



Matthew 5:13

September 2020

VOL. 19, ISSUE 9



FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE



We are all in prayer for the folks who were in the path of Hurricane Laura. We know all too well that they are experiencing. We are currently accepting donations for Hurricane Laura Relief up until Labor Day Sunday. The Church lobby, Monument Avenue entry, will be open to receive donations (Note: No Clothing at this time). Please see list below as a reference for Phase 1 Relief Items. Monetary Donations for Hurricane Laura Relief can be dropped by the Ministry Center at 510 4th St. Port St. Joe. There is a secure drop box out front and staff are available inside during working hours. Please write in the memo "Hurricane Laura Relief". You may also mail your check in to our office P. O. Box 266 Port St. Joe, FL 32457.

Phase 1 Relief Items:

Toiletries	Sunblock	Gas Cans
Cleaning Supplies	Diapers	Tents
Tarps	Adult Diapers	Blow Up mattresses
Ropes	Large Ziplock Bags	Brooms
Hammers	Large Garbage Bags	Rakes
Nails	Rubber Boots	Shovels
Pet Food	New Package of Socks	Tool Kits
Zip Ties	Rubber gloves	First Aid Kits
Bug Spray	Large Plastic Bins	Chainsaws
		Masks/work masks

COMMUNION SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 6
10AM GREAT HALL
11AM DRIVE UP OPTION



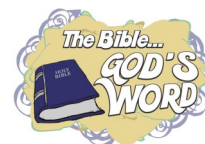
LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7



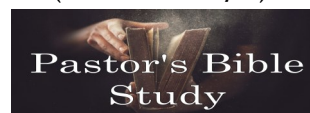
BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
5:30-7:00PM
MINISTRY CENTER



BIBLE SUNDAY
(K & 3RD GRADE)
SEPTEMBER 13
10AM GREAT HALL



PASTOR'S BIBLE SYUDY
WEDNESDAYS 6PM
GREAT HALL
(BEGINNING 9/16)



MORNING BIBLE STUDY
MONDAYS 10AM
GREAT HALL
(BEGINNING 9/21)



UMW SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27 10AM GREAT HALL



Faith • Hope • Love in Action

*Open Minds
Open Hearts
Open Doors*

Rev. Chelsey Brown, Associate Pastor



Change has its highs and lows. There are seasons in life when change is accepted with open arms. Like, when a baby finally sleeps through the night. Parents are usually overjoyed. "I finally can wipe the sleep from my blurry eyes and remember what it was like to be well rested." Or change is welcomed when virus percentages go down and a glimmer of what could be spurs on the horizon.

Years ago, my sister had a friend in a large city who was at risk of being robbed in broad daylight and the friend's actions changed the course of the inevitable. She shouted "Of all days, not today Sir!" And the person stepped back and said "Okay?!" and walked away. Have you been there? Were you hanging by a thread and everything around you is spinning out of control? The once "stable foundation" now has cracks of all kinds and pieces seem to keep breaking away. The change and transition of the times leaves you feeling all out of sorts and all you can muster is "Not Today! I have had enough!"

For many of us we are struggling in mind, body, and soul with this pandemic of a season. This season full of change has impacted all walks of life and it has really been tough. We are ready to open our arms to something more stable and kinder to our bodies and our livelihood.

But what about God's grace in the midst of all these hardships? Have we become too eager to move beyond these dislikable moments that the grace of God right in front of us goes unnoticed? It is almost like we could become so consumed with the uncomfortable and all the uncertainties in our lives that we fail to see and experience God's transformational grace that is ours for the taking in every moment. This awe-inspiring grace produces an inward change and it does not distinguish between the best of times and the worst of times. It produces in us through the power of the Holy Spirit a sure and stable foundation for every change and transition that comes our way. Embracing God's grace does not mean this journey will become smooth and carefree, but it will, even in the painful moments, help us to let go of the shaky foundations of this broken world and let God, who is never changing and always in control, be our unbreakable foundation.

As we step into the fall season, let us be bold in our response to the evils of this world and lean close to God, living full lives in Christ daily through the power of the Holy Spirit, embracing God's grace in every changing moment.

"All human nature vigorously resists grace because grace changes us and the change is painful."
Flannery O'Connor, *The Habit of Being: Letters of Flannery O'Connor*

In God's Grace,

Pastor Chelsey

About Pastor Chelsey Brown

Chelsey grew up in Opp, AL. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Education from Huntingdon College in Montgomery, AL and a Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, KY. During her years in ministry, Chelsey served the United Methodist Church through various local churches in the Montgomery area including Saint James UMC, Frazer UMC, and First UMC of Montgomery. Chelsey has a passion for discipleship and spiritual growth development of the local church, and providing pastoral care for the local church and the surrounding community. Chelsey moved to Gulf County alongside her husband, CJ Brown, who was appointed to FUMC of Wewahatchka, FL in July of 2018. Chelsey has been active in recovery efforts since Hurricane Michael and served in the AWFUMC as a Disaster Case Manager for Gulf County. Chelsey is excited to join FUMC of PSJ staff and continue to serve and share the love of Christ to Port St. Joe Community and the Gulf County area.

Liz Lentz, Children's Director

Children's Ministry

Story Bible Challenge ice cream truck celebration will be Wednesday, September 2. Contact Ms. Liz if your family completed the challenge.

Our **Back to School Bash** will be on Wednesday, September 9 5:30-7:00 in the backyard of the Ministry Center (510 Fourth Street). We will have a waterslide and pizza, so wear a swimsuit and bring a towel.

Bible Sunday is September 13 during the 10 a.m. worship service. Kindergarteners will receive a story Bible and third graders receive Kids Bibles.

Little Lambs and **Kids Life** will resume on Wednesday, September 16 @ 5:30. We will be meeting at the Methodist Learning Center, 218 Long Avenue (across from St. Joe Gas). Children will need to bring \$3 as we will be providing a snack supper for all children. Children can be picked up on the playground between 7:00-7:30.

See you at the Pole is Wednesday, September 23. The students will lead a time of worship and prayer at the school flag pole. Stay tuned for more details.

*Children's ministry activities will follow the school schedule, so if the public-school closes, we will not have children's activities at church.

* Activities and programs are for children in pre-k3 through 5th grade.

Lynn Marshall, Youth Director



WELCOME BACK! It has been too long since we have met in person and I have to say, I AM READY!
We can't wait for what's ahead!

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

A 4-WEEK SERIES FROM ROMANS ON SPIRITUAL HABITS SERIES OVERVIEW:



If your faith were a muscle, how flexible would it be? Could it stretch to your knees? Your shins? Your toes? Or are you not sure you even have any faith to stretch in the first place? Just like your body, if you want a faith that is strong, growing, and capable of carrying you through difficult challenges, you're going to need to stretch it. It might be fun. It might be challenging. But it will definitely be worthwhile. In this series, we'll discover four ways we can stretch our faith from Paul, the author of the book of Romans and a man whose life was completely transformed by Jesus. Thanks to Paul's words, we know we can stretch our faith by making a commitment, by starting something new, and by letting something go. We can even stretch our faith when we feel

like we've failed.

Our **Wednesday Night Youth** will begin on **September 9 5:30 – 7:30 at the STAC House** (620 8th Street) and we will have food, fun and fellowship. Paul Brown will be helping me with some worship arts, Ms. Carolyn will provide dinner and we will have snacks. If you are able, dinner and snacks are \$5. I am always looking for volunteers, so if you want to join this dynamic group, just let me know!

Paul Brown, Director of Music and Worship Arts



FUMC PSJ Music Ministries is excited to expand our Worship Arts Series! From pre -k and beyond, come and explore our Wednesday night after school programs! We hope to see you Wednesday, September 9 for our Back to School Night! Water Slide, Arts Activities, and PIZZA! Pre-k3 through 5th grade, 5:30 – 7 at the Ministry Center, 510 Fourth Street. 6th grade through 12th grade, 5:30 –7 at the Stack House. Let us remember that Jesus was a carpenter. He used his hands not only to work, but to WORSHIP, and so can we! We hope to see you Wednesday, September 9th for our Back to School Night! Water Slide, Arts Activities, and PIZZA! Pre-k3 through 5th grade, 5:30 – 7 at the Ministry Center, 510 Fourth Street. 6h grade through 12th grade, 5:30 –7 at the Stack House.

CHOIR CHIMES ENSEMBLE Jump in and join us for Choir Chimes Ensemble! Rehearsals begin Friday, September 25th at 10 am in the FUMC GREAT HALL. Social distance, and mask/ face shield mitigation are in place, and we are ready to hear YOU ring! PS...Christmas Music is Coming!

VOCAL ARTS Since March 15th our Little Lambs, Young Singers, High School Singers, and Chancel Choir have been on rest due to Covid 19. Where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them. Mathew 18:20

FUMC PSJ VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE is open to members from our choirs, and CONGREGATION! Meeting in small groups has allowed our worship to grow, ignite, and continue to bless those in need while yet, protecting our most vulnerable members. If you would like to know more about our VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE, or wish to join in our rehearsal rotation, please contact Paul.

BO SPRING BAND will be leading us in WORSHIP SEPTEMBER at 10 am service. Thank you to the Bo Spring Band for you service, dedication, and joy you bring to our 850 community!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SUNDAY OF WORSHIP September 27 FUMC PSJ GREAT GALL, 10 am. Join us for a Sunday of Worship led by UMW, our Women Vocal Arts Ensemble, and Pastor Chelsey Brown. Celebrate this day with us!

SOUND ENGINEER, RICK OTT Rick Ott's dedication to our sound system, rebuild, and weekly services is nothing short of a miracle! He has transformed our Great Hall space into a home of ACOUSTICS and WORSHIP. His vast experience in sound engineering, musicianship, and performance production allows our musicians to be comfortable and well prepared for Sunday mornings. Thank you Rick Ott ! Rick Ott- 850-559-9038

VIDEO ENGINEER, LUKE LENTZ To say that we are proud of Luke, is an understatement! Luke Lentz provides FUMC PSJ with weekly Sunday Facebook Live Worship video feeds, and works closely with sound engineer, Rick Ott. From our views of the water, congregation, musicians, and more... WE THANK YOU LUKE for your talent, hard work, and awesome attitude!

STAFF PIANIST, JESSICA BEASLEY Jessica Beasley rehearses and performs weekly with our FUMC PSJ Vocal Arts Ensemble. Her knowledge in piano pedagogy, choral conducting, and Methodist Literature has made an extraordinary contribution to our worship, and department of music.

PRIVATE PIANO INSTRUCTION For lesson registration please contact Mrs. Jessica @ 904-557-0118

BAND METHODS / VOCAL COACHING For band instrument instruction and or voice lessons, please contact Paul.

Paul Brown: Email paul@psjumc.org Call/ Text 850-319-6782

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00am Morning Prayer	2 9:00am Morning Prayer	3 9:00am Morning Prayer	4 9:00am Morning Prayer	5 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
6 Communion 10:00am Worship Service	7 Labor Day Holiday 9:00am Morning Prayer	8 9:00am Morning Prayer	9 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Back to School Bash! (children)	10 9:00am Morning Prayer	11 9:00am Morning Prayer	12 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
13 Bible Sunday (K & 3rd Grade) 10:00am Worship Service	14 9:00am Morning Prayer	15 9:00am Morning Prayer	16 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	17 9:00am Morning Prayer	18 9:00am Morning Prayer	19 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
20 10:00am Worship Service	21 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Morning Bible Study	22 9:00am Morning Prayer	23 See You at the Pole Day 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	24 9:00am Morning Prayer	25 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Choir Ensemble	26 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble
27 UMW Sunday 10:00am Worship Service	28 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Morning Bible Study	29 9:00am Morning Prayer	30 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Youth 5:30pm Little Lambs 5:30pm Kid's Life 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	1 OCTOBER 9:00am Morning Prayer	2 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Choir Ensemble	3 10:30am Vocal Arts Ensemble

Happy Birthday:

1st- Chelsea Flanagan
Geoffrey Lentz
Danice Tyson
Mazie Stone
2nd- Cindy Johnson
George Kelley
Jim McGlone
Cameron Smith
Janie Aubrey
3rd- David Ashbrook
5th- Henry Balogh
Sara Beasley Flowers
6th- Eddie Creamer
7th- Roy Smith
Bill Brown
9th- Bob Rinehart
10th- Lynn Marshall
Michael Keller

11th- Vicki Abrams
12th - Tony Beard
Jaden Grantland
13th- Margaret Roberson
14th- Julia Chrencik
Sylvia Guidry
Anna Till
Lee Wiley
15th- Alex Flanagan
16th- Leisa Pickett
17th- Harold Mathis
Andy Smith
Eric Davis
18th - Phyllis Altstaetter
Kayla Dailey
18th- Dean Stevens
Lila Rentfro
Stephanie Beard
19th - Carla May

20th- Jason Shoaf
Hannah Simpson
21st - Mike Barrett
William Leverett
Charlie Norton
22nd- Victoria Kinlaw
Jacob Kennedy
Gena Loseto
23rd - Kelsie Avent
Luke Gould
24th- Chae Tharpe
Carol Cathey
Ryenne Wich
Noah Wich
26th- Lindsay Furr
27th- Linda Jackson
Scott Smith
28th- Paula Pickett
Robert Ramsey

Chuck Guilford
29th- John Miller
Bob Berry
30th- Garrett Avent

Happy Anniversary:

5th- Joe & Stephanie Rentfro
9th- Steve & Dosie Brightwell
12th- Jim & Marty Spence
13th- Benny & Ann Roberts
14th- Frank & Carol Weber
Fred & Lyn Willis
16th- John & Bernadette
Nagy
20th- Angelo & Susan Jardina
27th- Jason & Ashley Shoaf
29th- Al & Donna Ray

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

Announcements

Prayer Requests Email info@psjunc.org or contact the church office.

Upper Rooms are located in 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.

Sunday Morning Church Services on Campus You must wear a mask, use sanitizer, register and get a temperature check from a staff member, and social distance for on-campus worshipping. We apologize for any inconvenience associated with the new practices and processes that must be put in place as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, our primary responsibility in restarting on-site worship services is to ensure your health and safety.

UMCOR Sager-Brown Volunteers Needed Since 2007, 13 FUMC PSJ teams have traveled to Baldwin, Louisiana's UMCOR Depot to serve at the disaster relief warehouse. This facility prepares and verifies relief kits for disaster-stricken areas around the world. Registration is now open for the 2020 trip, held December 6-12. For more information, contact Skip Griffies 850-340-1767 griffies@yahoo.com. Please note that the current COVID-19 situation may alter this trip. Trip is on hold at this time.

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.

The Disaster Distress Helpline is a 24/7 hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any disaster. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all. Stress, anxiety, and other depression-like symptoms are common reactions after a disaster. Call **1-800-985-5990** or text **TalkWithUs** to **66746** to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

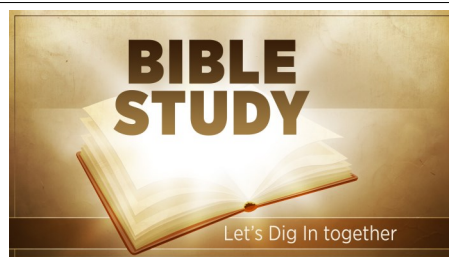
National Suicide Lifeline 1-800-273-8255 Available 24 hours every day.

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://psjunc.org/ways-to-give/> will link you to our online giving page, with instructions. You can also call the office 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 it 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-11:15am. Pastors Geoffrey and Chelsay will be wearing N-95 masks and using gloves to distribute the holy meal



Pastor's Bible Study

Starting on Wednesday, September 16, we will be resuming Pastor's Bible Study at 6:00pm in the Great Hall. We will be studying 1, 2, and 3 John. We review the background information that we attempted to study during the quarantine and dig deep starting in Chapter 3. Bring your Bible and mask.

Monday Morning Bible Study

Starting on September 21, we will begin a Monday morning Bible Study at 10:00am in the Great Hall. We will be studying Adam Hamilton's *Unafraid*. We will be learning about some of the great fears of people in our society and how to live by faith with courage and hope. We will have guide books available, bring your Bible and a mask.

Pastoral Care

Congratulations to our new member, Chris Holley.

Congratulations to the following families upon the birth of their children:

Jacob and Santana Tankersley's son, Ty Hayes Tankersley, was born July 7.
Chris and Courtney Knox's son, Shaw Michael Knox, was born July 8.
Sean and Lianna Sagins' Daughter, Gracelyn Rose Sagins, was born July 14.
Zack and Michelle Child's son, Oliver Elkin Childs, was born August 24.

Condolences are extended to the following family and friends of those departed:

Debbie Tankersley, July 17
Bessie Willis, August 19 (mother of Fred Willis)
Sandy Peterson, June 16 (sister of Lynn Burgher)
Ken Prosser, May 16
Pete White, April 2 (Courtney Knox's grandfather)
Betty McNeill, March 13
Jimmy McNeill, March 26
Gladys Brown, August 24

Kora Rae Williams, daughter of Thomas Williams and Reghan Dakin, was baptized June 28.

Gracelyn Rose Sagins, daughter of Sean and Lianna Sagins, was baptized August 2



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 Covid-19, it is very important for everyone in the church to stay connected. If you would like to sponsor/volunteer with one or more of our FUMC college students during this school year, please contact Carla May 850-227-5512 or carla091962@hotmail.com. If you 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.

Methodist Caring Ministries: Clothing Drive


In August Methodist Caring Ministries and Children's Ministry collaborated to provide clothing for 45 children that we serve through the Blessing Bag weekend feeding program. Thank you to all who made monetary contributions, shopped for clothing, and delivered clothing to homes.





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

 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.



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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