

WELCOME

Pastor Brennan



ASSOCIATE PASTOR

ICON Service & Beulah Campus

WELCOME OUR NEW ASSOCIATE, THE REV. BRENNAN PEACOCK!

Sunday, July 6 | 8:30am, ICON at 11:00am, and Reception at Noon

On behalf of the SPRC of First United Methodist Church of Pensacola, we are excited to announce that we will be welcoming the Rev. Brennan Peacock, as Associate Pastor, effective July 1, 2025. Pastor Brennan's first Sunday with us will be July 6. He'll be in the 8:30am Main Sanctuary service, he'll preach at the 11:00am ICON service and then we'll have a reception for him at Noon during our 4th of July Celebration Lunch.



Hello Church,

It's been a long time since I've been at home in Pensacola. I've visited often over the last couple of decades, but it's been 22 years since this was my home. I've lived in Durham, North Carolina, Mobile, Spanish Fort, Daphne, Wetumpka, Atmore, Andalusia,

and Luverne, all in Alabama. I've lived in cities and suburbs—small towns and county seats. And for a time, each of these places was home.

It's this city, Pensacola, that is forever in my soul. I have memories of places and relationships that are a part of me. I wouldn't be me without this city imprinted in my mind. There are too many things that I love and remember about Pensacola to be able to share them all here. But I will say that I am so incredibly excited to be a part of this community again. I'm so humbled to be appointed to serve here with dear friends of decades and new friends I haven't met yet.

Thomas Wolfe penned a posthumously published work titled *You Can't Go Home Again*. In the concluding pages, the main character shares this poignant reflection, "You can't go back home to your family, back home to your childhood... back home to a young man's dreams of glory and of fame... back home to places in the country, back home to the old forms and systems of things which once seemed everlasting, but which are changing all the time—back home to the escapes of Time and Memory"

With all due respect to Mr. Wolfe, however, I beg to differ. In a manner of speaking, of course, he's absolutely right. We can't rewind the years and reenter the places and relationships that have passed into memory. But home isn't a place, it's a connection. The places I've lived aren't home because I lived in a house there. They're home because I became a part of the connections of a community.

When the Rev. Dr. Henry Roberts first talked with me and helped confirm my call to ordained ministry, through the Holy Spirit, Henry kindled a flame in me that has burned ever since. It's a flame that has led me throughout my itinerant journey through the annual conference. And at long last that flame has brought me back to the church that loved me into this vocation. As I enter this next season of my life in ministry, I'm committed to exploring, learning, and loving this community all over again. It's not the city I left twenty-two years ago. And I'm not the person I was all those years ago. But thanks be to God. I'm home.

Rev. Brennan Peacock
Associate Pastor

MORE ABOUT PASTOR BRENNAN

Brennan brings a wide variety of experience and a heartfelt commitment to his faith and community. Raised in Pensacola, Brennan graduated from Washington High School. Although initially pursuing a career in hotel management for eight years, he eventually responded to God's call to ordained ministry, a realization that had been with him since his high school youth group days, and made crystal clear on a retreat in North Carolina.

Brennan pursued higher education at the University of West Florida where he received a BA in History, followed by a Master of Divinity from Duke University. During his time at Duke, he developed the beginnings of strong friendships with Geoffrey Lentz and Emily Kincaid. The culmination of two decades of shared ministry in our conference has led to the opportunity to work with two long time friends and transformational leaders. Brennan's ministerial leadership journey began with his first appointment in Mobile, Alabama, where he served as an associate for seven years, followed by leadership roles in several different congregations. Most recently, he served as the pastor of Luverne United Methodist over the last four years and as the pastor of Wesley UMC, a new church start in Troy, Alabama. Additionally, Brennan has worked as a Cultivator with

the Annual Conference New Ministries Strategies Team, where he has been a part of a team working with new and existing churches to engage their communities in creative and intentional ways. Brennan has a heart for developing community through shared passions and interests, especially among those that the church has historically not served very well. He is looking forward to providing leadership in the ICON worship service and extending the culture of ICON into a new church and community in Beulah.

Brennan is married to Patti, and they have two sons, Eli (21) and Adam (19). Returning to Pensacola, Brennan is eager to renew connections to the community and to explore new ways that the love of God and the love of our neighbors can bear fruit in new places with new people. The prophet Isaiah, speaking for God, says, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." This promise of the creative and renewing power of God, guides Brennan's ministry and he's ready to begin this exciting new chapter here at First Church Pensacola. In Brennan's words, "There's nothing like coming home."



4TH of July CELEBRATION

**JULY 6TH • NOON
ACTIVITIES CENTER**

JOIN US FOR OUR 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION! WE WILL HAVE HOT DOGS, ICE CREAM SANDWICHES, A BOUNCE HOUSE, AND MUSIC! WE WILL ALSO BE WELCOMING OUR NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR, REV. BRENNAN PEACOCK. STOP BY AND GIVE HIM A WARM WELCOME FIRST CHURCH!

**HOT DOGS • BOUNCE HOUSE
ICE CREAM SANDWICHES • MUSIC**

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSIONS

SUNDAYS | THROUGH AUGUST 3
9:45 - 10:45am | The Wright Place

“LIVING OUR FAITH”

7 - WEEK STUDY ON THE SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

Led by Rev. Emily Kincaid

Join us each week to understand what The United Methodist Church teaches through the Social Principles, why it matters, and how to live it out faithfully in daily life. Whether you're part of a Sunday School class or not Summer Sessions are a great way to meet new people!

July 6: BREAK

July 13: WEEK 4 - Relationship & Human Dignity

Themes: Social Community; personal and communal ethics

Readings: Social Community (2024 BoD, Part 9) Galatians 3:26-29; John 13:34-35

Guiding Questions: How do we honor the image of God in others? What is our responsibility toward the marginalized?

July 20: WEEK 5 - Inclusion, Race, and Gender

Themes: Social Community continued; justice in diversity

Readings: Isaiah 58:6-12; Acts 10:34-35

Guiding Questions: What does inclusive love look like in practice? How does the church witness to justice in society?

July 27: WEEK 6 - Political Witness & Faithful Action

Themes: Political Community; civic engagement and Christian witness

Readings: Political Community (2024 BoD, Part 9)
Romans 13:1-10; Matthew 25:31-46

Guiding Questions: What is the Church's role in public life? How can we live out these principles in our communities?

August 3: WEEK 7 - JUST Pensacola

With speakers Alex and Pamela Brown

TRUST THE PROCESS

FIRST CHURCH YOUTH LEARN TO TAKE EACH STEP WITH A PURPOSE



From July 13 until July 19th, a group of forty-three youth and chaperones from First Church will participate in Wilderness Trail, an annual trip to the hills of Virginia for a week of hiking, friendship building, and growing closer to God as part of Wilderness Trail, youth learn to step out of their comfort zone and into the beauty of God's creation. Groups of around eight people hike for multiple days on the Appalachian Trail and surrounding areas. Students spend their days walking together, making space for quiet times, washing one another's feet, playing in the rain, serving, celebrating secret friends, and sharing meals, all while learning to let go of the worries and thoughts of daily life and instead "trust the process."

During their hike, students are encouraged to notice "little foxes" and "holy grounds." Little foxes are negative things in our day that can steal our joy and cause us to lose focus on God. Holy grounds are moments where we notice God at work in our lives and in the lives of others. Each evening around the campfire, hikers are invited to share their little foxes and holy grounds during the nightly devotion. Through this process, the hikers learn to follow Galatians 6:2 which teaches us "to bear each others burden and so fulfill the law of Christ." Many of the youth who participate on Wilderness Trail, describe the trip as one of the most transformational events in their lives each year.

Wilderness Trail operates out of a small town called Troutdale, in the southwest corner of Virginia. Wilderness Trail is located near Mount Rogers, the highest point in Virginia, about twelve miles from Damascus, Virginia. Learn about the Wilderness Trail ministry at wtrail.com.

Lilly Adair
Sophia Burke
JD Ball
Rick Branch
Edie Brown
Tyler Dana
Gianna Deyell
Amy Fitzgerald
Bailey Fitzgerald
Molly Fitzgerald
Roey Foreman
Heather Gagnet
Peyton Gagnet
Daxton Gill
Mac Gilmer
Kyle Hange
Adeline Hartgrave
Jones Hess
Nathan Hultstrand
Cam Johnson
Alexandra Johnson

Lawson Killingsworth
Libby Krehely
Aiden Lamarche
Helen Lauderdale
Hunter Lauderdale
Katy Lauderdale
Eliza Lentz
Emma Lawrence
Jack McAuley
Henry Minard
Rainer Minard
Heather Nysewander
Collin Porto
Ruby Seacrest
Chloe Stump
Tyler Stubblefield
Cody Titus
Tucker Trivison
Coulson Voeltz
Whitney Voeltz
Malia White

WILDERNESS TRAIL DINNER

Wednesday, July 23 | 5:30 - 6:30pm | The Wright Place

[Click HERE](#) or scan QR code to Register



Join the Youth Ministry for dinner to hear stories about their adventures and be a witness to their spiritual formation that they experienced up in the mountains. Cost for dinner is \$10/Adult, \$4/Child, with a max family cost of \$27. A love offering will also be taken. Dinner is at 5:00pm in The Wright Place. Menu is burgers, chips, watermelon, and cookies!

BOLD to SAY

LEARNING & LIVING
THE LORD'S PRAYER

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY

August 20 - October 1 | 6:00pm | The Wright Place, Great Hall

SUNDAY MORNING SERIES

August 25 - October 5 | 8:30, 11:00am Main Sanctuary & 11:00am ICON



BLUE LAKE RETREAT

REFRESH • RECALIBRATE • REUNITE

CHURCH-WIDE BLUE LAKE RETREAT REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

October 17 - 19 | (Friday Night - Sunday Morning)

Blue Lake, Andalusia, AL

The weekend will include break out sessions, pumpkin carving, canoeing, roasting marshmallows, playing games, and fellowshiping! Dr. Jason Borders, Huntingdon College Professor of Religion, will be our retreat speaker.

Visit FUMCPensacola.com/Retreat or scan the QR code to register!



WHAT'S HAPPENING at FIRST CHURCH for

FIRST KIDS

First Kids is our children's ministry at First Church. All children 3 years old (as of Sept. 1, 2024) 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

COMMUNITY DAY: DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Saturday, July 12

10:00am - 1:00pm | *The Consulate*

This is a great family activity complete with water games, Humane Society Truck, The Smoking Jokers BBQ, Ice Cream Truck, and live music with the DoDads. There will be an 11:00am dog show, so bring your furry friends by 10:45 to win a prize. Invite some friends and come downtown for some fun.

SPORTS SPECTACULAR (For K - 5th Graders)

July 7 - 11 | Church Campus

[Click HERE to Register](#)

(Space is Limited)

This fun sports camp is a favorite for staff and campers alike! Join us for this fun week with Soccer Coach Steve Willis and some great Soccer players from our high schools. Lace up your sneakers and bring your A-game for a high-energy week packed with sports, teamwork, and friendly competition! *Highlights: Obstacle Course Inflatables*

BLUE LAKE SUMMER CAMP BLAST (For completed 3rd - 5th graders)

July 21 - 26 | Blue Lake Camp

Andalusia, AL

Join us for a fun week at Camp Blast! We will explore our relationship with God, make new friends and experience

all the things that makes camp so much fun! Ms. Lisa and other members of our church will be on the team that week and are looking forward to experiencing camp with your child. To register, go to bluelakecamp.com and find CAMP BLAST.

CAMP IMAGINATION

July 28 - August 1

[Click HERE to Register](#)

(Space is Limited)

Welcome to Camp Imagination, where creativity runs wild! Get ready for a week where dreams take flight and anything is possible! Get in touch with your creative side after a fun week of art, theater, and music. Dream big, create boldly, and let your imagination soar! *Highlights: Pensacola Little Theatre, Pensacola Symphony, & Pensacola Museum of Art*

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 mid-high and senior-high activities.

Rev. Heather Nysewander

Director of Student Ministries

HNysewander@fumcpensacola.com

WILDERNESS TRAIL

July 13 - 19

Wilderness Trail 2025 is kicking off on July 13! We will be spending three full days hiking through the Virginia Wilderness, among some of God's amazing landscapes. We will return on the 19th, however, should we decide among the chaperones to divide the drive back into two days, then it will be on the 20th.

SWEAT WEEK

August 7 - August 9

[Click HERE to Sign Up](#) by July 31

We will be taking three days to work alongside local missions in our community! Though there is no fee this year,

we need to know numbers to communicate with those we will be volunteering with so that they can have projects in mind for us to take on. Thursday and Friday we will be volunteering from 8:30am to 1:00pm. On Saturday, we will be volunteering from 7:00am to 10:00am. Following our Saturday volunteer time, we will be having a beach day until 3:00pm. Family is more than welcome to join us at the beach. Students will need to bring money for lunches all three days as well as money for breakfast on Saturday and a water bottle. They should also wear clothes they don't mind getting sweaty and potentially dusty or dirty in and comfortable, closed toed shoes for Thursday and Friday. On Saturday, students should bring all they will need for the beach (towel, suit, sunscreen, chair, etc...). For any questions, reach out to Rev. Heather Nysewander at hnysewander@fumcpensacola.com.

SUNDAE SUNDAY & EGGSTRAVAGANZA (Sunday evening Kick-Off)

August 17 | 9:45 - 10:45am

and 5:30 - 7:00pm

Join us for Sunday school where we will be enjoying ice cream sundaes! In the evening to kick off the start of the school year as well as our school year scheduling, we will be celebrating with EGGS, as we have been traditionally celebrating for 20+ years! This will be an evening to not wear clothes you want to keep clean.

BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN Senior High

Monday, August 18 | 7:30am

Whataburger on N. Davis Hwy

Mid-High

Thursday, August 21 | 7:00am

Whataburger on Gregory St.

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.

Jennifer Piver

Director of 50 Forward Ministries

JPiver@FUMCPensacola.com

XYZ TRIP - GULF STATE PARK LUNCH OUT & HISTORY OF GULF PIRATES

Tuesday, July 8 | 9:30am - 3:30pm

\$5 + Dutch Lunch

[Click HERE to Register](#) by June 6

Limited Seating

Join us for a fun-filled outing on the church buses as we travel to Gulf State Park in Alabama. We will enjoy lunch at Woodside Restaurant, located on the park grounds, at 11am. Then at 1pm we will settle in at the Nature Center and dive into the historical tales of the local pirates who once roamed our waters in search of treasure. This captivating program was created for history lovers!

LUNCH OUT - TAYLOR'S BREAKFAST & LUNCH

Thursday, July 17 | 11:30am

[Click HERE to Register](#) by June 15

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of fellowship and lunch out at Taylor's Breakfast & Lunch. Taylor's is a locally owned restaurant that serves Breakfast & Lunch all day. Owners, Taylor & Kerri Toth, hope to bring the warmth of home coupled with fresh flavorful dishes to you.

POPCORN AND A MOVIE

Wednesday, July 30 | 2:00pm

(Doors Open @ 1:30pm)

Wright Place | No Cost

[Click HERE to Register](#) by July 28.

Join us for popcorn and a showing of the heartwarming movie, Nonnas! This 2025 film is inspired by the real-life restaurant, Enoteca Maria, on Staten Island where grandmothers from around the world, not just Italy, cook their authentic dishes. The restaurant was founded by Joe Scaravella in 2007 to honor his mother and grandmother, both named Maria, and his love for Italian cooking. The film explores the challenges of running a restaurant, the love for Italian cuisine, and the importance of family and community.

COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

Tuesdays | 9:30 - 10:30am | Library

We have a small, friendly group meeting weekly for coffee and fellowship. 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

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, overcome obstacles, and find encouragement. This is a ministry provided by the Legacy Coalition. Register at legacycoalition.com/grand-monday-nights.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

RESPITE MINISTRY

Since launching in November 2024, we've seen God's hand at work in incredible ways—our Respite program has grown, lives are being touched, and our community is flourishing. Now, as we look ahead to fall 2025, we're setting our sights on a bold goal: welcoming 10 friends to Respite each day. To make that vision a reality, we need more hands, more hearts, and more people willing to say, "Yes, I'll help."

This ministry is a living expression of Christ's love, and we invite you to be part of it. Whether you can offer a few hours a week or just one day a month, your presence can bring comfort, joy, and dignity to those we serve. Whether it's offering a warm smile, lending a listening ear, or simply showing up in love—your time can make a lasting impact.

Please also join us in praying for continued growth, for new friends to join us, and for the volunteers who will help carry this mission forward. We believe God is doing something special here and we invite you to be part of it.

Sign up today. Be a blessing. Receive one, too.

Contact Respite Director, Kirstin Gartner for more information at kgartner@fumcpensacola.com.

SERVING THE HUNGRY

Serving the Hungry is in great need of men's short sleeve t-shirts (size medium to 2XL) and men's shorts (size 28-38). Items may be delivered to the Serving the Hungry box in the gym.

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

IN-PERSON & ONLINE

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

stay connected   [fumcpensacola](https://fumcpensacola.com)

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

LOVE & REMEMBRANCE

Loved ones who have died:

We offer our christian love and sympathy to:

Janice Park on the death of her son, **Jay Constant**, on June 21, 2025.

CELEBRATIONS:

The Marriage of **Dr. Robert Althar Jr. and Pam Strubber** on June 1, 2025

NEW MEMBERS

Victoria and Jackson Tharpe (1 year old daughter **Loretta**)

BAPTISMS

Indie Heejin Bradley daughter of Elise (Griffin) & Nate Bradley on June 22, 2025.

William Victor Goss son of Dana & Erik Goss on June 29, 2025.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

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

May 4: In loving memory of Jim Moulton by his family.

June 8: In celebration of Bill and Beth Brown's 50th wedding anniversary on June 7.

June 22: In celebration of Steve and Becky Robinson's 50th wedding anniversary on June 28 by their family.



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF PENSACOLA**

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For pastoral emergencies, contact the Church Office or Ginger Raines at 850.259.3177