



Clearview
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Alive in Christ

A people being transformed



5th Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

9:30 am • Sanctuary & Online

CHURCH OFFICE

4515 38th Ave N • St. Petersburg, FL 33713
(727) 522-4673 • clearviewumc.org

Tuesday & Thursday 1-5 pm

The pastors are available by appointment

Co-Pastor – Rev. Erick Ashley – erick@spconnection.org

Co-Pastor – Rev. Tracie Ashley – tracie@spconnection.org

Associate Pastor – Rev. Ellie Fox – ellie@spconnection.org

Administrative Assistant – Patti Marshall – patti@spconnection.org

Custodian – Bill Givens | Lawn & Landscape – Tony Stowers

Bishop of the Florida Annual Conference – Rev. Tom Berlin

Gulf Central District Superintendent – Rev. Emily Hotho

WELCOME

Welcome to Clearview United Methodist Church. Each and every week we look forward to this time to gather as a community. We are glad YOU are here today with us!

You can use this worship guide to help lead through worship and throughout the week. We truly hope you enjoy your time here this morning and hope you return soon.

Some logistics you may find helpful:

- Worship runs about an hour and fifteen minutes, sometimes a bit shorter & sometimes a bit longer.
- Grab a nametag from the table in the East Wing. If you are a guest, our Hospitality Team will happily make one for you.
- Childcare is available for non-school-aged children (infants through 4 years) in Room #10. Children in Grades K through 5 are invited to worship until after the Children's Moment, then go to Sunday School in Room #11.
 - Help us create the best learning environment we can by leaving toys at home. Snacks for younger children are ok but should not be brought for elementary-aged children.
 - Please encourage your child(ren) to use the restroom before church starts.
- Busy bags are available for children (or adults) who would like to keep their hands busy during the worship service.
- A restroom is in the Care & Share Room to the right of the front of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are outside in the courtyard.
- Prayer Cards are available in the pew before you and at all entrances. Please place your prayer card in the offering plate or a prayer box. It is our joy and privilege to be praying with and for you.
- We have several ways you can give financially to support the mission of Clearview.
 1. Place cash/check in the offering plate/boxes or mail to the church.
 2. Text any amount to (727) 513-5557.
 3. Visit clearviewumc.org/give.
 4. Use your bank's bill payer system.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal • TFWS: The Faith We Sing

**Please stand as you are able*

WE GATHER

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship*

Worship Music* | *Christ Is Alive* – UMH 318

WE PROCLAIM

Affirmation of Faith* | *An Adaptation of The Apostles' Creed*

Gloria Patri* | *Glory Be To The Father* – UMH 70

Invitation, Confession, & Pardon – UMH 12

Passing of the Peace*

Worship Music* | *Revelation Song*

Children's Moment – *Children are then dismissed to Sunday School*

Prayer For Illumination

Scripture Reading | *Acts 17: 16-32* CEB

Message | *Faith In A Searching World* – Rev. Emily Hotho

WE RESPOND

Sacrament of Holy Communion – UMH 13

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music | *Lord, I Want to be a Christian* | UMH 402

Doxology* | *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* | UMH 95

Offertory Prayer*

WE GO OUT

Worship Music* | *Trust in God*

Benediction*

Alive in Christ - Weekly Practice

Sunday, May 3 • Holy Curiosity - CONNECT → SERVE

- Each day, ask one person a genuine question:
- “What’s been giving you life lately?”
- “What’s been weighing on you?”
- Listen without fixing or correcting
- Why: Practices meeting people where they are, like Paul in Athens

WHAT’S HAPPENING?

Staff Appreciation – Staff Appreciation donation envelopes will be distributed for the next few Sundays for presentation on **May 31st**. Our staff and pastors’ service support and encourage our congregation to live out His purpose and mission for God’s glory! Let us take this time to thank and appreciate those who faithfully serve in God’s vineyard and give their time and hearts for His Kingdom.

Pastor Ellie's Farewell Reception - Please join us in wishing Pastor Ellie a blessed future and heartfelt thanks for her time with the South Pinellas Connection at a Farewell Reception following worship on **May 31st** in the Care & Share Room and East Wing. In usual Methodist fashion, cake and punch will be served!

Welcome, Bill Givens – Several weeks ago, Steven Brinkley, our former custodian, relocated to the East Coast. After a survey of over 70 candidates and 6 interviews, we have hired Bill Givens as our next custodian. Please welcome him when you see him. His regular hours are Mon-Fri, 2-7 pm.

A surprise is coming soon to our Clearview Family - Our nursery superstar, Miss Sydney, is expecting a baby boy this summer, and we would love to gift her a little care package. If you are interested in contributing, please use a donation envelope with a note "baby gift." If you have questions or would like to help, contact Ericka Pierce (727) 248-5245.

CLT Meeting - The next CLT meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, at 6:30 pm in the Care & Share Room. Please plan to attend as we continue our work together in prayer and leadership.

FUMC Gulfport's Women's Spring Luncheon – SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, May 16 at 1:30 pm. More information is forthcoming soon!

CLEARVIEW WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MAY 3 – 5th Sunday of Easter

- **Worship**, 9:30 am – Sanctuary
- **Nursery (Infants-PK4)**, 9:30 am – Room 10
- **Sunday School (Grades K-5)**, following Children's Moment – Room 11
- **Coffee & Conversation**, 10:45 am – Care & Share Room

MONDAY, MAY 4

- **Pastors at The Pulpit Project**, Orlando
- **Monday "BS" Bible Study**, 6:45-8 pm – Care & Share Room
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Gratitude)**, 8 pm – Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, MAY 5

- **Pastors at The Pulpit Project**, Orlando
- **CLT Meeting**, 6:30 pm – Care & Share Room
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Fe y Esperanza)**, 8 pm – Mod 31
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Recovery Begins)**, 8 pm – Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

- **Pastors at The Pulpit Project**, Orlando

THURSDAY, MAY 7

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Serenity, Back to the 40s)**, 11 am – Mod 31
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (A Clear View to the Big Book)**, 7 pm – Mod 32

FRIDAY, MAY 8

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Fe y Esperanza)**, 8 pm – Mod 31

SATURDAY, MAY 9

- **Adopt-A-Block Food Distribution**, 9 am – Pavilion

SUNDAY, MAY 10 – 6th Sunday of Easter – Mother's Day

- **Worship**, 9:30 am – Sanctuary
- **Nursery (Infants-PK4)**, 9:30 am – Room 10
- **Sunday School (Grades K-5)**, following Children's Moment – Room 11
- **Coffee & Conversation**, 10:45 – Care & Share Rm

SOUTH PINELLAS CONNECTION UPCOMING DATES

May 4-6	The Pastoral Team at The Pulpit Project	-	-
May 5	CLT Meeting	6:30 pm	CV
May 12	UWIF Friendship Meeting	10 am	SL
May 12	Women's Bible Study	11 am	SL
May 16	Women's Spring Luncheon	1:30 pm	GP
May 20	UWIF Luncheon Meeting	12 pm	GP
May 23	Lay Servant Ministry – Basic Course Oakhurst UMC	9am - 4 pm	CV
Jun 4-6	Annual Conference Florida Southern College	-	-
Jun 29	Pastor Sue arrives in St. Petersburg	-	-

KEY

Clearview (CV)	First Gulfport (FG)	Lakewood (LW)	St. Luke's (SL)
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STEWARDSHIP OF PRESENCE & GIFTS

Week of Apr 26

Worship	50
Online Worship	24
Giving Received	\$1,058.20
Giving Needed	\$1,634.62
Surplus/Loss	-\$576.42

2026 Year To Date

Worship (avg)	56
Online (avg)	20
Giving Received	\$25,840.85
Giving Needed	\$27,788.54
Surplus/Loss	-\$1,947.69

PRAYER REQUESTS

Apr 26: Financial stability (The Hicks family), For our family's health, my sister-in-law under hospice care for brain cancer (Crystal McCurdy), Debra Hall fighting cancer (Bryan McCurdy)

Ongoing: Cassie Berg, Trevor Davis, Theresa Goude, John Goude, Kelly & Hilary, Kathy Davis, Pamela Arnold, Sabrina Mull, Logan Sullivan, Eileen Bennett, Carol Comerford, Crystal, Stephen Davis, Tim Deacon, Genevieve DeHoog, Amy Gordon, Mary Grauv, Ruth Hockersmith, DeeDee Hornby, Ian Kolaczyk, Nelson Kimber, Carolyn McGovern, Tim Patterson, Tammi Radcliff, George Roth, Sr.

Military: Seth Crist & Family, Casey Linde-Powers



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"The God who made the world and everything in it...does not live in shrines made by human hands."

—Acts 17:24

MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord, you are the Creator. It is you who give us life and breath and all good things. Thank you for this food we are about to eat. Strengthen us to share your love in the world. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What is God doing in each story? What are the people doing?***

Sunday	Acts 17:16-31	Paul in Athens
Monday	Acts 17:32-34	The Conversion of Dionysius
Tuesday	Acts 18:1-17	The Church at Corinth
Wednesday	Acts 19:1-10	The Church at Ephesus
Thursday	Acts 19:21-22; 20:17-28	Paul Leaves Ephesus
Friday	Acts 22:1-11	Paul Tells His Story
Saturday	Acts 22:12-21	Paul Continues His Story
Sunday	Philippians 1:1-18a	The Church in Philippi

If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children's Bible you are using may not include the very story assigned for the DAILY BIBLE READINGS. Read to your kids anyway. Just pick a story!

SERVICE CHALLENGE

SERVICE is how we enact God's great love for the entire world.

Paul was a master communicator. Call someone you have not spoken to in a while and ask how they are doing.

DEVOTIONS

Think about devotions as a continuation of our community's worship. The following basic pattern could be one way of forming your household's devotions. Adapt as necessary!

GATHERING

✠ Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time."

✠ Prayer of the Week

Beloved Lord, Paul was excited about you and told everyone who would listen about your love. Let everyone who we meet with this week know that we follow Jesus by our love. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

Take a moment to check in with each other or to use the questions below.

- ❓ **Highs & Lows:** Who did you talk to today who listened to you? Who did not listen to you?
- ❓ **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Paul explained that God gives us all good things. Name three things about today that you are thankful for.
- ❓ **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** In next week's Scripture, Paul is writing a letter while he is in prison, but he is joyful and sees the good in his circumstances. Name something you did not like about your day, and then work together to figure out something good in that circumstance.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Read aloud from the DAILY BIBLE READING from the front. What do you want to remember from this reading?

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ Sit in a circle and go around, each saying a prayer for people in different parts of the world.

CLOSING

✠ If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.

✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "In God you live and move and have your being."

The "Four Key Faith Practices"—Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals & Traditions—are a framework developed by the Rev. Dr. David Anderson of Milestones Ministry and used by permission from Vibrant Faith Ministries, Bloomington, MN (www.vibrantfaith.org). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.