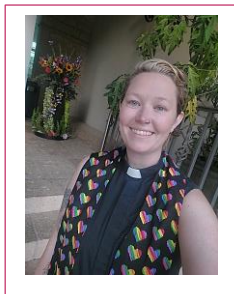




MAY 2026

The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of First United Methodist Church of Pinellas Park



BRITTANY'S BITS

Beloved, Grace and peace to you as we enter the month of May (a season that invites both growth and reflection). I am looking forward to another year of ministry together. It is truly a joy to be your Pastor! I am grateful for the ways you continue to show up for one another and for our wider community during a time that calls for both faith and courage.

On April 26th, we gathered for a Church Conference that marked an important step in our shared journey. With a vote of 43 to 3, you approved moving forward in working with Atlantic Pacific Communities to begin negotiating terms for a possible sales contract. This decision reflects both the seriousness of our current realities and the hope that we might discover new ways to sustain and strengthen our missions and ministries.

At this stage, no final decisions have been made. We are still in a process of discernment and exploration. We continue to be mindful stewards, cutting expenses where we can and working together to sustain the life of the church. As conversations progress around a potential site plan and contract, please know this clearly:

before any contract is signed, there will be time for discussion, questions, and another Church Conference where a vote will take place.

This is not just a time of decision-making—it is a time of spiritual discernment. We are invited to reflect deeply on what it means to be the church, drawing inspiration from Acts 2. The early believers shared what they had, cared for one another, and kept their focus not only on their own needs but on the needs of the community around them. They broke bread together, prayed together, and worshipped with glad and sincere hearts.

That same calling is before us now. In the midst of uncertainty, we must continue to lean into the practices that shape us: gathering at the table, lifting one another in prayer, and remaining rooted in worship. These are not just traditions, they are the very heartbeat of who we are.

May also offers us several meaningful opportunities to live out this calling beyond our walls:

- * **May 4th, 6–9pm:** We are invited to participate in an **Interfaith Networking Event** at USF St. Pete—a chance to build relationships and understanding across faith communities.
- * **May 15th, 9am–4pm:** Belonging Inc will host an **Anti-Racism Pilgrimage** in St. Augustine, offering a powerful opportunity for learning, reflection, and growth.
- * **May 23rd:** We will co-host with CAIR an Islamophobia **Anti Hate Training** in our Fellowship Hall, (time tbd) continuing our commitment to justice, compassion, and neighborly love.
- * **Sunday, May 24th** at 11:00a: We will gather for ****Worship in the Park**** at Freedom Lake Park, Pavilion #2. This will be a joyful time of worship in creation, and it will also serve as our monthly potluck—so bring a picnic-style side dish to share!

Each of these moments is an invitation—to listen, to learn, to connect, and to embody Christ's love in tangible ways. Friends, we are walking a path that requires trust: trust in God, trust in one another, and trust that even in seasons of change, God is at work. Let us continue to be a people who share life together, who remain open to the Spirit's leading, and who seek not only our own well-being, but the flourishing of our neighbors.

- With hope and gratitude,
Pastor Brittany

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE NEWS

As you have probably heard by now, the Bishop and his cabinet have decided that Pastor Brittany Leclair will be staying with us another year. This will be beneficial for us as we continue to discern about our facilities and ministries in the coming days.

On another note, we are extremely proud that she has completed her application to become a Provisional Elder. This 72-page paper of her

beliefs and skills was a major undertaking. There will be an interview process following acceptance of her paper.

Please continue to pray for Pastor Brittany and her family as she leads us into this year. An encouraging note would be very much appreciated as well.

Susan Houston
Staff Parish Chair



PENTECOST SUNDAY: MAY 24TH: WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE

Worship in the Park

Join with us as we celebrate two special days together:
Memorial Day and Pentecost Sunday!

Mayors Park at Freedom Lake: 9990 – 46th St. N.
(Follow the signs to the location;
we will meet by the fighter jet.)

Service: 11:00; Lunch: 12:00

Bring a covered dish (that doesn't need to be heated).

This event replaces our monthly third-Sunday covered dish luncheon.

There will be no service at the church location on this Sunday;

Adult Sunday School *will* be held at the usual time at the church location.

You are welcome to bring a camp chair or other comfortable chair.



TRUSTEES UPDATE

As Trustees, we recognize that this is a season of important decisions and ongoing conversations for our church. We are committed to approaching every step with transparency, care, and a deep sense of responsibility to both our congregation and the future of our ministry.

Over the past several weeks, we have been actively reviewing options, maintaining our facilities, and working closely with church leadership to ensure that any decisions made reflect both our current needs and long-term vision. This includes continued discussion around

property matters, necessary repairs, and planning for sustainability.

We understand that change can bring uncertainty, but it also brings opportunity. Our focus remains on being faithful stewards of what has been entrusted to us while supporting the mission and ministry of the church.

We encourage everyone to stay engaged, ask questions, and continue to pray for wisdom and unity as we move forward together.

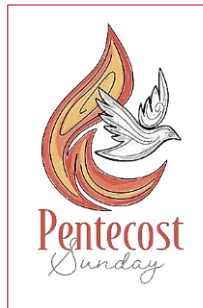
– **Board of Trustees**



May 7th



May 10th



May 24th



05/05	Amber O'Tyson
05/09	Sarai Rodriguez
05/12	Connie Vannatta
05/15	Mark Linneman Nicole Wood
05/17	Paul Brzozowski
05/21	Joselyn Clark

MAY MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, & EVENTS

Free Meals: Wed., 11:00 am, FH: May 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

First Monday Group: Schedule Change: Monday, May 11th, 5:30 pm, Village Inn, 9107 – 4th St. N., St. Petersburg

Deborah Circle: Tuesday, May 12th, 12:30 pm, lunch out at Olive Garden, 6700 US Hwy 19 N, Pinellas Park

Third-Sunday Potluck: Schedule Change : Sun., **May 24th**, 12:00 pm, after **Worship in the Park** at Freedom Lake in Mayors Park

RUMMAGE SALE REPORT

The Rummage Sale provided **more than \$1,000** for the church budget and about **\$150** for Summer Camp scholarships to help the families of the kids who will be attending.

If you would like to donate to church camp scholarships, you can add the funds to your Sunday envelope. Write the amount and a note indicating that it is for Camp Scholarships.

We appreciate everyone's support of our children and youth.

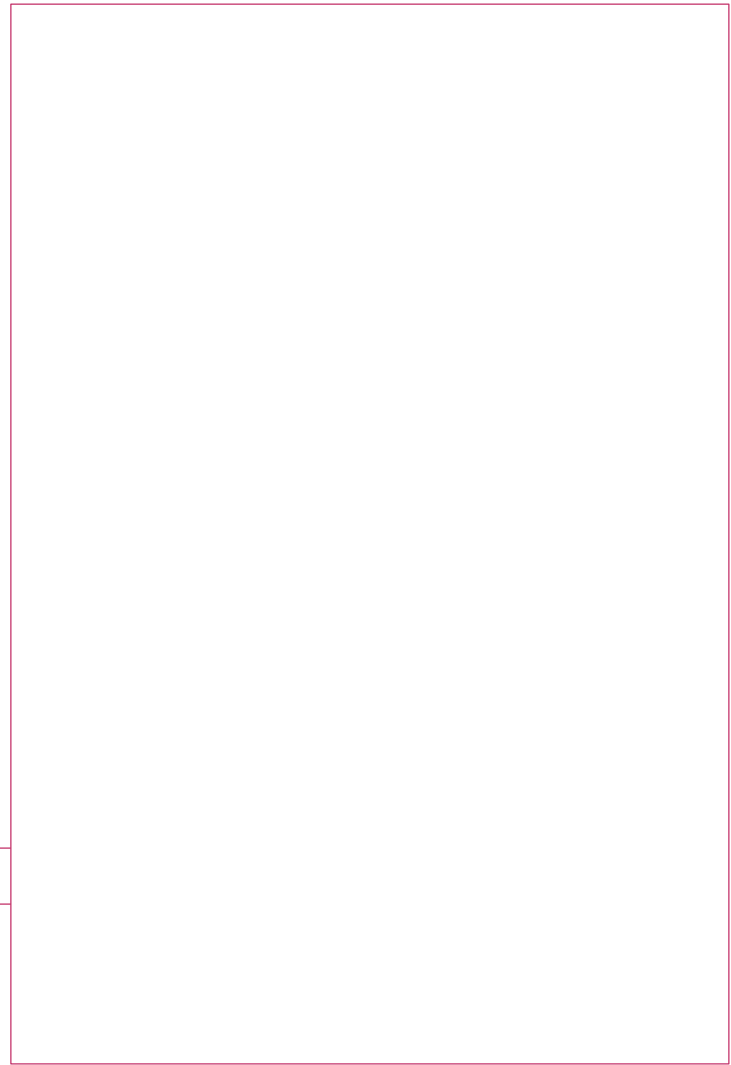
- **Loretta Wilcox,**
Youth Director

- Loretta Wilcox, 637-3534

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 9:00am Thrift Store (TS) 5:00pm Celebrate Recovery
3 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (Partitioned off section behind Fellowship Hall) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc)	4 9am – 3pm Victory High School	5 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i> 9am – 3pm Victory High School 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf.	6 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 9am – 3pm Victory High School 11:00am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR) 6:30pm Youth Mtg. (FH)	7 9am – 3pm Victory High School 6:00pm Theater Exceptional (FH)	8 9am – 3pm Victory High School	9 9:00am Thrift Store (TS) 5:00pm Celebrate Recovery
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (Partitioned off section behind Fellowship Hall) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc) 12:00pm Trustees (LIB)	11 9am – 3pm Victory High School First Monday Group [Schedule Change], 5:30 pm, Village Inn, 9107 – 4 th St. N., St. Petersburg	12 9am – 3pm Victory High School 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf. Deborah Circle, 12:30pm, Olive Garden, 6700 US Hwy 19 N.	13 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 9am – 3pm Victory High School 11:00am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Youth Mtg. (FH) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR)	14 9am – 3pm Victory High School 6:00pm Theater Exceptional (FH)	15 9am – 3pm Victory High School	16 9:00am Thrift Store (TS) 5:00pm Celebrate Recovery
17 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (Partitioned off section behind Fellowship Hall) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc)	18 9am – 3pm Victory High School	19 9am – 3pm Victory High School 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf.	20 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 9am – 3pm Victory High School 11:00am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR) 6:30pm Youth Mtg. (FH)	21 6:00pm Theater Exceptional (FH)	22 Private Rental: Preschool Graduation in Sanctuary	23 9:00am Thrift Store (TS) 5:00pm Celebrate Recovery
24 <i>Pentecost</i> 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (Partitioned off section behind Fellowship Hall) 11:00am <i>Worship in the Park: Freedom Lake at Mayor's Park with Potluck Luncheon, 12:00pm</i>	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf. 6:00pm Finance Committee (FH) 7:00pm Ministry Council (FH)	27 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 11:00am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR) 6:30pm Youth Mtg. (FH)	28 6:00pm Theater Exceptional (FH)	29	30 9:00am Thrift Store (TS) 5:00pm Celebrate Recovery
31 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (Partitioned off section behind Fellowship Hall) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc)						

A MOTHER'S REFLECTIONS





**First United Methodist Church of Pinellas Park
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<http://www.fumcpp.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/fumc.pinellaspark>

https://twitter.com/#!/FUMC_PPark

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Sunday, Monday, Friday, and Saturday: Closed

Pastor Brittany Leclair

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pastorbleclair@gmail.com

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Prayer Chapel Angels Coordinator:
Bobbi Stockslager 409-6765

Adult Music Director/Organist

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**Children and Youth Music
Director**

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Youth Ministry

Loretta Wilcox 637-3534
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Facebook

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wdngsngr03@yahoo.com
Mike Coate (Website) 432-2078
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Deborah Circle

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Thrift Store

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Joan Berriault 460-5786
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Nominations

Chair: Pastor Brittany 546-5741