

8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Andy Whitaker Smith	
PRELUDE	Now the Green Blade Rises/Corl	Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Andy Whitaker Smith	
*HYMN	O For A Thousand Tongues	
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 888	Andy Whitaker Smith	
*GLORIA PATRI	We Will Glorify	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE	Andy Whitaker Smith	
OFFERTORY	Sarabande in G/Bach	Warren Pattison, viola
SERMON	The Scandal of Compassion (Luke 7:11-17)	Patrick S. Hamrick
INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON		
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING	Andy Whitaker Smith	
COMMUNION		
*HYMN 581	Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service	
*BENEDICTION	Patrick S. Hamrick	
*RESPONSE	As We Go	
POSTLUDE	I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me/Corl	Matthew H. Corl

9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Andy Whitaker Smith	
*INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON	Andy Whitaker Smith	
*SONGS OF PRAISE	O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing, This Beating Heart, I Thank God	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER	Andy Whitaker Smith	
OFFERTORY	Come Jesus Come	
SERMON	The Scandal of Compassion (Luke 7:11-17)	Patrick S. Hamrick
COMMUNION		
*SONG OF RESPONSE	The Table of Grace	
*BENEDICTION	Patrick S. Hamrick	

11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Patrick S. Hamrick	
PRELUDE	Now the Green Blade Rises/Corl	Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Patrick S. Hamrick	
*HYMN 57	O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing	
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 888	Patrick S. Hamrick	
*GLORIA PATRI	Glory Be to the Father	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE	Kim DuBreuil	
OFFERTORY	Who At My Door is Standing?/Scott	Chancel Choir
SERMON	The Scandal of Compassion (Luke 7:11-17)	Patrick S. Hamrick
INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON		
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING	Patrick S. Hamrick	
COMMUNION		
*HYMN 581	Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service	
*BENEDICTION	Patrick S. Hamrick	
*RESPONSE 666	Shalom To You	
POSTLUDE	I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me/Corl	Matthew H. Corl

This morning the music focuses on today’s gospel lesson. The prelude is based on a French tune used for the Easter song “Now the Green Blade Rises” (UMH 311), while the postlude is a Spiritual celebrating Jesus’ power. Charles Wesley specifically mentions the gospel story in our opening song, and the final song calls us to show Christ-like compassion to others.

*Please stand if you are able

11:00AM THE CURRENT		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Andy Whitaker Smith	
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Andy Whitaker Smith	
*SONGS OF PRAISE	The Lord’s Prayer, Goodbye Yesterday, I Thank God	
CENTERING PRAYER	Andy Whitaker Smith	
OFFERTORY	Jesus Does	
*DOXOLOGY		
SERMON	Think Small (Genesis 1: 24-28, Acts 2: 42-47)	Andy Whitaker Smith
COMMUNION	Andy Whitaker Smith	
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Every Table Is An Altar	
*BENEDICTION	Andy Whitaker Smith	

CALL TO WORSHIP
LEADER: Sing praises to God and give thanks. ALL: We have known God’s compassion in many ways. LEADER: Let us praise God and not be silent. ALL: We will give thanks to God for ever.

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 (Aug 31)
In Person: 685
Online: 1,200
Total: 1,885

Giving Through August 24, 2025
YTD Budgeted Income: \$2,668,225
YTD Actual Income: 2,435,691
\$ (232,534)
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: Luke Pattison, 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 Roy Harris
Altar Flowers 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
Luke 7:11-17 tells the powerful story of Jesus raising the widow’s son at Nain—a moment bursting with compassion, divine authority, and hope. Here are five daily devotions that explore this passage from different angles, each designed to deepen your reflection and spiritual connection.

Monday: The God Who Sees
Scripture: “When Jesus saw her, his heart broke...” (Luke 7:13)
Jesus didn’t just witness a funeral procession. He saw a grieving mother. His response wasn’t distant or clinical. It was deeply emotional. God sees your pain, not just your circumstances. God notices the tears others overlook.
Reflection: Where in your life do you feel unseen? Invite Jesus into that space today.

Tuesday: Compassion That Moves
Scripture: “He said to her, ‘Don’t cry.’” (Luke 7:13)
Jesus doesn’t offer platitudes. He offers presence. His compassion leads to action. He doesn’t just comfort. He restores. True compassion isn’t passive. It moves us toward others in love.
Reflection: Who around you needs comfort today? How can you embody Christ’s compassion?

Wednesday: Touching the Untouchable
Scripture: “Then he went over and touched the coffin...” (Luke 7:14)
In Jewish culture, touching a dead body made one ceremonially unclean. Jesus breaks through religious boundaries to bring life. His holiness isn’t diminished by death. It overcomes it.
Reflection: Are there “untouchable” places in your life or community? What would it look like to bring Jesus there?

Thursday: The Power of His Word
Scripture: “He said, ‘Young man, I tell you: Get up!’” (Luke 7:14)
Jesus doesn’t plead or perform rituals. He commands. His word carries resurrection power. One sentence changes everything. The same voice that raised the dead speaks into your life today.
Reflection: What dead places in your heart need to hear his voice? Listen for it.

Friday: Awe and Awakening
Scripture: “They were quietly worshipful—and then noisily grateful, calling out among themselves, ‘God is back, looking to the needs of his people!’” (Luke 7:16)
The miracle didn’t just restore a life. It awakened a community.
Awe leads to worship. When God moves, praise follows.
Revival often begins with compassion and ends in celebration.
Reflection: What has God done in your life that deserves fresh praise today?

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)



It’s still possible to join a Disciple Bible Study!
Don’t miss this opportunity to deepen your understanding of Scripture and grow in your faith! Two classes are open - “Disciple 1” and “Jesus in the Gospels”. Classes begin on Sep 8 at 6pm. Register at firstumc.org/DBS.



KIC Choir
KIC Choir will start September 10th! This musical opportunity for children in grades K-5 is a unique and fun way for kids to praise God through various forms of music including singing, movement, Orff instruments & choir chimes. Rehearsals are Wednesdays (4:00 - 5:15) and include a variety of musical activities. Visit firstumc.org/music to register.



FLORIDA MAN MINISTRIES SUMMIT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025
FIRST UMC LAKELAND
\$30 IN ADVANCE; \$35 AT THE DOOR
REGISTER HERE: FLORIDAMANMINISTRIES.COM



Calling all Men - Florida Man Ministries Summit coming to First UMC Sat Sept 27
Join United Methodist Men from all over Florida as we gather for our Florida Man Ministries Summit. In this one-day event, 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, the new General Secretary (CEO) of the General Commission on United Methodist Men, Jad Denmark, Nicholas Lee, and other men’s leaders across Florida. Register at floridamanministries.com.

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 (Infants 6 weeks - 5th Grade)- See below for more information

Thursdays
9-10:30 Pray and Play

KIC Family Event: "KIC Off Carnival" - Sunday, Sep 21, 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.

Children's Parent Study: Faithful Families - Starting Sep 28, 6-7:30pm

Join us for this 8-Week study that guides parents through the basics of establishing a faith practice at home as we gather with others to share stories, reflect on Scripture, journal, and engage in thoughtful conversation. Along with the study, parents are encouraged to engage in hands-on faith practices with your family, based on the book Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home.

Wednesday Night KIC Friends (K - 5th Grade): Science and the Bible, 6-7:30pm

Have you ever thought about how magnets relate to the Bible or how a science experiment can reveal something about God? Join us on Wed nights to explore these intriguing questions and discover even more! We ask that you register just once to help us prepare enough materials for everyone. For more details, check out firstumc.org/groups.

Wednesday Night KIC Friends Fun (6 weeks - PreK 4), 6-7:30pm

While parents attend a class or engage in various activities on campus, rest assured that your little one is having a blast making friends and learning about God. They'll enjoy a Bible story followed by a fun activity or craft that ties into the lesson. Remember, registration is necessary, and parents must remain on campus throughout the event. For more information and to sign up, visit firstumc.org/groups.

Pray and Play Thursdays, 9:00-10:30am

A special time for non-school age children and their caregivers (parents, grandparents, nanny, etc.). Join us to connect and grow together as we navigate the joys, challenges, and ever-changing phases of life with littles.

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!

Learn American Sign Language!

Free Beginner ASL classes resume on Sep 8. Whether you want to connect with others, explore ministry interpreting, or learn to sign songs, we have a class for you. Join us in person or on Zoom starting at 6:30pm. Register at firstumc.org/groups.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study begins on Thursday, Sep 11

Connect with other women, build meaningful relationships, and deepen your faith. Join the Thursday morning Women's Bible Study, which meets at 10 am in Room C-204. This fall, we begin with a 6-week study of Jesus's parables, utilizing Josh Scott's resource "Parables: Putting Jesus's Stories in Their Place". Books are available at Our Giving Tree Bookstore for \$12. Register at firstumc.org/groups.

United Women in Faith (UWF) Meeting, Mon, Sep 15, 10:30am, Fellowship Center

Ladies, join us for our September meeting followed by lunch. Ann Skellenger will share her experiences with Building Bridges and lead us in an exercise. A copy of the Racial Justice Charter will also be provided to everyone. Make reservations for lunch (\$10.00) that follows the meeting by emailing your reservation to aliceray529@aol.com by Wednesday, Sep 10.

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.org/groups.

JOY (Just Older Youth) 55+ Ministry September Lighthouse Ministries Discovery Tour and Lunch, Fri, Sep 19, 10am

Join us for a Discovery Tour and free lunch at our ministry partner, Lighthouse Ministries, on Friday, September 19. Learn about their incredible work behind the scenes in a fun and informative way. Travel by church bus leaving at 9:45pm from the church for the 10am tour. Space is limited, so reserve your spot by Friday, September 12, at firstumc.org/events.

YOUTH

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

Sunday, Sep 7:
10:30-11am Donuts and Discussion
12:15pm Student Connector Meeting
3:30-5pm Youth Praise Band
3:30-5pm VIBE Team
5-7pm Youth Group
5pm Youth Parent Social

Tuesday, Sep 9:
5-6pm Youth Dance Ministry

Wednesday, Sep 10:
4:45pm Youth Handbells
5:15-6pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
6-6:30pm Open Gym
6:30-7:30pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies

Youth & Parent Connect Night, Sun, Sep 14, 2025, 5-7pm

Join us for a fun Youth & Parent Connect Night filled with Intergenerational Trivia! For more info or to register visit firstumc.org/youth.

Pumpkin Patch Training, Sun, Sep 14, 6:45-7:30pm
Pumpkin Patch Training, Wed, Sep 17, 5:30-6:30pm

Pumpkins are coming! All youth and adults who are interested in serving at the Pumpkin Patch must attend one of the trainings. For more info or to register visit firstumc.org/youth.

Youth Serve Saturday, Sep 20, 9am-12pm

Join us as we partner with Children's Clothes Closet Volunteers to make a difference in our community! For more info or to register by Sep 17 visit firstumc.org/youth.

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.

Parent of Teens, join us tonight for a Parent Pizza Party! 5-7pm in room E-22.
RSVP at firstumc.org/events.

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: 1) Serve as a kindergarten reading pal for an hour each week. Training required. Must be screened by PCSB; 2) Saturday library days beginning Sept. 20 from 10am-Noon at the school. Help the students develop as avid readers!!! Contact either of our O'Brien passion team leaders for additional information - Joleen Golden (joleengolden@yahoo.com) or Ann Skellenger (abraham409@aol.com).

Food Collection

We will receive food at the Missions Depot today immediately following the 11am worship services until 1:30pm. 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.

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 on Sept 27, a Saturday, 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.

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) 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.

YA Girls Clothing Swap

On Friday, September 12, from 7-8:30pm in room C112, bring clothes and accessories you'd like to give away and swap them for some new-to-you styles.

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 7, 2025

MAKING DISCIPLES OF
JESUS CHRIST
FOR THE TRANSFORMATION
OF THE WORLD

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