

8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Charley Reeb
PRELUDE	I Love to Tell the Story/Kim	Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Charley Reeb
*HYMN 277	Tell Me the Stories of Jesus	
*PSALTER 743	Psalm 8; Response 2	Charley Reeb
*GLORIA PATRI	We Will Glorify	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE	Andy Whitaker Smith	
OFFERTORY	Amazing Grace/Softly and Tenderly	Jim Jackson, clarinet
DOXOLOGY 95	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow	
SERMON	We Are The Children of God (Matthew 18:1-5)	Kim DuBreuil
*HYMN 600	Wonderful Words of Life	
*BENEDICTION		Kim DuBreuil
*RESPONSE	As We Go	
POSTLUDE	Fanfare on We Are the Church/Corl	Matthew H. Corl

9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Charley and Paul Reeb
PRE-K 3/4 AND K/1ST GRADE	A Wiseman Built His House Upon a Rock	
SONGS OF PRAISE	That's Who I Praise, Who You Say I Am	
PRAYER/ LORD'S PRAYER	Andy Whitaker Smith and Noah	
3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION		
OFFERTORY	O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing	KIC Choir
KIDS TESTIMONIALS	Blair, Cassidy, Ashton, Isabella, Alexander	
SCRIPTURE	Matthew 18: 1-5	Colin
REFLECTION READING		Evan
SONG OF RESPONSE	Children of God	
BENEDICTION		Megan

11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Charley Reeb
PRELUDE	Jesus Loves Me/Corl	Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Charley Reeb
*HYMN 191	Jesus Loves Me	
*PSALTER 743	Psalm 8; Response 2	Charley Reeb
*GLORIA PATRI	Glory Be to the Father	
ANTHEM	Amazing Grace/Softly and Tenderly	Jim Jackson, clarinet
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE	Charley Reeb	
OFFERTORY	O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing/Walz	KIC Choir
DOXOLOGY 94	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow	
SERMON	We Are The Children of God (Matthew 18:1-5)	Kim DuBreuil
*HYMN 558	We Are the Church	
*BENEDICTION		Kim DuBreuil
*RESPONSE 666	Shalom To You	
POSTLUDE	Fanfare on We Are the Church/Corl	Matthew H. Corl

Today in the United Methodist Church is Children’s Sabbath. The KIC Choir leads us in worship as we sing songs which were written to share the love of God in a way everyone can understand. The prelude simultaneously combines two familiar hymns in a musical form known as a quodlibet.

*Please stand if you are able

11:00AM THE CURRENT

KIC CHOIR	O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing	
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Andy Whitaker Smith
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Andy Whitaker Smith
*SONGS OF PRAISE	My Lighthouse, Forever Reign, Follow You Anywhere	
CENTERING PRAYER		Andy Whitaker Smith
OFFERTORY	Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)	
*DOXOLOGY		
SERMON	The Unknown (Matthew 14:22-23)	Andy Whitaker Smith
COMMUNION		Andy Whitaker Smith
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Stand In Your Love	
*BENEDICTION		Andy Whitaker Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: In the midst of struggle and strife, God is with us.
ALL: Praise be to God for God’s unwavering presence.
LEADER: Even though many things in life cause hurt and disappointment, God remains with us.
ALL: Praise be to God for mercy, peace, and hope. 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.

Visit firstumc.org/connect or scan the QR code for: Attendance Registration, Worship Bulletins, Prayer Requests, & Online Giving

Presence in Worship (Oct 12)

In Person: 815
Online: 1,616
Total: 2,431



Giving Through October 5, 2025

YTD Budgeted Income: \$3,139,088
YTD Actual Income: 2,876,552
\$ (262,536)

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: Lily Trenkman, 8:15am

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
Ken DeVore
Doug Hallman

Altar Flowers

In memory of Bishop Roy & Louise Short by Riley P. Short

In memory of William “Bubby” Hand by Sherry Hand

In memory of Valerie Jackson by her husband, Jim

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

Day 1: The Invitation: Matthew 18:1-3
Jesus responds to the disciples’ question about who is greatest. The disciples focus on status and power, but Jesus redirects their attention to a child. His words are a radical call to shift our priorities from worldly ambition to spiritual humility. Reflect on your own life. Are you seeking status or are you seeking to serve?

Day 2: Measure Greatness: Matthew 18:3-4
The paradox of humility and greatness in God’s kingdom. In a world that values dominance, God’s kingdom values humility. This is not about being childish or immature, but about a humble, dependent, and open heart like that of a child. What “status” are you holding onto? How can you intentionally choose humility today?

Day 3: Welcoming “Little Ones”: Matthew 18:5
The importance of receiving the vulnerable. Jesus links welcoming a child in His name with welcoming Him. This passage goes beyond literal children to include all those who are vulnerable or marginalized in society, such as newcomers to faith or those seen as having low status. How can you be a welcoming presence to someone who is new or vulnerable this week?

Day 4: The Trust of a Child: Matthew 18:1-5
The lesson of dependence and trust. Children, in their natural state, are completely dependent on their parents for everything. They trust that their parents will provide for them and keep them safe. This childlike trust is what Jesus calls us to have with God – a complete reliance on Him for our salvation and daily guidance. Where do you find it difficult to fully trust God? What is one area where you can practice greater dependence on Him?

Day 5: A New Way of Living: Matthew 18:1-5
Incorporate the lesson into your everyday life. Jesus’ teaching isn’t just a one-time lesson; it is a new way of living. It requires consistently turning away from self-centered ambitions and embracing humility, trust, and love for others, especially those whom society tends to overlook. Reflect on the past week and think about how you’ve put the lessons of humility and trust into practice. What is one small, actionable step you can take to keep living as a humble child of God?

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)



Trunk or Treat
Trunk 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



Organ Spooktacular, Oct 29, 7:30pm, Sanctuary
Join us for a hauntingly fun Halloween concert like no other featuring the mighty pipe organ in all its ghostly glory! Whether you’re a music lover, Halloween enthusiast, or just in it for the frightful fun, Organ Spooktacular is sure to send shivers down your spine – in the best way possible. This event is free, however, an offering will be taken and all proceeds will support our organ re-leathering project.



Pecans are Coming to Our Giving Tree
Fresh “first crop” Mascot pecans will be in stock in Our Giving Tree Bookstore, scheduled for the first week of November. Halves, pieces, chocolate and cinnamon will once again be available. Our Giving Tree hours are Monday-Friday 10am-1pm; Wednesdays 4-6:30pm; Sundays 9am-12:30pm.

CHILDREN

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

Visit firstumc.org/children to learn more!

Sundays
9:30 am Children's Sunday (all children in service)
11am Childcare (Infants 6 weeks - VPK)

Wednesdays
4-5:15pm KIC Choir (kindergarten - 5th grade)
6-7:30pm KIC Friends (Infants 6 weeks - 5th Grade)

Thursdays
9:00-10:30 Pray and Play

KIC Club 4/5 Escape Room & Halloween Party, Oct 26 5-7pm

Fourth and fifth graders join us on a spooky adventure. Teams will work together to complete 13 puzzles and challenges to escape the mysterious mansion. Can they discover the secrets of the mansion and escape in time? We will enjoy a meal of chicken nuggets prior to beginning our adventure. Children may wear costumes but please no mask and ensure the child is able to move freely to enjoy the escape room. Registration closes on October 24th. This is a great event to invite your friends too as well! To register visit firstumc.org/children.

KIC Club 4/5 Bowling at Bowlero, Fri, Nov 14, 6-8pm

Attention 4th and 5th graders! Are you excited for an evening filled with friendship, delicious food, and tons of fun? This is a fantastic chance to invite your friends for a memorable night! Just a quick reminder: all participants will need a notarized medical release form. The cost is \$20 per child. For more details and to register by November 9, please visit firstumc.org/children.

KIC Family Christmas Craft, Sun Nov 16, 2:30-4:30pm

Mark your calendars for a fun-filled afternoon where the entire family can join in on a creative craft project! Stay tuned for details about the craft we'll be making together. This event is completely FREE, offering a wonderful opportunity for everyone to enjoy a hands-on experience.

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.

TheoEd, Wednesdays through November 12, at 6pm in Room C-207.

TheoEd offers an accessible way to explore your faith, whether you're a lifelong churchgoer or just starting to get curious. We use short, TED-talk-style videos and group discussions to dive into a variety of topics on faith and life. Just show up-no reading or preparation is needed. Everyone is welcome. Register at firstumc.org/groups.

Join us for Gospel Gathering every Wednesday at 6pm in the Chapel.

Immerse yourself in the beauty of Gospel hymns and connect with fellow music lovers. Whether you're a seasoned singer or simply enjoy listening, everyone is welcome for a joyful and enriching experience. Come as you are to lift your spirits and share in the power of Gospel music.

Baseball as a Metaphor for the Christian Life, Weds, 6pm in room C-206, Oct 22-Nov 19

Step up to the plate this October—right in the heart of World Series action! What does America's favorite pastime reveal about walking with Christ? Join Karl Olexa for an unexpected journey where the crack of the bat meets the power of Scripture. From “ninth-inning” miracles to stories of redemption, we'll discover how baseball's greatest moments connect with our spiritual walk. Whether you're a die-hard fan or barely know a strike from a ball, you'll never see baseball—or your faith—the same way again! Register at firstumc.org/groups.

Thursday Morning Women's Devotional Journal Workshop, Oct 23, 10am, Rm C-204

Get ready for a different kind of spiritual experience! Led by Joan Fitzgerald and Nina Rehberg, this creative workshop will guide you in crafting your own devotional junk journal. This personalized book will be a sacred space for journaling thoughts, reflections, Bible verses, and memories of your faith journey. All materials are included, so just bring yourself and your open heart. Register at firstumc.org/groups.

Women's Book Club, Wednesday, Nov 5, 6pm, Rm C-205

You are invited to a book discussion for The Faith Club: A Muslim, a Christian, a Jew: Three Women Search for Understanding by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner. This compelling book chronicles the interfaith journey of three women seeking understanding. Join us for a conversation that will challenge and expand your ideas about religion and spiritual journeys. Register at firstumc.org/groups.

Experience a Day with the Sheriff's Department, Thursday, Jan 15, 2026

Join the JOY Group for an exclusive, all-day tour of the Polk County Sheriff Office's operations. This is a unique opportunity to see how the agency works from the inside. As a participant, you will gain a deeper understanding of the Sheriff's department and its day-to-day functions. The tour includes transportation and lunch, and there is no cost to attend. Register 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.

Pumpkin Patch Open
Weekdays, 4-7pm
Weekends, 10am-7pm

Sunday, Oct 19:
9:30am Youth Choir Practice
10:30am Donuts and Discussion
12:15pm Trunk or Treat Training
3:30pm Youth Praise Band
5pm Youth Group

Tuesday, Oct 21:
5pm Youth Dance Ministry

Wednesday, Oct 22:
4:45pm Youth Handbells
5:15pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
5:30pm Trunk or Treat Training
6pm Open Gym
6:30pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies

Summer Mission Trip Info Meeting, Sun, Oct 26 12:15pm, F101

On Sunday, October 26 come hear all about our HS Alaska Mission Trip as well as our MS & HS Mission Trip to Branches in Miami. At the meeting we will talk about the cost, where we'll be staying, what projects we'll be working on, and answer any questions for people interested in joining us. We hope to see you there!

Youth Halloween Parties, Sun Oct 26, 5-7pm

It's time to party, and this year we're making a splash! The Kincade Family will be hosting our Middle School Students in their home and the Parrish Family will be hosting our High School Students in their home. For more info or to register visit firstumc.org/youth.

MISSIONS

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

Food Collection

We will receive food at the Missions Depot Nov 2 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 please donate only requested items.

Philip O'Brien Elementary School

1) First UMC provides a \$25 gift card (Aldi, Publix, Target or Walmart) to all teachers and staff for Thanksgiving. We need about 80 total; 2) The fall bookfair begins Thursday. Media specialist April Taylor needs lots of help! Please reach out to her (april.taylor@polk-fl.net). From Mrs. Taylor: "We really appreciate your help! We could not run this book fair without the support of your church members!" Bookfair dates and times: Oct 23-24, 27-30. Nov 3 - 8am-3:15pm; Oct 31 - 8am-1pm; Nov 4 - 8am-Noon, take down Noon-2pm. 3) The school's Trunk or Treat is from 5-7 pm Friday on campus and they're seeking volunteers to be there with decorated car trunks and/or to donate candy. Contact either of our O'Brien passion team leaders to serve or for additional information - Ann Skellenger (abraham409@aol.com) or Joleen Golden (joleengolden@yahoo.com).

Volunteers in Service to the Elderly (VISTE)

Serving persons 70 and older. Transportation, monthly commodity boxes, hot meals and wheelchair ramps are just a few of the programs carried out by volunteers who help clients remain in their home and preserve their dignity. To serve contact: Terri Selz, volunteer coordinator (Terri@viste.org) Website: www.viste.org.

Gospel Inc. Villages

Christ-centered community providing a home and micro-enterprise work opportunity to the formerly homeless at Gospel Village. Help with food pantry, community dinners, campus serve days. To serve email info@gospelinc.org Website: www.gospelinc.org.

YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18-35)

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 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 Costume Party, Thurs, Oct 30, 6-8pm

Come dressed up and bring a spooky snack (optional) while we play games and collect cans for our food drive next month to remind our community that the Holy Ghost cares about their well-being. Scan the QR code above for address!

