



Matthew 5:13

April 2021

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE

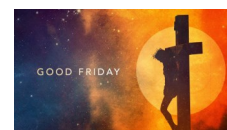
Congratulations to Our 2021 Confirmands!

David Ashbrook
Brayden Dailey
Dru Flowers
Sara Beasley Flowers
Eli Harris
Anderson Hodges
Parker Lanford
Costin Marshall
Jacob Marshall
Brody Mock
Elli Newman
Katie Pickett
Farrah Spring
Lilli Williams
Ruby Williams

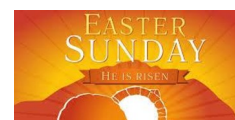
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
APRIL 1 7:30PM
GREAT HALL



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
APRIL 2 7:30PM



EASTER SERVICES
APRIL 4
9:00AM LIGHTHOUSE
11:00AM GREAT HALL



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
APRIL 11 10:00AM
GREAT HALL/ST JOSEPH BAY



SUNDAY FUNDAY
APRIL 18 3:00PM
CAPE PALMS PARK



BABY SHOWER FOR CHELSEY
SUNDAY, APRIL 18 11:00AM
GREAT HALL



METHODIST CARING SUNDAY
APRIL 25 10:00AM
GREAT HALL &
TWO FISH FOOD MARKET



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,



Christ is risen! I love the story of the ancient Desert Father, John the Short. He was told by his “abba” or leader to go and plant a dead stick in ground. It was a strange request but that is what he did. Then his abba told him to water it every day. He did this for three years, and then miraculously the stick flowered and bore fruit.

It is so amazing how the season of Easter overlaps the winding down of the pandemic. Each week more and more are returning to in-person church. The choir has become vaccinated and is returning! Each week is like a homecoming. Our church is once again budding with new life and bearing fruit. It has been a tough year in so many ways, but it should not surprise us that that God does God’s best work in times of crisis. We are an Easter people – and resurrection is in our DNA.

On Easter Sunday, we had more than 400 at the lighthouse service and at least 250 at the Church. What a great sign of life! This year we have been thinking about growth for our theme. God loves growth. However, I think Easter growth is different from developmental growth. Both kinds of growth are gifts from God. Developmental growth is from one stage to the next, life bringing or begetting more life. But Easter growth is when you don’t expect it. It is the kind of growth that we have in trauma and crisis. It is the new life that comes out of death. Easter is always a surprise.

This season, I pray that all of us have some of that Easter growth. That God breathes new life into our dead places. That our deserts bloom, and our cemeteries become gardens of life. I think that God is calling us to the kind of faithfulness that John the Short had – to water every day. And a wait in hopeful expectation that new life is on the way.

Peace of Christ,



Geoffrey

Special Sundays in April

Confirmation Sunday Don’t miss this special Sunday on April 11. We will be celebrating confirmation, celebrating the decision of many of our young people to accept Christ for themselves and take holy vows of baptism. At the end of the service we will be processing across the street for baptisms in the bay. It will be a great celebration! In order to accommodate the needs of many and to celebrate that the vaccine is now widely distributed among our members, we now have a mask-optional zone to the right when you come in the church.

Methodist Caring Ministry Sunday On April 25, we will celebrate Methodist Caring Ministries Sunday in church. The past year has been huge for these ministries and we have a lot to celebrate. We will recognize all those who have served in these ministries and celebrate the great work of Blessing Bags through the pandemic, the transformation of the Methodist Care Closet, and the launch of Two Fish Food Market. After the service, we will have a grand opening at the new Methodist Care Center on Williams street (across from the Ace). There we will consecrate the new space, lead tours, and have refreshments.

John Wesley’s Three Simple Rules:

Do no harm

Do good

Stay in love with God

Liz Lentz, Children's Director

Children's Ministry



Kids Life and Little Lambs: Children in K3-5th grade join us at the Methodist Learning Center each Wednesday 5:30-7:00 for Bible lessons, dinner, and worship arts for \$3.

Missions: This month we are collecting bird seed for the bird feeders at the Cross Shores Nursing Home. A few months ago our youth painted new bird feeders for the nursing home to replace those lost during Hurricane Michael. Now they are in need of bird seed.

Parents' and Kids' Night Out: Friday, April 23 6:00-8:30 at the STAC House on 10th Street drop the kids off to play and eat pizza while parents go out. This is a fundraiser for our 3rd-5th grade summer camp, so please make a donation on this night. Contact Ms. Liz to sign up your child or volunteer.

Liz Lentz, Director of Children's Ministry

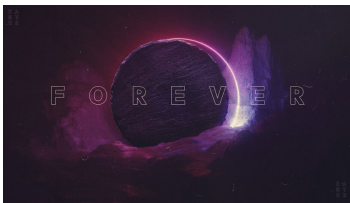
liz@psjumc.org

Lynn Marshall, Youth Director



Happy Spring! Easter is upon us and I am so excited to be celebrating this time with all of the youth. We have about 50 kids who actively come to youth group on Wednesday night. Our confirmation class has ended and these children will be joining the church and many will be baptized in the Bay. I can't wait for this special day.

2 - Week Series on EASTER When Jesus died, even His closest friends and followers had questions, fears, and doubts. But Jesus wasn't offended by, or angry about, those questions. Instead, Jesus patiently and lovingly helped His friends believe the good news that He really was alive, and that, because of His death and resurrection, nothing (not even death) could separate them from God's love — not ever. And the same is true for us. Because the **love of Jesus is bigger than our doubts**. And like Mary, our pain or hopelessness sometimes keeps us from seeing what's true — that Jesus really is alive, and that **His love gives us hope**.



APRIL CALENDAR

Church Service — I would like to invite all youth to our service at 10 am every Sunday!

Easter Service — 9 am at the Lighthouse and 11 am in the Great Hall

Wednesday Night Youth Supper and Youth — 5:30 -7:30 STAC House

Confirmation April 11th we will have confirmation Sunday and Baptism in the Bay

We will not have youth group on Wednesday March 17th during Spring Break!

SUNDAY FUNDAY — April 18 Families are invited to spend the afternoon at the beach. This is a great way to unwind and let the children play. 3:00 at Cape Palms Park — Cape San Blas!

Paul Brown, Director of Music and Worship Arts

WORSHIPARTS

PAINTING

PHOTOGRAPHY

DANCE

MUSIC

ACTING

HE is RISEN! He is RISEN INDEED!

First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe Music and Worship Arts Ministries thanks you for joining and worshipping with us during last week's most precious holy week! We invite you to continue celebrating and worshipping with us during this beautiful month of April!

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES- FUMC PSJ GREAT HALL- 10 a.m.

April 11- Confirmation Sunday- Join us as we celebrate this holy day of love, acceptance, and Bayside Baptisms!

April 18- Third Sunday of Easter Worship Service

April 25- Fourth Sunday of Easter Worship Service

Chancel Choir Rehearsals- Saturdays at 10 a.m. - FUMC PSJ GREAT HALL

Let us SING to the Lord our God! Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Basses oh my! We invite you to sing and worship with us. Music is emailed weekly to participants, and available for pick up at our Ministry Center, 510 Fourth Street, Port St Joe Florida. Weekly worship planning occurs each Tuesday. Music packets will be available by Wednesday at noon. Please email Paul Brown, our director of music and worship arts, to receive more information on joining our wonderful choir.

Handbell Choir Rehearsals- Fridays at 10 a.m. - FUMC PSJ GREAT HALL

Let us RING to the Lord our God! We are so excited to have our Handbell Choir ringing in our worship services! Thank you to Dr. Karl Burger and Bill Brown for your support, and efforts. We are blessed to have our new equipment, and so very thankful for you!

Worship Arts! Worship Arts meets weekly with Kid's Life.

We have enjoyed this season of growth with Kid's Life and Worship Arts. Worship Arts begins every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. with Kid's Life at the Methodist Learning Center. Join us for fellowship and praise through Art and Music. Our most recent projects are the planter boxes you see on the FUMC Rotunda and MLC. We will soon be hanging our art in dedication and celebration of the new Two Fish Food Market!

Private Piano, Voice and Instrumental Music Instruction

FUMC PSJ instructors provide a variety of instructional music lessons. Piano, Voice, Guitar, and band instruments are all areas of study here at FUMC PSJ. Our instructors teach at our Ministry Center, and in our Great Hall. Please contact Paul Brown, and or Jessica Beasley for information on registration and open availability.

Paul Brown- Director of Music and Worship Arts pbmus2018@gmail.com or paul@psjumc.org

Cell Phone- 850-319-6792 Ministry Center Phone- 850-227-1724

Jessica Beasley- Staff Pianist

Cell Phone- 904-557-0118 Ministry Center Phone- 850-227-1724



April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Holy Thursday 9:00am Morning Prayer 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Service	2 Good Friday 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Bell Choir 7:30pm Tenebrae Service	3 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
4 Easter Sunday Communion Sunday 9:00am Worship Service-Light house 11:00am Worship Service-Great Hall	5 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	6 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	7 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Shawl 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	8 9:00am Morning Prayer	9 2 Fish Registration Day-Great Hall 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Bell Choir	10 2 Fish Registration Day-Great Hall 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
11 2nd Sunday of Easter Confirmation Sunday 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	12 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	13 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	14 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	15 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Finance Committee Meeting 2:00pm Rebuild Meeting (Financial Plan)	16 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Bell Choir 6:00pm Parents' Night Out	17 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
18 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School 11:00am Baby shower for Chelsea 3:00pm Family Fun Day at the Beach	19 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting 5:00pm Trustees Meeting 6:00pm Church Council	20 Two Fish open 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	21 Two Fish open 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Shawl 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	22 9:00am Morning Prayer	23 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Bell Choir	24 Two Fish open 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
25 4th Sunday of Easter Methodist Care Center Sunday 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	26 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	27 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	28 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Shawl DAR-Great Hall 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	29 9:00am Morning Prayer	30 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Bell Choir	

Happy Birthday!		7th-	Christie Taylor	17th-	David Ashbrook	28th -	Patricia Ann Cooley
1st-	Mary Belin		Jessica Pate		Scott Croker		Bill Hamilton
2nd-	Sue McCarthy		Sara Ann Yon	18th -	Wayne Pate		Kerigan Pickett
	Eliza Jane Lentz	8th-	Michelle Shane	19th -	Kristian Richbourg		Dell Pickett
	Anderson Hodges	9th-	Zeke Stevens	20th -	Steve Langford	29th-	Beth Roberson
	Chad Allen		Tonya Knox		Lindsay Williams		Farren Newman
	Jim Terry	10th-	Meredith Todd	21st -	Anna Salzer	Happy Anniversary!	
3rd-	Judy Sadler		Shirley Roberson		Shirley Young	8th-	Mark & Kristen Gerspacher
	Jack Kerigan	11th-	Cathy Cox	22nd-	Matthew Hamby	12th-	Marv & Carol Gnagey
4th-	Kristen Gerspacher	13th-	Sarah Beth Thompson		Mack Kent	18th-	Mike & Jill Davis
5th-	James Harrison		Caroline Madsen		Jennifer McNeill	20th-	Quin & Pat Lowery
	Julie Hodges	14th-	Madison Terry	23rd-	Miles Otwell	23rd-	Leonard & Loretta Costin
	Martha Mapes	15th -	Kylie Skoda	25th -	Kelsie Burke		Gary & Nancy Howze
	Kaley Wilder		Gail Johnson	27th -	Kris Furstenberg		Dan & Debbie VanVleet
6th-	Glenn Elders	16th -	Skip Griffies		Nikki Barrett	24th-	Jeff & Lynn Furr
	Sally Hamby		Allen Cox, Jr.		Thomas Roberts		Bill and Ena Norton
	Linda Wiley		Catelin Strang		Tracy Melvin		
			Dawn Hallinan		Graham Finlay		

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Announcements

Baby Shower for Pastor Chelsey Sunday, April 18 at 11:00 in the Great Hall. She is registered at Target and Amazon (registered as Chelsey and CJ Brown Wewahitchka, FL. Due date May 10, 2021).

Prayer Requests Email info@psjumc.org or contact the church office.

Upper Rooms are located in the Great Hall as well as the outdoor alcove of the church (bulletin board area).

Sunday Church Services 10:00am on campus and on Facebook and our website.

Adult Sunday School Classes 9am and 11am at the Monument House, 1107 Monument Avenue. Stay tuned for more announcements....

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00am in the Great Hall. Beginners are welcome to join. For more information, contact Kay Kline beachbabecsb@gmail.com or 502-314-4444.

Altar Flowers-If you would like to place flowers on the altar on a particular Sunday, please sign up on the flower calendar by contacting the church office. Two weeks prior to your flower presentation, please inform the church office of your specific bulletin announcement.

Mental Health Life Management Center will now have a licensed adult mental health therapist on-site in Gulf County every Friday at 309 Williams Street. Life Management accepts most insurances including Medicaid health maintenance organizations. There is also a sliding fee scale for persons without insurance. Interested individuals should call 850-522-4485 or 888-785-8750 (toll free) to access. Plans are underway to have a child therapist periodically on-site, as well.

National Suicide Lifeline 1-800-273-8255 Available 24 hours every day.

Giving Options You may drop your check in our new drop box, mail your check to the church P. O. box, or give online. For online giving, the church website address <https://psjumc.org/ways-to-give/> will link you to our online giving page, with instructions. You can also call the office 850-227-1720 and Diann can set you up to pay over the phone and/or walk you through how to set up an online account for recurring giving.

Communion Sundays For in-person worshipers, we will have your communion kit on your seat when you come in so we don't have to break social distancing guidelines. We ask that you hold them in your hand during the Prayer of Great Thanksgiving, then we will all partake of them together. If you have any concerns about practicing communion in this manner, you are out of town, or cannot attend participate for health reasons, it is okay not to participate in it and receive "spiritual communion" instead. *Spiritual communion is a little known practice of the church that was developed during the Black Plague. Spiritual communion is when we are unable to take communion for various reasons, especially during a pandemic. All we have to do is long to take communion and pray for union with God in Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit will give us all spiritual benefits of Holy Communion. Here is a prayer to help you with this practice:

*My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.*

For on-line worshipers in the area, we will be serving the communion kits to the passengers of vehicles lined up at the church drop off area from 11:00am-11:30am. Pastors Geoffrey and Chelsey will be wearing N-95 masks and using gloves to distribute the holy meal.

Hurricane Michael Housing Repair/Replacement Are you still living in a home damaged by Hurricane Michael? If you owned your home at the time of the storm and it is your primary residence, you may be eligible for Rebuild Florida assistance to repair or replace it. This is a state program launched with federal disaster aid funding to repair, rebuild, or replace eligible homes that still have remaining damage caused by Hurricane Michael. To apply or get more information call 888.530.3025 or go to the website at www.RebuildFlorida.gov.

April Meetings

Finance Committee Meeting Thursday, April 15 10am in the Ministry Center.

Rebuild Committee Meeting Thursday, April 15 2pm in the Ministry Center.

Trustees Meeting Monday, April 25 5pm in the Monument House.

Church Council Meeting Monday, April 25 6pm in the Monument House.



Condolences are extended to the Tankersley family upon the death of Amy Frederick, March 24, 2021. Amy was the daughter of Paula Tankersley Frederick and granddaughter of the late Debbie Tankersley.

Congratulations to our latest members: Mary Cummings and Bill and Wendy Reynolds.

FUMC Pastoral Care Team members are Sue Meyer osuemeyer@gmail.com and Mitzi Bulger mitzi.bulger@gmail.com. Please reach out to these members for any needs you or someone you know may have.

FUMC Pastoral Care College Ministry Chairperson is Carla May 850-227-5512 or carla091962@hotmail.com. FUMC College Ministry is an outreach program of our church Pastoral Care Committee. In this program, each college student is assigned a sponsor/volunteer member of our congregation, who will keep in touch with their assigned college student throughout the school year. These volunteer/sponsors will send greeting cards, church-supplied gift cards, and will be an additional source of encouragement for the college students. During these uncertain times of Covid19, it is very important for everyone in the church to stay connected. If you would like to volunteer, are currently attending college, or will attend college in the fall and would like to participate in FUMC College Ministry, please contact Carla May.

Methodist Care Closet

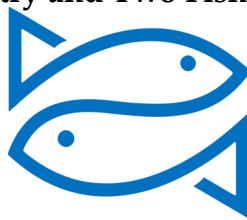


The Care Closet moved in March to its new location at 214 Williams Ave and thanks to some amazing volunteers we are up and running. As our donations continue to flow in and our dedicated Snow Birds start to head north we are in real need of more volunteers.

We have store hour volunteers on Thursday, Friday and Saturday but we also need volunteers Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to help sort, bin, and hang donations. Invite your friends and neighbors to volunteer with you. This is a community wide ministry, many of our volunteers are from other denominations. Please give prayerful consideration to volunteering for this community ministry.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Cathy Cox 850-227-6028.

Blessing Bags Ministry and Two Fish Food Market



The Blessing Bags Ministry The Blessing Bags Ministry continues to provide weekend meals each week for Port St. Joe Elementary and High School students.

Volunteer Opportunities The Methodist Care Closet and Two Fish Food Market are seeking volunteers to support our Community Missions. There are many opportunities for you to be a part of these ministries. A copy of the Volunteer Application can be found in the church next to the bulletins or at the Church Ministry Center. Thank you for your support of the Methodist Caring Ministries.

Two Fish Food Market Donations To jump start our food inventory, Two Fish is accepting both monetary and non-perishable food donations. Non-perishable food items such as soup, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, canned vegetables/fruits, dry beans, peanut butter, jelly, and canned meats/tuna can be dropped off at the designated locations in the Great Hall and at the Ministry Center.

Mission Statement

The First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe is called of God to be a Christian fellowship, affirming our beliefs through worship, witness, and service, glorifying God, adhering faithfully to the scriptures, nurturing spiritual growth, and sharing God's forgiveness to all people through the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

Hashtag us via social media:
#psjumc

👍 Like us on Facebook:
First United Methodist Church-Port St. Joe

👍 Like Methodist Learning Center on Facebook:
Methodist Learning Center

👍 Like our youth group on Facebook:
PSJ FUMC YOUTH



Salt Life is a monthly newsletter published by First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe. If you have information to be included in an upcoming edition, or you have any questions or comments regarding the Salt Life Newsletter, please email info@psjumc.org or call the church office. Please Note: all information to be included is subject to approval and must be submitted by the appropriate deadlines.

The printing of our monthly newsletter, *Salt Life*, is provided by Frank D. May, DMD.

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