



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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Main Sanctuary Renovation

I want to keep you up to date with information.

April 19 is the date for the Main Sanctuary to be closed and worship will be moved for that day.

If you worship at 11 o'clock, plan on joining us on April 19 in Wesley Hall of the Crossroads Center for our Traditional Service.



If you worship at the 9:45 Contemporary Service, it might be just a little shorter on that day in order to accommodate the attendance changeover to the next service.

So starting around Monday, April 13, the Main Sanctuary will be closed and work will begin. The primary goal at this point is to remove the stage and relocate the kneeling rail.

As of this writing, the Trustees are still investigating flooring. My gut feeling is that it is possible this work will be done in phases. Phase one will be the removal of the stage. If so, then the Main Sanctuary should be closed (and worship moved) for only one Sunday. The flooring around the altar might not be perfect afterward, but will be functional. Also, there will be a BIG gap between the platform and the front pew.

And please note: it is possible that all the work will be done well before Sunday. But because of the lack of certainty, I'm deciding to simply move worship for April 19.

Then, at a later date (late May or June), phase two may involve re-flooring the whole sanctuary (which will involve moving the pews). The modifications to the Chancel/Platform area would also happen. And finally, the pews will be re-spaced into their final positions adding a few inches between each pew for better access.

The other option is that all of the work will be done at once which will require the Traditional Worship to be moved for a couple of weeks.

Please check your email, Facebook, and the Church Website for up-to-date information.

As I said at our last Administrative Board meeting, this is a time for patience and unity as we work through this challenge. The end result will be a beautiful and more functional sanctuary.

Stained Glass Auctions

Here is an update from all of our auctions and the proceeds destination.

July 2025 Missions \$3,379
Sept 2025 Worship Technology \$4,401
Nov 2025 Benevolence \$1,690
March 2026 Debt Reduction \$3,628
May 2026 Missionary Pastor Kris in Poland
July 2026 To be determined

Thus the total raised so far from this project is: \$13,098

And there are two more actions to go. The July auction will feature the only full window (32" x 36") we are offering.

Special thanks to the craftsmen who have been involved in creating so many wonderful pieces:
Bob McCrory, Alesha Dabbs, Jim Hight, and Warren Caruso. This has been such an amazing project, and I'm thankful for the generous gift of time and skill by these church members.

*My Hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness.*

-Pastor Ronnie

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



***Palm Sunday Service & Children's Festival
March 29****

One Combined Service at 10:30AM / Main Sanctuary
Adult Sunday school / 9:30-10:30AM.
Nursery & Kids Sunday School / 9:30 - 10:15AM, 6 wks-5th grade.
Kids will line up at 10:15AM in the Main Sanctuary
for the procession of the Palms.
Children's Church / 10:45 - 11:30AM.
Lunch Served / 11:40AM.
Children's Festival begins at noon with games, face painting,
bounce house & our annual Easter Egg Hunt.
Bring your Easter basket!

Wednesday / April 1

Children, Youth and small groups will not meet.
Chancel Choir will meet.

Maundy Thursday / Communion, April 2*

6:30PM / Main Sanctuary / FB Livestreamed

Good Friday / Tenebrae, April 3*

6:30PM / Main Sanctuary / FB Livestreamed

Easter / Resurrection Sunday, April 5*

8:30AM / Christ Chapel
9:45AM / The Crossroads Center / FB Livestreamed
11:00AM / Main Sanctuary / FB Livestreamed
Adult Sunday School 9:45AM & 11:00AM
Nursery, 6wks-3yrs / Kids St.
Children's Sunday School, 9:45AM / Kids St.
Children's Church, 11:00AM / Main Sanctuary

**Childcare available on Kids St. for ages 6 wks-4 yrs.*

**FB live-streamed at FirstCrestview*

Discovery Sunday

This year our annual dynamic youth led worship service will be held on Sunday, **April 12** at the 9:45AM 'The Well' service at the Crossroads Center. Pastor Ronnie will preach and offer Communion at our Traditional services, 8:30AM (Christ Chapel) & 11:00AM (Main Sanctuary). You don't want to miss it- come be blessed!



Bake Sale

Cookies, brownies, cakes, and pies will be offered on Discovery Sunday, **April 12** in the CRC. All proceeds will go to our Women's Service Group Missions.



MINISTRY UPDATES

Children's Ministry

Parents Night Out is scheduled for Friday, May 8, from 5:30 - 8:30. This is always a fun event for the children and a wonderful family ministry. We would love to be able to allow more children to attend. If you are available to help with this event, please contact the church office or let us know on your grace note on Sunday.



Get ready for an unforgettable rainforest adventure packed with faith, fun, and friendship at Rainforest Falls VBS! Kids will journey deep into the rainforest as they discover God's amazing love through exciting Bible stories, high-energy music, fun games, creative activities, and new friendships.

Children ages 4 years old through 5th grade are invited to join us **July 20–23**, 6:00- 8:00, for four exciting evenings of faith, friendship, music, crafts, games, and hands-on learning. We will have family night and dinner Friday, July 24, at 6:00.

Our VBS is free for kids to participate and with your help we try to make it as fun as possible with the decorations and theme. This year we have an Amazon wish list for VBS supplies that is already active. If you would like to consider

purchasing items to help make Rainforest Falls a TREE-MENDOUS experience for the kids you can check out our Amazon wish list by clicking this link.

<https://a.co/7kPyEHd>

Vacation Bible School is our biggest children's ministry event of the year, and it's only possible with the help of volunteers. There are ways to help before, during, and after VBS. Please be prayerfully, considering how you can support this event. More announcements about this will be coming soon!

-Children's Ministry / *Vicky Anchor*

New Small Group Begins!

A Walk Through the Word is a Bible Study that Pastor Art Luckie started many years ago. I now teach the study, which meets every Monday night at 6:30 in the Crossroads Center of the church. It is an ongoing study without period breaks. I teach different books of the Bible, in no certain order. We are presently in the Book of Acts. The only book you will need for this class is your Bible, whatever translation you like to use. Now that we are meeting at the church, rather than my home, there is much more room, so anyone who would like to join us is welcome.

-*Rosemary Luckie*



Missions

UMCOR Sager Brown

For many years, our church has organized teams to serve at the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) facility located in Baldwin, Louisiana. Through these efforts, we actively participated in assembling various kits which were distributed globally, and disaster relief kits that were delivered across the United States.

This mission was both enjoyable and fulfilling as we worked alongside teams from across the U.S. knowing that the work of our hands would benefit those in need. Sager Brown will be closing at the end of this year. Plans are to modernize the way the relief agency manages materials while reducing costs to strengthen its disaster response ministry. UMCOR will seek an experienced logistics partner and expand collaboration with affiliate warehouses across the country.

I am saddened that we will no longer be able to go to Sager Brown. Our church has always been committed to service, and I am sure we will discover new mission opportunities where we can continue to make a positive impact and extend our reach to those in need.

I thank God for the opportunity of working at Sager Brown, and you, Church Family, your unfailing support.

Blessings,
-*Pam Hight*



Women's Service Group

First Methodist Women's Service Group met on March 6, 2026.

Our meetings are on the first Friday of each month. Each meeting begins with a

meaningful devotion to lead us into discussions about ways to serve the Lord by serving our church and community.

Many thanks to all who helped us as we served up our Baked Spaghetti at the March Community Dinner.

Sunday April 12 will be filled with fun starting with serving breakfast to the youth and adult leaders participating in the Discovery Weekend Activity. We are thankful to have the opportunity to feed the youth of our church on the culmination of their fantastic weekend of spiritual growth.

Also, on **Sunday April 12** we will be having our annual Bake Sale. Come on by and see all the delicious goodies we have for you to take home and enjoy. Proceeds from the bake sale will help fund the various projects and missions we have planned for 2026.

All FMC ladies and friends of the community are invited to join us for our next meeting, April 3, 2026, at 10:00 in the Crossroads Center Asbury Room.



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." – 1 Peter 4:10

Yarn Ministry

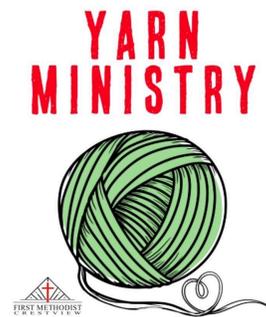
We have been commissioned by our own Wesleyan Child Care Center to make blankets to be used at nap time and for their dollies & stuffies, and smaller blankets to use in their housekeeping centers as rugs, dishcloths and table cloths inside their classrooms and playground. This is a work of love and we are thrilled to know that our littles at WCCC will enjoy the blessings made with our hands. Our meetings in March will be **Tues, April 14 & 28, at 6:00PM** in Rm 213 (aka Yarnia).

We're looking forward to connecting & reaching out to others to further God's kingdom through loads of yarn and love!

-Cathrin Owens

"May the kindness of the Lord our God be upon us; And confirm for us the work of our hands; Yes, confirm the work of our hands." Psalm 90:17

"We look for wool and linen, and work with our hands in delight." Proverbs 31:13



Crestview Prayer Network

Learn what is going on in the Crestview Christian community!

The Crestview Prayer Network meets the first Wednesday of each month to share fellowship and goings-on in the different churches in the North Okaloosa Area.

The next meeting for the Crestview Prayer Network will be **April 1** at noon, at Hideaway Pizza downtown.

Come pray for your hometown!



CALENDARS

April Greeters, Ushers & Liturgists

Holy Week Services / Main Sanctuary

April 2 / Maundy Thursday / 6:30pm

Greeters: Connie Stapp and Melanie Mathis

Office Door: Jim Hight

Lock Doors & lights: Dax Reeves

April 3 / Good Friday / 6:30pm

Greeters: Melanie Mathis and Connie Stapp

Office Door lock: Jim Hight

Lock Doors & lights: Dax Reeves

Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM

Greeters

5- Kaleb and Lindsey Reynolds

12- Kit Callahan

19- Debbie Watson

26- Peggy Harkness

Ushers

David Bloom & Jacob Dabbs

Contemporary / The Crossroads Center 9:45AM

Greeters & Ushers: 1. Jan Lee 2. John & Marcy Pennell 3. Haley Smith 4. Keller family

Liturgists (In Sunday order): 1. Melvin Candelario 2. Aimee Keller 3. Nell Sutherland 4. Jody Woodward 5. Kathy McKinley

Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM

Greeters and Ushers

4/5 Steve and Kathy Fowler and Connie Stapp

4/12 Phillip and Melanie Mathis

4/19 Ed and Joanne Guzowski

4/26 Glenda McMasters and Dee Stager

Ushers

4/5 Burt Colt- Tom Saunders- Tom Giovanini

Ed Guzowski- Jayne Hager -

Upstairs- Dax Reeves

4/12 Tom Giovanini and Eddie Hager

4/19 Burt Colt and Dax Reeves

4/26 Eddie Hager and Tom Saunders

Office Door

4/5 Jim Hight and Mac McKinley

4/12 - 4/26 Jim Hight

Lock doors and lights

4/5 Dax Reeves and Mac McKinley

4/12 Dax Reeves

4/19 Dax Reeves

4/26 Dax Reeves

Liturgists (In Sunday order): 1. Phil Estrem 2.Kathy McKinley 3. Margaret Larson 4.Sarah Fordyce 5. Mike Steen

Important Dates in April

April 1- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM Hideaway Pizza
April 2- Maundy Thursday service 6:30PM Main Sanct.
April 3- Women's Service Group 10:00AM CRC
Good Friday service 6:30PM Main Sanct.
April 5- Easter Sunday
April 6- Easter Monday / office is closed
April 12- Youth Discovery 9:45AM CRC
Women's Service Group Bake Sale CRC
April 13- 8th Ave Methodist Men 6:00PM CRC
April 14- Worship Committee 5:30PM Conf Rm
-Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213
April 15- Small Groups end
April 18 - Game Night for Grown Ups 4:30-7:00PM CRC (request nursery by 4/12)
April 20- May newsletter deadline
April 21- Missions 6:30PM Rm 213
April 28- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213

*FH- Fellowship Hall, Conf Rm- Conference Room, CRC- The Crossroads Center, Youth Rm- Youth Room
Please see firstcrestview.com calendar for any updates or changes

Looking Forward to May

May 1- Women's Service Group 10:00AM CRC
May 3 through 5- Annual Conference
May 6- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM Hideaway Pizza
May 7- World Day of Prayer
May 8- Parents Night Out 5:30-8:30PM
May 11- 8th Ave Methodist Men 6:00PM FH
May 12- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213
May 16- Game Night for Grown Ups 4:30-7:00PM CRC (request nursery by 5/9)
May 17- Trustees 3:00PM Conf Rm
-Finance 5:00PM Rm 213
May 18- June newsletter deadline
May 20- CommUNITY Dinner 5:30PM CRC Hosted by Soup Kitchen Ministry
- Church Council 6:30PM CRC
May 24- Pentecost Sunday **WEAR RED!**
- Graduation Sunday
May 25- Office Closed / Memorial Day
May 26- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM Rm 213

*FH- Fellowship Hall, Conf Rm- Conference Room, CRC- The Crossroads Center, Youth Rm- Youth Room
Please see firstcrestview.com calendar for any updates or changes

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION



Resurrection Sunday Prayer

It was always your will
that Israel should find,
in Jesus Christ,
the one who would bring them home,
lost sheep returning
to the Shepherd who is their King.

And to that fold
would come others,
from every nation upon earth,
as prophets had foretold,
including those gathered here today
to honour your name.

Gracious God, we praise you
for the promise of Scripture,
the depth of your love
and our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

- Author Unknown

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH INFO

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Morning Glory at 8:30AM
Christ Chapel

The Well / Contemporary at 9:45AM

The Crossroads Center / FB Live

Traditions at 11:00AM

Main Sanctuary / FB Live

First Methodist Office Schedule

Mon - Thurs 9:00AM- 4:00PM

Staff Meetings Mondays 9:30-11:30AM

Lunch 11:30-12:30PM

Office Closure

April 6 / Easter Monday

First Methodist Staff Contacts

Staff:

Pastor - Rev. Ronnie Bearden, drnonbearden@hotmail.com
Associate Pastor - Rev. Kathy McKinley, fmcassociatepastor@gmail.com
Church Administrator - Angie Arnold, firstcrestview@gmail.com
Church Secretary - Cathrin Owens, office.firstcrestview@gmail.com
Children's Ministry, kidsstreetcrestview@gmail.com,
Youth Ministry - David Smith, firstcrestviewyouth@gmail.com
Facilities Manager - Chris Woodward, fmfacilities599@gmail.com
Custodian - Jody Waddell, fmcustodian@gmail.com
Music, Contemporary - Rikki Ordinario
Music, Traditional - Kevin Lusk
Organist - Leon Curenton
Wesleyan Child Care Center - Osa Bell /
Director, wesleyanchildcare@gmail.com

Ministry Addresses:

Soup Kitchen- Deb Lubas, fmsoupkitchen@gmail.com
Women's Service Group- wsgcrestview@gmail.com
8th Avenue Methodist Men- David Ordoñez
8thavemethodistmen@gmail.com

First Methodist Church

599 Eighth Ave, Crestview, FL 32536, 850-682-8994

For all the latest from FMC please visit:

Website & calendar: www.firstcrestview.com

App store: FirstCrestview



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