

### 8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

<b>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>PRELUDE</b>	Our Great Savior/Funderbunk Jennifer Miller, violin and Audra McWhinnie, cello
<b>*CALL TO WORSHIP</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*HYMN</b>	Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)
<b>*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*GLORIA PATRI</b>	We Will Glorify
<b>PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	It Is Well with My Soul/arr. Yowell Diana Russell, Jennifer Miller, Karen Buie; Audra McWhinnie, cello
<b>DOXOLOGY 95</b>	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
<b>SERMON</b>	The Heart of the Matter (Revelation 2:2-4) Charley Reeb
<b>*HYMN 176</b>	Majesty
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	Charley Reeb
<b>*RESPONSE</b>	As We Go
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Pageant on Majesty/Corl Matthew H. Corl

### 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

<b>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*CALL TO WORSHIP</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*SONGS OF PRAISE</b>	I Thank God, From The Day, Lay Me Down
<b>PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	Who You Say I Am
<b>SERMON</b>	The Heart of the Matter (Revelation 2:2-4) Charley Reeb
<b>*SONG OF RESPONSE</b>	Never Ending Grace
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	Charley Reeb

### 11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

<b>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Charley Reeb
<b>PRELUDE</b>	Our Great Savior/Funderbunk Jennifer Miller, violin and Audra McWhinnie, cello
<b>*CALL TO WORSHIP</b>	Archie Buie
<b>*HYMN 89</b>	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
<b>*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881</b>	Archie Buie
<b>*GLORIA PATRI</b>	Glory Be to the Father
<b>ANTHEM</b>	It Is Well with My Soul/arr. Yowell Diana Russell, Jennifer Miller, Karen Buie; Audra McWhinnie, cello
<b>BAPTISM</b>	Liam Leneave Son of Catherine Reid & Stuart Leneave
<b>PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE</b>	Archie Buie
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	Rain Down/arr. Carter Chancel Choir
<b>DOXOLOGY 94</b>	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
<b>SERMON</b>	The Heart of the Matter (Revelation 2:2-4) Charley Reeb
<b>*HYMN 176</b>	Majesty
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	Charley Reeb
<b>*RESPONSE 666</b>	Shalom to You
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Pageant on Majesty/Corl Matthew H. Corl

\*Please stand if you are able

### 11:00AM THE CURRENT

<b>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*BEAUTY FOR ASHES</b>	Ron Bell
<b>*SONGS OF PRAISE</b>	I Thank God, Lay Me Down, Made Alive
<b>CENTERING PRAYER</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	Ever Be
<b>*DOXOLOGY</b>	
<b>SERMON</b>	The Ark and The Beginning (2 Samuel 6:14-22) Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>COMMUNION</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*SONG OF RESPONSE</b>	Goodness of God
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith

### CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: The goodness of God has called us here!

**ALL: We are recipients of God's gracious love.**

LEADER: Though we have not always done what is right in God's sight;

**ALL: God is merciful and forgiving.**

LEADER: Open your hearts and spirits to the refreshing love of God.

**ALL: Help us, to live joyfully and peacefully in your sight. AMEN.**

### ABOUT OUR SERVICES

**We are glad you joined us today! Whether you are a member or a guest, please take a moment to register your attendance at [firstumc.org/connect](http://firstumc.org/connect).**

Visit [firstumc.org/connect](http://firstumc.org/connect) or scan the QR code

for: Attendance Registration, Worship Bulletins, Prayer Requests, & Online Giving



**Presence in Worship (July 20)**

In Person: 737

Online: 1,028

Total: 1,765

**Giving Through July 13, 2025**

YTD Budgeted Income: \$2,197,362

YTD Actual Income: 1,942,168

\$(255,194)

Questions? Call Patrick Hamrick in the church office, 863-686-3163 x213

**Text to Give:** Text any amount to 855-485-1651, and you will receive a link to contribute.

**Acolytes/Crucifers:** Ashlyn Lisenby, 11am

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

**Please notify the church when you are in the hospital! For care and love from pastors & the church, call or email the church office and leave word about your hospitalization. If you are unable to do this, ask a friend or relative to do it for you.**

#### Hospital

Doug Hallman, Christy Carter, Jan Maxfield, Jenny Stokes

#### Deaths

Maddox Moore, 7/14; Avis Dodson, 7/18; Linda "Sue" Harris, 7/20

#### Baptism

Djay Bryan Deus, 7/20  
Son of Jean Pierre Deus & Jessica Exantus

#### Altar Flowers

In memory of Buz Watkins and Mildred Watkins by The Watkins Family

In memory of Susan Crews Kirkhart on her 75th birthday by Tim, Kerry, Mark, Carter, Timmy, Jessie, Justin, Christopher, Angela, Michael and Lynna.

### DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

**Monday:** In Revelation 2:2-4, we read about a church that was going through the motions but had lost its love for God and others. They were effective at correcting false doctrine and judging those who were not lifting up the truth of Christ. However, they were not allowing the love of Christ to guide their actions. When Christians are not guided by their love for Christ and others the consequences can be destructive and cause irrevocable damage to people. Can you think of an example in your life or in history when Christians were right in their beliefs but destructive with their actions? Read 1st Corinthians 13. How does that famous text from Paul speak to Christians who are misguided in their zeal for truth and correct doctrine?

**Tuesday:** When people get to a place where their faith is not working for them anymore, quite often it is because they have neglected their relationship with God. They say and do all the right things, but they are burned out. Everything about their faith feels like an obligation and they don't feel empowered or fulfilled. They may attend worship every week, but prayer, authentic worship and Bible study are no longer a priority. They are no longer driven by their love for God. I am sure God was speaking to those folks as well in Revelation 2. They had forgotten their love relationship with God and were not enjoying their faith anymore. This saddened God. What advice would you give someone who is described above? How would suggest they get back to their first love?

**Wednesday:** The message on Sunday reminded us that our love relationship with God gives us the power to change. Wesley spoke to this when he described God's sanctifying grace that empowers us to grow closer to the likeness of Christ. Can you think of something about you that has changed because of your faith in Christ? An attitude? A behavior? How did that change happen? Is there something about you that you and God are still working on changing? How is that going?

**Thursday:** Our love relationship with God gives us the power to forgive. In Luke 7 Jesus reminds that those who have been forgiven much love much. Recall a time that you forgave someone who did something against you. What informed your decision to forgive them? Did your faith in Jesus help you to forgive? How? Is there someone else in your life you need to forgive?

**Friday:** God's love for us gives us power over fear. Read Romans 8:35-39. What does that text mean to you? How has God helped you with fears in your past? What fears do you have today and how will you allow God to help you manage your fears and overcome them? How would your life be different if you were able to overcome a fear that has held you back?

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**To learn more about the ministries of the church and how to get connected, contact The Church Office ([info@firstumc.org](mailto:info@firstumc.org) - 863-686-3163)**



#### Church-Wide Flood Bucket Assembly

Sunday, Aug 3, the church is invited to help assemble our flood bucket supplies in Room C201-C. Our first crew will join at 10:30am to place supplies in the buckets, and the second crew at Noon will finish assembling and move the buckets down to the Welcome Center.



#### Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson

Guest Preacher on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

We are honored to welcome Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson as our guest preacher on Sunday, August 10, 2025!

A Florida native and former associate pastor at First UMC Lakeland, Bishop Sue now serves as the Resident Bishop of the Virginia Annual Conference. Her journey from litigator to bishop reflects a life deeply committed to faith, justice, and the mission of the Church.

Join us for this special Sunday as we welcome Bishop Sue back to Lakeland and hear a powerful word of hope and purpose. You won't want to miss it!



#### Advent Devotional Writers

Be part of this year's daily devotional book by sharing your voice and creativity! Whether it's a short written reflection (under 500 words), a meaningful story or memory, a family tradition, a favorite recipe, an original poem, an acrostic, a skit, or even a piece of visual art-all formats are welcome. The devotion should include a title, short prayer and a verse or two of scripture. Deadline to submit your work to [adventdevotion@firstumc.org](mailto:adventdevotion@firstumc.org) is Oct 10.

## CHILDREN

For information regarding Children's Ministry events, contact Megan Gallagher, Director of Children's Ministries: [mgallagher@firstumc.org](mailto:mgallagher@firstumc.org), (863) 686-3163 x280

**Sundays**  
**9:30am KIC Start (Infants 6 weeks - VPK)**  
**11am Childcare (Infants 6 weeks - VPK)**

**Promotion Sunday, Sunday, Aug 10, 9:30-10:30**

As the new school year begins, most students move up to the next class in KIC Start according to their age, creating an exciting opportunity for them to learn new skills and form connections with their new teachers. Classes open at 9:15. Please allow extra time so we can ensure all children get to the correct classroom.

**Children's Ministry Seeking Sunday and Wednesday Staff**

The Children's Ministry is seeking enthusiastic individuals to join our team. This is a great opportunity for college students looking for a few hours of work each week. We need help on Sundays from 9 AM to 10:30 AM and Wednesdays from 5:40 PM to 7:45 PM. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Megan at [MGallagher@firstumc.org](mailto:MGallagher@firstumc.org).

**KIC Start (Sunday School) Leaders- 9:30 Service (Aug through May)**

Children's Ministry is seeking passionate individuals who want to support elementary-aged children (K-5th grade) in their spiritual growth during the 9:30 service. We are looking for volunteers who can commit to serving on a weekly or bi-weekly basis from August to May. All necessary teaching materials will be provided, and volunteers will lead activities that align with the weekly Bible story. Additionally, participants must complete an annual online training and undergo a background check. If you're interested, please contact Kristin Santonastaso by calling the church or emailing her at [KSantonastaso@firstumc.org](mailto:KSantonastaso@firstumc.org).

**KIC Family Event Sunday, Aug 17, 2:30-4:30pm**

Join us in C-112 for the August KIC Family event! It's a great opportunity for parents to connect and enjoy some fellowship while the little ones, from birth to 5th grade and any older siblings, have a blast at the preschool and children's playgrounds. To help everyone stay cool in the summer heat, the Children's Ministry will provide refreshing treats, and there will be games set up indoors for families to enjoy. No need to register—just come along and have a fantastic time!

## MISSIONS

For more information regarding Missions, contact Forrest White, Director of Missions: [fwhite@firstumc.org](mailto:fwhite@firstumc.org), (863) 686-3163 x224.

**OneBlood**

The Big Red Bus will be on campus Aug 10 for your blood donations. Please make note of future these dates for rest of 2025: Oct 12, Dec 14. Give the gift of life!

**Philip O'Brien Elementary School**

The 2025-26 school year is just around the corner! Please consider helping our partner school in one of more of these ways: 1) Campus beautification project, 8:30am-Noon on July 25. If you can't stay the whole time it's ok! 2) The school requests these items for the new year: Clorox Wipes, Lysol spray, Kleenex. Please leave in blue bins and marked for POB; 3) Serve as a kindergarten reading pal for an hour each week. Training required. Must be screened by PCSB. 4) Help with orientation for 4-6pm on Aug 7. 5) Provide food for staff breakfast on Aug 8. Food will need to be dropped at First UMC by 4pm on Aug 7. Contact either of our O'Brien passion team leaders for additional information - Joleen Golden ([joleengolden@yahoo.com](mailto:joleengolden@yahoo.com)) or Ann Skellenger ([abraham409@aol.com](mailto:abraham409@aol.com)).

**First Sunday Food Collection**

We will receive food at the Missions Depot next Sunday immediately following the 11am worship services until 1:30pm. Servants at First United sort and box donations. The list of requested items is posted at [firstumc.org/firstsundayfood](http://firstumc.org/firstsundayfood). Thank you for your generosity and a reminder to please donate only requested items.

## INVITE

For more information, contact Invite Ministry Pastor, Kim DuBreuil, at [kdubreuil@firstumc.org](mailto:kdubreuil@firstumc.org) or Invite Ministries Coordinator, Andrea Bailey, at [abailey@firstumc.org](mailto:abailey@firstumc.org)

**Hospital Visitors**

We visit patients 5-6 days per week. Our pastors each visit 1 day per week. We need volunteers to visit on the other days, and on Pastors' vacation days. Commit to one day per month or more if you wish! For more info, contact Executive Assistant, Nicole Wood at [nwood@firstumc.org](mailto:nwood@firstumc.org).

**Home Visitation**

Seeking volunteers to make quarterly homevisits to our church members. Commit to visiting 1 or 2 members, or more if you wish! For more info, contact Executive Assistant, Nicole Wood at [nwood@firstumc.org](mailto:nwood@firstumc.org).

## YOUTH

For information regarding our Youth Ministry events, contact Emily Felgenhauer, Director of Youth Ministries: [efelgenhauer@firstumc.org](mailto:efelgenhauer@firstumc.org), (863) 687-9750 x253.

**Sunday, July 27:**  
**10:30-11am Donuts and Discussion**  
**3:30-5pm Youth Praise Band Practice**  
**5-7pm Youth Group**

**Wednesday, July 30:**  
**Blizzard Beach Waterpark**

For our Summer Events visit [firstumc.org/youth](http://firstumc.org/youth).

**Youth Family Fall Kick Off, Sun, Aug 10, 5-7pm**

This year is going to be OUT OF THIS WORLD. Join us for our Youth Family Fall Kick-Off! Youth and parents are invited to come learn all about our big events, curriculum, and win prizes! This is a free event. For more info or to register by Aug 6 visit [firstumc.org/youth](http://firstumc.org/youth).

## ADULTS

For more information, contact Warren Pattison, Director of Adult Ministries: [wpattison@firstumc.org](mailto:wpattison@firstumc.org), (863) 686-3163 x227. Registration for groups, classes, and courses is available at [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups).

**Adult Sunday School Continues All Summer!**

Join us Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Wesley Center, Second Floor to connect with others and deepen your faith journey. Whether you're new to studying the Bible or a seasoned student, you'll find a welcoming community and valuable insights. Most classes offer both in-person and online options. Explore our classes:

- **BYKOTA-Homebuilders:** Led by Rev. Brian Tiffany, using the Unified Lesson Series, will turn to the gospels for a study of Jesus' relation to the temple during the month of July.
- **Genesis:** Rev. David McEntire leads the class in July and August exploring the Book of James.
- **Koinonia:** Rev. Terry Heck leads this class using "Feasting of the Word" based on the Revised Common Lectionary.
- **Searchers:** Martha Lou Luce is leading a study of the Gospel of Matthew using Matthew Skinner's book as a resource.
- **Sendero:** Donna Jones leads an exploration of Courage, a book by Bishop Tom Berlin.
- **Vanguard:** Rev. Charles Polstra leads this class in July using the Adult Bible Study Curriculum.

**Christ-centered Yoga Summer Series, Mondays through Aug 4, 6 - 7pm, Rm C-201D**

Join a beginner level, slow-flow Christ-centered yoga class with Be Still Movement. Experience a time to enjoy stillness through physical movement, meditation, & breath prayers as worship to Christ. A time to slow down and come as you are. Be Still Movement is led by Christ-centered yoga instructor, Sarah Lloyd. Suggested Donation: \$10 collected at class. Register at [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups).

**JOY August Luncheon and Celebration of Life Presentation, Fri, Aug 15, Parlor, Noon**

Our luncheon will commence at noon in the Parlor, where you can enjoy a delightful meal in the company of fellow JOY members. Following the luncheon, Nicole Wood, will be lead a presentation on Planning a Celebration of Life. This is a valuable opportunity to learn how to thoughtfully plan a service that honors your life, reflects your values, and provides comfort to your loved ones. The cost is \$10. Register before Aug 11 at [firstumc.org/events](http://firstumc.org/events).

**Rooted Young Adult Gatherings, Wed, 7:30pm, F Bldg. Café**

Rooted is a place for 20-30 somethings to connect, grow, and explore faith with other young adults. This summer, we will study 1 Corinthians by N.T. Wright on Wednesday nights in the F Bldg. Café. On the last Wednesday of the month, we meet offsite for fellowship and fun. All are welcome to come with questions, doubts, and beliefs; this is a safe space for open conversations. Sign up at [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups).

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
JULY 27, 2025

MAKING DISCIPLES OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
FOR THE TRANSFORMATION  
**OF THE WORLD**

REV. DR. CHARLEY REEB, SENIOR PASTOR  
REV. ANDY WHITAKER SMITH, ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
REV. KIM DUBREUIL, ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
REV. EMILY HOTH, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
BISHOP TOM BERLIN, FLORIDA AREA BISHOP