



THE CONNECTION
August 2022
Newsletter

From the Pastor's Desk

A Time to Listen and Ask

For a few months now, I have encouraged you to investigate issues going on in the United Methodist Church, especially as it relates to the topic of Disaffiliation.

The time has come for two very important meetings. I hope as many as possible will attend both.

The first meeting is **July 31** at 4 pm in our main Sanctuary. We will have a called Administrative Council meeting and all are invited to attend. This will be a two hour meeting where I will explain many of the issues that face us. There will also be time for questions.

The second meeting is hosted by the Bishop. He will be in our area on **August 21** at 4 pm at the First United Methodist Church in Pensacola (on Wright Street). He is also hosting meetings in Dothan, Mobile, and Montgomery but I'm assuming you will want to go to Pensacola. The Bishop will address Disaffiliation issues and I encourage everyone in our church to attend.

Please use these two meetings as opportunities to help you be informed about the issues and decisions which will be before us.

Standing in God's Grace,

-Pastor Ronnie



Dear FUMC Family

"I am home recovering from my partial hip replacements. I want to thank all for your thoughts, prayers, visits, calls and cards. They all were greatly appreciated."

-Bill Myers



Member's Corner

A Friendly Reminder!

Florida has a Primary Election on August 23d this year. Okaloosa County has 3 School Board Seats to vote for as well as a County Commission Seat. In keeping with Pastor Ronnie's sermon this Sunday (24 July) "Organizing to Beat the Devil," I want to encourage every eligible voter to get out and vote for our schools and our county. Local Elections matter! It is vital that Christians start standing up and voting for good people to be stewards of our resources. Local elections are our neighbors and friends. Each of the people running have web sites and Facebook pages. These are the people who will make decisions about County growth. The direction of our schools. How our children and grandchildren will be cared for while in school. And of course, your own (and the Church's) property values. For a history...in the last 3 primaries voter turnout in the county was about 30%. 30% of the Okaloosa population decided who would make decisions for our kids and the county. Early voting can happen from Aug 13 through Aug 20. The election itself is August 23d. If you have problems getting there the Voting Office will mail a ballot to your home and you can mail it in. If you aren't comfortable with that call me. I'll help you get there. We have a great Election Supervisor who runs a tight ship. If you have any questions call his office at 850-689-5600. Or call me, at 505-553-9498. There are so many issues in our country right now...let's do our part to make sure we keep our small part of it the way we like it! May God Bless America. And May God Bless Florida.

- Kristen Sallberg



Discussions on Disaffiliation

*All are invited to a special called meeting where Pastor Ronnie will present issues related to disaffiliation (leaving the United Methodist Church). We will meet in the Main Sanctuary on Sun, **July 31** from 3-5:00PM.

*Bishop David Graves will host a meeting on Sun, **Aug 21** at 4:00PM at First United Methodist Church of Pensacola, [6 E Wright St, 32501](#). All of our congregation is encouraged to attend!



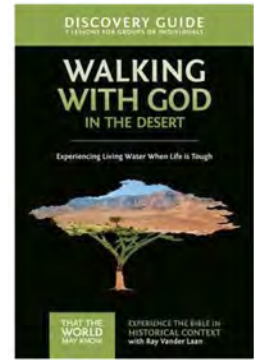
Blessing of the Backpacks

Blessing of the backpacks will be held in all services on **Sunday, August 7**. All students (no matter the age), teachers and support staff are invited to bring their backpacks / totes to the service of their choice to be prayed over at the altar. We will also pray and bless our new school year. Start the new school year off right and join us on this very special Sunday!



New Sunday School Study Book

The F.I.S.H (Friends In Service to Him), mixed age adults, will be starting a new study, led by Allen and Kim Bell, on **August 14**. We'll be in the room right across from the Youth Room at the Crossroads Center, at the 11:00AM Sunday School hour. The name of the study is *Walking With God in the Desert, Experiencing Living Water When Life is Tough*, by Ray Vander Laan. All are welcome!
-Kim Bell



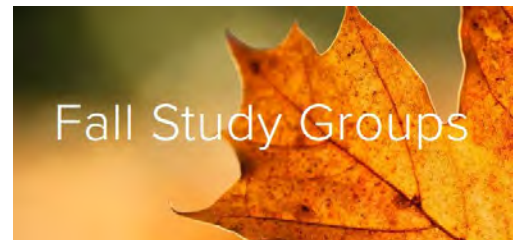
Chancel Choir Rehearsal Dinner

Thinking of joining the Chancel Choir to make a joyful noise? Now is the time to make plans to attend the Rehearsal Dinner on Wed, **August 17** at 6:00PM at Leon Curenton's home at **5739 Reinke Dr**, Crvw 32539. See Kevin Lusk at the 8:30AM & 11:00AM Sunday services for more info. Chancel Choir meets Wednesdays at 6:00PM in the Choir Rm which is tucked behind the Fellowship Hall.



Fall Study Group Schedule Is Out

Check out our new classes that begin on **August 17**. Visit fumcrestview.com to sign up, we're saving you a seat!



FUMC Mission Fair & CommUNITY Dinner

It's coming...our annual Mission/Ministry Fair! FUMC is a very active church with a LOT of ministries/missions that have an impact on our church family AND in our Community.

Sun, Sept 11 & Wed, Sept 14, 2022 have been set aside as the days to make people aware of your mission or ministry. Come "strut your stuff" at the Crossroads Center. This is the perfect time to recruit people to your ministry/missions team; so start thinking about your display now. Contact the church office to request your table or Pam Hight / Missions Committee (850) 758-8201 for questions or information. The Mission Fair will continue into the evening of our next CommUNITY Dinner, on Sept 14. Our Soup Kitchen Soupers will be hosting the dinner and all proceeds from the meal will benefit their weekly ministry. Our Yarnies will be holding a drawing for an afghan which will be presented before the church council meeting at 6:30PM.



Come celebrate Missions Week with us and get plugged in!

UMCOR News

As of right now our trip scheduled for **October 2-7**, 2022 is still on! We still need to fill a couple of spots to complete our 12 member team.

So answer that little voice or the nudge you are getting to go on this mission trip and please contact Pam Hight by Sept. 1 at 850-758-8201.



Wesleyan Child Care Center

Summer is coming to an end here at Wesleyan. We have had a fun filled summer, with water play, ice cream treats, pizza parties, Smokey the bear, multiply visits from Kona Ice, and so much more. We said our goodbyes and shed some tears as we sent our outgoing students onto kindergarten. We would like to say 'Thank you' to all our families who have entrusted their little ones with us. We would also like to thank Kona Ice for stopping by and treating our students to a delicious snow cone. We love when we can support local businesses in our community. As we set forth with a new school year, we pause and thank about how blessed we are here at Wesleyan to have so many families and businesses in our community that support us, love on us, encourage us, and entrust us each year with their most precious gifts "Children"!



-Osa Bell, WCCC Director

Childrens Ministry

Wednesday Nights on Kids Street:

Kids Street Childrens Choir will begin practicing for our Christmas Cantata on **August 17**, 2022. We will hold practice each evening for the first 30 to 45 minutes of our Wednesday night program, beginning at 6:00 pm.

We will not meet on August 3rd to give our staff and volunteers time to prepare for the new school year and we will be gearing up that week as well on Kids Street for our Fall curriculum.



Blessing of the Backpacks will be held in all services on **August 7th**. All children and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks to the service of their choice to be prayed over. We will also recognize our teachers in the community on this date and invite our Wesleyan Child Care Center children and families to attend.

Pumpkin Patch Sign Volunteers needed: Pumpkins for the pumpkins are scheduled to arrive on **October 1**, 2022 of this year. Please mark your calendars and plan to help us with the FULL truckload of pumpkins scheduled to arrive. We ask that each Kids Street family plan on volunteering about two days or evenings in the month of October. Sign up will be posted during the month of August and follow up through September. Sign up early to get the dates that work best for you.

Volunteers will benefit by being first on the list for camp and outing scholarships; as available based on our proceeds. As noted last month, some things we did with this year's funds raised: funded the entire cost for travel and registration to Camp Blue Lake Winter Retreat for 12 kids and chaperons, Ice Cream Truck and new items purchased for the Fall Festival, VBS T-Shirts, Camp Baldwin registration fees and miscellaneous items on Kids Street that helped with outreach and improvement to our Children's Program.

-Angela Long / Family Discipleship Coordinator
kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com
fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com

FUMC Youth

Our youth sure have had an awesome summer!

We took our weekend trip to Camp Blue Lake on July 8th and had a blast! That Friday, we did team-building exercises, learned archery, and swam at the pool. Saturday, we got up early and worked hard to clean up brush and thorns around the camp. I have never seen our youth work so hard before! Everyone helped, no one complained, and we got days worth of work completed in a couple of hours. I believe we were truly a blessing to the maintenance people on staff at the camp. That day we played games and had a beautiful campfire service led by Allen Bell. And on Sunday, we worshiped together in a 200+ year-old chapel! There were 22 of us total on the trip and we were so thankful to be able to go! I sure am excited for next year!



At the very end of July, we had the honor of helping serve at the Soup Kitchen and getting together to go swim afterwards. The Bells hosted the youth at their home to swim and eat great food after a morning of serving the homeless and less fortunate in our community. I sure am proud of our youth and am so happy to see their willingness to serve and bring the light of Christ with them everywhere!

The summer is already coming to an end and school will be starting back up this month. Most of the kids return to school on **Wednesday, August 10th**. Please be in prayer for all of our church's children and youth as they get ready for this upcoming school year. Since we will be having youth that Wednesday, that night will be a Game Night so the kids can relax and have a fun time of fellowship with one another after their first day back at school. We will have pizza, snacks, and plenty of games! This would be a great night to invite a friend or guest!

We are still going through the Book of Genesis on Wednesday nights, but are almost finished. We read every word in every chapter, so it has taken us time to advance though. The youth have had many questions and we have covered a vast variety of topics while going through the first book in our Bible. Once we complete all 50 chapters, we will move on to the Gospel of John to focus on Jesus's life and His many teachings.

Thank you to all who support this amazing group of young people. Our next Youth Committee meeting is on Sunday, August 14th, in the conference room after the 11:00 service. If you are interested in joining our youth committee or have any questions about this ministry, please contact me.
-Paul Adams at fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com.

Adult Ministry

Volunteers Needed: We need volunteers to help us with our pumpkin delivery that is scheduled for **October 1, 2022**. The exact time will be announced once it is provided to us. Sign up will be on Kids Street and located at each church entrance. We will also need volunteers for working the Pumpkin patch. Please see Angela Long to sign up to volunteer. This is an amazing outreach to our community and serves as a chance to get to know each other better as a church family. Proceeds from the event go toward camp scholarships and our Childrens Ministry outreach and day to day program enhancement.



Sunday School Announcement: One of our Adult Sunday school classes has a new opportunity we would love for you to check out. The F.I.S.H (Friends In Service to Him) Sunday school class will be starting a new study, lead by Allen and Kim Bell, on **August 14, 2022**. The group meets each Sunday directly across from the Youth Room at the Crossroads Center, at 11:00 AM. The name of the study is Walking With God in the Desert, Experiencing Living Water When Life is Tough, by Ray Vander Laan.

Wednesday Night Small Groups: Registration is now open. The Fall Session will kick off on **August 17, 2022 and run through November 16, 2022**. We also have an opportunity for women on Wednesday mornings in our Gods Tome Bible study and several opportunities to attend Refit class where workout, praise, and prayer all come together for an amazing time. Check out all classes online at fumcrestview.com or sign up in person at the Crossroads Center. Please contact the church office or Angela Long if you need additional information.

-Angela Long / Family Discipleship Coordinator
kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com, fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com

Soup Kitchen News

Attention all who have a flare for cooking! The Soup Kitchen ministry needs you! Jason Heinzelman (our 1st Saturday lead for a few years now) has moved from the area so we are looking for a new SOUPER in the kitchen on 1st Saturday every month. We are most appreciative of all the meals Jason prepared for our community, as well as our time of fellowship, prayer and laughter.

A huge shout out also to Publix, Back Home Bakery, Papa Johns Pizza and Panera Bread for their continued support of our soup kitchen. As an example, in 2021, Panera Bread donated more than 6,700 bakery food items at a value of almost \$17,000! All the breads and sweets we receive help feed many, many people in our community. If you're interested in learning more or volunteering with the Soup Kitchen, please contact the church office or talk with me at the 9:45 service.



In His Name,
-Eileen Kurtz / Soup Kitchen Coordinator

Matthew 25:35 - "I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Women's Service Group

We may not be meeting over the Summer, but we sure are busy! First, thank you FUMC family for responding to our call last month for donations of pajamas, sock and underwear for the Families First Network of Lakeview in Pensacola. Your donations will bless many infants, toddlers, kids and teens in foster care in our area. This month, the Women's Service Group will be donating school supplies and personal hygiene items for homeless students in Okaloosa County and will help package these items into backpacks for the students in need. Lastly, we are gearing up for our next monthly meeting on **September 9** at 10am in Room 212; come join us and see what guest speakers we have lined up already and enjoy some fine fellowship with the ladies of our FUMC family! If you have any questions about the Women's Service Group, please feel free to call the church office or talk with me at the 9:45 service.



In His Name,
-Eileen Kurtz

1 Peter 4:10 - "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

Yarn Ministry

Hello church family!
We finally got to celebrate the opening of Crestview's new animal control facility by donating snacks and a blankets for all sorts of animals as an encouragement to their staff and a loving touch to the animals that they take care of.
We will meet on Tuesdays, **August 9 & 23** at 6:00PM in Rm 213.



Yarnies will be represented at the August UMM meeting and I'm really excited to give the men an update on our ministry.
The FUMC Mission Fair is scheduled for September at the CRC- make sure to stop by our table to say "Hi!". We'll be doing a Mission Fair drawing for a gorgeous afghan that will be presented at the CommUNITY Dinner that week, also.

-Cathrin Owens

"May the kindness of the Lord our God be upon us; And confirm for us the work of our hands; Yes, confirm the work of our hands." Psalm 90:17

"We look for wool and linen, And work with our hands in delight." Proverbs 31:13

Crestview Prayer Network



Prayer Network meets **August 3** at David's Catfish House 12 PM. Come meet and pray with us. All are invited!
-Kathleen Woodward



August Greeters, Ushers, Liturgists

Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM

Greeters:

Aug 7: Lowell and Maryrose Scott

Aug 14: Kit Callahan

Aug 21: Alesha and Robert Dabbs

Aug 28: Melanie and Gary Zick

Ushers: Melanie and Gary Zick

Contemporary / The Crossroads Center 9:45AM

Greeters & Ushers: Aimee Keller & Dan Taylor

Liturgists (In Sunday order): 1. Allen Bell 2. Dan Taylor 3. Nell Sutherland 4. Ronnie Bearden 5. Dan Taylor

Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM

Front

August 7: Jamie Davis & Glenda Mc Masters

Ushers: Rollin Anderson, Tom Giovanni, Jim Hight, Mark Young

August 14: Margaret Larson & Judy Beard

August 21: Viki & Terry Luster

Ushers: David Ordonez & Dax Reeves

August 28: Tiffany & Michael Kruger

August Back Greeter

Darrell Smith

Liturgists

Aug 7: Mike Steen, Aug 14: Michael Raiche, Aug 21: Paul Adams, Aug 28: Lee Thigpen

Importand Dates In August

Aug 3- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM David's Catfish House

Aug 6- The Well's Service Team 1:00PM CRC

Aug 7- Blessing of the Backpacks in all services!

Aug 8- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH

Aug 9- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Aug 14- Youth Committee 12:15PM Conf Rm

Aug 17- Fall Small Groups begin, Choir Rehearsal Dinner 6:00PM TBA

Aug 21- Disaffiliation Discussion with Bishop David Graves at First United Methodist Pensacola 4:00PM

Aug 22- September Newsletter Deadline

Aug 23- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

*FH- Fellowship Hall, Conf Rm- Conference Room, CRC- The Crossroads Center, Youth Rm- Youth Room

Please see <http://fumcrestview.com/calendar-1> for any updates or changes

Looking Ahead To September

Sept 5- Labor Day / Church Office Closed

Sept 6- Worship Committee 5:30PM Conf Rm

Sept 7- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM David's Catfish House

Sept 9- Women's Service Group 9:00AM Rm 212

Sept 11- Mission Fair CRC Sunday Morning, Trustees 3:00PM FH, Finance 5:00PM Rm 212

Sept 12- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH

Sept 13- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Sept 14- CommUNITY Dinner 'All Things Missions!' 5:30PM CRC, 6:30PM Church Council, Soup Kitchen Soupers to host dinner, last night of Mission Fair

Sept 18- Wesleyan Child Care Center Sunday, Children's Committee 12:15 Kid's St, Long Range Planning 3:00PM CRC

Sept 19- October Newsletter Deadline

Sept 20- Missions 6:30PM Conf Rm

Sept 27- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

**FH- Fellowship Hall, Conf Rm- Conference Room, CRC- The Crossroads Center, Youth Rm- Youth Room*

Please see <http://fumcrestview.com/calendar-1> for any updates or changes



Prayer For the New School Year

Our Father in heaven,

We praise you that we can call you our Father in heaven,
because of the blood and righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We thank you for every act of love, grace, mercy, kindness
and favor you have bestowed upon us.

And we thank you for watching over our children and families
throughout the summer break.

As a new school year begins, we pray your special
blessings upon every school campus,
administrator, teacher, worker, driver, and student.

We pray for the school campuses where our children will attend classes.

We ask you would put a hedge of protection around each campus.
May no violence or tragedy put our children in danger.
May the campus be a safe place for our children by your protective care.

We pray for the principals, administrators, and workers, who lead,
oversee, protect, clean up, or cook food at our children's schools.
Help them to lead with excellence, teach with wisdom, serve with compassion,
work with diligence, and drive with carefulness.

Give the teachers sound minds, wise plans, compassionate hearts,
clear words, physical strength, good examples,
and motivating leadership as they teach our children.

Lord, be with our children as they begin this school year.
Grant them curiosity of mind, passion to learn, strength to focus,
ability to remember, and discernment of truth.
Help them to obey their teachers and to be kind to their fellow students.
Protect them from bullying, bad habits, and foolish friends.
Inspire them to give their best in every class, assignment, and test.
May this be their best school year ever!

We pray especially for our children who begin the school year
with difficult home situations, physical disabilities, or learning challenges.
Help them to strive and succeed in spite of the
challenges that are working against them.
Give them teachers who are sensitive to their needs.
Let them know that they are loved, remembered, and cared-for on campus.

Beyond what you do on the campuses and in the classrooms,
please be at-work in the hearts and minds of our students and teachers.
Above all, draw to saving faith those who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ.
For those who already know Christ as Savior and Lord,
use their time in school to draw them close to you.
And may they view this school year as a strategic missionary opportunity
to be an ambassador for Christ, share the gospel, and be light and salt on campus.

We make these petitions with gratitude, confidence, and expectation,
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and for the glory of your name.

Amen
H. B. Charles Jr.

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Morning Glory at 8:30AM
Christ Chapel

The Well / Contemporary at 9:45AM
The Crossroads Center / FB Live

Traditions at 11:00AM
Main Sanctuary / FB Live

First United Methodist Office Schedule

Mon - Thurs / 9:00AM- 4:00PM

Staff Meetings / Mondays 9:30-11:30AM
Lunch / 12:00-1:00PM

First United Methodist Church Contacts

Staff

Pastor / Pastor Ronnie Bearden
drronbearden@hotmail.com
Church Administrator / Angie Arnold
fumcrestview@gmail.com
Church Secretary / Cathrin Owens
office.fumcrestview@gmail.com
Children's Ministry & Family Discipleship Coordinator / Angela Long
kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com, fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com
Youth Ministry / Paul Adams
fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com
Facilities Manager / Chris Woodward
fumfacilities@gmail.com
Music, Traditional / Kevin Lusk
Organist / Leon Curenton
Wesleyan Child Care Center / Osa Bell / Director
wesleyanchildcare@gmail.com

Ministry Addresses

United Methodist Men / Jody Woodward ummcrestview@gmail.com
Women's Service Group / Eileen Kurtz wsgcrestview@mail.com
Soup Kitchen / Eileen Kurtz soupkitchenfumc@gmail.com

First United Methodist Church

599 Eighth Ave, Crestview, FL 32536
850-682-8994

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