



Matthew 5:13

May 2021

VOL. 20, ISSUE 5



FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE

CLASS *of* 2021

*Congratulations
to Our 2021 Port Saint Joe
High School Graduates!*

Zoe Gerlach

Carter Dorsch

*Please join us in celebrating our seniors during the May 16
service, and afterward at a reception in the Great Hall.*



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

**SPECIAL CONCERT:
SOUTHERN SPAIN MEETS THE
FORGOTTEN COAST
SATURDAY, MAY 1 6PM
GREAT HALL**



**COMMUNION SUNDAY
MAY 2 10:00AM
GREAT HALL**



**MOTHER'S DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 9**



**BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY
SUNDAY, MAY 16 10:00AM
GREAT HALL**



**DAY OF PENTECOST
SUNDAY, MAY 23 10:00AM
GREAT HALL
WEAR RED TO CHURCH**



**MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY
MONDAY, MAY 31**



Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,



We are in an interesting phase of ministry right now, where every week things are getting better. Gone are the narratives of the downward spiral. Here are the stories of new life. Each Sunday there are more people in church as people feel safer and ready come back to in-person church. Each week more ministries are restored to health.

Furthermore, we are hitting some major milestones. We have been celebrating the grand opening of the Methodist Care Closet and Two Fish Food Market. We are finalizing our FEMA grant. We are making good progress with our insurance company. Some exciting news is that our Building Committee has finished the draft phase and has sent our project to be engineered and finalized. This means that in a few months we will be soliciting bids for our REBUILD project.

If you have not made it back to in-person worship, we miss you and long to see your face. The month of May has a lot of great worship opportunities for in-person worship. Mother's Day is May 9, Ascension Sunday is May 16, and Pentecost (the Church's birthday – wear red!) is May 23. May 24, Aldersgate Day, marks the beginning of Methodism – when John Wesley had his heart "strangely warmed." That is really what we are about. I hope that this month we might all have our "hearts strangely warmed." As we find external renewal let us not neglect the recovery and healing that needs to take place in our hearts. The world – the church – our families – they will find the transformation that they so badly need, when our hearts find greater conversion in Christ.

Peace of Christ,



Geoffrey



Rev. Chelsey Brown, Associate Pastor

As I am approaching the arrival of Baby Girl this month, I wanted to share with you how appreciative I am for the outpouring of love and generosity from the members of our church here in Port St. Joe. The sweet check-ins, prayers, and baby gifts warmed my heart and has helped my husband and me to feel so much more prepared for this miracle addition to our family. The shower was absolutely wonderful, and this church sure knows how to make someone feel extra special during important life changes and transitions. Thank you for welcoming us into your fold this past year. As we move closer to a "normal" rhythm of relaunching church activities and creating space for the church to gather more regularly, I am looking forward to jumping right in with all of you when I come back from maternity leave.

We can't wait to share our bundle of joy with you! We are truly blessed to call you our church family at this time, and I am so grateful to be a part of such a thriving ministry here that seeks to serve and love this beautiful community. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers while I am learning my new role as a mother.

Even though I have heard a baby takes up a lot of space in both the head and heart, there is still a special place where I will be thinking of our church and wondering how things are going while I am away. Feel free to continue to share your prayer concerns or praises with me through email or text.

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:3-11)

With a Thankful Heart,



Liz Lentz, Children's Director

Children's Ministry

Kids Life and Little Lambs: Children in K3-5th grade can join us at the Methodist Learning Center each Wednesday 5:30-7:00 for Bible lessons, dinner, and worship arts for \$3. May 12th will be our last day until school resumes in August.

End of the Year Party: On Wednesday, May 19th, 5:30-7:30 we will have a pool party at Windmark phase II pool. Wear your bathing suit and bring a towel. Preschoolers must have a parent stay, and kindergarten-5th grade can be dropped off.

Missions: The Care Closet is in need of children's summer clothing. Donations can be dropped off in the bins at the new Care Closet building across from Ace Hardware.

Mother's Day: On Sunday, May 9th at 10:00 we'll have a special worship service for mothers. We hope you'll join us.

Daddy-Daughter Dance: Get dressed up and dance the night away on Friday, May 21st at 7pm. Tickets are \$20 per daddy regardless of the number of daughters. They can be purchased from in the office at Port St. Joe Elementary School, the MLC, and the Ministry Center, 510 E. Fourth Street.

Summer Camp: We'll be going to Blue Lake Methodist Camp in Andalusia, Alabama July 20th-23rd (Tuesday-Friday). This is an overnight camp for children who have completed 3rd-5th grade. The cost will be approximately \$150, but we'll know more once we know the number of people going.



Vacation Bible School will be June 21-25, 9:00-12:00. We need volunteers to help with crafts, recreation, science, and group leaders. Contact Ms. Liz to sign up to help.

Peace of Christ,

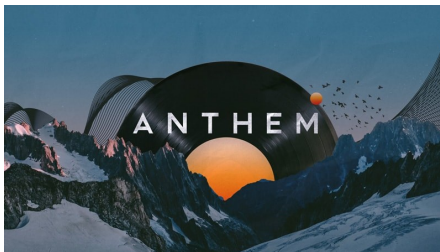
Liz Lentz, Director of Children's Ministry liz@psjumc.org

Lynn Marshall, Youth Director



What a great Confirmation Sunday we had! I am so happy that we had so many youth Confirmed and Baptized. On May 16, we will confirm the ones who could not be with us and we will have a brunch for all of our confirmands.

UPCOMING SERIES OVERVIEW:



When you hear the word "worship," you might think of a church building, a choir, your favorite worship song, or maybe a special tradition. Worship takes a lot of forms, but sometimes we make the mistake of thinking worship is something it's not — or, at least, something much smaller than what it really is. You can worship through song and meaningful traditions, but when's the last time you worshiped by going outside? Or cleaning up your neighborhood? Or making a friend? Or telling God you're angry? In this 4-week series, we'll explore the book of Psalms (worship songs to God) as we discover that worship might be bigger than we ever imagined. Maybe worship isn't just an anthem we sing, but an anthem we live, by worshiping with all of creation, worshiping to remember what God has done, worshiping even when it's difficult, and worshiping together because we're God's family.

MAY 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 (Last night May 19)

Senior Sunday — May 16

Confirmation Lunch — May 16

End of the year Youth Party — TBD (Details will be given to Youth)

Thursday Activities and Field Trips will begin June 3. *Youth must sign up for these activities.*

JULY 26-30 — GENERATE CAMP in Lookout Mountain, GA

Zoe Gerlach



Carter Dorsch



Baptism trough



Confirmands



Paul Brown, Director of Music and Worship Arts

WORSHIPARTS

PAINTING

PHOTOGRAPHY

DANCE

MUSIC

ACTING

FUMC PSJ Sunday Morning Worship

We invite to a morning filled with song, praise, worship, and sermon. Join us every Sunday morning at 10 a.m. Come and be blessed!

May 2- Fifth Sunday of Easter Worship

May 9- Mother's Day Celebration and Worship Service, Special Music with John Sutton

May 16- Ascension Sunday Worship Service

May 23- Day of Pentecost Worship Service

May 30- Trinity Sunday- Special Music FUMC PSJ -Handbell Choir

Chancel Choir

The FUMC PSJ Chancel Choir meets weekly on Saturday mornings. Our practice begins at 10 a.m. in the Great Hall. We invite to sing and worship with us! Please contact Paul Brown for more information on joining our Chancel Choir! Let us sing to the Lord our God!

Hand-Bell Choir

The FUMC PSJ Hand- Bell choir meets weekly on Friday morning. Our practice begins at 10 a.m. in the Great Hall. We invite you to RING and worship with us! Please contact Paul Brown for more information on joining our Hand-Bell Choir. Let us RING to the Lord our God!

Special Concert: Southern Spain Meets the Forgotten Coast - Saturday, May 1 at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall

FUMC PSJ, in partnership with the Isle Newell Foundation, proudly presents Soprano Neldys Crespo, Mezzo Soprano Dr. Tamara Marsh Flowers, and Collaborative Pianist Debbie Lindley in concert performing Spanish Art Songs & Arias, and delightful music from Bizet's opera, *Carmen*! Join us for a fabulous evening of stellar music!

Worship Arts-Kids Life

Worship Arts meets weekly with Kid's Life at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday. We are excited to see our Two Fish Food Pantry Art displayed for every customer to enjoy! Please join us for Kid's Life Worship Arts! We have 3 sessions left before summer break!

Port St. Joe Junior/ Senior High Band Concert- May 6 at 6 p.m. at Port St. Joe High School

Let us celebrate the hard work of our Junior and Senior High band students. Come and join us at PSJ High School for an evening of concert band music!

Acolyte- Greeter-Usher Volunteer Sign Up

FUMC PSJ would love for congregation volunteers to assist in our weekly Sunday Worship Services. Acolyte, greeters, and ushers are needed for each worship service. Please review the sign-up sheet in the Great Hall if you are interested in serving in these ministry options! Let us worship the Lord our God!

Private Lesson Instruction- Piano, Voice, Guitar, & Band Instruments

Contact Paul Brown for monthly registration,
FUMC PSJ Director of Music and Worship Arts
Pbmus2018@gmail.com - 850-319-6782

Jessica Beasley

Staff Pianist

904-557-0118

John Wesley's Three Simple Rules:

Do no harm

Do good

Stay in love with God

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10:00am Vocal Arts Ensemble 6:00pm Concert- Great Hall
2 5th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School 4:00pm Concert- Trinity Church (Apalachicola)	3 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	4 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	5 10:00am Prayer Shawl 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	6 National Day of Prayer	7 10:00am Bell Choir	8 10:00am Vocal Arts Ensemble
9 6th Sunday of Easter/ Mother's Day 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	10 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	11 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	12 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life	13	14 10:00am Bell Choir	15 10:00am Vocal Arts Ensemble
16 Ascension Sunday/ Baccalaureate Sunday 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	17 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	18 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning 6:00pm MLC Graduation	19 10:00am Prayer Shawl 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Children's Ministry Pool Party 5:30pm PSJHS Baccalaureate	20 7:00pm PSJHS Graduation	21 10:00am Bell Choir 7:00pm Daddy /Daughter Dance-Great Hall	22 10:00am Vocal Arts Ensemble
23 Day of Pentecost Wear red to church 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	24 Aldersgate Day 2:00pm Exec. Staff Meeting	25 Last Day of PSJ School 10:30am Staff Meeting 2:00pm Worship Planning	26	27	28 10:00am Bell Choir	29 10:00am Vocal Arts Ensemble
30 Trinity Sunday 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday School	31 Memorial Day Holiday					

Happy Birthday!
 1 Catie Beth Bulger
 Stan Roberson
 Deborah Tuttle
 Pam Perrin
 2 Boyd Pickett
 Ashley Shoaf
 3 Chris Black
 Ann Comforter
 Colby Burke
 4 Al Ray
 5 Dana Langford
 6 Donna Thompson
 Tim Kerigan
 7 Billy Wayne Harris
 Nancy Smith
 Debi Taylor
 Jacob Gentry
 Rick Youngblood
 Maggie Shoaf

9 Bonnie Carrete
 10 Matthew Berry
 11 Marv Gnagey
 12 Joseph Kerigan
 12 Becky Black
 13 Kevin Barnes
 Charlie Lanford
 Desmond Webb
 15 Chad Thompson
 Finley Taunton
 17 Mike Davis
 Eleanor Shoaf
 Aaron Farnsley
 18 Maya Barnes
 Walt Williams
 19 Becky Belin McDaniel
 Ken Hicks
 20 Ed Franklin
 Angelo Jardina

22 Joy Ashbrook
 Leah Richmond
 Michelle Perrin Childs
 24 Bill Norton
 Victor LaFerle
 Erika Balogh
 25 Alford Ramsey
 Joel Norred
 26 Ena Norton
 30 Perry Adkison
 Kendall Hicks
 31 Jordan Dailey
 Jacob Jones
 Bobby Wiley

Happy Anniversary!
 1 David & Marjorie May
 4 David & Joy Ashbrook
 5 Glenn & Linda Elders
 John & Sandra McInnis
 6 Joe Sieber & Julie Coleman
 9 Bruce & Judy Thesenga
 11 Coy & Caitlin Knox
 13 Phil & Janet Lanford
 16 Bill & Linda McGlothlin
 17 Greg & Brenda Woodard
 18 Bill & Karen Stewart
 26 Joe & Barbara Parrilla
 Danny & Janis Tankersley
 29 Joel & Susan Norred
 Mike & Tonya Knox

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, Ministry Center, and the outdoor alcove of the church (bulletin board area).

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

Mask-Optional Zone In order to accommodate the needs of many and to celebrate that the vaccine is now widely distributed among our members, we now have a mask-optional zone to the right when you come in the church.

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

VBS is June 21-25, 9-12. Sign up to volunteer by completing the application at the Ministry Center or contacting Ms. Liz.

We're now on Instagram! Follow us at [fumc_psj](#)

Mask-Optional Zone In order to accommodate the needs of many and to celebrate that the vaccine is now widely distributed among our members, we now have a mask-optional zone to the right when you come in the church.

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00am 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.

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.

Hurricane Michael Housing Repair/Replacement Are you still living in a home damaged by Hurricane Michael? If you owned your home at the time of the storm and it is your primary residence, you may be eligible for Rebuild Florida assistance to repair or replace it. This is a state program launched with federal disaster aid funding to repair, rebuild, or replace eligible homes that still have remaining damage caused by Hurricane Michael. To apply or get more information call 888.530.3025 or go to the website at www.RebuildFlorida.gov.

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.

Special Sundays in May

Guest Speaker Sunday, May 2: Rev. Thaddeus Searcy Rev. Thaddeus Searcy responded to the call to ministry at a very early age. In 2001, he helped plant New Covenant Ministries in Charleston, IL. This church plant reached out to minority students of his alma mater Eastern Illinois University with the gospel of Jesus Christ and provided counseling and hope to the under-served of that community. In 2005, Rev. Searcy joined All Nations Community Church in Homewood, IL as Lead Pastor for Young Adults. In 2007, he became the youngest person ever called to the senior pastorate of Cross and Crown Community Church - a multi-ethnic community church located in the heart of Albany Park on the north side of Chicago. In 2012, he accepted the call to return home to All Nations Community Church, where he served as the Senior Pastor for 2 years. In 2015, God called Rev. Searcy to pioneer a church that's full of life and freedom aptly named Freedom Church in Lansing, IL. He currently serves as Senior Pastor of Freedom Church Ministries with a vibrant and healthy church community. Rev. Searcy has been married to his high school sweetheart, Joena, for 16 years. They have four children: Sofia, Isabella, Armani, and Xavier. Pastor Searcy has a passion for the unchurched and is driven by his desire to see lives impacted through inspiring Worship, the Word of God, and the Work of the Holy Spirit. His interests include Pauline studies, Apologetics, Systematic Theology, and anything related to Golf.

Baccalaureate Sunday We will be honoring our high school graduates, Carter Dorsch and Zoe Gerlach, at our May 16 worship service. Please join us in celebrating our seniors during the service, and afterward at a reception in the Great Hall.

Pentecost Sunday is May 23. Please wear red to church service. To celebrate Pentecost, we will have red velvet cake on the Rotunda after the worship service.



Condolences are extended to the family of longtime member Marie Evans. Marie died April 15 at the age of 101.

FUMC Pastoral Care Team members are 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. If you would like to volunteer, are currently attending college, or will attend college in the fall and would like to participate in FUMC College Ministry, please contact Carla May.

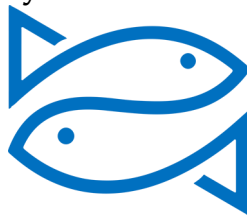
Methodist Care Closet



The Care Closet moved in March to its new location at 214 Williams Avenue. Hours of operation: Thursday-Friday 9am-4pm, Saturday 9am-1pm.

We have store hour volunteers on Thursday, Friday and Saturday but we also need volunteers Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to help sort, bin, and hang donations. Invite your friends and neighbors to volunteer with you. This is a community wide ministry, many of our volunteers are from other denominations. Please give prayerful consideration to volunteering for this community ministry. To volunteer or for more information, contact Cathy Cox 850-227-6028.

Blessing Bags Ministry and Two Fish Food Market



Two Fish Food Market is so grateful to all the people who have made donations to the Market. We want to keep up our Stock the Shelves Campaign. Items needed include canned meats - tuna, chicken, etc., dry packaged potatoes, cereal, dry milk, vegetables, fruits, pasta, Dry Beans, Peanut Butter. Thank you so much for our assistance and contributions. Donations can be dropped off at Two Fish (Monday/Wednesday 9-4, Saturday 9-1) and the Ministry Center (Monday-Thursday 9-4).


The Blessing Bags Ministry The Blessing Bags Ministry continues to provide weekend meals each week for Port St. Joe Elementary and High School students.


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.


Mission Statement


The First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe is called of God to be a Christian fellowship, affirming our beliefs through worship, witness, and service, glorifying God, adhering faithfully to the scriptures, nurturing spiritual growth, and sharing God's forgiveness to all people through the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

Hashtag us via social media:
#psjumc

 Like us on Facebook:
First United Methodist Church-Port St. Joe

 Like Methodist Learning Center on Facebook:
Methodist Learning Center

 Like our youth group on Facebook:
PSJ FUMC YOUTH

 Follow us on Instagram:
fumc_psj

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



Salt Life is a monthly newsletter published by First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe. If you have information to be included in an upcoming edition, or you have any questions or comments regarding the Salt Life Newsletter, please email info@psjumc.org 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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