FIRST METHODIST
CRESTVIEW

THE CONNECTION
November 2026 Newsletter

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

From the Pastor's Desk

Be Inviting!
The holiday season is here and always remember that there are many people who are likely to come to church during the holiday season. Actively invite people to come… and then sit with them when they do come!

New Sermon Channel on the Internet
I'm in the early stages of creating a new sermon channel on the Internet- and I would love for you to follow it.

Here's the reason: We currently stream to Facebook. And that is where people can watch live, catch a missed service and where visitors can try to decide to come visit. However, Facebook is not a good permanent repository. Currently, they only keep videos for about 2 months and then they are deleted.

The other problem with both Facebook and YouTube is that any irritated or antagonistic person in the world person can file a complaint and get the channel shut down. We've been streaming for 7 years now and (thankfully) we've only had one time where Facebook commanded us to remove a video- and they don't even tell you what the problem is (and appeals are fruitless). YouTube only gives 3 strikes and then the channel is banned and deleted.

Consequently, we are starting something new. I started my own video channel on a new platform called Rumble. This website was founded by people who value free speech and so I believe the videos will be safer there.

My channel is here (click the link below if you are getting this Newsletter digitally- it will take you right there):

https://rumble.com/c/c-7950748

You can also click in the search bar for: **Pastor Ronnie Sermons**

At present, the free channel has commercials (which I don't like), but I watched a sermon and there were only 2. After about 3-7 seconds you can make the commercial go away (a little annoying, but not too bad). Of course, just like all other websites, if you subscribe to the premium level, all commercials go away.

If I can get something like 20 followers, then that qualifies me to get a better and more custom channel name other than "c-7950748".

At present, some 2026 sermons are posted. The recent 10 message series on **Galatians** is up, as well as the 4 messages from **Habakkuk**. Soon, I'll be uploading the 8 messages from **Jesus, Blood, and the Way.**

I want to thank Bob McCrory for graciously helping in this big project. We're taking full worship services and editing them down to just the sermon. My prayer is that this can be a helpful resource for people over many years.

But there is more. I've also created a puppet channel. You can find them here:

https://rumble.com/c/c-7971846

And as before, please subscribe. It will help the channel grow.

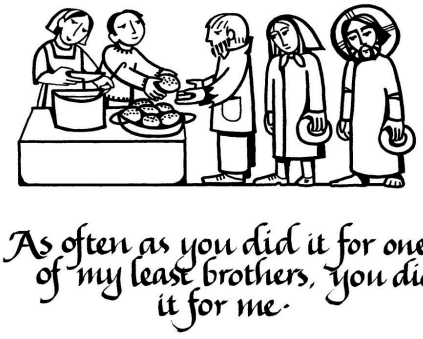
And just to be clear, while the day may come that we stream to Rumble…. For now, we will continue to stream to Facebook.

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

-Pastor Ronnie

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Soup Kitchen Ministry Looking for Cooks



Our Soup Kitchen Ministry is looking for new cooks. If you have a heart for feeding the hungry in our community, we have a place for you!
If you or your group would like to be placed on the rotating volunteer schedule please contact Deb Lubas at 401-742-4898 or the church office at office.firstcrestview@gmail.com.
Our Soup Kitchen volunteers are here from 9:30AM-12:30PM every Saturday to prepare meals & enjoy fellowship.

Exploring Membership Class

Want to find out more about becoming a full member of the First Methodist family?

Pastor Ronnie will be leading the next class on Sunday, ***Nov 8*** at 3:00PM. The class runs 70-90 minutes. Childcare can be made available for those who ask. If interested in attending this class, call the church office or notate your Gracenote.

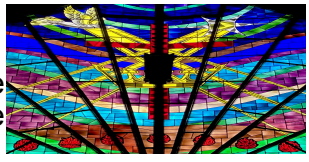
Angel Tree Submissions & Adoptions

We are excited about the upcoming Christmas season!
If your family needs assistance with Christmas gifts for your children contact the church office no later than ***Sun, Nov 8*** with your info. Our Angel Tree will also include our church family shut-ins & children in need. Choose your Angel at our next Community Dinner, ***Nov 18.***
Read more about this wonderful program in the Benevolence Ministry article below.

CommUNITY Dinner

Join us for our Benevolence Holiday Potluck Dinner on ***Wed, Nov 18*** *in the CRC at 5:30PM!*
On the menu will be ham & rolls.
We're asking everyone to bring a favorite side dish/dessert to share if you are able.
All proceeds will benefit our Benevolence Program.
Our Angel Tree will be decked out with names of children in need from our FMC family and our shut-ins & those in nursing homes, all ready to adopt for Christmas.
Gifts are due back on Sun, Dec. 6 at the CRC.
You are invited to bring an angel ornament (not breakable) to donate to our Angel Tree that will grace the CRC lobby during the Christmas season.
Children, Youth & Chancel Choir will all meet as usual.
Church Council will meet at 6:30PM in Wesley Hall after the meal.
Please stay for this important meeting that will update you on the life of our church!

Stained Glass Christmas Ornaments



During our CommUNITY Dinner on ***Nov 18***, we will be selling some of the Stained-Glass pieces (prices are marked).
There will also be some Stained-Glass Ornaments for sale.
All proceeds will go to our Benevolence Angel Tree Ministry.

*The Stained-Glass pieces may only be purchased at the CommUNITY Dinner

on Wed, Nov 18.
Prices are marked for each piece (no bidding necessary).
The large ornaments are $20 each and the smaller ones are $15 each.
There are a total of 20 pieces which vary in size and complexity. Those with wooden frames utilize wood from old church pews.
Please note: These are works of art. Some are a bit delicate and there may be some burrs or sharp edges, so be careful. Some are to be displayed, not handled. Epoxy pieces are obviously more rugged and more easily handled.

Crestview Thanksgiving Service

What a privilege to join our brothers & sisters in Christ in Crestview as we gather together to worship & praise the Lord!
Join us on ***Sun, Nov 22*** at 6:30PM at Lifepoint Church located at
400 S Ferdon Blvd, Crestview, FL 32536.

Office Closures

Our Church office will be closed on Wed, ***Nov 11*** in observance of Veteran's Day and Thurs, ***Nov 26*** in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

MINISTRY UPDATES

Wesleyan Child Care Center

Wesleyan families will gather at the Crossroads Center at the end of October for a fun-filled Fall Festival celebrating fellowship, family, and the joy of community.
Our VPK families will have the chance to get creative by transforming oversized refrigerator boxes into their very own trick-or-treat houses. It will be a morning filled with laughter, imagination, and sweet memories for our children and families.
We are thankful for the opportunity to bring our Wesleyan family together and share the love and joy that makes our school so special.
We can't wait to celebrate fall together!
-Osa Bell / WCCC Director

Children's Ministry

A heartfelt thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who helped make our October **Parents Night Out** such a success! It was a fun-filled evening enjoyed by both the children and adults who participated. We are so grateful for everyone who gave their time and energy to make the event memorable for our church families.

As we enter the Christmas season, we have several exciting opportunities for children and families to celebrate together!

Parents Day Out: Christmas ADVENTure
Saturday, December 5 | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Children ages 6 months through 5th grade are invited to join us for our **Christmas ADVENT-ure!** This special event will feature Christmas music, crafts, games, snacks, and lunch as we celebrate the joy of the season together. This event is free, although donations are appreciated. Registration is required and will open November 1, on the church website.
Volunteers are needed! If you would like to help with this exciting event, please contact Vicky in the church office or make a note on your Grace Note and place it in the offering plate on Sunday.

Gingerbread Decorating Party
Saturday, December 12 | 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM | Crossroads Center
Families are invited to join us for a festive morning of gingerbread decorating, Christmas fun, and fellowship. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time together and celebrate the season with our church family. We hope you'll make plans to attend!

Kids Street Christmas Concert & Happy Birthday Jesus Party
Wednesday, December 16 | 6:00 PM | Crossroads Center
Our Kids Street children are already hard at work learning songs during Wednesday evening activities as they prepare for this special Christmas celebration. We invite you to come and enjoy their presentation as they share the message of Christmas through music and worship.
Following the concert, we'll gather for a **Happy Birthday Jesus Party**, featuring fun, fellowship, and celebration for the whole family.
We hope you'll join us as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas and support our children as they share what they have learned.

As always, we are thankful for each child and family who is part of our ministry. We look forward to seeing you at these special events as we continue to grow together in faith, friendship, and the love of Christ during this joyful Christmas season!

Vicky Anchor- Children's Ministry Director

Youth

Under the leadership of Mr. David Smith, the youth have had a very busy year- 2026.
This group has attended many opportunities to become better disciples for Jesus Christ.
The experienced Righteous Relationships in February, Discovery Weekend in April, Camp Baldwin in June, and Vacation Bible School in July.
They also have enjoyed the day at Shipwreck Island in Panama City, played during 5th quarter on Friday nights in the youth room, led Soup Kitchen on the 5th Saturdays, helped set up for Palm Sunday activities, and spent the day

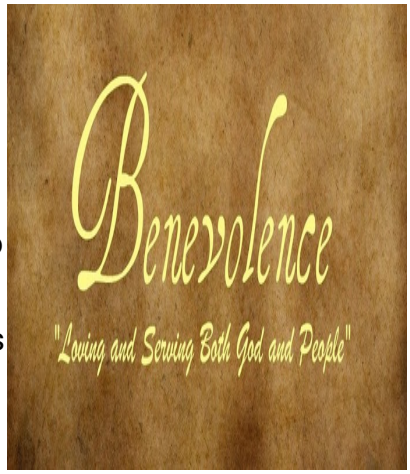
racking up the debris at the McLaughlin house from Hurricane Isaias.
The Youth: 6TH Grade- 12TH Grade meets every Wednesday night from 6-7:30pm, and Sunday School at 11am. If you would like to be apart of this wonderful group, please contact the church office: 682-2012.
God's blessings: Pastor Kathy McKinley

Missions

Thank you for supporting our Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoebox ministry.
We will be sending 113 boxes out to be distributed somewhere in the world. A lot of you can track your box(s) and it will be interesting to see where they went. The actual pick-up going to the processing center will be in the middle of November so tracking can start after that.
Whether it was filling boxes or donating for shipping, you are making a difference in the life of a child who has never received a gift before and especially bringing them the wonderful news of Christ. Thank you for being a part of this Mission's project. We welcome any feedback on this project. Please contact Pam or any member of the Missions Committee with your thoughts.
Blessings, Pam Hight / 850 758-8201

Benevolence Ministry

Sharing Christ's Love in Practical Ways



One of the many ways our church extends Christ's love into the community is through our Benevolence Ministry. Financial gifts left on the altar rail during Communion and offerings specifically designated for benevolence are used to assist individuals and families in our area who are facing immediate needs. These gifts help provide necessities such as utility assistance and groceries during difficult times.

As we approach the Christmas season, we invite you to participate in a special opportunity to share God's love with others. Our annual **Benevolence Christmas Angel Tree** will be located in the Crossroads Center entryway during Community Dinner on **Wed, Nov 18**.

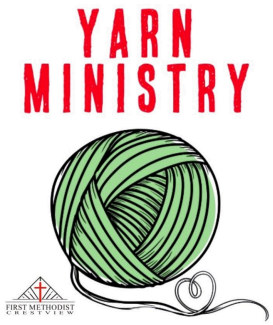
The tree will be decorated with angels representing children from our church who could use a little extra Christmas cheer, as well as elderly members who are homebound or residing in nursing homes. We encourage you to select an angel and help make Christmas brighter for someone in our church family.

For many of our homebound members, receiving a gift is far more than receiving an item. It is a reminder that they are loved, remembered, and valued by their church family. What a blessing it is to know that even when someone can no longer attend worship services or church events, they remain an important part of our congregation.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping us share the joy, hope, and love of Christ this Christmas season.

Margaret Larson, Vicky Anchor and Kat Ketchum

Yarn Ministry



Happy Birthday Yarnies!
This year will mark 12 years of continual ministry!
3,186 items have walked out the door to bless others in Jesus name. It's quite a legacy and a testament to our dedication to steward the beautiful gifts & talents God has given us.
Our meetings in November will be **Tues, Nov 10 & 24 at 4:30PM 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

Soup Kitchen Ministry

BLESS YOU ALL for your continued support and generosity toward our Soup Kitchen.
Our Soup Kitchen Ministry is looking for new cooks. If you have a heart for feeding the hungry in our community, please contact Deb Lubas (info on the closing line).
Our Soup Kitchen volunteers are here from 9:30AM-12:30PM every Saturday to prepare meals & enjoy fellowship.
Every Saturday, your donations help us serve delicious, hot homemade meals to those in need. Your kindness keeps our mission sustainable and allows us to offer nutritious food choices that truly make a difference in people’s lives.
Thanks to generous contributions, we can provide healthy meals that bring hope and comfort each week.
Sixteen years strong, feeding our community in need.
Did you know that:
- 100% of your Soup Kitchen donations are aligned with that goal, and
- 100% of our Soup Kitchen team consist of loving volunteers.
We are grateful for your support along with the community and businesses generously donating pizzas, bread, and desserts that help our meals go farther. And once again this month, we received donated fruit which made a healthy addition to the meals. Our meals we prepare and serve bring joy and lift the spirits of those facing food insecurity. The people who come for a meal look forward to receiving it, as they brighten their day and remind them that their community cares about them. Thank you all for making a positive difference and for showing our guests that they are valued and supported. Your kindness truly makes an impact!
We wish to share how much our church and community greatly appreciate our Soup Kitchen volunteers and supporters for they are truly heaven sent and share a strong bond. We are so grateful for our volunteers who work together

as servants of God providing food to people in need. We are all passionately committed to loving others through giving.
Matthew 25:35 For I was hungry, and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you welcomed me. This verse reminds us of the importance of caring for others, which is at the heart of our Soup Kitchen's mission.
All our volunteers feel the gift of joy and love from helping others in need. We wish to emphasize how much our church and community greatly appreciate our Soup Kitchen volunteers and supporters for they are truly heaven sent and share a strong bond; they are all committed and passionate about loving others through giving.
How to Support the Soup Kitchen
- We are looking for a volunteer cook who is willing to learn and will be surrounded
by cheerful trained volunteers who love assisting the cook in the Soup Kitchen.
-To volunteer with the First Methodist of Crestview Soup Kitchen Mission, email greenhalghdj@cox.net or text 401-742-4898.
-Please continue to donate your gently used grocery bags. To donate food, place items in the Soup Kitchen refrigerator or on the counter.
For questions or to notify us, please contact Deb Lubas, Soup Kitchen Coordinator, at 401-742-4898.
- To donate socks or gloves, please text Deb Lubas at 401-742-4898.
- To donate funds, place a check in the Sunday's church offering; or mail or deliver to the First Methodist of Crestview office; on the check indicate 'Soup Kitchen' on your envelope and in the NOTES section of the check.
We invite you to stay connected with us on Facebook @FirstCrestview or visit our
website at https://FirstCrestview.com.
Respectfully,
Deb Lubas, SOUP Kitchen Coordinator, First Methodist of Crestview, 401-742-4898

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 **Nov 4** at noon, at Hideaway Pizza downtown.
Come pray for your hometown!

CALENDARS

November Greeters, Ushers & Liturgists

Morning Glory / Christ Chapel 8:30AM

Greeters

1 Debbie Watson
8 Peggy Harkness
15 John and Cynthia Leitschuck
22 Mike and Betsy Roy
29 Gail and Terry Laskaskie

Ushers
John & Cynthia Leitschuck

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
11/1. Steve and Kathy Fowler
11/8. Ed and Joanne Guzowski
11/15. Eddie and Jayne Hager
11/22. Glenda McMasters and Judy Beard
11/29. Ed and Joanne Guzowski

Ushers
11/1. Tom Giovanini and Phillip Mathis
11/8. Tom Saunders and Steve Fowler
11/15. Steve Fowler and Tom Giovanini
11/22. Burt Colt and Dax Reeves
11/29. Eddie Hager and Dax Reeves

Office door
11/1—11/29 Jim Hight

Lights and lock Doors
11/1 Eddie Hager
11/8. Burt Colt
11/15. Dax Reeves
11/22. Mac McKinley
11/29. Dax Reeves

Liturgists (In Sunday order): 1. Phil Estrem 2.Kathy McKinley 3. Mark Barfield 4.Sara Fordyce 5. Margaret Larson

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Important Dates In November

Nov 1- All Saints Sunday
Nov 3- Worship Committee 5:00PM Conf Rm
Nov 4- Crestview Prayer Network 12:00PM Hideaway Pizza
Nov 6- Women's Service Group 10:00AM CRC
Nov 8- Children's Committee 12:15PM Kids St
-Youth Committee 12:15PM Conf Rm
-Exploring Membership Class 3:00PM CRC
Nov 9- 8th Ave Men 6:00PM FH
Nov 10- Happy Birthday Party for the Yarn Ministry 4:30PM Rm 213
Nov 11- Veterans Day / Church Office Closed
Nov 15- Trustees 3:00PM Conf Rm
-Finance 5:00PM Rm 212
Nov 16- December Newsletter Deadline

Nov 18- Community Dinner 5:30PM, Church Council 6:30PM, Angel Tree
Nov 21- Game Night for Grown Ups 4:30-7:00PM CRC
(request nursery by 11/16)
Nov 22- Crestview Community Thanksgiving Service at Lifepoint Church 6:00PM
Nov 24- Yarn Ministry 4:30PM Rm 213
Nov 26- Thanksgiving Day / Church Office Closed
Nov 29- First Sunday of Advent

**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

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Looking Forward To December

Dec 2- Crestview Prayer Network 10:00AM CRC
Dec 4- Women's Service Group 10:00AM CRC
Dec 5- Parent's Day Out 9:00AM-1:00PM on Kids St
Dec 8-Yarn Ministry 4:30PM Rm 213
Dec 12- Gingerbread Event 9:45-11:00AM CRC
Dec 13- Cantata 8:30AM & 11:00AM in the Main Sanctuary
Dec 14- 8th Ave Methodist Men Hosting FMC Christmas Party 6:00PM CRC
- January 2027 Newsletter Deadline
Dec 15- Missions Committee 6:00PM Rm 213
Dec 19- Game Night for Grown Ups 4:30-7:00PM CRC
(request nursery by 12/14)
Dec 22- Yarn Ministry 4:30PM Rm 213
Dec 24- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:30PM & 11:00PM Main Sanctuary
Dec 24 through 28- Church Office Closed for Christmas

**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

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A MOMENT OF REFLECTION

For All The Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who Thee by faith before the world confessed;
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
But then there breaks a still more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on His way.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
in praise of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Anglican Bishop Walsham How
1864

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

First Methodist Staff Contacts

Staff:
Pastor - Rev. Ronnie Bearden, drronbearden@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
Custodian - Jody Waddell, fmcustodian@gmail.com
Facilities Manager - Chris Woodward, fmfacilities599@gmail.com
Maintenance Assistant- Josh South
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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