

## Prayers, Presence and Gifts

### Altar Flowers

Flowers are donated to the Glory of God and in Memory or in Honor of loved ones.

To donate an arrangement, contact Lea Ellen: ldewitt@firstumc.org, 863-686-3163

### Hospitalized as of April 19

Floyd Davis  
Lori Dettmer  
Chris Drash  
Bob Huber  
Mark Pope

### Baptisms

Madison Faye Freshcorn, April 11  
Daughter of Lindsey & Matt Freshcorn

Aria Isabella Herr, April 11  
Daughter of Sheba & Jason Herr

### Presence In Worship, April 11

In person: 314  
Online: 1,054  
Total: 1,368

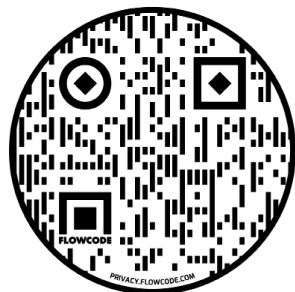
### Pastor's Monthly Bible Study

May 4, 6:30pm by Zoom  
Women will meet with Betty Batey  
Contact Alice for Zoom info:  
AHazel@firstumc.org

Men will meet with David McEntire  
Contact David for Zoom info:  
dmcentire@firstumc.org

### Electronic Giving

Electronic giving is a convenient way to continue to financially support the ministry of the church. Several ways include ACH, electronic checks (eChecks), debit or credit card, and text to give. For more information and to view several helpful resources visit: [firstumc.org/give](http://firstumc.org/give) or contact Harriet Mayes, [hmayes@firstumc.org](mailto:hmayes@firstumc.org) or 863-686-3163 x 217.



The purpose of First United Methodist is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We strive to accomplish this by being a **worship plus three church**.



Worship plus three is how we define our ministries. We believe **worship** is of prime importance and is our foundation. In addition, we are to **invite** others into a relationship with God, **grow** in our own relationship with God and our neighbor and **serve** others as a continued sign of God's work in our lives.

**Attendance & Resources:** [firstumc.org/connect](http://firstumc.org/connect)

**News:** [firstumc.org/news](http://firstumc.org/news)

**Online Giving:** [firstumc.org/give](http://firstumc.org/give)

**Prayer:** [firstumc.org/pray](http://firstumc.org/pray)

Rev. David McEntire, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Melissa Stump, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Andy Whitaker Smith, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Sharon Austin, District Superintendent  
Bishop Ken Carter, Florida Area Bishop

## 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Melissa Stump
OPENING SONG	<i>This is the Day</i>	Virtual Youth Choir
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Melissa Stump
*SONGS OF PRAISE	<i>Open Up The Heavens; My Lighthouse</i>	11:20 Band
PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER		Melissa Stump
OFFERTORY	<i>All the Poor and Powerless</i>	11:20 Band
SERMON	<i>Connect 4:REACH/Matthew 15: 21-28</i>	Andy Whitaker Smith
*CLOSING SONG	<i>Called Me Higher</i>	11:20 Band
*BENEDICTION		Andy Whitaker Smith

\*Please stand as you are able

## 11:00AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Melissa Stump
PRELUDE	<i>To God Be the Glory/Corl</i>	Matthew H. Corl, AAGO
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Melissa Stump
HYMN 98	<i>To God Be the Glory</i>	Tyler Campbell
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 884		Melissa Stump
*GLORIA PATRI		
PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER		Melissa Stump
ANTHEM	<i>This is the Day/Berg</i>	Virtual Youth Choir
CHILDREN'S MOMENT		Melissa Stump
OFFERTORY	<i>Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise/Hayes</i>	Piano/Organ Duet
SERMON	<i>Connect 4:REACH/Matthew 15: 21-28</i>	Andy Whitaker Smith
HYMN 581	<i>Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service</i>	Tyler Campbell
*BENEDICTION		Andy Whitaker Smith
*POSTLUDE	<i>Make a Joyful Noise/Corl</i>	Matthew H. Corl, AAGO

\*Please stand as you are able

## CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: To serve others is a part of Resurrection.

**ALL: Answering the call to serve is also answering a call to be changed.**

LEADER: We serve others, not because what we have to offer is better.

**ALL: Help us, O Lord, to see how we may be changed with those whom we serve.**

APRIL 25, 2021

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

Contact Information  
72 Lake Morton Drive,  
Lakeland, FL, 33801  
863-686-3163  
[firstumc.org](http://firstumc.org)  
#1stLKLD

**Church ReOpen:** We will continue with the lawn worship at 8:15. The 9:30 and 11am service will take a limited number of reservations. Both with safety protocols in place. Safety protocols include (but not limited to) the following:

1. Wearing masks inside
2. No congregational singing indoors
3. Social Distancing
4. No physical contact

For reservations go to:

[www.firstumc.org/reservation](http://www.firstumc.org/reservation)

Both the 9:30 and 11 are available livestreamed and on Facebook:

[www.firstumc.org/worship-now](http://www.firstumc.org/worship-now)

### **Church Family Reunion and Night of Worship on the Lawn - TONIGHT**

Tonight from 6-8pm, for a time of fellowship, music, food and fun on the front lawn. We will enjoy music from our Fine Arts Department, including the eleven20 band, and will have food trucks available for you to purchase food and play some family friendly lawn games. We hope that this will be a time of fellowship, relaxation and fun as we gather to worship together. Bring your own chair or blanket. We will be observing social distancing between family groups, but masks are not required.

### **Celebration of Calling Thursday Evening at 7pm**

For the last three years, First United Methodist Church has been one of 24 congregations across the country who are part of the Creating a Culture of Calling (C3) initiative through Vibrant Faith. As the project draws to a close, we want to celebrate our callings and what we have discovered over these years. We invite you to join us for a special online event on Thursday April 29 at 7pm with Rick Steves, host of the popular PBS Rick Steves Europe travel series. He will be sharing how we can celebrate calling as a way of Seeing the World. The event is free and open to everyone in our church.

**Registration is required at [firstumc.org/C3](http://firstumc.org/C3).**

### **Celebrate Pastor Melissa**

As Pastor Melissa and her family get ready for their new phase of life in a new church, we want to honor their service to our church and the Lakeland community. A celebration of Pastor Melissa's ministry will be held in the Sanctuary at 6pm on Wednesday, April 28. Register online at <https://1stlkd.churchcenter.com/registrations>. This event will also be live-streamed at [firstumc.org/worship-now](http://firstumc.org/worship-now).

### **Coffee with the Pastors - May 2**

If you have been attending First United Methodist a while or even via Livestream or Facebook and have decided to join the church, you are encouraged to have 'Coffee with the Pastors' from 5:30pm - 7:00pm on Sunday, May 2. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Center and will wear masks and observe social distancing. In this casual and informative time together, you'll learn more about the church, get to know our pastors and review expectations regarding membership. We will also offer this meeting through Zoom as well.

It is important you register so the link for the Zoom meeting can be sent to you along with other information and material about joining the church. Register online at [www.firstumc.org/membership/coffee-with-the-pastors](http://www.firstumc.org/membership/coffee-with-the-pastors). Questions, email Diana Russell: [drussell@firstumc.org](mailto:drussell@firstumc.org)

## **ADULTS**

We have Bible study and faith formation resources for all ages available on our website, [firstumc.org/grow](http://firstumc.org/grow). For information on these opportunities, email Warren, [wpattison@firstumc.org](mailto:wpattison@firstumc.org).

### **Sunday School for Adults**

Many of our Sunday School classes are meeting online. Check the start times as some have shifted to accommodate in-person worship times. Visitors are welcome to participate in any of these classes.

## **YOUTH**

**Should you have any questions please contact Stephanie, [skeen@firstumc.org](mailto:skeen@firstumc.org)**

### **Youth Group Sunday 4:30-5:30pm - Meet in F-Building Gym**

Join us Sunday evenings as the pastors lead youth through discussions around scripture, games, small group breakouts and music. All middle and high school students are welcome and encouraged to attend. Snacks will be provided! Safety protocols are in place: temperature checks, masks are required and we will be following distancing guidelines. Today, Pastor Andy will lead focusing on 'Remembrance of Baptism'.

### **Senior Sunday this year will be May 23.**

We will recognize those graduating from High School in worship at the 9:30 and 11:00 services. More info will be provided about registration and submitting information in the coming weeks.

## **CHILDREN**

**For information regarding Children's Ministry events or Zoom links, please contact Cristi Moore, [cmoore@firstumc.org](mailto:cmoore@firstumc.org).**

### **Thursday Art Night -May 6 at 6:30pm on Zoom**

You don't need to be an artist. Just bring a piece of paper, a pencil and something to color with and create your own masterpiece!

### **Preschool Pals every Tuesday at 11am**

Preschool friends age 2 and up - this is for you! Join us Tuesday mornings via Zoom at 11am for a short Bible lesson and some fun activities.

### **Virtual Sunday School Rooms**

Don't miss out on Sunday School! You can access this any time during the week at [firstumc.org/children/childrens-sunday-school/](http://firstumc.org/children/childrens-sunday-school/). There are rooms for each age level that include Bible stories, activities, games, devotions and much more.

### **Neighborhood Ministries**

The mission of Neighborhood Ministries is to share the love of Jesus Christ with the community by providing a safe, recreational and spiritual experience for students. Our programs are free of charge to participants.

We are looking for staff and volunteers.

- **Volunteers:** Adults with a Florida Driver's license and between the ages of 21-70, we would love to have you volunteer with us. We are in need of drivers Monday - Friday available from 2:15pm - 4:00pm to pick up our students from school. If you are available but not wanting to drive, we also need riders/chaperones for afterschool pickup.
- **Staff:** We are looking for NHM staff to join our after school and summer programs. Our afterschool program serves students K-12th grade. Our summer program serves students K-5th grade. Join us to serve as a mentor to students in our community and be a part of our ministry.

If you are interested in being a part of Neighborhood Ministries please contact Stephanie Keen: [skeen@firstumc.org](mailto:skeen@firstumc.org)

## **MISSIONS**

### **Glean with SoSA**

We will have lots of chances to glean fresh produce with Society of St. Andrew this spring. Register online at [bit.ly/3an46gE](http://bit.ly/3an46gE). Once registered, you'll enter your email address and name on subsequent visits and go straight to the Florida gleaning calendar to sign up for specific events. SoSA requires all volunteers to sign up through this system. Keep an eye on the gleaning calendar. Events are added frequently. Children are welcome to serve with their parents.

### **Costa Rica Missions**

Please join us May 11-13 for a virtual mission trip with Costa Rica Mission Projects (CRMP) and prayerfully consider joining us for our return trip to serve alongside them, January 8-15, 2022. The virtual mission trip will be conducted via Zoom from 6-7:30pm nightly beginning that Tuesday as we join a local prayer service. Wil Bailey, CRMP founder and director, asks that we commit to being present each night of the virtual mission trip, as though we were actually on a journey to Costa Rica. Wil has led several virtual trips during the pandemic and has lots to share. There will be reading to do in advance. First United sent a team to serve with CRMP during the summer of 2019. We had two mission trips scheduled with them during 2020, both of which were cancelled because of Covid-19. To register for the virtual mission trip, email Forrest White, Director of Missions ([fwhite@firstumc.org](mailto:fwhite@firstumc.org)). You'll receive the Zoom credentials in early May.

### **VISTE**

Our friends at Volunteers in Service to the Elderly (VISTE) have some specific needs. They're looking for volunteers to deliver groceries once each month to preassigned clients. You may choose any time between 8AM-Noon on any day during delivery week (except Sunday). Deliveries typically occur during the third week of the month. VISTE also needs more volunteers to conduct phone interviews with prospective clients. For more information on either opportunity or to sign up, please email Kristen Waters, VISTE's volunteer coordinator.

