



THE CONNECTION
October 2021
Newsletter



A Note From Pastor Ronnie

Being Content

"I don't say this out of need, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I find myself."

Phil 4:11 ESV

I have an old nursery rhyme running in my head these days. It was written by Bobby Vinton in 1962 (I was born in '61).

**"Rain, Rain, go away
Come again another day
All the family wants to play
Rain, rain, go away"**

Is your yard a jungle like mine? I have found this to be a great conversation piece- even to perfect strangers. Someone recently told me our area was already 20 inches above normal for the year.

It seems when I don't have time to cut the grass, the skies can be clear. But then when I do have the time... it rains.

But, when I'm feeling discouraged, the Scripture comes to my spirit. Paul's words echo through my

Worship Times

Sunday Mornings

Morning Glory at 8:30AM

Christ Chapel

The Well / Contemporary at 9:45AM

The Crossroads Center / FB Live

Traditions at 11:00AM

Main Sanctuary / FB Live

Office Hours

Mon - Thurs

9:00AM- 4:00PM

Staff Meetings

Mondays 9:30-11:30AM

Lunch

12:00-1:00PM

Office Closed on Mon, Sept 6

Church Staff

Pastor

Pastor Ronnie Bearden

drronbearden@hotmail.com

Church Administrator

Angie Arnold

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Children's Ministry &
Family Discipleship Coordinator

Angela Long

kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com

mind about being content.

When I think about how lush my grass is (“lush” may be an understatement), I think back to only two years ago when we bought this house. On Memorial Day weekend, 2019, my yard was parched. We were in a drought and I furiously watered my yard just to keep it alive.

And then I think back even further. We were very thankful for the last parsonage we lived in for nine years. It had been neglected quite a bit, and so after we arrived Melanie asked a man in our church who had connections to the Agriculture Department to look at our soil. The report came back and the man told Melanie- “Your yard is dead. It’s severely nutrient deficient.”

Having cut that yard for 9 years, I believe it. It was really sandy and dusty. I was filthy after cutting the weeds (about the only thing that would grow).

So rather than complain about the rain, I choose to maybe make jokes about it... and to be thankful.

I choose to be content.

God is Good- All the Time!

Pastor Ronnie

Youth Ministry

Paul Adams

fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com

Facilities Manager

Chris Woodward

fumfacilities@gmail.com

Music, Contemporary

Nathan Hight

Music, Traditional

Kevin Lusk

Organist

Leon Curenton

Pianists

Pam Myers, Susan Smith

Housekeeping

Amy Lohr-Sticha

Wesleyan Child Care Center

Osa Bell / Director

wesleyanchildcare@gmail.com

FUMC Winner of Embrace Healing Award

Due to our church’s support of Embrace Florida Kids, a ministry of United Methodist Children’s Home, they will show their appreciation by honoring us with an Embrace award! Only 5 of these awards are given each year.

They have expanded these awards to include not only recognizing our financial gifts, but also the many ways that we, our friends and family, seek to bring healing and hope each year.

With this in mind, and on behalf of their Board, staff, and the children and families they serve, they want to recognize us with the Embrace Healing Award.

We look forward to receiving the Embrace Healing Award on **Sunday, Oct 24** at the 11:00AM Traditions Service.



Debuting 'Through the Stained Glass' Mug #2

We are now debuting mug #2 in our ‘Through the Stained Glass’ mug series which celebrates our Christian heritage as presented in our Christ Chapel and Main Sanctuary.

This new mug features windows from our Main Sanctuary.

Mugs are \$20.00 ea with all profits going to support Pastor Kris in



Poland.

There are 6 mugs in this series, 3 depicting stained glass from Christ Chapel and 3 from the Main Sanctuary.

A new mug will be released every couple of months.

You can order mug #2 now by emailing the office,

fumcrestview@gmail.com, with your name and how many mugs you would like. After placing your order, you may then pay online on our website, fumcrestview.com, under the giving tab OR you may pay by a check notating in the memo line "Christ Mug". They are 20\$ each and will make great Christmas gifts! You can check out the mug #1 and #2 in the hospitality area cabinet by the church office.



Pumpkin Patch Volunteers- The BIG UNLOAD!

We need volunteers to help unload the pumpkins on **October 2 at **9:00 AM**.**

We also need pallets donated as well as interested persons to help man our pumpkin sale booth. Email kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com with any questions.

Please see Angela for background check information and requirements if you plan to help out with Story Time or be at our children's table/area.



Kids Street Is Hosting A Pumpkin Patch

October 4 - 31

Daily story time for local schools, daycares and small groups!

Coloring and craft table for the kids!

Apple cider!

Photo ops!

Pin the Nose on the Pumpkin!



Small carving and large pumpkins will be available as well as miniature pumpkins (while supplies last). The fundraiser is open to the public, but reservations will be needed to accommodate your class, troop, or group for Story Time. Please contact Angela at 850-682-2018 to schedule a time for your group. Story time begins on October 7th and can be scheduled as early as 8:30 AM. All proceeds will go to the Children's Program to benefit their programming and Camp Tuition.

Email kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com with any questions.

Kid's Street Fall Festival

When: **Wednesday Oct 27 at 6:00PM**

Where: FUMC Kid's Street

Costumes: All children are encouraged to dress in their favorite bible or book character.

Note: Please make sure the costumes are child friendly and not scary to our toddlers.

We want to keep it a fun and safe environment.

Bring: bring a bag to collect lots of snacks and candy in.



Parade: The children will visit each small group & choir before joining the youth for fun, music, and more candy.



CommUNITY Dinner & A Very Benevolence Christmas Kick-Off

Everyone is cordially invited to join us for a wonderful CommUNITY Dinner on **Wednesday, Nov 10** at 5:30PM at The Crossroads Center. Menu will be the traditional holiday fare of turkey, dressing, gravy, roll and veg. We will begin taking reservations on Sunday, Oct 31. A donation box will be out to help offset the cost of the meal. Proceeds from our meal will go towards our Benevolence Ministry Christmas program.

Our Harvest Pantry Wagon will greet you at the front of the CRC to accept canned goods & other items that will help fill Thanksgiving boxes for those in need in our community. Items requested are canned yams, stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, etc.

A Very Benevolence Christmas will officially kick-off that night with our team ready to assist as you pick an Angel from our Angel Tree. Our children come from our community of Crestview and this may provide them with the only Christmas they will receive this year. Please consider participating in this wonderful FUMC tradition!

Tacky Christmas Sweater Contest will take place at the stage of the CRC at 6:00PM! Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. Prepare to foo-foo that festive sweatshirt in the back of the closet- you may win! (Please no glitter per the campus facility regulations.)

ALSO- as if this evening couldn't get any better- our Winter Small Group Book Fair table will debut their new studies coming out in the New Year. Peruse our offerings and sign up, we're saving you a seat!

AND.... AND... AND we are planning for a special guest to make an appearance. Think **Ho Ho Ho** and a lot of **red** and you get the idea. Santa photo op will be available on The CRC stage beginning at 5:30PM.

Church Council, youth and children will all meet at 6:30PM.

We can't wait to see you there!



Childrens Ministry

There will be no Parents Night in October due to a scheduling issues.

We will host the January Night Out as scheduled in 2022.

WINTER RETREAT:

We are exploring Winter Retreats and recently learned that the Blue Lake camp will take place in February. Let Angela know if your child is interested in raising money for and attending or you would like additional information. Email kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FUN:

We are looking at a change in format for our Wednesday night program. Look for announcements to come and pray over this ministry as we continue to grow. Children's Choir will begin practice for our Christmas program in October. We are excited and the children have already began expressing interest in which part they would like to play.

- Angela Long

[Acolyte Training](#)

Interested 4th and 5th grade children will meet on Kids Street on **Sunday, Nov. 14** at 9:45AM and then travel to the training in the Main Sanctuary at 9:50AM. If your child is interested in a refresher they are welcome to attend. Pick up will be on Kids' Street at 10:45AM. Please Contact Angela Long at kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com to sign up.



[Youth](#)

Hello all! Here is an update on all things FUMC Youth! For starters we are continuing our time in the book of Genesis. The kids and teens are asking so many questions about Creation, the Flood, Sin, and God's plan to save us through it all. We are currently about a quarter of the way through the book (and have quite a bit more to go, considering Genesis is 50 chapters long!) More than likely, we will continue to be in Genesis through the month of October and November and look forward to learning many more things about the beginning of God's creation.



In other news, Covid-19 has kept us from being able to do multiple events over the past two years. One of the youth's favorite things to do every year is Meltdown. They have not gone for a while, and we recently received news that Meltdown is cancelled for 2022.

Also, the 5th quarter sleepover event that was to be held in the youth room last month, had to be cancelled as well due to the overwhelming number of cases we had in Okaloosa County. I myself had Covid for a week during the month of September and had to miss almost two weeks of work due to catching it. All of this to say: Covid-19 is not something that we take lightly. The safety of the youth, youth's parents, and our volunteers must come first no matter what. I pray that as cases in our area go down, we will be able to not only reschedule the 5th quarter event for sometime later this year, but that we are also able to go on a mission-related trip during the summer of 2022.

All big events and overnight stays related to FUMC Youth are dependent upon the current situation we face with this virus. In the meantime, we will continue to meet on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings for youth Summit and Sunday School.

Please continue to pray for both the spiritual growth of our youth and for more youth in our community to get involved with our church and become apart the youth program.

-In Christ, Paul Adams - Youth Director

Small Group Reminders

- ReFit Class: Refit continues to meet each Wednesday at 6:00 PM and on Monday's and Friday's at 9:45 AM. Childcare is provided.
- Candy for the Kids: The children will visit the choir and small group classes on October 27th during our annual Fall Harvest. Traditionally, each class will provide candy or a treat for the students and help to fill up their Halloween bags! We look forward to seeing you all.
- The last day for our Fall Session Small Group is November 10th. We will announce our Winter Small Group opportunities that week and have the official Book Fair on December 8th. Please see Angela Long if you are interested in leading a small group or would like help in finding the group for you and your family.



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Hurricane season is here...our annual reminder that we need to be prepared for disasters here at home!

As part of the Alabama/West Florida Conference our church has a couple of "opportunities" to be involved in disaster relief if the worst happens and nearby areas get hit with a hurricane, tornado or other natural or man-made disaster.

Volunteers are needed for several areas of recovery:

a) Logistics/Coordination: In the event of a disaster, the first steps are to coordinate the disaster relief plan. In order to do that, volunteers are needed for several roles.

One of the roles is assessment and coordination. This role does not require any physical labor other than some travel to the area and a keen pair of eyes so you can "assess" what might be required in an area. Are there many downed trees? Is there any water/flood damage? Are buildings intact? Are roofs visibly intact or do they need replaced? Are the local facilities operational or is the only grocery store in the area out of commission? The job would involve travelling to the affected area when given the all clear by first responders and documenting the assessment regarding what assistance may be necessary.

b) Helpers: In any disaster situation one of the main roles is making sure the workers trying to get the area operational (Debris clearing, roof tarping, muck raking, etc.) can be fed and rested. These roles could be supply distribution (tarps, cleaning buckets, water/food donation distribution,) keeping track of what supplies are available in the local area, meal preparation, cooking, serving, clearing, set up of personal cleaning areas for workers, maintenance of rest areas for workers, and one of the most important of all...someone to sit and talk and pray with victims and workers alike. Oftentimes people just need a hand to hold and a person to weep with...for what was lost, for relief it wasn't worse, for the thoughts of rebuilding...just being overwhelmed with the situation.

c) Physical workers: These workers would be willing to be able to clear debris, cut up a tree with a chainsaw or climb up and tarp a roof. This is definitely more physical work and of course, our greatest need in our area.

THIS IS A MISSION. It is not a planned mission, it may come without warning, but it is a critical mission that can mean everything for our neighbors. It is a mission we hope that others volunteer for to be available if a disaster affects us and our congregation.

If you are interested in possibly getting involved in any of these areas please contact Scott Sallberg at sallbergs@yahoo.com or provide your name to the church office.

If you have family members or neighbors who might be willing to help or be on a team who are not a part of our congregation but are looking to give back, please ask them as well! Many hands make light work! God Bless!

-Kristen Sallberg



FUMC Disaster Preparedness Prep Team

The Trustees are finalizing an official disaster plan for our campus. One of the remaining pieces is to compile a list of volunteers who would be willing to come to the campus PRIOR to a forecasted hurricane and help prepare the buildings, and a list of volunteers who would be willing to come to campus AFTER a hurricane (or other disaster) to help restore the campus.



Jobs prior to an event would be tarping interior areas/equipment, moving equipment away from windows, boarding up windows, securing signage, sandbagging potential areas on building that might flood, etc.

Jobs following an event would be undoing all the pre-event protection as well as any potential clean up of foliage/debris or any damage that might have happened, and people who might not be able to do as much physical work--people who could prepare some meals or watch children.

We are also looking for people who might be willing to check on some of our congregation who may need some support during a disaster event...physically visiting them and making sure they are not affected by the event.

It is important for us to get lists together prior to any disaster since communication via phone or internet may be disrupted around the time of an event, so a generic call for volunteers may not get out.

If you are interested in serving our church in this way please send your information to Kristen at sallbergs@yahoo.com or let the office know. And let's all pray to the Lord that the rest of this year's hurricanes stay out to sea and not do any additional damage!

Soup Kitchen News

I asked, and you answered! Last month's newsletter mentioned that the first and second Saturday Soup Kitchen teams were in need of additional team members. Four people gave us a try and ... BAM! We have more soupers! I am so thankful to the FUMC family for your support of, and participation in, the weekly Soup Kitchen.

With the holiday season approaching, some folks may be visiting families out of the area which means we will very likely need some additional help during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years weekends. Stay tuned for more information on that, but as always, if you're interested in helping out at the Soup Kitchen, please talk with me (I attend the 9:45 service) or contact the church office.



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."

-In His Name, Eileen Kurtz / Soup Kitchen Coordinator

First Church Women's Service Group



The Women's Service Group will be meeting Friday, October 1, 2021 in Room 213 on the breezeway. We'll gather at 9:00AM for light refreshments, our meeting will begin at 9:30, and we'll be ready to enjoy the rest of our day by 11:00AM.



Ladies, if you have some free time the first Friday morning of every month, I pray you will consider joining us!

We have guest speakers lined up for October and November, and we're starting to talk about Christmas plans in December. If you have any questions about the Women's Service Group, please feel free to call the church office, talk with me, or join us for the October meeting.

1 Peter 4:10 - "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

In His Name,

Eileen Kurtz- Women's Service Group President

Yarn Ministry

"We look for wool and linen, And work with our hands in delight."

Proverbs 31:13

We are knee deep into Autumn now and have our minds on cozy and WARM (as in cooler air cozy, we're tired of sweating- how about you?)!

Our goals are to begin our Yarn Ministry Christmas outreach projects and to get a little stitching done for our own families and friends... Christmas is right around the corner, y'know! More info on our outreach projects will be coming soon, but all will focus on spreading cheer in our little corner of the world.

This month's meetings will be held **Tuesdays, October 12 & 26** at 6:00PM in Rm 213. All are welcome who would love to do a little stitching for the Lord!

-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



Crestview Prayer Network

Crestview Prayer Network meeting is October 6th at David's Catfish House 12 PM. Please know you are welcome to come. -Kathleen Woodward



October Greeters, Ushers, Liturgists

Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM

Greeters:

Oct 3- Alesha & Robert Dabbs

Oct 10- Melanie & Gary Zick

Oct 17- Mike & Betsy Roy

Oct 24- Lowell & Maryrose Scott

Oct 31- John & Cynthia Leitschuck

Ushers:

Bill Myers & Robert 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:

October 3-F: Viki & Terry Luster	B. Darrell Smith
October 10-F: Tom & Edie Giovanini	B. Darrell Smith
October 17-F: Betty Stewart & Dax Reeves	B. Darrell Smith
October 24-F: Margret Larson & Judy Beard	B. Darrell Smith
October 31-F: Glenda McMasters & Gary Johnson	B. Darrell Smith

Ushers: Front-Terry Luster, Mike Steen, Dax Reeves TBD

Back-Darrell Smith

Liturgists:

Oct 3 & 10: Mike Steen, Oct 17 & 24: Luke Taylor, Oct 31: Lee Thigpen

Important Dates in October

Oct 1- Women's Service Group 9-11:00AM Rm 213

Oct 2- Unload pumpkins at the 'patch' here on campus at 9:00AM

Oct 4 through 31- FUMC Pumpkin Patch in high gear!

Oct 8- Parent's Night Out on Kid's Street

Oct 10- Youth Committee 12:15PM Conf Rm

Oct 11- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH

Oct 12- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Oct 15- Senior Ministry Game Day 11:00AM-2:00PM FH

Oct 26- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Oct 27- Fall Harvest Night on Kid's Street

*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 November

Nov 3- Worship Committee 5:30PM Rm 212

Nov 6- Women's Service Group 9-11:00AM Rm 212

Nov 7- All Saints Sunday, Trustees 3:00PM FH, Finance 5:15PM Rm 212

Nov 8- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH

Nov 9- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Nov 10- CommUNITY Dinner, A Very Benevolence Christmas Kick-Off & Tacky Christmas Sweater Contest, Winter Small Group Book Fair, Church Council - All at The Crossroads Center beginning at 5:30PM

Nov 14- Acolyte Training 9:45AM Kid's Street, Long Range Planning 5:30PM Youth Rm

Nov 19- Senior Ministry Game Day 11:00AM-2:00PM FH

Nov 21- Children's Committee 12:15PM Kid's St.

Nov 22- December newsletter deadline

Nov 23- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Nov 25- Happy Thanksgiving! Church office is closed.

Nov 28- First Sunday of Advent, One Blood Big Red Bus 9:00AM-1:00PM CRC parking lot

Nov 29 through Dec 3- Christmas up at FUMC! Please contact the office if you would like to help.