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Dear Friends,

One of the neat things about the spiritual season of Easter is that it coincides with the natural season of Spring. In both creation and the resurrection of Jesus, God brought life into the world. Charles Wesley's Easter Hymn has a line, "Earth and

Heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!" When I see the blossoms and blooms of the season I imagine them joining our singing with their own colorful, "Alleluia."

Our church is joining the "alleluia" chorus this season with the "Great Fifty Day Challenge" (see Page 3) We aim to welcome 50 new members into our fold during the Great Fifty Days of the Easter Season. This initiative goes hand in hand with the signs of new life we are already witnessing: increasing attendance, burgeoning ministry activities, and a palpable sense of rejuvenation among our congregation.

New life, in its essence, is a divine gift. Jesus says in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." This Easter, let us take inspiration from the flowers and trees, joining in their chorus of life and renewal. Together, let's step into this season with open hearts, eager to grow, welcome, and celebrate the miraculous new life that God surrounds us with.

With Easter Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz

Senior Pastor



#### **NOTICE OF DEPARTURE & WELCOME**

It is with mixed emotions that we announce Liz Noyes, Director of Finance, will be leaving us to embark on a new professional journey. Liz has been an integral part of our finance department for over 11 years. Her commitment and contributions have been invaluable, and she will be greatly missed by all of us.

Liz's last day on staff was Tuesday, March 26, and we invite you to join us in expressing our heartfelt thanks for her years of service. For those who wish to extend their good wishes personally, thank you cards can be sent to her at 2231 DuPont Dr, Pensacola, FL 32503. We know she would appreciate hearing from the community she has served so faithfully.

We are also pleased to announce that Holly Houghton will be stepping into the role of Director of Finance. Holly comes to us with a wealth of experience in financial management and a deep commitment to First Church. We are confident in her abilities to lead our finance department and continue the excellent work that Liz has carried forward.

Please join us in wishing Liz all the best in her new endeavors and welcoming Holly to her new role. Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this transition period.

#### **COMBINED 11:00AM SERVICE**

Sunday, April 7 | 11:00am | Main Sanctuary

We invite our ICON family to join us in the Main Sanctuary to celebrate our 2024 confirmands at the 11:00am Main Sanctuary service. Please note that we will still have our 8:30am Main Sanctuary service.

#### **HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

The church office will be closed Monday, April 1 for Easter Monday. The MCA will remain open.

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday, April 15 | 6:00pm | Wesley Abbey

We encourage all council members to attend, and as always, the meeting is open to all members of the congregation.



First Church is answering the call and taking the challenge again this year! We are asking all of our members to invite people to church during the season of Easter and to help welcome fifty new people into the life of our church. We will have people joining starting on Easter Sunday, through Pentecost, on May 19. Join us at the next Coffee with the Pastors to learn more about First Church, contact Lacey Adair (LAdair@FUMCPensacola.com), Director of Membership with any questions and visit the church's website (FUMCPensacola.com/Membership) or the Church Office to fill out a membership form.

#### INFORMATION FOR THOSE WANTING TO JOIN.

Join us at the next Coffee with the Pastors to learn more about First Church.

Contact Lacey Adair,
Director of Membership.
with any questions.
LAdair@FUMCPensacola.com

Visit the church's website or the Church Office to fill out a membership form.

# CAFFEE with the pastors

All visitors that are interested in joining First Church are invited to attend our upcoming Coffee with the Pastors on **Sunday, April 14**, at 9:45am in the Consulate Café (white building on corner). This small gathering is a great time to get to know each other, ask questions of our clergy, and to be informed about the mission and ministries of First United Methodist Church of Pensacola. Contact Lacey Adair (LAdair@FUMCPensacola.com) for more information.



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

# MISSIONS MATCH UP



#### APRIL 11 | 5:30 - 7:30PM | THE CONSULATE

Join us for a unique opportunity to meet our 2024 Mission Partners and find your match! Our event will begin with dinner from Tijuana Flats and fellowship at 5:30pm. After dinner, you will have the chance to pick two mission partners to engage with and explore your next steps in ministry. Dinner is free (donations accepted). Contact Lisa Bond (LBond@FUMCPensacola.com) for more info.



Find your match! Scan QR code to register.

See next page for more info on our 2024 Mission Partners



# MEET OUR 2024 MISSION PARTNERS

We serve as our way of giving glory and honor to God for all He has given to us. We serve so th we can fulfill Christ's call to love our neighbor. We serve as a way to put our faith in action.

First Church partners with many amazing non-profits throughout our community and the work We would love to help you get connected with them to learn more about how you can find you place to serve.

#### **Bright Bridge Ministries**

Supports individuals who are experiencing homelessness, addiction, hunger, and more.

#### **Disaster Relief**

Assists communities experiencing disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods.

#### **Family Promise**

Provides shelter for families with children experiencing situational homelessness.

#### **Food Box Program**

Helps supplement needed food for local families and shut-ins.

#### **Gulf Coast Kids House**

Advocacy center serving child victims of abuse.

#### **Helping Hands**

Provides minor repairs for our church and community.

#### Kids Feeding Program

Provides weekend food for underserved children.

#### Milk and Honey Outreach Ministries

Mentors children for school success and connects families to needed community resources, food programs, and local churches.

#### **Reading Pals**

Mentors preschool children so that they are prepared for Kindergarten.

#### **Ronald McDonald House**

Supports families of children with medical needs.

#### Serving the Hungry

Serves hot meals to people in our community who are experiencing food scarcity.

#### Teaming with Tanzania

Grows churches and helps develop leaders in the Tanzania UMC.

#### **United Ministries**

Serves families in financial crisis who are at risk of homelessness.

Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'



APRIL 8 - 12 | 2024

**Let's Celebrate!** We are so excited to recognize 50-Forward Ministries at First United Methodist Church of Pensacola April 8 - April 12 during **50-Forward Celebrates Senior Week!** The experiences of older people bring wisdom and insight to our congregation, and we thank you.

#### **XYZ TRIP // GOOFY GOLF PENSACOLA - EST. 1958**

(Registration & Payment Required by April 4)

Monday, April 8 | 10:00am - 1:00pm | \$10

Join us for a fun outing and fellowship at the Historic Pensacola Goofy Golf established in 1958. We will enjoy 18 holes of Miniature Golf and a Box Lunch. Limited seats on the church bus or meet us there (3924 W. Navy Blvd, Pensacola, FL 32507).

#### **LUNCH OUT // THE GRAND MARLIN**

(Registration & Payment Required by April 4)

Tuesday, April 9 | 11:30am | \$35

Join us for a fun filled afternoon of fellowship and lunch out at The Grand Marlin on Pensacola Beach. We will be seated in The Santa Rosa Room, a private room overlooking the beautiful Santa Rosa Sound and the Gulf Islands National Seashore. Lunch will include a Field Green Salad, Whipped Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Dessert, Drink, and your choice of Grilled Market Fish or Filet Mignon. We will meet at The Grand Marlin. Limited Seats available in The Santa Rosa Room.

#### **XYZ TRIP // WEST FLORIDA RAILROAD MUSEUM**

(Registration & Payment Required by April 4)

Thursday, April 11 | 10:00am - 1:00pm | \$10

"All Aboard the Rails of History"! Join us for a fun outing, fellowship and guided tour at the West Florida Railroad Museum in Milton, Florida as we explore an interactive time capsule celebrating the impact of the railroad on the Panhandle and beyond. This museum boasts a combination freight and passenger depot, several outbuildings, model railroads, and memorabilia from various railroads across the country that are rich in history and excitement. We will also enjoy a Box Lunch in the Dining Car. Limited seats on the church bus or meet us there (5003 Henry St, Milton, FL 32570).

#### **50-FORWARD BANQUET**

(Registration Required by April 4)

Friday, April 12 | 5:30pm - 7:30pm | The Wright Place | No Cost

Join us for a fun filled evening of fellowship, a delicious dinner provided by Ruth's Kitchen and entertainment presented by our very own First Church friends, The Wright Street Boys Quartet. We will have a Love Offering collection for The Methodist Homes of Alabama & Northwest Florida - Fountain of Love Fund. In 60+ year history, no one has ever been asked to leave a Methodist Home due to their inability to pay. Doors open at 5:00pm.







# **SPRING CLASSES: APR 3 - MAY 8**

#### Fellowship Dinner | 5:00 - 6:00pm

Join us for dinner and fellowship in The Wright Place with your church family! Dinner can be purchased for \$10/adult, \$4/child, with a max cost of \$27/family. PLEASE NOTE: Dinner reservations are no longer required!

#### Mid-Week for Kids | 5:45 - 7:00pm

Children and students 3 years old through – 5th grade are invited to join us for special age level activities just for them on Wednesday nights. Children (3 yrs – 4th grade) can be dropped off in the gym. Nursery will be provided for infant - 3 years old.

#### Adult Choir Rehearsal | 6:00 - 7:00pm

All adults are invited to join us in the choir room for our weekly rehearsal. The Choir sings at either the 8:00am or 11:00am worship services.

#### **Adult Classes** | 6:00 - 7:00pm

# **HOPE IS HERE:** Practices for Pursuing Justice & Beloved Community

#### **Led by Donell Seager** | The Wright Place, 2nd Floor, Room 203

In Hope Is Here! author Luther Smith describes how we truly perceive and join "the work of hope," enlivening us to a life that is oriented toward immediate and future experiences of personal fulfillment, justice, and beloved community. This book prepares us to engage racism, mass incarceration, environmental crises, divisive politics, and indifference that imperil justice and beloved community and deliver the inner resources necessary to work for change through its interpretation of hope. If you desire to commit yourself to the ministry and work of justice and beloved community, this book will provide helpful guidance for a life sustained by God's gifts of hope and love. — Donell Seager is a spiritual director and supervisor for spiritual directors, as well as Director of Spiritual Formation and Worship for Center for Sacred Space, a nonprofit corporation that offers spiritual direction training and spiritual formation retreats and workshops.

**BOOK REQUIRED:** This class will use the book Hope Is Here by Luther E. Smith, Jr., available on Amazon and Cokesbury.

# **BEING UNITED METHODIST CHRISTIANS:** *Living a Life of Grace and Hope*

**Led by David Saunders** | The Wright Place, 2nd Floor, Room 233

What does it mean to be a United Methodist Christian? How does the United Methodist faith differ from other Christian traditions? In this study, longtime United Methodists and newcomers who are considering membership can deepen faith and grow in love and service of God and neighbor. — David Saunders coached college football for over three decades. He recently taught Reading and English at Pensacola HS and currently teaches third-grade Special Education at Bellview Elementary School.

**BOOK REQUIRED:** This class will use the book Being United Methodist Christians by Andy Langford, Ann Langford Duncan, and Sally Langford, available on Amazon and Cokesbury.

#### FORGING FORWARD IN FAITH: Uniquely You with Christ

**Led by Rev. Gary Morris** | The Wright Place, 2nd Floor, Room 206 Class Outline:

- Orientation: Our Life Matrix and Spiritual Imbalances
- Exploring the spiritual struggles of a few biblical stars.
- Our unique struggles at the crossroads of faith inhibit our unique calling.
- •Willingness to risk a better way, with Christ leading.
- Valuing a faith journey of acceptance and commitment that reflects your uniqueness in Christ.
- Setting your goals for a Living Faith; scripture, experience, tradition, and reason working together for you, a disciple of Christ.
- Rev. Gary Morris and his wife Cathy have participated in the ministry of our church since 2016. Gary is a retired Elder from the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. His primary ministry for more than 40 years has been as a Navy Chaplain and VA Chaplain serving the spiritual faith needs of active duty military personnel and veterans.

**BOOK REQUIRED:** Bring your bible!

# Beyond Baptism

### WHAT CONFIRMATION MEANS TO UNITED METHODISTS

AN ADAPTED UMC.ORG FEATURE BY JOE IOVINO

Many lifelong United Methodists have fond memories of their confirmation class. Sometime during adolescence, they met with a group of their peers, some adult leaders, and their pastor. They may have gathered weekly in the church basement, during a youth Sunday school class, or maybe for a weekend retreat at a campground.

When the classes were complete, they then stood before their congregation, where the pastor and others put their hands on them while a blessing was said. Some then received a special lunch or a gift from their church.

#### **PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Although confirmation is not a sacrament in The United Methodist Church, it is an important marker along our spiritual journeys.

At baptism, we are initiated into the new covenant in Jesus Christ and membership in the Church, Christ's body in the world. For many, this happens when they are very young.

We recognize children are members of their human families, but no one expects them to clean their rooms or empty the dishwasher until much later. In the same way, "baptized infants are members of the Church — the family of faith — but are not yet capable of sharing everything involved in membership," By Water and the Spirit, The United Methodist Church's official statement on baptism, teaches.

Confirmation is an opportunity to respond to the grace of God available to us, as acknowledged in baptism, and to promise to live as a person of faith. "What God offers us must be accepted

in repentance and faith," This Is Your Baptismal Liturgy states. "Confirmation and reaffirmation are our responses of commitment, profession of faith, and rededication."

#### **SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION**

Because confirmation is so closely linked to baptism, the order for the service is contained within Baptismal Covenant I in the front of The United Methodist Hymnal.

After the confirmands answer for themselves the same questions their parents and/or sponsors did when they were baptized, the pastor will say to the confirmand, "Remember your baptism and be thankful." This can cause some confusion for those baptized as infants too young to have memory of the occasion.

The intent is to remember that you are baptized. "It is not the particular event that you are remembering," clarifies the Rev. Taylor Burton-Edwards, director of worship resources with Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church. "It is what has happened to you because of it — what God has done in you — that matters."

Typically, the confirmand then kneels before the pastor who, along with parents, sponsors, and others, lays hands on her head. The pastor speaks words that are nearly identical to those said during the laying on of hands following baptism, "The Holy Spirit work within you that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ."

Finally, confirmands are asked to take the same vows of membership in The United Methodist Church and their local congregation that all who join are asked.

#### **VOWS OF A PROFESSING MEMBER**

1 To renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of the world, and repent of their sin.

2 To accept the freedom and power God gives them to resist evil, injustice, and oppression.

To confess Jesus Christ as Savior, put their whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as their Lord.

To remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

To be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church and do all in their power to strengthen it's ministries.

To faithfully participate in it's ministries by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness.

7 To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Continued on next page.

Because our journey in the Christian faith is not intended to be a solo venture, throughout the service there are places for the congregation to participate. In different parts of the service, they renew their baptism vows, profess their faith together with the confirmands, promise to do all in their power to support these newest professing members, and with them renew their covenant to be the body of Christ for the world.

#### A RENEWED BEGINNING

"Confirmation includes three aspects," This Is Your Baptismal Liturgy summarizes. "a) God confirms the divine promise to those who were too young to grasp what God was doing in their baptism, b) they respond by professing their own acceptance of the grace they have received and their own faith in Christ, c) the Church, as represented by this congregation, confirms the commitments they make."

Confirmation is not a destination. It is more of a way station, a place where we renew our commitment to the journey we have been traveling under the care of others.

"It is the first time that persons publicly declare their intention to live out the vows of the baptismal covenant," Burton-Edwards teaches. "It is not intended to be the last time. It's just that confirmation is the label we put on the first time."

It is also a time for a congregation to celebrate their young people's commitment to "live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ," and to renew their commitment to do the same.



#### **6TH GRADE CONFIRMATION**

Sunday, April 7 | 11:00am | Main Sanctuary Combined Service

## 2024 CONFIRMANDS

**Owen Thomas Houghton** John-Patrick Floyd Fairchild William Pierce Ahlstrand Marian Blount Mitchell Tripp Crawford Hale II Roey Cathleen Foreman Bina Carolyn Westerheim Asher Webb Wiggins Piper Lynn Christian Stella Rose Weis Harvey Daniel Lindemann Helen Lauderdale









# Sunday, May 5 8:00am - 12:00pm | The Wright Place, Dining Room EVERYTHING IS ONE DOLLAR! The FUMC Library in healther

EVERYTHING IS ONE DOLLAR! The FUMC Library is holding a used book sale! Genres you can expect to find include, religious, nonfiction, fiction, history and even cookbooks. All funds raised will be used to buy new books to add to our wonderful collection. Contact Gloria Holcombe for more information (gwholcombe@bellsouth.net).



## FIRST CHURCH © CARES

Congregational Care Ministry of FUMC Pensacola

If you would like to add an announcement or purchase flowers please contact: Ginger Raines at GRaines@FUMCPensacola.com

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### **Members Who Have Died**

#### We extend our love and sympathy to:

**Connie Caton** and family on the death of her mother, **Barbara Byous**. Barbara died on March 4, 2024.

**Charlie Lauten** and family on the death of her husband, **Doug Lauten**. Doug died on March 13, 2024.

# Loved Ones Who Have Died We extend our love and sympathy to:

Heidi Branch on the death of her mother, Marilyn Harris.

#### **CELEBRATIONS**

Ellis Ann Lee born to David and Charlcey Lee on March 23, 2024. Proud grandparents are Rev. Gerald and Malia Shelton.

Ally Shumpert and Connor Drenkhahn on their marriage on March 23, 2024, in Mobile, AL.

#### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

You may place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor, celebration or memory of someone. The arrangements are \$65.00 each.

March 3: Given in memory of Sharon Young, by her family. March 17: Given In loving memory of Teressa Bradley by Wayne and the Tricia and Ryan Hess family.

March 24: Given in loving memory of our parents, Cmdr. & Mrs. Charles E. Fosha & Mr. & Mrs. Louis A Maygarden, Jr. by Jerry and Rhonda Maygarden.

March 31: Given in celebration of the 65th wedding anniversary of Betty and John Bracken on March 28th.

## THE LIVING TRUST BEGINNING MARCH 6, 2024

The Living Trust is a special fund set up to receive gifts for memorials that you may wish to give in memory of or in honor of an individual. This is given to meet extra needs of the church above those of the annual budget. **If you would like to give towards The Living Trust at FUMC Pensacola, contact Liz Noyes, LNoyes@FUMCPensacola.com.** 

#### **IN MEMORY**

#### **Carol Otts**

By Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Hinton

#### **Judy Braden**

- By Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Hinton
- By Suzanne Yeakle O'Meara
- By Priscilla Yeakle Carroll
- By Clara Wimberly

#### Rissie McNeel

By Doug and Laura Mehle

#### **Christine and Stan Tarter**

By Bob and Janet Olliff Clara Wimberly

## Christine and Stan Tarter For Feed the Hungry

By Ed and Margaret Campbell

#### Marilyn Harris

By Anibel Tyrrell Kay Richie

#### Martha Taylor

By Mark and Martha Fricks

#### **Betty Olliff**

By Peggy Groves

# WHAT'S HAPPENING at FIRST CHURCH for

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

#### **IN-PERSON & ONLINE**

8:30 & 11:00am in the Main Sanctuary & ICON AT 11:00am in Wesley Abbey

#### **FIRST KIDS**

First Kids is our children's ministry at First Church. All children 3 years old (as of Sept. 1, 2023) through the 5th grade are invited to be a part of this ministry. We have a great time connecting with each other while singing, playing, learning about God, and learning about ourselves.

#### Lisa Bond

Director of Children's Ministry LBond@fumcpensacola.com

#### **KIDCONNECT & CHILLTIME PARTY**

Wednesday, April 3
3:00 - 4:30pm | Bayview Park
Join us for our end of the semester
party! We will have pizza, Kona Ice, and
playtime at Bayview park. Drop off at
the picnic tables. RSVP to Lisa Bond

#### FIRST KIDS/MCA SUMMER CAMPS

May 28 - Aug 7 | 7:30am - 5:30pm 8:30am - 1:00pm

#### Click HERE to Register

(850-549-8967).

We have weekly summer camps for all rising 1st – 6th Graders. Each week has a theme/focus with fun field trips, pool outings and trips to parks, crafts, gym games and lots of fun activities in a safe and positive environment. Spaces are limited, so sign up soon.

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL START THE PARTY!

June 3 - 7 | 9:00am - Noon

#### Click HERE to Register

Jesus gives us the most amazing reason to party! Come celebrate friendship, belonging, forgiveness, life, and purpose, and learn why we believe God's love and the Gospel of Jesus is the best news ever. All kids (completed PreK-5th) are invited to join the party from 9:00am - Noon each day for great lessons games, crafts, worship, and missions. \$10 donation per child is appreciated.

# BLUE LAKE SUMMER CAMP CAMP BLAST

July 22 - 26 | Blue Lake Camp

#### Click HERE to Register

All completed 3rd-5th graders are invited to go to this great away camp! Join your friends for a fun week of camp traditions like lake swimming, campfire, gaga ball, crafts and camp food while experiencing God in new ways.

#### FIFTY FORWARD

50 Forward is First Church's ministry for adults over the age of 50 (but all ages are welcome to participate). It provides opportunities for adults to be in community with one another and share in the gifts and graces of the more experienced members in our congregation.

#### **Iennifer Piver**

Director of 50 Forward Ministries JPiver@FUMCPensacola.com

#### **SILVER & GOLD**

Thursday, April 25 | 11:00am -1:00pm | The Wright Place | \$10

Click HERE to Register by April 21 Join us for an inspiring afternoon of fellowship with friends. It will include a delicious lunch provided by Ruth's Kitchen, along with a presentation by Bert Allen, sharing his experiences from his 50-day, 575-mile walk along the Camino Frances route of the Camino. Doors open at 10:30am.

#### **CELEBRATES SENIOR WEEK**

April 8 - April 12 | 2024 Click HERE to Register by April 4 Visit page 6 for more information.

#### **COFFEE WITH FRIENDS**

Tuesdays | 9:30 - 10:30am | Library We have a small, friendly group that meets each week for coffee and fellowship in the Church Library. We have no agenda other than to get out of the house and enjoy time with friends... new and old. Anyone is invited to join us. Coffee and pastries are provided.

#### **GRAND MONDAY NIGHTS**

Mondays | 7:00 - 8:00pm | Online
Register at legacycoalition.com/grand-monday-nights. Grand Monday Nights is a free weekly webinar to help you grow as a Christian grandparent. In these webinars, you'll get practical ideas and information on grandparenting, learn how to nurture your grandchildren's faith and overcome obstacles, and find encouragement. This is a ministry provided by the Legacy Coalition.

#### FIRST STUDENTS

First Students is our youth ministry at First Church for students in the 6th-12th grades. We have many combined activities and occasionally separate into midhigh and senior-high activities.

#### Geoff Cook

Interim Director of Student Ministries GCook@fumcpensacola.com

#### CONFIRMATION

Sunday, April 7 | 11:00 am Main Sanctuary

Come celebrate our sixth graders as they take their place as full members of our congregation.

#### YOUTH UNITING -COMBINED YOUTH SERVICE

Sunday, April 14 | 4:00 - 6:00pm
Join us for Youth United, a combined
Youth Service Hosted by First Pensacola, St. Luke's and Gulf Breeze UMC's. It
is Open to all Methodist Youth groups
in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. We will enjoy a spaghetti dinner,
games, music, and worship. RSVP's to
Geoff Cook, (850) 516-9554 gcook@
fumcpensacola.com

#### **MUSIC & WORSHIP**

Since our beginning Methodists have been "a singing people," and we especially love our Music Ministry at First Church led by Dr. Rick Branch with Heidi Branch (Assistant Music Director) and Brian Brown (Music Assistant and ICON Worship Leader). Anyone is invited to join our choirs, no matter the skill level. Check our choir schedules or contact Rick if you would like to be a part.

Dr. Rick Branch

Music Minister RBranch@FUMCPensacola.com

#### SANCTUARY CHOIR

Wednesday, April 3
No rehearsal.

#### **HANDBELL CHOIR**

Monday, April 1
No rehearsal.
Sunday, April 28
You play at the 8:30 and 11AM Sanctuary services.

#### **YOUTH CHOIR**

We rehearse every Sunday from 6:00 -7:00pm in April.

#### CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Wednesday, April 3 | 3:00pm End of the Year Party. See First Kids Section.

#### MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach is at the heart of who we are at First Church. By supporting various missions and ministries, we strive to serve our community in love, sharing with them the message of Christ through example.

#### Lisa Bond

Director of Missions LBond@fumcpensacola.com

#### **COMMUNITY DAY**

Saturday, April 13 | 9:00-1:00pm
Join us for a great day of welcoming our community to our campus. This event is about meeting our community and inviting them to experience FUMC.
We will have children's activities, a children's lemonade stand for Missions.

a Coffee stand for Missions, and a Mini Market where vendors can set up a booth and help support our Missions through their booth fee donation.

#### **FAMILY PROMISE TRAINING**

Tuesday, April 2 | 5:30pm The Wright Place, Great Hall

We are so excited to partner with Family Promise, one of First Church's newest Mission Partners. Their vision is of a community in which every family has a home, a livelihood, and the chance to build a better future. Join us for a brief dinner & meeting as our next step in connection with Family Promise. This meeting will last 1 to 1.5 hours and you will learn more about this program and look for how God may be calling you to serve. Please rsvp to Lisa Bond (LBond@FUMCPensacola.com) by March 29th to reserve a boxed dinner and let us know if you need childcare.

#### MISSIONS MATCH UP

April 7 | 5:30 - 7:30pm
Click HERE to Register
Visit page 4 for more information.

#### WEDNESDAY DINNERS

It's good to gather around the table with each other. It's a form of communion. The table is a place where strangers can become friends and friends can become family. So join us on Wednesdays this month for these delicious meals. Cost: Adults - \$10, Children (2-9 years old) - \$4, Max Family Cost - \$27 | Pay Online

April 3: Spaghetti Mac , Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

April 10: Meatloaf, Green Beans, Scalloped Potatoes, Yeast Rolls, Dessert

April 17: BBQ Pork, Collards, Cheese Grits, Cornbread, Dessert

April 24: BBQ Ranch Chicken Casserole, Cole Slaw, Cornbread Biscuit, Dessert

*May 1:* Beef Burrito Bake, Mexican Salad, Tres Leche

*May 8:* Grilled Teriyaki Chicken Thighs, Fried Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Dessert

#### ART SPACE @ THE WRIGHT PLACE

Our beautiful "Art Space at The Wright Place" is open to local artists to display and sell their work. Each artist will be able to have their work displayed and available for purchase for a month.

#### Mici Kuba

Facilities Coordinator MKuba@fumcpensacola.com

# FEATURED ARTIST: PEN WOMEN

April 8 - May 13

Reception: April 14 | 9:45 -10:45am
The Wright Place, Dining Room
Pen Women is a dedicated group of
writers and visual artists who are a local
group of the National association. We
have been together since the 1950,s and
are proud to be able to share our work
with the church and our friends and

#### **CHURCH & SOCIETY**

families.

Church and Society is the agency within the Church that educates, advocates and connects in an effort to implement the Social Principles and other policy statements of The United Methodist Church. Continually advocating with policy makers, organizing the grassroots, and educating future leaders, Church and Society works to live faithfully, seek justice, and pursue peace.

Dr. Rick Branch RBranch@FUMCPensacola.com

# JUST PENSACOLA NETWORK MEETING/RALLY

Thursday, April 18 | 6:00pm Wesley Abbey

Please join us for this churchwide meeting of our JUST Pensacola teams. We will hear updates on our current issues and find out more about this year's Nehemiah Action. Even if you aren't currently part of a team, please come learn more about our mission and how you can get involved. Contact Rick Branch for more information.



#### Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA