



THE CONNECTION February 2021 Newsletter



A Note From Pastor Ronnie

Staffing Changes

It is my pleasure to announce some important staffing changes for our church.

Angela Long is our Children's Minister. She will now also be responsible for small groups. Of course, with the COVID situation this past year, we have not had small group meetings in a while.

But we are gearing up to restart them again. COVID precautions will still be in effect (e.g., connecting the class size to the room size to allow distancing.). We are thankful for Angela being willing to assume these duties. You will be hearing more about groups in the weeks ahead.

I am also pleased to announce that we have hired Chris Woodward as our new Facilities Manager. This position is full-time. As many of you know, with a campus as large as ours, creating and filling this position has been a goal for a while and we are glad this day has arrived. There's a lot to do! Chris' family attend here and Chris has already made many repairs to the church through the Men's Ministry (remodeling the bathrooms in the Chapel was a recent project). Welcome Chris!

COVID

I am happy to report there were no further infections that came from the church exposure a few weeks ago. Many people worshiped at home for a week or two and there was no further spread.

This has been our goal all along. We know that we will have an exposure from time to time, but we are working hard not to have an outbreak in our church that comes directly from worship gatherings.

We continue to encourage all at our church to follow our COVID guidelines in worship.

Many of you may keep up with COVID numbers, but let me share this graphic with you if you don't. These are actual daily positive cases in our county as of Wednesday, Jan 27.

Worship Times

Sunday Mornings

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 Closures
Monday, Feb 15
Staff Retreat

Church Staff

Pastor
Pastor Ronnie Bearden
rronbearden@hotmail.com

**Church Administrator
& Facilities Director**
Angie Arnold
fumcrestview@gmail.com

Church Secretary
Cathrin Owens
office.fumcrestview@gmail.com

**Children's Ministry &
Family Discipleship Coordinator**
Angela Long
kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com

Youth Ministry
Paul Adams
fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com

Music, Contemporary
Nathan Hight

Music, Traditional
Kevin Lusk

Organist
Leon Curenton

147 new cases yesterday

As of 06:11, Jan 27, 2021, 2:19 PM EST - Source



This chart above is why we have not re-started our early worship service yet. We knew all along that the numbers would go up during the typical cold and flu season (about December-February).

I would like to see a clear downward trend before we re-start the early service on a regular basis. Hopefully that will be sometime in March-but we will see. We ask those of you that love worshipping at that hour to continue to be patient.

At any rate, I am currently planning on adding a third service for Easter Sunday in order to deal with the larger Easter crowd we would naturally expect. Our three services on Christmas Eve went very well and helped to spread the crowd out.

A number of people have been dealing with COVID and one is still in the hospital. Please continue to pray for them. And remember, if you have been exposed, please self-isolate for 10 days- 2 weeks.

Thank you for your continuing prayers for the ministry of our church.

Continue to serve the Lord with gladness. His mercies are new every morning!

Pastor Ronnie

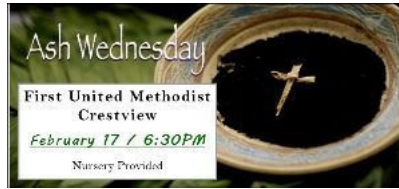
Pianists
Pam Myers, Susan Smith

Housekeeping
Amy Lohr-Sticha

Facilities Manager
Chris Woodward
fumfacilities@gmail.com

Sexton
Samuel Allen

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



End of Year Giving Statements

See Angie Arnold during normal business hours to pick yours up or email her at fumcrestview@gmail.com to have it emailed to you. Pushpay Online Giving - You may download your statement from your account.



One Blood

Location : FUMC / Across from The Crossroads Center

Date : Sunday, February 21, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Promotion: All donors will receive OneBlood long sleeve T-shirt and a \$10 eGift card. Plus, a wellness checkup including COVID-19 antibody test, blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening!



Women's Service Group

The Women's Service Group will be having our **Dean's Cake Sale** again for Easter along with **RADA Knives**. We will have many of your favorite cakes and cookies listed on the form, but if you know of a Dean Cake or cookies you like that is not listed please write it on the form and we will get it for you.

The sale starts on February 28th for both the cakes and knives and will go through March.

The Knife orders must be in by March 14th in order to get them to you by Easter.

The cake orders must be in by March 28th.



Pick up dates for the cakes and knives will be Saturday April 3rd between 11am and 2pm or Sunday, April 4th between services.

You can see any of the ladies in our group for cake order forms which list the cakes and cookies and also to look at the RADA Knife books for orders.

Please be sure to turn your cake orders in to one of the members of our Women's Service Group or to the church office. Checks only (*made out to FUMC with 'Women's Service Group' on the memo line*). Do not call your order in to Dean's Cake House or you might not get your order for Easter.

Thank you for your help with this project.

-Sharon Wykle, President Women's Service Group 850-830-5536

Calling All Prayer Warriors!

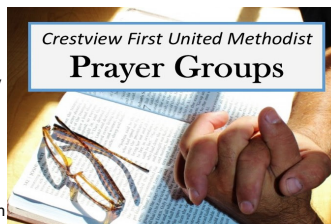
It has been said that "We are a praying church", but is it true?

We are needing men and women to come together weekly to pray for the soul of our church, nation, and each other. Join us on **Wednesday mornings at 9:00AM** in the Conference Rm and Prayer Room.

You do not have to pray aloud, we just need you to lend support to our prayers.

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20.

-In Christian Love, John Pittman



Adult Discipleship

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP:

We are excited to announce a new Young Adult Sunday School Class that begins **February 28th** at 11:00 AM.

The *Seekers Young Adult Group* targets ages 18 to 26. We want to include our local young adults as well as those that are away at college or are long time members and have not found a new church family. You can join this group in person, virtually, or visit when you are in town. An easy way to stay in touch with your church family and with God. We pray this group turns into an active church life for our young adults and the community and results in future church leaders, increased special events and bible study opportunities. Registration is online. Please contact Emily Woodward or Angela Long if you have any questions. (Kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com)



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUPS is scheduled to begin on **April 7, 2021**. We will have our Book Fair to learn about the small group opportunities and kick off the Spring Session on Wednesday March 10, 2021. We are in need of bible study leaders to lead a class in person or online. Please contact Angela Long at 334-488-2065 if you are interested in this opportunity or need additional information.

Sunday school classes continue each week. Please let us know if you would like to join a class or participate from home. We can drop off materials to you if needed so you can study along with your class.

Agape Class - Room 212 9:45 AM

Biblical Pilgrims - Room 213 9:45 AM

Messengers - Fellowship Hall (Main Building) 9:45 AM

Vines & Branches - Asbury Room (Crossroads Center & Online) 9:45 AM

FISH - Asbury Room (Crossroads Center) 11:00 AM

Seekers - (Young Adult) Room 402 (Crossroads Center) 11:00 AM

- Angela Long

Children's Ministry

Sunday School continues to meet each week at 9:45 AM. For those not ready to attend church we continue to offer Children's Church during our 11:00 service. We ask that all children are brought to Kids Street by their parents. We are so excited for our upcoming lessons. We are working toward a live Sunday school lesson to begin by March for those that remain at home or are unable to attend our 9:45 AM class. We have temperature checks on arrival and encourage all to wear a mask. We are still serving individualized snacks and assigned craft boxes to each child versus group supplies.



February Wednesday night schedule:

February 3 - 6:00 PM – Children's Choir followed by lesson at 6:30 PM

February 10 - 6:00 PM – Children's Choir Practice- Kids Street Activities

February 17 - 6:00 PM – Ash Wednesday –Nursery Available

February 24 – 6:00 PM – Children's Choir Practice – Kid's Street Activities

Volunteers are needed for Sunday School leaders and helpers. Please email 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) Wednesday's at 6:45 am (no childcare available) This class meets in the Crossroads Center. Children can be dropped off on Kids Street. For those new to REFIT: REFIT® is a workout you can feel good about! With powerful moves and positive music, you'll discover an inspiring workout that changes your body, mind and soul. This **cardio-focused class is effective and FUN -- perfect for beginners and challenging for fitness enthusiasts (which means it's a workout designed for everyBODY!)**

- Angela Long

Youth Ministry

Time sure is flying by! We are already a full month into 2021! In this time we have been covering the book of Mark for our Wednesday night youth group meets. Sunday school participation has been great and we are now going through one of my favorite letters of Paul: Romans!

We are making sure to be as careful as possible in light of Covid. We ask that any youth who have tested positive for Covid or have been exposed to it remains home regardless of the severity of symptoms. We know that this is a very serious virus, we are taking it seriously, and praying at every opportunity for God to bring things back to normal as quickly as possible. With that said, unless there is an outbreak within our youth group, we will always continue to meet **Wednesday nights from 6pm-7:30pm** for Summit and **Sunday mornings from 9:45am-11am and 11am-12am** for Sunday school.

We continue to learn every week about God's word. Many of the youth are asking good questions and seem eager to learn more about the amazing God we serve! This month we will begin our study of the book of Esther for Wednesday nights, and for Sunday mornings, we will finish up our time in Romans and likely begin 1st and 2nd Corinthians. If you ever need to reach out to me for any information regarding our youth program, email me at atfumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com.

-In Christ, Paul Adams



Soup Kitchen

The year 2020 was a challenging year for all of us, the Soup Kitchen was no exception. We were doing well, preparing a hot meal and pleasant dining experience in Fellowship Hall for all. The Coronavirus quickly changed that! We put several ideas together and immediately stopped dining-in to a Grab-N-Go. It was amazing to see how fast the necessary changes were accepted. On any given Saturday 7-12 volunteers showed up and served their respective Soup Kitchen teams. Teamwork was instrumental in serving over 3,600 meals during the year 2020.



As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.

Using extra safety precautions for our volunteers, the Soup Kitchen will remain a Grab-N-Go for quite some time. However, we can always use more volunteers, so if you would like to help, come on any **Saturday from 9:30-12:00**.

"For I was hungry, and you fed Me. I was thirsty, and you gave Me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited Me into your home." Matthew 25:35 NLT

-Sincerely, Sam Field
Soup Kitchen Coordinator

Yarn Ministry

Raise your hand if you love to snuggle up with a warm, cozy, squishy blanket at nap time! This is the month for that initiative and the Yarnies are READY!

We are currently focusing on blankets for children who attend our Wesleyan Child Care Center who may be in need of a nap time blanket or may have forgotten theirs at home. Let no child go without being covered in love after a hard morning playing and learning!

We are also working on blankets for the teens who temporarily reside at Hope House.

This month's meetings will be held **Tuesdays, Feb 9 & 23** at 6:00PM in Rm 213. All interested in this fun ministry are welcome!

-Cathrin Owens



February Greeters & Ushers

Contemporary / The Crossroads Center 9:45AM

Greeters & Ushers: Aimee Keller & Dan Taylor

Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM

Greeters:

February 7- F: Terry Luster, B: Viki Luster

February 14- F: Mark Young, B: Isabelle Sallberg

February 21- F: Gary Johnson, B: Glenda McMasters

February 28- F: Elaine Mantle, B: Margaret Larson

*F: Front (narthex), B: Back (office)

Ushers:

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

Ash Wednesday Service, Feb 17 at 6:30PM

Greeters- Margaret Larson, Troy Thurman, Warren Caruso

Important Dates In February

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

Feb 2- Worship Committee 5:30PM Conf Rm
Feb 3- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM at David's Catfish House
Feb 5- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213
Feb 7- Youth Committee 12:00PM Youth Rm, Missions 5:00PM in Rm 212
Feb 8- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH
Feb 9- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213
Feb 15- Staff Retreat, Office Closed (Please keep us in prayer as we meet to plan the next year in the life of FUMCI), March Newsletter Deadline
Feb 17- Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30PM in the Main Sanctuary, nursery provided (No Youth or Kid's St. activities)
Feb 20- Pat Dreaden Memorial CRC 3:00PM
Feb 21- One Blood 9:00AM-1:00PM
Feb 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 March

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

March 5- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213
March 8- United Methodist Men at 6:00PM FH
March 9- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213
March 10- Church Council 6:30PM in the Main Sanctuary
March 14- Time Change- Spring Forward 1 Hour!
March 15-18 is Spring Break! No activities on Wed night.
March 21- Children's Committee 12:30PM on Kid's Street, Long Range Planning 5:30PM in the Youth Room
March 22- February Newsletter Deadline
March 23- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213
March 28- Palm Sunday, April newsletter out

*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



FUMC News

For all the latest from FUMC please visit:

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