



## **THE CONNECTION**

### **April 2021**

### **Newsletter**



#### **A Note From Pastor Ronnie**

Melanie and I were so overwhelmed with the expressions of love for the grandbaby shower given to us recently. Thank you to all who had a part. We feel very loved.

Our staff and leaders are excited about the worship and growth opportunities coming.

The special Good Friday Service on April 2 at 6:30 pm will be very meaningful. Those who are a part of this service are in an extra special place to experience the joy and power of Resurrection Sunday.

On Easter, we will have three worship services. Remember, the early service will have 3 changes: it will be held in the Main Sanctuary, it will start at 8:15 am, and the name of the service is now Morning Glory. With three services on Easter Sunday, it's a perfect time to invite your friends, neighbors, and relative to join you in worship.

The Sunday after Easter (April 11) will be a bit different. First of all, we will resume Holy Communion on that day. I have spoken to many

#### ***Worship Times***

##### **Sunday Mornings**

Morning Glory at **8:15AM**  
(Begins Easter, April 4)  
Main Sanctuary

The Well / Contemporary at **9:45AM**  
The Crossroads Center

Traditions at **11:00AM**  
Main Sanctuary

#### ***Office Hours***

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

Staff Meetings  
Mondays 9:30-11:30AM

Lunch  
12:00-1:00PM

Office Closure  
Mon, April 5 / Easter Monday

#### ***Church Staff***

Pastor  
Pastor Ronnie Bearden  
drronbearden@hotmail.com

Church Administrator  
Angie Arnold  
fumcrestview@gmail.com

people who are looking forward to this. Second, this will be Discovery Weekend- a special spiritual renewal event for our youth. On that Sunday, Stephen Sutherland will preach at the 9:45 AM service and Michael Raiche will preach at the 11 AM service. I will be preaching at 8:15 am. We did something similar at Christmas when the choir sang at two services and I preached at the third- many people in our church attended two services that day and you may wish to do that as well- especially to show support for our youth!

With COVID vaccines increasing, it has been so wonderful to see some folks in worship we have not seen in a while. This has been a challenging year, but God has been so faithful and God's people have been such a blessing.

May He be praised!

Pastor Ronnie

Church Secretary  
Cathrin Owens  
office.fumcrestview@gmail.com

Children's Ministry &  
Family Discipleship Coordinator  
Angela Long  
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Paul Adams  
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Facilities Manager  
Chris Woodward  
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Music, Contemporary  
Nathan Hight

Music, Traditional  
Kevin Lusk

Organist  
Leon Curenton

Pianists  
Pam Myers, Susan Smith

Housekeeping  
Amy Lohr-Sticha

Sexton  
Samuel Allen

Wesleyan Child Care Center  
Osa Bell / Director  
wesleyanchildcare@gmail.com

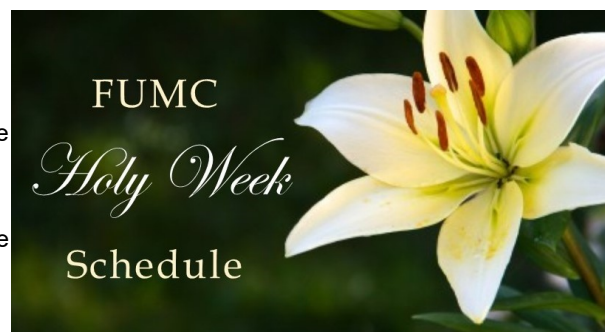
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## **Holy Week Schedule**

### **Palm Sunday ~ March 28**

We are so excited that the children will participate in our annual Palm Processional during the 9:45AM AND 11:00AM worship service. Those processing will gather in the entry way prior to the worship service or join us as the procession passes your pew.

The children will return to Kids Street following the processional for a short lesson and Easter activity. All children and Kids Street volunteers are invited to join us.



**No evening activities scheduled for  
Wednesday, March 31**

**Maundy Thursday~ April 1**

We do not have a service planned this year.

**Service of Darkness / Tenebrae Service ~ Good Friday, April 2**

6:30PM in the Main Sanctuary.

**Easter ~ Sunday, April 4**

We're celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior!

8:15AM- introducing our new Morning Glory service in the Main Sanctuary!

9:45AM- in The Crossroads Center

11:00AM in the Main Sanctuary

Nursery & Kid's Street will be open this morning.

**Easter Monday~April 5**

Church office will be closed.

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**The Draped Cross**

One of our very meaningful Holy Week traditions here at FUMC is placing the draped cross on the lawn.

The purple cloth is associated with Lent, the religious period of fasting and prayer that begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts 40 days as it leads up to Easter.

The cross will be draped in black on Good Friday representing the death of Christ on the cross for our sins.

On Easter we celebrate by draping the cross in white which represents the purity and wholeness demonstrated through Christ's resurrection.

We invite you to join us on our journey to Easter morning!

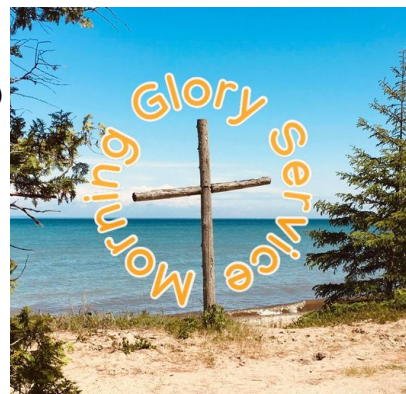


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**Morning Glory Service**

The Morning Glory Service (formerly known as the 'Chapel Service') will be returning on Sunday, **April 4** at 8:15AM in the The Main Chapel

The Morning Glory Service provides an atmosphere of piano led music, soloists, ensembles and congregational singing to stir the heart in preparation of the Word. Please join us!



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**Food Drop Dates**

Scheduled Crestview Food Distributions at Spanish Trail Park:

**Drive-Up**



**April 10th at 7am**

**May 1st at 7am**

**May 15th at 7am**

Our next Feeding the Gulf Coast Food Distribution (or as we say...the Food Drop) is happening on 10 April at Spanish Trail Park Amphitheater. Current word (subject to change of course!) is that we will once again be receiving 15,000 pounds and it will be delivered boxed (like the 27 Feb Drop). We start at 7am and are usually done by 11am if all goes well...if you can only make a portion of the time that is great too. We will definitely need parking lot helpers, people to help with registration (go car to car and fill out paperwork), and a few people to help with bagging any miscellaneous bakery items that arrive, car loaders and then traffic control. Please contact Kristen at [sallbergs@yahoo.com](mailto:sallbergs@yahoo.com) if you can make it or if you have any questions!

Please help get the word out to your neighbors, friends and family for anyone who might have a need!

*-Kristen Sallberg*

## Food Distribution



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### Crestview Prayer Network

Prayer Network meets 1st Wednesday of the month **April 7th**, David's Catfish House 12PM.

The first Prayer In Parking Lot will be **April 22** at 6 PM in the Crestview Police parking lot on Stillwell, praying for the Chief, Admin Staff and Police Officers.

Everyone is welcome to both.

*-Kathleen Woodward*



### *Crestview Prayer Network News*

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### Wesleyan Child Care Appreciation Sunday

WE LOVE OUR PRESCHOOL!

Join us Sunday, **April 25** at the 9:45AM The Well service for a special time appreciating our Wesleyan Child Care Center teachers, children, and families.



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### Greeter & Usher Training

If you feel led to be a greeter or usher at any of our Sunday worship services, including our new Morning Glory at 8:15AM beginning on Easter Sunday, please let the office know by phone call, grace note, or email ([office.fumcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:office.fumcrestview@gmail.com)).

Our training session will be on Sunday, **April 25** at 2:00PM in the Main Sanctuary and we would like to include YOU! Here's a throwback to when our greeters & ushers came spiffied up in suits & bow ties on Sundays to the old FUMC in downtown Crestview.

No worries though, we no longer have a dress code! But bow ties are STILL spiffy, no matter the occasion.



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### Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost Sunday will be on **May 23**.

**WEAR RED on PENTECOST SUNDAY!**





"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." -Acts 1:8



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### Senior Recognition Sunday

If you are a high school or college senior and are graduating, CONGRATS- we want to celebrate your accomplishment with you! Senior Recognition Sunday will be held at the 9:45AM The Well service on **May 23**.

Please send your name, school you are graduating from and degree to [office.fumcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:office.fumcrestview@gmail.com).



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### Soup Kitchen News

Please allow me to express my sincerest appreciation to Pastor Ronnie in asking me to be the Soup Kitchen Coordinator. I am greatly humbled by the warm welcome, encouragement and support extended to me from my FUMC family.

Sam Field, our dear brother-in-Christ, left big shoes to fill, but I know the soup kitchen teams remain focused on our compassionate ministry of providing warm meals, breads, sweets and fellowship to the people in our community who visit us every Saturday.

2020 was a successful year for the soup kitchen, even while facing the challenge of moving from dining in to a Grab-N-Go, and for the foreseeable future this process will remain. We can always use more volunteers, so if you would like to help, feel free to join us any Saturday from 9:30am - 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. If your availability is only on occasion, that's fine -- we welcome all who want to help!

The soup kitchen ministry receives food donations from a few businesses in town and we are in need of volunteers to pick those items up, some on Friday night and others on Saturday morning. If 2021 is the year you are feeling prompted by the Holy Spirit to get involved in a church ministry, I pray you will consider the soup kitchen.

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."



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### Chris's Corner

HELLO EVERYONE.....I'm your new Facilities Manager .....and I'm loving it.

Thanks to the Pastor, staff, the Trustees and many of you I've been able to hit the ground running, getting organized and at the same time acquainted with our beautiful Church and Campus. This has been both challenging and fun. I've been busy repairing and replacing leaky faucets, sanding and painting doors, replacing A/C filters, I could go on and on....you get the picture. I look forward to meeting those of you I haven't met. Please feel free to stop by or drop me an email with suggestions or offers to help.

God's richest blessings to each of you.



Your friend in Christ,  
-Chris Woodward

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### **Adult Discipleship**

We are excited to announce that our Wednesday night small groups will resume on April 7th at 6:00 PM and run through May 26th. Registration can be found online on our church app as well as the link below. Please let us know if you have any questions.



**UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS** will be available beginning in April. Please let Angela Long know if you are interested in a copy as our first orders are small to gauge the amount of members who will want a copy. There will be a small amount left outside of the sanctuary with a donation bin for those who wish to donate to the cause. Thank you all for your continued support and participation in our ministry. Please know we will adjust our order size accordingly and are working to make sure we have large and small print copies available to accommodate everyone.

**PRAYER GROUPS:** We still have a group that meets weekly to pray for our congregation and prayer requests made via our prayer cards and calls to the church. Please consider learning more about this group and joining in person or at home in prayer. Call the church office and talk to Angela Long if you would like additional information.

- Angela Long

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### **Children's Ministry**

Kids Street Highlights:

Mark your calendars! July 12 to July 16 - Vacation Bible School.

#### **Nursery, Children's Moment, and Sunday School happenings:**

The nursery will be open at 8:15 am beginning April 4, 2021 to accommodate the return of our early service. Sunday School begins at 9:45 AM each Sunday with Chapel Time activities during the 11:00 AM Service. The children will begin coming over for Children's Moment at 11:00 AM as of March 28, 2021.



#### **April Wednesday Night Schedule**

April 7 - 6:00 PM – Children's Choir followed by lesson at 6:30 PM (ADULT SMALL GROUPS BEGIN)

April 14: - 6:00 PM – Children's Choir - Followed by Kids Street Activities

April 21: – 6:00 PM – SPRING BREAK. No Kids Street or Adult Bible Study

April 28: - 6:00 PM Children's Choir Practice - Kids Street Activities

Volunteers are needed for Sunday School leaders and helpers. Please email [kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com) to sign up or become a volunteer.

**REFIT Schedule** - Monday's and Friday's at 8:45 am (childcare available on Kids Street) and Wednesday Nights at 6:00 PM

- Angela Long

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## Youth Ministry

April is here!

This month will be a big one for our youth program. We have been spending hours planning for our annual Discovery weekend. The high schoolers have been working hard for the past month to put this together for our middle schoolers. This event will be from April 9th-11th and we couldn't be more excited to do it.

During the month of March we began the book of Romans for our Wednesday night bible study. We will likely be finished with Romans in mid April and will then begin the book of Daniel.

Our Sunday school times have been filled with discussion and we have been studying 1 & 2 Corinthians. Finally, we had an amazing time of fellowship at the Fordyce's home last month playing games and roasting hotdogs and marshmallows by the fire. We hope to have more events like this in the future as long as weather permits and enough people can go!

If you have any questions about Discovery weekend or anything related to our youth program, please reach out to Paul Adams, the youth Director at [fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com](mailto:fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com).

-Paul Adam



## **MORE YOUTH NEWS :**

### **Youth Ministry DISCOVERY WEEKEND**

#### **6th Annual Discovery Weekend: April 9-11, 2021**

Calling ALL rising 6th graders through 12th graders!

Our High School students are sooooo excited to host our Middle School students (including 5th graders, rising to 6th grade) for our 5th Annual Discovery Weekend Retreat!



Discovery Weekend is modeled after the Blue Lake Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis experiences.

The event begins early evening on Friday, April 9th and adjourns at the completion of our youth led worship service at 9:45 on Sunday, April 11th.

\*\*\*Due to Covid precautions, we WILL NOT be having the students stay overnight this year. Stay tuned for our final schedule to be published with drop off and pick up times for each day.

Please see Paul Adams or Sara Fordyce to register your student.

ALL High Schoolers are invited to help with planning and hosting the event.

ALL 5th-8th graders are invited to attend and participate!

Registration is \$25, due no later than April 1. Registration covers the cost of an event t-shirt and helps offset food costs.

\*\*\***High Schoolers**, please plan to attend the following planning workshops: March 7th, 14th and 21st (all of these Sunday workshops will be help from Noon-3:30pm in the youth room) and our final preparations session on Wednesday, April 7th. 3:00-6:00pm.

WE NEED ADULT VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST WITH EVENT.

**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR 5TH-12TH GRADER FOR DISCOVERY WEEKEND BEFORE APRIL 2nd.**

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## Yarn Ministry

Our fingers have been flying- we've passed the 1,600 items made & donated mark and that means 1,600 folks that have had their hearts blessed with the love of God through yarn.

What a witness these Yarnies are! Our shelves are getting full once again, but we do have some surprise donations happening, so be on the lookout for us to break out into more blessings. We count it all joy.

This month's meetings will be held **Tuesdays, April 6 & 20** at 6:00PM in Rm 213.

All interested in this fun ministry are welcome.

-Cathrin Owens



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## April Greeters, Ushers, Liturgists

### **Morning Glory / Main Sanctuary 8:15AM**

#### Greeters

April 4- F: Viki B: Teri Luster

April 11- F: Alesha B: Robert Dabbs

April 18- F: Viki B: Teri Luster

April 25- F: Debbie Watson B: Kit Callahan

\*F: Front (narthex/foyer), B: Back (office)

#### Ushers

The Zicks, Robert Dabbs, The Lusters

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

Greeters & Ushers: Aimee Keller & Dan Taylor

Liturgists: Nell Sutherland- April 4 & 18 (First & Third Sundays), Dan Taylor- April 4 & 25 (Second & Fourth Sundays)

### **Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM**

#### Greeters:

April 4- F: Linda Biondi & Carli Owens B: Darrell Smith

April 11- F: Elaine Mantle & Margaret Larson B: Darrell Smith

April 18- F: Isabelle Sallberg & Betty Stewart B: Darrell Smith

April 25- F: Dax Reeves & Mike Steen B: Darrell Smith

\*F: Front (narthex/foyer), B: Back (office)

#### Ushers:

1 Sun- Darrell Smith, 2 Sun- Jim Hight, 3 Sun- Mike Steen, 4 Sun- Carli Owens, 5 Sun- Darrell Smith

#### Liturgists:

Lee Thigpen, Mike Steen, Paul Adams- April 25 (Third Sundays)

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## Important Dates In April

*Some of the meeting locations have changed due to social distancing guidelines that affect our room capacity limits!*

April 1- Maundy Thursday (no service planned)

April 2- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213, Good Friday Service 6:30PM Main Sanctuary

April 3 & 4- Dean's Cake Pick Up at CRC

April 4- **EASTER**- He is risen indeed! Morning Glory service begins at 8:15AM in the Main Sanctuary

April 5- Easter Monday / Church Office is Closed

April 7- Small Groups begin

April 9-10- Youth Discovery Weekend  
April 10- Food Drop at Spanish Trail Park  
April 11- Youth Sunday & Communion, Youth Committee 12:00PM Youth Rm, Missions 5:00PM Rm 212  
April 12- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH  
April 13- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213  
April 19- May Newsletter Deadline  
April 19-23 Spring Break!  
April 21- No activities for Kid's Street or Youth Group  
April 22- Prayer in the Parking Lot event at 6:00PM in the Crvw Police Dept parking lot  
April 24- Memorial Service for Mary Vaughan 2:00PM  
April 25- WCCC Preschool Appreciation Celebration 9:45AM service, Greeter & Usher Training 2:00PM  
Main Sanctuary  
April 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

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### **Looking Ahead To May**

*Some of the meeting locations have changed due to social distancing guidelines that affect our room capacity limits!*

May 1- Food Drop at Spanish Trail Park  
May 2- Trustees 3:00PM FH, Finance 5:00PM Rm 212  
May 5- Worship Committee 5:30PM Rm 212  
May 7- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213  
May 10- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH  
May 11- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213  
May 15- Food Drop at Old Spanish Trail  
May 16- Blood Drive 9:00AM-1:00PM, Children's Committies 12:15PM Kid's Street, Missions 5:00PM Rm 212, Long Range Planning 5:30PM Youth Room  
May 23- Pentecost. **Wear RED for PENTECOST Sunday!** Senior Recognition Sunday 9:45AM The Well Service  
May 24- June Newsletter Deadline  
May 25- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213  
May 26- Small Groups End  
May 31- Memorial Day / Church Office is Closed

*\*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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### **Still, He Walked**

He could hear the crowds screaming, "Crucify! Crucify!"  
He could hear the hatred in their voices,  
These were His chosen people.  
He loved them,  
And they were going to crucify Him.  
He was beaten, bleeding and weakened.... His heart was broken,  
But still He walked.

He could see the crowd as He came from the palace.  
He knew each of the faces so well.  
He had created them.  
He knew every smile, laugh, and shed tear,  
But now they were contorted with rage and anger; His heart broke....  
But still He walked.  
Was He scared?  
You and I would have been  
So His humanness would have mandated that He was. He felt alone.  
His disciples had left, denied, and even betrayed Him.  
He searched the crowd for a loving face and He saw very few.  
Then he turned His eyes to the only One who mattered  
And He knew that He would never be alone.  
He looked back at the crowd, at the people who were spitting,  
Throwing rocks at Him and mocking Him, and He knew  
That because of Him, they would never be alone.  
So for them, He walked.

The sounds of the hammer striking the spikes echoed through  
The crowd. The sounds of His cries echoed even louder,  
The cheers of the crowd, as His hands and feet  
Were nailed to the cross, intensified with each blow.

Loudest of all was the still small voice inside His  
Heart that whispered "I am with You, my Son",  
And God's heart broke.

He had let His Son walk.

Jesus could have asked God to end His suffering,  
But instead He asked God to forgive.  
Not to forgive Him, but to forgive the ones who were persecuting Him.  
As He hung on that cross, dying an unimaginable death,  
He looked out and saw, not only the faces in the crowd,  
But also, the face of every person yet to be,  
And His heart filled with love.  
As His body was dying, His heart was alive.  
Alive with the limitless, unconditional love He feels for each of us.  
That is why He walked.

When I forget how much My God loves me,  
I remember His walk.  
When I wonder if I can be forgiven,  
I remember His walk.  
When I need to be reminded of how to live like Christ,  
I think of His walk.  
And to show Him how much I love Him,  
I wake up each morning, turn my eyes to Him,  
And I walk....

*Author Unknown*

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### **FUMC News**

*For all the latest from FUMC please visit:*

CALENDAR: [fumcrestview.com](http://fumcrestview.com)

On the web: [fumcrestview.com](http://fumcrestview.com)

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