

ROBINSON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • JUNE 2023

# THE HERALD

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

VBS is this month!  
Look inside for  
more info!





# FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN:

*So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, (Hebrews 12:1 CEB)*

Well there is something to be said about having endurance. These past several months have been a journey that many of us would like to never travel again. In fact, these past few years seem like we are running a marathon - uphill, against the wind, carrying your over-weight friend, who is carrying a bowling ball - on your back. The amazing thing is that the finish line of this God-forsaken race is off in the distance, and every time we feel we are close to the finish, someone moves the line.

When we read the above passage, we can identify with the author who paints such a vivid picture of the race that has been laid out before each of us. The most interesting thing is that it is our individual races that must be run, so that we can reach the finish line before us. We are not racing against others, so why must we endure such a race? The answer can be found in the race itself. Our race is a marathon that tests our devotion to reaching the goal before us - an established relationship with Christ. During our journey we are encouraged to discard those things that are distracting, the burdens that are weighing upon you. No, not your overweight friend with the bowling ball, but the worry, stress, addictions, struggles, family and relationship troubles, all the things that distract from God. These things are your excess baggage and sadly, this list is endless and unique for each person. When we drop the extra baggage, we then have more space for faith and spirituality.

We are drawn back to the text and we are readily reminded of the great cloud of witnesses. As Christians we are reminded of those who have completed the journey and now celebrate their eternal reward. But, let us focus on those in the shadows watching us. These folks are curious of the race and are wanting to be in the race as well. When we encourage them to set out on their own spiritual races, we are providing them opportunity for "hope" while they are already receiving, "grace and love".

So, to quote Sawyer Brown, "The race is on!" Let us finish this year with our heads held high. Folks, we are running but our faith is what is carrying us each day. Lace up those running / walking shoes, grab the word of God on the way out the door, and let's encourage others to get into the race.

See You in Church!

Pastor Terry

## **Unbinding the Gospel**

Summer is here, and it's almost time for the summer book study! If you're looking for a refresh and a chance to connect with the Holy Spirit and grow your faith, this could be a study for you! Beginning June 20, we will get together to begin reading and praying through *Unbinding the Gospel*, Second Edition, by Matha Grace Reese. This book outlines ways that churches have reached and can be reaching new people to help them come to Christ. It also includes an updated 40 day personal prayer journal with a different prayer activity for each day. If you'd like to learn more about the power of prayer, come join us as we learn new ways from this book and each other.

Dates for this study are Tuesday evenings, June 20, 27, July 11, 18, 25, and Aug. 1, from 6:30-8:00pm, and one Sunday, July 2, from 8:00-8:45 am.

Books may be purchased through Cokesbury or Amazon. Be sure to get the 2nd Edition. If you have questions, contact Lori Treadway, 618-554-8425. There will be a sign-up sheet at the welcome center, and you may sign up online. Please read Chapters 1 and 2 before our first meeting time on June 20. So excited to be learning with you!

- Lori Treadway

## **Movie Night**

Movie night will be Friday, June 30th at 6:00 pm! Popcorn and drinks will be provided! Come wearing your comfy clothes, bring your blankets, your favorite chair and anything you need to make this movie night great for you! Join us for a fun and easy night!

June Hint: "Life is a journey! Enjoy the trip! It's drive time!"

See you at the movies,

- Kirbie & Wryn

## **NOW Program**

The Just One Item for June will be underwear! We accept 4T - all adult sizes. Donations can be made in the box outside of my office!

NOW Summer Lunches are in full swing! If you would like to sign up to serve lunches, please use the link: <https://signup.com/go/FKwWPoW>

Our Back to School Shopping Day is August 5th, beginning at 8:00 am - 3:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer please use the link here: <https://forms.gle/skYYpB42J4bQvLmJA>

If you have any questions, please call Kirbie!

### **Quick Note from the Office!**

I will be out of the office on vacation a couple times this month! Thursday, June 1st through Friday, June 2nd and then again Monday, June 12th through Friday, June 16th. Just wanted to make sure everyone was aware! If you need anything during these times to let me know before I leave! Thanks!

- Kirbie

### **Second Wednesday Dinner**

This month we will have a 2nd "Wednesday" Dinner Week since the 2nd Wednesday falls during the week of our VBS. The menu includes:

Monday: Hot Dogs, Macaroni and Cheese, and Chips

Tuesday: Tacos and Taco Salads

Wednesday: Pizza and Fresh Fruit

Thursday: Sloppy Joes and French Fries (white and sweet)

Friday: Fried Chicken, Green Beans, Corn on the Cob and Biscuits

We will also be serving a salad bar and PB&J sandwiches at every meal. Please be sure to register for VBS so we know how much to prepare!

- Jennifer Boatman

## Care News from Stephen Ministry

***“Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on soda, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.” (Proverbs 25:20)***

When people are suffering, do you struggle with knowing what to say? Do you wonder how you can relate to them in ways that will ease their pain and show how much you care? Do you pray you use words that won't add to their burden? Do you hope you don't seem too cheerful when you are with them? You want to be a good caregiver to those who are suffering, but it can be a challenge.

The founder of Stephen Ministry, Dr. Kenneth Hauck wrote the book, *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart: How to Relate to Those Who Are Suffering*, because he has had a heavy heart. Dr. Hauck's wife, Joan, died following a 41 month battle with ovarian cancer. For him compiling data and writing this book was personal. He assembled a research team that interviewed over 4,200 individuals who opened their hearts and shared their experiences. If you would like to know ways you can better support someone who is suffering, you can check out the book from the Stephen Ministry Library located in the choir room. Also, you may talk with our church's Stephen Ministers about ways to provide kind and thoughtful Christian caregiving.

Prayer from Dr. Hauck:

*Dear God, I wish everything about relationships were easier. Sometimes I wish you could hurry up and finish perfecting me so I would always know what to do or say when someone needs comfort. No challenges, no problems,. But I know better. Thank you for being with me in real life, for helping me grow. Amen*



**STEPHEN  
MINISTRY**

**ROBINSON FUMC  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023**



COKESBURY'S

**Called Together  
to Serve God!**

**ALL  
AGES!**

**FREE!**

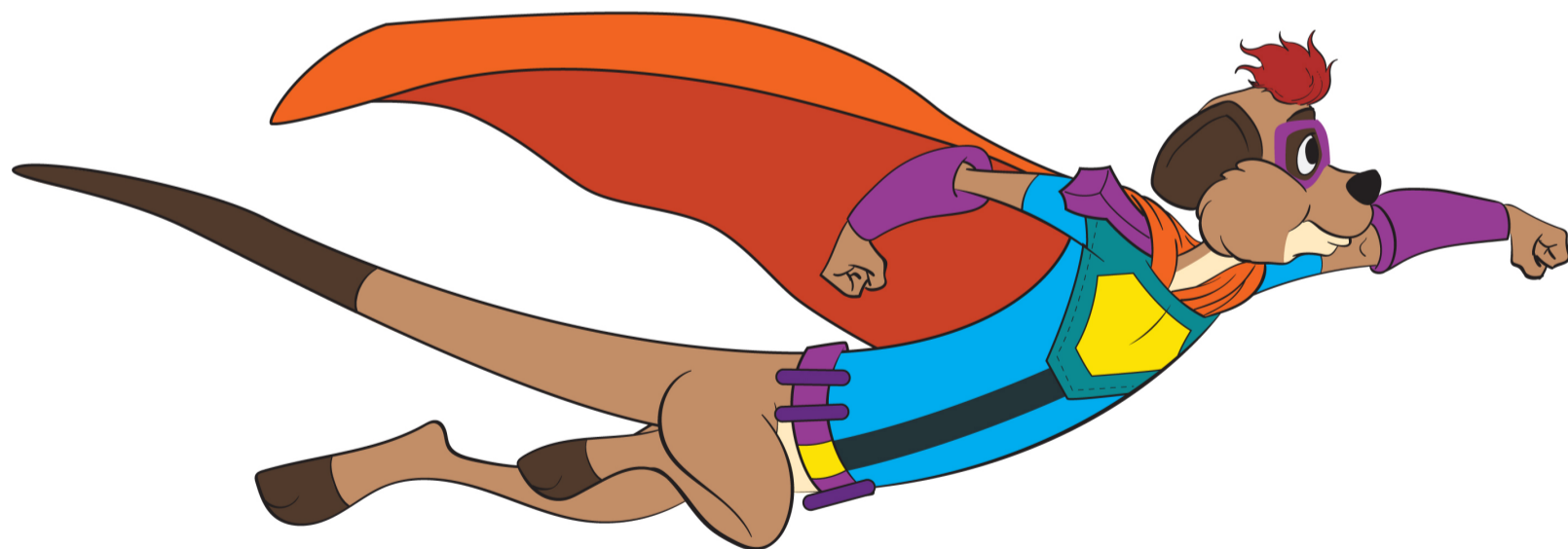
**JUNE 12-16  
5:00 PM !**

# Vacation Bible School

Summer is here, and we are busy preparing for one of our favorite events of the entire year: VBS! This year's theme is called Hero Hotline, and it will take place on Monday, June 12th through Friday, June 16th. This year, however, is going to be \*super\* special. For the first time ever, Robinson FUMC's VBS will not be just for the kids. It will be open to EVERYONE!

At 5:00 pm every evening that week, we will all meet for dinner in Asbury Hall. At 6:00 pm, students in kindergarten through 5th Grade will split off and have their traditional VBS time of lessons, crafts, and music. The adults will meet with Pastor Terry and have their own Bible Study based on the same themes and scriptures. There will also be nursery care available every night for families that have younger children.

There is absolutely no cost to attend VBS, but we do ask that you register in advance so we have an idea of how many people to plan for. You can find the registration form on our website: [www.robsonfumc.org/vbs](http://www.robsonfumc.org/vbs). We are SO excited and we hope that you make plans to attend!



## June Birthdays

- 6/1 Peggy Dart  
6/2 Debbie Goff  
6/3 Jon Anderson  
6/5 Sharon Miller  
6/6 Max Schaefer  
6/7 Marnie Inboden  
6/9 Chloe Kubiak  
6/10 Brennan Tracy  
6/15 Larry Bonnell, Becky McNary  
6/16 Susan Neely, Shirley Treadway  
6/17 Janis Daugherty  
6/18 Madilyn Schaefer  
6/20 Tyler Veenstra, Lillie McDonald  
6/21 Steve Diel, Dan Fearday,  
6/23 Alice Taylor, Alice Holtzhouser,  
Rose Ellen Osborne  
6/25 David McGahey  
6/28 Matthew Elliott  
6/29 Edna Frakes

## June Anniversaries

- 6/3 Tricia & Jay Anderson,  
Allison & Rusty Reinoehl  
Heidi & Andy Wright  
6/13 Greg & Janis Daugherty  
6/15 Rev. Louis & Dorothy Youngs  
6/20 Chris & Emily Midgett  
6/21 Kirbie & Ben Ackman  
6/22 Mike & Laurie Kubiak  
6/26 Lenzi & Nicholas Ippolito  
6/27 Bob & Antje Pippin  
6/28 Leonard & Debbie Goff

## Prayer Requests

Carol Wolf; Carl Blanton; Michael Brady; Cathy Thomas; Judson Richardson; Julie Zhang; Bill Thompson; Michael Keene; Lisa Schaefer; Nicole Young; Evan Prah; Richard Youngs; Kay Young; Vonnetta Shipman; Thelma Gifford; Jennifer Newlin; Bernie Limper; Melinda Wehrle; Mandy Harris; Cindy Weger; Blain Loll; Miranda Waddell; Dave Freeland; Ruth Fiscus; Rhea Hayden; Ray & Nelda Dotson; Margaret Beaman; Alexander Forrey; Ninette Faith; Lou Bonnell; Claudette Mejean; Laurie Vaugh; Susan Rodgers; Adrian Hays; Rachel Tracy; Paula Aydt, Connie Calvert; Randy Butcher; Marnie Inboden; Louis Youngs; Stephen Ministers; Care Receivers; Dorothy Fasig; Doug Finkbiner; Clem Aydt; Annette Leighty; Spencer Meagher; Craig Waggoner; Tom Price; Brenda Graham; Allen Stucker; KJ Reid, Tricia Anderson; Jon Anderson; Alex Townsend; Brad Harris; Andy Limper; Karen Villalobos; Tornado victims; Dason Douglas, Dorris Ballard; Lora Simmons; Sharon Freeland & Family; Mary Etta Whitmer; Joy Anderson; Rhonda Moade; Barbara Bell



# JUNE 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <b>Office Closed</b> 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches	2 <b>Office Closed</b>	3
4 <b>Peace with Justice Sunday</b> 9:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - Sunday School	5 4:00 pm - Happy Hour Gardening Club	6 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches	7 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches	8 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches	9	10
11 9:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - Sunday School	12 <b>Office Closed</b> 4:00 pm - Happy Hour Gardening Club 5:30 pm - VBS Dinner 6:00 pm - VBS	13 <b>Office Closed</b> 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm - VBS Dinner 6:00 pm - VBS	14 <b>Office Closed</b> 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm - VBS Dinner 6:00 pm - VBS	15 <b>Office Closed</b> 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm - VBS Dinner 6:00 pm - VBS - SPY	16 <b>Office Closed</b> 5:30 pm - VBS Dinner 6:00 pm - VBS	17
18 9:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - Deep Dive	19 4:00 pm - Happy Hour Gardening Club	20 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm - SPRC Meeting 6:30 pm - Unbinding the Gospel	21 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches 6:00 pm - Committee Meetings 7:00 pm - Church Council	22 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches	23	24
25 9:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - Deep Dive	26 4:00 pm - Happy Hour Gardening Club	27 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm - Unbinding the Gospel	28 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches	29 10:45 am - NOW Summer Lunches	30 6:00 pm - Movie Night	



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# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Nursery Staff: Marnie Inboden

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