

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**APRIL 14**  
Youth Salsa Sale  
United Methodist Men | 4 PM | FH

**APRIL 15**  
GriefShare | 6 PM | Room 141

**APRIL 16**  
Morning Glories Women | 11 AM | Room 143  
Trustees | 6:30 PM | Conference Room

**APRIL 17**  
Wednesday Family Night | 5:30 PM | FH

**APRIL 18**  
Young At Heart | 11 AM | Sanctuary (Lunch at Duke's in Watson)

**APRIL 21**  
Hospitality Team Info Meeting | 12 pm | FH

**APRIL 22**  
GriefShare | 6 PM | Room 141  
Prayer Shawl Ministry | 6 PM | Fellowship Hall

**APRIL 23**  
Finance | 6:30 PM | Conference Room

**APRIL 24**  
Wednesday Family Night | 5:30 PM | FH

**WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHTS**  
Wednesdays | 5:30 PM | Meal (FH)  
Can you or your ministry/class provide a meal one week? Please let Donna King, or the Office, know which date you are available!

### CONNECT AND SERVE

**COMMUNITY HANDS FOOD PANTRY**  
(225) 665-0855  
Tuesdays & Fridays | 10-11 AM

**GRIEFSHARE**  
Mondays | January 22-April 29 | 6 PM | 141

**MODERN PRAISE BAND PRACTICE**  
Thursdays | 7 PM | Casual Worship Center

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**  
1st & 4th Mondays | 6 PM | Fellowship Hall

**UNITED METHODIST MEN**  
2nd Sundays | 4 PM | Fellowship Hall

**AGAPE' WOMENS CIRCLE**  
2nd Tuesdays | 7 PM | Fellowship Hall

**MORNING GLORIES WOMENS CIRCLE**  
3rd Tuesdays | 11 AM | Room 143

**TABLES OF GRACE**  
Adult Fellowship Meal  
1st Fridays | Times & Locations TBA

**YOUNG AT HEART**  
Adult Fellowship Meal  
3rd Thursdays | 11 AM | Sanctuary

### WORSHIP

**TRADITIONAL** | 9 AM | Sanctuary  
**MODERN** | 11 AM | Casual Worship Center



Digital Bulletin

Welcome! We are so glad you chose to worship with us today! Please scan the QR code to access the digital bulletin where you will be able to fill out the Connect Card and find other important resources!

### Altar Flowers

Given to the Glory of God,  
In Memory of Sally Womack  
By Sue Fairchild

### CHURCH COUNCIL

**MEETING**  
Sunday, April 28  
12 PM | Fellowship Hall

### WATCH ONLINE

Can't make it in person? Watch all our services online directly from our website:  
[fumcds.org/watch](http://fumcds.org/watch)

### LAST SUNDAY (4/7)

**Attendance**  
167

**Gifts to General Budget**  
\$35,013

**Year-To-Date**  
\$137,425

**2024 Budget**  
\$528,857

**Gifts to Building Fund**  
\$645

**Building Fund Balance**  
\$22,629

**Building Loan Balance**  
\$257,179

### DISCIPLESHIP

**NURSERY (Newborn-K)**  
Sundays | 8:45 AM

**CHILDREN (1st-5th Grade)**  
Sundays | 10 AM | Children's Commons  
Wednesdays | 5:30 PM | Fellowship Hall

**PARENTS DAY OUT (2-4 Yr Olds)**  
Tuesdays-Thursdays | Aug-May | 9 AM

**YOUTH (6th-12th Grade)**  
Sundays | 10 AM | Youth Cave  
Wednesdays | 5:30 PM | Fellowship Hall

**ADULTS**  
**Sunday School | 10 AM**  
Men's Class (137)  
US Class (138) | Adult Women  
Journey Class (141) | Mixed Adults  
Inquirers (142) | Mixed Adults  
Come Thirsty (143) | Adult Women  
Wanderers (Conf Rm) | Mixed Adults  
Second Sermon (108) | Mixed Adults

**Wednesdays**  
Men's Bible Study | 6 AM | Fell. Hall  
Family Night Meal | 5:30 PM | Fell. Hall  
Disciple Bible Study | 6-8 PM  
Adult Bible Study | 6-7 PM  
Choir Practice | 7 PM | Choir Room

*All are invited!  
There's something for all ages.*

### STAFF

**Rev. Bradley Swire**  
Senior Pastor

**Diane Carson**  
Administrator

**Cloe' Landry**  
Admin Assistant

**Courtney Murphy**  
Youth Ministry and Church Relations

**Samantha Switzer**  
Children's Ministry

**Kelli Quave**  
Hospitality/Hostess

**Natalie Landry**  
Parent's Day Out

**Annalise Pitts**  
Modern Worship and Digital Outreach

**John Rohner-Rees**  
Choir Director

**Douglas Perez**  
Accompanist

**Jessica Gaboury**  
Organist

### YOUTH

## 2ND SUNDAY SALSA SALE



**Benefits Youth Ministry!**

**AFTER BOTH SERVICES**  
Coffee Commons | Casual Center

### POLOS T-SHIRTS MUGS

**LAST DAY TO ORDER IS APRIL 28**

Sponsored by Agape'

T-Shirts	\$18
Polos	\$32
Mugs	\$20

Half of the proceeds go toward the building loan



Thank you for your generosity!

Give Online Anytime!



[fumcds.org/give](http://fumcds.org/give)

### MISSION PURPOSE

To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

### VISION

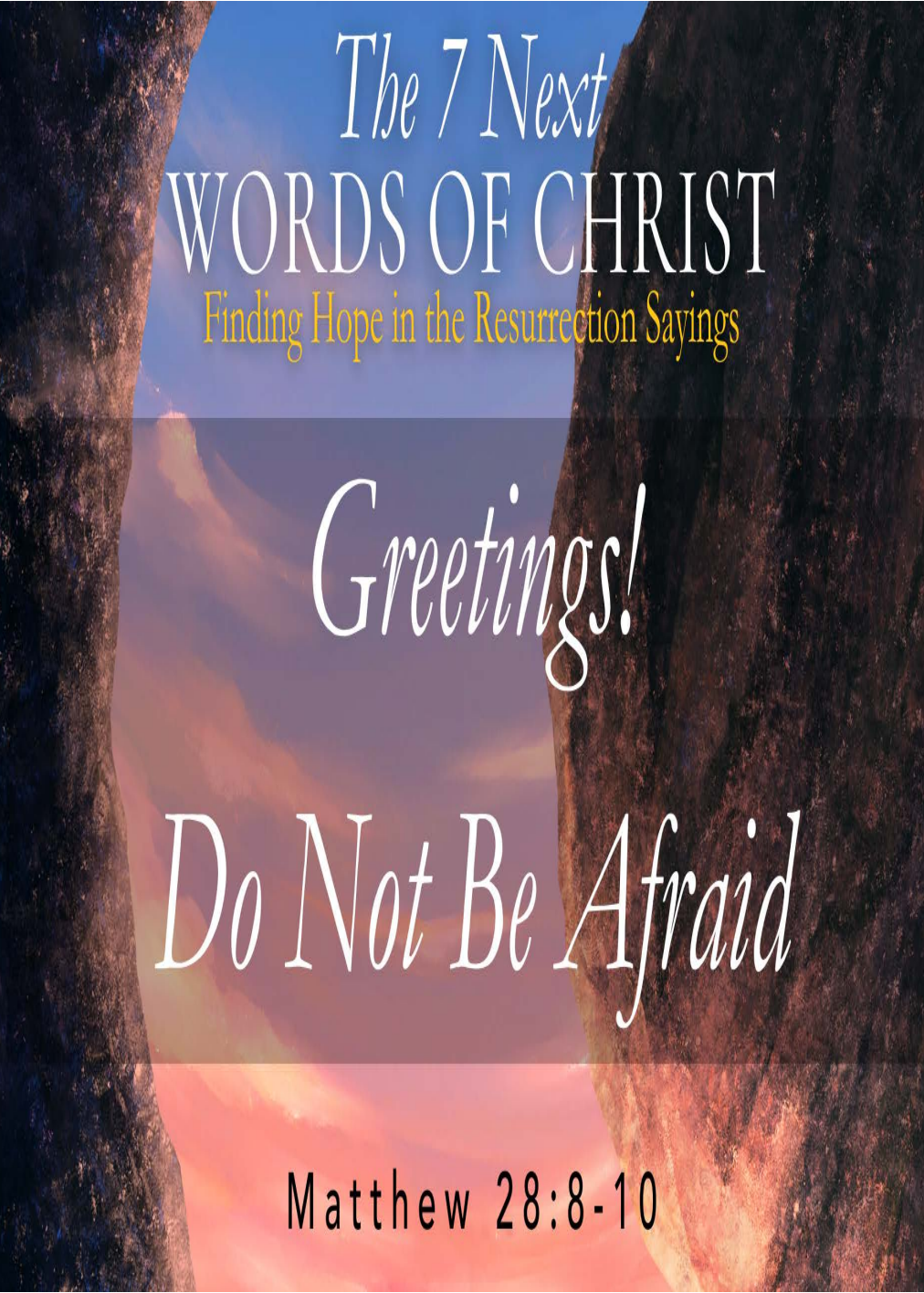
We Exist to Nurture Relationships With God and One Another.

### VISION

That All People Would Know That They Matter to God, and to Us!



**APRIL 14, 2024**  
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



*The 7 Next WORDS OF CHRIST*  
Finding Hope in the Resurrection Sayings

*Greetings!*

*Do Not Be Afraid*

Matthew 28:8-10

✠ Please stand as you are able.

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

**PRELUDE**

*Bringing In The Light of Christ*

Douglas Perez, Piano; Jessica Gaboury, Organ  
Acolytes: Gavin Kirby and Allison Swire

**WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Bradley Swire

God is Good, **All the Time!** Christ is Risen, **Christ is Risen Indeed!**

✠ **OPENING HYMN**

*Christ is Alive*

UMH 318, Vs. 1-3, 5

✠ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostle's Creed*

Courtney Murphy

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith, let us now declare:

Do you believe in God, the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

\*Universal

✠ **GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**WE LIFT UP OUR PRAYERS UNTO GOD**

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

✠ **HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

UMH 133

**WE GIVE OUR OFFERINGS UNTO GOD**

✠ **DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**

✠ **SCRIPTURE**

*Matthew 28:8-10*

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**MESSAGE**

*"The 7 Next Words of Christ: Greetings! Do Not Be Afraid"*

**INVITATION INTO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

✠ **CLOSING HYMN**

*Trust and Obey*

UMH 467, Vs. 1-2, 4

✠ **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

**SERMON OUTLINE**

**Matthew 28:8-10 (New Revised Standard Version)**

*So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."*

**I. The empty tomb is where our expectations and plans end and where the grace that surpasses all understanding changes everything.**

- a. They arrived expecting to find death, instead they were met with a change of plans.
- b. What the women saw at the tomb was perhaps the most beautiful yet most frightening, and peaceful yet most shocking thing they had ever experienced.
- c. It didn't necessarily make any sense, but it also perhaps felt better than anything they had ever experienced.

**II. Time and time again, Jesus' words, Do Not Be Afraid, change everything.**

- a. Jesus used this phrase with his followers 19 times, each with a difference context.
- b. However, in each circumstance Jesus' request for his followers to be unafraid accompanied his plea for the listener to refocus on God.
- c. Jesus is saying that we need to be unafraid in the sense that when we put all our trust in God then we will have all that we need for this journey called life.
- d. *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.* -Proverbs 3:5-6

**III. Resurrection leaves us with fear and great joy because the resurrection changes everything.**

- a. There is joy because Christ is alive and death has been defeated, but there is fear in the sense that everything Jesus said is true.

**IV. We are called to turn away from our fears, not because we necessarily need to conquer or rise above it, but because we must chose to trust that God will keep the promise to direct our paths.**

**PRAYER LIST**

New This Week

Families of Glenn Grantham (Diane) and Gloria Chapman (Page), Nancy Hall (surgery 25th)

Continued Prayers

Destin Adams, Sonny Haile, Anthony Fontenot, Madden Brown, Edna Watson, Robbie Lamm, Louis Spillman, Rita Horton, Aaron Morton, Dennis Walker, Tessa Glascock, Ethan Zurwell, Jesse and Tiffany Cripple, Laura Fontenot, Greg Komendanchik, Janice Remmetter, Bob Denham, Carla Ebright, Dean Fuselier, Monty Brown, Bob Hill, Jim Gilbert, Jeremie Long, Robin Baxter, Logan Gilbert, Joey Gomez

Prayers for those With Cancer

Jackie Fontenot, Jay Guy, Bill Chapman, Lydia Magee, Glenn Murphy, Melanie Rudolph, Lynn DeLeon, Madelyn Long, Joe Carpenter, Kathy Heard, Tim Roshto, Bradley Willis, Kim Hilgenberg, Joey Poland, Diane Gill, Norman Grantham, DiDi Breaud, Cary Neal, Jimmie Parker, Alex Ivanyisky, Dennis Houseman, Terry Woods, Larry Mitchell

In Nursing Homes

Greg Green, Janelle Carrier, Mary Ann Benton, Nell Blair, Janis Chopin

*All affected by disease, natural disaster, or violence. Prayers for Unity and Peace, Our Nation, Missions, First Responders, Students, Educators, Military, Comfort in Mourning, Traveling Mercies, Unspoken Requests*

*The 7 Next*  
**WORDS OF CHRIST**  
*Finding Hope in the Resurrection Sayings*

We often hear about the Seven Last Words of Christ. Rarely, though, do we focus in the same way on what Christ said after the Resurrection as he surprised, consoled, rebuked, and inspired his followers through seven powerful encounters, based on the study of the same name by Rev. Shane Stanford. This series details the conversations and encounters of Jesus following the Resurrection. These words or conversations provide insight into the heart and mind of Jesus as he encouraged, prepared, and deployed the disciples for ministry to the world through seven powerful encounters.

April 7: *Who Are You Looking For?*    April 28: *Peace Be With You*  
April 14: *Greetings! Do Not Be Afraid*    May 5: *Have You Caught Any Fish?*  
April 21: *What Are You Concerned About?*    May 12: *Go Into The World*  
May 19: *Wait For the Gift*

**YOUTH SAVE THE DATE!**  
**MAY 4 | 5 PM**

**CHURCH WIDE BINGO GAME NIGHT FUNDRAISER & FUN**

**HOSPITALITY**  
**ARE YOU ABLE TO SERVE ON A HOSPITALITY TEAM? WE NEED YOU!**

- *Welcome Team*
- *Coffee/Refreshment Team*
- *Worship Support Team*
- *Bereavement Team*

**Hospitality Ministry Info Meeting**  
**Sunday, April 21 | 12 PM**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**YARD SIGNS**

**DENHAM SPRINGS FIRST UMC**  
*BECAUSE YOU matter*  
**FUMCDS.ORG**

**Help spread our vision by purchasing a yard sign to display!**  
**\$20**  
See Courtney after church or purchase through the office!  
*Proceeds benefit our youth ministry!*

**www.fumcds.org**