



The Messenger

July 22, 2021

First United Methodist Church
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Note from Jon

Inheritance. I recently received a small inheritance from the estate of my mother. My mom always told us she wanted to leave us something and we always told her that her money was hers to enjoy. However, she managed to leave us an inheritance of money, pictures, a few pieces of furniture and other heirlooms.

But that kind of inheritance pales in comparison to a greater inheritance we received from my parents. They left us a great influence of faith and an inheritance of unconditional love and acceptance. They left us the heirlooms of patience, integrity, honesty, and humility, all of which, are more valuable than any material ones. As an heir to my parents, I have received so much for which I am grateful and am fortunate to have been their child.

As a child of my parents, it was standard practice that I receive an inheritance from them. But there is a greater inheritance that we receive by being a child of God. The Apostle Paul wrote in Romans, about the work of the Holy Spirit "... it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us." Romans 8:16-18

This is our inheritance from God by being children of God. Because we are children of God, we are heirs to the resources of God which is grace, glory, peace, and life. The thing is that an inheritance only comes when someone dies and that someone was Jesus who died to give us our inheritance.

As I think about what to do with my inheritance, I think that I don't want to fritter it away but to use it wisely with meaning and purpose. So, I am discerning that now.

One more thing, since we are all heirs of God because we are children of God, we all have access to the wealth of God's love and grace. Wealth is meant to be passed on so that means that as God's children, we are meant to pass on what we have received to those who come behind us. How is God calling you to share the wealth of His riches of love and grace? Who will benefit from your faith? Questions to ponder as we remember we are the children of God.

Love in Christ, Jon

Upcoming Events

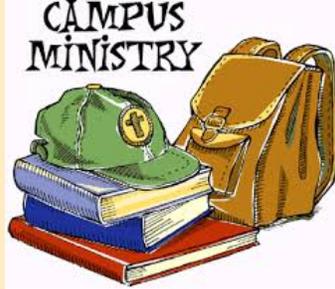


Shine On... all of our family ministry volunteers who are committed to working with the children and youth in our church and community.



Vacation Bible School Recap

We had such an amazing week of Vacation Bible School! Here are some VBS stats to give you a glimpse of the week. We had around 110 kids at the church every night. A total of 140 people volunteered over the week, and we served approximately 1200 dinners. We enjoyed games and crafts and live music every night. For our field day, we used over 40 cans of shaving cream and more than 400 water balloons. On our last night, we had 4 confetti cannons to add to the fun. Our families raised over \$500 to send to the Scotts in Honduras. It was a fantastic 5 nights of VBS!



College Ministry

Our college students will be headed back to classes soon. If you are a college student or know of one (any age!), please call the church office so we can get your name on the list. If you would like to serve on our college ministry team by sending cards and encouragement to our college students, please let the church office or Lori Cripple know!

Two New Ministries

Recovery Group meets every Tuesday at 6:00 pm in Moore Hall. The group uses the 12 steps to Christian recovery.

Prayer Ministry Team will begin meeting on August 4th at 6:00 pm in the brides room in the main sanctuary building. We will be praying for the needs of the world and our community. All are welcome.

Vaccination Pop Up Site

We are looking at the possibility of hosting a pop up vaccination site with the Department of Health here at the church. First, we would like to know how many in our church and community would come. If you or someone you know are definitely interested, call the church office at 863-9619.



Volunteers Needed to Repaint Moore Hall

We are asking for volunteers to come help paint the interior common areas and hallways. We have 3 days we will be painting; Friday, July 24th, Saturday, July 25th, and Tuesday, July 27th beginning at 9 am. Please call the church office (863-9619) and let us know what days you can help.



New Directories

We will begin printing updated directories. If you would like to update your photo or information, you can go to our online directory (CTRN) and make needed changes. Please do so by July 31st.

If you need assistance in updating your information, please contact the church office at 228-863-9619.



iPhone Needed

We are in need of an iPhone 10 or newer for streaming. Please contact the church office at 228-863-9619 if you are able to help.



OAKS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 28th

The monthly meeting of the Older Adults Kindred Spirits will be in the CLC on Wednesday, July 28th. Registration is at 11:30 am with the potluck lunch starting at 11:45 am. The target age for this fellowship is 55 plus, and we welcome everyone. Come out to enjoy a brief respite from your daily routine, meet friends—new and old. "Try it, you'll like it!"

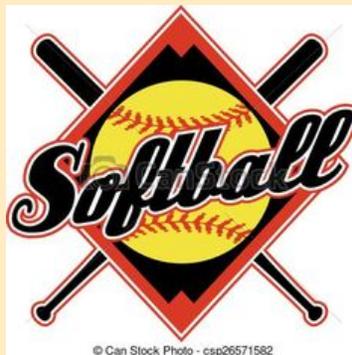
JOIN OAKS FOR A DAY TRIP

The OAKS is planning a day trip for Wednesday, August 4th. We'll go to the Ground Zero Museum in Waveland to enjoy a free admission Smithsonian exhibit on display through the middle of August. We'll leave at 9:30 am from the CLC, sharing rides in our own vehicles. Lunch afterwards will be on your own, some place on the way back to Long Beach. Pre-registration is needed.

The exhibit is titled "Crossroads: Changes in Rural America" and includes 6 large interactive displays. The exhibit shows how rural communities are the backbone of America, changing and adapting over the decades. Join us by signing up at OAKS.

New Church e-mail Address

The new e-mail address for the church is
firststumclb@gmail.com



Men and Women's Softball Schedule

Men

July 27th @ 6:15 pm

July 27th @ 7:30 pm

August 3rd @ 6:15 pm

Women

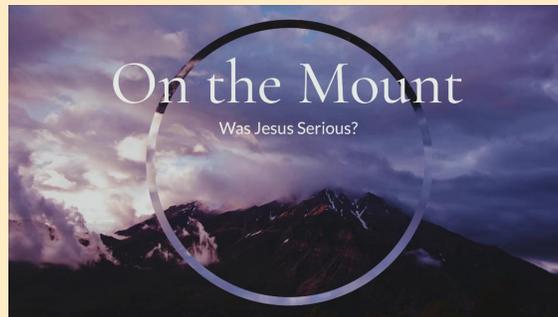
August 2nd @ 7:30 pm

All games will be played at the Gulfport Sportsplex.

JULY YOUTH CALENDAR

- JULY 4TH - NO YOUTH - HAPPY 4TH!
- JULY 7TH - VBS SET UP 10 -12 AM
- JULY 8TH - VBS SET UP 6-8 PM
- JULY 9TH - VBS SET UP 10-12 AM
- JULY 10TH -VBS SET UP 9 AM-UNTIL DONE
- JULY 11TH -15TH VBS - 5:30-8:00 - DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP TO HELP
- JULY 16TH - VBS CLEAN UP 9AM
- JULY 18TH - SUNDAY FUN DAY -WAVE POOL AT BUCCANEER STATE PARK 4-8 MEET AT YOUTH HALL BRING MONEY FOR SNACKS
- JULY 20TH -WORK DAY IN HERITAGE HALL 9-3 LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED
- JULY 22ND -WORK DAY LBMS 5:30-8:00 MEET AT LBMS DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED
- JULY 25TH - SUNDAY FUN DAY -DETAILS TO COME
- JULY 27TH - SEASHORE MISSION WORK DAY 8:30-4 BRING A SACK LUNCH AND PLENTY OF WATER

Sign up to help with VBS on the church websites.



New Sermon Series

Join us for our next series at the Main Campus as we explore Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. We will explore how Jesus wants us to live out our faith. We will be using the book, What if Jesus was Serious? By Skye Jethani.

Pick up your copy in the lobby.

July 25th—September 5th

Upcoming Sermons

July 25th

Main Campus Worship "On the Mount: Good News of the Kingdom" Matthew 4: 12-25

The Well Worship "Esther"

Book of Esther

August 1st

Main Campus Worship "On the Mount: What a Blessing in the Kingdom?"

Matthew 5:1-12

The Well Worship "Esther"

Book of Esther



Amazon Smile

Follow instructions below and give to your church.

1. Your first step, is to select FUMCLB as your charity. Simply go to the following link and logon to your Amazon account: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/64-0334099>
2. At that point, verify that you are choosing FUMCLB as your charity. Then click the button to start shopping as usual.
3. In future shopping trips to Amazon, ALWAYS go to the link <http://smile.amazon.com> to ensure that your shopping produces donations for our church. If you shop at the regular Amazon link, you will NOT produce donations.



PC Havens, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Lois Jones, Connie Durham, Janis Slade, Shorty Haulk, Jo Holyfield, Marie Ward, John French, Chuck Cruthirds, Hank Viehmann, Charlie & Betty Gibson, Sherry Alley, Andrew Beets, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Ann Munter, Spencer Humphrey, Pam Upton, Lil Jobe, Lorrie Schiro, Louise Travis, Candy Claeys, Virginia Barnes, Dawn McGinn, Cindy Gates, John Bull, Jake DeHut, Farra Wicks, Joyce St. John, William Hall, Harry Brax, Pete Seyfarth, Jimmy Sample, Steve Wood, Charles & Lisa Oliver, David Berry, Imogene Hoffman, Pam Buell, Johnny Kersnac, and McLellan baby

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 863-9619 or by email to prayer@fumclb.org.



We would like to express our Christian love and sympathy to Sarah Leiterman at the death of her mother, Vernona Murphy.



We would like to welcome Lowell & Cynthia Bland into our church family of faith here at FUMCLB.

We would like to welcome Art & Debra Stout into our church family of faith here at FUMCLB.



Jeanie Pollard, organist at FUMC Gulfport, Kenny Myrick, organist at FBC Laurel, and Jason Ross, pianist at FUMCLB, will play a program of sacred piano and organ music at FUMC Gulfport on August 4th at 11:00 am. All are invited.



Big THANKS to all of those who came to help spruce up Heritage Hall! Could

not have done the projects without the marvelous youth, great lunch by Terry Hull, and wonderful all around help by Shirley Gay, Christy & Mike Tate, and Jon Kaufman. Still a couple of projects to finish up, but be sure to stop by and look at the progress (especially the south door project by Grace Bennett). If you are interested in helping finishing up one of the projects, get in contact with Mary Woodruff or Mandy Long.

Calendar

Sunday, July 25th

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USA Fleming Auditorium & Online
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Sunday Fun Day

Monday, July 26th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Lay Leadership Meeting in CLC

Tuesday, July 27th

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in Moore Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Blood Drive in the CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Recovery Group Moore Hall

Wednesday, July 28th

- 11:30 a.m. OAKS Luncheon
- 6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, July 29th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Sunday, August 1st

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM Fleming Auditorium & Online
- 5:00 p.m. Youth

Monday, August 2nd

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Tuesday, August 3rd

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC

6:00 p.m. Recovery Group Moore Hall

Wednesday, August 4th

6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, August 5th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Rev. Jon Kaufman

662-279-4993

Email address: jon.kaufman@fumclb.org

Rev. Ben Barlow

228-806-2787

Email address: ben@thewelllongbeach.org

Our Mission

Make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

To be a church that makes disciples that Live Like Jesus, Love Like Jesus, and Serve Like Jesus.