

## 8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS** Charley Reeb

**PRELUDE** Marvelous Grace/Towner

Albert McCullough, Flugelhorn; Elena Miraztchiyska, Piano

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Andy Whitaker Smith

**\*HYMN 402** Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

**\*PSALTER 837** Psalm 116, Response 1 Andy Whitaker Smith

**\*GLORIA PATRI** We Will Glorify

**PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE** Charley Reeb

**OFFERTORY** My Jesus, I Love Thee/Kim Matthew H. Corl

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

**SERMON** Freedom and Responsibility (Romans 6:17-23) Kim DuBreuil

**\*HYMN 2223** They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

**\*BENEDICTION** Kim DuBreuil

**\*RESPONSE** As We Go

**POSTLUDE** Lead On, O King Eternal/Kim Matthew H. Corl

## 9:30AM MODERN WORSHIP

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Andy Whitaker Smith

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Andy Whitaker Smith

**\*SONGS OF PRAISE** Children of God, My Testimony, I Thank God

**PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER** Charley Reeb

**OFFERTORY** Your Love Is All Around Me

**SERMON** Freedom and Responsibility (Romans 6:17-23) Kim DuBreuil

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE** Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

**BENEDICTION** Kim DuBreuil

## 11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS** Charley Reeb

**PRELUDE** Christ is Alive/Corl Matthew H. Corl

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Charley Reeb

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 318** Christ is Alive

**\*PSALTER 837** Psalm 116, Response 1 Charley Reeb

**\*GLORIA PATRI** Glory Be to the Father

**ANTHEM** Marvelous Grace/Towner Albert McCullough, Flugelhorn

**PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE** Charley Reeb

**OFFERTORY** Praise His Holy Name!/Hampton

Chancel Choir; Charles Fernandez, solo

**DOXOLOGY 94** Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

**\*HYMN 402** Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

**SERMON** Freedom and Responsibility (Romans 6:17-23) Kim DuBreuil

**\*HYMN 2223** They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

**\*BENEDICTION** Kim DuBreuil

**\*RESPONSE 666** Shalom To You

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

Today's music reflects the theme of justice; *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* serves as a call to be in service to others by sharing God's love, a love which pulls people together. The spiritual *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* remind us to practice our faith every day with our hearts and minds. Keith Hampton's gospel song *Praise His Holy Name* offers a hopeful message full of joy and "Hallelujahs"!

\*Please stand if you are able

## 11:00AM THE CURRENT

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Andy Whitaker Smith

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**\*SONGS OF PRAISE** Children of God, My Testimony, I Thank God

**CENTERING PRAYER** Andy Whitaker Smith

**OFFERTORY** Your Love Is All Around Me

### \*DOXOLOGY

**SERMON** To Care for Community (James 2:14-17) Andy Whitaker Smith

**COMMUNION** Andy Whitaker Smith

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE** Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

**\*BENEDICTION** Andy Whitaker Smith

## CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: O Lord our God, we praise you.

**ALL: We cried to you for help and you answered us.**

LEADER: You have restored our lives;

**ALL: You have rescued us from the grave.**

## 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](http://firstumc.org/connect).**

**Visit [firstumc.org/connect](http://firstumc.org/connect) or scan the QR code for:**

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

**Presence in Worship (April 12)**

In Person: 774

Online: 1,416

Total: 2,190

**Acolytes/Crucifers:** Cameron Vessels, 8:15am

**Text to Give:** Text any amount to 855-485-1651, and you will receive a link to contribute.

### Giving Through March 31

|                 | 2026         | 2025         | Inc (Dec) | % Inc (Dec) |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| Budgeted Income | \$ 1,042,800 | \$ 1,020,204 | \$ 22,596 | 2.21%       |
| Actual Income   | 839,261      | 854,527      | (15,266)  | -1.79%      |
|                 | \$ (203,539) | \$ (165,677) |           |             |

Questions? Call Patrick Hamrick in the church office, 863-686-3163 x213

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

**Please be sure that the church office is notified if you wish to have a visit or prayer when you are in the hospital.**

### Birth

Emily Ann Fish 3/26  
Daughter of Annie and Keaton Fish

### Baptism

Whitney Vaughn Foster, 4/12  
Daughter of Robert & Brenna Foster

### Hospital

Skip Moore  
Diane Smith  
Linda Weaver

### Death

Gwen Comer, 4/11  
Debbie Dettmer, 4/12

### Altar Flowers

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

## DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

To deepen your study and prayer, consider focusing on elder care and mental health, especially those affecting children. This approach can help you gain a compassionate understanding and support for those in need.

**Day 1:** Justice. *Romans 6:17-18*

We often think of freedom as simply doing whatever we want. But Paul reminds us that we are always "slaves" to something—either to sin or to righteousness. True freedom isn't about having no master; it's about being aligned with the right one. Justice starts when we understand that our actions aren't private. When we are "slaves to righteousness," our main responsibility is to act in ways that respect and uphold others' dignity.  
**Prayer:** Lord, grant me the strength to replace the "freedom" of self-interest with the joy of serving Your will.

**Day 2:** Responsibility. *Romans 6:19*

Paul acknowledges our human weakness. We once offered our bodies to impurity; now we must offer them to righteousness, which leads to holiness. This is a progressive "training." Responsibility is about choosing to be in situations where we can actively practice equity and kindness until they become second nature.  
**Prayer:** Father, change my habits so that my "default setting" is to pursue what is right and fair for my neighbor.

**Day 3:** Injustice and Unrighteousness. *Romans 6:20-21*

Paul asks, "What did you gain back then from the things you now regret?" Sin often promises freedom but ultimately leads to regret and social decline. Injustice is often the "fruit" of choosing self-gratification over collective responsibility. To pursue justice, we must be willing to let go of advantages gained through unjust systems.

**Prayer:** Search my heart, God, and show me where my pursuit of personal gain has harmed others.

**Day 4:** Freedom. *Romans 6:22*

Now that you have been "set free from sin," you have become "slaves of God." This paradox means our freedom is specifically for service. We are liberated so we can finally be responsible. Freedom means not only being free from oppression but also having the responsibility to work toward liberation. We must use our voices and resources to support those still caught in systemic injustice.

**Prayer:** Thank you for my freedom. Show me how to use it today to ease someone else's burden.

**Day 5:** Justice is rooted in Grace. *Romans 6:23*

"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life." Justice involves more than punishment; it focuses on restoring life. Ultimate justice is found in God's grace. Because we have received a gift we didn't earn, we are responsible for advocating for a world that reflects God's generous, life-giving kingdom.

**Prayer:** May my life mirror the gift I have been given. Guide me to contribute towards a world where all can find the "eternal life" and peace You promise.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



**Confirmation Service, Today, 5pm**  
Please join us for our Confirmation Service on April 19 at 5:00 PM in the Sanctuary to celebrate this special milestone in the faith journeys of our students. We are excited to welcome 13 students into full membership in the church. A reception will follow in the Welcome Center, and all are invited to attend and share in this joyful occasion.



**PEACE Nehemiah Action, April 20, 6:30-8:30pm**  
Your presence matters! Help us build people power by bringing at least three people with you. Show up and be part of addressing community problems like access to mental health care and elder care. This is the largest and most important meeting of the year. We expect over 1,000 people to come out for justice this year. This is when we ask our public officials to make specific commitments for action on mental health and elder care, based on the solutions researched and developed by the organization. When PEACE shows up, justice reigns!



**Better Together, April 23, 10am-1pm**  
We will play host to a Better Together Second Chance Job Fair - welcoming job seekers and hiring managers as we help individuals find fulfilling and rewarding careers. This is more than an event. It's an opportunity to help the unemployed and underemployed find career paths leading to transformation, while extending radical hospitality and reflecting Christ's love to our community. Follow the QR code for information on the many key volunteer roles needed and to register or go to [bettertogetherus.org/forms/job-fair-volunteer-registration](http://bettertogetherus.org/forms/job-fair-volunteer-registration).

## CHILDREN

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

Visit [firstumc.org/children](http://firstumc.org/children) to learn more!

**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

**Warren Willis Info Meeting, Today, 11am - 12pm, F101 (Youth Building)**

If your child has completed 3rd grade or higher by this summer, we would love to have them join us at Warren Willis Summer Camp! We will have camp staff coming on April 19 to share all about the Warren Willis experience and answer any questions you or your children may have! Please register on our website [firstumc.org/children](http://firstumc.org/children).

**KIC Club 4/5 End of the Year Pool Party, May 8, 6-8pm**

Fourth and fifth graders are invited to celebrate the end of the year at the Dammer's house. We'll be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs, and enjoying a relaxing evening by the pool. Please sign up at [firstumc.org/children](http://firstumc.org/children) by May 6.

**Vacation Bible School (KIC Camp), June 22 - 26, Adult Volunteer Registration**

Adult volunteers are a vital part of VBS and we can't do it without you! Don't worry if you have children who are younger and don't quite qualify for VBS yet, we have a full preschool program exclusively for our onsite volunteers and even offer a nursery if you have little ones, 6 months and older, too! We love our volunteers and have many ways you can serve. Check out all of the options and register now by visiting [www.firstumc.org/vbs](http://www.firstumc.org/vbs).

**Vacation Bible School (KIC Camp) 2026, June 22-26**

Registration for children who have completed VPK 4 - 5th grade and youth volunteers is now open! To register visit [www.firstumc.org/vbs](http://www.firstumc.org/vbs).

**Warren Willis Summer Camp (Children & Youth) July 6-11 (Week #4):**

Registration is now available for students moving up to 4th grade all the way through those who have just graduated 12th grade. To sign up for camp, head over to <https://www.mccc.org/summer-camps/>. If you're interested in the Chance to Go Scholarship or need to arrange transportation to and from camp, check out [firstumc.org/children](http://firstumc.org/children) for all the details.

**KIC Family Service Retreat, Wednesday, July 22 - Saturday, July 25**

Registration is officially open for our Fourth Annual Family trip to St. Simons Island, GA! Join us for a retreat filled with service opportunities, time to connect as a family, devotions, and more! For more details or to register, please visit [firstumc.org/children](http://firstumc.org/children).

**KIC Family Event, Make-N-Take, April 26, 2:30-4:30pm**

Join us for an afternoon of crafting with your family! We will have multiple crafts for you to complete including painting tote bags, a family canvas painting, prayer jars, and more! This event is fun for all ages, and the best part is it's free! This event will take place in the different classrooms in the Children's wings so that families can see the different rooms. Adults are welcome to help children with their craft or make their own items as well! Please sign up by Monday, April 20.

## YOUTH

For information regarding our Youth Ministry events, contact

Emily Felgenhauer, Director of Youth Ministries:  
[efelgenhauer@firstumc.org](mailto:efelgenhauer@firstumc.org), (863) 687-9750 x253.

**Sunday, April 19:**  
9:30 am Youth Choir  
10:30 am Donuts and Discussion  
5 pm Confirmation Service

**Tuesday, April 21:**  
5 pm Youth Dance Ministry

**Wednesday, April 22:**  
4:45 pm Youth Handbells  
6 pm Open Gym  
6:30 pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies

**Warren Willis Info Meeting, Today, 11am - 12pm, F101**

If your child has completed 3rd grade or higher by this summer, we would love to have them join us at Warren Willis Summer Camp! We will have camp staff coming on April 19 to share all about the Warren Willis experience and answer any questions you or your children may have! Please register on our website [firstumc.org/youth](http://firstumc.org/youth).

**College Ready Night, Wednesday April 22, 6pm - 7:30pm**

Graduating High School Seniors and Parents- Join us for our College Ready Night on April 22, where we will be joined by guest speakers from Florida Southern College to talk about college preparedness and expectations for their freshmen year. We will meet in F101 from 6:00-7:30pm. This will be a great night to help your senior feel ready for their next chapter, and we hope that you can join us! Please register at [firstumc.org/seniors](http://firstumc.org/seniors).

**Parent Connect Night, Sunday April 26, 5pm - 7pm**

Join us for our Parent Connect Night! We will first eat with our youth for a \$5 dinner and then move to room E22 from 5:30-7pm, and will be joined by Dr. Elizabeth Dumville to learn about building boundaries with Adolescents. This is a great opportunity to invite other parents/friends who might benefit from learning from a psychiatrist about how to better connect with our teenagers.

## ADULTS

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

**Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study: Female Prophets, Thurs, April 16-May 21, 6:30pm, Parlor**

Join Janet Earls and Andrea Bailey for an inspiring study of Rachael Groll's Knowing God's Voice. Explore the stories of biblical women who heard from God and learn to recognize, trust, and obey His call in your own life. Books are available for purchase at Our Giving Tree Bookstore. Register today at [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups).

**Divorce Recovery Class, Wednesdays through May 27, 6-7:30pm, C-201C**

You don't have to navigate separation or divorce alone. Join Tiffany Beardsley and a supportive community to find healing and tools for a healthier future. Register at [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups).

**United Women in Faith: Wonder Walk, Saturday, April 25, 9am**

Join UWF for the Lakeland site of the Cornerstone Family Ministries 46th Annual Wonder Hybrid Walk/Run! Whether you walk, run, or bike, your participation provides scholarships for inner-city children to learn and grow in a safe environment. Visit [Firstumc.org/events](http://Firstumc.org/events) for more information and to sign up.

**The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life, Weds, 6-7:30pm, Rm C-207**

How do we actually follow Jesus in the rhythm of everyday life? Join us for this six-week Adam Hamilton study starting April 15, as we explore five essential practices: worship, study, serving, giving, and sharing our faith. Whether you're brand new to faith or a longtime believer, these sessions offer practical ways to deepen your walk with Christ. No prior Bible knowledge required—just a heart ready to grow! Sign up at [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups).

## MISSIONS

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

**Disaster Recovery Date Change, April 24-25, 8:30am-4:30pm**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we pushed back our time of serving a homeowner still recovering from 2024 hurricanes in Southern Pinellas County. Housing at a church is available on the nights of April 23 & 24. No cost to serve. You do not need to be a handywoman or handyman, just a willing helper. Please send an email to [fwhite@firstumc.org](mailto:fwhite@firstumc.org) if you're willing to serve either or both days.

**Renewed Hope Missions, Aug 4-11**

We will send a team to serve in the Dominican Republic with this important mission. We're targeting young adults for this team, but all are welcome. Estimated trip cost for the trip based on 10 people is \$927 (single occupancy), \$843 (double occupancy) plus airfare (currently about \$610). Please do NOT let the cost deter you from serving. We have ways for you to raise funds. For additional information contact [fwhite@firstumc.org](mailto:fwhite@firstumc.org).

**Philip O'Brien Elementary School**

With the end of another school year in sight, we're making plans to celebrate with our partner school. We'll be providing breakfast on May 6, a Wednesday, for 83 teachers/staff. If you're willing to bake some breakfast goodies contact one of our O'Brien passion team leaders - Ann Skellenger ([abraham409@aol.com](mailto:abraham409@aol.com)) or Joleen Golden ([joleengolden@yahoo.com](mailto:joleengolden@yahoo.com)). We still need \$25 gift cards (Walmart, Target, Aldi, Publix) to give to staff/teachers. Cards may be dropped off at the church office on weekdays during business hours. Finally, congratulations to Ann for being this year's O'Brien Volunteer of the Year!

**First Sunday Food Collection, May 3, After 11am worship services until 1:30pm**

We will receive food at the Missions Depot May 3. The list of requested items is posted at [firstumc.org/firstsundayfood](http://firstumc.org/firstsundayfood). Thank you for your generosity and a reminder to please donate only requested items.

**KidsPACK, Wednesday, May 6**

Our final packing event of the 2025-26 school year is May 6. Setup begins in the Welcome Center at 9am while packing begins at 4pm. If you have questions, please contact [safetyskip@gmail.com](mailto:safetyskip@gmail.com). Thanks to Skip for another great job of leading this year!

## YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18-35)

For more information, contact Jen Swygard, Director of Young Adult Ministries:

[JSwygard@firstumc.org](mailto:JSwygard@firstumc.org), (863) 686-3163 x226; Follow us on IG:  
@1stLKLDYoungAdults or FB: 1st LKLD Young Adults to stay connected

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**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, serve the community together, and have a good time. Scan the QR code to join so that you can see the address & hear updates. (No meets on the last Tuesday of each month.)

**Swan Derby, Fri, April 24, 5:30-7:45pm**

Come support Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine by participating in their annual festival! The swan derby takes place at Lake Mirror, and there will be food trucks and other goodies, so bring money to support the cause! This is a family-friendly, come-and-go event.

**YA Sunday School, 11am, begins April 26**

Join us for Young Adult Sunday School the last Sunday of every month, 11am-12pm in room C-206 (Go to the welcome Center, and head upstairs). Register at [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups).

**New! Affinity Groups**

Head to [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups) to see the new groups! The new Girls Hobby Group will meet monthly, hosted by various YA girls covering anything from jam-making, crafternoons, and book clubs; there is a Guys Game Nights group hosted at Ian's home, featuring various board games and snacks. Register for your respective group to get connected!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 19, 2026

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 HOTH, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
BISHOP TOM BERLIN, FLORIDA AREA BISHOP

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