



**THE CONNECTION**  
**September 2022**  
**Newsletter**

*From the Pastor's Desk*

**New Member Class**

I'll be leading a New Member Class on Sun, Sept 11 at 3:00PM in the Asbury Room at the Crossroads Center (it's the first room on the right). If you are thinking about becoming full members of the church and want to know more of what that entails, then I encourage you to come.

So that we can have an idea of how large the class will be, please call the church office and let us know you are coming.

**Work Hard at Names and Connecting**

We've had a lot of people join our church and more are coming. We have new visitors coming every week. Let me encourage you to **wear your nametags** (we can always get you a new one if you need it) and then be connected. Get to know people at your worship service. Greet and love on folks.

In the last month or so, we have had two different couples who were on vacation and simply passing through. They told me that this was the most welcoming church they had ever visited. What a testimony for the good work you are doing!

**Called Administrative Council Meeting**

There will be a follow-up called Administrative Council Meeting on Sun, Aug 28 at 3:00PM in the Main Sanctuary. I have participated in two meetings with our Bishop dealing with Disaffiliation and some of you were at the Laity meeting in Pensacola. I'll be giving a report on those meetings.

Since I first made you aware of these issues before the United Methodist Church (UMC) around February, I've encouraged you to do a few things.

- Seek Jesus. In all things. Seek His heart and His will.
- Be Informed. Do a lot reading and researching. There is a lot of information on all sides of the Disaffiliation issue. I've provided resources and there are a whole lot more out there.
- Pray. Seeking Jesus and being informed will place you in a better position to pray.
- Envision. Based on what you are reading and seeing, where will the United Methodist Church be in 5 years or 10... or even 20? Where will our church be? Based on what you are discovering, will our church be more effective inside or outside the UMC? And most important, where does God want us to be?

"My hope is built on nothing less



Than Jesus blood and righteousness.”

-Pastor Ronnie

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### **Discussions on Disaffiliation**

All are invited to a special called meeting where Pastor Ronnie will update us on issues related to disaffiliation (leaving the United Methodist Church). We will meet in the Main Sanctuary on Sun, **Aug 28** from 3-5:00PM.



### **FUMC Mission Fair**

It's coming...our annual Mission Fair! FUMC is a very active church with a LOT of missions that have an impact on our church family AND in our Community. Stop by the CRC Lobby on **Sun, Sept 11 & Wed, Sept 14** to peruse what our church is up to. The Mission Fair will continue into the evening of our next CommUNITY Dinner, on Sept 14. Our Soup Kitchen Soupers will be hosting the dinner and all proceeds from the meal will benefit their weekly ministry. Our Yarnies will be holding a drawing for an afghan which will be presented before the church council meeting at 6:30PM so make sure you stop by either Sun or Wed to drop your name in the basket. Come celebrate Missions Week with us and get plugged in!



### **Missions CommUNITY Dinner**

Our next dinner is scheduled for **Wed, Sept 14** at 5:30PM.

It's Missions Night!

Our Soup Kitchen Soupers will be cooking and serving us dinner. All proceeds from this evening will be going to their mission. We'll start serving at 5:30PM.

Our Mission Fair will be ongoing, so come and peruse what FUMC has going on and get plugged in!

Our Yarn Ministry will be presenting the winner of the drawing with an afghan on this evening, as well. Stop by their table and drop your name in the basket!

Youth, Children & Chancel Choir groups will meet as usual.



## **The Pumpkins Are Coming!**

The pumpkin truck will be rolling in on **Sat, Oct 1** at 9:00AM and pumpkins will be ready to pick up by mid afternoon.

Let us be a part of your Fall traditions! Swing by to take your annual Fall photo and grab some pumpkins for your favorite pumpkin pie recipe and to decorate your front porches, tables and business entry ways. We're aiming to add some lights and music to the event this year. Can't wait to see you!



**Volunteers Needed:** We need volunteers to help us with our pumpkin delivery that is scheduled for October 1, 2022 at 9:00AM. Sign up is located on Kids Street and located at each church entrance. We will also need volunteers for working the Pumpkin patch. Please see Angela Long to sign up to volunteer. We will need help with Story time, helping to load pumpkins for customers, helping to measure the pumpkins, great and point customers in the right direction, as well as a few to help with daily set up and take down of items we can not leave on site overnight. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up and those who have promised to help out on that day. Remember parents who sign up to help out will benefit with camp scholarships.

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## **Wesleyan Child Care Center**

Wesleyan has had a wonderful start to the new school year. All classes are full and the teachers and students are settling into a good routine. As the school year started, Wesleyan decided that this school year's fundraiser would be eco-friendly grocery / beach bags. We are selling them for \$5.00 and all proceeds go towards extra supplies and educational toys for our wonderful center. The bags are for sale for anyone that would like to purchase them. We have them in our school office and would love for our church community to purchase a bag and promote our school as they are out and about in town.



## **Childrens Ministry**

**Wednesday Nights on Kids Street:** Children's Choir: Kids Street Children's Choir has begun practicing for the Christmas play for the first 30 minutes of each Wednesday night Kids Street event. We will hold tryouts for parts in the play the second week of September and at this point are letting the kids become more familiar with the music and learning what the point of the story means. We have also began our Fall Curriculum in the evenings and have fun doing activities that bring home the lesson with praise, games, and hands on lessons.



**Pumpkin Patch Sign Volunteers needed:** Pumpkins for the pumpkins are scheduled to arrive on **October 1**, 2022 of this year. Please mark your calendars and plan to help us

with the FULL truckload of pumpkins scheduled to arrive. 9:00 AM is the tentative time that our pumpkins are scheduled to arrive. We ask that each Kids Street family plan on volunteering about two days or evenings in the month of October. Sign up will be posted during the month of August and follow up through September. Sign up early to get the dates that work best for you. We have extra flyers available if you have a group or event where you would like to hand them out and/or invite our community to visit our patch.

**Save the Date:** Parents Night Out: **September 23**, 2022. Registration will open up the first week of September.

-Angela Long / Family Discipleship Coordinator  
[kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com)  
[fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com)

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### FUMC Youth

Summer is already over and the youth are back to school. It has been a fast year, but we are excited to start off the new school year and begin many more activities for the youth at FUMC!

Here are some of our upcoming youth events:

On **Fri, Sept 23**, FUMC is hosting an over-night youth lock-in!!! We will stay at the church (in the youth room) from 8pm to 8am. The youth will spend this time in playing games and having fellowship with one another.

This is a great time to invite a friend! Please bring a sleeping bag or some kind of portable bed.

And on **Sat, Oct 29**, our youth will be hosting FUMC's soup kitchen. This will be from 9am to 12pm. Afterwards, from 12-2:30pm, the youth that helped will be invited to an ice cream social in the youth room! We will provide lunch for everyone in attendance and chaperones to watch the youth while they hang out after serving.

In November, FUMC youth will be hosting a special Thanksgiving event we call "Friendsgiving." All of our church's youth get together for this special occasion to eat and share what they are thankful for. This is a potluck event held in the youth room and all family members are invited. We will have more details to come soon.

Thank you to all who assist with this program and make it what it is.

Please be in prayer for our youth as they have just started school back and need all the prayer they can get!

If you have any questions or suggestions about our youth program, please contact Paul Adams at [fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com](mailto:fumcrestviewyouth@gmail.com).



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### Adult Ministry

I recently found an article that I would like to share part of with you. With so many losses and changes over the last year it is sometimes difficult to know what to say to our grieving friends and sometimes difficult to find the words to make sure they know we care when loss and death become personal and our church family is grieving. I thought this may help us all and serve as a reminder that love and prayer should be at the center of it all



**60 Uplifting Words Of Comfort To Offer Someone Who Is Grieving. By Natalia Jaramillo — Written on Dec 25, 2020**

Throughout the past few years, our country has experienced plenty of grieving. There have been so many terror attacks, mass shootings, random acts of violence throughout the entire world, and a pandemic that has affected us all deeply. Due to all of this, many people are grieving the loss of a loved one or simply the seeming loss of humanity. These same people, including you if you are one of them, may feel inspired by some sympathy quotes and words of comfort. Sometimes knowing what to say or do for a person who lost a loved one is very difficult and words of sympathy don't come naturally to a lot of people. You may be worried about saying the wrong thing or saying something that doesn't help. It can be hard to help someone who is grieving, even when you are trying to find comforting words too.

If you have trouble finding the words or don't know what to do, sometimes words of comfort and bible quotes can help us help others in times of need. As long as you understand that sometimes all you can do is offer a shoulder to cry on and maybe some sympathy notes, you will be able to help anyone in a time of sorrow. There isn't always a specific thing to say or the right sympathy gifts to bring to someone who is missing a family member, pet, or friend, but comfort quotes can offer us ideas when we encounter those moments.

Here are some uplifting quotes to offer as words of comfort for someone who is grieving, whether in a sympathy card or in person.

*'Words Of Comfort For Someone Who Is Grieving':*

1. "It's the process of grieving that's important and necessary, not the understanding of it."
2. "No rule book. No time frame. No judgment. Grief is as individual as a fingerprint. Do what is right for your soul." **Do what is best for you throughout the grief process.**
3. "You don't get over it, you get through it... It doesn't get better, it gets different...Every day, just like me, Grief puts on a new face." — Wendy Feireisen **Grief changes us.**
4. "Grief is like the ocean; it comes on waves ebbing and flowing. Sometimes the water is calm, and sometimes it is overwhelming. All we can do is learn to swim." — Vicki Harrison **Just keep swimming.**
5. "It's not about getting over it, it's about learning to live with it." — After Chloe. **We learn to live with grief.**
6. "Grief changes us, the pain sculpts us into someone who understands more deeply, hurts more often, appreciates more quickly, cries more easily, hopes more desperately, loves more openly." **Grief impacts who we become.**
7. "Healing takes time and you are doing the best you can and that is perfect." **Take your time.**
8. "I know now that we never get over great losses; we absorb them, and they carve us into different, often kinder, creatures." — Gail Caldwell. **We absorb that loss.**

**Fall Small Groups are in full session** (Aug 17- Nov 16). There is still time to join a study! Please call the church office or email [fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com) for additional information. A full listing of the group choices are also available on our website at [fumcrestview.com](http://fumcrestview.com). For anyone considering joining an adult Sunday school class, we have several options on Sunday morning at 9:45 AM and 11:00 AM. We are exploring another young adult class and want to see how many are interested in attending. Please get in touch with Angela Long if you want to be added to the young adult bible study group.

-Angela Long / Family Discipleship Coordinator  
[kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com), [fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.smallgroups@gmail.com)

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## **Chancel Choir Is Back!**

Thinking of joining the Chancel Choir to make a joyful noise?  
Now is the time to join us!



Chancel Choir meets Wednesdays at 6:30PM in the Choir Rm which is tucked behind the Fellowship Hall or down the stairs from the office hallway.



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### UMCOR News

Unfortunately our trip to Baldwin, La. has been cancelled once again. We are all disappointed that this critical mission is again delayed. We are told that COVID is still the reason and still there is no confirmed opening date. We thank you for your continued support and please continue to keep Sager Brown and your Sager Brown team in your prayers.  
Pam Hight / Team Leader



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### Soup Kitchen News

After serving as the Soup Kitchen Coordinator since early 2021, I find myself having to step down as carpal tunnel syndrome has decided it needs to be my focus. It has been a true pleasure working alongside the many super SOUPers in this wonderful ministry, and hopefully at some point I will be able to help out on an occasional Saturday. If you are interested in taking on this role, please contact the church office. I am more than glad to help the new coordinator get acclimated. It's not difficult work, doesn't take up a whole lot of time, and affords such a great opportunity to get to know more of the FUMC family as well as our community. Keep up the fabulous work, SOUPers!



In His Name,  
Eileen Kurtz

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."

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### Women's Service Group

Summer is over and the Women's Service Group is planning to meet on Friday **Sept 9** at 10am in Room 212. Unfortunately, I have had to step down as President (thanks a lot carpal tunnel syndrome). So, this opens up an opportunity for someone to step into the President role and continue leading the FUMC ladies in our efforts to support women and children organizations in our community. A



Secretary (or back up) may also be needed, as current Secretary Darlene Bloom (I appreciate her so much!) may/may not always be available to record the actions taken during the meeting. Thank you Margaret Larson for your dedication to the Treasurer role and to all the ladies of the Women's Service Group, it has been a true pleasure getting to know all of you and working alongside you in all of our community support activities. If you have any questions about the Women's Service Group, please feel free to call the church office.

In His Name,  
Eileen Kurtz

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."

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### [Yarn Ministry](#)

Hello church family!

What a great evening to share with the United Methodist Men a little bit of who we are and what we do at their August meeting. Congrats to Al Blaker who won the men's prayer shawl- we hope that it will bless you!

The FUMC Mission Fair is scheduled for September at the CRC- make sure to stop by our table to say "Hi!". We'll be doing a Mission Fair drawing for a gorgeous afghan that will be presented at the CommUNITY Dinner. We will meet on Tuesdays, **Sept 13 & 27** at 6:00PM in Rm 213.

-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*

*"We look for wool and linen, And work with our hands in delight." Proverbs 31:13*

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### [Crestview Prayer Network](#)

Prayer Network meets **Sept 7** at David's Catfish House 12 PM. Come meet and pray with us. All are invited!

-Kathleen Woodward



### [September Greeters, Ushers, Liturgists](#)

**Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM**

Greeters:

Sept 4: Mike & Betsy Roy

Sept 11: Lowell & Maryrose Scott

Sept 18: John & Cynthia Leitschuck

Sept 25: Debbie Watson

Ushers: David Bloom and Walt Harkness

**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*

September Front

Sept 4: Corolla & Rollin Anderson

Sept 11: Edie & Tom Giovanini

Sept 18: Judy Beard & Margaret Larson

Sept 25: Gary Johnson & Glenda McMasters

September Back: Darrell Smith

#### *Ushers*

Ushers Front

Sept 4: Tom Giovanni, Terry Luster, Viki Luster & Rollin Anderson

Sept 11: Tom Giovanni, Rollin Anderson, Terry Luster & Mark Young

Sept 18: Dax Reeves, David Ordonez, Judy Beard & Margret Larson

Sept 25: Mark Owens, Mark Young, Tiffany & Michael Kruger

Usher for Choir: Jim Hight

#### *Liturgists*

Sept 4 & 11: Mike Steen

Sept 18: Paul Adams

Sept 25: Lee Thigpen

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### ***Important Dates In September***

Sept 5- Labor Day / Church Office Closed

Sept 6- Worship Committee 5:30PM Conf Rm

Sept 7- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM David's Catfish House

Sept 9- Women's Service Group 9:00AM Rm 212

Sept 11- Mission Fair CRC Sunday Morning, Newcomers Class 3:00PM CRC, Trustees

3:00PM FH, Finance 5:00PM Rm 212

Sept 12- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH

Sept 13- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Sept 14- CommUNITY Dinner 'Missions Night!' 5:30PM CRC, 6:30PM Church Council,

Soup Kitchen Soupers to host dinner, last night of Mission Fair

Sept 18- Wesleyan Child Care Center Sunday, Children's Committee 12:15 Kid's St, Long

Range Planning 3:00PM CRC

Sept 19- October Newsletter Deadline

Sept 20- Missions 6:30PM Conf Rm

Sept 23- Parents Night Out on Kid's St.

Sept 27- 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

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### ***Looking Ahead to October***

Oct 1- **PUMPKINS ARRIVE!**

Oct 5- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM David's Catfish House

Oct 7- Women's Service Group 9:00AM Rm 212, Parents Night Out on Kid's St.- details pending

Oct 9- Youth Committee 12:15PM Conf Rm



Oct 10- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH  
Oct 11- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213  
Oct 24- November Newsletter Deadline  
Oct 25- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213  
Oct 26- Kids St & Youth Fall Festival 6:00PM  
Oct 30- One Blood's Big Red Bus / Blood Drive 8:00AM-1:00PM

\*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

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### **An Autumnal Prayer**

**“The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the word of our God will stand forever.” –Isaiah 40:8**

*Faithful God,*

We come to you with a thirst for your presence and real connection with you.

This time of year the flowers do fade, the leaves do wither and die,  
and even the bright sun will shine less.

But oh, we praise you, for your faithfulness.

That your truth, that your good and honest words  
and promises will stand forever.

Though the seasons change, we know you do not.

We lift up our voices in gratitude for your righteousness  
that we can always depend on.

We thank you for being our rock and firm foundation,  
and that your word is a lamp unto our feet.

Give us hope this time of year and remind us that though  
the season is changing, and the unknown journey lies ahead,  
we can trust in your unfailing truth and presence.

*Amen*

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### **Sunday Morning Worship Schedule**

**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

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**First United Methodist Office Schedule**

Mon - Thurs 9:00AM- 4:00PM  
Staff Meetings Mondays 9:30-11:30AM  
Lunch 12:00-1:00PM

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**First United Methodist Church Contacts**

**Staff**

Pastor - Pastor Ronnie Bearden  
[drronbearden@hotmail.com](mailto:drronbearden@hotmail.com)  
Church Administrator - Angie Arnold  
[fumcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:fumcrestview@gmail.com)  
Church Secretary - Cathrin Owens  
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Children's Ministry & Family Discipleship Coordinator - Angela Long  
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Facilities Manager - Chris Woodward  
[fumfacilities@gmail.com](mailto:fumfacilities@gmail.com)  
Music, Traditional - Kevin Lusk  
Organist - Leon Curenton  
Wesleyan Child Care Center - Osa Bell / Director  
[wesleyanchildcare@gmail.com](mailto:wesleyanchildcare@gmail.com)

**Ministry Addresses**

United Methodist Men / Jody Woodward [ummcrestview@gmail.com](mailto:ummcrestview@gmail.com)

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**First United Methodist Church**

599 Eighth Ave, Crestview, FL 32536  
850-682-8994

For all the latest from FUMC please visit:

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