# 8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS** Andy Whitaker Smith **PRELUDE** Open My Eyes/Schwoebel Matthew H. Corl \*CALL TO WORSHIP Andy Whitaker Smith

\*HYMN Open the Eyes of My Heart/Open My Eyes That I May See

Psalm 4 \*PSALTER 741 Andy Whitaker Smith

We Will Glorify \*GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE Kim DuBreuil

**OFFERTORY** Peal con Brio/Thompson

Handbell Ringers and Singers

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow **DOXOLOGY 95** 

When Forgiving is Hard to Do (Matthew 18:21-35) Charley Reeb SERMON

\*HYMN 2171 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

\*BENEDICTION Charley Reeb

\*RESPONSE As We Go

**POSTLUDE** Toccata/Gigout Matthew H. Corl

#### 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Andy Whitaker Smith **WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS** \*CALL TO WORSHIP Andy Whitaker Smith

**\*SONGS OF PRAISE** Firm Foundation (He Won't),

Take You At Your Word, Cornerstone

PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER Kim DuBreuil

**OFFERTORY** God Is On The Throne

When Forgiving is Hard to Do (Matthew 18:21-35) Charley Reeb SERMON

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE** Build My Life

\*BENEDICTION Charley Reeb

#### 11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS** Andy Whitaker Smith **PRELUDE** Prelude on Sharpthorne/Burkhardt Matthew H. Corl \*CALL TO WORSHIP Andy Whitaker Smith

What Does the Lord Require \*HYMN 441

**\*PSALTER 741** Andy Whitaker Smith Psalm 4

\*GLORIA PATRI Glory Be to the Father **ANTHEM** Peal con Brio/Thompson Handbell Ringers and Singers

PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE Andy Whitaker Smith **OFFERTORY** Just As I Am/Hayes Lynn McCoy

DOXOLOGY 94 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

SERMON When Forgiving is Hard to Do (Matthew 18:21-35) Charley Reeb

\*HYMN 438 Forth in Thy Name

\*BENEDICTION Charley Reeb

\*RESPONSE 666 Shalom To You

Matthew H. Corl **POSTLUDE** Toccata/Gigout

In this morning's worship we sing of our calling to humbly live as people of God, especially in the text of two 20th c. hymns, "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" and "What Does the Lord Require" by hymn writer and theologian Erik Routley. Also offered are two French pieces, Debussy's "Arabesque" combined with the hymn "Open My Eyes" and Gigout's fiery "Toccata".

## 11:00AM THE CURRENT

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS** Kim DuBreuil \*CALL TO WORSHIP Kim DuBreuil

**\*SONGS OF PRAISE** Good Grace, Oh Our Lord,

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

**CENTERING PRAYER** Kim DuBreuil

OFFERTORY Not In A Hurry

\*DOXOLOGY

Kim DuBreuil **SERMON** THINK SMALL: Trust God (Matthew 4:1-10) **COMMUNION** Kim DuBreuil

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE** Called Me Higher

\*BENEDICTION Kim DuBreuil

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

LEADER: We are not alone on the journey of faith.

We gather with believers, old and new, near and far. ALL:

LEADER: The Spirit knits us into a holy community.

And together, we become the Body of Christ in the world.

#### **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.

#### Visit firstumc.org/connect or scan the QR code

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

#### Presence in Worship (Sep 14)

In Person: 814 Online: 2,500 Total: 3,314

Giving Through September 7, 2025

YTD Budgeted Income: \$2,825,180 YTD Actual Income: 2,545,553 \$ (279,627)

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: Cameron Vessels, 8:15am; Lily Trenkman, 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.

## Death

Roy Harris, 9/11

#### **Altar Flowers**

In memory of meeting Diane for the first time, September 16, 1964, by John Curtis

To dedicate Altar Flowers in Memory or in Honor of a loved one, visit firstumc.org/altar-flowers or contact Angela Everett: 863-686-3163.

### **DEVOTIONAL GUIDE**

Weekly Text: Matthew 18:21-35

Monday: What does Jesus mean when he says we should forgive "seventy-seven times"? How does this challenge our understanding of forgiveness?

**Tuesday:** Can you think of a time when you struggled to forgive someone? What was the situation, and how did it make you feel?

Wednesday: How does the comparison between the servant's massive debt and the small debt owed to him illustrate the concept of grace in our lives?

**Thursday:** Reflect on the consequences faced by the unforgiving servant. How is his suffering a metaphor for his experience of resentment? How can this motivate us to forgive others in our own lives?

Friday: How does understanding the extent of God's forgiveness toward you influence your relationships with others? What practical steps can you take today to extend forgiveness to someone in your life? Is there a specific person you need to reach out to?

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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



#### Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study starting Monday, Sep 29 at 6pm

Whether you are seeking to know Jesus for the first time or hoping to grow deeper in a faith you have carried for years, this study is for you. Jesus in the Gos pels will take you on a journey through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John introducing you to Jesus through the eyes of those who first told His story. Facilitated by Jamie Roberts starting Monday, September 29 at 6pm in Room C-205. Register at firstumc.org/groups or scan



#### **Trunk or Treat**

runk or Treat is coming up on October 25 from 3-5pm on our campus, invite your friends for an afternoon of fall fun! We're in desperate need of candy, so please look for the clearly marked bins around campus to drop off individually wrapped bags of candy, or visit firstumc.org/tot to order online. We also need lots of volunteers to help make this event possible! For more information, contact Andrea Bailey at abailey@firstumc.org



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 scripture. Deadline to submit your work to adventdevotion@firstumc.org is Oct 10.



Neighborhood Ministries BBQ Fundraiser
Every purchase directly supports local students and helps us continue making an impact in our community. Pre-orders are required and can be placed at tables outside our worship spaces on Sundays from Sep 21 to Oct12, or online at firstumc.org/events.

## **CHILDREN**

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

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

Wednesdays 6-7:30pm KIC Friends (6 weeks - 5th Grade) See firstumc.org/children for more info

Thursdays 9-10:30 Pray and Play

KIC Family Event: "KIC Off Carnival" - Today, 5-7pm
Join us for this FREE event for all families with children from birth through 5th grade. We will have games, carnival food like corn dogs and cotton candy, and more! Part of the night will be for enjoying the food and games. Another part of the night will be a time for families to hear all about our upcoming events and programming, and how they can plug in this year to Children's Ministry. Sign up at firstumc.org/children.

3rd grade Bible Presentation, October 19, 9:30am service
Receiving a 3rd grade Bible is a special milestone! We are excited to share this milestone with your 3rd grade child and your family. For more information or to register by October 13 visit: firstumc.org/children.

We Are the Children of God (Children's Sunday), October 19, 9:30 service only Join us for a very special service led by our children. This will be a full worship service for the entire family. Therefore, there will be no other children's programming or childcare during this service. Childcare during the 11 am service will be available.

Children's Ministry Seeking Sunday and Wednesday Staff

Do you enjoy working with young children, from babies to elementary school age? The Children's Ministry is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join us. We need assistance on Sundays from 9am to 10:30am and Wednesdays from 5:40pm to 7:45pm. If you're interested in finding out more, please reach out to Megan at MGallagher@firstumc.org.

## **ADULTS**

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

We Need Your Input to Help Us Plan! Tell Us When You're Available!
Help us plan when future adult group opportunities should be scheduled. Stop by the
Welcome Center poster displays to easily share your preferred days and times. Just grab a
sticker and mark your availability on the chart. Your input guides our planning!

Financial Peace University Fall Session, Wednesdays at 6pm

Weekly classes to kickstart your journey towards financial peace will be held on Wednesday nights starting at 6 PM. You'll learn to pay off debt fast, save more money, and build lasting wealth. Normally \$95, we have invested in licenses to enable you to take this class for FREE! Secure your spot today and register at firstumc.org/fpu.

Christ-Centered Yoga Fall Series, Mon, Sep 15-Nov 24, 6pm, 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. Register at firstumc.

JOY 55+ Ministry Circle B Bar Reserve Tram Tour, Friday, October 10
Join us for our JOY(Just Older Youth) October outing on Friday, October 10, for a guided tram tour of the beautiful Circle B Bar Reserve. Led by Jeff and Lynette Spence, this tour will showcase the reserve's stunning scenery, birdlife, and rich history. The tram tour is limited to 25 people, so please register by October 6 at FirstUMC.org/events to secure your spot.



Florida Man Ministries Summit at First UMC Sat Sept 27, 9am-4pm
Join United Methodist Men from all over Florida as we gather for the Florida Man Ministries Summit. We'll worship, learn practical skills, explore tools for ministry, and be equipped to lead transformative men's ministry. Lunch is provided with registration (\$30 in advance, \$35 at the door). Guests include Rick Vance, General Secretary (CEO) of GCUMM, Jad Denmark, Nicolas Lee, and other men's ministry leaders. Register at floridamanministries.com.

## INVITE

For more information, contact Invite Ministry Pastor, Kim DuBreuil, at kdubreuil@firstumc.org or Invite Ministries Coordinator, Andrea Bailey, at abailey@firstumc.org

New Member Sunday
Our next opportunity to join the church will be on Sunday, September 28th during the worship service you typically attend. If you are interested in joining, or learning more about First UMC, please reach out to Pastor Kim DuBreuil (kdubreuil@firstumc.org).

**New to the Church?**Join us for Explore First (or Dinner with the Pastors) on Wednesday, **October 15** from 5-6:30 p.m. (Parlor). Please R.S.V.P. Pastor Kim at kdubreuil@firstumc.org.

## YOUTH

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

Sunday, Sep 21: 9:30am Youth Choir Practice 10:30am Donuts and Discussion 12:15pm Youth Musical Info Meeting 3:30pm VIBE Team 3:30pm Youth Praise Band 5pm Youth Group

Tuesday, Sep 23: 5-6pm Youth Dance Ministry

Wednesday, Sep 24: 4:45pm Youth Handbells 5:15pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal 6pm Open Gym 6:30pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies

**Youth Musical Info Meeting, Sun, Sep 21, 12:15pm** If you're interested in musical theatre, come find out more about this year's musical called "Disney's Dare To Dream Jr."! Parents and students are invited to attend. For more info or to register visit firstumc.org/youth

Youth Family Camping, Nov 7-9
Join us for a weekend of fun, faith, and family around the campfire at Lucky U Ranch. For more info or to register by Oct 10 visit firstumc.org/youth.

High School Mission Trip Info Meeting, Sun Oct 12, 12:15pm, F101
Join us for our High School 2026 Summer Mission Trip Info Meeting to Anchorage, Alaska.
We'll discuss travel dates, payment schedule, types of missions we will be doing, and more!
(This trip also includes any parents of HS students interested in attending and our current 8th graders who will be in high school in the fall of 2026.)

## **MISSIONS**

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

Philip O'Brien Elementary School
The 2025-26 school year is here! Please consider helping our partner school in one of more of these ways: the school requests these items: pencils, glue sticks, crayons and markers; Serve as a kindergarten reading pal for an hour each week. Training required. Or serve as a classroom volunteer; Saturday library days to help students with reading skills while parents meet with staff; provide a \$25 gift card (Publix, Aldi, Walmart, Target) for Thanksgiving. We need about 80 total to cover all teachers and staff members. Contact either of our O'Brien passion team leaders for additional information - Joleen Golden (joleengolden@yahoo.com) or Ann Skellenger (abraham409@aol.com).

Lake Parker Cleanup
It's time to serve with the City of Lakeland's Toby's Water Warriors. We will be cleaning up trash around Lake Parker next Saturday, Sept 27, meeting there (910 E Granada St.) at 8:45am and working until 11am. Please let me know if you'd like to join us. Children are welcome when accompanied by a parent.

Our first packing event will be Oct 1. We will need a huge turnout since we will be packing for five weeks. Setup begins in the Welcome Center at 9am while packing begins at 4pm. If you have questions, please contact our KP leader Skip Stevenson (safetyskip@gmail.com) Note: Please mark your calendars for the first Wednesday of each month through May for the 2025-26 school year.

Food Collection
We will receive food at the Missions Depot Oct. 5 immediately following the 11am worship services until 1:30pm. Servants at First United sort and box donations. Our donations have dropped off considerably. Please contribute if you can. Even one jar of peanut butter helps! The list of requested items is posted at firstumc.org/firstsundayfood. Thank you for your generosity and a reminder to please donate only requested items.

## **YOUNG ADULTS**

For more information, contact Jen Swygard, Director of Young Adult Ministries: JSwygard@firstumc.org, (863) 686-3163 x226; Follow us on IG: @1stLKLDYoungAdults or FB: 1st LKLD Young Adults to stay connected



Community Bible Reading (CBR)
Community Bible Reading (CBR)
Community Bible Reading (CBR) meets on Tuesdays (except the last Tuesday of each month) from 6-8pm, beginning Sep 2, at the home of Jen Swygard. We'll enjoy dinner together while discussing Scripture. To join, sign up through the Church Center app (scan the QR code) for the address.

College Back-to-School Brunch
College students—stick around after the 11:00 services on Sun, Sep 28, for a back-to-school brunch in the courtyard by the swan fountain. Be sure to visit firstumc.org/groups and join our "College & Career Group" to see all of our monthly college activities.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH **SEPTEMBER 21, 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 HOTHO, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT BISHOP TOM BERLIN, FLORIDA AREA BISHOP

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