

8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		
PRELUDE	We Are Called/Hayes	Kim DuBreuil Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Andy Whitaker Smith
*HYMN 2172	We Are Called	
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 888		Andy Whitaker Smith
*GLORIA PATRI	We Will Glorify	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE		Kim DuBreuil
OFFERTORY	If I Can Help Somebody/Androzso	Jenny Heidtman
SERMON	Faithfully Forward with Hope (Philippians 3:12-14)	Charley Reeb
INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON		
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING		Andy Whitaker Smith
COMMUNION		
*HYMN 368	My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less	
*BENEDICTION		Charley Reeb
*RESPONSE	As We Go	
POSTLUDE	Solid Rock/Phillips	Matthew H. Corl

9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		
*INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON		Andy Whitaker Smith
*SONGS OF PRAISE	God So Loved, My Testimony	
BAPTISM	Elaine Michelle & Oakley Elizabeth Moore	
	Daughters of Jacob & Madison Moore	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER		Kim DuBreuil
OFFERTORY	The Lord Will Provide	
SERMON	Faithfully Forward with Hope (Philippians 3:12-14)	Charley Reeb
COMMUNION		
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Living Hope	
*BENEDICTION		Charley Reeb

11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		
PRELUDE	Great Is Thy Faithfulness/Miller	Kim DuBreuil Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Kim DuBreuil
*HYMN 140	Great Is Thy Faithfulness	
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 888		Kim DuBreuil
*GLORIA PATRI	Glory Be to the Father	
BAPTISM	Kelsey Lavender & Hudson Cypress Caple	
	Children of Brittany & Adam Caple	
PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE		Kim DuBreuil
OFFERTORY	How Firm a Foundation/Nestor	
	Chancel Choir; Jenny Heidtman, soloist	
SERMON	Faithfully Forward with Hope (Philippians 3:12-14)	Charley Reeb
INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON		
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING		Kim DuBreuil
COMMUNION		
*HYMN 368	My Hope Is Built	
*BENEDICTION		Charley Reeb
*RESPONSE 666	Shalom To You	
POSTLUDE	Solid Rock/Phillips	Matthew H. Corl

The authors of today’s songs chose to reflect the theme of hope as a firm foundation, hope for the future, and our own actions as hope for others. “How Firm a Foundation” presented by the Chancel Choir is a vibrant setting of the familiar hymn. Dan Miller’s “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” is in the theatre organ style.

*Please stand if you are able

11:00AM THE CURRENT		
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Andy Whitaker Smith
*SONGS OF PRAISE	God So Loved, My Testimony, I Thank God	Andy Whitaker Smith
REMEMBRANCE OF THE SAINTS		
CENTERING PRAYER		Andy Whitaker Smith
OFFERTORY	The Lord Will Provide	
*DOXOLOGY		
SERMON	Faithfully Forward: HOPE	Andy Whitaker Smith
COMMUNION		Andy Whitaker Smith
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Living Hope	
*BENEDICTION		Andy Whitaker Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP	
LEADER: We press on toward the goal, with hope in our hearts.	
ALL:	Christ calls us forward with grace and promise.
LEADER: Though the road behind is long, new life lies ahead.	
ALL:	In faith and hope, we look toward the future, and find our place as God’s people.

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 2)

In Person: 998
Online: 1,450
Total: 2,448

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.

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

Weekly Text: Philippians 3:12-14

Monday: Paul expresses that he has not yet attained perfection but is determined to keep moving forward in his faith. This reflects a posture of humility and ambition. What does it mean to you to “press on” in your faith journey? In what areas of your life do you feel you need to keep striving?

Tuesday: Paul encourages believers to forget what is behind. This can be challenging as we often dwell on past mistakes or successes. Letting go allows us to focus on the future. What past experiences do you find difficult to let go of? How can letting go of the past help you in your current spiritual walk?

Wednesday: Paul talks about the goal of the upward call of God. This call invites us to pursue a deeper relationship with Christ and fulfill our purpose. How do you discern God’s calling in your life? What steps can you take to pursue this calling more intentionally?

Thursday: The “prize” symbolizes the eternal life and relationship with God that awaits believers. It motivates us to endure hardships and remain faithful. What does the “prize” of your faith mean to you personally? How does the hope of this prize influence your daily choices?

Friday: Paul’s journey was not solitary; he wrote to the Philippians as a part of a community. Surrounding ourselves with fellow believers can provide encouragement and accountability. Who in your life helps you to stay focused on your spiritual goals? How can you support others in their journey of faith?

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.



The Jewelry, Purse & Tie Sale Ends Today!
Join us for our annual Jewelry, Purse & Tie Sale happening Friday-Sunday, Nov 7-9, in the Welcome Center at First UMC Lakeland. Shop an incredible selection of donated jewelry, handbags, and ties – perfect for treating yourself or finding thoughtful gifts for friends and family! Every purchase helps support our mission projects. Hours are 8am-1pm in the Welcome Center, First UMC Lakeland (Parking available on Vistabula St., east side of Lake Morton). Cash or credit accepted. Come shop for a cause – and make a difference while finding something beautiful!



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
9:00-10:30 Pray and Play

Parent Advent Study, The Heart that Grew Three Sizes, Weds, Nov 19 - Dec17, 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 Nov 26)

Children's Advent Study, The Heart That Grew Three Sizes, Weds, 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 - 7:30pm 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 Nov 26)

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 Nov 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 advent wreath project! This event is completely FREE, offering a wonderful opportunity for everyone to enjoy a hands-on experience. Please register so we can ensure we have enough supplies for each family at firstumc.org/children.

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 9: 9:30am Youth Choir Practice
We hope our families enjoy their camping weekend. Join us next week for Youth Group.

Tuesday, Nov 11: 5pm Youth Dance Ministry

Wednesday, Nov 12: 4:45pm Youth Handbells
5:15pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
6pm Open Gym
6:30pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies

Saturday, Nov 15: 9am-12pm Youth Serve Saturday

Youth Serve Saturday, Nov 15, 9am-12pm
Join us for a morning of service at Success House, located next to College Heights United Methodist Church. For more info or to register by Nov 12, visit firstumc.org/youth.

High School Mission Trip, Alaska, June 6-12, 2026:
Join us as we head to Anchorage, Alaska for our summer high school mission trip. This is a wonderful opportunity to bond as a youth group and to see a part of the United States that is rare for most inland Americans. To register by Nov 15, visit firstumc.org/youth.

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.

MISSIONS

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

Better Together
We are blessed to be in partnership with Better Together, whose mission includes reducing the number of children entering foster care by providing parents with a safety net for their children in times of crisis. Better Together connects parents to vetted volunteer families who can temporarily care for their children and allow them to get back on their feet or navigate a crisis. Ninety-eight percent of children served by Better Together through hosting and mentoring haven't required state intervention. Please join us today and Dec 14 in the Welcome Center during Second Sunday gathering to meet Better Together staff people and find your way to serve with them and their important mission.

Children's Clothes Closet - Urgent needs for this important ministry
- Workers to fill orders on Wednesday mornings from 9:30am-1pm
- Shoppers who can shop regularly at thrift stores, Walmart and Dollar Tree
- Someone to weekly take items we can't use to either Talbot House, Lighthouse or Salvation Army

Please contact Karen Ruthven with questions or if you will serve: ekaren5@aol.com
Thank you for your continued support.

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

2nd Sunday, Friendsgiving Nov 9, 12-2pm, Room C-205
Bring your favorite food—college style! Poptarts? Fried chicken? Whatever! We'll be making Thankful Parchments (a large parchment sign to hang & write each day what you are thankful for).

YAs Serve: Dream Center, Thurs, Nov 13th, 5-7pm
Join us to serve at the Community Shoppe & Market where (in addition to regular grocery distribution) people in the community can "shop" for personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, and extra groceries. Meet at the Mercantile building at 706 W 5th Street at 5pm.

Fall Corn Maze & Hay Ride, Sat, Nov 15, 4:30-6:30pm
Meet at the church Welcome Center by 4pm if you want to carpool, or meet us there at 4:30pm (Harvest Holler: 950 Tayares Rd, Polk City, FL). Bring \$17 for the entrance fee & ~\$15 for food (or just show up if you're on a budget and see Jen). We'll eat dinner, get lost in the maze, feed some animals, and have the best peach cobbler in Polk County (don't tell your granny I said that!).

First United Methodist Church

November 9, 2025

Faithfully
Forward

Hope