

*Pictured: Hand illustrated
postcard from 1908 - 1910.*

THE METHODIST WITNESS

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I'M INTERACTIVE!



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are also click-able!

OPEN

FORWARD

FIRST UNITED METHODIST STEWARDSHIP



Dear Friends,

Over the last few years, our church has faced unprecedented challenges with the pandemic and social discord. In biblical language, we would define this period as one of wilderness, in which we've felt "stuck" and searching for direction.

However, we are now entering a new era of our history, and I believe that God is calling us to move FORWARD. There is the great scene in Exodus 14 where God tells Moses while leading the people through the wilderness, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to move forward!" Our wilderness period is ending, and God is calling us to step out in faith.

We know that God has been faithful to us in our past. The theme for our bicentennial celebration is from the old hymn, "Forward Through the Ages." God has been our guide and guardian throughout the generations here in Pensacola, and now the God who has been faithful to us over the last 200 years will be faithful to lead us forward yet again. FORWARD – that is our stewardship theme for this year (our first Annual Stewardship Campaign since 2019). While the last few years have been difficult financially for our church, now is a time to move FORWARD. And we are asking all our members to pray and answer God's call to move FORWARD with us.

On Consecration Sunday, November 13, we will be filling out our Estimate of Giving Cards, and you have the opportunity to discern what you plan to give in 2023. This process is how we set our budget and make our plans for ministry for the coming year.

Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee present at Sunday morning worship and the Celebration Brunch or Lunch immediately following our worship services. The meal will be catered by Ruth's Kitchen, so if you have not made a reservation yet, please let us know that you will be present by filling out the reservation form online through the church's website or fill out a physical reservation card in the Church Office or in Sunday worship on November 6.

"Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee present at Sunday morning worship and the Celebration Brunch or Lunch..."

November is a big month. Join with us and help us to celebrate the past (there's a lot to celebrate) and prepare for the future (our work is just beginning). Ask God what he is calling you to do to move this congregation FORWARD. This coming year is critical for our church as we embark on some visioning and lay the foundation for the next 200 years of ministry in downtown Pensacola. Let us "press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz
Senior Pastor

CONSECRATION SUNDAY
RESERVATION CARD

NUMBER ATTENDING FROM HOUSEHOLD: _____

NAME(S): _____

EMAIL: _____
(required)

On Sunday, November 13,
I plan to attend the:

☐ 8:30am Service
☐ 9:30am Brunch
☐ 11:00am Service
☐ ICON at 11:00am
☐ 12:00pm Lunch

FORWARD
FIRST UNITED METHODIST STEWARDSHIP



Make your reservations today!
[Click HERE](#), Scan the QR code,
or fill out a card this Sunday!

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 13

**Join us for morning worship at 8:30am
and stay for the Celebration Brunch.**

*Menu: Hashbrown Casserole, Biscuit,
Fruit & yogurt bar*

OR

**Join us at one of our 11:00am worship services
and stay for the Celebration Lunch.**

*Menu: Sliced ham, Green Bean Casserole,
Scalloped Potatoes, Biscuit*

...THROUGH THE AGES



The history of First United Methodist Church Pensacola, FL dates back to 1821, when a mission was established by the Mississippi Conference and the Reverend Alexander Talley was appointed as missionary to Pensacola. The mission began by holding meetings in the courthouse and the old theater of Pensacola. In the 200 years since we have had three church buildings, more than 50 pastors, and we have been the home to many thousands of worshipers. Our theme for our bicentennial celebration is "Forward Through the Ages." God has done great things in this community and in the world through our congregation in the last 200 years, and in the month of November we will take a look back and remember God's faithfulness to his people. Then on Sunday, December 4 we will share in a big Bicentennial Celebration just before our 201st Birthday!

FORWARD THROUGH THE AGES

This month we will look back at our history through these lenses:

Week of Sunday, November 6 – 200 Years of Saints

Week of Sunday, November 13 – Forward: the Church's Mission, Past and Future

Consecration Sunday with Celebration Brunch and Lunch

Week of Sunday, November 20 – 200 Years of Social Holiness

Week of Sunday, November 27 – 200 Years of Education

Sunday, December 4 – Bicentennial Celebration - "Forward Through the Ages"

Praising God for 200 Years of Ministry with Celebration Lunch on the grounds





SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | 5:45 - 8:00PM | THE WRIGHT PLACE

Join members of the First Church Congregational Care Team as we walk alongside you during the holiday season. This may be your first holiday after losing your loved one, or maybe it's the second, third, or beyond. GriefShare - Surviving The Holidays class is a safe, friendly and supportive place for you to connect with others who understand what you are going through as you face some tough emotions.

During our time together we will watch a video where you will meet counselors, pastors and "real life" people who have experienced the loss of a loved one and how they felt during the holiday season. You will also have the opportunity to share how grief is affecting you, but only if you feel comfortable. This is optional.

The First Church Congregational Care Team will be sharing a copy of the GriefShare Holiday Survival Guide

with each participant. This guide has practical strategies, words of strength and encouragement, valuable tips and more. This guide will provide tools that will enable you not only to survive the coming holidays, but also face them with a measure of peace and assurance.

You may be a bit apprehensive about joining the GriefShare - Surviving The Holidays Class. Please understand these feelings are normal. By the time our evening ends, we believe you will be glad you came!

Dinner will be provided.

Contact Jennifer Piver,
Congregational Care Staff, to register.
850-291-5331 or JPiver@fumcpensacola.com



JUST Pensacola
Justice United Seeking Transformation

2022 COMMUNITY PROBLEMS ASSEMBLY

COME TO HEAR ABOUT THE RESULTS
FROM OUR LISTENING PROCESS AND JOIN
WITH HUNDREDS OF OTHERS TO WORK
TOWARDS MAKING ESCAMBIA COUNTY A
JUST PLACE FOR EVERYONE



MONDAY NOVEMBER 7TH 2022
HISTORIC ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
140 W GOVERNMENT ST, PENSACOLA, FL 32502
6:00PM - 7:30PM

WAYS TO GIVE AND SERVE THIS SEASON

GREAT DAY OF GIVING FOOD DRIVE

Drop off items by December 4

The Great Day of Giving Food Drive is a church-wide event to promote giving to families in need and our ministry partners in the community. Each age group is asked to bring in the listed non-perishable items below by December 4. We will prepare the food boxes at our Great Day of Giving event on December 11. We will have designated drop-off bins in the Church Office and Children's Education Building.

MCA Preschool: Canned Ravioli, Canned Beefaroni, Spaghettios, Canned Veggies (3) and Canned Fruit (3)
Children: Mac 'N Cheese, Cheez-Its, Goldfish, Graham Crackers, Nilla Wafers

Youth: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Saltine Crackers
Adults: Oatmeal, Pancake Mix (add water), Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles, Rice, Chili, Soup, Canned Veggies, Canned Fruit



ANGEL TREE

[Click HERE to Register Online](#)

The Angel Tree returns November 9! Children from N.B Cook, Milk and Honey, and some of the most needy children in our local area are included in our tree this year. Each child will have two angels placed on the tree: one for their clothing needs and one with their interests, likes, and toys. The tree will be set up in the church office starting November 9. You will have the option of picking 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 church office no later than Sunday, December 11. The difference our congregation makes in the lives of our Angel Tree participants each year is incredibly special and we are thrilled to set up the tree again! Please contact Sarah Bullock-Head in the Church Office with any questions. SHead@FUMCPensacola.com (850)432-1434.



BE A SANTA TO A SENIOR

[Click HERE to Register Online](#)

Provide some holiday cheer and gift giving to seniors who are least likely to receive a present during the holiday season. Home Instead Senior Care is leading our local senior assistance programs by providing our lonely and financially challenged seniors with the following gifts: functional clothing, toiletry items, pens/stationary, and giftcards. Register online or pick a senior from the tree in the Church Office starting Sunday, November 20. You will have the option of picking your own "senior" from the tree (no need to register online), or you can register online and one will be chosen for you. All "bulbs" must be signed out and returned with unwrapped gifts to the Church Office no later than Sunday, December 18. Please contact Sarah Bullock-Head in the Church Office with any questions. SHead@FUMCPensacola.com (850)432-1434.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FIRST KIDS & FAMILIES

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Kids

Contact: Lisa Bond

LBond@FUMCPensacola.com

FIRST FRIDAY - KIDS

Friday, November 4 | 5:30 - 7:30pm

Drop off / pick-up in Gym

Registration - *Deadline to register is Wednesday, November 2.*

Children from K-4th grade are invited to join us for a night of faith sharing, games and other activities, along with having a meal together. Pizza & Dessert is \$5. Drop off and pick up is in the gym.

PARENT'S SOCIAL + DATE NIGHT!

Friday, November 4 | 5:30 - 7:30pm
(bonus childcare til 8:30pm)

Registration - *Deadline to register for childcare is Wednesday, November 2*

Parents of all ages are invited to join us for a casual social to get to know the other parents at your church! Childcare is available for infant - 4th grade with optional BONUS Parent's Night Out til 8:30pm for those attending the social.

3RD & 4TH GRADE: WINTER RETREAT

February 3 - 5, 2023

Blue Lake, Andalusia Alabama

Registration - *starting November 1*

Join us for 3 days filled with learning about our Lord, campfires, and lots of fun! Cost is \$135 for Campers. Registration Closes January 20. For \$15 off the Camper price, register by Dec 1.

WHAT WE ARE STUDYING...

Elementary: They will be studying a unit on discipleship based on 'The Walk', by Adam Hamilton. This unit will include lessons on Worship and Prayer, Study, Serve, Give and Share.
Preschool: They will be studying Jesus, Jesus, Jesus - there's just something about that name!

FIFTY FORWARD

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Seniors

Contact: Jennifer Piver

JPiver@FUMCPensacola.com

GRAND MONDAY NIGHTS

Each Monday | 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Register online: 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 through testimonies from other grandparents.

COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

Tuesdays | 9:30am - 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. No registration necessary.

THE LEARNING TABLE

Thursday, November 3

10:00 - 11:30am | The Wright Place

What is the difference between Home Companion Care and Home Health Care? What are my options for Senior Living in Pensacola? We often ask these questions. Join us as we hear from community experts on what our options are, who pays for these services and who do I call for help? There is no cost to attend. Refreshments will be provided by Assisted Living Locators and Amedisys Home Health Care.

LUNCH OUT - BONEFISH GRILL

Thursday, November 10 | 11:30am

Registration

Join us for our monthly lunch outing with friends in a private room at Bonefish Grill. They are known for their fresh seafood and beautiful atmosphere. RSVP online or to the church office by October 11th.

FIRST STUDENTS

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Students

Contact: Denise Van Atta

DVanatta@FUMCPensacola.com

FIRST FRIDAY

November 4 | 5:30-7:30

Youth Building

All 5th and 6th graders are invited to join us for dinner and Lego night! Bring money for Chik-fil-a. RSVP by Tuesday, November 1 by emailing dvanatta@fumcpensacola.com.

TWEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 2 | 5:30-8:30

Youth Building

All 5th and 6th graders are invited to come celebrate the Christmas season with church friends in the youth building at A Tween Christmas Event - How the Grinch Stole Christmas this Friday, 5:30-8:30! It will be a festive time of holiday food, fellowship and fun games! Make sure to bring \$5.00 and let us know if you plan on attending. RSVP by Tuesday, November 29 by emailing dvanatta@fumcpensacola.com.

MID-HIGH SLEEPOVER

December 3 - 4 | 5:30pm-9:15am

Youth Building | Cost-\$15

Over the course of the night, we will have dinner, games, crafts, and a lesson. We will also be watching the Charlie Brown Christmas movie! RSVP by Tuesday, November 29 by emailing dvanatta@fumcpensacola.com.

WILDERNESS TRAIL REGISTRATION

Begins November 6 at 7:30am

Our annual trip to Wilderness Trail is July 11-18, 2023. All active students 6th through 12th grade are eligible to participate. Total cost is \$480 per student (that includes a \$100 non refundable deposit). Email dvanatta@fumcpensacola.com with questions.

MUSIC & WORSHIP

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Music

Contact: Rick Branch

RBranch@FUMCPensacola.com

YOUTH CHOIR CHRISTMAS RETREAT AT CAMP BALDWIN

Friday, November 18, 4:45pm -

Saturday, November 19, 2:45pm

[Registration](#)

Cost for the retreat (including three meals) is \$59.00.

WHITE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 11 | 5:00pm

All preschool, children, tween, and youth choirs are preparing for their White Christmas Program on December 11. This last month of rehearsals are extremely important to attend!

WAYS TO GIVE & SERVE

Contact: Lisa Bond

LBond@FUMCPensacola.com

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRY

Good Shepherd volunteers are needed to help our growing church remain in community with one another. More than ever, we have older adult church members that would love for a Good Shepherd to contact them at least once a month so they feel connected to their church family. These connections may be a visit, a phone call, a casserole or cookie delivery, or more. No formal training is required. Contact Jennifer Piver for more information.

KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Wednesdays | 2:00 - 5:00pm

The kitchen is in need of volunteers to help prep ingredients and cook food for our Wednesday Night dinners. Frequency is dependent on your availability and can be on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly schedule. Contact [Mici Kuba](#) if you would like to serve!

WAYS TO GIVE & SERVE CONT.

BRIGHT BRIDGE MINISTRY - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

4th Sundays | 4:00 - 6:00pm

2600 W Strong St

[Contact Lisa Bond to Sign Up](#)

4 - 10 volunteers are needed each month to provide and serve a meal for about 60 people, following worship, on the 4th Sundays of the month, between 4:00-6:00pm. This opportunity is great for individuals, sunday school classes, or community groups and can be monthly, bi-monthly, or one-time.

FIRST KIDS: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sundays & Wednesdays

[Sign Up Online](#)

We are calling people of all ages to get involved in the life of our children at First Church. We are looking for people who are friendly, organized, have a heart for children, enjoy crafting, or would just like to help serve our church. We have available opportunities on Sunday & Wednesday and not all involve working directly with children. You can serve once a month or every week. Email Christy Stump at stumpedbanddirector@gmail.com or Lisa Bond at LBond@FUMCPensacola.com with any questions.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS SEASON

See Page 5

LIBRARY

FUMCPensacola.com/Ministries/Library

Contact: Gloria Holcombe

gwholcombe@bellsouth.net

FEATURED BOOKS

The library will feature books by Frederick Buechner who passed away in August. His works are mentioned by many of our ministers in their sermons.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

FUMCPensacola.com/WednesdayNights

5:00pm | The Wright Place

[Click HERE to Register](#)

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

November 2

Chili, Grilled Cheese, Salad, Roll, Dessert

November 9

Chicken Parmesean with Marinara sauce, Angel Hair Pasta, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

November 16

Honey Glazed Pork Chops, Carrott Souffle, Green Bean Casserole, Yeast Roll, Dessert

November 23

Church & Kitchen Closed

FREE DINNER - November 30

Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FUMCPensacola.com/Discipleship

Contact: Rev. Emily Kincaid

EKincaid@FUMCPensacola.com

SUNDAY ADVENT STUDIES

Soul Feast & Open Hearts, Open Minds: "The Angels of Christmas" by Susan Robb

Duell/Lipscomb: "Prepare the Way" by Adam Hamilton. Led by Dr. Mark LaBranche.

MCA

Contact: Melissa Ward

MCA@FUMCPensacola.com

CLASS OPENINGS

- Half-Day 3 Year Old Class
 - Full-Day 2 Year Old Room
 - Full-Day 4 Year Old (VPK) Room
- [Contact Melissa for more info.](#)

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

IN-PERSON & ONLINE

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

stay connected   fumcpensacola.com

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN ADVENT

FREE ADVENT KICK-OFF DINNER



Wednesday, November 30 | 5:00 - 6:00pm | The Wright Place | [Click HERE to Register](#) - Starting Nov 16

Join us for a FREE Dinner and fellowship as we kick off the Advent Season! Make sure to bring a friend!

Menu: Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert. Registration opens Wednesday, November 16.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS IN ADVENT

Wednesdays, December 7 - December 14 | 5:00 - 5:45pm

Join us each Wednesday night in Advent for dinner and fellowship with your church family. Please register the Tuesday before at Noon. Cost is \$10 for adults (10 and older) and \$4 for children. We will have a FREE Advent Kick-Off Dinner on November 30. More info above.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING - FOR ALL AGES

November 30 - December 21 | 6:00 - 7:00pm

Join us for special programming on Wednesdays in the season of Advent at First Church! Each Wednesday will center around the "theme" word for that week of Advent.

"HOPE" & "LOVE"

November 30 & December 7

After dinner, from 6:00 to 6:15pm, all ages will gather for a few minutes of worship and lighting the Advent wreath in the Great Hall. Then the children and youth will go to their age-level activities from 6:15-7:00pm. These two weeks, the adults will have a special presenter give a lesson around the theme of the week.

"JOY"

December 14

After lighting the Advent Wreath, all ages will stay in the Great Hall for a time of fellowship as we create something together that we can give to our neighbors to invite them to worship with us on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING - "PEACE"

Wednesday, December 21 | 5:30 - 8:00pm (Dinner at 5:00pm) | The Wright Place | [Click HERE to Register](#)



All are welcome to join us for Christmas Caroling! We will go by church buses and personal vehicles and deliver good cheer and love to some of our senior church members. Pizza will be available prior to caroling at 5:00pm for \$5/person. Registration for food is required by Tuesday, December 20.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Wednesday, December 21 | 6:30pm | 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.

GREAT DAY OF GIVING & MISSION FAIR

Sunday, December 11 | 9:00 - 10:45am | Gym

The Great Day of Giving & Mission Fair is a church-wide event to promote giving to families in need and to our ministry partners in the community. This program offers children, youth and adults an opportunity to prepare and deliver 75 food boxes to be given to families. It will also include activities such as making gifts and cards for our homebound.

FUMC Mission Partners have been invited to join us for our 2022 Mission Fair! They will come share what they are doing in our community and give you ways to get involved. You will have an opportunity to financially support these agencies directly at this time. These agencies/ministry partners include: Backpack-Weekend Feeding Program, Bright Bridge, Disaster Relief, Embrace Florida Kids, Gulf Coast Kids House, JUST Pensacola, Milk and Honey, Ronald McDonald House, Serve the Hungry, Teaming with Tanzania, and United Ministries.

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 LOVE AND REMEMBRANCE TO...

Lois Benson on the death of her mother, **Louise Holiday Holden**. Louise died on October 8, 2022

The family of Janet Cheatham. Janet died on October 13, 2022

Keith and Carol Tullius on the death of their niece, **Tristan Penn**. Tristan died on October 16, 2022

Charlene Leinback on the death of her aunt, **Barbara Bailey Graves**. Barbara died October 20, 2022.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Heather Gagnet for being named Scenic Heights Teacher of the Year

Earle McAuley for being named Gulf Breeze High School Teacher of the Year

BIRTHS

Samuel James Coffman, born on September 22, 2022, son of **Joseph and Avery Coffman**, proud grandparents are **Drexel and Wesley Wachob**.

NEW MEMBERS

Brian Kincaid

Elaine Matson

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

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

October 2: In loving memory of the wedding anniversary, October 2, 1955, of Betty and George Oliff. Given by their loving and grateful family.

October 9: In celebration of Jackie and Wil Pergande's 58th wedding anniversary on October 10.

October 23: In celebration of Libby Mayhugh's birthday on October 24, by Tom Mayhugh.

October 30: In loving memory of Bill, Andy and Fred Percy by Marie Percy and family.

THE LIVING TRUST SEPTEMBER 20TH - OCTOBER 25TH, 2022

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 OF

Burda Schallhorn

by: Dale and Jeanette Kennerly

Maxine Skelton

by: Mary Stanley

Travis Hurd

by: Amy Dye Kanning