



THE CONNECTION **September 2021** **Newsletter**



A Note From Pastor Ronnie

Covid Update

The latest wave of Covid seems to be hitting our area pretty hard. Our hospitals are having a tough time. Please keep them in your prayers.

We've had a few possible exposures at church over the last few weeks. As we have done before, any groups having a possible exposure have been notified.

Because of the number of cases in Crestview, we are at a point that you are at risk of exposure anywhere you go in public- like grocery shopping, gas stations, and church is no different. If you are in a higher risk group, I know you will continue to make the best decisions for yourself including vaccinations and the activities in which you participate.

Our online worship broadcasts are here to stay as long as we have volunteers to make it happen (currently, we could use a few more volunteers-let me know if you would like to help).

At present, I am not willing to lockdown the whole church again as far as worship is concerned. The

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

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

Facilities Manager

Chris Woodward

fumfacilities@gmail.com

toll of the previous lockdown was huge. People's emotional health and spiritual health are at play as well- not just their bodies.

But I am encouraging people to not shake hands and to practice more social distancing. We're also asking groups to not over-crowd a room.

Because groups and classes by nature provide closer contact, we may from time to time close an event for a week. This could include activities with children, youth, or the office.

Also, because of the nature of Holy Communion, I'm going to pause it for September. I'll re-evaluate in mid September.

As we have recommended all through this:

Be faithful to the Lord, continuing to love and serve Him.

Be respectful of each other and honor the best decisions that people need to make for themselves.

-Pastor Ronnie

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

Thank You From the Bottom Of My Heart!

Thank you so much for all the prayers during my recent surgery and recovery.

The cards, phone calls, text messages, food, flowers, words of encouragement and even an e-mail from "Freddie" have all meant so much to me (and Pam).

With many thanks, *Joe Coffield*



Wesleyan Child Care Center

We've had a great start to the new school year!

Our Benevolence Ministry blessed our Wesleyan Child Care Center staff on the first day of school with loads of healthy fruit & veggie trays to help keep our teachers fueled up.

We may still have some openings, so check in with Osa Bell- WCCC Director, if you need a place for your child to attend.

Shout out to Chris Woodward who replenished the sand on the playground!



Kids Street Hosting A Pumpkin Patch

Oct 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.

Volunteers needed: 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 the booth. Email kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com with any questions.

Children's Ministry

September Kids Street Wednesday Night Schedule:

6:00 PM to 6:30 PM - CHILDREN'S CHOIR

6:30 PM to 7:05 PM - Praise time, Lesson and activity

September 1: Nehemiah Plans to Rebuild the Wall

September 8: Nehemiah Helps the Poor

September 15: Nehemiah and Sanballat

September 22: Nehemiah and Sanballat

September 29: 5th Sunday Love your church night- Mission and service activity



7:05 to 7:30 PM: Snack and Fellowship time

Count with Me: In September our Pre-K and Toddlers will be learning about Creation. The bottom line of each lesson will focus on how GOD MADE EVERYTHING. We are so excited and can not wait to watch them as the lesson will also help them with counting as they learn more about this important Bible lesson.

Mark Your Calendar:

Parents Night Out: **October 8**

Fall Harvest Night Kids Program: **October 27**

Youth Ministry

Our youth continue to learn more and more about God and His wonderful creation. We have recently began our time in the Book of Genesis, which we will be in for the whole month of September. The youth are asking many questions and participation is consistent!

In other news, we are now reimplementing some Covid policies in youth such as temperature checks to keep our youth and their parents as protected as possible during this spike of outbreaks in our area.

Lastly, our **September 3** 5th Quarter Lock-in event will be rescheduled for a later date.

If you have any questions or suggestions about our youth program, please contact me, Paul Adams, at fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com.

-In Christ, Evan John "Paul" Adams - Director of First United Methodist Crestview Youth



UMCOR Update

UMCOR Sager Brown—It is with much disappointment that our Sager Brown trip has once again been cancelled. Our team was so looking forward to going and being a part of that vital mission. The campus is still closed and the situation will be reviewed again this month as to opening. We however are taking a positive outlook for the future and are booked next year for the week of **October 2 – 7, 2022**. As we often say “God is in control”. I firmly believe that He is in control and will open the way for us in His own time. Until then, please keep praying for this mission, the few SB staff members left and all the volunteers, like us, who are waiting for the opportunity to go to Louisiana on that mission. Thank you for your continued prayers and concerns about our trip.



-In His Service, Pam Hight

Soup Kitchen News

The first and second Saturday Soup Kitchen teams are in need of additional team members so if you've got the time, we can certainly use your help! Please talk with me (I attend the 9:45 service) or contact the church office. Teams start showing up around 9:30am, we serve grab-n-go meals from 11:00-12:00 and we are done with clean up soon after. Summer was busy (and hot!), in a few months the cooler weather will be here, and our Soup Kitchen teams will continue to be at church every Saturday providing hot meals, breads, sweets and bottled water to our visitors. The plentiful donations from Panera, Publix and Back Home Bakery also enable us to bless the ladies of Saving Grace Women's Home in Baker every Saturday. Come check us out! You'll be blessed by serving our community and you'll have some fun too! Due to increased COVID activity in our area, masks and gloves are encouraged, especially for the team members who will be interacting with the visitors outside who receive meals from us.



-In His Name, Eileen Kurtz / Soup Kitchen Coordinator

First Church Women's Service Group

The Women's Service Group 2021-2022 session will be starting **Friday, September 3, 2021** in Room 213 on the breezeway. We'll gather at 9:00 for light refreshments, our meeting will begin at 9:30, and we'll be ready to enjoy the rest of our day by 11:00 or so. 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 every month from different organizations that provide resources and assistance to women and children in our area. Our meetings offer an opportunity for prayer, fellowship, and for discussing how we can contribute to the organizations that meet with us. If you have any questions about the Women's Service Group, please feel free to call the church office, talk with me, or pencil the September meeting on your calendar.



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*

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men is meeting **Tues, September 13** at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. We have a special guest speaker. Her name is Kelley Childs. She is the director at the Airman & Family Readiness Center at Eglin AFB. Join us for food, fellowship, and an interesting discussion with Kelley.



Yarn Ministry

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

Proverbs 31:13

Fisher House Report: Donnie, one of Eglin's Fisher House managers gave our Yarn Ministry reps (Pam Hight, Julie Field & Melanie Zick) a tour of the facility on Aug 2 and an invitation to come back any time!



They love having blankets to distribute to the patients they take care of and FUMC Yarnies love supporting Fisher House's mission.

"What an amazing place. So happy to be able to bring donations our Yarn Ministry has worked on, prayed over and have been blessed. Just passing it on to those that need to feel loved, hugged, prayed for when they wrap these around them." -Julie Field

Thank you, ladies, for taking that field trip to Fisher House for us!

We were able to donate a prayer shawl, hooked by Cathrin, to our Missions Fair to Raffle off. Our winner: Deb Lubas! Enjoy, Deb!

This month's meetings will be held **Tuesdays, September 14 & 28** at 6:00PM in Rm 213. All are welcome who would love to learn a little crochet or knitting 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

ReFit Class

Don't forget that we have a Refit class that meets each **Wednesday at 6:00PM** and on **Monday's and Friday's at 9:45AM**. Childcare is provided.

Bring your neighbors, your friends, your co-workers.

SO. MUCH. FUN!



Crestview Prayer Network

Prayer Network meeting on **Wed. Sept. 8** at 12 PM David's Catfish House. All are welcome.

Pray for troops and people of Afghanistan.

- Kathleen Woodward



Crestview Pregnancy Center

FUMC supports the Crestview Pregnancy Center!

The Crestview Pregnancy Center has two volunteer positions available — one is the Monday morning shift (10:30am-1:30pm) interacting with clients and the other is processing donations of baby items and stocking the boutique.

Please call the Pregnancy Center at 850-682-1011 Monday-Thursday between 10:30am-4:00pm for more information. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this most worthy assistance program!

<https://www.crestviewpregnancycenter.org/>



One Blood's Big Red Bus

Blood units collected on Sunday, August 15, 2021:

Donor signed in: 9

Whole Blood donation: 6

Double Red Blood Cell donation: 1

We collected 7 units of blood for total and each donation can save up to three lives so that means 21 patients could benefit from the lifesaving efforts of blood donors at FUMC of Crestview drive.

Way to be the blessing, blood donors!

Our next blood drive will be **Sunday, Nov 28** from 9:00AM-1:00PM.



Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at First United Methodist Church on **Monday, September 20, 2021.**



A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

- Carotid artery ultrasound to identify plaque buildup in the carotid arteries, a major risk factor for stroke
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound to identify presence of an enlargement in the largest blood vessel in the body
- An EKG to identify the presence of atrial fibrillation, which increases the risk for stroke
- Ultrasound of the lower legs to look for plaque buildup known as peripheral artery disease
- Ultrasound of the shin bone to identify risk for osteoporosis

These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$149 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you register today, you will receive a \$10 discount.

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441 or text the word "circle" to 797979.

September Greeters, Ushers, Liturgists

Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM

Greeters

Sept 5- Mike and Betsy Roy

Sept 12- Lowell and Maryrose Scott

Sept 19- John and Cynthia Leitschuck

Sept 26- Debbie Watson

Ushers

Skipper Kemp and Debbie Watson

Contemporary / The Crossroads Center 9:45AM

Greeters & Ushers: Aimee Keller & Dan Taylor

Liturgists: 1. Allen Bell, 2. Dan Taylor, 3. Nell Sutherland, 4. Ronnie Bearden, 5. Dan Taylor

Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM

Greeters

Sept 5- F: Tom & Edie Giovanini B. Darrell Smith

Sept 12- F: Viki & Terry Luster B. Darrell Smith

Sept 19- F: Suzanne Long & Dee Stager B. Darrell Smith

Sept 26- F: Margaret Larson & Gary Johnson B. Darrell Smith

Ushers: Front TBD

Ushers: Back – Darrell Smith

Liturgists:

Lee Thigpen, Luke Taylor, Mike Steen

Important Dates in September

Sept 3- Women's Service Group 9-11:00AM Rm 213

Sept 6- Church office is closed for Labor Day

Sept 8- Crestview Prayer Network at Dave's Catfish House at 12:00PM, Worship Committee 5:30PM Rm 212

Sept 12- Trustees 3:00PM FH, Finance 5:00PM Rm 212

Sept 13- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH

Sept 14- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Sept 17- Senior Ministry Game Day 11:00AM-2:00PM FH

Sept 19- Children's Committee 12:15 Kid's St.

Sept 26- Long Range Planning 5:30PM Youth Rm

Sept 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

Looking Ahead to 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



Godly Grandparents

Grandparents Day is September 12, 2021:

Happy Grandparents' Day!

We call them Gramps; we call them Nanny.

We call them Grandpa; we call them Granny.

We select an affectionate title or name,

But they are our grandparents just the same.

Godly grandparents are blessings so dear.

Along life's path, they bring us cheer.

They can give advice that's useful and wise.

They can lift our spirits as high as the skies.

They think of their grandchildren everyday,

And for each one, they may fervently pray.

In God's Word, many truths they may glean.

Their Godly lives are wholesome and clean.

For Christian grandparents, thank God above,

For they care for your souls with a Godly love.

Show them you love them and treat them right.

Hug and kiss them and make their day bright

-by Margaret Cagle

[First United Methodist Church](#)

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