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***FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK***

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**Holidays**

**Christmas is coming!**

The celebration of the birth of our Lord is always a high and holy time in the life of the church. There are many events happening in this season, so be sure to keep up to date with the bulletin and the church app.

And please remember that this is a great time for evangelism. You have neighbors and friends who don't go to church anywhere, but might consider visiting in this season if invited. It is a great season to welcome someone new.



In particular, remember three special services.

**Dec 18.** There will be a special choir presentation at the 8:30 and 11 services with no preaching. The middle service at 9:45 will have preaching. So, in the past, many people have attended two services.

**Dec 24.** We will host two candlelight Christmas Eve services. The main service will be at 6:30 pm and then we will continue with our third year of the "Almost Midnight Service" at 11.

**Dec 25.** This year, Christmas Day falls on a Sunday and we will have one combined worship service in the Main Sanctuary at 10:30.

**Disaffiliation**

I wanted to share just a couple of quick updates. On Nov 9, our Administrative Council voted unanimously to move to a final Disaffiliation vote. That vote will be in early March of 2023.

The Council also established a Disaffiliation fund to receive gifts with the understanding that if we do not Disaffiliate, then the donor may have the option of having money returned since it was given for that purpose. I have already been approached by someone who wants to make a special gift toward Disaffiliation. The cost is significant, and any gifts can help.

Our Long Range Planning Committee received about 50 suggestions for a name if we Disaffiliate. They narrowed that list down to 5 (thanks to all who submitted suggestions and to the Committee for their good work). That list will be presented in the future and church members will get to vote on what name they prefer. I envision a Sunday Townhall meeting sometime in late January to vote on a possible name if we should Disaffiliate.

Our Long Range Planning Committee was also tasked with researching possible Methodist denominations our church might join should we Disaffiliate. They have done that work and presented their findings at a Townhall meeting at the end of October. They recommended our congregation join the Global Methodist Church as a good fit for this church. You can read more about the GMC at: <https://globalmethodist.org/>

There will be new information posted on our website related to Disaffiliation. (<https://fumcrestview.com/new-page-3> ). Be sure and check out the blue boxes for new information. The church Administrator and I hope to have it all updated by Dec. 5.

In Christ,

-Pastor Ronnie

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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### **FUMC Christmas Event Schedule**

#### **Kids Street Christmas Pageant & Happy Birthday Jesus Party**

Wed, Dec 7 at 6:30PM at the CRC.

#### **Family Gingerbread House Decorating & Chrismon Making Event**

Sat, Dec 10 at 9:45AM at the CRC.

#### **8th St Men's Christmas Party**

Mon, Dec 12 at 6:00PM at the CRC. Tickets are \$12.50 each, sold until Dec 4.

Bring a canned good for Benevolence. Nursery available 6 months - 5th grade.

#### **Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata & Preaching Service**

Sun, Dec 18 / Cantata 8:30AM & 11:00AM in the Main Sanctuary (no sermon).  
Preaching Service at 9:45AM at the CRC.

#### **\*Candlelight Christmas Eve Candlelight & Holy Communion Service**

Sat, Dec 24 at 6:30PM & 11:00PM in the Main Sanctuary.

#### **\*Christmas Day Combined Worship Service**

Sun, Dec 25 at 10:30AM in the Main Sanctuary.

**\*Christmas Eve & Christmas Day services are family friendly, therefore nursery and Kids Street programs will be unavailable.**

## Office Closure

December 22- Jan 2. We will reopen on Jan 3, 2023.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from your FUMC Staff!

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## Angel Tree

We're asking everyone to please donate an angel ornament (unbreakable) to place on our Angel Tree in The Crossroad Center lobby **through Epiphany Sunday**. What a wonderful way to greet all who enter The CRC, with the good news of Jesus' birth!

*Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."*

*Luke 2:13-14*



## Poinsettias for Christmas

For the first time since Hurricane Michael decimated our local nurseries we will be collecting orders for poinsettias in honor or in memory of a loved one!

**Now through Dec 11** you can place an order by completing a poinsettia envelope order form to include your payment. Envelopes will be placed at the entrance to each service. You can also download an order form from the website at [fumcrestview.com](http://fumcrestview.com) and return it to the church office.

A special Christmas day bulletin insert will list all who purchased a poinsettia and who is being honored/remembered.

Poinsettias will be ready to pick up after the Christmas Day worship service, which will be held at 10:30AM in the Main Sanctuary on Dec 25.

Poinsettias will be \$15 each and all proceeds will go to Pastor Kris in Poland to help with the completion of his new church.



## Winn Dixie Supports Our FUMC Benevolence Ministry & Soup Kitchen!

First United Methodist Church of Crestview Benevolence Ministry Food Pantry & Soup Kitchen has been selected to receive \$1 from every \$2.99 reusable Community Bag sold **during the month of December 2022** at Crestview's Winn Dixie store!

Help us help our community by purchasing bags. Thank you so much for your support!



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## 8th Ave Men's Christmas Party

8th Ave Men, formerly UMM, are back with their annual Christmas party!

\*Date: **December 12**

\*Time: 6:00PM until 7:30(ish) *Doors open at 5:30PM*

\*Ticket Price: \$12.50 each

\*Tickets are on sale **through Dec 4.**

A UMM rep will be at all lobbies prior to Sunday worship services or pick up tickets at the church office during normal business hours.

\*Meal: Turkey, Ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetables and dessert

\*Your evening will include: Music, good food, great friends, a year in review and awards.

Come enjoy a great evening with your favorite men's group, 8th Ave. Methodist men!

\*We are partnering with FUMC's Benevolence Ministry this evening by asking everyone to please bring a canned good or boxed meal to the dinner with your ticket.

\*Nursery available for 6 mo- 5th grade.

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## Benevolence Ministry 12 Days of Christmas

Let's celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas and restock our Benevolence Pantry together!

If you'd like to participate, we're asking folks to gather one item a day from **Christmas Day, Dec 25 to Sun, Jan 8.** These are items that will stock our pantry for the New Year and assist our local Crestview community.

Please bring your donations to any of our 3 worship services altars on Sunday, Jan 8 for a special time of blessing.

We will have calendars available in our hospitality areas beginning 18.



Thank you for your generosity.

-Your Benevolence Team,

*Vicky Anchor, Margaret Larson, Kristen Sallberg and Peg Harkness*

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## CommUNITY Dinner

Save the date!

Our next meal together will be **Wed, Jan 11.** Our 8th St Men will host their annual Chili Cook-Off so dust off your chili recipes and get ready to spice it up!

Serving will begin at 5:30PM, Church Council will be at 6:30. Kids St, Youth and Chancel Choir will meet as usual.



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## MINISTRY UPDATES

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### Childrens Ministry

#### **Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule**

Sunday November 27

11:00 to 3:00 PM Costume Fitting, Pizza Lunch, Rehearsal

Wednesday November 30

5:00 to 8:00 PM light meal served at 6:00 PM

Sunday December 4

11:00 to 3:00 PM Rehearsal (light meal served at 12:00 PM)

Monday December 5

5:30 to 7:00 PM : Dress Rehearsal (light meal served at 6:00 PM)

Tuesday December 6

4:00 to 5:30 PM: Dress Rehearsal (snack served at dismissal)



#### **December Wednesday Night Kids Street Schedule**

December 7 - Christmas Program

December 14, 21, 28 - No Kids Street - Christmas Break

#### **Save the Date. Parents Night Out**

January 6, 2023 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We want to show our appreciation for our parents. Take an evening to relax, go for dinner or just enjoy a time to regroup. Space is limited. Pre-Registration will open up in December. \$5.00 per child with no more than \$20 paid per family.

*-Angela Long, Family Discipleship Coordinator*

[kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com) / [fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com)

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### FUMC Youth

It is hard to believe that the year is almost over, but I sure am thankful for the many good times that our youth have had together over the past 11 months. 2022 has been an outstanding year for our youth program. The kids seem to mature in their walk with Christ more and more every week. We have such a bright, loving group of kids. They treat each other as family, and seek to please the Lord. I could not be happier to oversee such a wonderful group of students.

This year we completed the book of Genesis and have made it over halfway through the Gospel of John. The Word of God is essential to these young lives and will remain the foundation of the time we spend together on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. We had an amazing Discovery weekend, a beautiful time at Camp Blue Lake, and many fun moments during game nights, lock-ins, and soup kitchens throughout the year. Our Friendsgiving Feast this past month was a huge success! Everyone brought in delicious thanksgiving food and we all ate together. We had 38 people in attendance and we all shared what we were most thankful to God for. It was a blessing to be a part of. As always, thank you to everyone who supports this program through prayers and financial support. It goes a long way in bringing these youth closer to Christ and making an impact in their lives. Blessings to all reading this, and Merry Christmas!!

Please remember that we will not be meeting on December 14th, December 21st, or December 28th. Our next Wednesday night meeting will be on Wednesday, January 4th which will be a game night.



If you have any questions or suggestions about the youth program at this church, please reach out to me, Paul Adams, through email at: [fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com](mailto:fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com)  
- Paul Adams

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## **Adult & Family Ministry**

### **Adult Wednesday Night Small Groups Schedule 2023**

Each Wednesday the Crestview FUMC Adult Discipleship Program hosts small group bible studies for our parents, families, and adults throughout the church. The program does break during the holiday season and occasionally to prepare for other activities but has a goal to consistently meet as scheduled. We are currently on a break and scheduled to return with our Winter Small Group Session beginning the first week of January. Sign up will be ready by December 7. Each bible study is kicked off with a book fair to learn more about the groups being offered, meet the leaders, and view the curriculum. This takes place during one of our regularly scheduled community dinners.



I wanted to take a moment to remind everyone of our small group schedule and an overview. We have a lot of new members and want to make sure everyone gets a chance to join us for the Winter Session. Although we still need small group leaders, I am excited to announce Susan Hill has an amazing study picked for the Wednesday night small group and Vicky Anchor (Monday Morning Moms Time) and Carrie Prescott (Refit Fitness Group) will be returning in January as well; refocused and ready to help you in your walk with God, biblical understanding, and fellowship with our church family. Child care is available on Wednesday evenings and during our Refit and Moms God's Time Bible Study.

WINTER SESSION	
December 7, 2022	Winter Small Group Sign Up
January 11, 2023	Winter Session Begins
March 1, 2023	Winter Session Ends

Don't forget that we also have Sunday School options for Adults each Sunday at 9:45 am and 11:00 am. Your church bulletin, [fumcrestview.com](http://fumcrestview.com), and the handouts in each church entryway have additional details about these groups and all of our discipleship opportunities

-Angela Long  
Family Discipleship Coordinator, [kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com)  
[fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com)

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## **Soup Kitchen News**

This year, as we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year let us remember to celebrate the greatest gift of all — salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

One way our FUMC SOUPers celebrate giving thanks is through continued dedication to create home cooked nutritious meals, serving our community in need which has been growing. With the colder months ahead of us, these warm nutritious meals are being consumed with continued gratitude. We are grateful for our healthy meals are supplemented with delicious breads and dessert donations from local businesses.

In addition, during the Winter months our Yarnies and Christian crafters are stitching up to gift homemade hats with our meals.

ALL of YOU, with GOD's grace allow this mission to continue. PLEASE carry on your support of this Mission to serve our community. With increased community need, our operating costs have increased 40%, despite our frugal measures.

Want to volunteer? Wish to help the community? Need credits for scholarships? Includes training. Contact us at [soupkitchenfumc@gmail.com](mailto:soupkitchenfumc@gmail.com). Looking for volunteers for upcoming dates, 9:30am to noontime: 26 Nov 2022, 24 Dec 2022, 31 Dec 2022.

Wish to donate to FUMC Soup Kitchen? Contact the office at [office.fumcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:office.fumcrestview@gmail.com). Continue to Follow Us Facebook @FUMCrestview.

Respectfully,  
-Deb Lubas, FUMC 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.*

*Colossians 3:15-17 - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

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### **Yarn Ministry**

Merry Christmas from your Yarn Ministry!  
A Very Yarnie Christmas Party is slated for Tues, **Dec 13**. We will have a gift exchange (15\$ or less) and a cookie exchange (bring 2 dozen). We will not meet on Tues, Dec 27 due to Christmas holiday. All interested in this fun ministry are welcome!

-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*

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### **Crestview Prayer Network**

Prayer Network meets **Dec 7** at Hideaway Pizza at 12 PM. Come meet and pray with us. Everyone is invited to come be a part of our group.  
-Kathleen Woodward



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## **CALENDARS**

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### **December Greeters, Ushers, Liturgists**

#### **Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM**

Greeters:

Dec 4- Lowell & Maryrose Scott  
Dec 11- John & Cynthia Leitschuck  
Dec 18- Cantata in Main Sanctuary  
Dec 25- Christmas Day worship service in Main Sanctuary  
Ushers- Robert & Jacob Dabbs

#### **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**

Greeters

December Front

Dec. 4: Susie Wingate & Margaret Larson

Dec. 11: Judy Beard & Tom Saunders

Dec. 18: Gary Johnson & Glenda McMasters

Dec 24: 6:30 pm The Keller family / 11pm Margaret Larson

Dec. 25: Gary Johnson

Back: Gary Johnson (4) Bill Beard (11) Mark Owens (18) Kit Callahan (24 at 6:30)

Ushers

Dec. 4: Edie & Tom Giovanni / Side aisles: Susie Wingate & Margaret Larson

Dec. 11: Viki & Terry Luster / Side aisles: David Ordonez & Mark Young

Dec. 18: Dax Reeves & David Ordonez / Side aisles: Edie & Tom Giovanni

Dec. 24: 6:30 pm Mike Steen & Mark Young / Side aisles: Tom Saunders & Mark Owens

Dec. 24: 11pm Melanie & Gary Zick / Side aisles: Tom & Edie Giovanni

Dec. 25:

Choir: Jim Hight

Liturgists: Dec 4: Lee Thigpen, Dec 11: Mike Steen, Dec 18: Paul Adams, Dec 25: Claudia Creamer

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### **Christmas Advent Readers**



### **Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM**

Nov 27: Mike & Betsy Roy  
Dec 4: Bob & Ana McCrory  
Dec 11: Cynthia & John Leitschuck  
Dec 18: Rob & Alesha Dabbs / Cantata in Main Sanctuary  
Christmas Eve, Dec 24: 6:30PM & 11:00PM services in Main Sanctuary  
Christmas Day, Dec 25: 10:30AM Combined service in Main Sanctuary

### **Contemporary / The Crossroads Center 9:45AM**

Nov 27: Nate & Leslie Hill  
Dec 4: Rob & Chelsea Evans  
Dec 11: Erik & Sara Fordyce  
Dec 18: Preaching Service  
Christmas Eve, Dec 24: 6:30PM & 11:00PM services in Main Sanctuary  
Christmas Day, Dec 25: 10:30AM Combined service in Main Sanctuary

### **Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM, special services on Cantata Sunday, Christmas Eve & Day**

Nov 27: Terry & Viki Luster  
Dec 4: Andrew Hosflet & Elyza Biondi  
Dec 11: Michael & Tiffany Kruger  
Dec 18: Tom & Jan Saunders  
Christmas Eve, Dec 24: Pastor Ronnie / 6:30PM & 11:00PM services in Main Sanctuary  
Christmas Day, Dec 25: Gary & Melanie Zick / 10:30AM Combined service in Main Sanctuary

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### **Important Dates In December**

Dec 2- Women's Service Group 10:00AM Rm 212  
Dec 7- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM Hideaway Pizza, Kids St Christmas Pageant 6:00PM CRC  
Dec 10- Kids St Gingerbread & Chrismon event  
Dec 11- Youth Committee 12:15PM Conf Rm  
Dec 12- 8th Ave Men's Christmas Party 6:00PM CRC  
Dec 13- A Very Yarnie Christmas Party 6:00PM Rm 213  
Dec 18- Christmas Cantata in the Main Sanctuary at 8:30AM & 11:00AM  
Dec 19- January Newsletter Deadline  
Dec 22 through Jan 3- Office closed for Christmas holiday  
Dec 24- Christmas Eve Services at 6:30PM & 11:00PM Main Sanctuary  
Dec 25- Christmas Day Sunday Service 10:30AM Main Sanctuary

*\*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

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### **Looking Ahead To January**

Jan 3- Church office opened for the New Year!  
Jan 4- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM Hideaway Pizza  
Jan 6- Women's Service Group 10:00AM Rm 212  
Jan 8- 12 Days of Christmas Food Blessing in all services, Youth Committee 12:15PM Conf Rm  
Jan 9- 8th Ave Men 6:00PM CRC  
Jan 10- Missions at 6:30PM in the Conf Rm, Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213  
Jan 11- CommUNITY Dinner, Winter Small Groups begin  
Jan 15- Trustees at 3:00PM in the FH, Finance at 5:00PM in Rm 212

Jan 16- Church office closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day  
Jan 22- Children's at 12:15PM on Kids St.  
Jan 24- Worship at 5:30PM in the Conf Rm, Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213  
Jan 29- Long Range Planning at 3:00PM in the Asbury Rm.

\*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

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## ***MOMENT OF REFLECTION***

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