



At First United Methodist Church, we are each alive in Christ, united in nurturing fellowship, reaching out to share God's boundless love.

August 8, 2021

8:45 a.m.

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Without Exception. God Loves Everyone.

Come Join Our Journey at First UMC.

We warmly welcome you to First UMC and our worship service! We are glad you are here with us today! We'd love to help you connect with God and with other people through First UMC.

Welcome

Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Gathering Music - "Blessed Assurance"

arr. by Mark Hayes

Phyllis Jones, piano

Call to Worship

Leader: The God of creation has sent Jesus Christ,
the bread of life, to teach us God's ways,

People: **The God of redemption has sent the living bread
from heaven to fill our hearts with strength.**

Leader: The God of salvation and deliverance
surrounds us and fills us with the Holy Spirit.

People: **May we continue to follow Jesus,
no matter how hard the challenges.**

Prayer of the Day (in unison)

**God our strength,
you have brought us into your holy place through Christ,
who has the words of eternal life.**

**As you made us alive through Jesus' living presence with us,
cause us to boldly witness to the gospel,
welcome the stranger, and pursue peace,
standing through the struggles of our times. Amen.**

Invitation to Praise No. 402 - "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

African-American Spiritual

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Cheryl Skinner

We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

**Living God,
we give you thanks for Christ, the bread from heaven,
through whom we offer these gifts.
Endow these gifts with your power,
that they may express your steadfast love
and impart your sustaining strength to all those in need.
Amen.**

A Time For the Child In All of Us

Amanda Bostick

Anthem - "I Surrender All"

arr. by Lenny Seidel

Phyllis Jones, piano

Scripture - John 6:41-51, 60-61, 66-69

Sermon - "Hard Teachings"

Rev. Kirk Tutterow

Response of the Church - A Modern Affirmation

Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is one true church, apostolic and universal,
whose holy faith let us now declare:

**We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end that the kingdom of God
may come upon the earth. Amen.**

Invitation to Acceptance No. 474 - "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
by Thomas A. Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

Benediction

Chimes of the Trinity

Traveling Music - "I Will Sing of My Redeemer" *arr. by Cindy Berry*
Phyllis Jones, piano

Announcements

Remember to visit our website www.fumclex.org to stay connected with the latest news, calendar updates, recorded worship services, bulletin, and newsletter.

Let's Get Excited! We're Almost There!

Sunday August 15

RECONNECT with Friends & Neighbors

RE-ENGAGE in Worship & Mission

RENEW Your Journey with Christ

8:45 a.m. Early Worship on the Lawn

10:00 a.m. Refreshments & Fellowship on the Lawn

- **Pick up your First UMC T-Shirt!**
- **Sunday School Open House**
- **Godly Play Display in the Library**

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

12:00 p.m. Teens of Life Lunch & Pool Party

Beginning August 15, we will resume a more “normal” worship service, with dividing ropes removed in the sanctuary. **Due to the recent COVID-19 case increases, we WILL still require masks in the sanctuary, common areas, and youth & children’s classrooms.** We do realize that the pandemic is not over—infection rates among those who are unvaccinated are once again on the rise, with the more contagious Delta variant the predominant strain. We ask that you exercise caution if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms such as a cough or fever, even if you have been vaccinated. We also ask that you continue to practice some personal spacing, especially when entering and exiting the sanctuary. As a Christian community, we will continue to show love towards one another, recognizing that not everyone is in the same place or at the same comfort level. As we move forward, please remain mindful of this, and keep Jesus’ commandment to love our neighbor close to heart as we **REIMAGINE our future!**

Bible Study Opportunities this Fall

Fast Track Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Disciple I is a Genesis-Revelation overview of the Bible open to everyone! It addresses the main themes of the Bible and is an excellent introduction to the scriptures. Reasonable daily readings will prepare you for lively discussion and discovery during weekly class sessions. Disciple I will be led by Rev. Kirk Tutterow and Clark Smith, and will be held on **Mondays at 10:00 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. (your choice) beginning September 13.** Contact Kirk for more information or call the church office to sign up!

Fast Track Disciple II: Into the Word, Into the World

Disciple II is a deeper dive into just four books of the Bible: Genesis-Exodus in the Old Testament and Luke-Acts in the New Testament. It is designed for folks who have already taken Fast Track Disciple I. Classes will be led by Rev. Cheryl Skinner and will be held on **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. beginning September 21.** Please let Cheryl know if you are interested in continuing the journey!

Prayer Requests:

Please note the date beside of each name representing when the request was made and/or an update. All are encouraged to review the list and contact the church office to add or remove a name from the prayer list.

Short Term (8 weeks or less)

*Steve Caudill (8-4-21)
*Pete Murray (8-4-21)
*Dick Bisbee (8-4-21)
Gary Leonard (8-4-21)
*Lauren Hall (8-4-21)
*Max Lanning (8-4-21)
Heather Myers (8-4-21)
Sandy Moroney (8-2-21)
*Steve & Gay Smith (8-1-21)
*Judy Hench (8-1-21)
*Libby Simpson (7-29-21)
*Monty Oliver (7-24-21)
*Mary Niner (7-23-21)
*Betty Pope (7-19-21)
*Caroline McCree (7-14-21)
*Sue Corn (6-14-21)

Long Term

*Sally Maxwell (8-1-21)
*Jane Cook Harris (7-26-21)
*Mary Louise Wilkerson (7-26-21)
Kendall Conner (7-26-21)
Jason & Stacy Heitman Family (7-26-21)
Bill Bingham (7-25-21)
Tami Robinson (7-23-21)
Marc Frye (7-21-21)
Cora Tews (7-19-21)
Barry Leonard (6-16-21)
Keith Tutterow (6-16-21)
Norma S. Trotter (6-15-21)
Alma Kernodle (6-11-21)
Jim McDermott (6-10-21)
Hoy Lanning, Jr. (5-20-21)
Rae Hall (5-20-21)
Caroline Wagner Loder (5-13-21)

Dr. Garrett Breakiron (5-12-21)
Gina & Russ Parrot (4-16-21)
Lynn Mack (4-15-21)
Jane King (4-15-21)
*Linda Fisher (4-15-21)
Jayme Cartner Christy (4-11-21)
Wade Clodfelter (4-7-21)
Doris Brown (3-29-21)
*Earl Hester (3-10-21)
*Lacy Carol Belcher (3-7-21)
Mark Milligan (2-12-21)
Jan Greer (2-11-21)
Betty Jean Whitaker (2-9-21)
Ron & Kristie Wooten (2-9-21)
*Kathy Baragona (1-1-21)
*Dean Davis (1-1-21)
*John Scarff (1-1-21)
*Dare Wilson (1-1-21)
Bentley Leonard (12-27-20)
Martha Shore Winters (10-12-20)
Nicholas Melomo (8-12-20)
*Shane Martin (7-23-20)
Shannon & Steve Ford (1-22-20)

Shut-Ins

*Jean Gosnell
*Caroline McCree
*Evelyn Sink
*Dr. Hunter Strader
*Flonnie Thomason

Piedmont Crossing

(Thomasville)

Health Care

*Barbara Proctor
*Nancy Wilkinson

Piedmont Crossing

(Thomasville)

Residents

*Jo Doris Beck
*Betsy & Jim Buchanan
*Herman Crabtree
*Adrian Neal
*Madeline Palmer
*Karen & Bob Pearson

Abbott's Creek

Tempie Almstead

Benton House (Charleston, SC)

*Janice Bacon

Elmcroft (Salisbury)

*Sandra Shoaf

The Laurels at Highland

Creek (Charlotte)

*Carolyn Briggs

Long Term Care (Florida)

*Mary Williams

Serving in the Armed Forces

*Capt. Kacie Allred
*Specialist McRay Calderone
*SGT John Hall
SGT Alan Ingram
Major Jarrad Thorley

Our Stewardship for God's Work This stewardship report is given so you may follow our financial progress throughout the year. Please review and thoughtfully pray over this report. Everyone is a part of God's stewardship.

Report for August 1, 2021

YTD Income: \$345,521.54

YTD Expenses: \$299,088.32

Change In Financial Position (Loss): \$46,433.22

Online Giving for mobile device users, the QR (Quick Response) code will take you to a secure mobile site for Online Giving from your smartphone or tablet. **On your first visit**, you will need to create a profile.



Text to Give – The newest way to give back to God through the ministries of First UMC. Text the amount you wish to send to **855-222-3109** – then follow the directions.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 8

- 8:45 a.m. Early Worship, Church Lawn — *In the event of inclement weather, we will move to the sanctuary.*
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School (Agape, Genesis, Koinonia/Spruill), ZOOM
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School (Adult Fellowship), Classroom
- 10:00 a.m. Faith & Friends Sunday School via ZOOM
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. **LIVE** streamed Morning Worship on YouTube
- 4:00 p.m. Trustees & Endowment, FH

Monday, August 9

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Youth/Scout House

Tuesday, August 10

- 12:30 p.m. Event Set-Up, FH
- 2:00 p.m. Blood Drive in the Fellowship Hall until 6:30p

Wednesday, August 11

- 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Lunch, Bar-B- Q Center
- 12:00 p.m. Midday Prayer Gathering, Sanctuary

Thursday, August 12

- 2:00 p.m. United Methodist Women, FH

Friday, August 13

Saturday, August 14

Sunday, August 15

- 8:45 a.m. Early Worship, Church Lawn — *In the event of inclement weather, we will move to the sanctuary.*
- 10:00 a.m. Refreshments & Fellowship on the church lawn
- Pick up your First UMC t-shirt!
 - Sunday School Open House
 - Godly Play Display in the Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. **LIVE** streamed Morning Worship on YouTube
- 12:00 p.m. Teens of Life Lunch & Pool Party—Home of Nancy Conrad
- 2:00 p.m. Member Care, FH



First United Methodist Church

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Lee Mabe, Director of Music and Youth Ministries maestromabe@gmail.com

Phyllis Jones, Organist musician@att.net

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Kimberly Leonard, Nursery Staff, **Kelly Leonard**, Nursery Staff, **Jill Michener**, Nursery Staff, **Claire Norris**, Nursery Staff

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