



THE CONNECTION
March 2020
Newsletter



The Gift of Flowers

Spring is here- reminding me how I really love flowers.

It's no wonder to me that Jesus pointed to flowers as an expression of the power and beauty of God's creation.

Jesus said, "Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are." (Matthew 6:28-30, NLT)

I have often thought about what a blessing flowers are – especially since scientists have no explanation as to the advantages of their awesome and vivid colors. The lower life forms that interact with flowers the most are insects. Some see no color at all, and most generally see in the ultraviolet end of the spectrum- even beyond the range of what humans can see. Some insects can see some of the colors that we see except on the low end of the spectrum- that is, insects generally do not see the color red at all.

What this all means is that generally speaking, insects do not "see" the same colors as we do. Which thus begs the question... why are flowers so colorful in the spectrum range that humans see?

Worship Times

Sunday Mornings

Christ Chapel 8:30AM

The Well 9:45AM

Traditions 11:00AM

Office Hours

Mon - Thurs

9:00AM- 4:00PM

Staff Meetings

Mondays 9:30-11:30AM

Lunch

12:00-1:00PM

Church Staff

Pastor

Pastor Ronnie Bearden
drronbearden@hotmail.com

Church Administrator

Angie Arnold
fumcrestview@gmail.com

Church Secretary

Cathrin Owens
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Youth Ministry

Michael Milani
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Children's Ministry

Angela Long
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Director of Adult Discipleship
& Congregational Care

April Hight
fumc.aprilhight@gmail.com

Music, Contemporary

Nathan Hight

If they serve no significant biological function to the animal kingdom, then I am left with the conclusion that they are a wonderful gift from God to us.

The Psalmist looks up at the stars of the sky and says that "the Heavens declare the glory of God."

The adornments of the field, my yard, and my flower vase do too!

Ever Thankful for God's precious Gifts,

Pastor Ronnie

Music, Traditional

Kevin Lusk

Housekeeping

Amy Lohr-Sticha

Maintenance

Devon Stoy

Organist

Leon Curenton

Pianists

Pam Myers, Susan Smith

Sexton

Samuel Allen



Let Us Journey Together Towards Easter Morning!

****Ash Wednesday Service***

February 26, 6:30pm in the Main Sanctuary

There will be no Kid's Street or Youth activities for this evening.

Childcare available for children 6wks to 4 yrs.

****Palm Sunday Service & Children's Celebration***

April 5, 10:30am

One Combined Service in the Main Sanctuary
 Adult & Youth
 Sunday School 9:30am-10:15am
 Kids' Street open at 9:15am, 6wks—5th grade
 Kids Sunday School—9:30am to 10:15am
 Kids will line up at 10:15am to carry the palms into the Sanctuary.
 Children's Church—10:45am to 11:30am
 Lunch Served at 11:40am in the Crossroads Center
 Children's activities begin at noon with games, face painting, bounce house and our annual Easter Egg Hunt (bring your basket!)
 All children are to be accompanied by a parent at all times during this event.

****Maundy Thursday Communion Service***

April 9, 6:30pm
 Main Sanctuary
 Childcare available for children 6wks to 4 yrs.

****Good Friday Service of Shadows***

April 10, 6:30pm
 Service of Shadows
 Main Sanctuary
 Childcare available for children 6wks to 4 yrs.

****Easter Sunday***

All services will be celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior!
 April 12
 8:30am—Christ Chapel
 9:45am—Crossroads Center
 11:00am—Main Sanctuary
 Adult & Youth Sunday School—9:45am & 11am
 Nursery 6wks-3yrs
 Children's Sunday School—9:45am
 Children's Church—11am

Lenten Lunches

It will soon be that time of year again when we gather with our brothers and sisters from other churches here in Crestview and journey together towards Easter morning. Our schedule is as follows:

Lenten Lunch Schedule



- March 5 *New Bethel UM Church*
- March 12 *Mt Zion AME Church*
- March 19 *First Presbyterian Church (will host at New Bethel UM Church)*
- March 26 *First United Methodist Church*
- April 2 *Epiphany Episcopal Church*

As in the past, we will begin gathering at the host church at 11:30AM. Soon after we gather the food will be blessed and we will begin the luncheon. The host church will provide the food for the luncheon and is encouraged to provide an "offering plate" for their expenses. The speaker will bring God's Lenten message to the group after the meal.

We are looking forward to this time of fellowship, but also a time to come together and reflect on Jesus' journey to the Cross.



Save
the
date



Be included in Our New Directory!

Watch for Appointment Scheduling Information in January

PHOTO DATES: Feb 27-29 & March 6-7!

Participating Families receive a Complimentary 8x10 & Free Directory

We need YOU to make this complete!

Lifetouch

We need YOU to make out pictorial directory complete!

You do NOT need to be a member of FUMC. We want EVERYONE included!

Participating families will receive a free 8 x 10.

Visit fumcrestview.com for more information & to sign up

or call Angie in the office for assistance.

If you'd like to help (2 hr. increments) to sign people in during the photo sessions, please contact Angie or notate such on your Sunday service grace note so we can get you scheduled.

Thank you!

Parents Night Out

Parents Night Out registration is open on our website, fumcrestview.com

March 6 is our next night to show appreciation for our parents and

have a great time with the FUMC Kids.

This event will be a come and go for parents.

Drop off begins at 4:00 and can happen until 6:00. Pick up will be at 7:00 pm.

Details available on the website or email fumc.angelalong@gmail.com.

Registration and payment can all be completed online!

Cost is \$5 per child, this fee includes dinner and a snack.



Mission Fair

Missions/Ministry Fair – 2020 – Your Missions Committee is hosting the annual missions fair on **Sunday, March 8, 2020** at the Crossroads. Come visit us between services and see what FUMC is doing in the mission field!

We are looking forward to another great and successful fair. Please get with Pam Hight at pjhight51@gmail.com or 850-758-8201 for more information and to reserve your table.



CommUNITY Dinner, Church Council, & Book Fair

Join us on Wednesday, March 11!

Dinner will be served at 5:30PM in The Crossroads Center. Menu is pork chops, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad & roll. Please bring a dessert to share if you are able. A donation box will be provided to help offset the cost of the meal. Youth, Kid's Street & Nursery all begin at 6:00PM. Church Council begins at 6:30PM.



Our Spring Book Fair will also take place this night in the cafe area of The Crossroads Center beginning at 5:30PM. Come visit with the teachers, sign up for classes, and peruse & purchase books! Bible Study & Small Groups begin March 25.

Spring Break Family Fun In The Park

We will kick off Spring Break fun with a Family Event in the Park on **March 15, 2020**. Men's group will help out by bringing a few tables, lemonade and sweet tea. We are planning to meet at Twin Hills Park.

This is a come and go event from 12:00 to 1:30 pm. Please feel free to come out early and begin your fun in the park if you attend an early service ! We will begin set up at 11:30 and look forward to everyone joining us as they get out of church. Bring your bikes, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk,

Frisbees and lawn chairs. Have a picnic lunch packed or plans to pick up something on the way. For the brave, there are grills on site.

Bring your favorite homemade ice cream to be entered into the first annual I SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM contest!



Women's Service Group Cake Sale

Hi folks, it's that time again. The Women's Service Group will be talking orders for the wonderful Dean Cakes for Easter. The sale will begin **March 22 and end April 5**.

We will be offering: Two of the seven layer cakes - Chocolate and Lemon Cheese, Three of the smaller cakes - Coconut, Carrot and Pound and the three cookies : Strawberry Shortcake, Coconut Pecan and Turtles. If you would like a cake or cookies that is not listed You may write it on the order form and we will get it for you. Remember the money must be turned in with your order, We will have a Saturday pick up on April 11 from 11 till 2 and our usual pick up on Sunday between services and for a short time after the 11 o'clock service. If you have any questions please call Sharon Wykle HOME 682 5336 Cell 850 830 5536



Youth Discovery Weekend

5th Annual Discovery Weekend
April 17-19, 2020





Our High Schoolers are super psyched to host our 5th Annual Discovery Weekend for our Middle Schoolers!

This is a 42 hour student lead spiritual retreat held in the Crossroads Center. This retreat is modeled after the Blue Lake Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis experiences. The event begins early evening on Friday, April 17th and adjourns at the completion of our youth led worship service at 9:45 on Sunday, April 19th.

Please see Mike Milani 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 \$40, due no later than April 1. Registration covers the cost of an event t-shirt and helps offset food costs. All meals are provided.

*****High Schoolers**, please plan to attend the following planning workshops: March 1, March 15, March 29 (all of these Sunday workshops will be help from 2:00-5:00pm in the youth room) and our final push on Wednesday, April 15th. 3:00-6:00pm.

Mother's Day Tea

Calling ALL MOMS!!!!!! Our annual MOTHER'S DAY TEA will be **Saturday, April 25**. Please plan to join us for our usual great time of fellowship and ministry to our sister church in Poland and Pastor Kris! If you would like to help, you are NEEDED!

There will be a food prep team for those who enjoy creating behind the scenes, and a hostess crew for those who enjoy creating a beautiful table setting and serving.

Please contact Susan Hill at 478-997-0192 to be a part of



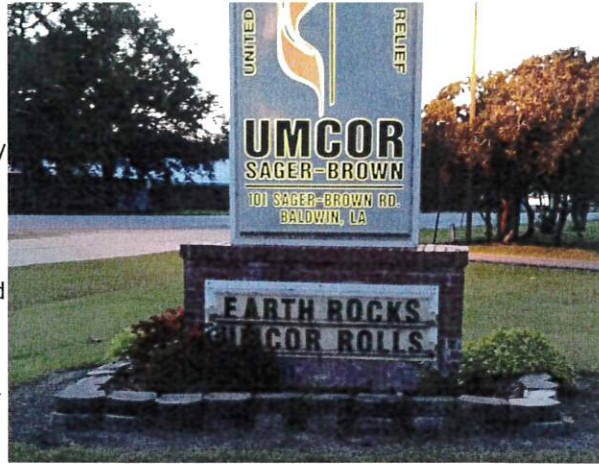
this FUN DAY including a fashion show, skits, a great speaker, and our precious children singing to us! "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels." -Isaiah 61:10

Sager Brown Depot UMCOR Trip

UMCOR Sager Brown—United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR is not a first-response organization, but stands ready to accompany communities in need over the long haul of their recovery until a "new normal" is established after a crisis. The UMCOR Sager



Brown Depot is the hub of UMCOR's relief-supply operations. UMCOR Sager Brown reaches out to its local neighbors through food distribution and housing rehabilitation projects, engaging volunteers in these projects that help families and the elderly. They also assist with building of ramps for the elderly and disabled, work at Chez Hope, the local domestic violence shelter, in their thrift shop and volunteer at Matthew 25 International which conducts outreach work in countries such as Haiti, Peru and India. UMCOR Sager Brown couldn't accomplish all they do without volunteers. That is where we come in. Team Sager Brown goes to Baldwin, LA each year to work at the depot, on campus and out in the community to continue their mission of aiding those in distress.



Your FUMC Team Sager Brown is forming now. We have 12 openings to fill for a mission trip on the bayou scheduled **September 27-October 2, 2020**. The time for sending in the 1st partial payment for our stay is coming soon. So, get with Pam Hight at pjhight51@gmail.com or 850 758-8201 for more info and to sign up.

Benevolence Ministry

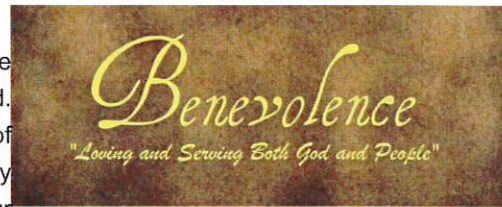
The purpose of our Benevolence Ministry is to help people within and outside our church in times of financial need.

Last week our Ministry generously shared the love of Christ with more than twenty-five families in this community who came to the church with needs. In the last week, your gifts assisted people with \$1500 in bills and gave bags of food to twenty-four families.

Romans 12:13 (NIV) reminds us "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

Thank you for making this Ministry possible with your generous donations.

-Vicky Anchor & Margaret Larson



Children's Ministry

Mark Your Calendar:

Spring Break Fun in the Park Join us at Twin Hills Park for a Family Event on March 15, 2020. This is a come and go event from 12:00 to 1:30 pm.

Please feel free to come out early and begin your fun in the park if you attend an early service ! We will begin set up at 11:30 and look forward to everyone joining us as they get out of church. Bring your





bikes, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, Frisbees and lawn chairs. Have a picnic lunch packed or plans to pick up something on the way. For the brave, there are grills on site. Bring your favorite homemade ice cream to be entered into the first annual *I SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM* contest!

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT!!!!!! Registration is now open for March 6th Parent's Night out. Details are on the Crestview FUMC webpage and application. Call Angela at 334-488-2065 for more details on this and any questions with the children's schedule.

VBS MEETING: There will be an start up VBS meeting on Wednesday March 11th at 4:30 PM on Kid's Street. This is just to get an idea of volunteers, an overview of the content and to update everyone on the status. We will determine future planning meetings on this date.

March Wednesday night schedule:

March 4th - Kid's Street and Children Choir will meet as normal from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

March 11th – Community Dinner followed by Kid's Street Activities

March 18th - Spring Break – No Kid's Street Activities

March 25th - Ash Wednesday - Kid's Street and Children Choir will meet as normal from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Tuesday's on Kid's Street: Don't forget that child care is provided on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 am to 11:00 am during the Women's Bible Study time.

Palm Sunday Celebration and Egg Hunt will be held on April 5th. There will be one service on Palm Sunday from 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM. All children are invited to meet after Sunday School at 10:15am to carry the palms into the Sanctuary for the service.

Angela Long
Children's Minister

United Methodist Men

The Crestview First United Methodist Men each month at our meeting have been using the two flags from the Sanctuary. These flags were beginning to get a bit old and dirty. This being said, the UMM have purchased new flags for the Sanctuary. We collected money from our UMM members to pay for them so no funds were taken from the church monies. We will keep the old flags in the Fellowship Hall to be used by the UMM and scout troops. Thanks to Sam Field and Stan Long for assembling and placing them in the Sanctuary.

-John Pittman



Wesleyan Child Care Center

We sent 100 Happy Birthday cards to Ms. Betty at the Crestview Rehabilitation Center for her 100th birthday Feb. 5th!

The kids decorated, colored, and wrote little notes inside each personalized card.

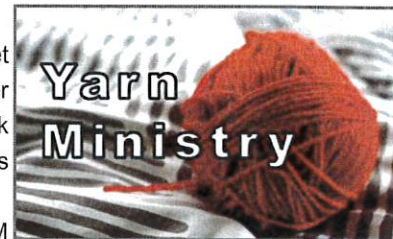


Yarn Ministry

We are about to enter the season of Lent. It's a time of quiet reflection and pacing ourselves in our walk with Jesus. What better way than to snuggle up with a Yarnie project, praying over the work of our hands, and dedicating this time to God. May He bless us as we desire to grow nearer to Him one stitch at a time!

Our meetings this month are **March 10 & 24** in room 213 at 6:00PM and also **March 31** at Panera's. If you are interested in this outreach ministry you are welcome!

-Cathrin Owens



March Greeters

Christ Chapel 8:30AM

- March 1-Kit Callahan
- March 8-Melanie & Gary Zick
- March 15-Megumi & Warren Caruso
- March 22-Debbie Watson
- March 29- Gary Johnson

The Crossroads Center 9:45AM

- March 1-Judy Brinkley, Pat Dreaden
- March 8-Jim & Aimee Keller, Cathy Thigpen
- March 15-Kim & Allen Bell
- March 22-Judy Brinkley, Pat Dreaden
- March 29-Deb Smith, Judi Smith

Traditions/Main Sanctuary 11:00AM

- March 1-Mark Young, Troy Thurman

March 8-Sam Field, Judy Beard
March 15-Linda Biondi, Dax Reeves
March 22-Margaret Larson, Isabelle Sallberg
March 29- Elaine Mantle, Suzanne Long

March Ushers

8:30 Christ Chapel- Gary & Melanie Zick

11:00 Traditions- Team 2

Leaders: Mike Steen & Carli Owens
Youth

Important Dates in March

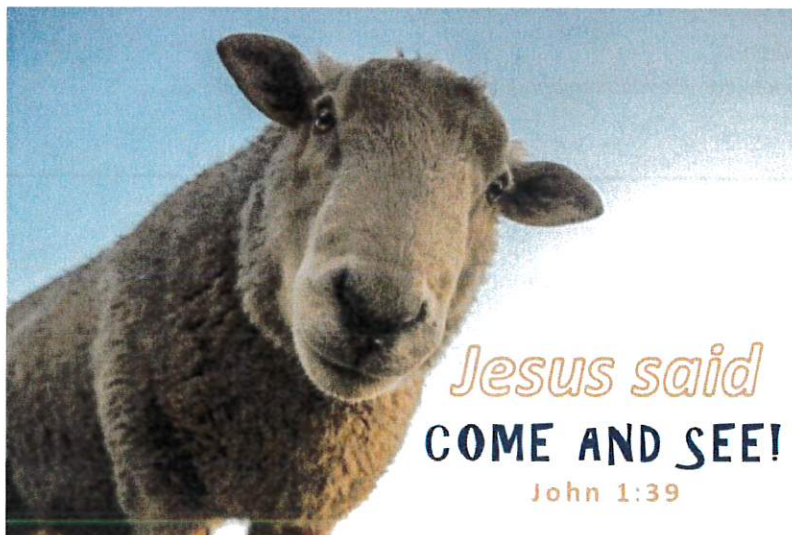
March 1- Trustees 3-5:00PM Conf Rm
March 4- Small Groups end
March 5- Lenten Lunch at New Bethel 11:30AM
March 6- Women's Service 9:00AM in Rm 213, Parent's Night Out, Life Touch 2-9:00PM CRC
March 7- Life Touch 1-8:00PM CRC
March 8- TIME CHANGE- SPRING FORWARD! Mission Fair Between Sunday Services CRC, Finance Committee 6:30PM Conf Rm
March 9- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH
March 10- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213
March 11- COMMUNITY Dinner & Book Fair 5:30PM CRC, Church Council 6:30 CRC
March 12- Lenten Lunch at Mount Zion AME 11:30AM
March 15- Children's Ministry Family Spring Break Kick Off Party 12:00PM
March 16-20 SPRING BREAK! No children or youth programs this week.
March 19- Lenten Lunch 1st Presbyterian (hosting at at New Bethel) 11:30AM
March 20- Sr. Game Day 11:00AM-2:00PM FH
March 22- Cake Orders Begin for Women's Service Group
March 23- April Newsletter Deadline
March 24- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213
March 25- Spring Study Groups Begin
March 26- Lenten Lunch at FUMC 11:30AM
**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 April

April 1- Worship Committee 5:00PM Conf Rm

April 2- Lenten Lunch Ephiphany Episcopal 11:30AM
April 3- Women's Service 9:00AM in Rm 213
April 5- Palm Sunday & Children's Celebration ONE COMBINED SERVICE at 10:30AM in the Main Sanctuary, lunch, and children's activities and egg hunt on the grounds.
April 8- No children or youth activities.
April 9- Maundy Thursday Communion Service 6:30PM
April 10- Good Friday Service of Shadows 6:30PM
April 11- Cake pick up at the CRC (Women's Service Group orders)
April 12- ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN INDEED! Happy Easter!
April 13- Easter Monday- office is closed, United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH
April 14- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213
April 17- Sr. Ministry Game Day 11:00AM-2:00PM FH
April 19- YOUTH DISCOVERY SUNDAY at 9:45AM Well Service
April 26- WCCC Preschool Appreciation 9:45AM Well Service
April 28- 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



Spending a Day With Jesus

"Come," he replied, "and you will see."
So they went and saw where he was staying,
and they spent that day with him.
John 1:39

Scripture Reading John 1:35-42

On a recent trip we noticed that many gas station names highlight how quickly we can fill up and scurry on our way: "On the Run," "QuikTrip," "QuikStop." And where do my wife and I buy most of our gas? At the local Speedway station.

I remember (long ago) leaning against the fender of my 1953 Ford, chatting with my neighborhood service station friend as he pumped my car's gas, checked the oil, adjusted the tire pressure, washed the windshield, and asked how my seminary studies were going. He might have taken my blood pressure and pulse if I had asked!

When John the Baptist pointed out Jesus to two of his own disciples, they followed Jesus and asked him, "Where are you staying?"

When Jesus invited them to come and see, "they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him."

For the disciples and Jesus, there was no "On the Run" or "QuikStop" that day.

And what began with an awkward, sandal-shuffling question ended up as one of the richest days of their lives.

Lent is a good time to slow down and spend some time with "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world". John 1:29.

Prayer

Jesus, in this season, slow us down, teach us to refresh, refocus, and renew. In your name we hope.
Amen.

-Dale Van Der Veen

today.reframemedia.com/devotions/spending-a-day-with-jesus-2012-03-11

FUMC News

For all the latest from FUMC please visit:

CALENDAR: fumcrestview.com

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