



Matthew 5:13

March 2021

VOL. 20, ISSUE 3



FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE



Sunday, March 28  
Church service 10am  
at Centennial Park  
Bring a lawn chair or a blanket  
Easter Egg Hunt  
and church-wide picnic  
will follow the service



\*Centennial Park is located behind the Centennial Building between  
Allen Memorial Way and Gautier Memorial Lane

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



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME  
BEGINS  
SUNDAY, MARCH 14



VERNAL EQUINOX  
FIRST DAY OF SPRING!  
SATURDAY, MARCH 20



PALM/PASSION SUNDAY  
SUNDAY, MARCH 28  
10AM WORSHIP SERVICE  
AT CENTENNIAL PARK



EASTER EGG HUNT  
& PICNIC  
SUNDAY, MARCH 28  
11AM CENTENNIAL PARK



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

## Rev. Chelsey Brown, Associate Pastor

### The Incredible Journey



If someone ever asked what movies or books I try to avoid, you might assume I would choose to avoid horror or scary ones, or maybe the kind with a ton of blood and fighting, but even though these are on my list of “No, thank you!”, I would actually reply with any story where the whole plot is to travel from A to B with many roadblocks in-between. It is like the road to where the story is going never ends! For example, I usually would reference the movie, *Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey* from my childhood. It is a classic about pets who are trying to find their way back home. Oh boy, if you have seen this movie you know what a treacherous journey it was. I remember as a child becoming so impatient after every obstacle these animals faced and how it would prevent them from getting home sooner. And of course, for the average child, there probably is a reasonable desire to see the happily ever after come sooner than later, but for me, the real reason for my distress while experiencing the ups and downs of the long journey ahead, is that I myself start to feel physically hungry.

I know, weird right?! It was as if I was on the journey with them and someone forgot to bring the snacks to ease my discomfort. Even now, if I am watching or reading about a traveling journey, I will make sure to have the appropriate number of snacks to keep me at ease or I would at least make sure I had already filled my belly beforehand.

There is something about a journey that makes my tummy rumble. What about you?

During this season of Lent, we are on a journey to the Cross. Instead of focusing on self-denial we are looking towards a life fulfilling experience where we are committing something back into our lives in order to live more fully into the wholeness and healing of our whole selves that brings glory and honor to our Lord, Jesus Christ, and it begs the question, what are you hungering for in this season of Lent and life? Maybe you will choose to fill this Lenten season with the discipline of eating healthy greens and fresh fruits and veggies, or spending moments outside to stretch a leg or two. Maybe you will focus on other spiritual practices like taking the time to pray and write down thoughts and ideas you are hopeful for in the coming weeks and months, or maybe it is to be filled with the word of God through the discipline of reading the Bible one verse, chapter, or even one book at-a-time. Regardless of what you choose, I pray it be fulfilling in more ways than you could have asked or imagined.

So grab your snacks and let's get going! The incredible journey to the Cross leads us to an abundant life where we will hunger and thirst no longer.

Peace of Christ,

Rev. Chelsey Brown

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### Holy Week and Easter Services



*Come Worship With Us!*

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY, March 28

10:00AM Palm/Passion Sunday Service at Centennial Park

11:00AM Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic at Centennial Park

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

7:30PM Maundy Thursday Service

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

7:30PM Tenebrae (Good Friday) Service

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4

9:00AM Contemporary Service at the Lighthouse

11:00AM Traditional Service in the Great Hall

Liz Lentz, Children's Director

## Children's Ministry



**Missions:** For the season of Lent the children have made offering boxes and are asked to collect money to give to the Two Fish Food Market at the end of March. This is a new ministry of our church to provide food to the needy in our community. The food market will have not only non-perishables, but also meats, dairy, and produce.

**Winter Retreat:** On Saturday, March 6th our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders will have a retreat at Blue Lake Methodist Camp in Andalusia, Alabama. Please be in prayer for our campers and volunteers.



**Palm Sunday:** On Sunday, March 28th the children will meet on the rotunda a few minutes before the 10:00 service begins, and we will parade through the church with palm branches.



**Easter Egg Hunt:** Sunday, March 28th after church service join us at the Centennial Fields (behind the Centennial Building) for an Easter egg hunt and church-wide picnic lunch. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Donations of stuffed plastic eggs can be dropped off at the church on Sunday mornings or at the Ministry Center Monday-Friday.

**Father-Daughter Dance:** Mark your calendars for Friday, May 21st at 7pm.

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Lynn Marshall, Youth Director



It is hard to believe that Spring is almost here! Even with all of the obstacles, we had an amazing Winter and our youth group is steadily growing. Our Fall and Winter retreats were awesome and we learned so much about each other and our walk with God has been awesome!



**LOST AND FOUND:** A 4-WEEK SERIES ON *JESUS in March* Have you ever been lost? Maybe you wandered away from your parents, took a wrong turn, or lost track of your friends in a crowd? It can be scary to realize you're not sure where you are or how to get home again, and the same thing is true when it comes to our faith. See, you and I were created to be close to the God who made and loves us. But some of us don't know our Creator yet. And some of us know Jesus but we wander (or at least we feel) far away from Him. In this 4-week series, we'll explore a series of stories Jesus once told about things that were lost and then got found again. Through those stories, we'll discover that Jesus notices you, values you, welcomes you back when you've strayed, and invites you to the party when others come home.

### MARCH CALENDAR

Church Service — I would like to invite all youth to our service at 10 am every Sunday!

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

Confirmation 6:30 — 7:30 PM — STAC House (for those who started this last year)

We will not have youth group on Wednesday March 17th during Spring Break!

Winter Retreat 2021





Paul Brown, Director of Music and Worship Arts

# WORSHIPARTS

PAINTING

PHOTOGRAPHY

DANCE

MUSIC

ACTING

Join us for Sunday Morning Worship Services at 10 am. Facebook Live and In Person Worship.

Sundays- March 7 Third Sunday of Lent- March 14 Fourth Sunday of Lent Sunday- March 21 Fifth Sunday of Lent- March 28 Full Gospel-Palm Sunday!

**Vocal Arts Ensemble-** The Vocal Arts Ensemble meets weekly on Saturdays at 10 am in the Great Hall. The Vocal Arts Ensemble provides weekly song and praise to the FUMC PSJ Congregation. Please contact our director of music, Paul Brown- [Paul@psjunc.org](mailto:Paul@psjunc.org) for information on joining the rotation. Let us worship the Lord our God!

**Bell Choir-** Bell Choir resumes weekly rehearsals March 5. We meet Fridays at 10:30 am in the Great Hall. We are excited to ring in 2021 with a beautiful Easter Service. Let us Ring for the Lord our God!

**Grow Grow Grow!!-** You will soon see FUMC PSJ Planter Boxes in front of our Ministry Centers. As part of Project Grow, we want new life planted in our lives and ministries. If you would like to help with Project Grow and our planting of the planters, please contact Paul Brown at the email, or phone number below!

**Worship Arts-** If you would like to join our Kid's Life and or Youth nights in assisting with Worship Arts, please contact Paul Brown. God's kingdom is full of talent and teachers, and we need YOU! Music, Art, Dancing, Acting, we want to expand our children and youth, worshipping in new and exciting ways! Join us!

**Private Music Lesson Instruction-** Now is a great time to brush up on your music skills! You are never too young or too old to learn and worship with music! God moved mightily through King David through music, and he can move through you too!

Paul Brown- Director of Music and Worship Arts-[Paul@psjunc.org](mailto:Paul@psjunc.org) - 850-319-6782 Band Instruments- Piano- Voice- Guitar  
Jessica Beasley- Staff Pianist- 904-557-0118

The FUMC PSJ Music Ministry extends a tremendous thank you to the family of Steve Whealton for their generous, and loving donation to the music ministry. Steve's lifetime service, love, and commitment to FUMC PSJ will never be forgotten, and will extend on to future generations.

Thank you to Jeremiah Beasley for your amazing talent, workmanship, and dedication to FUMC PSJ. The cross which now hangs in the Great Hall tells our story. Wood selected from the destruction of hurricane Michael, crafted, nurtured, loved, now suspended in resilience and Glory as we worship and prepare for the next blessing, our New Sanctuary. Let us look to this cross for hope. Let it be a reminder of the current and future blessings that God has bestowed upon us. Let us look forward! Thank you, Jeremiah, for helping us visualize the blessing through the Pandemic. Was Blind, but NOW, Can See!

With Peace and Blessing,

Paul Brown



Adult Sunday School classes will be starting back up on Sunday, March 7 at 9am and 11am at the Monument House, 1107 Monument Avenue. Stay tuned for more announcements....

## March 2021

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|
|  | <b>1</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:00am Int. Design Meeting<br>2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting                                 | <b>2</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Staff Meeting<br>2:00pm Worship Planning  | <b>3</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:00am Prayer Shawl<br>5:30pm Youth<br>5:30pm Little Lambs<br>5:30pm Kid's Life<br>6:30pm Confirmation | <b>4</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer   | <b>5</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Bell Choir  | <b>6</b><br>10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble<br><br>Children's Winter Retreat   |
| <b>7 3rd Sunday in Lent</b><br>Communion Sunday<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship Service<br>11:00am Sunday School  | <b>8</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting  | <b>9</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Staff Meeting<br>2:00pm Worship Planning  | <b>10</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>5:30pm Youth<br>5:30pm Little Lambs<br>5:30pm Kid's Life<br>6:30pm Confirmation                        | <b>11</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer  | <b>12</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Bell Choir                                       | <b>13</b><br>10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble   |
| <b>14 4th Sunday in Lent</b><br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship Service<br>11:00am Sunday School<br>Daylight Saving Time Begins<br> | <b>15</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br><br><b>Spring Break 3/15-3/19 church offices closed</b>                                  | <b>16</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer   | <b>17</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer   | <b>18</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer  | <b>19</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer   | <b>20</b><br>First day of spring!<br> |
| <b>21 5th Sunday in Lent</b><br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship Service<br>11:00am Sunday School   | <b>22</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:00 Int. Design Meeting<br>2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting<br>6:00pm Building Comm. Meeting | <b>23</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Staff Meeting<br>2:00pm Worship Planning | <b>24</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>5:30pm Youth<br>5:30pm Little Lambs<br>5:30pm Kid's Life   | <b>25</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer  | <b>26</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Bell Choir                                       | <b>27</b><br>10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble   |
| <b>28 Palm/Passion Sunday</b><br>10:00am Worship Service<br>11:00am Easter Egg Hunt-Centennial Park  | <b>29</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting<br><br><b>Holy Week</b>                                       | <b>30</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Staff Meeting<br>2:00pm Worship Planning | <b>31</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:00am Prayer Shawl<br>5:30pm Youth<br>5:30pm Little Lambs<br>5:30pm Kid's Life                       | <b>1 April</b><br><b>Holy Thursday</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>7:30pm Maundy Thursday Service | <b>2 Good Friday</b><br>9:00am Morning Prayer<br>10:30am Bell Choir<br>7:30pm Tenebrae Service | <b>3</b><br>10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble  |

### Happy Birthday!

1st- Boyd Bulger  
3rd- Lynda White  
5th- Boyd Kline  
Mitzi Bulger  
Claire Matney  
6th- Linda Freeman  
James Chancellor  
Caleb Zur Heiden  
7th- Nancy Nevles  
DeAnn Wilder  
8th- Alyson Gerlach  
10th- Beckie Fulcher  
Hayden Palmer  
JoAnne Buzzett  
11th- Jennifer Sherrill

12th- Danny Tankersley  
Krichelle McGhee  
13th- Anna Hicks  
Thomas Medlin  
14th- Lynne Whitfield  
John McInnis  
Vivian Miller  
Robert Williams  
B.J. Denton  
Elizabeth Furstenberg  
David Odom  
15th- Matthew Howell  
Sarah Sanborn  
18th- Alison Kerigan  
20th- Andy Shoaf  
Joe Bush

21st- Barry Adkison  
Harvey Hennington  
Chuck Tharpe  
Nicole Windolf  
Marjorie May  
22nd- Ann Barnes  
Harold Brown  
23rd- Diane Furstenberg  
24th- Gary Howze  
25th- Jenny Garth  
David Bowman  
26th- Lee Miller Ernst  
Monica Harris  
27th- Jacob Tankersley  
29th- Coy Knox  
30th- Charlie Cox

### Happy Anniversary!

1st- Joe and Mary Bush  
5th- Kevin & Deborah Tuttle  
14th- Skip & Jane Griffies  
Celeste Putnam & Peter Tanzy  
20th- Larry & Kathy Wilson  
Wes & Heather Jones  
21st- Kris & Diane Furstenberg  
30th- Fred & Tamara Flowers

*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](mailto: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](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.

**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.



The Care Closet wants to thank all of the volunteers who worked our outside sales through some very cold, windy weather in January to help us serve folks in our community. We are now in the process of moving to our new location on Williams Avenue across from Ace Hardware. There is still a lot of work to be completed but our goal is to be open for business by mid March.

Our hope is to go back to our pre COVID-19 shopping hours of Thursday and Friday 9-4 and Saturday 9-12 or 9-2. We need store day volunteers to work morning or afternoon shifts. We also need volunteers to help replenish stock on Tuesday mornings.

If you are interested in volunteering with us on a regular basis or as a substitute please contact Cathy Cox at 850-227-6028.

The new Care Closet address is 214 Williams Avenue.

## Pastoral Care



Congratulations to our newest members!

Bill and Brenda Gerspacher joined our church February 28.

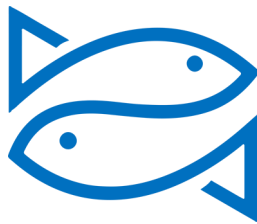
Mary Cummings joined our church February 28.

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. 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.

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## Blessing Bags Ministry and Two Fish Food Market



**The Blessing Bags Ministry** The Blessing Bags Ministry continues to provide weekend meals each week for Port St. Joe Elementary and High School students. Behind the scenes, constantly giving of themselves, is a dedicated group of volunteers. I know we aren't seeing each other due to COVID 19, so it is hard for you to thank them in person. However, we can lift up all of our volunteers in prayer and thank God for these amazing people. Blessing Bags Volunteers: Mike and Amy St. John, Bill and Wendy Reynolds, Linda BeHage, Patsy Cooley, Lynne Andrews, and Eunice Gunter-honorary volunteer.

Blessings to you,  
Ena Norton

**Volunteer Opportunities** The Methodist Care Closet and Two Fish Food Market are seeking volunteers to support our Community Missions. There are many opportunities for you to be a part of these ministries. A copy of the Volunteer Application can be found in the church next to the bulletins or at the Church Ministry Center. Thank you for your support of the Methodist Caring Ministries.

**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.



## 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

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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



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.

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

**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)**

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