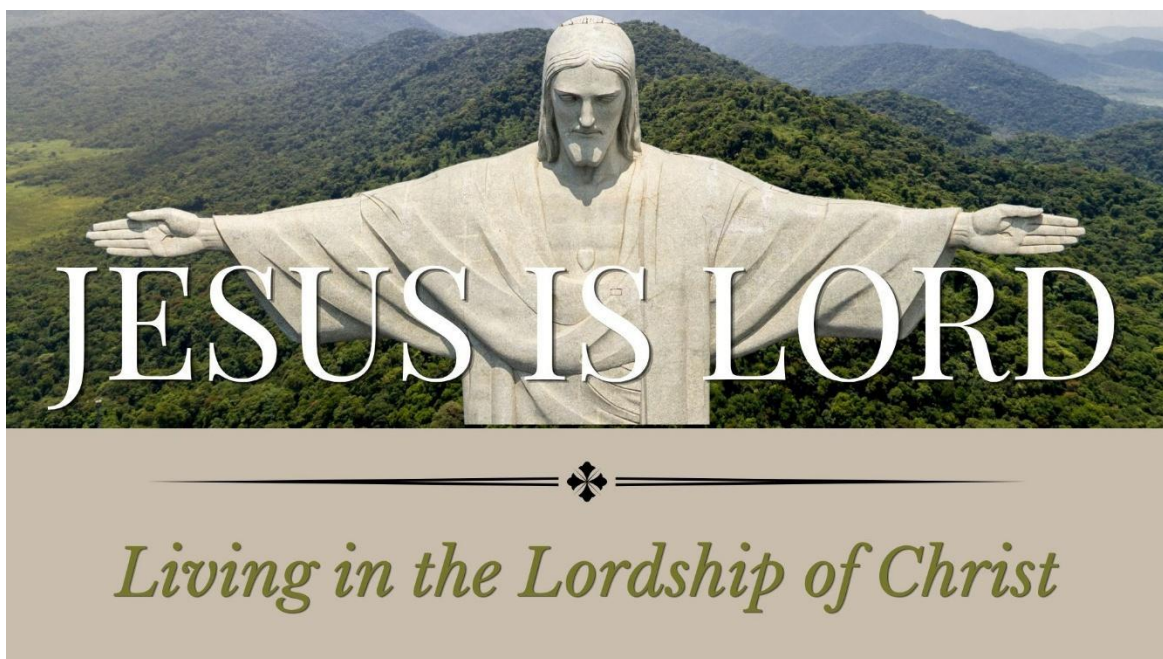




September 6th, 2026
9:30 am • Sanctuary & Online

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

Your Pastoral Team

Rev. Erick Ashley – erick@spconnection.org
Rev. Tracie Ashley – tracie@spconnection.org
Rev. Sue Garcia – sue@spconnection.org

Administrative Assistant – Patti Redmond-Marshall – patti@spconnection.org
Custodian – Bill Givens

Bishop of the Florida Annual Conference – Rev. Tom Berlin
Gulf Central District Superintendent – Rev. Emily Hotho

WELCOME

Welcome to Clearview United Methodist Church. 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 in front of 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 Clearview's mission.
 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

Church Bells & Time of Silence

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship*

Worship Music* | *Better Is One Day*

WE PROCLAIM

Affirmation of Faith* | *The Apostles' Creed* – UMH 881

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

Invitation, Confession, & Pardon – UMH 12

Passing of the Peace*

Worship Music* | *For The Beauty Of The Earth* -UMH 92

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

Prayer For Illumination

Scripture Reading | *Romans 6: 6-11* NRSVUE

Message | *What Happens When Jesus Becomes Your Lord?* – Rev. Erick Ashley

WE RESPOND

Sacrament of Holy Communion - UMH 13

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music | *I See The Lord*

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

Offertory Prayer*

WE GO OUT

Worship Music* | *I Trust In God*

Benediction*

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Leadership Summit Postponed - The South Pinellas Connection Leadership Summit, originally scheduled for Sep 19, has been postponed until November. We're still looking forward to this important time to connect, grow, and dream together about where God is leading us! We'll share the new November date as soon as possible. Stay tuned!

Called to Lead? Our Nominations & Leadership Development Committee is beginning its prayerful work of identifying leaders for 2027. If you have been thinking about becoming more involved in our church's leadership and would like to be considered, we would love to hear from you!

Please let one of the pastors know of your interest as we prayerfully discern together how God may be calling you to serve.

2nd Sunday Celebration! - Next Sunday, stay after worship as we celebrate our birthdays and anniversaries together! Join us for a little food, fellowship, and celebration of the special people in our church family.

Inviting Can Be Simple! - Inviting someone to church doesn't have to feel awkward. Simply say, "Would you like to come with me?" Invite a friend to worship, dinner, a GROW Group, or another church event; and offer to meet them or save them a seat. Here are a few more ideas:

- "I really enjoy my church. Would you like to come with me Sunday? I'll save you a seat."
- "Our church has a Community Dinner on the fourth Sunday. Want to come eat with me?"
- "I'm doing this group at church that's been really interesting. You'd be welcome to come with me."
- "My church is doing something this weekend that I think you'd really enjoy. Want to go together?"
- "Have you found a church yet? You're always welcome to come with me."
- "Our church has been a really supportive community for me. If you ever want to come, I'd be glad to go with you."
- "We've got a really welcoming group of people at our church. I think you'd fit right in."
- "What are you doing Sunday morning? Come to church with me, and we can grab lunch afterward."
- "I know church may or may not be your thing, but you're always welcome to come with me sometime."

Campus Ministry Sunday - On September 13, we will receive a special offering to support the Wesley Foundations of the Florida Conference. Wesley Foundations serve as our United Methodist presence on college and university campuses, helping students grow in their relationship with Christ, develop as servant leaders, build Christian community, and live out their faith.

With more than one million college students across Florida, this ministry is as important today as ever. Your generosity helps our Wesley Foundations continue reaching and walking alongside the next generation of disciples and leaders. Thank you for giving generously to Campus Ministry Sunday!

Here Comes the Pumpkin Patch! - The 29th year of the Clearview Pumpkin Patch is almost here, and we need YOU to help make it happen! There are plenty of opportunities to serve, meet our neighbors, and be part of this beloved community tradition.

Sign up for a shift on our website or stop by the East Wing after worship. Grab a shift—or more—and help us make year 29 a great one!

Calling all crafters! - It's time to start making your crafts to sell (proceeds will benefit the church) at the "Homemade from the Heart" sale in the Patch on Saturday, Oct 24, 11 am - 3 pm. There are a few "strings attached" for the crafters. Each and every item you make must be clearly marked with the price and your first name; any unsold items will be returned to the creator; and you must volunteer for at least one shift at the crafts for sale table. Thanks & happy crafting! Questions? Contact Jill, Cindy, or Judy

SOUTH PINELLAS CONNECTION UPCOMING DATES

Sept 8	United Women in Faith Meeting & Study	10 am	SL
Sept 9	Weekly Community Dinner (every Wednesday)	6 pm	FG
Sept 13	Campus Ministry Sunday	-	ALL
Sept 16	United Women in Faith Luncheon	12 pm	FG
Sept 23-29	Ashleys on Vacation in Vermont	-	-
Sept 27	FREE Community Dinner	5-6:30 pm	CV
Sept 30-Oct 2	Ashleys at Emotionally Healthy Leadership Conference In New York City	-	-

KEY

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

Week of Aug 30

Worship	63
Online Worship	21
Giving Received	\$1,375.62
Giving Needed	\$1,634.62
Surplus/Loss	-\$259.00

2026 Year To Date

Worship (avg)	56
Online (avg)	18
Giving Received	\$51,545.56
Giving Needed	\$57,211.70
Surplus/Loss	-\$5,666.14

CLEARVIEW WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 – LABOR DAY

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Gratitude)**, 8 pm – Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

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

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Recovery Begins)**, 8 pm – Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- **Narcotics Anonymous (Her Story)**, 7 pm – Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- **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, SEPTEMBER 11

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 –

- **Worship**, 9:30 am – Sanctuary
- **Nursery (Infants-PK4)**, 9:30 am – Room 10
- **Sunday School (Grades K-5)**, following Children's Moment – Room 11
- **Birthday & Anniversary Celebration**, 10:45ish – Care & Share Room
- **GROW Group – Jesus Is Lord**, 10:45ish – Care & Share Room

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

COMPLETE A PRAYER CARD FROM THE PEW AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE

Clearview: My mother's upcoming surgery to restore her hearing. She lost it in March, and we are praying for a full restoration and healing (Unknown name); I got a job! (Linda Stanley)

Clearview Ongoing: Pamela Arnold, Cassie Berg, Eileen Clark, Carol Comerford, Kathy Davis, Stephen Davis, Trevor Davis, Tim Deacon, Genevieve DeHoog, Pastor Erick, John Goude, Theresa Goude, Amy Gordon, Mary Grau, Carl Gunn, Robert "Skip" Hanshe, Ruth Hockersmith, DeeDee Hornby, Marc Jones, Ruth Katzen, Nelson Kimber, Charlotte Klotzbach, Ian Kolaczyk, Carolyn McGovern, Sabrina Mull, Kirstin Owens, Jim Patterson, Scott Pierce, Tiffany R, Tammi Radcliff, George Roth, Sr., Anver Suleman, Logan Sullivan, Crystal, Hilary, Kelly, Lydi, Max, Blayne, Amber, George, Steve & Alba, Diana, Theresa & Scott

Gulfport: No requests received

Gulfport Ongoing: Alice Johnson, Allison (Cindy & Per Lee's granddaughter), Willie, Pastor Erick

Lakewood: No requests received

Lakewood Ongoing: Joan and family, Otha Hudson (Josephine's husband), Family of Brian L. , Pastor Erick

St. Luke's: Marian Galloway, who fell and is very sore; Judith Fain, who has the flu; a young lady named Ellie, who has brain cancer (Carolyn Rogers); prayers for my daughter, Lisa, my 3 granddaughters, & my great granddaughter (Bev Becker)

St. Luke's Ongoing: Bev Becker, Christine Brockway, Madison Brown, Fred Bunnell, Jr., Melissa Celurale, Pastor Erick, Judith Fain, Cheryl Fennell, Cliff Flowers, Larry Frye, Eric Harvey, Trudy James, The Leonard Family, Geraldine Parsons, Buck & Sunny Roberts, Harriett Swartzmiller, Joelle Wells, Justin Wells, Annalise, Jennifer, JJ

South Pinellas Active-Duty Military: Matthew Burdewick, Seth Crist, Will Dudley, Casey Linde-Powers

THIS WEEK'S "AT HOME" DEVOTIONAL

Connected to Christ: John 15:1–11

GATHERING

Light a candle to remind yourselves that Jesus is present with us and invites us to remain connected to him, the true vine.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the true vine and the source of our life. Draw us close to you in Scripture, prayer, worship, and Christian community. Prune away the habits and distractions that keep us from your love. By your Spirit, help us remain in you so that our lives bear the fruit of grace, compassion, courage, and joy. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION - Take a few moments to check in with one another.

Highs & Lows

- What is one thing that brought you joy this week?
- When have you felt especially close to God—or distant from God—this week?

THINKING ABOUT THE UPCOMING WEEK’S SCRIPTURE

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. — John 15:5 (CEB)

A branch cannot produce fruit by trying harder; it bears fruit by staying connected to the vine. In the same way, Christlike living grows from an ongoing relationship with Jesus. Spiritual practices create space for us to receive his grace, hear his guidance, and share his love.

- What practices help you feel connected to Christ?
- What distractions or habits sometimes crowd out your attention to God?
- What fruit do you see Christ producing in your life right now?
- Which spiritual practice would you like to strengthen this week?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - As you read this week, ask: **How do we remain connected to Christ and bear the fruit of his love?**

DAY	READING	THEME
Sunday	Romans 6:6–11	<i>Alive to God in Christ</i>
Monday	Psalms 1:1–6	<i>Rooted by Streams</i>
Tuesday	Mark 1:35–39	<i>Jesus Makes Time to Pray</i>
Wednesday	Luke 10:38–42	<i>One Thing Is Needed</i>
Thursday	Colossians 3:12–17	<i>Let Christ’s Word Dwell</i>
Friday	Galatians 5:16–26	<i>The Fruit of the Spirit</i>
Saturday	Hebrews 10:19–25	<i>Encourage One Another</i>
Sunday	John 15:1–11	<i>Connected to Christ</i>

If your household includes children, feel free to use a children’s Bible or summarize the readings in simple language.

DEVOTIONAL

Jesus gives his disciples a simple image: he is the vine, and we are the branches. A branch does not create life for itself. It receives life by staying

connected to the vine. In the same way, our growth as followers of Jesus begins not with trying harder, but with abiding in him.

Abiding means making an ongoing home in Christ's love. It is more than a decision made once or a Sunday activity. It is a daily relationship in which we listen for his voice, receive his grace, and allow his presence to shape our words, choices, priorities, and relationships.

Spiritual practices help us stay connected. Reading Scripture teaches us the story and way of Jesus. Prayer creates space for honest conversation and attentive silence. Worship, Communion, and Christian community remind us that faith is never a solo journey. Retreat and fasting help us step away from noise, while noticing and daily review help us recognize where God has already been present.

These practices do not earn God's love. They place us where grace can reach and reshape us. Like pruning a healthy branch, Christ may remove habits, distractions, or attitudes that keep us from flourishing. Pruning can be uncomfortable, but its purpose is deeper life and more abundant fruit.

The fruit Jesus desires is visible: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The closer we remain to Christ, the more his character can take root in us and flow through us for the sake of others.

Connection grows through small, faithful choices. Open the Bible. Sit quietly with God. Share honestly with another Christian. Notice grace in an ordinary moment. At the end of the day, give thanks, review your choices, ask forgiveness, and begin again. Jesus is the source; our invitation is to remain.

PRAY TOGETHER

Invite each person to name one practice that helps them feel close to Jesus and one practice they would like to try this week. Then pray together:

Loving Jesus, you are the true vine and the source of our life. Help us remain in your love. Meet us as we read Scripture, pray, worship, rest, serve, and gather with others. Prune away what keeps us from flourishing and grow in us the fruit of your Spirit. May our connection with you become visible in the way we love our neighbors. Amen.

MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for this food and for everyone gathered here. As this meal nourishes our bodies, nourish our spirits with your grace and keep us connected to you and to one another. Amen.

SERVICE CHALLENGE - *This is one way we share God's love with the world.*

Choose one practice that helps you abide in Christ—Scripture, prayer, silence, worship, Christian conversation, or a daily review—and give it ten intentional minutes each day. Then let that connection bear fruit through one concrete act of love, encouragement, or service.

CLOSING & BLESSING

Extinguish your candle as a reminder that Christ's presence remains with you, nourishing your life and helping you bear good fruit.

With permission, make the sign of the cross on one another’s hands or foreheads and say: **‘Remain in Christ’s love. Receive his grace. And let your life bear the fruit of his presence.’**