

8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Andy Whitaker Smith
PRELUDE	Beach Spring/Marohnic	Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Kim DuBreuil
*HYMN 2128	Come and Find the Quiet Center	
*PSALTER 2030	The First Song of Isaiah	Kim DuBreuil
*GLORIA PATRI		We Will Glorify
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE		Andy Whitaker Smith
OFFERTORY	Jesus Paid it All	Albert McCullough, Flugel Horn
DOXOLOGY 95	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow	
SERMON	Faithfully Forward with Courage (Philippians 3:12-14)	Charley Reeb
*HYMN	God Of Grace And God Of Glory	
*BENEDICTION		Charley Reeb
*RESPONSE		As We Go
POSTLUDE	This Little Light of Mine/Hassell	Matthew H. Corl

9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

YOUTH CHOIR	God is So Good (Mungu ni Mwema)	
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Kim DuBreuil
CALL TO WORSHIP		Kim DuBreuil
*SONGS OF PRAISE	Good Grace, Battle Belongs, Follow You Anywhere	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER		Andy Whitaker Smith
OFFERTORY	Youth Dance	
SERMON	Faithfully Forward with Courage (Philippians 3:12-14)	Charley Reeb
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Stand In Your Love	
BENEDICTION		Charley Reeb

11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Andy Whitaker Smith
PRELUDE	Prelude on Blairgowrie/Corl	Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Andy Whitaker Smith
*HYMN 444	O Young and Fearless Prophet	
*PSALTER 2030	The First Song of Isaiah	Andy Whitaker Smith
*GLORIA PATRI		Glory Be to the Father
ANTHEM	God is So Good (Mungu ni Mwema)/Burrows	Youth Choir
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE		Andy Whitaker Smith
OFFERTORY	Jesus Paid it All	Albert McCullough, Flugel Horn
DOXOLOGY 94	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow	
SERMON	Faithfully Forward with Courage (Philippians 3:12-14)	Charley Reeb
*HYMN 577	God of Grace	
*BENEDICTION		Charley Reeb
*RESPONSE 666	Shalom To You	
POSTLUDE	God of Grace/Manz	Matthew H. Corl

Today's appointed psalter reading is Isaiah 12. The setting we will be using was composed for a gathering of singers from several countries. The First Song of Isaiah fits well with theme of courage, as does Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick's hymn "God of Grace" encouraging us to face the challenges of today.

*Please stand if you are able

11:00AM THE CURRENT

YOUTH CHOIR	God is So Good (Mungu ni Mwema)	
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Kim DuBreuil
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Kim DuBreuil
*SONGS OF PRAISE	Good Grace, Battle Belongs, Follow You Anywhere	
CENTERING PRAYER		Kim DuBreuil
OFFERTORY	Youth Dance	
*DOXOLOGY		
SERMON	Faithfully Forward: Courage (Joshua 1:6-9)	Kim DuBreuil
COMMUNION		Kim DuBreuil
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Stand In Your Love	
*BENEDICTION		Kim DuBreuil

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: The journey of faith is not without challenge.
ALL: But we press on, forgetting fear, embracing trust.
LEADER: God gives us courage to give, serve, and grow.
ALL: We step forward, bold in love and generous in spirit.

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 (Nov 9)

In Person: 781
Online: 1,258
Total: 2,039

Giving Through October 31, 2025

YTD Budgeted Income: \$3,374,520
YTD Actual Income: 3,139,074
\$ (235,446)

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

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.

Baptisms

Elaine Michelle & Oakley Elizabeth Moore, 11/9
Daughters of Jacob & Madison Moore

Kelsey Lavender & Hudson Cypress Caple, 11/9
Daughter & Son of Adam & Brittany Caple

Deaths

Norman Gavin
Cindee Johnston, 10/23
Patsy Dinkins, 11/10

Altar Flowers

In memory of Audrey M. Heath by her children

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Weekly Text: Philippians 3:12-14

Paul expresses the importance of pressing on despite past successes and comfort levels. Embrace the courage to leave behind what hinders you and focus on your spiritual growth.

Monday: What past experiences do I need to let go of in order to move forward?

Tuesday: In what areas of my life do I feel stuck, and how can I find the courage to press on?

Wednesday: How does the promise of God’s calling inspire me to pursue my goals with faith?

Thursday: What practical steps can I take today to “strain toward what is ahead”?

Friday: How can I encourage someone else who might be struggling to move forward in their faith?

Prayer:

Dear God, give me the courage to let go of my past and to press on towards the goals you have set for me. Help me to trust in your guidance and to pursue my faith with determination. Amen.

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)



Faithfully Forward - Pressing On Toward the Goal
Our goal is always to set a balanced budget for the year. To do that we need your pledge toward the 2026 budget as every gift and every pledge matters! When you submit your pledge form it gives us a picture of what you intend to give. All returned pledge cards and forms, combined with other sources of giving, provide us with a good estimate of the income. We adjust the budget to match the estimated income, creating a balanced budget. This allows us to make commitments to our mission and ministry partners for 2026.



Holiday Decorating & Upcoming Altar Guild Dates
We welcome the help of many, as the hands and feet of Jesus.
- Hanging of the Greens, Tue, Dec 2, 8:30am, & 9 am service. We will begin with refreshments and fellowship in the Narthex, followed by a service in the Sanctuary at 9am. Then begin decorating throughout the church.
- Placing of the Flowers, Thu, Dec 4
- Decoration Take-Down Day, Fri., Jan 9, 8:30am
If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing
Join us in ringing the Salvation Army bell at Grove Park Publix, starting Dec 1, 10am-8pm daily (except Sundays) until Dec 24. Choose your two hour shift at firstumc.org/events or contact Angela at 863-686-3163 or aeverett@firstumc.org to schedule.



Neighborhood Ministries Food Assistance
Neighborhood Ministries is once again collecting food for families in need during Thanksgiving and Christmas break. If you would like to participate, grab a grocery bag and a shopping list from the bins as you exit or in the welcome center. Fill the bags with the items on the list and return it to the blue bins next time you attend worship.

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 - 5th Grade)
11am Childcare (Infants 6 weeks - VPK)

Wednesdays
4:00-5:15pm KIC Choir (kindergarten - 5th grade)
6:00 -7:30pm KIC Friends (Infants 6 weeks - 5th Grade)

Thursdays
No Pray and Play Nov 20 or Nov 27. We'll see you back Dec 4

KIC Club 4/5 Christmas Movie Night, Sunday, Dec 7, 5-7pm

Join us in your favorite Christmas pajamas for a festive celebration for 4th and 5th graders as we watch the 2018 animated classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. We'll be serving up delicious pizza, popcorn, and hot chocolate, making it a perfect chance to invite your friends to join the fun. Head to firstumc.org/children and register by Dec 5.

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

Mark your calendars for a fun-filled afternoon where the entire family can join in on a creative advent wreath project! This event is completely FREE, offering a wonderful opportunity for everyone to enjoy a hands-on experience. Didn't Register? No problem! We would still love to have your family join us today!

Parent Advent Study, The Heart that Grew Three Sizes, Wed, Nov 19 - Dec 17, 6-7pm

Join us for an Advent study this Christmas season as we explore faith themes in the Christmas classic "*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*"! This class is specifically for parents of children. We are excited to provide this Advent study as a way for parents to connect with one another this season and continue the conversation together at home as a family! To register for the class please visit firstumc.org/children. (We will not meet Wed, Nov 26).

Children's Advent Study, The Heart That Grew Three Sizes, Wed, Nov 19 - Dec 17, 6-7:30pm

Join us on Wednesday nights for an engaging exploration of *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes*, designed for children of all ages. Adults will participate in the same Advent study, fostering meaningful discussions that families can continue at home. The study will run from 6:00 to 7:00 PM, followed by a time for free play and fellowship from 7:00 to 7:30 PM for those who wish to stay. To register for this study, please visit firstumc.org/children. Please note that this Advent study will replace the usual KIC Friends Science and Bible through Play groups through the Christmas season.. (We will not meet Wed, Nov 26).

Breakfast with Santa Volunteers NEEDED, Sat, Dec 6, 9-11am

Are you ready to have fun and be a part of a wonderful community outreach event? Great, we need you! You can sign up for one shift, or multiple shifts, to fit your availability. For more information or to sign up please visit: firstumc.org/children.

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.

Baseball as a Metaphor for the Christian Life, Wednesdays through Nov 19, 6pm, C-206

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. 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 Advent Study begins Thurs, Nov 13, 10am, Rm C-204

Participate in the church-wide Advent study of "*The Heart that Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of The Grinch*," by Matt Rawle. Explore faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*! and discover how Christ speaks to us through our culture. Study books are available for purchase at Our Giving Tree Bookstore. Register at FirstUMC.org/Groups.

Advent Study led by Pastor Andy, Wednesdays starting Nov 19, 6pm, C-204

Join Pastor Andy for a 4-week Advent Study using the resource, *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of The Grinch* by Matt Rawle. What Can We Learn from the Grinch? Explore the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*! Let's look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith and see how Christ speaks to us through our culture. Books are available at Our Giving Tree Bookstore. Register at FirstUMC.org/Groups.

JOY 55+ Ministry: Museum Tour & Lunch, Fri, Nov 21

Explore the newly expanded Ashley Gibson Barnett Museum of Art on Friday, November 21, starting at 10:30 a.m. with a docent-led tour. Afterward, we'll head to The Joinery for a group lunch. Sign up at FirstUMC.org/events to join the fun!

JOY 55+ Ministry: Holiday Trip to Gaylord Palms! Fri, Dec 19, 10am-3pm

Join us for a special trip to the Gaylord Palms Resort in Orlando. Enjoy the magnificent holiday decorations throughout the resort and be amazed by the POMP SNOW & CIRQUEumstance—a thrilling cirque show featuring gravity-defying acrobatics, magic, and costumes. The cost is \$45 (includes brown bag lunch) or \$35 (without lunch). Availability is limited! Sign up at FirstUMC.org/events.

Experience a Day with the Polk County Sheriff's Department, Thu, Jan 15, 2026

Go behind the scenes with an exclusive, all-day tour of the Polk County Sheriff Office's operations. Get an inside look at how the agency works and gain a deeper understanding of its functions. The tour includes complimentary transportation and lunch. Secure your spot by registering 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, Nov 16:
9:30am Youth Choir Practice
10:30am Donuts and Discussion
3:30pm VIBE Team
3:30pm Youth Praise Band
5pm Youth Group

Tuesday, Nov 18:
5pm Youth Dance Ministry

Wednesday, Nov 19:
4:45pm Youth Handbells
5:15pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
6pm Open Gym
6:30pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies

Middle School Christmas Party, Sun, Dec 7, 5-7pm

Join us for our Winter Wonderland Christmas Party! Come dressed in white and light blue, and don't forget to bring a \$5 white elephant gift for your small group exchange. For more info. or to register by Nov 24, visit firstumc.org/youth.

High School Christmas Progressive Dinner, Sun, Dec 7, 5-8:30pm

Dress in your Christmas BEST! We will be leaving at 5pm for appetizers, then to dinner, and ending up at our last stop for dessert and \$5 White Elephant Gift Exchange. For more info. or to register by Nov 24, visit firstumc.org/youth.

Rock the Universe, Jan 23-25, 2026

Get ready for an unforgettable weekend of faith, music, and fun at Rock the Universe, Florida's biggest Christian music festival! For more info or to register by Nov 30, visit firstumc.org/youth.

2026 Confirmation Kick Off Meeting, Wednesday, Jan 7, 6-7:30pm

Our Confirmation curriculum is a 15-week journey that includes a weekend retreat* (February 6-8) to Warren Willis Camp. This class is for 7th grade students and older. For more information or to register by Dec. 11 visit firstumc.org/confirmation.

MISSIONS

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

Children's Clothes Closet

This important ministry has urgent needs for: 1) Workers to fill orders on Wednesday mornings from 9:30am-1pm; 2) Shoppers who can shop regularly at thrift stores and Walmart or Dollar Tree; 3) Someone to weekly take items we can't use to either Talbot House, Lighthouse or Salvation Army. Please contact Karen Ruthven (ekaren5@aol.com) if you will serve.

KidsPACK

Our next packing event will be Wednesday, Dec 3. 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.

Pecans Have Arrived at the Bookstore!

Stop by and pick up a fresh batch while they last. The bookstore is open weekdays from 10am-1pm, Wednesday evenings from 4pm-6:30pm, and Sundays from 9am-12:30pm. Come see us during open hours to grab your pecans!

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, Tuesdays, 6-8pm

We meet at Jen's house to share a meal together, play some games, and discuss Scripture. We laugh a lot, share our burdens, sponsor families for the holidays, and have a good time. Scan the QR code join so that you can see the address & hear updates. (No meets on the last Tuesday of each month.)

YA Christmas Light Scavenger Hunt, Sat, Dec 6, 5:30pm-9pm

Meet at the Welcome Center café area to hear the rules and divide into teams. We'll then drive around town with our teams, snapping pics of Christmas lights. We'll end the night at Thormeier Family Christmas Trees & Lights to count up points & walk through the lights event. Head to firstumc.org/events for more info & to register.

YAs Serve: Parker Street Christmas Store, Thurs, Dec 11, 6-8pm

Meet at Parker Street Ministries (719 N. Massachusetts Ave, Lakeland) to help us set up the store for families to come shop for their children's wish lists.

YA Ornament-Making: Sun, Dec 14, 12-2pm, Room C-205

Come eat some snacks with us as we make ornaments, try our hand at Christmas movie trivia, and say goodbye to some of our college students until next semester! This is a free event with all materials provided.

First United Methodist Church

November 16, 2025

Faithfully Forward

Courage