

BACK TO | BACK TO
SCHOOL | CHURCH
edition



SERIES CONTINUES THROUGH
AUGUST 25! DETAILS INSIDE!

I'M INTERACTIVE!



Click on the descriptions of the stories on the next page to go directly to that page. All emails and links are also click-able!

OPEN



Dear friends,

"If I don't have love, I am nothing" (1 Cor. 13:2). We are living in unusually polarized and divisive times. With the 2024 election approaching, we are witnessing increased conflict and the breakdown of community. At First Church, we believe that God has

called us to show a different way—the way of love.

This election season, we will be joining other United Methodist Churches in a kindness campaign with the theme "Do unto others." This campaign, styled like a political campaign with yard signs, T-shirts, stickers, and more, emphasizes that love has its own politics. Amid extreme partisanship, we will proclaim the message that no matter who you vote for or what platform/party you support, you are loved by God, and we love you too.

We are witnessing a breakdown in love in our society, and too often, Christians participate in it (and are sometimes the worst offenders). But, St. Paul tells us that love is our identity—it is who we are. First John says that God is love, and we are made in God's image. When we turn away from love of God and neighbor, we lose our identity and humanity.

Let us, no matter what party we support, devote the rest of this unprecedented election season to spreading love—the politics of Jesus over the politics of division and hate.

Dr. Geoffrey Lentz
Senior Pastor



DO UNTO OTHERS A CAMPAIGN FOR KINDNESS

Introducing Do Unto Others — a campaign for kindness that we are excited to bring to FUMC Pensacola and our community this political season! This campaign is an invitation to consider how we want to be treated, and

how we treat others, even those with whom we disagree. What's possible when our community leans into kindness? Join us as we come together to find out! We invite you to purchase our official campaign products to spread kindness in your neighborhoods and anywhere you go. We are offering yard signs, shirts, and stickers for pre-order online at FUMCPensacola.com/Kindness!

- Signs & Stickers will be available for pick up at the church on Sunday, August 18.
- The pick-up date for shirts will be announced.
- Limited edition Mugs will be available in the Consulate Café in September.

BEULAH CHURCH PLANT: CORE GROUP MEETING

Thursday, September 5 | 6:00pm | Pastor Brandon's House

First Church is excited to announce a return to our mission of planting new churches as part of Project Grow. Beulah, one of the fastest-growing areas in Northwest Florida, currently has no United Methodist Church presence. We believe God has called us to bring a new church community to Beulah, and we are eager to see the fantastic work He will accomplish there. We invite all interested in joining the Beulah Core Group to a meeting on September 5, 2024, at 6:00pm at Pastor Brandon's house. Your involvement can help shape this transformative journey and significantly enrich the spiritual life of the Beulah community. God is moving in incredible ways, and we would be thrilled for you to join this dynamic new church plant! Come and be part of something extraordinary! [Please email Pastor Brandon \(BBures@FUMCPensacola.com\)](mailto:BBures@FUMCPensacola.com) to RSVP and get the address.

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Bread OF Life



TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD

Come and join us for the tastiest sermon series you have ever heard—the Bread of Life! Bread is the foundation to civilization, making up the foundation of most diets in the world. Bread is survival, but it is also a comfort food. It can be simple or it can be elevated to a sweet delight. Bread in short is life. It is no wonder then that Jesus said that He is the “bread of life.” When our eyes are opened to the spirituality of bread, we can begin to see that all of life is sacred.

Each week we will have a sample of a special bread for you to “taste and see that the Lord is good.” We will have gluten free options for those that need them. Invite your friends! It's going to be delicious.

JULY 21 | Banana Bread: Finding Leisure to Eat

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

JULY 28 | Yeast Rolls: Feeding of the Five Thousand

John 6:1-21

AUGUST 4 | Doughnuts: Hot Jesus Now

John 6:24-35

AUGUST 11 | Pound Cake: Bread from Heaven

John 6:35, 41-51

AUGUST 18 | Corn Bread: Bread of My Flesh

John 6:51-58

AUGUST 25 | Sourdough: A Difficult Teaching

John 6:56-69

BACK TO SCHOOL

BACK TO CHURCH

With our young people going back to school and re-entering the rhythm of the school year, we are taking this time at the end of the summer season to invite everyone in our congregation to recommit to making church a part of your weekly routine.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

8:30, 11:00am, and ICON

Join us in starting the new school year off in prayer. All children & youth are invited to bring to worship their backpacks, school bags, lunch boxes, or whatever they take with them to school. At the beginning of each service, students will be invited to come down to the front of the sanctuary with their offerings to receive a blessing over the coming school year. We will offer a special prayer for all teachers, administrators, and parents as well.

BACK TO SCHOOL PHOTO BOOTH

Church office Lobby & ICON Lobby

We will have special photo booths around campus, so make sure you stop by to take a back to school picture to document the 2024/2025 school year!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18TH



BACK TO SCHOOL | BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Promotion Sunday and Ice Cream Sundae Bar!

To mark the beginning of the new school year and to celebrate the kick-off of a new semester of children, youth, and adult programming in the church, we will have a special Sunday with delicious treats and a focus on education. Our Kids and Students will enjoy a sundae treat in their own program areas (the Education Building and the Youth Building). And they will be promoted to their new Sunday School class.

Adults are invited to gather to enjoy cornbread from our Bread of Life sermon series. There will also be information about all our Sunday School and Mid-Week education opportunities for those interested in being a part of a small group or class.

MIDWEEK at First Church

FREE DINNER FOR MIDWEEK KICK-OFF

Wednesday, August 21 | 5:00 – 6:00pm | The Wright Place

On Wednesday, August 21st, we are kicking off our regular Midweek activities with a FREE dinner in The Wright Place! Join us for a time of fellowship and delicious food, reconnect with old friends, and meet some new ones. This is also a great opportunity for evangelism so invite your friends and family! *Menu: Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Garlic Toast, Green Salad, and Dessert.*

MIDWEEK STUDIES AND AGE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

6:00 – 7:00pm

After dinner, we will kick-off our new Midweek studies and activities! There is something for every age. In The Wright Place, hang around after dinner for the Pastor's Bible Study with Dr. Lentz. Kids and Students will have programming in their own areas and in the gym. Nursery will be available for those attending Bible study.

Pastor's Bible Study

LIVING IN LOVE: LEARNING FROM THE LETTERS OF JOHN

Starting August 21

Wednesdays | 6:00 – 7:00pm | The Great Hall

Everyone is welcome to gather in the Great Hall after dinner for the Pastor's Bible Study. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz will be leading us in a study called "Living in Love: Learning from the Letters of John."

These three letters are a remarkable glimpse into the life of the early church at a time in which they were experiencing division. St. John the Elder instructs the church to live in the way of love—he goes so far to say that, "God is love." We will be going through these relatively short letters verse by verse and try to apply this timely word from God to our own lives in this divisive and difficult season in our nation and world.

NURSERY

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 PROGRAMING

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. Afternoon programs are divided by age-group and listed below. This 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 10.*

Starting August 21

First Kids: Midweek (for Preschool–5th Grade)

Wednesdays | 5:50 – 7:00pm | Gym, Education Building

Starting August 28

KidConnect (for K–3rd Grade)

Wednesdays | 3:00 – 5:15pm | Starts in Wesley Abbey
[Register Online](#)

Chilltime (for 4th & 5th Grade)

Wednesdays | 3:00 – 5:15pm | Starts in Wesley Abbey
[Register Online](#)



FIRST STUDENTS PROGRAMING

Starting August 21

6:00 – 7:00pm | Youth Building

Students, 6th to 12th Grade, are invited to the Youth Building for fellowship, games, learning, and worship on Wednesday evenings.

ADULT SMALL GROUPS

Small groups are on-going discipleship communities for all ages, that meet on various days and times to build friendships and study the Bible or other topics. These groups include Sunday School that meets from 9:45 – 10:45am. You can visit any class or contact class leaders or Pastor Emily, EKincaid@fumcpensacola.com for more information on what class is right for you.

SUNDAYS

Sunday School: 9:45 - 10:45am

YOU'RE INVITED

Consulate, 2nd Floor, Room 205

The class will begin by studying the lectionary scriptures used in worship each week. It will be geared towards parents but everyone is welcome to attend.

Contact: [Patrick Houghton](#)

INTERGENERATIONAL CLASS

Consulate, 2nd Floor, Room 201

The Intergenerational Class is a multi-age group that studies a variety of topics chosen by the class. New members are welcome to join this community for study and fellowship.

Contact: [Alex Brown](#)

PARENT TRAP

Wright Place, Room 233

Parent Trap is a class for parents of young children. Studies vary from parenting to Bible studies relating to current events and topics.

Contact: [Barbara Scott Payne](#)

CONNECTIONS

Lower Sanctuary, Room 120

This is a class for empty nesters, the parents of high schoolers, and college students.

Contact: [Mici Kuba](#)

BONDING WITH THE BIBLE

Consulate, Room 101

Bonding with the Bible is a class that studies various books of the Bible.

Contact: [Bill Bond](#)

CHRISTIAN FAMILIES

Lower Sanctuary, Room 106

Christian Families is a multi-age group of couples and singles who study the Bible, and feature guest speakers from

First Church and the community as well as member-led discussions. Many members participate in local outreach ministries through First Church.

Contact: [Cindy Smith](#)

OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS

Wright Place, Room 206

Open Minds, Open Hearts is a senior adult coed group that has Bible-based study plus outside fellowship.

Contact: [Pat Franklin](#)

DUELL/LIPSCOMB

Lower Sanctuary, Room 118

Duell/Lipscomb is a proactive class for adults 50 and over using Bible-based literature to study social concerns.

Contact: [Susan Davies](#)

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Consulate, 2nd Floor, Room 209

This ministry, for 18 - 26 year olds will initially meet on Sunday mornings, but has plans to participate in community outreach and as well as group outings go to hangout and talk about the word. The class will be self led and the curriculum will be based around the participant's interests. College students, young professionals, and the like are invited to join; all are invited!

Contact: [Lilly Hoffert](#)

SOUL FEAST

Wright Place, Room 202

Soul Feast is a Bible-based covenant group of friends of all ages, facilitated by class members. They enjoy open discussion using a variety of materials including the Lectionary, books and videos designed especially for Sunday School classes, and occasional guest speakers. Their motto: "We listen, We learn, and we respect."

Contact: [Linda Shearlock](#)

TUESDAYS

COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

9:30 - 10:30am | Library

We have a small, friendly group of co-ed senior adults 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.

Contact: [Jennifer Piver](#)

WEDNESDAYS

WOMEN AT THE WELL

10:30am | Lower Sanctuary | Room 118

This book and Bible-based discussion group for women of all ages studies a variety of topics throughout the year.

Contact: [Cindy Smith](#)

JOE HARRELL BIBLE STUDY

Every Other Wednesday

12:00 - 1:00pm | Dining Hall

All men are invited to this every other Wednesday group.

Contact: [Mike Vance](#)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays | 7:30am | Aragon Café

All men are invited for a time of Bible study and Christian fellowship.

Contact: [Bill Bond](#)

THURSDAYS

MOM'S BIBLE STUDY

8:15am | Consulate Parlor

All moms are invited to join us for our weekly Bible Study. Come join us for great discussions, friendship, and faith building.

Contact: [Lisa Bond](#)

Continued on next page

THURSDAYS CONT.

GODS STORIES GROUP

2nd Thursday | 9:45am | Library

This group reads and discusses short stories from Christian and secular perspectives. All are invited to this study sponsored by the United Women in Faith.

Contact: Liz Boyd

SPECIALTY SMALL GROUPS

CENTERING PRAYER

Mondays | 11:00am

The Wright Place, 2nd Floor, Rm 202

This group meets weekly to facilitate the deepening of our relationship with God and each other through the practice of centering prayer in order that we might be transformed into Christ's likeness for the transformation of the world.

Leader: Donell Seager

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Tuesdays | 10:00am

Consulate, 1st Floor, Room 101

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a group of people who love to knit, crochet and more importantly, desire to encourage others during hard times. Prayer shawls are presented to anyone who needs assurance of God's love and comfort in their lives.

Contact: Karen Bower

QIGONG / TAI CHI

Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays

10:00 - 11:00am | Franklin Building

QIGONG, the "meditative martial art", has its roots in Chinese Medicine, and is a close cousin to the better-known tai chi. The slow, graceful motions are simple and repetitive, making the practice of qigong accessible to just about anyone.

Cost: \$5/class

Contact: Jean Parker



BLUE LAKE RETREAT

REFRESH • RECALIBRATE • REUNITE

CHURCH-WIDE BLUE LAKE RETREAT REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

October 18 - 20 | (Friday Night - Sunday Morning)

Blue Lake, Andalusia, AL

The weekend will include break out sessions, pumpkin carving, canoeing, roasting marshmallows, playing games, and fellowshiping! Speaker to be announced!

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



MENTAL HEALTH EVENT



FINDING LIGHT *in the darkness*

Caring for Self & Others

Sunday, August 25 | Noon - 5:00pm
at First United Methodist Church of Pensacola

First United Methodist Church of Pensacola & Center for Sacred Space are hosting the 3rd Annual mental health symposium "Finding Light in the Darkness: Caring for Self and Others" on Sunday, August 25. The event is open to all people. We'll be discussing the issues of anxiety, depression, trauma, substance misuse, grief & loss, loneliness, and marriage & domestic partnerships. Participants will hear from licensed clinical therapists, spend time in peer support guided by a clinician and spiritual director, and have a time of silent reflection.

No one should suffer with mental health diseases alone. Through this event we are trying to build a community that can become a place of hospitality and welcome to those dealing with mental health issues, where there is no judgment or stigma, and by which all people can find support as we walk alongside each other while we deal with mental health issues.

We will also provide childcare for those attending (limited availability for infant - 5th Grade) for a \$5 registration fee. This fee will cover lunch.

Registration is required. Visit [FUMCPensacola.com/Mental Health](https://FUMCPensacola.com/MentalHealth) or scan the QR code.

hosted by

CENTER FOR
SACRED SPACE


FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

register here

\$11 lunch included



6 East Wright Street | Pensacola, Florida 32501 | 850.432.1434 | 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

IN MEMORIAM

We extend our love and sympathy to:

Members Who Have Died:

Libby Mayhugh and family on the death of **Tom Mayhugh**.
Tom died on June 13, 2024.

Loved Ones Who Have Died:

Guy Miller on the death of his father, **Guy Miller**.

Kenny Holt on the death of his mother, **Lorena Holt**.

Yvonne Hurd on the death of her father, **Medford Lowe Starrat**.

Andrew Rasnick on the death of his grandmother, **Betty Rasnick**.

Bonnie Brown on the death of her sister-in-law, **Betty Yerg**.

BIRTHS

William Michael Little, William was born on June 12, 2024 to Amanda and Jim Little, proud big sister is Charlotte.

Isla Claire Dawson, Isla was born on July 14, 2024 to Katherine and Jarrod Dawson.

CELEBRATIONS

Barbie Spears for being named as the Music and Fine Arts Specialist for Escambia County Public Schools

BAPTISMS

Layla Suzanne Scott & William Winthrop Scott, children of Regina and Braden Scott, were baptized on Sunday, June 16.

Wallace Sayers Wilder, son of Zach and Eden Wilder, was baptized on Sunday, June 16.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

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

June 2: Given in loving memory of **Jim Moulton** by his family.

June 9: Given in loving memory of **Bob Park** by Janice and family.

June 16: Given in loving memory of **Jayne Mackey**, aunt of Jim Fitzpatrick, by Jim.

June 23: Given in honor of **Dr. Howell Tiller's sister, Marion Yetman**, on becoming a member of FUMC by Dr. Tiller.

June 30: Given in loving memory of **Margaret Helms** by her family.

July 7: Given in loving memory of **Hap and Hanna Habisreiting**, brother-in-law and sister of Jim Fitzpatrick, by Jim.

July 14: Given in celebration of **Donna Sue Gore's 90th birthday** on July 21st by Rick and Heidi Branch.

July 21: Given in loving memory of **Teressa Bradley** by Wayne and the Tricia and Ryan Hess family.

July 28: Given in loving memory of **Steve Greunke** by his wife Pam Greunke.

THE LIVING TRUST BEGINNING JUNE 12, 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 Holly Houghton, HHoughton@FUMCPensacola.com.**

IN MEMORY

Karen Weekley McLeod

By Bob and Janet Olliff

By Julie Seabrook

By FUMC Flower Ministry

Brandon Colt Richie's 42nd Birthday

By Kay Richie

Bill Bower

By Larry and Janis Davison

Tom Mayhugh

By Bob and Nettie Joseph

By Wil and Jackie Pergande

By Elizabeth Mayhugh

Medford Lowe Starrat

By Julie Seabrook

IN HONOR

The Youth Appalachian Trail

By Bob and Nettie Joseph

The Youth Choir Tour

By Bob and Nettie Joseph

Eric Penley & Todd Cunningham

For the Kitchen Fund

By Doug and Laura Mehle

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

END OF SUMMER BASH

Wednesday, August 7 | 5:00pm | Lawn

All are invited to join us for a special end-of-summer celebration with a hot dog bar, Kona Ice, Water Slide, Yard Games, & Music. FREE! No registration is required.

KID'S EXPO

Saturday, August 10 | 10:00am - 1:00pm | Consulate

This is your one-stop-shop to find the best activities for children to participate in this Fall! We will showcase educational programs, after-school activities, and community services JUST FOR KIDS in Pensacola! Humane Society's Adopt a Pet, activities by the Mess Hall and more. There will also be Fannie Lou's Ice cream, Cotton candy booth,

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, August 11 | 8:30, 11:00am, and ICON

All children & students are invited to attend Blessing of the Backpacks during all services (8:30 & 11:00am Main Sanctuary Services and ICON at 11:00am). At the beginning of the service, you will be invited to come down to receive a blessing over the school year. Make sure to bring your child's backpack, school bag, or their lunch box to be blessed. We will also have special Back to School photobooths around campus!

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

(a.k.a. Promotion Sunday and Sundae Sunday for our children)

Sunday, August 18 | 9:45 - 10:45am

Children that attend Sunday School on Back to Church Sunday will be "graduating" to their next class! Please bring your child (K-5th Graders) to the Big Room on the 2nd Floor of the Education Building at 9:45am. We will have a special ice cream sundae treat and fellowship time, then the children will get to meet their new teachers! Let us know if your child has any food allergies so that we can accommodate, LBond@fumcpensacola.com.

KINDERGARTEN BIBLE SUNDAY

Sunday, August 25 | 9:30am Chapel & 11:00am ICON in Wesley Abbey

This Sunday is a milestone for our kindergartners. It marks the beginning of their "official" journey in worship at our church. Parents and kindergartners are invited to come to the Chapel at 9:30am to hear about the "K" year and learn about ways to encourage their child's faith journey. Then, families will attend the ICON worship service at 11:00am in Wesley Abbey where the "K"s will be presented with their Kindergarten Bibles. Parents, please email Lisa Bond and indicate what name you would like announced (ie Lisa Benec Bond or Lisa Bond).

FIRST KIDS: MIDWEEK

(for PRESCHOOL-5TH GRADE)

Wednesdays, starting August 21 5:50 - 7:00pm | Gym, Ed. Building

After dinner, this Wednesday evening program is a great time of fellowship and faith building for Preschoolers and Elementary kids. Each age group will have a devotion/story and play time while parents enjoy a class and fellowship with others. Drop-off and pick-up is in the gym.

KIDCONNECT (for K-3RD GRADE)

Wednesdays, Starting August 28 3:00 - 5:15pm | Start in Wesley Abbey

Register Online

All children, Kindergarten to 3rd Grade, are invited to join us for Kid-Connect, our midweek connection time with camp-style classes like sports, music, drama, drawing - Pinterest Party games and more. Each week, from 3:00-4:25pm, kids will meet for worship, enjoy an extracurricular activity and connect with friends. Afterwards, from 4:30 to 5:15pm, they can join our Elementary Choir/Music program. Parents can drop off in the Wesley Abbey and pick up at 5:15pm in the gym. Families are then invited to Family dinner from 5:15 to 6:00pm. Then from 6-7pm, parents can attend classes while kids continue their fun starting in the gym. (See First Kids:Midweek)

CHILLTIME (for 4TH & 5TH GRADE)

Wednesdays, Starting August 28 3:00 - 5:15pm | Start in Wesley Abbey

Register Online

Each week, all 4th and 5th Graders are invited to join us for Worship and Chilltime in the Wesley Abbey Cafe. Just like our Summer Kaboodle Cafe, we will enjoy lots of fun activities along with a yummy snack while we chill out with friends. We will start in Wesley Abbey for worship with the other children, then we will have our own Chilltime in the cafe.

FIRST KIDS: SUNDAY MORNINGS

(for PRESCHOOL-5TH GRADE)

9:45-10:45am | Ed. Building

All Elementary Children are invited to Celebrate Sundays: our Sunday morning program for children. We will focus on two things: (1)connecting with our church friends and (2)helping children become closer to God through discipleship by exploring, engaging and experiencing God together.

Continued on next page...

We will meet on the 2nd floor of the Education Building. Preschoolers (3 years old as of Sept. 1, 2023) are invited to join us each Sunday for play time, story time, music time and prayer time. We will meet in the Preschool rooms on the 1st floor of the Education Building.

GRANDPARENTS SUNDAY

Sunday, September 8 | 9:45 - 10:45am | Wright Place, Great Hall

Kids & Students of First Church are invited to come celebrate their Grandparents with a special Grandparents Day Brunch! We will gather in the Gym at 9:45am for food, fellowship, and activities. If your family member attends another church, we invite you to bring them to our special celebration. We ask that First Church Kids (PreK-5th Grade) be escorted by their grandparents to Brunch instead of to their Sunday School classroom.

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

LUNCH OUT - MCGUIRE'S IRISH PUB

Thursday, August 8 | 11:30am

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

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of fellowship and lunch at McGuire's Irish Pub. Pensacola's locally owned award-winning restaurant has a turn-of-the-century, New York Irish Saloon theme. The atmosphere is exciting, and the food is fantastic!

SILVER & GOLD

Thursday, August 22 | 11:00am - 1:00pm (Doors Open at 10:30am)
The Wright Place | \$10

[Click HERE to Register by Aug 18](#)

Join us for a wonderful afternoon of fellowship with friends. It will include a delicious lunch provided by Ruth's Kitchen, along with fun entertainment by Mitzi Holt and Paul Martin. They will be performing their unique interpretation of musical selections from the Jazz Age as well as timeless favorites. They are so excited to share fun entertainment and warm hospitality with us!

GRANDPARENTS SUNDAY

Sunday, September 8 | 9:45 - 10:45am | Wright Place, Great Hall

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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 mid-high and senior-high activities.

Rev. Heather Nysewander

Director of Student Ministries

HNysewander@fumcpensacola.com

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, August 11 | 8:30, 11:00am, and ICON

All children & students are invited to attend Blessing of the Backpacks during all services (8:30 & 11:00am Main Sanctuary Services and ICON at 11:00am). At the beginning of the service, you will be invited to come down to receive a blessing over the school year. Make sure to bring your child's backpack, school bag, or their lunch box to be blessed. We will also have special Back to School photobooths in the Church Office Lobby and ICON lobby.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

(a.k.a. SUNDAY SUNDAY)

Sunday, August 18 | 9:45-10:45am

On Back to Church Sunday, students are invited to gather in the Youth Building for our Sunday School kick-off. Bring a friend and come enjoy some delicious ice cream sundaes!

EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Sunday August, 18 | 4:30 - 7:30pm

Join us for Eggstravaganza, our kick-off for the school year! All youth are invited and encouraged to bring a friend — the more the merrier! Wear clothes that you can get dirty, as this event tends to get messy. Choir: 4:30 - 5:30pm, Dinner: 5:30 - 6:00pm, Eggstravaganza: 6:00 - 7:30pm.

Continued on next page...

SENIOR HIGH BIBLE STUDY

**Mondays, Starting August 19 |
7:30am | Panera on 9th Ave**

Students, 9th - 12th Grade, are invited to join us at Panera for our school-year morning devotion.

MID-HIGH BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, Starting August 22 | Time TBD | Whataburger on Gregory

Students, 6th - 8th Grade, are invited to join us at Whataburger for our school-year morning devotion.

FIRST STUDENTS: MID-WEEK

**Wednesdays, Starting August 21
6:00-7:00pm | Youth Building**

Students, 6th to 12th Grade, are invited to the Youth Building for fellowship, games, learning, and worship on Wednesday evenings.

GRANDPARENTS SUNDAY

**Sunday, September 8 | 9:45 -
10:45am | Wright Place, Great Hall**

Kids & Students of First Church are invited to come celebrate their Grandparents with a special Grandparents Day Brunch! We will gather in the Gym at 9:45am for food, fellowship, and activities. If your family member attends another church, we invite you to bring them to our special celebration.

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:

5:00 - 6:00pm | The Wright Place

8/21

FREE DINNER

Midweek Activities Kick-off

Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Garlic Toast
Green Salad
Dessert

8/28

Red Beans and Rice
Corn Bread
Cole Slaw
Dessert

For dinners starting August 28:

Adults - \$10
Children (2-9 years old) - \$4
Max Family Cost - \$27

MISSIONS

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

FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise will begin hosting families in September. We have created a special, safe place in our Wright Place building where a family can spend one week together as they work toward permanent housing with Family Promise. We need volunteers to provide three to four meals for one family during the course of the week. We also need hosts to greet the family and serve them dinner each evening, Sunday to Saturday.

Needed Supplies:

- Frosted contact paper for door windows
- Towel hook strip for living area to dry towels
- Air mattresses (6 count)
- Extension Cord
- Shelf/Cabinet
- Shower Curtains (4 count)
- Shower Curtain Rings
- Hanging Shower Caddies (4 count)
- Runner Rug
- Towel Mats
- Keurig coffee pods (coffee, hot chocolate, tea)
- Shelf stable snacks
- Grab-n-go breakfast, shelf-stable and frozen (pastries, microwave biscuits, etc.)

Please contact Geoff Cook to sign up
gcook@fumcpensacola.com or (850)
516-9554.

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

CHOIR SCHEDULES

All of our Music Ministry ensembles/choirs will resume rehearsals in August or September. Here is a general schedule. Look for an email with specific information on your choir in the weeks before it begins.

- **Preschool Choir** meets during their Sunday School hour on August 4. They will resume weekly rehearsals on September 1 from 9:45 - 10:45am.
- **Kindergarten & 1st Grade Choir** will resume with our First Kids: Mid-week activities on Wednesday, August 28, from 4:30 - 5:15pm
- **2nd - 5th Grade Choir** will resume with our First Kids: Midweek activities on Wednesday, August 28, from 4:30 - 5:15pm
- **Youth Choir** (6th - 12th grades) will resume with our First Students: Sunday Evening activities on Sunday, August 18. We'll rehearse from 4:30 - 5:30pm before the Eggstravaganza.
- **Sanctuary Choir** will NOT rehearse on August 7. They will resume weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, August 14. They rehearse in the Ike Terry Rehearsal Hall on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 7:30pm
- **Handbell Choir** will resume in September.

Continued on next page...

ADULT CHOIR CHRISTMAS RETREAT

September 6 & 7 | Ike Terry Rehearsal Hall

If you would like to sing with the Sanctuary Choir for their Christmas Concert with Orchestra on Sunday, December 15, at 7:00pm, then join us as we begin to work on the music on Friday, September 6, from 6:30-8:00pm and Saturday, September 7, from 9:00am - 1:00pm. Please contact Rick (RBranch@FUMCPensacola.com) for more information.

WRIGHT STREET THRIFT

Denise Van Atta
Church Administrator
DVanAtta@fumcpensacola.com

PROGRESS UPDATE

We are excited to share the progress of our thrift store. We have passed our building inspections and are beginning the cleaning and organizing phase of our project. The thrift store will have a clean-up day July 27 and August 3 (if needed), 9:00am to noon. We will need to vacuum, dust, and arrange displays. Once the store has been cleaned well, volunteers will be needed to accept donations. A list of items that we will accept are listed below. We will announce when we will begin accepting donations after the building has been cleaned and prepped. Please contact Denise Van Atta if you can help. ***We will begin to accept donations at a later date in August. Stay tuned for more info.***

We will accept the following items:

- Clothing
- Shoes
- Accessories, Hats, & Jewelry

- Books
- Vinyl
- Knick-Knacks
- Kitchen Utensils
- Table lamps
- Tables
- Chairs
- Glassware
- Pictures
- Glassware & Dishes
- Wall Hangings
- Bed Frames
- Dressers
- Power tools

Due to our space please contact us if you would like to donate furniture from a smoke-free home.

Items we will NOT accept:

- Underwear, clothing with inappropriate language, etc.
- Children's toys
- Mattresses
- VHS tapes
- TVs, computers, electronics
- Bicycle helmets
- Car Seats
- Cribs
- Medical Items

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world is our mission here at First Church. John Wesley believed that to be formed as a disciple, as a follower of Jesus, you need the large community (the church). But where the real Christian formation happened was in the small groups of the class meetings and then even smaller groups of about 5 people.

Rev. Emily Kincaid
Associate Pastor
EKincaid@FUMCPensacola.com

We have a lot of different discipleship opportunities at First Church! If you're not a part of a class or a small group, we encourage you to find a place beyond Sunday worship to plug in. The Pastor's Bible Study is a great place to start!

You can find a list of all our discipleship opportunities on [pages 6 & 7](#).

SILENT RETREAT: PRAYING WITH JULIAN OF NORWICH, A MYSTIC, VISIONARY & SAINT

September 22 at 5:00 EST -

September 25 at 1:00 EST

Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat Center
Ft. Mitchell, AL

[Click HERE to Register](#)

Join us for a silent retreat hosted by the Center for Sacred Space as we pray with St. Julian of Norwich Divine's action and presence in our lives.

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

IN-PERSON & ONLINE

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

stay connected



fumcpensacola



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