes, and meetings soon (in-person or online)!



Pastor Jay

We Care for FUMC's Youngest!

Historical records show that the first Sunday School started as early as 1862 at First UMC. In the 1870s, the time shifted from morning to afternoon, so that students could attend the Christian Church Sunday School, as well as that of First UMC. The very first student ministry was the Epworth League, formed in 1890, followed by the Junior League in 1895. Again, these groups shifted their meeting times so that kids could attend the Christian Church's youth ministry on Sunday nights (with First UMC holding theirs on Tuesday nights). We have a long history of working together with other congregations to disciple our young people!

In 1940, the Epworth League became known as the Methodist Youth Fellowship (after the merger of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church South). After the 1968 merger with the Evangelical United Brethren Church, the youth ministry was known as United Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Mission has been a strong component of our student ministry. In 1926, the Young Foreign Missionary Society was formed with six members. This society (a precursor to United Methodist Women) helped young girls (known as Home Guards, Junior Queen Esthers, and later Queen Esthers) engage in missionary endeavors. The formation of Walnut Street Kids helped meet a need for our children in after school ministry. Children and youth have long been involved in leading worship, including music and puppet ministry, as well as serving as sound technicians. Today's mission trips, as well as Kids' Club, Refresh, and Sunday school, continue on the long legacy of caring for the youngest people at First UMC.



175th Anniversary

As part of our 175th Anniversary, we're unveiling a new t-shirt design. We're so excited to have new shirts for our congregation! If you would be interested in purchasing a new shirt (\$15, part of the proceeds will go toward Kids' Club), you can purchase them here: <https://forms.gle/jiUQYDGGDw8qJUsG6>

Our main celebration is on Sunday, October 3, at 10:30 am. We'll be having an outdoor revival worship service under the big top! The Red Letter Quartet will provide music, and we'll have preaching, prayer, and communion together. Bring your lawn chair and celebrate with us!

Trunk or Treat at First UMC

The time for smiling pumpkins and scarecrows is approaching quickly! That means we are starting on planning Robinson FUMC's 4th annual Trunk or Treat!

Children are our future, so this one night gives us a perfect opportunity to show God's love as they go out in search of treats! They may come to FUMC hoping to get candy and trinkets (and they will), but they, parents included, can leave knowing that our church is a place where they are safe and where they are loved. A successful Trunk or Treat depends on YOU! We need volunteers and donors! Here are a few ways you can help: decorate a trunk, crowd control, grill masters, candy and trinket donations, and more!

There will be a bucket in the narthex for candy donations to be dropped off! Contact Jennifer Boatman at 618-843-0908 or Kirbie Ackman in the church office for more details.

Happy Halloween!

Flocks of Chicks

The Outreach Committee thanks you for participating in the Heifer International fundraiser. Through your generosity, we have sponsored 169 flocks of chicks so far! Our goal is to sponsor 175 flocks to commemorate FUMC's 175th anniversary. Each flock of chicks costs \$20.00. If you'd like to participate, please leave a donation in the offering baskets in the Narthex or call the church office.

Heath Harvest Parade

Outreach is looking for volunteers that would like to help hand out water bottles at the end of the Heath Harvest parade on Saturday, October 3rd. If you are interested in volunteering contact the church office.

Also, they will be collecting 8oz bottles for the parade. If you would like to donate, the bottles of water can be dropped off in the church office.

NOW

NOW Weekend Meal Bagging is back in full swing! We bag, most weeks, on Thursdays at 4:00 pm. We would love to have you volunteer, so please sign up! As things progress so will our plan for bagging! <https://signup.com/go/crNbMsK>

The Just-One Item for September will be shampoo! We are collecting children's and adult shampoo. If you would like to donate please drop off your donation in the box right outside the church office!

Employee of the Month

SPRC has selected Nina Davis as the employee of the month for August. Congrats, Nina!



What Does Stewardship Mean to You?

The Finance Committee at FUMC has been studying the *Theology of Stewardship and Biblical Generosity* from the Lewis Center of Church Leadership.

Dr. Ann A Michel states that you have probably heard the term stewardship used in association with giving to the church or funding appeals. You could easily assume it's the Christian codeword for fundraising. Sometimes we use the term that way. But stewardship has a much richer, deeper theological meaning that holds great relevance for how we understand our lives in relation to God and how we make decisions in our lives. The biblical concept of stewardship starts with the premise that everything we have belongs to God. The Psalmist wrote "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for God has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers." Psalm 24 1-2. It may seem obvious to declare that the earth is the Lord's. But to really believe it suggests a very different way of thinking about things in our culture of private ownership. Our economy functions on the assumption that we are entitled to what we earn and what we have. I earned it. I deserve it. It's mine to control and do with as I please. But if we begin with the understanding that everything belongs to God, it follows that we really don't "own" anything - not even ourselves. What we possess we have through the grace of God, to hold in trust - to use for God's purpose and glory. We are to function as "stewards" in the household of God.

Check your mail for your stewardship commitment letter and card!



FUMC Music Department Update

Hello, Friends!

I am so excited to welcome you to a new year in Worship Music for FUMC! Lots of things have changed, but one thing remains, God is with us and deserves our thanks and praise!

Chancel Choir and Glory Handbells are finally returning. Chancel Choir will meet in the sanctuary on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to around 8:00 pm. We will rehearse and record music for the month. Rehearsals will be socially distanced with masks optional for the rehearsal. When we record, we will robe up and masks will be required. We will rehearse in the pews of the sanctuary, but move up to the chancel for the recording. The dates for choir are September 1, September 29 (due to 175th celebration the following week), November 3rd and December 1.

Glory Handbells will meet twice monthly beginning September 2nd at 6:00 pm. The 45 minute rehearsal will allow us to utilize our time to prepare for at least once a month participation in worship. Social distancing and masks are highly recommended for these rehearsals.

We look forward to making music with you!

- Antje Pippin



M.A.T.S.

We are excited to announce that M.A.T.S. (Mothers and Tots Sing) will be returning soon to our children's programming! We will begin in mid to late September. Ages 0 to Kindergarten are welcome to bring an adult and share in music, movement fun, and some Bible study. We are also working on adding a Bible study or devotional time for the parents! More information on times and days will be announced in upcoming eNews.

Care News from Stephen Ministry

And may the Lord cause you to increase and overflow with love for one another and for everyone, just as we do for you. – 1 Thessalonians 3:12

- Did you know that the Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders meet once a month for continuing education? The Stephen Ministry Team meets on the fourth Wednesday evening of each month for continuing education and supervision.
- Did you know we have valuable resources within our church and community who contribute to the continuing education sessions? We are blessed at Robinson FUMC to have church members and friends of our church who are valuable resources for this ministry.
- Did you know that you can access these resources? Yes, you can! The following continuing education sessions were recorded, and you may access them through YouTube.
 - *Caring for Caregivers*: Linda Null
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bn2bhV0JMwc&t=861s>
 - *Caring for the Grieving*: Kay Albin, Dan and Shari Bruneau
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ID_OJbcHsbo
- Upcoming topics will also be recorded on YouTube, and you will have access to them as well.
 - *Caring for People with Empty Nests*: Gary and Janelle Oxford: September 22

**And let us watch out for one another
to provoke love and good works.
– Hebrews 10:24**



September Birthdays

9/1 Allison Reinoehl
9/2 Valerie Weck
9/4 Madison Utterback
9/7 Charles Young
Mark DeDoming
9/9 Jack Davis
Pyke Nethery
9/10 Samantha Davis
9/17 Jerry Conner
Marjorie Pfeiffer
9/20 Gina Colliflower
9/22 Jeff Murrell
Robin Davis
9/27 Judith Adams,
Gloria Devonshire
9/29 Krosby Goebel
9/29 Emily Midgett

September Anniversaries

9/1 Max & Debbie Tedford
9/4 Brent & Joyce Owen
Chris & Laura Dhom
9/7 Ron & Becky Veenstra
9/10 Larry & Phoung Quick
9/11 Diane & Darold Crampton
9/12 Tyler & Kristy Veenstra
9/20 Greta & Allen Lowry
9/23 Keith & Kirtina Carter
9/25 Lawrence & Gina Colliflower

Prayer Requests

Jeremy Markello; Carol Wolf; Carl Blanton;
Michael Brady; Cathy Thomas; Judson
Richardson; Julie Zhang; Bill Thompson;
Michael Keene; John Larrabee; Nicole Young;
Evan Prah; Richard Youngs; Kay Young; Nancy
& Charlie Young; Vonnetta Shipman; Becky
Goodwin; Caius Bell; Ray & Nelda Dotson;
Kim Collins; Claudette Mejean; Ava Seaney;
Demmie Long; Emma Bodine; Charles Hough;
Sheltyn James Henry; Rick Pritchard; Laurie
Vaughn; Kay Bonnell; Wally Leggit; Judy
Eckert; Lisa Schaefer; Matthew Williams; Bob
Callier; Larry Potts; Patricia Hodgson; Pamela
Hart; June Watson; Paul Davis; Kathy
Kennedy; Tina Klender; Paul Clinton; Duane
Parker; Ruth Fiscus; Jan Riker; Dustin Ikemire;
Robin Bray; Greg Faylor; Susan Rodgers;
Melinda Ashby; Brad Smith; Floyd Brinkman;
Leah Buser; Kamillah Rollins; Cuma Barnett;
Donna Ferry; Rachel Tracy; Janice Woods; Carl
Janney; Garnet Van Horn; Lou Bonnell; Cathy
Devalle; John Youngs; Heather Karbach;
Steve Diel; Ford Bond; Mike Bell; Dan Davis;
Gary Null; Dion Wright; Nay Owens; Hart
Odom; Jennifer Newlin; Stacy & Eathan Baize;
Marsha Strader; Kirtina Carter; Andrea Tully;
Janet Clark; Kay Weger; Scott Storckman; Lori
Treadway; Bernie Limper, Scott Silverthorne;
Welker Salesman; Avery DeDoming and
family; RHS Football Team; Dick Mitchell

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
--------	--------	---------	-----------	----------	--------	----------

KEY:

IP - In-Person

Z - Zoom

HY - Hybrid; both in-person and Zoom

1	2	3	4
5:00 pm	4:00 pm		
- Foundation Meeting (IP)	- NOW Weekend Meal Bagging (IP)		
6:30 pm	6:00 pm		
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal (IP)	- Glory Handbells Rehearsal (IP)		

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7:30 am	Office Closed - Labor Day	6:30 pm	6:30 am	9:30 am		
- Grand Sweep Class (Z)		- Invitation to Genesis (HY)	- Refresh (IP)	- Invitation to Genesis (HY)		
9:00 am			3:00 pm	4:00 pm		
- Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio)			- Kids Club (IP)	- NOW Weekend Meal Bagging (IP)		
10:30 am			6:30 pm			
- Worship (IP, Mask Optional)			- Stephen Ministry (HY)			
- Sunday school (HY)						
4:30 pm						
- Stephen Leaders (IP)						

12	13	14	15	16	17	18
7:30 am		3:00 pm	6:30 am	9:30 am		
- Grand Sweep Class (Z)		- FUMC Serving at Ark of the Covenant	- Refresh (IP)	- Invitation to Genesis (HY)		
9:00 am		6:30 pm	3:00 pm	6:00 pm		
- Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio)		- Invitation to Genesis (HY)	- Kids Club (IP)	- Glory Handbell Rehearsal (IP)		
10:30 am			4:00 pm			
- Worship (IP, Mask Optional)			- NOW Weekend Meal Bagging (IP)			
- Sunday school (HY)			6:00 pm			
			- Committee Meetings (HY)			
			7:00 pm			
			- Church Council Meeting (HY)			

19	20	21	22	23	24	25
7:30 am		6:30 pm	6:30 am	9:30 am		
- Grand Sweep Class (Z)		- Invitation to Genesis (HY)	- Refresh (IP)	- Invitation to Genesis (HY)		
9:00 am			3:00 pm	4:00 pm		
- Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio)			- Kids Club (IP)	- NOW Weekend Meal Bagging		
10:30 am			6:30 pm			
- Worship (IP, Mask Optional)			- Stephen Ministry (HY)			
- Sunday school (HY)						

26	27	28	29	30
7:30 am		6:30 pm	6:30 am	9:30 am
- Grand Sweep Class (Z)		- Invitation to Genesis (HY)	- Refresh (IP)	- Invitation to Genesis (HY)
9:00 am			3:00 pm	4:00 pm
- Worship (IP with Masks, Livestream, YouTube and Radio)			- Kids Club (IP)	- NOW Weekend Meal Bagging
10:30 am			6:30 pm	
- Worship (IP, Mask Optional)			- Chancel Choir Rehearsal (IP)	
- Sunday school (HY)				

First United Methodist Church
201 West Walnut Street
PO Box 45
Robinson, IL 62454
firstumcrob@gmail.com
www.robinsonfumc.org
618-544-8016

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Robinson, IL
62454
Permit No. 3

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Jay Regennitter

Office Manager: Kirbie Ackman

Director of Christian Education: Nina Davis

Communications Coordinator: Brennan Seth Tracy

Music Director: Antje Pippin

Organist/Pianist: Brenda Graham

Custodians: Amy DeDoming, Mark DeDoming

Nursery Staff: Jennifer Boatman, Anita Cohoon,

Marnie Inboden

robinsonfumcpastor@gmail.com

firstumcrob@gmail.com

nineah3@gmail.com

brennansethtracy@gmail.com

antje2959@hotmail.com

doubleg@mediacombb.net