The Methodist Witness

NOVEMBER 2026 | VOLUME 206 ISSUE 11



hallelujah

"THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SO GREAT A CLOUD OF WITNESSES..."

HEBREWS 12:1

HALLELUJAH! A SEASON OF THANKSGIVING



Dear First Church Family,

There are a few words so powerful that we have never quite managed to translate them. One of them is Hallelujah.

It comes from the Hebrew Hallelu-Yah, meaning "Praise the Lord!" It rings through the Psalms, especially the great songs of praise at the end of the book. Jewish worshipers have prayed and sung it for centuries. The early Christians carried it into their worship, and it became a great Easter cry. From the Psalms of ancient Israel to the chants of the church, from Handel's Messiah to our own sanctuary in Pensacola, the word has endured.

I love that. Languages change. Empires rise and fall. Generations come and go. But the people of God keep singing Hallelujah.

And First Church has plenty of reasons to sing!

As we enter this season of thanksgiving and giving, I have been thinking about how much God has done among us. Over the past few years, we have worked hard to strengthen our finances, restore our historic buildings, renew our ministries, and prepare for growth. Now we are seeing the fruit of that work: Beulah Chapel has opened, ICON has found new energy, and new people are finding a home in worship and ministry. Our church is healthier, stronger, and reaching farther into our community.

None of this happened overnight. It took prayer, patience, hard work, and the generosity of people who believed in what God was doing here. We still have work ahead of us, of course. But sometimes we need to stop planning the next thing long enough to give thanks for what has already happened.

That is what Hallelujah teaches us. Praise is an act of remembering. The Psalms tell the story of God's faithfulness again and again, so that each new generation can face the future with hope. Hallelujah is not a claim that everything is perfect. It is a declaration that God is faithful.

That is the spirit of our Hallelujah Generosity Campaign. We are not simply asking people to support a budget. We are celebrating what God has done and committing ourselves to what God will do next. Our gifts are one way we join the song.

This Thanksgiving, I want to thank you for your faithful giving. Your generosity has made room for new ministries, cared for our buildings, supported our children and youth, and helped us welcome people into the love of Christ. I am grateful for the work we have done together and excited about the future.

So let's sing Hallelujah with more than our voices. Let's sing it with our lives, our service, and our generosity. The best way to give thanks for what God has done is to take part in what God is doing next. Hallelujah, First Church! And thank you.

Practice Resurrection,



Geoffrey Lentz
Senior Pastor

---

hallelujah
FIRST CHURCH STEWARDSHIP

What is God calling you to give to First United Methodist Church of Pensacola in 2027? During stewardship we ask our congregation to prayerfully consider how you will support the missions and ministries of FUMC Pensacola. We will conclude with Consecration Sunday on November 8 with a special brunch and lunch! If you haven't done so yet please take a moment to let us know whether you'll be with us that day by completing your Consecration Sunday Reservation Card. (Please only fill out one reservation card per family.) Click HERE or Scan the QR code to register online.

ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

Tuesday, November 17 | 6:00pm | The Upper Room

Our regular Annual Charge Conference is scheduled for November 17, 2026. This meeting will be presided over by our District Superintendent, Rev. Ashley Davis, and will include the presentation of our annual reports, including nominations and lay leadership.

COMBINED 11:00AM WORSHIP

Sunday, November 22 | 11:00am | Main Sanctuary

With many of our ICON leaders traveling to Africa as part of our Tanzania partnership, our two downtown 11:00am services will worship together in the Main Sanctuary on November 22.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 22 | 5:00pm | Temple Beth El

Join us and our friends from Pensacola's Historic Downtown Congregations for our annual interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service, hosted at Temple Beth El. This service is a collaboration of Christ Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel, Temple Beth El, First Baptist Church, Allen Memorial AME, and First United Methodist Church.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office will be closed November 11 for Veteran's Day & November 26 & 27 for Thanksgiving.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Surrounded by a Great Cloud of Witnesses



Our All Saints banner has long been part of worship on the first Sunday in November, but this year we carried it into something new! Following our services, we paraded to the columbarium for a Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) Fiesta. We shared food, memories, and time together, surrounded by photos of people we love and miss. We have a feeling this fiesta will become an annual tradition!

In worship, we were reminded that our praise joins a song that began before us and will continue after us. We gave thanks for those who taught us that song; through their faith, their love, and the lives they shared with us. This year, we remember with love and thanksgiving the members of First United Methodist Church of Pensacola who have entered eternal life in the past year (November 1, 2025 - October 31, 2026). Each of their lives bore witness to God's grace, and their memory continues to shape our faith community in countless ways. And all those we name in our hearts. We miss them, we give thanks for them, and we keep singing. Death never gets the last word. Hallelujah!

Libby Mayhugh
November 12, 2025

Ann Willhauck
November 23, 2025

Sue Thomas
December 4, 2025

Fran Terrill
February 12, 2026

Larry Hines
February 27, 2026

Bob Espersen
March 6, 2026

Roger Murray
March 7, 2026

Pat Brinson
April 10, 2026

Lionel Brooks
April 12, 2026

Dale Johnson
May 20, 2026

Jake Odom
May 24, 2026

Marilyn Jones
May 27, 2026

Dennis Resor
May 30, 2026

Duane Rouser
August 1, 2026

Harvey Lester
October 5, 2026

Joan Ferry
October 9, 2026









COLUMBARIUM INFORMATION

A columbarium is a permanent structure with recessed niches to respectfully store cremation urns. The Columbarium at FUMC Pensacola is located on the courtyard on the North side of the Main Sanctuary and offers a serene and dignified space for families to visit and remember their loved ones (pictured to far left). We offer the niches to purchase for $1,200 each. Contact Denise Van Atta, Church Administrator with any questions (DVanAtta@FUMCPensacola.com).

GIVE & SERVE

STARTING NOW!

WEEKEND FEEDING KIDS - FOOD DRIVE

Each year we have a food drive to support those experience food scarcity in our community. This year we will be collecting food for Weekend Feeding Kids. This FUMC ministry serves hungry children in our local schools. Each age group is asked to bring in the listed non-perishable items below by Sunday, December 6 and drop them off in the GIVING CENTER located in the Activities Center. We will prepare bags at our Breakfast with Santa event on December 6. Monetary donations are also appreciated and are used to purchase any items we don't collect. Checks can be made payable to FUMC with the memo: Weekend Feeding Kids and turned in to the front office.

MCA Preschool: Packets of Ramen (No Cups), Box Mac-N-Cheese
Children: Cans of Soup (No Single Serve or Family Size), Canned Ravioli
Youth: Single Portion Snacks (Granola Bars, Crackers, Popcorn, Pretzels, Animal Crackers, Nuts)
Adults: Single Serve Packets of Grits and Oatmeal, Breakfast Bars, Peanut Butter (Plastic Jar)

SERVING THE HUNGRY - SHOE AND SWEATER DRIVE

Our Serving the Hungry Ministry provides hot meals twice a week to community members experiencing food insecurity. We also offer clothing and toiletries to help meet essential needs. As the winter months approach, we are collecting new or gently used men's shoes (sizes 9 and up, no sandals) and men's sweatshirts (size medium - extra large) to help keep our friends warm and comfortable. Please bring your donations to the GIVING CENTER located in the Activities Center by Sunday, December 6.

STARTING NOVEMBER 15!

ANGEL TREE

Scan the QR code to sign up online!

The Angel Tree returns on Sunday, November 15! Children from N.B. Cook, Milk and Honey, and some of the most needy children in our local area are included on our tree this year. Each child will have two angels placed on the tree: one for their clothing needs and one for their interests, likes, and toys. The tree will be set up in the church office starting Sunday, November 15. You can pick your own angel from the tree (no need to register online), OR you can register online and one will be chosen for you. All angels must be signed out and returned with unwrapped gifts to the GIVING CENTER in the Activities Center, no later than Sunday, December 6. The difference our congregation makes in the lives of our Angel Tree participants each year is extraordinary, and we are thrilled to set up the tree again! Please get in touch with Sarah Bullock-Head in the church office with any questions. SHead@FUMCPensacola.com (850) 432-1434.

BE A SANTA TO A SENIOR

Scan the QR code to sign up online!

Be a Santa to a Senior Returns November 15! First Church is excited to partner with Home Instead for another year participating in the Be a Santa to a Senior program! This program helps restock a supply closet with essential items for local seniors in need. These donations will allow Home Instead and its community partners to provide much-needed items to seniors as needs arise. Beginning Sunday, November 15, stop by the church office to select a bulb from our Santa to a Senior Tree. Each bulb will list items needed to help stock the closet. Please return all bulbs with your unwrapped donations to the GIVING CENTER in the Activities Center by Sunday, December 6. For questions, please contact Sarah Bullock-Head in the church office at SHead@FUMCPensacola.com or (850) 432-1434.

COLLECTING ALL ITEMS THROUGH DECEMBER 6 IN THE ACTIVITIES CENTER!

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND GIVING WORKSHOP



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 | 9:30 - 10:45AM | ACTIVITIES CENTER

Join us for a morning with Santa as we focus on the season of giving. We will prepare bags of non perishable items for the Weekend Feeding Kid's Program food drive, making gifts for the homebound, eat a delicious breakfast, and have an opportunity to take pictures with the big guy himself!

December 6 is the last day to turn in items for all our giving opportunities (Food Drive, Shoe/Sweater Drive, Angel Tree, & Be A Santa To A Senior).

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

MIDWEEK at First Church

We will be taking break for our mid-week activities November 11, 18, and 25. However, our Kid Connect Program and Adult Choir will still meet on the 18th. Activities for all ages will resume on December 2 with our Advent programs.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

5:00 – 6:00pm | The Wright Place

Join us for a time of fellowship and delicious food, reconnect with old friends, and meet some new ones!
Cost: Adults - $10, Children (2-9 years old) - $4, Max Family Cost - $27.

MENUS

November 4: Swiss Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, and Bread pudding
November 11, 18, 25: No Dinner

NEW KID'S TABLE

Kids may choose a PB&J sandwich with fruit and chips as an alternative to the regular dinner menu.

MIDWEEK ADULT AND AGE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

PASTOR'S LECTIONARY STUDY

Wednesdays, Through November 4 | 6:00 - 7:00pm
The Wright Place

Join Pastors Geoffrey, Brennan, and Emily for a five-week lectionary-based Bible study. Each week, we'll take a conversational look at the Scripture passage that will be preached the upcoming Sunday, offering space for reflection, questions, and deeper understanding.

WALKING GROUP

Wednesdays, Through November 4 | 6:00 - 7:00pm

All are welcome to join this multi-generational walking group as we explore downtown Pensacola. Meet in front of the Admin building at 6:00pm (Weather Permitting).

WEEKLY ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

Wednesdays, November 4 & 18
6:00 – 7:30pm | Choir Room

Weekly rehearsals take place on Wednesday nights from 6:00 to 7:30pm. No experience is needed. The Adult Sanctuary Choir is open to all adults and sings on Sunday mornings alternating between the 8:30 and 11:00am Main Sanctuary worship services each week.

NURSERY

Wednesdays, through Nov 4
5:30 – 7:00pm | Education Building

Nursery is available for infants up to 2 years old for parents attending class and choir practice. No registration required.

FIRST KIDS PROGRAMMING

Our Wednesday programming for Kindergarten–5th Grade starts at 3:00pm with a time for great extracurricular classes, developing relationships in small group settings, and having fun singing and playing together. This program lasts until dinner. After dinner, parents can attend classes while kids continue their fun with our Midweek program starting in the gym. *More details can be found in the First Kids section on page 8.*

KIDCONNECT (for K-5th Grade)

3:00 - 5:15pm | Starts in Wesley Hall
Click HERE to Register

Kid Connect Nov Schedule

November 11: NO Kid Connect
November 18: Kid Connect Meets
November 25: NO Kid Connect

FIRST KIDS: MIDWEEK (for Preschool-5th Grade)

Wednesdays, Through November 4
5:50 - 7:00pm | Gym, Ed. Building

FIRST STUDENTS PROGRAMING

Wednesdays, through Nov 4
6:00 – 7:00pm | Youth Building

Students, 6th to 12th Grade, are invited to the Youth Building for mid-week worship time! We will sing praise songs, play games, and study different series from Grow Curriculum.

MIDWEEK in Advent

MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Wednesdays, Dec 2 & 9 | 5:00 – 5:30pm | The Wright Place

Join us in Advent for dinner and fellowship with your church family. The cost is $10 for adults (10 and older) and $4 for children with a $27 family max.

Menus

December 2: Shephard's Pie, Salad, Yeast Roll, Dessert
December 9: Pizza, Salad, and Cookies
December 16, 23, & 30: No Dinner

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT: AN INVITATION TO ADVENT

Wednesday, December 2 | 5:45 – 7:00pm
The Upper Room & Lawn

All ages are invited to join us for this interactive service of story and song, that begins in darkness and ends in light, to celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season. As the service concludes will we journey outside to experience the illumination of the FUMC Campus for our Festival of Light Show and enjoy hot chocolate and warm cider.

PIZZA DINNER & CAROLING

Wednesday, December 9 | 5:00 - 5:30pm (Dinner)
5:30 - 6:00pm (Caroling at Wesley Haven)
6:00 - 7:00pm (Caroling on the Buses)

All ages are welcome to join us for a special night of Christmas Caroling! After Pizza, Salad, and Dessert we will head over to Wesley Haven for 30 minutes to carol, then, at 6:00pm we will load up on the church buses to share the hope, love, joy, and peace of the Advent Season.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Wednesday, December 16 | 6:00pm | Chapel

Christmas can be a painful time for some, especially for those who are grieving or in despair, so each year around the longest night, we hold a service of healing prayers, scripture, and music that acknowledges God's presence for those who mourn or struggle. All are welcome. This service is offered in partnership with Center for Sacred Space.

Concert Series

WHITE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 6 | 5:00 - 6:00pm | Main Sanctuary

Start the season with some festive Christmas music presented by our Children and Youth Choirs. A special offering will be collected to benefit Embrace Florida Kids. Afterwards, everyone is invited to join us for pizza and cookies in The Wright Place. *Nursery provided.*

ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 13 | 6:00 - 7:30pm | The Upper Room

Rick and Heidi Branch, along with some of their talented friends from First Church, will be performing music from the popular Mannheim Steamroller Christmas albums using piano, flute, electric keyboards, synthesizers, drums, timpani, and other percussion. Come and enjoy the unique sounds of Christmas.

SANCTUARY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH ORCHESTRA

Sunday, December 20 | 7:30pm | Main Sanctuary

This is a traditional evening of classical Christmas favorites presented by the First United Methodist Church Sanctuary Choir under the direction of Rick and Heidi Branch. A full professional orchestra will accompany the choir. A reception will follow the concert in The Wright Place.

EPIPHANY CONCERT

Tuesday, January 5 | 7:00pm | Main Sanctuary

Join us for a very special last concert of the season, "Journey to the Manger", featuring local musicians from area churches. Proceeds go to the FUMC Music Ministry. Presented by Libby Kephart Hargrave, with Sam Waite, Mitzi Holt, Laura M., Young, Heidi Branch, Jennifer DelGallo Taylor, Ty LoVette, and Rick Branch on organ.

TRADITIONS

PRACTICES THAT POINT US TO CHRIST



SUNDAY ADVENT SERIES

November 29 - December 20 | 8:30 & 11:00am

Main Sanctuary, Beulah Chapel at 9:00am & ICON at 11:00am

We love the traditions that help us get ready for Christmas: the evergreens, Advent calendars, Christmas lights, and gift giving. But these practices are more than holiday customs. In Advent, they point us toward something deeper: the coming of Christ.

As we enter the second year of our three-year Advent series, "Traditions: Practices That Point Us to Christ", we continue exploring the deeper meaning behind the Christmas traditions we know and love. Advent is a season of preparation; a time to awaken our hearts, to wait with hope, and to make room for the child who changes everything. Each week, we'll explore a beloved Christmas tradition alongside Scripture, discovering how it prepares us not just for December 25, but for the living presence of Jesus in our lives. Join us as we continue rediscovering the meaning behind the practices we cherish and allowing them to guide us into the wonder of Christ's birth.

November 29 | Evergreen | *Mark 13:24 – 37*

Jesus tells us to keep awake and watch for his coming. Even as the world grows dark and the trees lose their leaves, the evergreen remains green and full of life. For centuries, Christians have brought evergreen branches into their homes and churches as signs of eternal life and hope. This Advent, these living branches remind us that even in the darkest seasons, God's life endures. Christ is coming, and we are called to stay awake, watch, and hope.

December 6 | Advent Calendars | *2 Peter 3:8 – 15*

With God, a thousand years are like a day, and a day is like a thousand years. God's timing is not our timing, and waiting can be difficult. Our Advent calendars help us count the days until Christmas, opening one little door at a time. But Advent is about more than counting down the days. It is about learning to trust that God is at work even when we cannot see it. Each unopened door reminds us that God's promises are worth waiting for.

December 13 | Christmas Lights | *John 1:6 – 8, 19 – 28*

Every Christmas, we fill our homes, trees, and streets with beautiful lights that shine against the winter darkness. John the Baptist came to testify to the true Light that was coming into the world. He was not the Light himself, but he helped others see it. Our Christmas lights remind us that the darkness does not have the final word. This Advent, we are invited not only to celebrate the Light of Christ but also, like John, to reflect that light into a world that desperately needs it.

December 20 | Gift Giving | *Luke 1:26–38*

We love giving gifts at Christmas, wrapping them with care and placing them beneath the tree. But the greatest Christmas gift was not wrapped in paper or tied with a bow. When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, he announced that God was giving the world the gift of his own Son. Mary received this extraordinary gift with faith and offered herself in return. This Advent, we remember that Christmas begins not with what we give to God, but with what God has given to us. And the greatest gift we can offer in return is ourselves.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 9:00AM - 2:00PM

Christmas Creations is a long-standing Holiday Market hosted by the United Women in Faith at FUMC Pensacola. We select a diverse group of vendors to be sure you will find the perfect thing. Join us for a festive day shopping experience where you can get gifts for everyone on your list! Vendor applications can be submitted at fumcpensacolauwfaith.com.

COFFEE *with the pastors*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 | 9:45AM | HOSPITALITY SUITE, LOWER SANCTUARY

Interested in joining First Church? Join us for Coffee with the Pastors! This small gathering is an opportunity to meet our pastors, ask questions, and learn more about the missions and ministries of First United Methodist Church of Pensacola. For more information, contact Lacey Adair at LAdair@FUMCPensacola.com.



Christmas
AT FIRST CHURCH

6 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES | TWO LOCATIONS
Downtown: 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 8:00, & 11:00pm | Beulah Chapel: 7:00pm



Candlelight & Communion Services
4:00 & 6:00pm | Downtown | Main Sanctuary
A family-friendly service of candlelight, Christmas carols, children's sermon, and communion.
Childcare provided.

An ICON Christmas
5:00pm | Downtown | The Upper Room
A family-friendly, candlelight, and communion service. Includes a dynamic reading of the Christmas Story and mix of Christmas carols and modern music . *Childcare provided* .





Choir, Candlelight, & Communion Services
8:00 & 11:00pm | Downtown | Main Sanctuary
A traditional service of candlelight, Christmas carols, communion, and special choral music.

A Beulah Chapel Christmas
7:00pm | 6200 West Nine Mile Road
An intimate, traditonal service of candlelight, Christmas carols, children's sermon, and communion.
Childcare provided.





FROM THE CLERGY AND STAFF AT FIRST CHURCH.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His love endures forever.
1 Chronicles 16:34



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) 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

FAMILY FUN NIGHT - DINNER & LIVE MUSIC WITH THE DUDADS

Friday, November 13 | 6:00 - 9:00pm
The Burrow

Come to this fun family event that parents and kids can enjoy together. Come enjoy a meal and listen to our very own DuDads! A love offering will be taken to support the Weekend Feeding Kids ministry.

KID CONNECT WINTER SCHEDULE

November 11: NO Kid Connect
November 18: Kid Connect Meets
November 25: NO Kid Connect
December 2: Kid Connect Meets
December 6 | 5:00pm: White Christmas Concert
December 9: Kid Connect Party

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA & GIVING WORKSHOP

Sunday, December 6 | 9:30 - 10:45am
Activities Center

Join us for Clause with a Cause - morning with Santa as we focus on the season of giving. We will collect and prepare bags of non perishable items for the Weekend Feeding Kid's Program food drive, making gifts for the homebound, eat a delicious breakfast, and have an opportunity to take pictures with the big guy himself!

ELEMENTARY WINTER RETREAT (3RD–5TH GRADE)

January 29 – 31 | Blue Lake Camp

All 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are invited to a fun-filled weekend at Blue Lake Camp! This special retreat is a great opportunity for children to grow in their faith, make new friends, and enjoy a weekend of fellowship and fun. Registration includes meals, lodging, and a retreat T-shirt.
The FUMC kids will depart Friday after school and return Sunday by noon. Transportation will be provided by the church minibus. After registering, please contact Lisa Bond (LBond@FUMCPensacola.com) to reserve a seat for your child.Visit BlueLakeCamp.com for registration and additional 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**

NOVEMBER 4: Swiss Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, and Bread Pudding.
NOVEMBER 11, 18, 25: No Dinner
DECEMBER 2: Shephard's Pie, Salad, Yeast Roll, Dessert
DECEMBER 9: Pizza, Salad, Cookies
DECEMBER 16,23, 30: No Dinner

KID'S TABLE: Kids may choose a PB&J sandwich with fruit and chips as an alternative to the regular dinner menu.

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. Lauren Cowan
Youth Director
LCowan@FUMCPensacola.com

SUNDAY FUNDAY: NEON NIGHT

Sunday, November 1 | 5:30 - 7:00pm

Make sure you wear your neon for a night of glow in the dark fun including dodgeball, nine-square, music, and more! Supper will be served in the Youth Building at 5:30pm and then we will move to the Gym. Youth Choir will meet at 4:00pm.

SUNDAY FUNDAY: PROJECT BIRTHDAY

Sunday, November 8 | 5:30 - 7:00pm

Meet in the Wright Place/Dining Hall for a special service project preparing birthday boxes for children in need. In partnership with Pensacola Women's Club, we will assemble boxes which will be filled for everything a child needs for a birthday party, including gifts.
For a fun twist, we will be surrounded with birthday decorations, eat pizza & cake, and even take a swing at a candy piñata - because serving should be fun! Pensacola Women's Club says there is a need for birthday gifts that tweens and teens would like. I am asking that each student will bring a gift to share, just like you would at a typical birthday party (except there is no need to wrap it)! Youth Choir will meet at 4pm as usual.

Continued on next page...

SUNDAY FUNDAY: FALL BONFIRE

Sunday, November 15 | 6:00 - 7:30pm

First Students is grateful to Randy Thomas for opening up his home for a water-front bonfire for our youth. We will enjoy hot dogs and s'mores, share a devotion, and have acoustic worship.

Please contact Pastor Lauren for the address at (334) 315-0398. Youth Choir will meet at 4:00pm as usual.

SUNDAY FUNDAY: OUTH FRIENDSGIVING

Sunday, November 22 | 5:30 - 7:00pm

For the last Sunday Funday of November, we will have a good, old-fashioned Thanksgiving celebration! Supper will be a potluck style meal where everyone will bring a side dish to share and we will play all types of fun board games and more! Youth Choir will meet at 4:00pm as usual.

There will be no youth meeting in the afternoon on November 29th. Enjoy the holiday with your family!

SENIOR ADULTS

The Senior Adult ministry at First Church is 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.

Denise Van Atta
DVanAtta@FUMCPensacola.com

TACOS AND TRIVIA

Monday, November 9 | 11:00am - 1:00pm | The Wright Place | $10

Click HERE to Register by November 5

The Wright Place | Doors Open at 10:30am

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of fellowship and laughter as we travel down memory lane with interesting facts. No matter your hobbies or interests, there's a world of fun trivia to explore... 50's, 60's & 70's Pop Culture, Classic TV Shows, Movies & Music, Sports and more! Bring your appetite for tasty tacos too!

LUNCH OUT : THE TUSCAN OVEN PIZZERIA

Thursday, November 12
Please arrive at 11:00am

Click HERE to Register by November 10.

Join us for our monthly lunch outing with friends at The Tuscan Oven Pizzeria, owned by First Church members Ted & Deanna Lamarche. "Visiting Our Restaurant Will Fill You With Warmth And Put You In Food Heaven''. This unique and cozy pizza restaurant features a 2-ton, 500-degree, hardwood-fired oven made of brick, pumice and clay shipped straight from Italy. Feel free to bring your family and friends!

COFFEE (& MORE) WITH FRIENDS

Tuesdays | 9:30 - 10:30am
Church Library | No Registration

Join us for fellowship on Tuesday mornings in the Library! We have no agenda other than to get out of the house and enjoy time with friends... old and new. Coffee and pastries are provided but feel free to bring water, soda or tea if you are not a coffee drinker. ALL are welcome!

50 FORWARD - CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Thursday, December 3rd | 11:00am - 1:00pm | The Wright Place | $10

Click HERE to Register by November 29.

Join us for a fun filled afternoon of fellowship with friends. It will include a delicious lunch provided by Ruth's Kitchen, along with a festive Christmas music performance by Rick Branch and Company, as well as Christmas games and trivia. Feel free to bring your family and friends! Doors open at 10:30am.

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
Missions Coordinator
LBond@fumcpensacola.com

NIGHT TO SHINE 2027 VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Night to Shine is an unforgettable worldwide celebration centered on God's love and honors people with special needs as kings and queens. First United Methodist Church of Pensacola is excited to serve as a host church once again on Friday, February 12, 2027. Volunteer registration opens in early October with opportunities to serve as a guest's buddy, join the red-carpet or dance-floor hype crew, serve food, and more. Participant registration will open in December. Visit FUMCPensacola.com/NighttoShine for registration and additional information. You can also contact NTSPensacolaVolunteer@gmail.com with any questions.

Sponsors Needed

We offer this event 100% free to our guests and rely on generous donors and sponsors to help in our funding. Each sponsorship level offers an incredible way to give back to the community and support a memorable experience for our guests.Sponsorship packages range from $250 - $4,000. All sponsors are required to fill out the form located at FUMCPensacola.com/NighttoShine. Please contact Summer Rasnick (PensacolaNTS@gmail.com) with any questions.

Continued on next page...

LIBRARY

First Church has one of the finest and most comprehensive church libraries in the country. This impressive collection is managed by a staff of volunteers who devote many hours to keeping our library current and active. The library is located on the basement level of the Administrative Building on the campus of First UMC Pensacola.

Rev. Emily Kincaid
Associate Pastor
EKincaid@FUMCPensacola.com

BOOK RECCOMENDATIONS FROM THE LIBRARY STAFF

• *Read Flag of our Fathers*, Bradley, Non Fiction
• *Summer Island*, Hannah, Fiction
• *Win*, Coben, Fiction
• *Cutting from Stone*, Verghese, Fiction
• *A Faith of Many Rooms*, Thomas
• *American Dirt*, Cummins

Come browse the shelves and find your next great read!
by Lengette
• *The Women of the Bible*, by Bream
• *All the Light You Cannot See*, by Doeer
• *Mantour Canyon*, by Krueger
• *Carneige's Maid*, by Benedict

Come browse the shelves and find your next great read!

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.

NEW MEMBERS

Mary Skinner (Main Sanctuary, 10/25)
David McDonald (Main Sanctuary, 10/25)
Debbie Adams (Beulah Chapel, 10/25)

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

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

September 6: **Given in loving memory of Bob Espersen** on what would have been Bob and Sharon's 59th wedding anniversary on September 9th by Sharon.
October 4: **Given in loving memory of Betty and George Olliff's wedding day**, October 2, 1955, giving thanks for them and for this day. With love from their family.

IN MEMORIAM

Members who have died:

We offer our Christian love and sympathy to:
The family of Harvey Lester. Harvey died on October 5, 2026
Chris, Nikki, Kessler, Pearce, and Charlotte Ferry on the death of Chris's mother, **Joan Ferry**. Joan died on October 9, 2026.

Loved ones who have died:

We offer our Christian love and sympathy to:
Brian, Tracye, Bella & Tucker Trivison on the death of Brian's father, **Clifford Trivison**.
Kathy Cook on the death of her brother, **Roddy Custer.**
Kelly Krostag on the death of her mother, **Patricia Perkins**.
Wendy and Kevin Flynn and Hunter and Keller Fairchild on the death of Wendy's Father, **Hunter** and Keller's Grandfather, **Jim Barner**.

THE LIVING TRUST OCTOBER 1 - NOVEMBER 4, 2026

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. These gifts help meet needs beyond those covered by the church's annual budget. **If you would like to give towards The Living Trust, contact the finance department (accounting@FUMCPensacola.com).**

IN MEMORY

Harvey Lester
By Frank and Sylvia Beall

IN CELEBRATION

Sharolyn Hunt's Birthday
By Elaine Mitchell



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

First United Methodist Church of Pensacola

6 E. Wright St. • Pensacola, FL 32501 • 850.432.1434 • fumcpensacola.com

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