



Matthew 5:13

AUGUST 2019

VOL. 18, ISSUE 8



FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE



**WHO:** Everyone!

**WHEN:** Wednesday, August 14

**WHERE:** Core Park (the beach by the lighthouse)

**TIME:** 6:00PM EST

**WHAT TO BRING:** Side or dessert to share and a chair

To kick off our Wednesday night activities, we will have a back to school bash for our entire church. FUMC will provide drinks, fried chicken, and tables. We will have games and music for all ages and if you think you want to walk out in the bay, bring your water shoes and a towel. Please join us as we celebrate our students and teachers.

**John Wesley's Three Simple Rules:**

*Do no harm*

*Do good*

*Stay in love with God*

**METHODIST MEN'S  
BREAKFAST**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 4**

**8:30AM GREAT HALL**

**UNITED METHODIST**



**BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 11**

**10AM GREAT HALL**



**BACK TO SCHOOL BASH**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14**

**6PM GEORGE CORE PARK**

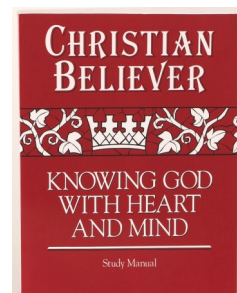


**CHRISTIAN BELIEVER**

**BIBLE STUDY**

**MONDAYS (AUGUST 19 +)**

**9:30AM GREAT HALL**



## Associate Pastor, Britney Toner



Dear Friends,

There's something about a fresh start—an opportunity to begin again, breathe deeper, and focus on what is ahead. It's resetting our minds to look for possibility. Maybe it is that new back-to-school wardrobe and latest sneakers, new number two pencils, and a box of crayons. Maybe it is simply a choice to change your focus from to-do lists and busyness to hope and learning.

August always feels like an extended New Year's Eve to me. The new school year is beginning and the tourist season is dwindling down again. For those with kids, life has more schedule and routine to it. August is a chance to look at what we want to bring with us into the last few months of this year and look at what we want to leave behind.

What were those resolutions you made in January? I know I always cringe a bit when I think about that.

We all need a fresh start. We all need to go back to school. This fall we will be offering many opportunities for children, youth, adults, and the young at heart. Sunday morning is wonderful for worshipping together with our community, but real growth happens when we set aside time to learn about our faith. God is always waiting to teach us; we need only take the step forward.

We need to all go back to school. Sign up for one of our many classes. Make the choice to start fresh with us this fall.

Blessings and Peace,  
Rev. Britney Toner

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### New Fall Studies

**Christian Believer** We will be starting a Christian Believer group this fall, this curriculum is from the creators of Disciple Bible Study. It is a 30 week class that focuses on the basics of Christian theology. We will meet Mondays 9:30AM-12:00PM in the Great Hall led by Pastor Geoffrey Lentz and Dr. Mike Whitfield starting August 19. There are no prerequisites for the class, but it does contain weekly study of the Bible and readings from primary sources throughout church history. If you want to know more about your faith and dig deep into what we believe and why — this class is for you. E-mail [heather@psjumc.org](mailto:heather@psjumc.org) to sign up. Study guide and source book are \$40 and are located in the church office.

**Living the Psalms** Starting August 21 for three weeks, we will be learning how to study and pray the Psalms on Wednesdays at 6PM in the Great Hall. This will be part of the kick off of our *Season in the Psalms Sunday Morning Series*.

**The Life and Times of the Judges** Starting on September 11, Pastor Britney Toner will lead an exciting study of the Book of Judges. This dramatic and often scary book is a perfect aid to help us in our own time where “each one does what is right in one's own eyes.” Come and be a part of this special Bible Study that Rev. Toner will prepare and present as part of her ordination requirements.

**Ladies Bible Study** *Elijah. Spiritual Stamina in Every Season* is beginning on Wednesdays this fall September 4-October 16 9:30am-11am. This video-driven course will examine the life of Elijah—an ordinary man who did extraordinary things for God in the midst of the highs and lows of life. To order a study book, contact Barbara Terry 227-6197, Kay Harbin 270-452-9618, Linda Hamilton 227-8258, Nancy Buzzett 227-5691. Everyone welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors! Study books are \$15.00 and are located in the church office.

## **Liz Lentz, Children's Director**

Blessing of the Backpacks is on Sunday, August 11 during the worship service. Students can bring their backpacks to church to be blessed before returning to school. August 11 is also Bible Sunday, so third graders will be receiving Bibles.

There will be a Parent Meeting after church on Sunday, August 11. This is for all parents of children, infants through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Church-wide Back to School Bash is on Wednesday, August 14 at 6pm at Core Park (near the lighthouse, pavilion near the water). Fried chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share.

Regular Wednesday activities (Young Singers, Little Lambs, and Kids Life) will resume on August 21.

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## **Lynn Marshall, Youth Director**



I can't believe that God has given me this opportunity to be the new youth director here in Port St. Joe. I feel like this is a "pinch me moment" and I am so thankful that the staff at FUMC has trusted me to help lead the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in our community. I am so excited to get to know all of the youth that are active in our church and also those who will be joining us for the first time. I have already met so many amazing students that are anxious to learn about what Jesus has in store for them.

This month, we will be starting back with our Wednesday night activities and we will be adding a High School Singers choir led by Paul Brown. This will be an energetic group that will be performing their special music throughout the year. We also will be having a fellowship dinner together as well as youth group where we will be playing games, building relationships, and learning Bible lessons.

We will be following a curriculum this year called GROW which is designed to not only help us grow wide with more students, but to help us grow deep with our knowledge of the Bible. This curriculum will start in August and I cannot wait to dive right in with the youth.

My background and college degree from Georgia State University is in Hospitality and Special Event Planning and I hope to use this to plan activities that will be fun while helping others. I will be planning a fall event, a winter retreat a summer camp as well as a mission trip. We will be doing several fundraisers so that we can help defer some of these costs.

Please let me know if you have a 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grader that wants to join us on our spiritual journey as we GROW deep and wide! We will have Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 11am and UMYF will meet on Wednesday evenings at 6pm. E-mail me at [lynn@psjumc.org](mailto:lynn@psjumc.org) or call me at 850-340-0278 to find out more information!

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## **Paul Brown, Youth Choir Director**

New Youth Choir starting August 21! I'm thinking of a name for Youth Choir. Suggestions are welcome! The ages are grades 7 - 12. The Group will meet on Wednesdays , 4pm in the Choir Room as of now. Our church pianist, Jessica Beasley, will be accompanying the group.

The church will be providing transportation, with Denise Cass volunteering to drive a bus from the high school to the church. Neldys Brown has agreed that her classroom at the high school can be a meeting place for those from the school who need to wait for the bus.

Jessica and I are both available as of now to teach private music instruction. Jessica and I will soon have fliers up with our contact information to schedule lessons, this is open to ALL ages.

## **Ann Comforter, Music Director**

One of my favorite songs is "Blessings" by Laura Story. The first few words are:

"We pray for blessings, we pray for peace. Comfort for family, protection while we sleep. We pray for healing, for prosperity. We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering..."

These are the things that I myself pray for daily, especially the part about family and protection. By "family" I mean not only my own personal family of children and spouse, but also my church family who are true blessings to me. We all have trials and tribulations, but when we come together at the FUM, things that are not going so well seem to fade away for a little while. The chorus to this song sums up what I need to remember when things aren't what they seem: "

"Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops. What if Your healing comes through tears. What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near  
What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise...."

Time sure has a way of slipping by. I have no idea where June and July went, but am looking forward to our new beginning in August. Our music program is growing and the possibilities it is presenting will be awesome. Paul will begin a new youth choir for grades 7-12. SO.... If you have high school children or grandchildren, this is one opportunity that you do not need to overlook. Music has an everlasting effect on our children so take advantage of it!!! AND, we have extra seats and robes for YOU in our adult choir.

Until next time... BLESSINGS to you all ! Ann

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## **Margo Russell, Pastoral Care Chairperson**

We extend our condolences to Danny Hollon and family on the death of Danny's brother, Johnny, on 7-4-19.

We extend our condolences to Vanesa Ryan and family on the death of her mother-in-law, Sara Ryan, on 7-23-19.

Did you know FUMC has a college student ministry program?? Sponsors keep in touch with our college students during the school year to let them know their church family is thinking of them through notes, emails or social media and the church provides each student with a \$20 gift card to McDonald's at the beginning of the year. Last year, sixteen students were sponsored and graduation this year provided six more students that will need sponsors. If you can help with this ministry by being a sponsor, please contact Margo Russell or Susan Norred.

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## **Ena Norton, Blessing Bags Ministry**

" Dear children, let us not love with words or speech, but with actions and truth. " 1 John 3:18

Growing up in poverty is one of the greatest threats to healthy child development. Poverty and financial stress can impede children's cognitive development and their ability to learn. It can contribute to behavioral, social and emotional problems, and poor health. That is why our church joined Highland View Baptist Church to provide weekend food bags for children with food insecurities at PSJ Elementary School in 2018. It is why this year, we are expanding our Blessing Bag Ministry to include Middle School students in poverty.

Last year, our ministry was funded completely by the generosity of our church family. Our church provided nearly 1000 Blessing Bags. That's 2,000 breakfasts, 2,000 lunches, 3,000 suppers, 3,000 snacks, and 2,000 fruits!! Well done Church!

This school year, our goal is to provide Blessing Bags each week for 40 elementary school children and 25 middle school children. In order to reach this goal, we need your help. Your financial donation will go a long way to help our children. To donate online please visit [www.psjumc.org](http://www.psjumc.org) and scroll to "Ways to Give". Other donations can be made to the church. Please designate that your donation is for the Blessing Bag Ministry. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

Faithfully yours,

Ena Norton

(850) 814-6445

[egnorton1@gmail.com](mailto:egnorton1@gmail.com)

## August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 2:00PM Youth Trip- Country Club Pool  7:00PM AA Meeting	2	3  10AM AA Closed Meeting
4 8:30AM Men's Club 900AM Sunday School 1000AM Church Service 1100AM Sunday School 1100AM One Year After Videos	5 1:00PM Bridge   7:00PM ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)	6 10:00AM Staff Meeting  10:00AM AWFC UMCOR (10-4)  7:00PM AA Meeting	7  12:00PM Lion's Club	8  <b>CENSUS TRAINING - Choir Room</b>  12:00PM Recovery Team Meeting (12-3) 5:00PM MLC Orientation 7:00PM AA Meeting	9	10  10AM AA Closed Meeting
11 <b>Back to School Sunday</b> 900AM Sunday School 1000AM Church Service 1100AM Sunday School 1100AM One Year After Videos 1100AM Youth/Children Parent Meeting	12 <b>PSJ School Begins MLC Preschool Begins</b> 1:00PM Bridge   7:00PM ACA	13 10:00AM Staff Meeting  10:00AM AWFC UMCOR (10-4)  12:00PM Strong Women Support Group 7:00PM AA Meeting	14  12:00PM Lion's Club  6:00PM Back to School Bash - George Core/Lighthouse Park  7:00PM Choir Practice	15  <b>CENSUS TRAINING- Choir Room</b>  11:30AM Chronic Disease Meeting (Closed Group) - Great Hall 7:00PM AA Meeting	16  Scallop Season Opens!	17  10AM AA Closed Meeting
18 900AM Sunday School 1000AM Church Service 1100AM Sunday School	19 9:30AM Christian Believer Class  1:00PM Bridge   7:00PM ACA	20 10:00AM Staff Meeting  10:00AM AWFC UMCOR (10-4)  7:00PM AA Meeting	21  12:00PM Lion's Club 4:00PM Youth Choir 5:00PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs (K3-1st) 5:30PM Young Singers(2nd-6th) 6:00PM Kids' Life 6:00PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00PM Youth 7:00PM Choir Practice	22  <b>CENSUS TRAINING- Choir Room</b>  12:00PM Recovery Team Meeting (12-3)  7:00PM AA Meeting	23	24  10AM AA Closed Meeting
25 900AM Sunday School 10:00AM Church Service 11:00AM Sunday School	26 9:30AM Christian Believer Class  1:00PM Bridge   7:00PM ACA	27 10:00AM Staff Meeting  10:00AM AWFC UMCOR (10-4)  12:00PM Strong Women Support Group 7:00PM AA Meeting	28  10:00AM Prayer Shawl 4:00PM Youth Choir 5:00PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs (K3-1st) 5:30PM Young Singers(2nd-6th) 6:00PM Kids' Life 6:00PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00PM Youth 7:00PM Choir Practice	29 12:00PM Recovery Team Meeting (12-3)  7:00PM AA Meeting	30  <b>Scallop Festival</b>	31  10AM AA Closed Meeting

### Happy Birthday!

2nd- Bonnie Wynne  
3rd- Jaclyn Kerigan  
5th- Jim Norton  
Patricia Lowery  
6th- Tripp Barrier  
Barbara Parrilla  
Regina Washabaugh  
7th- Janie Adkison  
8th- Bob Windolf  
Joe Rentfro  
Forest Halualani  
9th- Anna Reid  
Blair Aubrey  
11th Phil Lanford  
Benny Roberts  
12th Ryan Rish  
Kathleen Rish  
13th-DeAnne Berry  
Lillian Jae Hicks  
Madeline Jones  
Steve Newman  
Jim Spence  
Steve Whealton

14th -Carol Rish  
Megan Todd  
Jim Roberts  
15th- Tad Russell  
19th -Helen Sauls  
18th- Everett Rentfro  
19th- Susan Magidson  
20th -Lee Cathey  
21st - Lisa Ray  
Matt Terry  
22nd Helen Carlsten  
Krystal Terry  
Bill McGee  
23rd- Tyler Guthrie  
Zoe Gerlach  
24th -Jeffrey Furr  
Bob Rinehart  
26th- Liz Lentz  
27th -Jimmy McNeill  
Heather Jones  
Pamela Herring  
Marty Spence

28th - Christian Hess  
Ronald Miller  
29th - Ann Barrier  
Emma Dailey  
Karen Hicks  
Pat Gentry  
30th- Matthew Taylor  
Ava Sowell  
Courtney Knox  
31st- Rory J Gerlach  
Allison Gerspacher  
Madison Taylor

### Happy Anniversary!

1st - Rocky & Ann Comforter  
Boyd & Kay Kline  
3rd - Al & Carol Cathey  
4th- Guerry & Susan Magidson  
10th- Steve & Dana Langford  
11th - Jim & Cindy Belin  
12th- Rick & Danice Tyson  
15th - Angel & Bonnie Carrete  
16th- Jim & Lynda White  
17th - Greg & Linda Johnson  
Allen & Cathy Cox  
18th - Wayne & Sandra Taunton  
21st - Matt & Beth Roberson  
26th- Walt & Melinda Williams  
28th- Mac & Beckie Fulcher  
Rex & Nancy Buzzett  
Dave & Margo Russell



**10:00AM Worship Service**— For the foreseeable future we will be having one worship service on Sunday mornings at 10:00 (Eastern) in the Great Hall. The best way to enter is through the rotunda doors. The service will also be streamed on Facebook LIVE for those who can't join us in person.

**Our Church Nursery** is available during Sunday service for children birth-PreK 9:45-11:00AM. The nursery is located upstairs in the Monument Room.

**One Year After Videos** The Joe Center for the Arts "One Year After" exhibit will be held at The Joe in October. You are invited to be videotaped to share your story about Hurricane Michael's impact. A videographer will be present at FUMC on two Sundays (August 4 and August 11) immediately following the service. The location for each taping will be posted in those day's bulletins. You may also contact Rick Matela 914-489-3414 or Diann Farnsley 850-527-4832 for further information.

Tapings are also available on Saturday, August 17 from 1 – 3PM at The Joe. Stop in to pick up a story guideline and release form to authorize The Joe to share your story through videotape, audio only, or written format. The form includes useful information to help you prepare your story in advance of the day you choose to be taped. The form will be available at each site on the day of tapings.

**Blessing of the Backpacks and Third Grade Bible Sunday** is August 11 during the 10 AM worship service. Children can bring their backpacks to church to be blessed as they return to school.

**Parent meeting** Sunday, August 11 11:00 in the Great Hall. This is a meeting for parents of children (infants –12th grade).

**Back to School Bash** is a church-wide celebration with dinner and games on Wednesday, August 14 at 6:00 at George Core Park (lighthouse park). Fried chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert. And a chair.

**Wednesday Night Activities resume August 21:**

4:00PM Youth Choir (Choir Room)	5:00PM Fellowship Dinner (Great Hall)
5:30PM Little Lambs –K3-1st grades (Monument Room)	5:30PM Young Singers –2nd-6th grades (Choir Room)
6:00PM Kids' Life –K3-6th grades (Monument Room)	6:00PM Pastor's Bible Study (Great Hall)
6:00PM Youth –7th-12th grades (Constitution Room)	7:00PM Choir Practice (Choir Room)

**Calling all volunteers!** MLC needs your help in creating bulletin boards and organizing classrooms. Contact Courtney Knox for more information 850-832-9500.

**Nursery workers-** We are in need of nursery workers or volunteers for Sunday School and Wednesday evenings. Contact Liz Lentz for more information.

**Blessing Bag Ministry** will start again soon and as always donations of food items on the list are welcome. Items can be dropped off in the Church Lobby. Please contact Ena Norton for list of food items.

**Do you love to bake?** We would like to form a "cookie committee" for baked goods (cookies, breads, muffins, loaf cakes). The committee would welcome new UMCOR teams with baked goods from our congregation. Contact Sue Kubitskey, Missions chairperson, for more information [susan@hotmail.com](mailto:susan@hotmail.com) 850-647-6030.

**The Disaster Distress Helpline** is a 24/7 hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any disaster. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all. Stress, anxiety, and other depression-like symptoms are common reactions after a disaster. Call **1-800-985-5990** or text **TalkWithUs** to **66746** to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

**Help Rebuilding-**The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is setting up a major presence in Port St. Joe/Mexico Beach for recovery. We will have volunteer teams from across the nation staying in a Hospitality House, which UMCOR has purchased near the church. If you or your neighbors need help rebuilding your homes please call 850-740-3966. Also, if you know of mission/work teams that are interested in coming down to work please call the same number for reservations.

**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.

**Methodist Care Closet** hours: Thursday – Friday 9AM – 4PM, Saturday 9AM – 12PM. The Care Closet is in need for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, just stop by the Closet. Volunteer times are Tuesday and Wednesday 9AM-12PM.

**The Care Closet is need of local volunteers** on store days to help at the check out counter. The shifts are Thursdays and Fridays 9 - 12:30 and 12:30-4, and Saturdays 9-12:00. If you would like to be part of our fun team please contact Cathy Cox at 227-6028 or [cathy-stewartcox@gmail.com](mailto:cathy-stewartcox@gmail.com).

**Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA)** 7PM Mondays in the Great Hall. This group is open to all.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** 7PM Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10AM in the Great Hall. AA closed meeting Saturdays at 10AM.

**For help with addiction problems** (drugs/alcohol) call Mark4Ministries (Steve Brightwell) 412-716-0426.

**Caregivers Support Group** 1PM fourth Tuesday of each month. All people in need of support are welcome to attend. Meetings are held at the Senior Citizen's Center until renovations are completed at the church.

**Prayer Shawl Group** meets 4th Wednesdays at 10AM in the Great Hall. Beginners are welcome to join.

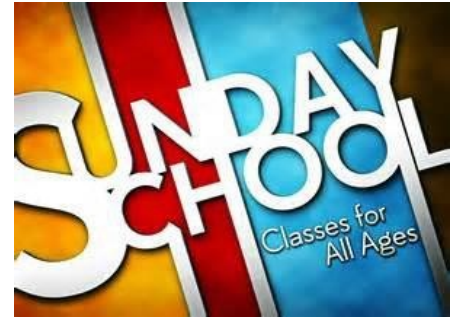
**Next Methodist Men's Breakfast** will be Sunday, August 4 at 8:30AM in the Great Hall.

**Strong Women Support Group** meets the 2nd and fourth Tuesday of each month 12-1PM in the Great Hall. This group is open to all women who are in need of any type of support. August meetings: 8/13 and 8/27.

**Bridge** Mondays 1PM in the downstairs lobby. Reserve a seat to play by calling Danice Tyson 850-899-0149 or Carol Meulener 850-247-7723.

## Sunday School/Small Groups

9:00- 9:45AM O Bay Sunday School Class (Constitution Room)  
9:00- 9:45AM Alpha Sunday School Class (Monument Room)  
10:00-10:45PM Nursery (Monument Room)  
11:15-12:00PM Marie Jones Sunday School Class (Constitution Room)  
11:15-12:00PM Pidgeon-Rish Sunday School Class (Monument Room)  
11:15-12:00PM His Kids Sunday School Class (Great Hall)  
11:15-12:00PM Youth Sunday School Class (Rotunda)



**Dinners will resume August 21. Dinner begins at 5:00PM. Donations are welcome.**

Wednesday, August 21 Menu: Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

Servers: Volunteers

Wednesday, August 28 Menu: Chicken Pot Pie, Green Beans, Dessert

Servers: Volunteers



### Beginning August 21:

4:00PM Youth Choir (Choir Room)  
5:00PM Fellowship Dinner (Great Hall)  
5:30PM Little Lambs — K3-1st grades (Monument Room)  
5:30PM Young Singers — 2nd-6th grades (Choir Room)  
6:00PM Kids' Life — K3-6th grades (Monument Room)  
6:00PM Pastor's Bible Study (Great Hall)  
6:00PM Youth — 7th-12th grades (Constitution Room)  
7:00PM Choir Practice (Choir Room)





**Stay Connected** One thing Hurricane Michael has taught us is how important it is to stay connected even when we are away. We are a family, a community of faith, and being there for each other is an important part of being a community. However, sometimes events in life cause us to be a way from our church family. Thankfully technology today provides us tools to remain connected even when we are away. The Sunday before the hurricane hit was the first time we streamed our Sunday worship service on Facebook LIVE. We will continue streaming our service each Sunday at 10:00am EST, even while we are meeting in the Great Hall. If you can't attend in person, we encourage you to watch and participate online.


## 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

 Like our children's choir on Facebook:  
Young Singers of FUMC of PSJ

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



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](mailto: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.

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