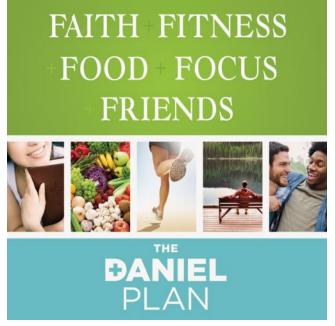


Matthew 5:13

JANUARY 2018

VOL. 17, ISSUE 1





Our church is starting the New Year with a 40 day focus on health and wellness. We are using Rick Warren's book, *The Daniel Plan*, as our guide - focusing on faith, food, fitness, focus, and friendship. We will study these themes during Wednesday Night Bible Study at 6:00PM with Pastor Geoffrey and new member Karl Berger, PHD, CPT co-teaching. We are also offering several fitness opportunities beginning Monday, January 8 through Thursday, February 1. Please join us!

Monday

8:00 AM Walk with Carla May (meet in new parking lot)

9:15 AM Yoga with Lynn Burgher (Great Hall)

5:50 PM Yoga 2 with Lynn Burgher (Great Hall)

7:00 PM **Walk** with Pastor Geoffrey (meet in new parking lot)

Tuesday

8:00 AM **Walk** with Barbara (meet at new parking lot)

9:15 AM **Body Fitness** with Karl Burgher (Great Hall)

10:30AM Chair Fitness with Karl Burgher (Great Hall)

5:30 PM Aerobics with Leigh Savers (Great Hall)

Wednesday

8:00AM Walk with Barbara (meet at new parking lot)

5:15 PM **Nutritional Dinner** with Chef Ian Williams

6:00 PM Daniel Plan Class taught by Geoffrey Lentz and Karl Burgher

7:00 PM **Walk** with Pastor Geoffrey (meet in new parking lot)

Thursday

8:00 AM Walk with Carla May (meet at new parking lot)

9:15 AM Bands and Body Weight Fitness with Karl Burgher (Great Hall)

10:30AM Chair Fitness with Karl Burgher (Great Hall)

5:30 PM Aerobics with Leigh Sayers led by Pastor Geoffrey (Great Hall)

6:30 PM Yoga with Lynn Burgher (Great Hall)

Dr. Geoffrey Lentz

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! During this time of the year people are making resolutions and starting new diets to make up for the feasting of the holidays. I am not sure that diets work. I have once gained weight trying out a new diet. Furthermore, most resolutions don't make it two weeks. This year we are encouraging our members to focus on health and wellness. This is not really about losing weight (although that might happen), it is about being healthy. One of the shames of our modern world is that we have developed a body/soul dualism. That means that we tend to think of these forces working against each other and unconnected. We value the spiritual/mental over the physical. No matter how hard we try to avoid this we are all children of the Greek Philosopher Plato, who thought that the cosmos was neatly divided between the two. However, the testimony of Scripture from the

Old Testament, where God created stuff and called it good, to the New Testament, where God took on flesh in Jesus, testifies to a different fundamental philosophy. The physical and spiritual are not at odds but meant to be bound together. The great hope of Scripture, particularly the Book of Revelation, is that one day heaven and earth will be joined like at a wedding — where the "two become one." This is what happened in Jesus, and this is what is happening in us called "church."

We are beginning a church-wide curriculum called The Daniel Plan by Rick Warren. We are setting aside 40 days to integrate our bodies and souls. The five themes will be faith, fitness, food, focus, and friends. We will have many opportunities for exercise throughout each week from walking to full-body workouts. God cares about the health and wellness of your body and your soul. I hope you will join me during these days in making a commitment to love God more with "all your heart, soul, mind and strength."

Peace of Christ,

Geoffrey

Chaplain Harvey Hennington

January is the time when people focus on possibilities, starting over on a clean sheet, making personal resolutions for life shifts or...... lots of procrastination. The cool weather of January and February kind of brings with it a cleansing quality to the world. Everything seems to glisten with a hopefulness of a clean white sheet of paper. It would seem we have all been given a fresh chance at life's possibilities.

When I was in High School I took a crafts class in which I was able to try my hand at a number of different projects. One of the crafts that I tried was jewelry making. Each piece was completely unique. Silver was melted in a crucible and a chemical catalyst was mixed in with the silver that caused the dross (impurities) to float to the top which were then scraped off. Often I have felt like God placed those things in my life that appeared at the time to be hindrances or obstacles, however most often they became like the catalyst, an element to purify, that when thrown into the mix brought the bad elements to the top so that they could be scraped off and the pure shiny silver could come forth.

Well, here we are again presented with a brand new year: 2018. After watching as many hopeful Christmas movies as I could humanly stand via the Hallmark Channel, and as many movies of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, I suppose that I feel kind of led in the direction of supporting things that will improve the general welfare of mankind, or bring about hopefulness in a general sense. Perhaps I should increase the list of agencies that I support that help others through a variety of ways.

The one sure way that I know to improve the general condition of man is simply share the Word of God. Share the love of Christ with someone, anyone. It doesn't take a card carrying theologian to tell a person of some of the great things that your relationship with God means to you. It is inevitable that you will give hope to someone, and if what you share is from your heart, they will also feel your love and care for them as *well* as the love of Christ. A side benefit is our own growth that we will experience as we help grow the Family of God. Give it a try, God has promised that his word will never return empty.

Krystal Terry, Children's Director



Happy New Year! It's been a great 2017, but I just know 2018 is going to be even better! We have so many wonderful things planned for the upcoming year. Any children who are not currently participating in our children's programs, please come and join us! We would love for you to be a part!

<u>Tuesday, January 9th</u>: First day of Sprouts (Prek4-1st) for the new year! Our lessons will be focused on Bible stories from the New Testament. <u>Wednesday, January 10</u>: First night of Little Lambs and Kid's Life for the new year. Little Lambs begins at 5:30-6:15 for ages PreK3-

Kindergarten. Kid's Life begins at 6:15-7:15 for ages 1st grade-5th. We will be having a Happy New Year Party and "Setting Goals with God!" Thursday, January 11th: First day of Truth Walkers (2nd-5th) for the new year! Our lessons will be focused on Bible stories from the New Testament

<u>Fellowship Fun Day:</u> Kid's Life Crew (ages 1st grade-5th) will be going to Panama City to watch the movie "Ferdinand" at Regency Theatre. Families are also invited. Please meet in the new church parking lot at 1:00. The cost per child is \$14 which includes movie ticket and snack pack.

Theme Nights for Wednesday Nights (Little Lambs and Kid's Life)

-<u>January 17th: "Wonderfully Made Wednesday"</u>- We will focus on the special gifts that God has given each of us. We are all unique and wonderfully made.

-<u>January 24th: "Prayer Warrior Wednesday"</u> – We will focus on the importance of prayer for others, even our enemies. Each Kid's Life will be assigned a prayer warrior!

<u>January 31st: "Winter Wednesday....Come warm up with a cup of Jesus."</u> Kid's come dressed in your winter hats, scarves, and gloves.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

- -February 2nd-4th: Winter Retreat for grades completed 3rd-5th at Blue Lake. Register at www.bluelakecamp.com
- -February 11th: FUMC Children will host a special Valentine's Day social for special friends in our church. Details to come.

Julie Hodges, Youth Director



Thanks be to our Lord for the Grace of new beginnings. Lord bless our coming year with spiritual growth, love for all people, and ourselves. 2018 Youth Happenings

January 10th- Regular Wednesday nights pick back up with The Daniel Plan Dinner @ 5:30 / Youth 6 to 7pm January 26th - 28th Meltdown Conference/ Retreat in PC (Jan. 14th is the last day to sign up)

January 31st - Bahamas Methodist Habitat Mission Trip balance due

February 7th – Bahamas Mission Trip participant's meeting @ 5:30pm in the Youth Room February 13th – Shrove Tuesday Valentine Pancake Fundraiser Dinner 5:30pm in the Great Hall February 14th- Ash Wednesday Service-no regular youth March 16th – I can only Imagine Movie in PC March 21st – Spring Break – No Youth March 25th – Palm Sunday

June 10th – 15th – Bahamas Methodist Habitat Mission Trip

March 30th - Good Friday/ Stations of the Cross

July 20th – 23rd – Lake Junaluska Summer Camp (Whitewater Rafting)

These are just a few happenings to mark on your calendar. My hope is that all the youth will take responsibility for growing closer in their faith walk and become more involved at FUMC.

Weekly Regular Youth: Sunday mornings @ 10am and Wednesday nights 5:30 dinner/ 6 to 7 youth

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

Ann Comforter, Director of Music Ministries
As 2017 comes to a close and a new year is beginning, I would like to take just a minute and reflect on the music of our Church. I am surrounded by incredible musicians who freely give of their time and their talents to our Church. They give, not because they want to be seen or heard on center stage, but because they love GOD, they love our Church and they love music. It can be seen and heard during every service that we have. It takes all of us doing our part for the music to be successful and enjoyable, and it is performed for the Glory of our God, not us. We, the First United Methodist Church, are very fortunate to have Hilda Duren at the organ each Sunday. Her music is so inspirational and it adds so much to our worship services. (Thank you for everything you do for the music of the Church.) I appreciate the time that our Chancel Choir members spend all year long, but for the past 3 months, they have worked especially hard to prepare quality anthems for Sunday morning and then extra music for our concert, "This Holy Night." Our soloists have benefitted greatly from the assistance provided by Janis Ramos and it showed with outstanding performances by our Carla, Tamara, Dana and Mike.

The Bo Spring Band with Bo, Lauren, Randon, and Joel, give of their incredible talents for our early Contemporary service on Sundays. Their music adds a new and exciting feel for our worship services. Thank you for your dedication and service to our Church.

I feel very fortunate and humbled to be called your Director of Music. I will be celebrating my 10th year as your music director in January and this has been the most enjoyable "job" that I've ever had. Thank you! (AND thank you for our incredible new choir room upstairs.) We have so much room that we don't have to sit on top of each other for rehearsals and it gives us great pleasure to see and hear the Young Singers learn to sing so beautifully. Thank you, Dana for sharing your expertise and talents.

If you like to sing, I have a folder and chair waiting for you. We will be beginning our Easter Concert music in January, so if you would like to sing the concert without the responsibilities of Sunday morning anthems, we have a place for you. In fact, we have a place for you anyway!!

Until next time, MAY GOD Bless you in this New Year. Ann

Margo Russell, Pastoral Care Chairperson







We welcome new member Sue Meyer to the FUMC family! Sue joined 12-10-17 at the 9:00 service.

Congratulations to Lindsay and Wes Fisher on the birth of their daughter, Mercy Ann, on 11-10-17 and to Melissia and Blake Buskens on the baptism of their daughter, Blakely Taylor, on 12-24-17.

Our sympathy is extended to Smiley Anchors and family on the death of Smiley's wife, Betty Sue Anchors, on 12-6-17.

Melissia, Blakely Taylor, & Blake

Bernadette Hackett, UMW President

Hi Everyone, Wishing you a Merry Christmas as we continue to celebrate the birth of our Lord and continue to experience the blessings of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Last January we partnered with United Methodist Men in our big fundraiser of the year---Butts on the Bay. We could not have been successful without the baking assistance of all the women in our Church Family! Because of everyone's participation we were able to help many women and children in our community. Every child in the Elementary School was given their very own book to keep and to read. Additionally, we were able to help finance a special program for 6th grade children who have been struggling with reading skills. This Christmas Season we were able to help the High School Guidance Counselor provide much needed clothing to children in that school; and, we provided the elementary school Guidance Counselor with \$500 in Piggly Wiggly gift cards to distribute to families in need. This is just some of the things we were able to do this year because of everyone's help, and, of course, attendance at Butts on the Bay.

Now, I am again asking for help with this all important fundraiser. WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BE BAKING WARRIORS! We will be having a giant Bake Sale that can only be Giant if you all Bake. We need homemade cakes, cookies, brownies, candy or fudge etc. Cakes can be sold as one large cake or can be cut in half and packaged that way. Bunt cakes are very easily cut in half. Cakes can be packaged on a plate and covered in cellophane or other clear plastic wrap. Cookies and brownies can be placed on plate in quantities of 1 dozen or a half dozen and covered with clear plastic wrap; they can also be placed in small baggies in quantities of 4 cookies or 2 brownies. Cupcakes can be packaged similarly.

Butts on the Bay is scheduled for Saturday, January 6th. Therefore, I will be available in the Great Hall on Friday, January 5th between 10:30am and Noon and then again from 3:30pm and 6:30pm to accept all baked items. You may also drop off your baked goods in the morning of the event at the event itself. You can bring it to the bake sale tables between 10am and 11AM.

Thank you all for your support of this event. You now know how important this fundraiser is to the women and children we are able to help in this community. Any questions, please call or text me at 850-340-0612 or email bernadettehackettlcsw@gmail.com

Wishing you blessings in this New Year, Bernadette Hackett (Nagy)

Sunday School Spotlight-Alpha Class
New Year's Resolutions? It's not too early to start thinking about them! If improving your relationships with your Lord, your church members, and your community are part of your New Year's Commitment, We have an exciting idea just for you. Our group offers a slightly different approach to Sunday school fellowship. Rather than basing a class on age or other differences, we embrace all members from every adult age group. Our experience has been one of wisdom flowing from older to younger, and current issues and concerns flowing from younger to older, and love flowing in ALL directions. We also know that everyone's travels and schedules often prevent attendance, so our curriculums are ALWAYS tailored to the motto "attend if you can" and you will never feel left out or behind if you miss a class or several classes. Just look at some of the testimonials from several of our existing members:

I was encouraged to join a Sunday school class full of familiar faces during a difficult season. I am indebted to this group for their laughter, lively spirituality, intelligent discussion, unselfish support of the praises and sorrows among us, and camaraderie of people who do not hesitate to love like Christ. These friends are the hands on my shoulders

Be blessed, Jennifer Sheffield

Love radiates out of the Alpha class into our homes and our community, with the members buoying up one another as we seek God's Way for meeting life's challenges. Although my family lives hundreds of miles away, I know I'm never alone. Blessings, Lynne Whitfield

The first time I stepped foot in the alpha class, I was scared and alone. I had never been a part of a Sunday school class and yet something drew me to that room. I quickly realized that Alpha is a family. A family that you know is there when life alters your ability to attend.

A couple of months ago I took a second job, and between work and travelling have not made it to class. There is a void felt as I carry on throughout my week. A void that the love, laughter, friendship and openness of the alpha members fill. This is my village-my people...and I am truly excited to be back with my church family in the coming weeks.

Mary Hess

I like the Alpha class because we have a fairly wide diversity of ages within our group which provides insights for all of us based on age, backgrounds and life experiences. I like the fact that we share our thoughts with each other and it becomes a learning experience for all. Some folks like studying Bible verses and analyzing them, but studying life lessons based in a Christian atmosphere means a lot to me and makes me think! I like that. I look forward to Dr. Mike's lessons.

Larry Johnson

Great diversity of people who are willing to share their own stories. Class is like close knit family. You can come and go as you are able and can always keep up with what is happening.

Iill

What an awesome group. Every Sunday is a different blessing, with different people but always with great amounts of LOVE and respect! NEVER BORING! Thank you Alpha class for your open acceptance of me. Also thanks for all you do for the Church AND the community. D. M.

We want YOU to be a part of this amazing group, The Alpha Class. We have plenty of room for YOU and your FRIENDS, and we meet every Sunday at 10 AM upstairs in room 1.

So why not make being a part of this group part of your NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION? We at Alpha class look forward to meeting you!

Traditional Service Posts

January Lay Readers:

- Porter Hodges
- 14 TBD
- 21 TRD
- TBD



January Sanctuary Hosts/Hostesses:

- Leonard Costin
- 14 Cathy Cox
- 21 Suzy Eppley
- 28 Linda Gerald



January Communion Servers:

Jim & Cindy Belin





Dinner begins at 5:15PM. Dinners are \$5.00 per person and \$15.00 per family

December 10 Menu: TBD **Servers:** O Bay Class

December 17 Menu: TBD Servers: Pridgeon-Rish Class

Menu: TBD December 24 **Servers:** Alpha Class December 31 Menu: TBD Servers: UMW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN UMW meet third Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall: Mission Group I at 9:30AM. Mission Group IV at 6:30PM. All ladies welcome to attend. For more information contact Bernadette Hackett, President at 850-340-0612 or bernadettehackettlcsw@gmail.com.

UNITED METHODIST MEN UMM meet the first Sunday of each month at 8:00AM in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast. No RSVP required.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:00AM in the Parlor. Summer meetings will be the second Wednesday of each month only. You do not have to be an avid knitter/crocheter and beginners are welcome to join. For more information, contact Susan Julian at sjuliangofish@yahoo.com or 229-5460.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month from 1:00PM-2:30PM in the Conference Room. This group is open to all caregivers as well as their patients.

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

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Tuesdays, Thursdays at 8:00PM in the Conference Room.

PASTORAL CARE BOARD This board is mounted in the downstairs hallway and helps us keep up with our homebound who need visiting, members who are in the hospital or rehab, and members who are dealing with the loss of a loved one. If you know of a person that needs a visit from our Pastor, please call the church office and give the name to Heather Jones @ 227-1724.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS Items for our area food pantry may be placed in our food donation receptacle, located downstairs main building

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/SMALL GROUPS – PLEASE JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00-10:45AM:

His Kids Children's Class ages 4 – 5th grade-children's room (fellowship hall)

Revive Youth Class 6th-12th grades - youth room (fellowship hall)

Alpha Adult Class - Upstairs Room 1 - They cover a different topic each week. No homework!

Oh Bay Adult Class - Upstairs Room 5 - They are currently studying John 1, John 2, John 3

Marie Jones Adult Class - MLC Room 1 - They are currently studying the book of Ephesians

Pridgeon-Rish Adult Class - Downstairs Conference Room - They are using the Cokesbury Adult Bible Studies

Hashem Adult Class-Library – They are studying Hebrews, Faith that Roars

BUTTS ON THE BAY The FUMC Men and Women are hosting their annual fundraiser on January 6, 2018 at Sailors Cove starting at noon. There will also be a BBQ Rib Cook off starting earlier that day. Local teams are strongly encouraged. See the FUMC events page for details. We are pre-selling Boston Butts to be cooked on Friday the 5th of January and delivered on January 6th. The ladies will also be selling baked goods at our serving line at Ronnie B's. The Butts will cost \$35 and the plates will be \$8. We will need help selling tickets, Cleaning Grills on Thursday the 4th, Cooking on the 5th and site set up, serving, and cleanup on the 6th. contact Dave Russell, wdd-widrussell@gmail.com, or text at 4789551039 if you can help.

JANUARY BOARD MEETINGS: Finance Thursday, January 25 10AM Library

Trustees Monday, January 29 5PM Library

Church Council Monday, January 29 6PM Conference Room

UMCOR MISSION TEAMUNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF

In 2007, Diana Wilder (wife of Walter Wilder), invited Skip Griffies to speak to her UMW mission group about his experience serving at the disaster relief warehouse in Baldwin, Louisiana. This facility prepares and verifies relief kits for disaster-stricken areas around the world. Following his presentation, 16 volunteers were interested in attending. Since that time and up through December 2017, 11 teams have traveled to this facility to work in this capacity. The teams have also completed home repairs, built a handicapped ramp, visited and worked in shelters for women and children. We hope that this mission will continue to be a vital part of First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe. Below are photos of pictures from the first (2007) and (2017) teams.





6	1 34	T	IANUARY 2017	T		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4 PSJ SCHOOL RESUMES	5	6 BUTTS ON THE BAY
		8:00PM AA Meeting		8:00PM AA Meeting		
7 8:00AM Methodist Men 9:00AM Contemporary Service 10:00AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Service	8 9:30AM Disciple III Class 3:00PM Staff Meeting	9 3:00PM Sprouts 8:00PM AA Meeting	10 10:00AM Prayer Shawl 5:15PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs (K3-1st) 5:30PM Young Singers (2nd-5th) 6:00PM Bible Study 6:15PM Kid's Life (1st-5th) 7:00PM Choir Practice	3:00PM Truth Walkers 8:00PM AA Meeting	12	13
14 9:00AM Contemporary Service 10:00AM Snowbird Welcome Breakfast 10:00AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Service	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR HOLIDAY 9:30AM Disciple III Class	9:30AM UMW I 6:00PM UMW IV HOLY LAND TRI 8:00PM AA Meeting	17 5:15PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs (K3-1st) 5:30PM Young Singers (2nd-5th) 6:00PM Bible Study 6:15PM Kid's Life (1st-5th) 7:00PM Choir Practice	18 3:00PM Truth Walkers 8:00PM AA Meeting	19	20
21 9:00AM Contemporary Service 10:00AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Service	22 9:30AM Disciple III Class 3:00PM Staff Meeting	23 1:00PM Caregivers Support Group 3:00PM Sprouts	24 10:00AM Prayer Shawl 5:15PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs (K3-1st) 5:30PM Young Singers (2nd-5th) 6:00PM Bible Study 6:15PM Kid's Life (1st-5th) 7:00PM Choir Practice	25 10:00AM Finance Meeting 3:00PM Truth Walkers	26 YOUTH CONFERENCE (PC)	27
28 9:00AM Contemporary Service 10:00AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Service	29 9:30AM Disciple III Class 3:00PM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Trustees 6:00PM Church Council	8:00PM AA Meeting 30 3:00PM Sprouts 8:00PM AA Meeting	31 5:15PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs (K3-1st) 5:30PM Young Singers (2nd-5th) 6:00PM Bible Study 6:15PM Kid's Life (1st-5th) 7:00PM Choir Practice	8:00PM AA Meeting		
Sandra Taunton Sand						

Jim White

Jake Paterson

William Shoaf

Madelyn Shoaf

Karen Stewart

23rd-

24th-

Happy Anniversary!

1st - Carolyn & Fred Witten

4th- Bob & Janna Rinehart

19th- Alford & Laura Ramsey

16th- Fred & Lyn Willis

Jane Griffies

12th-

13th-

14th-

16th-

George Duren

Bill Kubitskey

Lyn Willis

Fred Willis

Millie Hamilton

4th-

6th-

Meredith McNeill

Joel Bogaert

Johnny Buckins

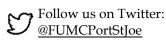
Linda Hamilton

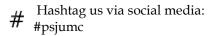
Brenda Woodard

Carl Logan Wilson

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.





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.



Sunday Schedule 9:00AM-Worship on the Water (Contemporary) 10:00AM-Sunday School 11:00AM-Sanctuary Worship (Traditional)

First United Methodist Church P.O. Box 266 Constitution and Monument Port St. Joe, FL 32457 850-227-1724

Email: info@psjumc.org Website: www.psjumc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED