

PASTOR'S NOTE

As we enter November and the month of Thanksgiving, Psalm 103 reminds us not to forget all the benefits/ blessings of the Lord. The old gospel song reminds us, "Count Your Blessings Name Them One By One". The Psalmist is surely remembering and "counting blessings". Here are just a few mentioned. God forgives all your sins. As far as the east is from the west, He has removed our transgression from us! God heals all your diseases (now or in eternity). God redeems us. God crowns us with love and compassion. He satisfies our desires with good things. In the most difficult times, the Psalmist challenges us to forget not the ways God has blessed our lives. As we move toward Thanksgiving, I hope we all might take some moments of deep reflection and worship and perhaps create our own list of the ways God has worked in our lives. Then further, share it with someone else. Perhaps you can create your own personalized version of Psalm 103. Bless the Lord, O my soul! And forget not all His benefits even as we walk through times of difficulty as we are now.

Many of you may not have been present at either of the Information Meetings I presented. The first one was in May following Bishop Graves Video Q-A. I presented a second Information Meeting in September following Bishop Graves gatherings with laity and clergy. I am placing information from the September meeting and other pertinent information about the present issues facing the church on our webpage. I encourage you to review the information (spanishfortumc.org). In addition, our Conference website (awfumc.org) has information regarding Staying UMC and regarding the disaffiliation process. We have published in our bulletins and made announcements in worship services that **there are two back-to-back meetings coming up on November 6th. The first meeting is at 4:00 p.m. and will be led by Dr Debora Bishop. This meeting will give information regarding staying UMC. The second meeting at 5:00 p.m. will be led by Dr Larry Bryars and will give information regarding other options moving forward. Childcare is provided during these meetings.**

We continue to pray as we come closer to making some initial decisions about discernment in late November at our Council. I remind you that the decision

from our Council is about whether or not to start a more formal discernment process. The church has been opened for months to encourage prayer for direction. Again, I urge you to see the information I am posting on our website which gives greater information. Despite these struggles, we have much to thank God for. I hope we will not forget all God's benefits to us in the greater prayer for a blessed Thanksgiving for all our families.

Prayers, Bill

WORSHIP



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY | November 6 | 8:45 & 11a.m.
Worship Service | Main Campus | Sanctuary | Join us for worship as we celebrate and honor members of our church family who have passed away this year.



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE |
November 20 | 4:00 p.m. | @Providence United Methodist Church | You are invited to join SFUMC and other Spanish Fort churches for a Community Thanksgiving Service. The service will be led by area pastors and will feature multiple choirs. An offering will be collected and donated to Prodissee Pantry. For more information please contact the church office at 251-626-1334 or email ministries@spanishfortumc.org.

WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

Regular Schedule

Traditional Worship - 8:45 AM (Sanctuary, Main Campus)

Discipleship Hour - 10:00 AM (In Person & Zoom)

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

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

f [Spanish Fort UMC](https://www.facebook.com/spanishfortumc) t [@spanishfortumc](https://twitter.com/spanishfortumc)

www.spanishfortumc.org

OPEN PRAYER | Ongoing | Main Campus | Sanctuary You may come to pray in the Sanctuary during this very informal time for the church and its leadership, especially our own church. You can come pray and leave as you desire. For more information, please call the church office at 251-626-1334.



CHILDREN & YOUTH

KIDZ UNIVERSITY | Ongoing | 6:30 p.m. | Wednesdays | West Campus | Children's Area | Pre K - 5th grade children are welcome to participate in age level programs that study God's word through Bible stories, play games, make crafts, learn worship songs, and grow in fellowship with one another and in relationship to Christ. If you have any question, email children@spanishfortumc.org.

CATAPULT | Ongoing | 6:30 p.m. | Wednesdays | West Campus | Youth Area | Grades 6-8 are welcome to join us for fun and fellowship. If you have questions, email youth@spanishfortumc.org.

REMEDY YOUTH | Ongoing | 6:00 p.m. | Sundays | West Campus | WC112 | Grades 9-12 are invited to gather for fellowship that is about being inspired by who God is and striving to grow in our desire to follow Him fully. For details, email youth@spanishfortumc.org.

YOUTH FRIENDSGIVING | November 20 | 6:00 p.m. | West Campus | WC112, Youth Area | All 6th - 12th Graders are invited to bring a side or dessert and we will all have a Thanksgiving meal together. For more information email youth@spanishfortumc.org.



CHILDREN SINGING IN WORSHIP | December 18 | 8:45 a.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | Our children will be singing during the 8:45 a.m. worship service. It is not too late to have your children join. They practice on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. For details, email bonnie@spanishfortumc.org.



CONFIRMATION 2023 REGISTRATION |

Ongoing If your child is in the 6th grade or beyond, please prayerfully consider registering them for Confirmation 2023. For more details or on how to register, please email kitsy@spanishfortumc.org or call the church office.

BLUE LAKE METHODIST CAMP | February 2 | All current 3rd-5th Graders are invited for a weekend of fun, campfires, and learning about our Lord! You



can now register at: <https://bit.ly/sfumcblwc>. Please email children@spanishfortumc.org or call 251-753-8650 for questions about registration and more information.

STUDY

WOW BIBLE STUDY (WOMEN OF THE WORD)

Ongoing | Wednesdays | 6:30 p.m. | West Campus | WD102, Office Area | We are a faith based study for women of all ages. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 251-626-1331.

THIRSTY THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY | Ongoing | Thursdays | 1:00 p.m. | Main Campus | MC100, Parlor Join this group of ladies as they study and explore God's Word a little deeper by using a Topic Study Guide Book. For more details Cari LeMaitre at carissal@bellsouth.net.

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY | Ongoing | Wednesdays | 9:00 a.m. | West Campus | WD101, Office Area | Join this group of eager Bible studiers as they gather each week to study various books each semester. For more information, please email Gail Yance at kathouse@att.net.

BREAD OF LIFE CHRISTCARE GROUP | Ongoing | Wednesdays | 4:00 p.m. | West Campus | WD105, Children's Area | This group meets weekly for Bible study and exploring ways to be missional servants for Christ. For more information, please contact the office.

SERVE

VETERAN'S MISSION COLLECTION | Thru 11/9 | In honor of Veterans Day, the SFUMC Veteran's Ministry is sponsoring a collection of items for the residents of the Wm. F Green Veteran's Home in Bay Minette. You can bring any donations and place them in the collection box in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall. For a list of items needed, please see www.spanishfortumc.org/info. For more details email revrobertmcmillan@yahoo.com.

MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT SERVING THE LORD |

John and Lisa Hamilton; OMS International (Uruguay) Ronnie and Nanny Calvert (Quito, Ecuador) Monica Maxwell; IMB Connecting (Southern India) The Ellis Family (US Currently)



SFUMC VETERANS SERVICE MINISTRY | November 16 (3rd Wednesdays) | 6:00 p.m. Main Campus | MC100, Parlor | Join us for a gathering of all veterans for support, information, connections, and growth. For more details, contact the church office.

COMMUNITY

SARAH SHEPPARD CIRCLE | 2nd Thursdays | 10:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Join this group of ladies of the United Methodist Women's organization of service. Enjoy Bible study, sharing, speakers, and missional focus. For details, email Debbie Wallace at mwwal@bellsouth.net.

PRIME TIMERS GAME DAY | November 9 (2nd Wednesdays) | 3:00 p.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Join us for our monthly game time and fellowship. For more details, please email Asher Carmichael at accarmic985@aol.com.

PRIME TIMERS (55+) FELLOWSHIP HOUR | November 3 | 10:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | This is an informal opportunity to meet and chat. For more information, call the church office.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP | Ongoing | 9:45 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Join us for coffee between services. If you or your class would like to help out with this weekly event, please contact the church office at 251-626-1334.

SOLO SENIOR MEN | Mondays | 10:00 a.m. | Back Patio of the Spanish Fort Municipal Building | You are invited to join this group of men for a time of fellowship. For questions, please call the office at 251-626-1334.

UMM MEN'S BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP | *November 5 (special date this month) | 8:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Men of the church please join us as we enjoy an outstanding breakfast with a healthy mix of fellowship, prayer, and the Word of God. For more details about this meeting or the United Methodist Men, contact Ken Coale at gk.coale@gmail.com.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT | November 12 | West Campus | Children's Area | 5:00-8:00 p.m. | The cost will be \$20 for the first child and \$5 for each additional with a \$40 cap on all families. For ages Nursery - 6th grade. The night will include dinner, holiday fun, and you get to enjoy a date night! Children will also take home Advent wreath supplies for a family activity, play games, make crafts, and watch a holiday movie. Proceeds will benefit children's and youth winter camps at Blue Lake. For more details or questions, email children@spanishfortumc.org. You can register here: vbspro.events/p/sfumcpno.



SFUMC MEMBERS INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS | November 6 | 4:00 p.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | There will be two different meetings regarding current issues in the UMC. From 4:00-4:45 p.m., Dr. Debora Bishop will be sharing about StayUMC. After a 15-minute break, from 5:00-5:45p.m., Dr. Larry Bryars will be sharing about Options For Our Church Moving Forward. Child care is provided. You are welcome to attend both meetings to gain information about important decisions in the life of our church. If you have any questions, please call the office.

 **WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS** | Going on Now - Wednesdays | 5:30 p.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall. Please call to make reservations at 251-626-1334 or email ministries@spanishfortumc.org by the **Sunday prior to the Wednesday Night Supper**. Donations are greatly appreciated!

POINSETTIAS | November 6 | West Campus | Church Office | Normal Hours | Poinsettias will decorate our Sanctuary in December. Plants may be purchased "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one. Order forms will be available starting November 6th and must be completed and turned in, along with payment, no later than November 28th. If you have any questions, please call the church office.



 **ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE** | November 20 | 2:00 p.m. | First United Methodist Church, Bay Minette, AL | Our Annual Charge Conference will combine business with worship and service. Worship will include communion and discussion of the third simple rule of Stay In Love With God. For more details see www.spanishfortumc.org/info.

FAMILY PROMISE / THE CHOCOLATE AFFAIR | December 8 | 6:00 p.m. | Daphne Civic Center | SFUMC is partnering with Family Promise of Baldwin County as a support congregation to a host church. It is the only shelter for families with children facing homelessness. We are also a sponsor of their annual fundraising event, The Chocolate Affair. To purchase tickets for the event please email desotellg@yahoo.com or sansandra7425@aol.com.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA | December 11 | 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship Services | Main Campus | Sanctuary | We will have an unforgettable worship experience featuring our Sanctuary Choir and members of the Mobile Symphony Orchestra. For more details, please contact bonnie@spanishfortumc.org.

NEW MEMBERS |

Lee and Ashley Howard

DEATHS | Our condolences and prayers are extended to:

Roger Few and family on the death of his father, Roger Irvin Few. Mr. Few passed away on October 3, 2022

Pam Eggers and family on the death of her mother, Mary Alyce Shows. Mrs. Shows passed away on October 15, 2022.

Gail Richards on the death of her husband Norman Richards. Mr. Richards passed away on October 22, 2022.

Mike Connell and family on the passing of his wife, Tonia Connell. Mrs. Connell passed away on October 26, 2022.

Nikki Cort and family on the passing of her husband , Charles Price Cort. Mr. Cort passed away on October 27, 2022.

COMING SOON! | Handbells in Worship, 12/04; ESCS Concert, 12/05; Choir at Westminster, 12/06; A Night in Bethlehem, 12/17; Children Sing in Worship, 12/18; Christmas Caroling & Cookies, 12/18; Christmas Eve Services, 12/24



Spanish Fort UMC
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 Spanish Fort, AL 36527

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CHURCH STAFF

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Accompanist

ONLINE Giving

GIVING OPTIONS AVAILABLE |

- Give ONLINE on our website at 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.
- Mail check designated as offering to 6530 Spanish Fort Blvd., Suite D, Spanish Fort, AL 36527
- Drop in mail slot by the church office front door.



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