

**Spanish Fort UMC**  
6530 Spanish Fort Blvd., Suite D  
Spanish Fort, AL 36527

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**STAFF**

Bill Price  
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Rebecca Rutherford  
Associate Minister  
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Beth Allen  
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Andy Cloninger  
Contemporary Worship Director  
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Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Daphne, AL  
36526  
Permit #12



**\*IMPORTANT INFO**

**WAYS TO COMMUNICATE** | *The church has left the building!* During these ever changing times, we want to continue *to be* the church. We want to continue to stay in touch and remain connected in the ways that we can and to focus on that instead of the things we cannot do right now. In that effort, we have rolled out a few new avenues for you to connect. They are listed below and will also include all of our established ways to communicate and remain a church family.

# Pray Down at High Noon

**PRAY DOWN AT HIGH NOON** | Join us every day at Noon to participate in our Facebook LIVE Pray Down at High Noon. Our staff will be leading us during this time of prayer. Please feel free to share this to your friends and neighbors who might not have online services right now.

## Radio Broadcast 103.3 FM / 840 AM

**RADIO BROADCAST** | You can also now listen to our Sunday 10 AM Blended Service on Go Forth Media's radio station WBHY 103.3 FM or 840 AM at Noon on Sundays! So if you miss the Facebook LIVE stream or can't get to a computer, you can always listen then. Please pass this information along to those who may not have access to a computer or have a smartphone.

**PHONE** | You can call the church office to speak to someone or leave a message at 251-626-1334.

**EMAIL** | Our primary contact email for the church is ministries@spanishfortumc.org. Emails will be forwarded onto the appropriate person or department.

**WEBSITE** | You can view previous sermon audio or video, Contact newsletters, and bulletins on our website at www.spanishfortumc.org.

*The buildings may be closed but  
worship will be live!*



Sundays ~ 10 AM  
until further notice  
@SpanishFortUMC

**FACEBOOK** | You can catch live and recorded videos, as well as get a lot of current information on the church's current happenings.



**YOUTUBE** | Please go to www.youtube.com, then search for Spanish Fort United Methodist Church. There you will find videos posted that you might not be able to catch live or see elsewhere.



**OFFICE HOURS** | The church office will have staff present Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed on Fridays. The lobby itself will be closed, but we will be here to take your calls and answer emails. This is for the safety of our members and guests, as well as the staff. This will be in effect until further notice.

**WAY OF HELPING WITH VBS** | If you have always wanted to help with VBS but may not have the time or physical capabilities to do so, here is your chance! Simply follow this link, <https://amzn.to/2P5cQNV>, or scan the QR code to the right. Then, take a look at the items and sign up for the item(s) you feel you can purchase. If you would like to order items and have them shipped directly to the church, simply send to SFUMC Attn: Jennifer Robertson, 6530 Spanish Fort Blvd, Suite D, Spanish Fort AL 36527. There will also be boxes on both campuses to collect these items. We truly thank you in advance for your help. VBS is a very large outreach, and each of you are a vital part to making this a success!



**VBS REGISTRATION** |  
June 22-26 | <https://vbspro.events/p/events/sfumcvbs2020> | Please

note, this year the ages will be from age 5 by 9/1/20 through completed 5th Grade.

## ONLINE Giving

**GIVING OPTIONS AVAILABLE** |

- Give ONLINE on our website at [www.spanishfortumc.org/giving](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/giving)
- Scan the QR code with your cell phone/app
- Text SFUMCGIVE to 73256 and follow the link
- Log into the Realm Connect app on your phone
- Set up a regularly scheduled automatic withdrawal from your bank account, contact Faye in the church office or at [faye@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:faye@spanishfortumc.org).
- In person on Sundays or drop them by the church office during the week.



**Thank you for your continued giving, especially during these difficult times.**

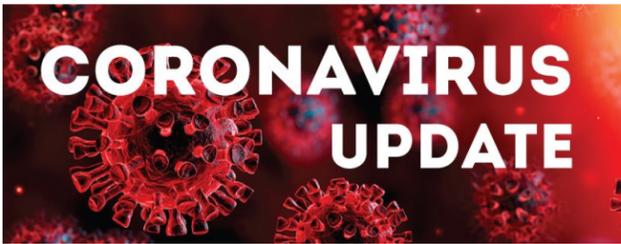
*\*all gifts are tax-deductible and a year-end giving statement will be prepared for you for tracking and tax purposes.*

### WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

Regular Schedule  
Traditional Worship - 8:45 AM (Sanctuary, Main Campus)  
Coffee Fellowship - 9:45 AM (Fellowship Hall, Main Campus)  
Contemporary Worship - 11:00 AM  
(Sanctuary, Main Campus)

### CHURCH INFORMATION

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Friday 8 a.m. - Noon  
251-626-1334 | [ministries@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:ministries@spanishfortumc.org)  
6530 Spanish Fort Blvd., Suite D, Spanish Fort, AL 36527  
f Spanish Fort UMC @spanishfortumc  
[www.spanishfortumc.org](http://www.spanishfortumc.org)



Dear Church Family and Friends,

I want to give you greater information concerning recent decisions our church is making in response to the pandemic Coronavirus.

This is a difficult and strange time for the church. In times of trouble and crisis we are normally uniting together and in some cases we are literally holding and embracing each other. But now, with the Coronavirus, we are called to practice "social distancing". This is quite odd and even frustrating for many of us. I was reminded again of Ecclesiastes 3 which informs us there is time for everything. One of the statements made is, *there is a time for embracing and a time to refrain from embracing*. This is one of those times we are called to refrain from embracing or in our case, to refrain from gathering. But even though the church is currently not gathering for worship this is a great time for us to remember that the church is not the building but the living body of Christ. I believe in this extraordinary time God will use the church "scattered" to do extraordinary service in our community. But we are going to do our best to stay connected in the days ahead. Here are some ways we plan to stay connected:

- We are going to provide on-line worship services until we are able to have normal worship gatherings. This service will involve every aspect of our regular worship experience, not just preaching as our current Facebook streaming does. This is available each Sunday at 10 a.m. on Facebook live and will be archived there to view later.
- Our services are on our website under the "Online Worship" tab at the top right of the page. You can usually access these after Noon on Sundays.
- You can listen to our services at Noon each Sunday by tuning into Go Forth Media's radio station 103.3 FM or 840 AM.
- Some of our bible studies and meetings will be done through video conferencing, social media platforms and emails.
- Our church office will have staff present Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed on Fridays), with the lobby itself being closed. We will be here to take your calls and answer emails. This is for the safety of our members and guests, as well as the staff. This will be in effect until further notice.

- Our program staff will still be available to answer questions or provide assistance as needed and we will continue to find creative ways to continue ministry outside normal gatherings. Please direct specific requests to Beth Allen by email at [beth@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:beth@spanishfortumc.org) or by calling the office.
- Our webpage and Facebook page will provide updated information regarding changes in our schedule and events. We plan to provide paper copies of the Contact newsletter for those who do not have internet or email access.
- We encourage you to join us daily at Noon in participating in our LIVE Pray Down at High Noon via Facebook. Our staff will be leading us during this time of prayer.

Each ministry area including worship and music, preschool, children, youth, adult ministries and congregational life will be sending out emails to give more specific information about those age level ministries and changes that are happening with our church programs. We are looking to give weekly updates online and via email to keep you informed about changes in church happenings as they occur.

Above all, I want to encourage you to continue practicing spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting and self-denial especially through this uncertain time. Use your phone to text, call, email, etc., to reach out to those who might be more isolated during this time. We are also looking to be a resource to help those who might need assistance with getting groceries, medicine or other necessary items. With our schools being closed I am sure there will be other opportunities for us to serve our community in greater ways than perhaps we have ever done before. So be open and listening for how God might direct you in reaching out in appropriate ways to serve others.

We have faced other great struggles. Since I have been here across these nearly 11 years, there was an awful market crash in 2008-2009. Then the BP oil spill crisis. Then devastating tornadoes. Then catastrophic Hurricane Michael. And now we face this Pandemic Coronavirus. As the late Andrae Crouch sang, *Through it all...through it all...I've learned to trust in Jesus. I've learned to trust in God. Through it all... I've learned to depend upon His word.* In light of all the social gatherings being shut down and the normal routines of our lives put on "hold", it might be good for all of us to take a deep breath and as the Psalmist reminds us, "be still and know that He is God". Join me in praying that we will trust in the Lord as we walk through this crisis together even though we might have to sit or stand a little further apart. Let us further pray it will end SOON. And once again will come the time when we can embrace each other in a worship gathering. Til then I will be sending weekly updates and our staff will be working to help us stay connected in these unusual times. And on behalf of our staff we send our love and prayers to you all!

~ Rev. Bill Price

**\*\*\* ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO LAST MINUTE CHANGES DUE TO THE ONGOING PANDEMIC SITUATION\*\*\***

WORSHIP



**PALM SUNDAY ONLINE SERVICE** | April 5 | Join us live online on our Facebook page (@SpanishFortUMC) as we celebrate Palm Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you miss it on Facebook, you can listen to the service on the radio on WBHY 103.3 FM on Sundays at 12:00 p.m. You can also check our website ([www.spanishfortumc.org/media](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/media)) or our YouTube channel for a recorded version of the service as well as other videos.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY ONLINE HYMN SING** | April 9 | 6:00 p.m. | Join us to sing hymns together as we prepare for the Easter season. It will be on Facebook live (@SpanishFortUMC). It will then be uploaded to our website at [www.spanishfortumc.org/media](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/media).

**GOOD FRIDAY ONLINE HYMN SING** | April 10 | 6:00 p.m. | Join us to sing hymns together as we prepare for the Easter season. It will be on Facebook live (@SpanishFortUMC). It will then be uploaded to our website at [www.spanishfortumc.org/media](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/media).

**EASTER SERVICES** | April 12 | We will hold a Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m., Traditional Services at 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. with special Easter music by our Sanctuary Choir, and a Contemporary Service at 11:00 a.m.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

**CHATTANOOGA YOUTH MISSION TRIP** | July 5-10 | The cost is \$400. The trip is open to completed 7th - 12th graders. We will be working with Youthworks, doing inner city missions serving mainly kids. If you are interested in going, please contact Brittney by email at [brittney@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:brittney@spanishfortumc.org) or by calling the church office.

STUDY

**QUEST FOR HOLINESS: FROM SHALLOW BELIEF TO MATURE BELIEVER - CHURCH WIDE SERMON SERIES & STUDY** | Starts April 26 | Join us for a 5 session, church wide sermon series. All Sunday School and small groups are invited to participate in the accompanying study during this time. The series and study explores how to change from the inside out, rather than from the outside in. The books are about \$13 and can be ordered online. Contact the church office for more details.



SERVE

**ECUADOR MISSION TRIP** | July 11-19, 2020 | Please plan to attend a meeting on May 2nd at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for important information concerning the upcoming Ecuador Mission Trip.

**COSTA RICA MISSION TRIPS** | June 6-13, 2020 and June 13-20, 2020 | There will be two teams going to Costa Rica this year. A deposit of \$200 is due now. The total cost for one week is \$1,500 and for the entire two weeks it is \$2000. Adults and youth will be doing construction work and children's ministry at the Methodist church in Palmares, Costa Rica. For more information, contact the church office or Rob Howell at [jrhowell09010@gmail.com](mailto:jrhowell09010@gmail.com).

**MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT SERVING THE LORD** | John and Lisa Hamilton; OMS International (Uruguay) Rob and Amy Ellis; Ethnos360 Missions (Tanzania, Africa) Ronnie and Nanny Calvert (Quito, Ecuador) Monica Maxwell; IMB Connecting (Southern India)

COMMUNITY

**BIRTHS** | Congratulation on the birth of:

- Charlotte Ruth Scott who was born on March 16, 2020 to Tyler and Julie Scott.
- John ("Johnny") Maples Gordon who was born on March 19, 2020 to Geritt and Katie Gordon.
- Julia James Butts who was born on March 23, 2020 to James and Mary Bourne Butts .

**DEATHS** | Our condolences and prayers are extended to :

- Laura Nobles and family on the death of her mother, Margaret Jones. Mrs. Jones passed away on February 27, 2020.
- Brentd Bedsole and family on the death of his father, Bob Bedsole. Mr. Bedsole passed away on March 8, 2020.
- Mary Schuerman and family on the recent death of her sister, Debbie Crigler. Ms. Crigler passed away on March 18, 2020.

**NEEDED: MASKS & PPE** | Health care workers are in need of "N95" masks. Please check to see if you might have some in your garage or storage area. You can bring them to the church office and we will get them to the appropriate people. If you have questions, please email [beth@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:beth@spanishfortumc.org).

**AGAPE HANDS PUPPET FUNDRAISER DINNER & SHOW** | April 26 | 5:15 p.m. | Join us for the annual Agape Hands Puppet Team Fundraiser Dinner & Show where we will have hot dogs and hamburgers before the show! For more information, contact Beth in the church office or email [beth@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:beth@spanishfortumc.org).