

## 8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

<b>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Kim DuBreuil
<b>PRELUDE</b>	Land of Rest/Mahronic Matthew H. Corl
<b>*CALL TO WORSHIP</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*HYMN 695</b>	O Lord, May Church And Home Combine
<b>*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 884</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*GLORIA PATRI</b>	We Will Glorify
<b>PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE</b>	Kim DuBreuil
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	It Is Well With My Soul Elaine Clemens and Jane Warren, piano duet
<b>DOXOLOGY 95</b>	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
<b>SERMON</b>	Why We Need Jesus (Psalm 23) Charley Reeb
<b>*HYMN 445</b>	Happy The Home When God Is There
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	Charley Reeb
<b>*RESPONSE</b>	As We Go
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee/Raney Matthew H. Corl

## 9:30AM MODERN WORSHIP

<b>WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>CALL TO WORSHIP</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*SONGS OF PRAISE</b>	Children of God, Holy Spirit, Amazed
<b>PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER</b>	Kim DuBreuil
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	God Our Mother
<b>SERMON</b>	Why We Need Jesus (Psalm 23) Charley Reeb
<b>*SONG OF RESPONSE</b>	Your Love Is All Around Me
<b>BENEDICTION</b>	Charley Reeb

## 11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

<b>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Kim DuBreuil
<b>PRELUDE</b>	Prelude on Forest Green/Corl Matthew H. Corl
<b>*CALL TO WORSHIP</b>	Kim DuBreuil
<b>*HYMN 152</b>	I Sing the Almighty Power of God
<b>*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 884</b>	Kim DuBreuil
<b>*GLORIA PATRI</b>	Glory Be to the Father
<b>ANTHEM</b>	It Is Well With My Soul Elaine Clemens and Jane Warren, piano duet
<b>BAPTISM</b>	Remy Michael Drew Son of Stuart Drew & Kathryn Jurenovich
<b>PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE</b>	Kim DuBreuil
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	Great Is Thy Faithfulness/arr. Patterson Chancel Choir; Debbie Klise, flute
<b>DOXOLOGY 94</b>	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
<b>*HYMN 445</b>	Happy the Home When God Is There v.1
<b>SERMON</b>	Why We Need Jesus (Psalm 23) Charley Reeb
<b>*HYMN 695</b>	O Lord, May Church and Home Combine
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	Charley Reeb
<b>*RESPONSE 666</b>	Shalom To You
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Postlude in D/Wilan Matthew H. Corl

On this Mother's Day/Festival of the Christian Home we sing two hymn tunes with roots in the ballads of England and Scotland, FOREST GREEN (152) and LAND OF REST (695). The texts, meaningful to all ages, speak of God's goodness, and the combined power of church and home to express love, grace, and peace. Thank you to the sopranos and altos of the Chancel Choir for their special anthem this morning.

**\*Please stand if you are able**

## 11:00AM THE CURRENT

<b>WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*SONGS OF PRAISE</b>	Children of God, Holy Spirit, Amazed
<b>CENTERING PRAYER</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	God Our Mother
<b>*DOXOLOGY</b>	
<b>SERMON</b>	The Space Between (John 20:19-31) Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>COMMUNION</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith
<b>*SONG OF RESPONSE</b>	Your Love Is All Around Me
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	Andy Whitaker Smith

## CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Come, children, God is calling us, Gathering us, Covering us with hope-filled wings.

**ALL: Come, children, Rest against our Beloved's breast.**

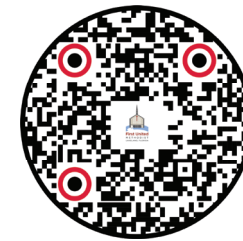
LEADER: Nurtured and nourished, On the milk of love and kindness.

**ALL: Let us worship the God who loves us with a mother's heart.**

## 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 (May 3)

In Person: 732

Online: 1,342

Total: 2,074

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

### Giving Through April 30

	2026	2025	Inc (Dec)	% Inc (Dec)
Budgeted Income	\$ 1,363,662	\$ 1,334,113	\$ 29,549	2.21%
Actual Income	1,154,283	1,153,501	782	0.07%
	\$ (209,379)	\$ (180,612)		

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.**

**A Celebration of Life for Rev. Doug Hallman will take place in the Sanctuary on Saturday, May 16 at 2pm**

### Deaths

Gail Bluebaugh, 4/16  
Phil Arthur, 4/23  
Doris Devlin, 4/26

### 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

**Monday:** One could argue that the 23rd Psalm is the most beloved and most popular passage in the Bible. It is read and prayed at more bedsides, hospitals, worship services and funerals than we can count. It strikes a deep chord within us. I am sure you can think of particular moments in your life when the 23rd Psalm comforted you. What makes it so special? What makes it so significant? What does the 23rd Psalm mean to you and why?

**Tuesday:** One important aspect of the 23rd Psalm is that it expresses our deep need for a shepherd. David began the Psalm with, "The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want." We often read and recite this first verse routinely, but, for David, it was a proud statement: "The Lord is my Shepherd. You want to know who my shepherd is? The Lord. You want to know who guides me and protects me? It is the Lord. The Lord is my shepherd and, therefore, I do not want for anything!" For David, the Lord was all he needed. We often try to fill the void in our lives with everything but the Shepherd but it is the love and companionship of the Shepherd that truly satisfies. Can you think of a moment in your life when you learned this lesson?

**Wednesday:** We need a shepherd because we are very similar to sheep. There's a reason why this particular Psalm refers to us, or compares us, to sheep. Sheep are completely dependent upon a shepherd for their survival. Sheep would get lost, abused, and devoured without guidance and protection. Sheep depend completely on the shepherd for every aspect of their lives. Name a desperate time in your life when you were completely dependent on the Lord.

**Thursday:** The progressive rock band U2 has a song entitled, "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For." Here are some of the lyrics: "I've climbed the highest mountain. I've run through the fields. I have run, I have crawled, I have scaled these city walls, but I still haven't found what I'm looking for." Does that describe you today? Augustine wrote that "there is a God-shaped void in all of us that only God can fill." Money can't fill it. Escapades can't fill it. Pleasure can't fill it. Success will never fill it. Trophies will never fill it. Awards will never fill it. Only the Shepherd will fill that void. In what ways have you tried and failed in finding what you are looking for?

**Friday:** Do you know the Shepherd? The central question of the Christian faith is not, "What denomination are you a part of?" or "Do you believe in the virgin birth?" The central question of our faith is not, "Are you liberal or conservative?" The central question of the Christian faith is, "Do you really know the Shepherd?" There are three people in this world: those who know nothing of Jesus Christ, those who know something of Jesus Christ, and those who really know Jesus Christ as the Shepherd. Which one are you?

## 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)**



### Happy Mother's Day

Today, we honor and celebrate all mothers - biological, adoptive, spiritual, and maternal figures—for the love, strength, and wisdom you share each day. Your care makes a lasting impact in our families, our community, and our hearts. Thank you for your unwavering devotion and grace. May this day be filled with joy, peace, and appreciation.



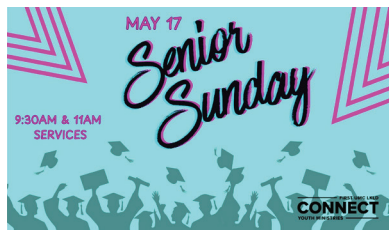
### Farewell Reception, Sunday, May 24

Please mark your calendars as Rev. Charley Reeb preaches his final Sunday with us at First UMC Lakeland. We give thanks for his faithful ministry, leadership, and care, and we invite you to join us in worship as we honor this meaningful moment in his ministry and in the life of our church. Following our 11am worship services, you will have a special opportunity to celebrate Charley and his family at a farewell reception in the Welcome Center. We hope you will join us as we gather with gratitude, love, and appreciation for all they have meant to our church family.



### Handbell Ringers & Singers: Celebrate the Seasons, May 31, 4pm

Join us for a joyful and uplifting musical experience as we "Celebrate the Seasons" through the unique artistry of handbells, ChoirChimes, and song! This special concert features a talented group of musicians who not only ring but also sing in harmony - sometimes at the very same time. The shimmering tones of the handbells and the warm resonance of ChoirChimes blend with vocals to create a rich and inspiring soundscape that captures the essence of every time of year. This is a free concert, however a love offering will be taken to help support their mission tour in June 2026.



### Senior Sunday, May 17

Mark your calendar on Sunday May 17 for our Graduation Sunday. We will be celebrating the graduating seniors at the 9:30am and 11am Traditional Services. This will be a very special morning for our congregation. We will be having a special video played during the service. You won't want to miss it!

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

**Sundays**  
9:30am KIC Start (Infants 6 weeks - 5th grade)  
11am Childcare (Infants 6 weeks - VPK)

**Wednesdays**  
6:00 - 7:30pm Childcare

**Thursdays**  
9:00-10:30 Pray and Play

### Milk Jugs and Large Cardboard Needed

Children's Ministry is collecting empty gallon size jugs. Please rinse them out and discard the cap. We are also collecting cardboard boxes especially if they are large. We are creating a frozen landscape all throughout campus for our Vacation Bible School. Please drop off any donations in the C-building at the Children's check-in desk.

### KIC Summer Hangouts, Tuesday, June 2, 9:30 - 11:30am

Join us for a fun-filled summer with your KIC family! This family-friendly drop-in event will feature free time and activities suitable for all ages. We'll dive into the Fruits of the Spirit through engaging children's books, complemented by crafts, science experiments, and more. Feel free to bring your friends along, and the best part? It's completely free! (Save these other dates: June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28)

### Vacation Bible School (KIC Camp) 2026, June 22-26- Registration closes May 31

Registration is now open for children who have completed VPK through 5th grade, as well as for youth and adult volunteers! If you're an adult volunteer with kids who aren't eligible for VBS, we offer activities and on-site childcare for children aged 6 months and older, so you can focus on helping out. To sign up, just head over to [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 [www.mccc.org/summer-camps/](http://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.

## YOUTH

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

**Sunday, May 10:**  
9:30am Youth Choir  
No programming due to Mothers day

**Wednesday, May 13:**  
4:45 pm Youth Handbells  
6 pm Open Gym  
6:30 pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies.

### Serve Saturday, May 16, 9am-12pm

Join us in room C-112 for our upcoming Serve Saturday! This is a great opportunity to come together as a team and help prepare for this year's Vacation Bible School. We'll be organizing supplies and getting everything ready to create a fun, welcoming environment for the kids who will be attending VBS in June. For more information visit [firstumc.org/youth](http://firstumc.org/youth).

### Whitaker-Smith Farewell Party, Sunday, May 17, 5pm-7pm

Parents and youth are invited to join us in the F building as we say Farewell to the Whitaker-Smith Family at youth group. We will have pizza, play games, and Pastor Andy will give a special message. You do not want to miss this evening! For more information visit [firstumc.org/youth](http://firstumc.org/youth).

### High School Mystery Trip, Sunday, May 31, 12pm - 4pm

Join us for an afternoon at our High School Mystery Event! This event is open to rising freshmen through current seniors and is a great opportunity to connect, have fun, and spend time together. The cost is \$30 per person (due at registration). For more information visit [firstumc.org/youth](http://firstumc.org/youth).

### Youth Beach Trip, Wednesday, June 3, 8 am - 4:30 pm

Join us for a day of summer fun at Anna Maria Island Beach on Wednesday, June 3! This is a free event for our youth. We will meet at the church at 8am and return by 4:30pm. Please have your child bring a packed lunch, towel, and sunscreen. They may also bring spending money for snacks at the beach and any additional beach items they can carry themselves.

### Youth Retreat at Annual Conference, June 4th-6th

Youth (ages 12-17) are invited to the 3-day Florida Annual Conference gathering—an opportunity to worship, learn, and engage in church decision-making. Open to both voting members and observers, this retreat helps students grow as leaders and find their voice in the future of the church. Led by Warren Willis Camp staff and leaders, youth will be guided, supported, and connected throughout the experience. For more information visit [Firstumc.org/youth](http://Firstumc.org/youth).

## 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](http://firstumc.org/groups).

### Weekly Midweek Meals end on May 27

As our weekly Wednesday night meals wrap up on May 27, we're shifting to a special summer schedule. Mark your calendars for our Summer Supper series! Each event features a unique theme and fun games you won't want to miss. Summer Schedule: July 1, July 15, July 29, August 12 and August 26. Join us for food, themes, and summer fun!

### Financial Peace Summer Session, June 10-August 5, Wednesday Nights 6-8pm

Take control of your money with Financial Peace University! This nine-week class uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and invest for your future! Attend in person or via Zoom. Sign up at [FirstUMC.org/Groups](http://FirstUMC.org/Groups).

### New Cribbage Club starting in June!

Join Dale Golden on Monday Mornings at 10am at the Bookstore Café for fun, strategy and fellowship. Cribbage is the perfect blend of skill and luck, offering a great way to sharpen your mind and build lasting friendships. Bring your favorite cribbage board or one will be provided. Whether you're a lifelong player or have never picked up a card, you are welcome here! Learn more and register at [FirstUMC.org/Groups](http://FirstUMC.org/Groups).

### JOY (55+) Summer Events

Don't miss out on these wonderful opportunities for fun, fellowship, and meaningful service! While our May event is already sold out, we have a fantastic lineup for the rest of the summer. Get full details on the events below and sign up today at [FirstUMC.org/Events](http://FirstUMC.org/Events).

- **Friday, June 19:** A special visit to the One More Child Campus to explore this vital ministry.
- **Friday, July 24:** Cool off at our Ice Cream Social—the perfect escape from the summer heat!
- **Friday, August 21:** August Luncheon and Guest Speaker. Join FUMC Creative Director Dr. Michelle Maldonado for a helpful session on technology titled "Connected and Protected."

## MISSIONS

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

### 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're in need of greeters all around campus for school awards day in the sanctuary on May 21 from 8:45am-12:45pm and for 5th grade graduation on May 22 from 8:45-10:15am. If you're willing to help please contact one of our O'Brien passion team leaders - Ann Skellenger (abraham409@aol.com) or Joleen Golden (joleengolden@yahoo.com).

### Renewed Hope Missions

First UMC will send a mission team Aug 4-11 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 to be on the team. For additional information contact Forrest White (fwhite@firstumc.org).

### Better Together Job Fair

On the heels of our enormously successful job fair on April 23 we've set two dates to partner with Better Together for additional job fairs - Oct 22, 2026, and April 22, 2027. We had 552 job seekers on campus for our first job fair in partnership with Better Together - 80 job offers were extended that day and 164 job interviews were scheduled or conducted! More than 50 volunteers helped with this transformative event with 18 employers and 12 resource partners in attendance.

## 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, 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.)

### YAs Serve: Lake Parker Cleanup Sat, May 16, 9am-11am

We'll meet at the boat ramp and have gloves, trash bags, trash grabbers—bring a water bottle and wear closed-toe shoes. We're partnering with Toby's Water Warriors to help keep God's creation clean!

### YA Girls & Guys Nights, Thurs, May 21, 6-8pm

Girls will meet at Jen's house to paint jumbo clothes pins as chip clips; guys will meet at Ian's house for a board game night. Head to [firstumc.org/groups](http://firstumc.org/groups) to register and find these South Lakeland addresses.

### Nature Walk at Circle B Bar Reserve, Sat, May 30, 9am-11am

Meet at the Circle B Welcome Center. We'll be walking and talking, enjoying God's nature! Bring a hat & a water bottle.

### YA Sunday School, Room C-206, Sun, May 31, 11am-12pm

Go to the Welcome Center and head upstairs. The room is beside the baby grand piano. We'll be learning about the cultural-historical context of Ephesians.



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 10, 2026