

THE METHODIST WITNESS



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,

The Great Fifty Days of Easter is the most festive time of the church year. During this season, we lean into the new and abundant life available to us in Jesus Christ. As Paul says in 2 Cor. 5:17, “if anyone is in Christ—New Creation! The old is gone and the new has come.” In the resurrection of Jesus the world is becoming new. I can see new signs of life all over our church—our attendance and giving have grown this year and each of our ministry programs have more vitality. Every week we are seeing new members join the church and make professions of faith.

A few weeks ago, I taught a Methodism class at the seminary of Wesley College in Tanzania. In preparing the lesson, I was reminded why we were given the name “methodists.” Some

around Oxford University began saying, derogatorily, that the Wesley’s and their club were “new methodists.” John Wesley loved the term. He loved the idea that his group was doing something new, and for him this was connected to the new commandment that Christ gave—to love one another. I think it is time to recover our name—we are “new methodists.” Jesus has given us a new way to live and be in the world. It is my prayer that once again God in Christ Jesus will make us new.

Practice Resurrection,

Dr. Geoffrey Lentz
Senior Pastor

OFFICE CLOSURES

Memorial Day: Monday, May 29
Juneteenth: Monday, June 19

MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, May 14 | All Services

Join us for Mother's Day at First Church! We will recognize all those who are mothers or have been like mothers to us.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CLASS

Wednesday, May 17 | 6:00pm | Wesley Abbey

All are invited to join in on this free hurricane preparedness class resented by Escambia County Emergency Services.

PENTECOST CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 28

Join us on Pentecost Sunday as we celebrate the birthday of the Church and the end of the Great 50 Days of Easter! We will enjoy a special birthday cake in The Wright Place starting at 9:45am.

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Wednesday nights at FIRST CHURCH

SPRING
CLASSES



Wednesday Night Dinner

Through May 17 | 5:00 - 6:00pm | The Wright Place | FUMCPensacola.com/WednesdayNights to register.
Join your church family for fellowship and dinner. Please register by Tuesdays at noon.



Adult Classes | through May 17 (6 Weeks)

TO REGISTER: Click or Scan the QR Code to or visit FUMCPensacola.com/WednesdayNights.

BOOKS: Books can be purchased through the church for \$10.

THE SACRED ENNEAGRAM

Led by Rev. Emily Kincaid

6:00 - 7:00pm | The Wright Place, 2nd Floor, Room 206 | \$10 for Book | Registration Required | Childcare Available

Most of us spend a lifetime trying to figure out who we are and how we relate to others and God. This task is far from easy, yet the Enneagram offers a bright path to cutting through the internal clutter and finding our way back to who God created us to be. In this class we will learn to identify each participant's Enneagram type, unlock the why behind who you are and what you do, and learn tools and practices for facing your emotional, interpersonal, and spiritual challenges.

CREATIVE BIBLE JOURNALING

Led by Mitzie Massey

6:00 - 7:00pm | The Wright Place, 2nd Floor, Room 205 | Registration Required | Childcare Available

The earliest Christian Bibles had artwork to illustrate the stories held in those pages. Come enter into an ancient way of encountering scripture--through art! Learn about different ways to study and search the scriptures using different artistic techniques. No prior art experience required; art supplies provided!

PRACTICING RESURRECTION WITH THE GOSPEL OF MARK AND YOU!

Led by Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz and Rev. Kammy Young

6:00 - 7:00pm | The Wright Place, Great Hall | \$10 for Book | Registration Required | Childcare Available

This spiritual growth study presents the well-known gospel of Mark through voices and experiences that are often relegated to the margins. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz will be joined by Rev. Kammy Young of the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast and others in uncovering how the gospel is alive and well today - in Pensacola - and how God is, and always has been, calling us to live out the Word in a way that is transformational, offering hope and new life to the "least of these."

Mid-Week for Kids & Students

Wednesdays, through May 17 | 6:00 - 7:00pm

Children and students 3 years old through - 8th 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 and students (5th - 8th) will meet at the Youth Building. Nursery will be provided for infant - 3 years old.

ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

Wednesdays | 6:00 - 7:30pm | Choir Room

Open to all adults and sings at either the 8:00am or 11:00am worship services.



MAY 7 - 12 | 2023

OUR NEWEST 50-YEAR MEMBERS

JAN DAVIS
SKIP HUNTER
DALE JOHNSON
FLOYD REPLOGLE
RUTH ANN REPLOGLE
RUTH SNEED
KAYE WESTMARK

OLDER ADULT RECOGNITION SUNDAY

Sunday, May 7 | All Services

Join us as we recognize our newest fifty-year members during all of our worship services.

50-FORWARD LUNCH OUT // The Grand Marlin

(REGISTRATION FULL- Payment Required by May 5)

Monday, May 8 | 11:30am

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 Vegetable, dessert, drink, and your choice of Chicken Piccata, Grilled Market Fish, or Filet Mignon. The cost is \$25 per person. Meet at The Grand Marlin.

XYZ TRIP // First City Art Center

(Registration & Payment Required by May 5)

Tuesday, May 9 | 10:00am - 12:00pm

Join us for an educational visit onsite at the First City Art Center. This not-for-profit organization provides educational opportunities for artists and the community, while contributing to the overall development of artistic and cultural growth in Pensacola and the Gulf Coast. Our visit will include a guided tour of the Gallery 1060, a demonstration of glassblowing and a hand-built clay object project to take home. Limited spaces available. The cost is \$10 per person. Meet at First City Art Center.

XYZ TRIP // Guided Tour of Fort Pickens with Picnic Lunch

(BUSSES FULL...those who register will have to provide transportation. Payment Required by May 5)

Thursday, May 11 | 10:00am - 1:30pm

Join us for a fun filled afternoon of fellowship as we travel to Fort Pickens on the church buses. We will have a guided tour full of history about Fort Pickens from our very own First Church member, Bonnie Becker. We will learn how it was designed and constructed, beginning in 1829, to defend Pensacola Bay and the Pensacola Navy Yard and Depot from foreign attacks. A picnic lunch is included. The cost is \$5 per person.

50-FORWARD BANQUET

(Registration Required by May 5)

Friday, May 12 | 5:00pm - 7:30pm | The Wright Place

Join us for a fun filled evening of fellowship, a delicious dinner and entertainment presented by the Pensacola Little Theatre. Volunteer performers across generations will showcase their local artistic talents as they take us on a JOURNEY THROUGH BROADWAY. You will meet the performers, learn about their love for theatre and get a history lesson of the Pensacola Little Theatre. There is no cost for this event. Doors open at 5:00pm.

CLICK [HERE](#) OR SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER!

ALL PAYMENTS DUE TO CHURCH OFFICE BY MAY 5.



THE GREAT FIFTY

50

DAY CHALLENGE

This year, First Church is answering the call and taking the challenge. We are asking all of our members to invite people to church during Lent and Easter and to help welcome fifty new people into the life of our church. We will have people joining starting on Easter Sunday, April 9, all the way through Pentecost, May 28.

INFORMATION FOR THOSE WANTING TO JOIN.

Join us at the next
Coffee with the Pastors
on May 7 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.

COFFEE

with the pastors

All visitors that are interested in joining First Church are invited to attend our upcoming Coffee with the Pastors on **Sunday, May 7, at 9:45am in the Wright Place**. 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 STUDENTS

YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, May 7 | 11:00am | Wesley Abbey

Join us for Youth Sunday on May 7, when our Youth Ministry will take over every part of our 11:00am ICON worship service including a song by our Youth Choir.

Preaching: Jake Bures

Children's Sermon: Mary McAuley

Scripture: Kimsey Lawrence

Communion: Ashlynn Greeson

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

Sunday, May 14 | 8:30am | Main Sanctuary

Graduating Seniors will be recognized and given Bibles at the end of the service. Eliza Gill and Mary McAuley, class representatives, will speak at all three services.

GRADUATING SENIORS OF FIRST CHURCH - CLASS OF 2023

Thomas Averill

Davis Bare

Bryton Barnett

Luke Barr

Roman Bassett

Caroline Botts

Carson Botts

Jake Bures

Sarah Jane Busbee

Kolstyn Dana

Grayson Dannelly

William Dannelly

Corbett Davis

Liam DeWeese

Lleyton Etheredge

Palmer Etheredge

Kessler Ferry

Eliza Gill

Natalie Hall

Zach Hall

Ella Jane Hoffmaster

Andrew Huntington

Josef Jeffcoat

William Krehely

Kaelyn Langston

Kimsey Lawrence

Gary Lee

Roy Lee

Luke Lentz

Spencer Lurton

Mary McAuley

Abby Meador

Matthew Miley

Kelsey Miller

Julie Penta

Ben Pratt

Abigail Price

Nicollette Redmond

Hannah Ripley

Taylor Schutt

William Seacrest

Abby Seelmann

Jackson Sylvester

Harper Wiggins

Grace Williams

Michael Wood



YOUTH CHOIR "HOME CONCERT"

Sunday, June 25 | 8:30 & 11:00am | Main Sanctuary

Come to worship and welcome our Youth Choir back from their Central Florida tour. During worship, they will present their musical "Malice in the Palace" by Allen Pote and Tom Long. (Story of Esther)

FIRST KIDS

BOSTON BUTT

fundraiser

Click [HERE](#) or Scan the QR code to purchase.

8-91b

\$45



**Purchase
By May 21**
**PICK UP
MAY 28**

MONEY RAISED WILL BE USED TO PURCHASE MUCH NEEDED FURNITURE, CLASSROOM SUPPLIES, PAINT, & MORE FOR THE KIDS MINISTRY AT FUMC PENSACOLA.

Contact Summer Rasnick (850) 529-6200 / Summer_burdick@yahoo.com for more info.



FIRST KIDS
AMAZON WISH LIST

seasoned, slow cooked, and ready to shred!



CHURCH-WIDE BLUE WAHOOS GAME

Friday, June 9 | 6:30pm | Blue Wahoos Park

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

All are invited to join us on June 9 at 6:30pm at the Blue Wahoos Park for fun and fellowship with your church family! Tickets are \$17 each. Tickets can be purchased now until June 5.



YOUTH CHOIR TALENT SHOW & DINNER FUNDRAISER

Wednesday, June 14 | Dinner at 5:00pm in The Wright Place, Show at 6:00pm in Wesley Abbey

Come out and enjoy dinner and a show put on by our talented youth. This is one of their biggest fundraisers to help pay for their summer tour. Enjoy an hour-long show of our youth singing, dancing, playing instruments, telling jokes, and who knows what else they'll come up with this year! Cost is \$10/Adult, \$4/Child, with a max family cost of \$27. A love offering will also be taken. Click [HERE](#) or Scan the QR code to Register.



Teaming with TANZANIA

God is moving in Tanzania!

The United Methodist Church is growing more in Africa than anywhere else in the world! Since 2018, our Alabama-West Florida Conference has been in partnership with the Tanzania Annual Conference to support the church's growth in the Mwanza region. Mwanza is located on the southern shore of Lake Victoria and is the second largest city in Tanzania. Districts and churches around our conference have



helped to construct several church buildings for new United Methodist congregations all around Mwanza and we have sent several teams to the area to

support the growing churches and the local Wesley College.

This April, a team of nine missionaries (eight from our congregation and one from Ashland Place UMC in Mobile) represented the Alabama-West Florida Conference in Tanzania with the goal of supporting the growing United Methodist Church in ministry while also building relationships and gathering information for future mission projects.

The team's main purpose was to support and help grow children's ministries in local congregations. This took the form of a Children's Ministry workshop led by Lisa Bond and Denise VanAtta and assisted by Lee Ann Boykin, Patrick Houghton, and Holly Houghton. This workshop was held at Nyasaka UMC in Mwanza and was attended by representatives from each of the 12 districts in Tanzania. There were around 30 participants in all. We spent three days in the workshop teaching about the importance of children's ministry. We shared stories, played games, shared programming ideas, and discussed ways to pray. Everyone was eager to learn and take these lessons back to their congregations to share. At the end, we commissioned our



new friends for children's ministry in their local churches. It was a beautiful closing. The team along with the local Mwanza District Superintendent and Pastor Geoffrey gave stoles to and prayed over each participant, and the participants prayed one for another. We gifted them children's Bibles in Swahili and they in turn honored our team with their own gifts and singing. It was a holy moment in a holy place, and God's hand was undoubtedly on the work. Our team was so grateful to be allowed to play a part in that moment.



In addition to the workshop, the team also assisted at the local Wesley College. Wesley College is a United Methodist institution in the heart of Mwanza. It

is a new educational venture that is being built from the ground up, not looking at traditional education models, but the specific educational needs in Tanzania and what type of higher education institute would have the ability to address those educational needs. The school's foundation is its Theology program, and Pastor Geoffrey was able to teach a class on the History of Methodism to some of the Theology students there. In addition to Theology, the college offers many other programs in which they use experiential, project-based learning to help prepare students to be job ready professionals. Our own Kathy Worley met with all the girls at Wesley College to discuss the beginnings of a program aimed at women's empowerment - a much-needed and often foreign concept to women in their culture.

As if that weren't enough, the team also had meetings and discussed plans for a future dental mission to some of the areas around Mwanza most in need.

Dr. Laura McAuley and Pastor Geoffrey met with local health authorities and clinics as well as local leaders to discuss the possibility of offering free dental clinics to the community. There is great need for dental work and other health care and there will be great interest whenever a team returns. We hope to send a team of dentists in the next year.



On Sunday, we finished our trip worshiping God with our Tanzanian brothers and sisters. It's a beautiful thing to be a part of. Their worship seems so heartfelt and genuine and their faith is something to strive for.

Continued on Page 9.

The team worshiped and Pastor Geoffrey preached first at City Center UMC that meets inside Wesley College.



After that we were able to travel and join our friends at our sister church Nyegezi UMC, (First Church donated the money to build Nyegezi in 2018). At Nyegezi we received the most beautiful welcome. As we approached the hilltop where the church was built there was a crowd waiting and singing, welcoming us back to their community. They sang us from our vehicles, up the hill, and to the church's doors. It was amazing! Inside we worshiped, heard the children's choir, shared a meal together, held meetings, and visited. Outside, we played games with the children and walked down the road to look at a spot for the Pensacola Nursery School they are naming in our honor. We left feeling grateful for the relationships we made and the friends that we saw and truly blessed and humbled that we got to be a small part of God's great work in this African community. Thanks be to God.

This trip would not have been possible without the support of our congregation. Because of your generosity

we were able to raise over \$8,000 through the Night of the Classics fundraiser, the Tanzania Tea, the Holy Week Concert, and other collections. This money paid for the workshop and allowed us to provide transportation, lodging, and food, to all the workshop participants. It supported the team's translators and transportation, allowed for a \$1200 gift to start the Pensacola Nursery School at Nyegezi, and much more. Each one that gave was an integral part of the team. Thank you for giving to the mission of the church. And thanks to Ashland Place UMC for providing the Story Book Bibles and the stoles for the workshop.

Our conference's partnership with Tanzania grows stronger each year. And our team can testify that God is truly working there. Great things are happening and greater things are still to be done. We will continue to pray that we can be good partners in this mission. *If you are interested in being a part of a future project in the area of world missions or would like to know more about our team's trip to Tanzania, please contact Lisa Bond at LBond@fumcpensacola.com.*

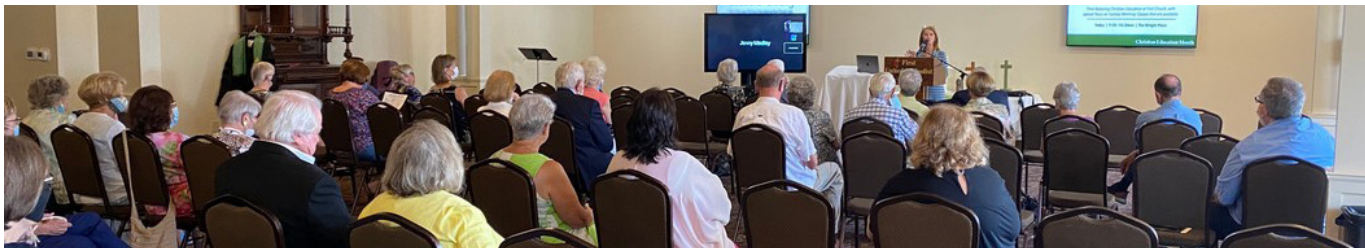


First United Methodist Church had just under 100 members present for our JUST Pensacola Nehemiah Action Assembly in late April at First Baptist Church of Warrington. There were over 700 people there from more than 17 Pensacola congregations. We had great success with our Adult Civil Citation Action, but less with our Affordable Housing Action. But we are not discouraged. Big changes in our systems don't happen overnight, or even in just one year. We are still working on affordable housing. Thank you to all in our congregation and community who came together to make positive changes in Pensacola!



Summer Sunday School Sessions

SUNDAYS, JUNE 4 - JULY 30
9:45-10:45AM
THE WRIGHT PLACE, GREAT HALL



All are invited to join us for our church-wide Summer Sunday School Sessions from 9:45 - 10:45am in June and July. There will be a speaker(s) each week to tell their story of faith and to facilitate discussions around the tables for us to get to know each other better and practice telling our faith stories. Speakers will feature the local Rabbi, FUMC Clergy and Staff Members, our Tanzania team, and more! These sessions will help make space for new people, give teachers a break during the summer, and create an opportunity to get to know people from other classes. If you know of someone who would be a great speaker, please let Pastor Emily know (EKincaid@FUMCPensacola.com).

VBS | JUNE 5 - 9 | 9^{AM} - NOON

All children ages 3 (as of September 1, 2021) through (completed) 4th grade are invited to VBS 2023 - READY, SET, MOVE! This hands-on, memorable week will allow kids to grow their faith as they understand how they can follow Jesus here, there, and everywhere! We'll have Bible adventures, art & crafts, games, tacky tourist day and more. Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to register.



READY, SET,
MOVE!



JUNE 5 - 9 | 9^{AM} - NOON
COMPLETED 5TH - 8TH GRADE

Come join us for a week of water games, field trips, fellowship, and faith formation. Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to register.



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

BAPTISMS

April 9, 2023: **Hayden Lauderdale**

April 9, 2023: **Jenny & Chris Kershner**

BIRTHS

Collier Hughes Camariotes, son of **Ryan and Sam Camariotes**, born April 6, 2023.

CONGRATULATIONS

Kaylee Covan and Logan Pierce on their marriage on April 15, 2023.

Ashley Longwell and Austin Keyes on their marriage on April 22, 2023.

NEW MEMBERS

Sarah & Edward Ahlstrand
(William, Charlie, & Henry)

Lisa & Chris Albright

Josie & Richard Barker

Lionel Brooks

Lindsey & Billy Gray

(Savannah & Riley)

Jenny & Chris Kershner

Austin & Ashley Keyes

Hayden Lauderdale

Liz, Luke, & Eliza Lentz

Amanda & Jim Little
(Charlotte)

Teresa Loy

Denise & Clayton McNeff

Nancy & Guy Miller

Melanie Rhodes

Lisa Rouse

Denise Russell

James & Connie Terry

Rebecca Williams

Toni & Greg Yost

CONFIRMANDS

Edith Brown

Molly Fitzgerald

Addie Gleason

Reid Rhodes

Tyler Rhodes

LOVE AND REMEMBRANCE

The family of Mary Ann Ballew. Mary Ann died on March 24, 2023.

Emily Kincaid on the death of her father, **Michael (Mike) Bennett Dueitt, Sr.** on April 1, 2023.

The family of Joy Barrineau. Joy died April 12, 2023.

The family of Bernice Gilmore. Bernice died on April 27, 2023.

The family of Peit Hudson. Peit died on April, 27, 2023.

The family of Anne Olroyd. Anne died on April 28, 2023.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

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

April 16: In loving memory of Virginia Williams by Jennifer Fleming.

April 23: In celebration of the marriage of Ashley Longwell and Austin Keyes on April 22, 2023.

April 30: In loving memory of Ronald Neal Yeakle on what would have been his 100th birthday on May 3rd by his daughters Priscilla and Suzanne, and their families.

THE LIVING TRUST MARCH 29 - MAY 1, 2023

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

Joy Barrineau

By Clara Wimberly

Susan and Gene Schmidt

Margie and Alan Moore

Jodee and Chris Hart

Lois Hudson

Mrs. B. B. Okel

Jane Moseley

Elaine Mitchell

Suellen and Hal Hudson

James Reeves

Carolyn Simpson and John Clark

Jane Lindeman and Dewitt Whitaker

Joy Barrineau Continued...

Martha Gund and Family

Cal and Betsy Moore

John and Isabel Fitzgerald

Mr. and Mrs. James Prim

Andrea Edgar

Berniece Gilmore

By Ginny Sisson

Travis Hurd

By Sean Starratt

United Parcel Service

Kenneth Tyrrell

By Anibel Tyrrell

June Weaver

By Tom and Libby Mayhugh

IN HONOR

Rick and Heidi Branch

By Elaine Mitchell

The Marriage of Kevin & Monica Dunnam

By Jane Reisman

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FIFTY FORWARD

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Seniors

Contact: Jennifer Piver

JPiver@FUMCPensacola.com

50-FORWARD CELEBRATES SENIOR WEEK!

May 7 - 12

Let's Celebrate! I invite you to join us for a week full of fun and fellowship while we celebrate 50-Forward Ministries at First Church. We look forward to celebrating YOU whom we love so dearly. See [page 4](#) for more info.

LUNCH OUT

JACO'S BAYFRONT BAR & GRILLE

Thursday, June 8 | 11:00am

[Click HERE to Register](#)

***Please note the time change.

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of fellowship and lunch out at Jaco's Bayfront Bar and Grille. It is known as the best waterfront restaurant in Downtown Pensacola. They pride themselves on serving unique delicious foods from their scratch kitchen, made with fresh, local ingredients. Registration deadline is June 6th.

XYZ TRIP: GULFQUEST NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM OF THE GULF OF MEXICO & LUNCH OUT

Tuesday, June 20 | 9:30am - 3:30pm

[Click HERE to Register](#)

(Reg. & Payment Required by June 16)

Join us for a fun-filled day of fellowship as we travel to Mobile, Alabama on the church buses to GulfQuest National Maritime Museum of the Gulf of Mexico. When we arrive we will enjoy a delicious lunch catered by Mama's on Dauphin in a private room overlooking the water. Once you finish lunch, feel free to explore GulfQuest at your leisure, which offers over 90 immersive exhibits in a vast array of maritime topics. We will board the buses at 2:00pm and head back to the church. Limited spaces available on the church buses. The cost is \$35 per person.

QIGONG/TAI CHI WITH JEAN PARKER

Mondays & Wednesdays | \$5 per class
10:00am - 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. Some benefits include: increased energy, better balance, improved muscle strength, reduced joint pain, lowered inflammation, decreased stress, anxiety and depression, improved overall well-being and more. Join us and bring a friend! Dress comfortably. You can sit for class, or hold on to the back of a chair. Even lie down. For more information contact Jean at jeanp347@gmail.com or Jennifer Piver.

COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

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

Join a small, friendly group for fellowship. We have no agenda other than to get out of the house and enjoy time with friends... new and old. Coffee and pastries are provided.

GRAND MONDAY NIGHTS

Mondays | 7:00 - 8:00pm

Register at legacycoalition.com/grand-monday-nights. Hear from a variety of speakers and relevant topics each week 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.

FIRST KIDS & FAMILIES

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Kids

Contact: Lisa Bond

LBond@FUMCPensacola.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 5 - 9 | 9:00am - Noon

[Click HERE to Register](#)

See [page 10](#) for more info.

FUMC SUMMER CAMP

May 28 - August 4

8:00am - Noon | \$100/WEEK

[Click HERE to Register](#)

First United Methodist Church of Pensacola, in conjunction with The Methodist Children's Academy, is offering weekly summer camps, May 28 - August 4, 2023, for rising 1st - 6th Graders.

KIDS KABOODLE KAFE

3RD - 5TH GRADE

Wednesdays, June 14 & 28, July 12 & 19 | 1:00 - 4:00pm | Wesley Abbey Cafe

Join us for a fun time with friends. We'll play cards, board games, videos, have cafe snacks..the whole kaboodle! Text Mrs. Lisa by Mon. of each week (850-549-8967).

PRESCHOOL PLAY DAYS

Thursdays, July 6, 13, 20, 27

1:30 - 3:00pm

Summer weekly get together for preschoolers. Preschool 3's and 4's (as of Sept 1, 2023) can be dropped off. Younger children are welcome to come with accompanying parent. They will participate in playtime and learning activities, storytime, devotion and a snack all based on a letter of the week. Text Mrs. Lisa by Tues. of each week (850-549-8967).

FUN FRIDAY

Friday, July 7 | 5:30 - 8:00pm | Gym | [Click HERE to Register by July 5](#)

Children from PreK 3 - 5th grade are invited to join us for a night of faith sharing, games and other activities, along with having a meal together while parents have a night out! Pizza & Dessert is \$5. Drop off and pick up is in the gym.

FIRST STUDENTS

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Students

Contact: Denise Van Atta

DVanatta@FUMCPensacola.com

WATER WEEK

June 5 - 9

[Click HERE to Register](#)

See [page 10](#) for more info.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Contact: Jennifer Piver
JPiver@FUMCPensacola.com

STEPHEN MINISTRY

First Church is hoping to restart our Stephen Ministry program. Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need. Learn more at www.stephenministries.org. If you are a trained Stephen Minister looking to serve or are interested in learning more, please contact Jack Knott (knott.jt@gmail.com).

MISSIONS

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Missions
Contact: Lisa Bond
LBond@FUMCPensacola.com

NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY: DRIVING IS SURVIVING

In Escambia County, four of five workers who work outside their homes drive alone. Thus, a safe, reliable car or truck is essential to keeping a job and maintaining financial stability—especially since half of this group makes less than \$38,000 per year. We're forming a team to start a new FUMC Pensacola ministry to help people understand, maintain, and repair their cars, and perhaps even provide cars to persons in extreme need. If you want to join us, please contact Michael King at mdkgator@bellsouth.net or at 251-689-1040.

MUSIC & WORSHIP

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Music
Contact: Rick Branch
RBranch@FUMCPensacola.com

YOUTH CHOIR

Sunday, May 7, you sing for Youth Sunday at ICON. Warm up in the ICON space at 10:30am.

Sunday, May 14, you sing for the Baccalaureate Service at 8:30am. Warm up in the choir room at 8:05am. (Donuts get put away at 8:06!)

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Your rehearsals during June will be on Wednesdays, June 7 and 28, at 6:00pm.

YOUTH CHOIR TOUR

June 16 - 24

Please be in prayer for the 35 youth and adults while they are on tour in Central Florida.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

FUMCPensacola.com/WednesdayNights

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

[Click HERE to Register](#)

Adults: \$10, Children (2 - 9 years old): \$4

"Retro Dinner Month"

May 3: Swedish Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Veggies 5-way, Dinner Roll, Strawberry Jell-O pretzel Dessert.

May 10: Chicken A La King, Rice, Pear Salad, Dinner Roll, Chocolate Delight.

May 17: Square Pepperoni Pizza, Salad, Poke Cake

No Wednesday Night Dinner May 24 - August 9.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

50 FORWARD CELEBRATES

Friday, May 12 | 4:30 - 8:00pm

First Church is celebrating our Senior Adult Ministries May 7 - 12. We are in need of volunteers to serve dinner (restaurant style) at our special banquet on May 12. For more information and to sign up, contact Jennifer Piver.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

To make VBS possible, we are in need to volunteers! Positions include Crew Leader, Decorations, Registration, Prayer Team, Craft/mission Station Leader, Recreation Station Leader, Craft Station Leader, & Reflection Station Leader. Monetary donations are always welcome. Contact Lisa Bond for more information.

LIBRARY

BOOK REVIEW

"Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng is a book about the power of mother-daughter relationships, class and privilege, and the emotional struggles of the characters. The "perfect" Richardson family of "perfect" Shaker Heights, Ohio is disrupted by the arrival of artistic, mysterious Mia and her teenaged daughter Pearl. The relationships that develop drive the story to its dramatic conclusion.

THANK YOU FROM THE LIBRARY

Thank you to all the members who visited the library at the Open House on April 30. Visit us again!

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

IN-PERSON & ONLINE

8:30 & 11:00am in the Main Sanctuary
& ICON AT 11:00am in Wesley Abbey
Sunday School: 9:45 - 10:45am

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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

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