



Matthew 5:13

August 2021

VOL. 20, ISSUE 8



FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE

## Blessing of the Backpacks



You're invited to  
The Blessing of the Backpacks  
Sunday, August 8 at 10:00am  
at Port St. Joe United Methodist Church.  
Send your students off to school with a special blessing.  
We'll pray a prayer of blessing over the children  
during our Sunday worship service.  
Please have your student(s) bring their backpacks.

We also ask that you bring back to school supply  
donations (Ziploc bags, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes,  
and new athletic shoes for children)  
for Port St. Joe Elementary School.  
There will be a donation box in the Great Hall for  
items from now until August 15.



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY/  
BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS  
AUGUST 8 10AM  
GREAT HALL



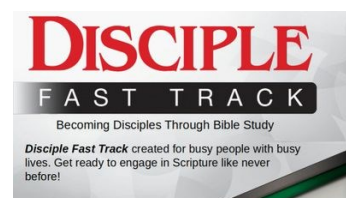
BACK TO SCHOOL BASH  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11 5:30PM  
MINISTRY CENTER (prek-5th)  
STAC HOUSE (Youth)



BIBLE SUNDAY (K & 3rd Grade)  
AUGUST 15 10AM  
GREAT HALL



DISCIPLE 1 FAST TRACK  
AUGUST 16 9:30AM-12:00PM  
EACH MONDAY  
MONUMENT HOUSE



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY  
AUGUST 18 6:00PM  
EACH WEDNESDAY  
GREAT HALL



## Rev. Chelsey Brown, Associate Pastor

Dear Friends,



The past few months have been both slow and a blur all at once, as anyone who has had a child can attest! Welcoming a newborn into our home was life changing and despite the pages and pages of advice, nobody can fully prepare you for all the many changes that have already come. It is hard to believe that she will soon begin childcare at our very own MLC! Anytime we enter a new phase or season of life there are always many unknowns that come right along with the changes.

One of the changes for me as a new mother, is how will I be able to balance all the responsibilities of life, family, and work. I had a moment of insecurity last week, when I had only received a few hours of sleep and just could not see past the wall of obstacles I imagined for myself. After taking the time to breath and seek the Lord in prayer, I was reminded that whatever changes come my way, I am never alone and am not expected to balance everything all on my own. As a community of faith, we are called to join together and provide support when needed. We thrive through change best when we learn to fully lean on God and to pray with and for one another. Keeping in step with our faith together helps us to embrace these unknown's moment by moment.

Among the changes that come with the season we are in, our schools will resume this month and several church activities that have been without for over a year will soon begin again. With a new sense of excitement and anticipation let us journey together, for we are never alone when we face the changes and new seasons of life. The unknowns that will come are just part of the journey, a journey that we as the family of God will always make together with our Christian family members.

Chelsey



### UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES



**Pastor's Bible Study** We are starting back our Adult Bible Study Wednesday, August 18 6:00pm in the Great Hall. All adults welcome. No class materials needed.

**Disciple Bible Study** We will be offering *Disciple Fast Track* Bible Study starting Monday, August 16 9:30am -12:00pm at the Monument House. Classes meet for a total of 24 weeks, studying the Prophets and Paul's letters for 12 sessions each. Daily preparation is manageable, with 3-5 chapters of the Bible to read each day. Contact church office to sign up. Books are \$30 and are located in the church office.

This *Disciple Fast Track* is an adaptation of the original, bestselling *Disciple Bible Study: Remember Who You Are*. The study is ideal for busy people who want to fit an in-depth Bible study into their schedule. The study retains the familiar *Disciple* format with its theme word, theme verse, statement of the human condition, daily and weekly assignments, and prayer. This study examines the connection between memory and identity as the people of God. Participants will find common themes, including calls to remember, calls to repent, calls for renewal, and calls for community.

In this study, there are 12 sessions on the Old Testament Major and Minor Prophets (except Daniel) and on the 13 New Testament letters traditionally attributed to Paul. The prophets and Paul are continually calling hearers and readers back to their God and to a sense of who they are as a people "set apart." Daily reading assignments are designed to establish the historical context in which the Prophets and Paul worked.

## Liz Lentz, Children's Director



It has been such a fun summer with the children! We celebrated having 130 registered for Vacation Bible School, and the children collected over \$1,100 for Embrace Florida Kids. On our Wacky Wednesday trips we had great time swimming and being with friends. Then the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grader children wrapped up the summer with a trip to Blue Lake Camp. Now it's time to get back to school.

**Blessing of the Backpack:** Sunday, August 8 10:00 Bring your backpack to be blessed, and bring back to school supply donations (Ziploc bags, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, and athletic shoes for children) for Port St. Joe Elementary School.

**Children's Ministry Leadership Team Meeting:** Thursday, August 12 @ 8AM in the Great Hall and Zoom

**Back to School Bash:** Wednesday, August 11 5:30-7:00 at the Ministry Center Children in PreK3-5<sup>th</sup> grade join us for waterslides and pizza.

**Bible Sunday:** On Sunday, August 15 children in kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are presented with Bibles during the 10:00 worship service.

**Sunday School** for children and parents begins August 15, 11:00-12:00.

- preschool (infants-PreK4) in the nursery 11:00
- elementary (kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade) in the hallway outside of kitchen
- parents in the Great Hall

**Little Lambs** (preK3-1<sup>st</sup> grade) and **Kids Life** (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade) begins Wednesday, August 18, 5:30-7:00 at the Methodist Learning Center, 218 Long Avenue. Dinner is \$3.



Third and fourth graders at Blue Lake Summer Camp

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## Lynn Marshall, Youth Director



What a great Summer we had! I am so thankful for all of the good times that we were able to experience together! I am looking forward to going back to school and getting into a good routine.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AUGUST

- |                 |                                                                     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 11       | Back to School Bash at the STAC House 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner \$5.00     |
| August 15       | Community Youth Event at Long Avenue Baptist 6:00 All Youth Invited |
| August 15       | Sunday School Starts for Youth at Monument House 11:00 AM           |
| EVERY WEDNESDAY | Youth at the STAC House 5:30 - 7:30 6 <sup>th</sup> grade and up    |
| August 25       | Parent Meeting at 5:30 at the STAC HOUSE                            |
| August 29       | Youth Fundraiser To-Go Lunch at FUMC after Church                   |





Paul Brown, Director of Music and Worship Arts

# WORSHIPARTS

PAINTING

PHOTOGRAPHY

DANCE

MUSIC

ACTING

Chancel Choir resumes weekly rehearsals on Thursday, August the 5th, 6 p.m. in the Great Hall. Come and Sing with us as we prepare for our reunion Sunday, August the 15th!

Our Bell Choir resumes weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, August 4, 2 p.m. in the Great Hall. We have four wonderful octaves of handbells! Come and ring with us! Bell Choir will be ringing beautiful music for the congregation the first Sunday of each month, and prepare for our wonderful Christmas season!

The Forgotten Coast Young Singers begin weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, August 11, 4 to 5:15 p.m., followed by our back to school bash and weekly Kid's Life! Join as at the Ministry Center, 510 Fourth Street, PSJ. Grades 2nd through 6th.

The Bay Area Community Chorus begins rehearsals Tuesday, September 21, Trinity Episcopal Church, Apalachicola, Florida. Our bus will leave FUMC PSJ at 5:20 for weekly rehearsals! Conductor Dana Langford has planned a fantastic Christmas Concert for FUMC PSJ, and the Apalachicola Community. Come and Sing with us!

Private Studio lessons for voice, piano, and wind band instruments resume on Mondays, August the 9, for after school lessons. Grades preK through 12th and adult instruction. Lessons are held at the Ministry Center, 510 Fourth Street, PSJ.

Thank You to Luke Lentz for providing our congregation with fantastic, weekly video production! Our on line worshippers thank you for your humble volunteered time and service. We are blessed!

Thank You to audio engineer, Rick Ott for providing our congregation with exceptional audio production. Our congregation thanks you for your devoted time, talents, and service to FUMC PSJ.

Contact Paul Brown to volunteer as acolyte, usher, and greeter for our weekly worship services. We thank you for your joyful service and wonderful dedication. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

Director of Music and Worship Arts  
Paul Brown  
[Pbmus2018@gmail.com](mailto:Pbmus2018@gmail.com)  
850 319 6782

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## FUMC PSJ Contact Information

**Church Physical Address:** 1001 Constitution Drive Port St Joe, FL 32456

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 266 Port St Joe, FL 32457

**Telephone:** 850.227.1724

**Email:** [info@psjumc.org](mailto:info@psjumc.org)

**Website:** [www.psjumc.org](http://www.psjumc.org)

**Ministry Center (church offices):** 510 Fourth Street

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz ([geoffrey@psjumc.org](mailto:geoffrey@psjumc.org))

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Chelsey Brown ([chelsey@psjumc.org](mailto:chelsey@psjumc.org))

**Children's Director:** Liz Lentz ([liz@psjumc.org](mailto:liz@psjumc.org))

**Youth Director:** Lynn Marshall ([lynn@psjumc.org](mailto:lynn@psjumc.org))

**Music Director:** Paul Brown ([paul@psjumc.org](mailto:paul@psjumc.org))

**Methodist Learning Center Director:** Courtney Knox ([Courtney@psjumc.org](mailto:Courtney@psjumc.org))

**Financial Secretary:** Diann Farnsley ([diann@psjumc.org](mailto:diann@psjumc.org))

**Administrative Assistant:** Heather Jones ([heather@psjumc.org](mailto:heather@psjumc.org))

**Church Administrator:** Bill Brown ([bill@psjumc.org](mailto:bill@psjumc.org))

**Methodist Learning Center:** 218 Long Avenue

**Monument House (church annex):** 1007 Monument Avenue

**Methodist Care Closet:** 214 Williams Avenue

**Two Fish Food Market:** 212 Williams Avenue

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## John Wesley's Three Simple Rules:

*Do no harm*

*Do good*

*Stay in love with God*

## August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	<b>2</b> 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	<b>3</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting  2:00pm Worship Planning	<b>4</b> 10:00am Prayer Shawl 1:00pm Bell Choir	<b>5</b>   6:00pm Choir Practice	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8 Back to School Sunday</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	<b>9</b> <b>EJ Workshop</b> 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	<b>10</b> <b>Great Hall PSJ School Resumes</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	<b>11</b> 1:00pm Bell Choir 4:00pm Young Singers 5:30pm Back to School Bash (Youth) 5:30pm Back to School Bash (prek-5th)	<b>12</b> <b>8:00am Children's Ministry Team Meeting</b>  6:00pm Choir Practice	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15 Bible Sunday</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School  6:00pm Community Youth Event-Long Ave. Baptist	<b>16</b> 9:00am <b>Disciple I Study Group</b> 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	<b>17</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting  2:00pm Worship Planning	<b>18</b> 10:00am Prayer Shawl 1:00pm Bell Choir 4:00pm Young Singers 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life <b>6:00PM Pastor's Bible Study Begins</b>	<b>19</b>   6:00pm Choir Practice	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	<b>23</b> 9:00am <b>Disciple I Study Group</b> 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	<b>24</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting  2:00pm Worship Planning	<b>25</b> 1:00pm Bell Choir 4:00pm Young Singers <b>5:30pm Youth Parent Meeting</b> 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00PM Pastor's Bible Study	<b>26</b>   6:00pm Choir Practice	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School <b>11:00am Youth to Go Lunch Fundraiser</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00am <b>Disciple I Study Group</b> 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	<b>31</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting  2:00pm Worship Planning				

### 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  
 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- 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

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

## Announcements

**Wednesday Night Dinner Coming Soon** Stay tuned for more information.....

### Summer Sermon Series, "The Bread of Life"

August 1- Opp Drop Biscuits: The Living Bread

August 8- Mrs. Nancy's Pound Cake: Bread from Heaven

August 15- Southwest Corn Bread: Bread of My Flesh

August 22- Sourdough Joe: A Difficult Teaching

**School Supply Drive** We are collecting Ziploc bags of any size, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, and children's sneakers for Port St. Joe Elementary. There is a donation box in the Great Hall from now until August 15.

**UMW** Our United Methodist Women's Unit has been inactive since March of 2020 due to Covid. Normally we do not meet during the summer. In the fall, if we are to become active once again we will need some women to step forward to lead this effort. Several of our Executives Board Members have resigned. I will no longer be able to serve as President due to my responsibilities at the Care Closet. Most of the Board members are still willing to be active members we just need some other women to step forward to take leadership roles. If this is a mission you have a heart for please give this matter prayerful consideration. If you would like further information please call me at 850-227-6028 (Cathy Cox).

**Prayer Requests** Email [info@psjunc.org](mailto:info@psjunc.org) or contact the church office.

**Upper Rooms** are located in the Great Hall and the Ministry Center.

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

**We have nursery for infants through K4.** Our nursery is located behind the Great Hall, next to the kitchen.

**Adult Sunday School Classes** 9am and 11am at the Monument House, 1107 Monument Avenue.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00am at the Monument House. Beginners are welcome to join. For more information, contact Kay Kline [beachbabecsb@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**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://psjunc.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.

**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.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** Highland View Baptist Church Tuesdays and Thursdays 7pm.

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### Pastoral Care



Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Slick. Eric Slick and Jaclyn Kerigan were united in marriage Saturday, July 3 in Mexico Beach.

Congratulations to Beau and Shanna Whitfield upon the birth of their son, Marshall Wayne Whitfield June 29, 2021.

Condolences are extended to friends and family of Victor LaFerle (07/29/21)

Condolences are extended to George Duren upon the death of his brother, Ike Duren (07/04/21).

FUMC Pastoral Care Team members are Sue Meyer [osuemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:osuemeyer@gmail.com) and Mitzi Bulger [mitzi.bulger@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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. 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.

## Vicki Abrams, Methodist Caring Ministries



The Methodist Caring Ministries is looking for Volunteers - it is up to you, The Blessing Bags Program, The Care Closet, or Two Fish. Contact the church office for more details. The impact of volunteerism can be felt through-out our community. No matter what you decide, the impact of volunteerism is always huge. But volunteerism's best-kept secret is this: it's good for you, too. Here are a few reasons why volunteering rocks:

1. Boosts self esteem
2. Expands your connections
3. Makes you feel good
4. Contributes to a longer life
5. Gives purpose
6. Combats stress
7. Gives a good example
8. Teaches new skills

A special thank you to 3 Volunteers, Rock Doddridge, Ena Norton, and Susan Magidson

**Rock** has been a part of the MCM since it was organized and has volunteered with both Two Fish and the Care Closet. Rock and Suzanne have moved to Quincy to be with Suzanne's mother. Rock has developed a proposal for a senior ministry program for FUMC that has been shared with Church leadership. We hope that in the near future we will be able to implement this ministry in our church and community. Thank you Rock and we will miss you and Suzanne!

**Ena** has served in the leadership role for The Blessing Bags program since 2017. What amazing work was done for families during the closure of schools due to Covid19. They never missed a beat and actually expanded the program to pick the HV Baptist Church portion when their volunteers were not able to work. Ena will continue to volunteer with Blessing Bags but with the birth of their 2nd grandchild will step down from the leadership role. Please congratulate Ena and Bill on the birth of their 2nd grandchild, Leonardo. I know Ena will be spending lots of time in Atlanta with sweet Leo and his big sister Olivia. Thank You Ena!

I also want to thank **Susan** for taking over leadership of the Blessing Bags Program - I will be reaching out to all volunteers to schedule a meeting for everyone to get to know Susan. Thank You Susan!



Two Fish Volunteers



### Methodist Care Closet



The Care Closet has had a very good month. The donations keep coming in and our sales have picked up. We have been averaging about \$1,600 a week. With school starting in a few weeks we expect to see an even greater increase of sales. There is no way we could keep up the volume of clothing and household goods we are processing without our dedicated volunteers. We average 30 volunteers a week and we could use more. Our volunteers love making the Care Closet not only an affordable place to shop but also a fun place to shop and to volunteer. If you are new to our church or community please consider volunteering with us. It is a great way to meet people and provide a much needed ministry to our community. If you are interested in learning more about how you can serve at the Care Closet please contact Cathy Cox at 850-227-6028.

**Inventory Need** One of the Care Closet's most popular items and a good revenue producer is jewelry. We currently have a very low inventory. Please consider cleaning out your jewelry box and donating items you no longer wear to the Care Closet.

The Care Closet is located at 214 Williams Avenue and is open Thursday-Friday 9am-4pm, Saturday 9am-1pm.



## 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



Follow us on Instagram:

fumc\_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.

**First United Methodist Church**

**P.O. Box 266**

**Constitution and Monument**

**Port Saint Joe, FL 32457**

**850-227-1724**

**Email: [info@psjumc.org](mailto:info@psjumc.org)**

**Website: [www.psjumc.org](http://www.psjumc.org)**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**