

8:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Charley Reeb
PRELUDE	How Great Thou Art/Kim Matthew H. Corl
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Kim DuBreuil
*HYMN	O Christ, When You Ascended
*PSALTER 781	Psalms 47 Kim DuBreuil
*GLORIA PATRI	We Will Glorify
PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE	Charley Reeb
OFFERTORY	Andante and Allegro/Desportes Ashlyn Lisenby, bass clarinet; Elaine Clemens, piano
DOXOLOGY 95	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
SERMON	Drop It (1 Samuel 17:32-39) Andy Whitaker Smith
*HYMN 2070	He Is Exalted
*BENEDICTION	Andy Whitaker Smith
*RESPONSE	As We Go
POSTLUDE	Rejoice, the Lord is King/Patterson Matthew H. Corl

9:30AM MODERN WORSHIP

YOUTH CHOIR	May the Love of the Lord
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	Kim DuBreuil
CALL TO WORSHIP	Kim DuBreuil
*SONGS OF PRAISE	Life Is Beautiful, Jesus Is Our Rock (Rock Of Ages)
GRADUATION RECOGNITION	
PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER	Charley Reeb
OFFERTORY	Graduating Seniors Video
SERMON	Drop It (1 Samuel 17:32-39) Andy Whitaker Smith
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Follow You Anywhere
BENEDICTION	Andy Whitaker Smith

11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Charley Reeb
PRELUDE	The Lord Has Gone Up With a Trumpet Fanfare/Pinkham Don West, Trumpet
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Charley Reeb
*HYMN 312	Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise
*PSALTER 781	Psalms 47 Charley Reeb
*GLORIA PATRI	Glory Be to the Father
ANTHEM	May the Love of the Lord/arr. Lund Youth Choir
GRADUATION RECOGNITION	
PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE	Charley Reeb
OFFERTORY	Andante and Allegro/Desportes Ashlyn Lisenby, bass clarinet; Elaine Clemens, piano
DOXOLOGY 94	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
SERMON	Drop It (1 Samuel 17:32-39) Andy Whitaker Smith
*HYMN 157	Jesus Shall Reign
*BENEDICTION	Andy Whitaker Smith
*RESPONSE 666	Shalom To You
POSTLUDE	Fugue in C/Buxtehude Matthew H. Corl

Today is Ascension Sunday, commemorating Acts 1 when Jesus tells the apostles they will receive power and authority from the Holy Spirit, and Jesus ascends on a cloud out of sight. The Psalm for today is Psalm 47 which describes God going up with a shout and the sound of a trumpet. Modern composer Daniel Pinkham set this verse in his "Psalms for Trumpet and Organ". Thank you to Don West for playing this piece today.

*Please stand if you are able

11:00AM THE CURRENT

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Kim DuBreuil
*SONGS OF PRAISE	Life Is Beautiful, This Beating Heart, Firm Foundation
CENTERING PRAYER	
OFFERTORY	Joy Of The Lord
*DOXOLOGY	
SERMON	Delegated Authority (John 15:18 - 16:4a) Kim DuBreuil
COMMUNION	Kim DuBreuil
*SONG OF RESPONSE	Stand In Your Love
*BENEDICTION	Kim DuBreuil

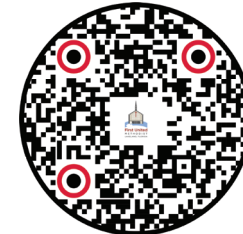
CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: The Lord is robed in majesty,
ALL: and armed with strength.
 LEADER: The Lord has made the world so sure,
ALL: that is cannot be moved.

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 (May 10)

In Person: 734
 Online: 1,246
 Total: 1,980

Acolytes/Crucifers: Lily Trenkman, 8:15am

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.

Hospital
 Lori Dettmer
 Fran Haupert

Deaths
 Jewell (Judy) Preis, 5/10

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

Day 1: The Armor That Doesn't Fit (1 Samuel 17:38)
"Then Saul clothed David with his armor..."
 Before David faced Goliath, Saul tried to prepare him by placing royal armor onto him. The armor made sense from Saul's perspective, but it did not fit David's calling. We experience similar pressures today. Families, culture, schools, workplaces, and even churches can place expectations on us about who we should become. Over time, we can lose ourselves trying to wear identities that were never meant for us. David realized something important: God was not calling him to become Saul. God was calling him to faithfully become himself. Some of us are still carrying armor that looks impressive on the outside while quietly exhausting us within. Today, ask yourself: What expectations have I been carrying that no longer feel like freedom?

Day 2: The Paths Others Choose for Us (1 Samuel 17:39a)
"He tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them."
 People not only tell us who we should be—they often tell us where we should go. Graduates today face enormous pressure surrounding careers, finances, success, and the future, all while living in an uncertain world. David quickly realized that Saul's armor kept him from moving naturally. Sometimes the "safe" or expected path can leave us spiritually unable to move forward. David's life would eventually take many unexpected turns: shepherd, musician, warrior, fugitive, and king. His journey reminds us that God's calling rarely follows a straight line. Faithfulness is not about having the entire roadmap. It is about trusting God with the next step in front of us.

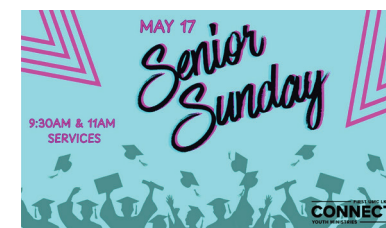
Day 3: What God Has Already Given You (1 Samuel 17:39b)
"So David removed them."
 David removed Saul's armor because he recognized that God had already been preparing him. The sling in his hand represented years of quiet faithfulness as a shepherd. What looked small to others had become a source of strength through God's shaping. We often overlook the very gifts God has already placed within us because they do not seem impressive enough. Yet throughout Scripture, God repeatedly works through ordinary people and ordinary experiences. The compassion learned through hardship, the patience developed through waiting, and the faithfulness practiced in hidden places all matter deeply to God. Perhaps God has already given you more than you realize.

Day 4: When Success Changes You (1 Samuel 17:32)
"Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."
 David's courage is inspiring, but his story also reminds us that authenticity alone is not enough. Later in life, David lost himself through pride, power, and his affair with Bathsheba. Success can become its own kind of armor. Achievement and influence can slowly convince us that we no longer need humility or dependence upon God. David's strength was never that he believed he was greater than others. His strength came from remembering who he was before God. Every stage of life gives us opportunities either to remain grounded in humility or to lose ourselves in success. Today, reflect honestly on where humility may still need to shape your life.

Day 5: Taking Off the Armor Again (1 Samuel 17:39)
"So David removed them."
 Graduation is not the only transition we experience in life. Again and again, God calls people into new seasons, new identities, and new forms of faithfulness. Some of us still carry armor built from fear, shame, perfectionism, or old expectations. Yet Jesus continually invites people to let go of the burdens they were never meant to carry. When the disciples followed Jesus, they dropped their nets without fully understanding where the journey would lead. They simply trusted the One calling them forward. Perhaps that is the invitation for us today: not to have every answer, but to trust God enough to remove the armor that no longer fits.

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)



Senior Sunday, Today
 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!



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.

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
9:30am 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

5th Grade Graduation Breakfast, June 28, 11:15am

Fifth graders and their families are invited to join us for breakfast and a walk down memory lane. Please register by June 18th and let us know how many will be attending. For more information and to register please head to firstumc.org/children.

Volunteers Needed for VBS Decorating Days, June 19, 3:30-5:30pm & June 20, 12:00 - 3:30pm

If you're unable to help during VBS week, there's still a chance for you to get involved by assisting with the church's snow-themed decorations. We invite you to join us in making the church look festive and ready for the winter wonderland. Your help with decorating would be greatly appreciated!

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.

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 wwwumcc.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 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 17:
9:30 am Youth Choir
10:30am Donuts and Discussion
3:30pm Youth Praise Band
5pm Youth Group

Wednesday, May 20:
6pm Open Gym
6:30pm Middle School and High School Bible Studies.

Whitaker-Smith Farewell Party, Today, 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! For more info, visit 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.

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

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 4-6

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. For more info, visit Firstumc.org/youth.



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.

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.

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.

New Cribbage Club starting June 29!

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.

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.

- **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 this Thursday from 8:45am-12:45pm and for 5th grade graduation this Friday 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).

Disaster Recovery

With the June 1 start of the Atlantic hurricane season almost upon us, we're having a couple of information sessions on Sunday, June 7, from 9-9:30am and 10:30-11am in the church parlor. We will have Irish Warren - co-founder of SALT (Serving and Loving Together) Disaster Recovery - with us to talk about ways to serve survivors affected by storms.

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.)

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 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.

