



Matthew 5:13

February 2021

VOL. 20, ISSUE 2



FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE

SHROVE TUESDAY
**PANCAKE
SUPPER**

Tuesday, February 16

5:30—6:30pm

Pancakes and Bacon

Drive-thru Pickup Only

Church Parking Lot

**Donations will be used for various
youth programs**

COMMUNION SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 7
10AM GREAT HALL
11AM DRIVE UP OPTION



PARENTS NIGHT OUT
YOUTH FUNDRAISER
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12
6:00-9:00PM
GREAT HALL



PRESIDENTS' DAY
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15



SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE SUPPER
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16
5:30-6:30PM GREAT HALL
TO-GO ORDERS ONLY

SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE SUPPER



ASH WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
6:00PM
GREAT HALL



WINTER YOUTH RETREAT
FEBRUARY 19-21



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz, Senior Pastor

Friends,



Lent is almost here. I have been asked a number of times about what we are to do with our Lenten observances this year. Last year we started strong, but then the pandemic broke out and we called a halt to our fasts. The church decided long ago that when you are in the midst of a plague you do not fast. Instead, you do whatever is healthiest for you. Well, we are still in the pandemic, so this year we are not required to fast from anything. What we can do instead is commit to more healthy eating and exercise. Lent is not about giving things up it is about life. The word *lent* means spring. The whole season is about living into greater wholeness and healing in our bodies, souls, and spirits. This season is about eternal life, for sure, but it is also about regular life.

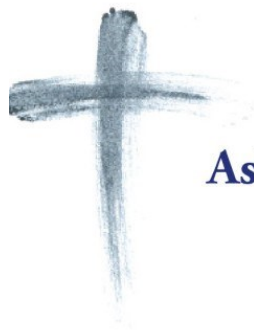
I have had many people thank our church for all of the ways we have practiced pandemic mitigation and education during the last year. I usually say, "thank you, it is who we are as Methodists!" John Wesley's most popular book was a health book, *Primitive Physique*. He advocated for scientific advancements in medicine and his home was filled with primitive exercise and medical equipment. Our denomination has been focused on global health, which I have witnessed personally in Tanzania. For over a decade our biggest mission was *Imagine No Malaria*, where we drastically reduced deaths due to that terrible virus. It was a huge success and many groups joined our effort including the NBA. It is no surprise that Methodists everywhere have tried our best to do our part to fight the virus. John Wesley would have been excited about the advancements in medicine including vaccination. We are encouraging everyone who qualifies to seek the Covid-19 vaccination when it becomes available. You can register today at <http://gulf.floridahealth.gov> if you are 65 or older.

Jesus' ministry was not just spiritual but he healed the sick everywhere he went. Let us all continue this ministry of health and healing during the season of Lent. It is a great time to lose a few pounds, lower your cholesterol or sugar, and schedule a check up. Our health matters to God and there is much that we can do about it so that we might have life (physical health) and have it more abundantly (spiritual health).

Peace of Christ,



Geoffrey



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

On Wednesday, February 17 6pm in the Great Hall, join us as we begin the season of Lent together with the traditional imposition of ashes. This is one of the most moving and holy services of the year; make sure you plan to attend.

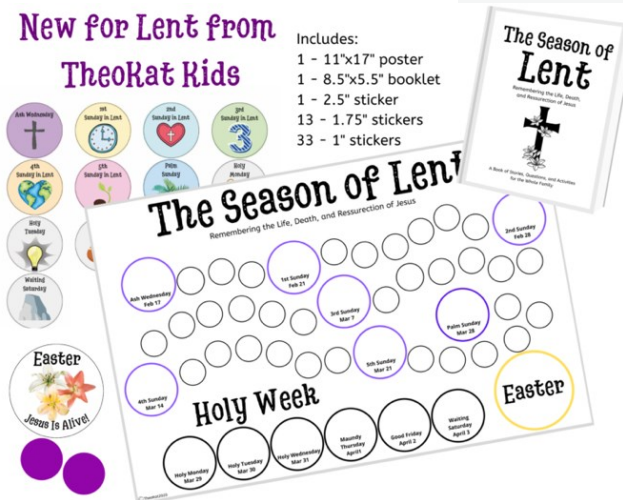
Lent, the period of 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays), begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Saturday, the evening before Easter. During Lent, we enter into a season of preparation, self-reflection, and repentance when we seek to literally "turn around" and realign our lives and focus toward God. It is a time to give up things as well as take on new life-giving practices, helping us rid ourselves of distractions and our own selfish desires. By doing so, we seek to live and love as more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Liz Lentz, Children's Director

Children's Ministry

New for Lent from TheoKat Kids

Includes:
1 - 11"x17" poster
1 - 8.5"x5.5" booklet
1 - 2.5" sticker
13 - 1.75" stickers
33 - 1" stickers



The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 17. During this time of reflection, repentance, and preparation for Easter we are offering family devotions entitled *The Season of Lent* by Emily Delikat. For each week there is a story, discussion questions, and activities for the whole family. Each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter there is a sticker to add to a chart. This is a great way for families to learn Bible stories and grow spiritually. Contact Ms. Liz to receive this packet for your family. liz@psjunc.org

Our **mission project** for this month will be to provide a special Valentine meal to widow and widowers in our church on Sunday, February 7 at 5-5:30pm. Children are invited to come pass out meals to those driving through to pick up a meal. On Wednesday evening the children will make valentine cards to give them as well.

Winter Retreat Update has been postponed, and will be rescheduled for March or April. I'll let you know when I have more information.

Palm Sunday and Easter Egg Hunt: On Sunday, March 28 at 10: 00 during the worship service the children are invited to parade in with palm branches to lead us in this special day. Then after church we will have an Easter egg hunt at the Centennial Park.

Peace of Christ,
Ms. Liz

Lynn Marshall, Youth Director



Free People – 4 Week Series



Rules aren't famous for freedom. But in a world where Jesus leads us, rules can do more than keep us safe. They can become our allies and an opportunity to love and serve the world around us. Every student needs to know that the right rules can set you free. It doesn't always feel like freedom when a rule limits something you want, but what you want changes when you know who Jesus is.

February Calendar

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

FEBRUARY 12

Parents Night Out

The youth will babysit children while parents can go out on a date. Fundraiser for the youth group. Text Lynn at 850-340-0278 to sign up your children .

FEBRUARY 16

Shrove Pancake Supper – To go pancakes and bacon will be given out from 5:30 – 6:30 at the Church. Youth Fundraiser (Donation)

FEBRUARY 19-21

Winter Retreat at Laguna Beach Retreat Center. Contact Lynn Marshall if you would like to volunteer or sign up your children.

Paul Brown, Director of Music and Worship Arts

WORSHIPARTS

PAINTING

PHOTOGRAPHY

DANCE

MUSIC

ACTING

FUMC PSJ invites you to our Sunday Morning 10 am Worship Services!

February 7 Communion Sunday with Guest Artist John Sutton leading the Vocal Arts Ensemble and Congregation!

February 14 Transfiguration Sunday. Let us celebrate this Sunday of Heart Changing Love and Celebratory Worship! Happy Valentine's Day!

February 17 Ash Wednesday Service at 6pm. Join us for this Holy evening of worship where we remember our steadfast love and commitment of our most precious Faith. Let us Worship the Lord our God!

February 21 First Sunday of Lent Worship. Let us Praise and give Glory to our Father for his Love, Care, and Protection through this Pandemic and world-wide crisis. It is RIGHT to give our Thanks and Praise!

February 28 Second Sunday of Lent. Snowbird Sunday! Facebook live and in person, we are a family! We thank our Snowbird Family for your love, gifts, and amazing service to FUMC PSJ. Please contact Paul Brown paul@psjumc.org if you are a Snowbird and will be attending worship with us on February 28! We celebrate and Thank You!

Vocal Arts Ensemble- To join in our FUMC Vocal Arts Ensemble rotation and rehearsals, please contact Paul Brown at paul@psjumc.org or 850-319-6782 for more information about joining the ensemble and our monthly schedule. Let us Sing Praises to His name!

Bell Choir- Bell Choir will resume rehearsals Friday, March 5 at 10:30 am. We will utilize the Rotunda and Great Hall for rehearsals. If you would like to join Bell Choir for March rehearsals, please contact Paul Brown. Easter is on the way and we are ready to ring!

Private Music Lessons- For after school music lesson instruction, please contact Paul Brown regarding in person and zoom lesson availability. **Piano, Guitar, Voice and Band Instruments** are all fields of instruction at FUMC PSJ. Paul Brown- Director of Music and Worship Arts- 850-319-6782
Jessica Beasley- Staff Pianist- 904-557-0118

First United Methodist Church Music Ministry would like to thank Dr. Crespo and Nelly-Luz Crespo for their donation of a new Yamaha trumpet to the ministry and private lesson studio!



The Methodist Care Closet is located at 310 4th Street and is open Thursdays & Fridays 12-4 & Saturdays 9-12. We will be moving many of our racks of clothes outside to help social distancing inside the store. Temperature and masks for ages 6 and older will be required. Bathrooms and dressing rooms will not be available. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Cathy Cox at cathystewartcox@gmail.com or call 227-6028.

The Care Closet is in need of children's warm winter clothes — all sizes.

John Wesley's Three Simple Rules:

Do no harm

Do good

Stay in love with God

February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	2 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	3 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Shawl 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	4 9:00am Morning Prayer	5 9:00am Morning Prayer	6 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
7 5th Sunday after the Epiphany / Communion Sunday 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Children's Ministry Valentine Meal	8 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting 6:00pm SPR Meeting	9 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	10 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	11 9:00am Morning Prayer	12 9:00am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Parents Night Out Youth Fundraiser	13 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
14 Transfiguration Sunday 10:00am Worship Service	15 9:00am Morning Prayer Presidents' Day (offices closed)	16 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning 5:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	17 Ash Wednesday 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Shawl 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	18 9:00am Morning Prayer	19 9:00am Morning Prayer Youth Winter 2/19 – 2/21 →	20 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble Retreat
21 1st Sunday in Lent 10:00am Worship Service	22 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	23 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	24 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	25 9:00am Morning Prayer	26 9:00am Morning Prayer	27 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
28 2nd Sunday in Lent 10:00am Worship Service						

February Meetings

SPR Meeting Monday, February 8 6pm via Zoom.

Happy Birthday!

1st- Zach Hodges
Frank Weber
3rd- Sara Allen
Casey Witten
4th- Leland Ray
Jerrie Todd
Lucile Sauls
Hampton Terry
Hunter Hortman
6th- Mary Claire Finlay
8th- Fred Flowers
Vanessa Ryan
9th- Dusty May
Joanne Freeman
10th- Suzanne Wood

11th- Beth Bauer
Emerald Halualani
14th- Jennifer Bogaert
15th - Kevin Guidry
16th - Hunter Garth
Harvey Hennington II
Donna Ray
17th - Owen Berry
Ryan Wood
18th - Max Hendrix
Darlene Spencer
19th - Melody Woodham
20th - Kristen Abrams
Taylor Crews
Nancy Howze
Larry Johnson

21st - Lucy Shaddix
Ronald Pickett
22nd- Kip Altstaetter
Roland Dixon
24th- Richard Schremp
25th - Ashley Hopkins
Kathy Wilson
Linda Davis
Isabel Bogaert
Court Matney
26th - Linda Johnson
George Thompson
27th - Rick Williams
Mark Howze
29th - Marie Evans

Happy Anniversary!

2nd- Kerry & Kathy Capps
7th- Michael & Joan Bentley
11th - Joe & Caroline Madsen
14th - Rodney & Pamela Herring
17th- Bill & Linda Hamilton
Steve & Kelli Newman
29th- David & Jennifer Bogaert

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

Announcements

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).

Daily Morning Prayers 9:00am on Facebook or our website.

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

Reminder Masks must be worn in all FUMC buildings.

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.

Finish Strong: An Update on Our Coronavirus Policy

We are getting close to the finish line, so let's finish strong. Many people in our community are currently receiving vaccinations and in the coming months the pandemic will be coming to an end in our community. Our church has done so well with mitigating the effects of the pandemic and complying with our church pandemic policy. With the recent rise in cases and in the positivity rate, we are reviewing our policies and their implementation. We are asking all of our members to redouble efforts to protect each other and the most vulnerable among us. People are required to wear masks inside church buildings, including those who have received Covid-19 vaccinations. For children and youth functions, masks are only required for adult volunteers. We are all taking special precautions for Sunday morning worship in regards to social distancing, air-flow, and no-contact worship elements (communion, bulletins, etc.). We have instructed that each ministry area review and redouble their efforts. We also will have limited adult in-person options for the first part of 2021. This means that the Care Closet will also have limit in-person opportunities until the local conditions improve. It won't be long now until we can safely embrace one another and bare our radiant faces in worship. This difficult period of time will be one of our memories of the way that we have cared for one another and the least of these.

Pastoral Care



Condolences are extended to the family and friends of Steve Whealton (2/2/21).

Condolences are extended to the family and friends of Pamela Garmon (1-31-21).

Condolences are extended to Chelsey Brown upon the death of her grandmother, Anne Waller (1-30-21).

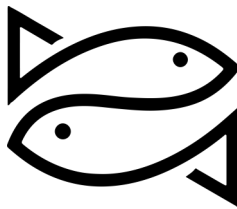
Condolences are extended to the family and friends of Virginia Blick (1-25-21).

Condolences are extended to the family and friends of Troy Holton (1-16-21).

FUMC Pastoral Care Team members are Rita Carmack normrita1@gmail.com, 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/spring and would like to participate in FUMC College Ministry, please contact Carla May.

Blessing Bags Ministry and Two Fish Food Market



The Blessing Bags Ministry brings in the new year going strong. We continue to provide weekend food bags for 35 PSJES children and 10 PSJHS children each week. We have an amazing and dedicated volunteer force and have been blessed by many generous donors. Please continue to pray for this ministry and for all the children in our community.


Two Fish Food Market Update The Methodist Caring Ministries is excited about the future opening of Two Fish Food Market. Work is continuing to prepare the building for a now February opening date. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as the work continues to grow this ministry for our Community.


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. **STAY TUNED FOR INFORMATION ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.**


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



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 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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