



THE CONNECTION **November 2020** **Newsletter**



From the Pastor's Desk

Giving Thanks

October 18 was Pastor Appreciation day at our church and I cannot begin to express adequately how much my heart is overflowing with love for my church family.

I give thanks for all of the cards, letters, gifts, and expressions of love that you have lavished upon me and Melanie. It has been overwhelming. We want you to know that we feel loved, and it has been a joy to be on the receiving end of the grace of a church with such a positive reputation.

We are moving into an active time of year for the church.

Nov 22 is Christ the King Sunday- the last Sunday of the Church calendar.

Thanksgiving Day is Nov 26. I know that celebration may look different for some families during a pandemic, but I hope you will still be able to observe the holiday.

Advent then begins on the last Sunday of November, kicking off the Christmas Season.

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

Veteran's Day- Wed, Nov 11
Thanksgiving- at noon, Wed, Nov 25
& Thurs, Nov 26

Church Staff

Pastor

Pastor Ronnie Bearden
drronbearden@hotmail.com

Church Administrator & Facilities Director

Angie Arnold
fumcrestview@gmail.com

Church Secretary

Cathrin Owens
office.fumcrestview@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

Paul Adams
fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com

Children's Ministry

Angela Long

As we look down the road this year, we are tentatively planning on having two worship services on Christmas Eve: one before supper for Children and our regular service after supper. More details will be in the next newsletter.

I also want to thank you as a congregation for continuing to follow our COVID recommendations. There has recently been a wonderful infusion of joy and enthusiasm into the life of our church as we have resumed Sunday School classes. Our goal is to be as operational as we can while providing a safe an environment as we can.

To Jesus be the Glory.

I am thankful.

Pastor Ronnie

Music, Contemporary
Nathan Hight

Music, Traditional
Kevin Lusk

Housekeeping
Amy Lohr-Sticha

Maintenance
Devon Stoy

Organist
Leon Curenton

Pianists
Pam Myers, Susan Smith

Sexton
Samuel Allen

***Set your clocks back on
Saturday night, October 31!
Daylight Saving Time ends
in 2020 at 2 a.m. on Sunday,
Nov. 1, marking the time when
clocks 'fall back'.***



Dear FUMC Family, It is impossible to say how much your prayers, calls, kind words, cards, food, gifts and anything else you may have done have meant to me and my family during the past couple years of Mom's (Jean Dean) life and going home. Knowing you have been lifting us up gives me the strength and comfort when needed the most. Thank you and bless you. -Pam & Jim Hight



Benevolence Ministry Holiday Programs

Thanksgiving Boxes will be distributed on Monday, Nov 16. Any donations of stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned veggies, canned sweet potatoes, marshmallows, pineapple, biscuit mix, coffee & tea, and canned hams will be added to the boxes.

Our **Christmas Angel Tree** program will kick-off on Wed, Nov 18 at the Comm-UNITY Dinner (tentative). Tags will be placed on the tree to pick up that evening. Gifts will need to be tagged & bagged and brought to The Crossroads Center on Sunday, Dec 6. They do not need to be wrapped because the Youth will have a Wrap Party on Wed, Dec 9.

In case we do not have a Comm-UNITY Dinner, we will let everyone know how to participate in our 2020 Angel Tree Program via emails, FB posts and announcements.



Thank you for reaching out this Thanksgiving & Christmas season and making a difference in our church and community families!

Christmas Cards For Prisoners

UPDATE!

Signing Christmas Cards for Prisoners will be held on November 19th from 9am-noon in the youth room at the Crossroads Center. Anyone may attend. Masks are highly encouraged for this event.

We are asking for donations of Christmas Cards and books of stamps. You may drop them off at the church office during normal business hours.



Children's Ministry

The annual **Harvest Festival!** will be held October 28, 2020. The children will meet on Kid's Street at 6:00 for some Fall Fun outdoors and then participate in outdoor activities. All children are asked to dress in child friendly costumes or their favorite book character.

Children's Christmas Pageant: It's official! The children invite you all to come out in December for our Children's Christmas Pageant, We will repeat last year's manger scene and music from *The First Christmas*, on December 24th. We will follow the song with our annual Happy Birthday Jesus party. Please know that there is a back up plans for an online version if it is determined that meeting in person is not an option. More details to come about what the night will look like.

NOTE November 4, November 11, November 18th Wednesday night program will be practice for the Christmas Pageant



Kids Street Wednesday Night Schedule

5:45 pm – Check In begins (ages 6 weeks to 5th grade)

6:00 pm – Children's Choir (ages 5 years to 5th grade)

6:30 pm Kids' Street Bible Lesson/Activity followed with Fellowship Time

7:30 pm Parent Pick-up on Kid's Street

ACOLYTE TRAINING: November 15th 9:45 AM (please see Mrs. Angela to sign up)

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ARE NEEDED. PLEASE CALL ANGELA OR email at fumc.angelalong@gmail.com for more information.

-Angela Long, Children's Minister

Youth Ministry

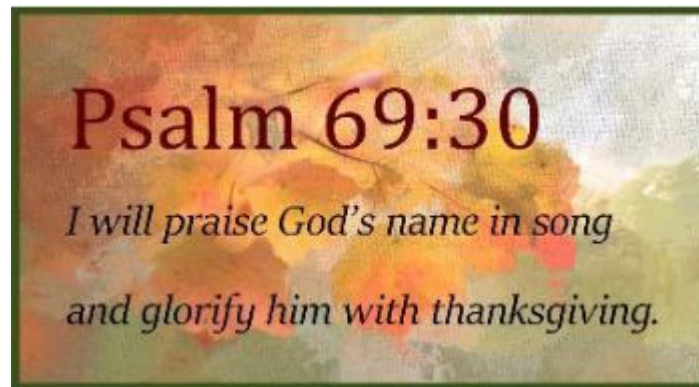
Hi!

My name is Paul Adams, and I am humbled and honored to be serving as your new Youth Director. I am also currently attending New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and am very passionate about helping our Youth dig into God's Word. The Youth Committee (Sara Fordyce, Nell Sutherland, Jody Woodward, Amy Sticha, Pastor Ronnie) and I are working closely together to grow and enrich our youth programs.



We are very excited to have re-ignited our Wednesday night youth gatherings and our youth Sunday School! We encourage all 6th-12th graders to join us in the Youth Room on Wednesdays 6-7:30pm. and on Sunday mornings during the 9:45am and 11:00am services, in the Youth Room. On Wednesday nights, we are doing temp checks, using a single point of entry (side door of CRC), and making masks optional. Our next off-site youth social will be a bonfire hosted by Erik & Sara Fordyce, date/time TBD. We are discussing some great fellowship activities for Summer 2021 as well.

Also, please stay on the lookout for an upcoming addition to our communication channels. We are evaluating the Remind App vs. GroupMe as options for easy communication with youth and parents. Please feel free to contact me anytime at: 850-781-8991 or email at fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com



Yarn Ministry

Are you ready for sweat-ah weath-ah? Us Yarnies are loving the days when it's cooler because that means layering up and topping off with a hat and scarf. It's WONDERFUL!

We SHARE the 'cozy factor' by sending hats to Heath Burchett's ministry for the homeless in Nashville and our Christmas outreach of hats for the local hotels and their guests.

We are THANKFUL and we celebrate all that Thanksgiving represents. This includes praising God for providing a place for us to meet in a church that we love, giving us inspiration for our craft, and other Yarnies to share our life and experiences with. Blessed indeed! Our meetings this month will be on Tuesdays, Nov 10 & 24 at 6:00PM in room 213. All interested in this great ministry are welcome!

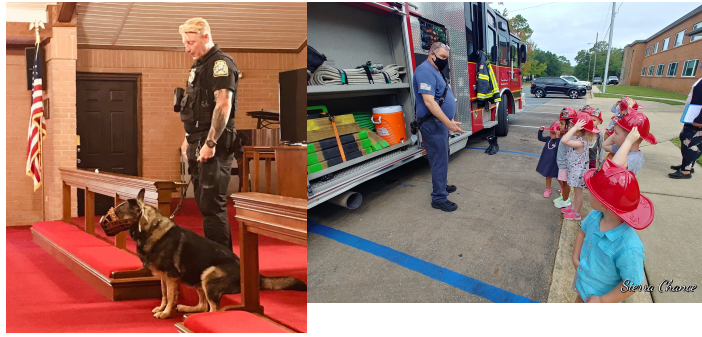
-Cathrin Owens



Wesleyan Child Care Center

Our Wesleyan Child Care Center children have had so much fun this past month!

Thank you to both Crestview Police Dept and the Crestview Fire Dept for coming by and teaching the children the importance of safety in our community, schools, and homes.



Facilities Safety Update

I would like to take this time to update you with regards to our use of cameras on our campus. This last spring the Trustees voted to install Ring cameras on the front office door, the fellowship door and Kids Street door for safety concerns. Since installation they have proven to be a great benefit. In September we had several nighttime break-ins and attempted break-ins. The installed cameras were helpful in helping the police identify those responsible. We have since installed additional cameras around our campus to give us near total coverage. I was surprised at the amount of activity occurring around our church after hours.



Since the installation of our cameras, a concern was lifted-up to me. The concern is about conversations being recorded without your knowledge. I want you to know the only Ring devices with microphones on are the front office door, the Fellowship Hall door and Kids Street. ALL other cameras have their microphones turned OFF! I also want to assure you there are NO recording devices of any type located inside of our facilities with the possible exception limited to only the Wesleyan Day Care wing.

We are now in the process of installing alarm monitors on all exterior doors. These monitors will only be active at night after all church activities are over. A church wide email will be sent out when the system goes live and with the times the system is active. I hope this answers any questions you may have.

In His Service,
Mike Steen
Trustees Chairman

November Greeters & Ushers

Contemporary / The Crossroads Center 9:45AM

Aimee Keller & Dan Taylor

Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM

November 1- Mark Young, Dan Bradford, Elaine Mantle

November 8- Melanie Zick, Isabelle Sallberg, Mike Steen

November 15- Gary Johnson, Glenda McMasters, Margaret Larson

November 22- Eliza & Linda Biondi, Elaine Mantle

November 29- Mark Young, Dax Reeves, Carli Owens

Important Dates In November

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

Oct 31- Time change! Set your clocks back an hour on Saturday night.

Nov 4- Worship Committee 5:30PM Rm 212

Nov 6- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213
Nov 8- Trustees 3:00PM FH
Nov 9- United Methodist Men at 6:00PM CRC
Nov 10- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213
Nov 11- Church Office closed in observance of Veterans Day
Nov 15- One Blood 9:30AM-2:00PM, Acolyte Training 9:45AM Main Sanctuary, Finance 5:15PM Rm 212
Nov 16- Benevolence Thanksgiving Boxes distributed
Nov 18- CommUNITY Dinner (tentative) at 5:30PM CRC, Church Council 6:30PM CRC, Benevolence
Angel Tree Christmas Program Kick-Off
Nov 19- Christmas Cards for Prisoners Signing Session 9:00AM-12:00PM Youth Rm
Nov 22- Final day for Angel Tree choosing
Nov 23- Dec Newsletter Deadline
Nov 24- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213
Nov 25- Church office closes at noon
Nov 26- HAPPY THANKSGIVING! Church office is closed.
Nov 30 to Dec 3- Christmas decorations up on campus!

**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 December

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

Dec 4- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213
Dec 6- Drop off Angel Tree Gifts in the CRC Sunday morning, Children's Committee 12:00PM Kid's Street, Youth Committee 12:30PM Youth Rm
Dec 8- 'It's a Very Yarnie Christmas' Party 6:00PM RM 213
Dec 9- Youth 'Christmas Wrap' Party
Dec 13- Missions Committee 5:00PM Rm 212
Dec 14- United Methodist Men at 6:00PM CRC
Dec 21- January Newsletter Deadline
Dec 23- No Youth or Children's programs, Church Office closes at noon
Dec 24- Children's Christmas Pageant, Christmas Candlelight Eve Service
Dec 25- Happy Birthday Baby Jesus! Merry Christmas from your FUMC family!
Dec 27- January Newsletter Out, 'Read the Bible In a Year' Kicks Off
Dec 28 to Dec 31- Church Office Is Closed for Christmas Holiday
Jan 1- Happy New Year!
Jan 3- Church Office reopens for 2021.

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

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Your people will be my people and your God my God. Ruth 1:16b NIV

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

By Pam Callahan

Kit, Mom and I traveled eight hours to celebrate Aunt Eunice's 97th birthday. My sister, came from Missouri and met us at a nearby hotel for a short summer get away. We had not seen my aunt since she moved to her daughter's house in Greer S.C., five years earlier. We drove through four states knowing this may well be the last time we would see my aunt. Even though she would not know us due to her severe dementia, we would know her! Surely, she like everyone, would love opening gifts and having birthday cake. We wanted no regrets.

Aunt Eunice sat on the couch by her baby sister, AKA Ruthie, listening about their lives growing up together. She never called us by name and spoke only a few times in response to our questions, but she hugged each of us in the same warm way she always had and her love for us came through louder than any voice could. Her smiling face let us know she felt our love for her as well.

Without a word, she stood admiring the lattice topped sheet cake with a yellow border, 2 orange flowers and one candle. Smiling, she blew out the candle, watching the cake being cut as if amazed at such a creation; a scoop of ice cream was added and she was in heaven!

With her belly filled with cake and ice cream, her face was beaming as she opened gifts and cards. Impressed with the bright colored tissue in the gift bags, she was as frugal as ever, as she handed each of us a piece of tissue paper to smooth out and refold. She marveled at a musical card, enjoying how simply it worked playing *It's A Wonderful World*. She resealed it, went into her room; returned, opening the pink envelope again as if for the first time.

We had left Crestview feeling sorry for a once vibrant and wise aunt, but instantly lost that feeling with her first embrace. She was happy, safe and well loved. What more could we want for one we held so dear?

We had our memories of her, but she didn't need memories of us to be happy and content.

Shortly after we left, she asked her daughter, "Where are my people?" She knew deep within that we were hers and she was ours! Love needs no memory it has a permanent place in the soul.

My Aunt went to live with Jesus the following January. We were glad that we had no regrets!

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Love needs no voice

PRAYER: Lord, Give us hearts to share your love as your people. Amen

PRAYER FOCUS: Dementia patients and caregivers

FUMC News

For all the latest from FUMC please visit:

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