

# THE MESSENGER

## Franklin United Brethren Church

7171 Central College Road  
New Albany, OH 43054

WWW.FRANKLINUB.ORG

Sunday Service 10:15 AM

## NOVEMBER 2023

### “WIN – TRAIN – SEND”

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (Not God’s Plan)

We often look back over history and define it in terms of major life changing events. I am not talking about wars or weather, plagues, or people. History can be measured in terms of inventions: harnessing fire, the wheel, horse transportation, the automobile, radio television, the computer, and Artificial Intelligence (A.I.). Like all other inventions, A.I. is here to stay. My first reaction to A.I. was great reservation and some fear. WE are very cautious about something we do not understand. My fear has changed to curiosity and a desire to understand and participate in A.I. My early fears envisioned my computer knowing everything about me (I think it already does) and the government tracking my every move (I think they already do). So, to understand a little more about A.I. I turned to my brother Royce who retired from the Defense Department with a Top-Secret Clearance and graduated from the U.S. War College in D.C. First, he told me: “No fear, the government has been using A.I. for decades—it’s just now fully coming into the public sector AND no fear – “we” already know about everyone (I think he was kidding)”.

A friend has been asking me since August if he can teach me how to use A.I. Until a couple weeks ago I kept putting him off. A week or so ago a computer geek friend of mine showed me he has an A.I. app and showed me what A.I. can do. So, I confess here and now...I have begun to embrace A.I. and hope to be very comfortable using it within 2-3 months. A.I. is super, super fast and a LOT different than “Googling” something and is unlimited in what it can do for you and what you can learn from it. When having lunch with my computer geek friend who has the A.I. app I thought I would test A.I. I saw a Jeep Wrangler out in the parking lot, so I told him to have A.I. write a book report for me about a Jeep Wrangler. He said: “No problem”, hit the app and within 1 minute a multiple page book report was written.

A.I. and the Bible have two things in common: both have an unlimited possibility that can affect our lives, and both are something you can spend the rest of your life learning. There, of course, are some major differences and one of them is speed. A.I. is driven by speed, the Bible’s emphasis is not about how fast we learn. Let me say it more succinctly: God is not concerned about how much we grow in a short period of time but how deep we grow over our lifetime. Artificial Intelligence is man’s plan to help get things done fast, God’s plan is about getting people to grow deep and that cannot be fast. We view our life from the here and now, God views our life from eternity. We want a sermon, a seminar or an experience that will instantly spiritually mature us. However, real maturity is never the result of a single experience. A great verse to know about God’s desire for our spiritual growth is Colossians 2: 6-7. “So then, just a received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness”.

In Christ’s Love,

*Pastor Mike*

## PRAYER NEEDS

Salvation for family members

**Missionary of the Month – Brian and Rachel Glunt:** For the next four months we are going to introduce you to all our missionaries at the Good Soil Community Center in Chang Rai, Thailand. Just a reminder: the Community Center is the “outreach hub” of the United Brethren Church. The center offers after school activities, cooking classes, language classes, holiday events, etc. to connect with Thai people and share Jesus with them. Also, our missionaries are connected with local Christians and together they go house to house to pray with people.

Back to Brian and Rachel...they come from Ft. Wayne, Indiana and have five children. Brian and Rachel are the directors and oversee all things including missionary management. They were the first missionaries “on the scene” and have been there approximately six years. Please pray for the Glunt family. Pray for the children, they go to an International Christian school and the daily round-trip commute is 1.5 hours!

**Shut-Ins:** Helen Smith, Melvin Burdette, Barb Pittenger, Midge Gathers, Trish Dolejs, Faye Cooper, Betty McCombs, Clarabell Harlan, and Margaret Jewett

**Shut-In of the Month – Midge Gathers:** Midge has been a member of Franklin Church for nearly 50 years. When you meet Midge and say, “Hello”, she greets with a big smile and a big hello. She enjoys laughing and appreciates humor, but she does have a serious side too. She has to have a sense of humor, she raised three boys and a girl. Widowed now, but Midge was married to her husband, Wilbur, for many, many years. Wilbur was a WWII veteran and honored with several medals while in the military. Mildred graduated from New Albany High School. Midge is 96 years old and in great spirits but would appreciate your prayers due to a recent inoperable cancer diagnosis.

## SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

*Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.  
Psalm 95:2*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**As You Vote This November 7<sup>th</sup>:** There are a couple of State-Wide issues to vote on and pray about. Regarding Issue 1 which would constitutionalize legal abortion up to the time a baby is considered viable, (viability determined by a physician). The following words are the position statement on abortion of the Church of the United Brethren In Christ: “We believe that human life is sacred from the moment of conception until natural death. Consequently, abortion cannot be recognized morally and scripturally as a means of birth control. The church recognizes that abortion may be medically necessary in rare and tragic circumstances, taking into account the life of the mother and baby. The church needs to demonstrate sensitivity and care toward those who have had abortions in the past in order to facilitate an atmosphere of grace and healing. (Paragraph 138 UB Discipline). Voting is a tremendous privilege; please pray before voting.

**November 11<sup>th</sup> – Veteran’s Day:** If you know a veteran, thank the veteran.

**Management Team Meeting:** November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7PM

**Women’s Ministry Meeting:** Thurs., November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6PM – Join a group that wants to get things done for Christ and His church.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Prayer Meeting:** Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> 5:30PM. Come, let us pray. You can count on a worship song or two, a brief time period for open praise time, and then prayer that focuses on God using our church for impact and we will always pray for people to accept Jesus as Lord.