



Matthew 5:13

January 2022

VOL. 21, ISSUE 1



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE



Homemade GIFTS MADE EASY

God of new beginnings,
 you wipe away our tears
 and call us to care for one another.
 Give us eyes to see your gifts,
 hearts to embrace all creation,
 and hands to serve you every day of our lives.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus.
 Amen.

New Year's Day Prayer from The Revised Common Lectionary



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
SATURDAY, JANUARY 1



UNITED METHODIST MEN
BREAKFAST & MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 8AM
GREAT HALL



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
LUNCHEON & MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 11AM
MONUMENT HOUSE



United Methodist Women

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12
6PM GREAT HALL



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR
HOLIDAY
MONDAY, JANUARY 17
PARADE 10AM PSJ



LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 23
11AM GREAT HALL



Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,



At the start of every year, I review John Wesley's Covenant Prayer. The early Methodists held a watch night service, a tradition inherited by the Moravians. At the conclusion of the service, this prayer was used and John Wesley believe that all Methodists should start the year with this covenant. I have to admit I always have a lump in my throat when I pray it. I am happy with being used by God, but do not want to be laid aside. This prayer places me totally in God's hands to be used or not used as God desires. That is a scary place to be. But, complete surrender is what Christ calls us to. So, I hope you have a happy 2022, and I hope that the year brings us great jobs and happiness. The world needs a year of relief really bad, but my greatest hope is that God uses us as God wants to, whether we like it or not. And so let us pray:

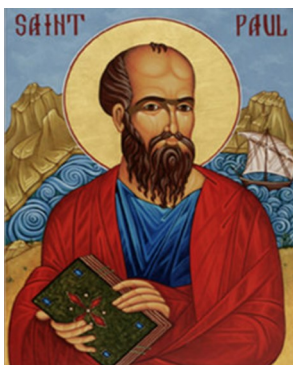
"I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen."

Peace of Christ,



Geoffrey

St. Paul: Apostle to the World Pastor's Bible Study



Join us on Wednesday nights for Pastor's Bible Study beginning January 12, 2022 as we take a deep dive over a seven week class into the life of the most influential apostle. No one other than Jesus has made such an impact on the church. Yet, Paul remains surrounded by controversy. We will study his life from start to finish focusing on his conversion and his mission. Along the way, we will answer some difficult questions including: what did Paul think about women? What did he believe about the end-times? And how does grace and good works go together? We will be studying the Acts of the Apostles and reading selections of his Epistles to get a better understand the life and times of this world changing man.

John Wesley's Three Simple Rules:

Do no harm

Do good

Stay in love with God

Liz Lentz, Children's Director

Children's Ministry

Happy New Year! I hope your families enjoyed celebrating the Christmas season. We will resume Little Lambs and Kids Life on **Wednesday, January 5**, 5:30-7:00 at the Methodist Learning Center, 218 Long Ave. Dinner is provided to all children, and a suggested donation of \$3 can be made at drop off or pick up.

For this month our **mission project** will be to make cards for some of our senior members who are not getting out as much.



Paint Party!!! On Saturday, January 22 10:00-11:30 children in Kindergarten-5th grade are invited to the Methodist Learning Center after-school room for painting a penguin scene on canvas. Space is limited, so please sign up with Ms. Liz ASAP. liz@psjumc.org

Winter Retreat for 3rd-5th grade is scheduled for the weekend of February 4th-6th at Blue Lake United Methodist Camp in Andalusia, Alabama.

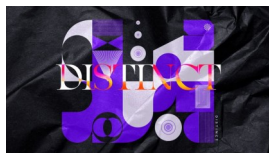


Little Lambs Christmas Caroling



Christmas Parade

Lynn Marshall, Youth Director



A 4-WEEK SERIES FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT ON **IDENTITY**

SERIES OVERVIEW:

If someone asked who you are, what would you say? Maybe you'd say your name.

Or maybe you'd say, "I'm a musician. A basketball player. A friend. A daughter or son.

I'm a human!" Those things might be true, but have you ever felt like you're still figuring out

who you are, what you're good at, or why you're here? In this 4-week series, the stories of Jesus and John the Baptist, and the words of Paul, will help us see why discovering who Jesus is helps us discover who we're meant to be. Not only is Jesus distinct from anyone who has ever lived, but God made us distinct too, with distinct gifts we can use to serve God and others, and unique distinctions that are worth celebrating.

Here are a few things coming up in our ministry . . .

Youth Group: Every Wednesday from 5:30 – 7:30 at the STAC house 610 8th Street

Food, Fellowship, Fun

February 11-13: Winter Retreat – Busch Gardens

This is going to be a great trip for our children.

February 25-27 : Confirmation Class: Pastor Geoffrey and Lynn will be having a confirmation class for all of those 6th grade and up that would like to join the Church and be Baptized(if they haven't already been). This will be a retreat weekend

Confirmation and Baptism: April 24, 2022

Paul Brown, Director of Music and Worship Arts

WORSHIPARTS

Join us for Sunday morning Worship Services! January the 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th.

SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAYS

Join us on **January 9** as we welcome guest artist, Connor Barney. You won't want to miss this wonderful morning of CLASSICAL GUITAR. Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord our God!

We invite you to a special concert, Trinity Episcopal Church, for the Isle Newell Performing Arts Concert Series! Tickets for the concert can be found on Eventbrite.com or at the door. Concert- 4 p.m.

We hope you will attend our **January 30** service, as Pianist Dominic Muzzi joins us for service. Let us celebrate this wonderful day of music!

We invite you to an afternoon concert, Trinity Episcopal Church, for the Isle Newell Performing Arts Concert Series! Tickets for this concert can be found on Eventbrite.com or at the door. Concert- 4 p.m.

Chancel Choir- Vocal Arts Ensemble

Please contact director of music, Paul Brown, if you are interested in joining chancel choir, or the vocal arts ensemble. From full choral arrangements, to small ensembles, FUMC PSJ is proud to offer a variety of music, styles, and worship. Join us for rehearsals as we sing, fellowship, and prepare for Sunday Morning Worship Services.

Thursday Rehearsals- 5:30- Ministry Center, 510 East Fourth Street

Opening Rehearsal- Thursday, January 13.

Handbell Choir

Please contact director of music, Paul Brown, if you are interested in joining the handbell choir. Let us ring to the Lord our God!

Wednesday Rehearsals- 10:00 a.m. Monument House Location

Opening Rehearsal- Wednesday, January 12.

Forgotten Coast Young Singers

Welcome back to Young Singers! Our opening rehearsal is Wednesday, January 12, 4-5:15 p.m.

Young Singers will rehearse EVERY Wednesday, 4- 5:15 p.m. at the FUMC PSJ Ministry Center.



Tonya Knox, United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women Meeting Sunday, January 9 11am in the Great Hall. The UMW executive committee met last month and decided to reactivate since our Covid hiatus of March 2020. We will hold a soup and sandwich luncheon that will be provided by the executive board.

You do not need to bring anything but your good ideas of how you would like to see us proceed in 2022. Please invite any new members you know since we do not have contact information for all of them. Tonya Knox will be our new president so feel free to reach out to her if you are interested in being involved but can not attend the meeting 850-227-6358 Tonyaknox1@gmail.com

Skip Griffies, United Methodist Men



United Methodist Men Meeting Sunday, January 9 8am in the Great Hall.

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

Website: www.psjumc.org

Ministry Center (church offices): 510 Fourth Street

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz (geoffrey@psjumc.org)

Associate Pastor: Rev. Chelsey Brown (chelsey@psjumc.org)

Children's Director: Liz Lentz (liz@psjumc.org)

Youth Director: Lynn Marshall (lynn@psjumc.org)

Music Director: Paul Brown (paul@psjumc.org)

Methodist Learning Center Director: Vanesa Ryan (vanesa@psjumc.org)

Financial Secretary: Diann Farnsley (diann@psjumc.org)

Administrative Assistant: Heather Jones (heather@psjumc.org)

Church Administrator: Bill Brown (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

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Epiphany Sunday 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School 5:30pm Sunday School	3 9:30am Disciple I Study Group 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	4 10:00am Yoga 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	5 10:00am Prayer Shawl 10:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	6 10:00am Yoga 5:30pm Choir Practice	7 	1 8
9 Baptism of the Lord 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School 5:30pm Sunday School	10 9:30am Disciple I Study Group (1st meeting) 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	11 10:00am Yoga 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	12 10:00pm Bell Choir 4:00pm Young Singers 5:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	13 10:00am Yoga 5:30pm Choir Practice	14 	15
16 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School 5:30pm Sunday School	17 Martin Luther King, Jr Day 10:00am Walking Together Parade-PSJ 	18 10:00am Yoga 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	19 10:00am Prayer Shawl 10:00pm Bell Choir 4:00pm Young Singers 5:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	20 10:00am Yoga 10:00 Finance Meeting 5:30pm Choir Practice	21 	22 10:00am Children's Paint Party
23 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School 11:00am Leadership Luncheon 5:30pm Sunday School	24 9:30am Disciple I Study Group 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting 5:00 Trustees 6:00pm Church Council	25 10:00am Yoga 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	26 10:00pm Bell Choir 4:00pm Young Singers 5:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	27 10:00am Yoga 2 Fish Luncheon 5:30pm Choir Practice	28 	29
30 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School 4:00pm District Conference (PC) 5:30pm Sunday School	31 9:30am Disciple I Study Group 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting					

Happy Birthday!

1st- Sharon Cessna
 Laura Ramsey
 Melissa Farrell
 Linda McGlothlin
 2nd- Brent Walker
 4th- Meredith McNeill
 6th- Carl Logan Wilson
 Joel Bogaert
 Johnny Buckins
 Linda Hamilton
 Brenda Woodard
 9th- Porter Hodges
 Sandra Taunton
 10th- Casey Flanagan
 Jane Forster
 11th- Tamara Marsh Flowers
 Fred Witten
 Karen King
 Jane Griffies
 12th- George Duren
 Bill Kubitskey

14th- Lyn Willis
 16th- Fred Willis
 Bev Elder
 Rick Tyson
 20th - Greg Johnson
 Mary Margaret Farrell
 21st- Mark Gerspacher
 22nd- Katie Hoffman
 Christy Taunton
 Jim White
 23rd- Jake Paterson
 William Shoaf
 Madelyn Shoaf
 24th- Karen Stewart
 Zeke Stevens
 27th- Joel Finlay
 28th- Sonya Smith
 29th- Madolyn Davidson
 30th- Madelyn Flanagan

Happy Anniversary!

1st - Carolyn & Fred Witten
 4th- Bob & Janna Rinehart
 16th- Fred & Lyn Willis
 19th- Alford & Laura Ramsey

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

Announcements

Leadership Installation and Recognition On January 23, during the 10am service we will be installing our 2022 leaders. After the service we will have a leadership luncheon with our leaders and will discuss the rolls of the various committees and our vision for 2022.

District Conference Our church leaders are delegates to the Marianna Panama City Conference on Sunday, January 30 3-5pm central time at Lynn Haven United Methodist Church. The chairs of our committees will be representing us. Be in prayer for our District Superintendent and our district leaders.

Pastor's Bible Study Join us for Pastor's Bible Study on Wednesdays at 6:00pm in the Great Hall.

New Testament Disciple Bible Study Fast Track We will be starting a new 12 week Bible Study on the New Testament on January 10 in the Monument House at 9:30am.

You do not have to have had Old Testament Fast Track. There is some homework for each session, but participants have found this study to be transformational and well worth the effort. Please contact the office so that we can order you a study guide **Oberammergau/Best of Italy** Interested in going to Europe with Pastor Geoffrey and other church members? Trip dates are September 22-October 2022. Contact the church office for more information.

Bootcamp 2022 Exercise class with certified instructor Karl Burgher Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30-10:00 in the Great Hall.

Yoga Classes with certified instructor Lynn Burgher Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-11:15 in the Great Hall through December 21.

Boy Scout Fundraiser It is time for the PSJ Boy Scout annual Superbowl fundraiser. Whole Butts are available for Saturday (2-12) and Sunday (2-13) pick up. Shredded butts and chickens are only available for Sunday pickup. Tickets must be purchased before February 5 from a Boy Scout. See Dru Flowers near the sound booth after church to buy your ticket. Whole butt \$35, shredded butt \$40, smoked chicken \$10.

Walking Together Parade The entire community is invited to take part in Port St. Joe 's annual commemorative Walking Together Parade Celebration, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 17. With the theme "Walking Together in Peace, Harmony and Social Justice," the parade begins at 10 a.m. ET at the Port St. Joe City Hall, followed by a motorcade.

Sunday School for All Ages!

Adult 9am Monument House Leader: Mike Whitfield
Youth 11am Monument House Leader: Lynn Marshall
Children 11am Great Hall Kitchen Hallway Leader: Liz Lentz
Senior Adult 11am Great Hall Leader: Rotating Leaders
Adult 11am Great Hall Leader: Chelsey Brown
Preschool 11am Nursery Leader: Madelyn Davidson
Adult 5:30pm Monument House Leader: Mazie Stone

Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30-6:00pm in the Great Hall.

Prayer Requests Email info@psjumc.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.

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 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://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.

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.

January Meetings

Finance Meeting Thursday, January 20 10am at the Ministry Center.

Trustees Meeting Monday, January 24 5pm at the Ministry Center.

Church Council Monday, January 24 6pm at the Ministry Center.

District Conference Sunday, January 30 3-5pm central at Lynn Haven United Methodist Church.



General Statement: Food Pantries can be an important part of a community’s plan for response to disasters beginning with **Disaster Preparedness**. During times of disaster, communities can expect an increase in the number of families who are identified as food insecure. Established food pantries are in a unique position to **respond** to this increased demand. Food Banks such as Second Harvest of the Big Bend can help to replenish reduced food supplies at times of disaster and can assist to rebuild the capacity of local food pantries during times of **Disaster Recovery**.

FUMC Response: During the COVID-19 Pandemic, First United Methodist Church of Port Saint Joe (FUMC) established and began operation of the Two Fish Food Market, a Second Harvest of the Big Bend certified food pantry that serves over 240 households who live throughout Gulf County. In response to school closures in 2020, staff and volunteers from FUMC delivered weekend food bags (Blessing Bags) and fresh produce to the families of over 80 children enrolled in Port Saint Joe Elementary School who were identified by Gulf District Schools as food insecure. Also, in partnership with Second Harvest of the Big Bend, FUMC supported a large-scale mobile food distribution.

Established Expertise: FUMC has also established protocols for effective tracking of information related to disasters that include:

- FEMA required records on cost associated with food distribution during times of disaster
- FEMA required records of volunteer hours associated with serving families during times of disaster
- FEMA required records of numbers and demographics of persons served during times of disaster

Future Disaster Response: Two Fish Food Market has an established group of volunteers who operate Two Fish Food Market 3 days per week. This Client Choice Food Pantry has the ability to increase days of operation and to serve additional households who may find themselves as food insecure following a new disaster. In addition, as a partner agency of 2nd Harvest, Two Fish is positioned to receive additional food that may come available through the Feeding American Network of Food Banks.

Donations can be dropped off at Two Fish (Tues/Wed 9-4, Sat 9-1). Two Fish is located at 212 Williams Avenue.

Methodist Care Closet

Thank you so much for sharing your time, talents and donations with this ministry. If you are interested in volunteering please call Cathy Cox@850-227-6028.

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

Pastoral Care



Condolences are extended to David Warriner and family upon the death of David’s sister, Bennett Warriner Swartz (12-20-21).

We celebrate the baptism of Grady Quin Lowrey December 26. Parents are Stephen and Lindsay Lowrey, grandparents are Quin and Pat Lowrey and Larry and Gitana Fletcher, godparents are Mark and Brooke Roth.

Welcome to our newest members:
Jim Smolenski
Rosemary O’Brien
Maureen and Jeffrey Eller



Rosemary O’Brien Jim Smolenski



Maureen and Jeffrey Eller





Grady Quin, Lindsay, and Stephen Lowrey


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



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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