

PASTOR'S NOTE

As we navigate into the third month of this year we are well into our Lenten journey. I pray each of us have embraced the spiritual disciplines of prayer and fasting. For the past few years the challenge has been initiated to focus on self denial and even sacrificial giving. We are following the pattern of discipleship Jesus modeled and taught. In his own words, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves, take up their cross and follow Me".

I must confess that my human nature tends to pull me in a more comfortable position where I look for more security. But Jesus seems to be calling us to greater adventure than security. Our world often focuses on self acceptance and self expression.

But Jesus calls us to the very opposite, self-denial. This relates well to another difficult statement of Jesus, "those who save their lives will lose their lives. Those who lose their lives will save them".

As we move toward Easter, we must first face the harsh scene of Mt. Calvary and the cross. As the hymn writers point out, there is a cross before a crown! As Jesus said in another analogy, "the seed has to go into the ground and die before it can yield a harvest". The late martyr, Jim Elliot, put it like this, "He is no fool who gives what he can never keep to gain what he can never lose".

Christ calls us to embrace sacrifice above security and self-denial above self-expression. This does not eliminate security or self-expression. Rather, it gives a greater understanding of both. Indeed, it is surrendering our life to truly find it now and for all eternity.

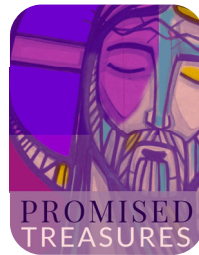
Blessings and Prayers, Bill

WORSHIP



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 details, please call the church office at 251-626-1334.



PROMISED TREASURES LENTEN

SERMON SERIES | Now through Easter | This Lenten Season, we will embrace God's amazing love for us in new ways. Each week of Lent we will journey to see, smell, touch & taste several biblical elements including ashes, salt, water, light, bread, palms, wood, milk & honey.

CHILDREN SINGING IN WORSHIP & WAVING PALM BRANCHES

| April 2 | 11:00 a.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | Our Children's Choir will be singing and waving palm branches. For more information please contact Bonnie Hariel in the church office at bonnie@spanishfortumc.org.



ONE WORSHIP SERVICE |

April 2 | 11:00 a.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | There will be only one traditional service prior to the Easter Celebration, as well as Sunday School at 10 a.m. and Coffee Fellowship at 9:45 a.m.

One Service
traditional
April 2 ~ 11 a.m.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE | April 9 | 7:00 a.m. | Main Campus | Back Parking Lot | Andy Cloninger and the Praise Team will lead us in an outdoor Sunrise Service. He is Risen! He is risen, indeed!

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES | April 9 | 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | Join us on Easter as we celebrate our Risen Savior! This dynamic service will feature our Sanctuary choir and members of the Mobile Symphony Orchestra.



FLOWERING CROSS | April 9 | 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | Help us bring our cross to life by bringing a fresh or artificial flower from home on Easter Sunday. The cross will be located in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. This tradition symbolizes the new life of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

Regular Schedule

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

Discipleship Hour - 10:00 AM (Both Campuses)

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

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www.spanishfortumc.org

CHILDREN & YOUTH



CONFIRMATION

RETREAT | March 11 |
8:00 a.m. | West
Campus | WC112, 113
& WD104, 105 & 108

Confirmants, and their parents, will explore a day of guided workshops, spirit-led activities, fellowship, and worship. This time together will help Confirmants and their families grow closer to God and the meaning of their Confirmation journey. If you are a current Confirmant, we invite you to prayerfully consider this opportunity to explore your faith and to discern God's will for your life. For more information please contact Kitsy Dixon in the church office at 251-626-1334 or email kitsy@spanishfortumc.org.

CONFIRMATION BRUNCH | April 16 | 8:00 a.m. |
Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Families are invited to celebrate the Confirmants of 2023 with a special luncheon provided by members of their church family. Please register, with the number of guests who will attend, by April 10, 2023. To register, contact the office at 251-626-1334 or email ministries@spanishfortumc.org.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - STELLAR!

June 12 - June 15 |
5:30 p.m. | Main

Campus | Multiple Locations | Join us for a Stellar time as we learn about God! We will be having all VBS on our Main Campus, 6690 Spanish Fort Blvd. in the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Parlor, Preschool and Reed Buildings. For more information please call 251-626-1334, email children@spanishfortumc.org, or go to www.spanishfortumc.org/vbs.

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, games, crafts, and fellowship with one another and Christ. If you have any questions, 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 | Remedy (9-12th grades) |
This is a time to gather for fellowship that is about being inspired by who God is and striving to grow in our desire to follow Him fully. If you have questions, email youth@spanishfortumc.org.

SERVE

KIDZ EATZ PACK DAYS | March 13 |
10:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101,
Fellowship Hall Come help pack meals for
5 local elementary school's children in



need. Other scheduled dates are March 22, April 26 and May 8. For more information, please contact Anne Davis at jams4mom@gmail.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)



VBS WORK DAYS |

West Campus |
Children's Area
Join us in preparing for
VBS 2023! For more
information contact the
church office at 251-

626-1334 or email elizabeth@spanishfortumc.org.

STUDY

WATERMARK SS - NEXT STUDIES | February 19 |
10:00 a.m. | West Campus | WD108, Children's Area |
Please join the Watermark Adult Sunday School class
for *Finding God Faithful* by Kelly Minter from February 19
- April 9. For more information, please contact Michelle
Pennington at pennington.sm5@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY



EASTER CELEBRATION | April 2 | 12:00 p.m. | Main
Campus | Front Parking Lot | Join us as we celebrate
the joys of Easter with our annual Palm Sunday Easter
Celebration! Fellowship, lunch, games, music, and an
Egg Hunt for ALL Ages! Bring the family and celebrate
with us! For more information contact Kellie Isbell at
children@spanishfortumc.org or 251-753-8650.



CANDY DONATIONS FOR EASTER CELEBRATION |
Until March 26 | Main Campus | Narthex (Sunday's)
and Fellowship Hall (Wednesday's) and West Campus |
Children's Area (every day of the week) | Please help
make our Easter Celebration a little sweeter by
donating individually wrapped candy! The deadline for
drop off is March 26th. If you have any questions,
please email children@spanishfortumc.org.



PARENT'S NIGHT OUT | March 18 | 5:30 p.m. | West Campus | Children's Area | Enjoy an evening out and help our children and youth get to summer camps! Dinner, movies, and games! The cost will be \$30 for the first child, \$10 for each addition, \$55 cap on all families. Do not have to be a member of SFUMC. Register at vbsspro.events/p/marchpno.

PRIME TIMERS KRAVER'S SEAFOOD LUNCH | March 21 | 11:00 AM | Join the Prime Timers as we meet at Kraver's Seafood Restaurant in Daphne. Please make reservations by calling the church office by March 16. Also, please let the church office know if you will need transportation to the restaurant. For more information please contact Sandra Carmichael at sansandra7425@aol.com.



PRIME Timers
senior adult ministries
Friday Night Out
March 17
6:00 p.m.
www.spanishfortumc.org/info

PRIME TIMERS FRIDAY NIGHT OUT | March 17 6:00 p.m. | West Campus WC112, Youth Area Prime Timers will be viewing the movie, "Where the Crawdad's

Sing." Pizza and drinks will be provided. Please make reservations through the church office, 251-626-1334 by March 13. For more information please contact Sandra Carmichael at sansandra7425@aol.com.

SARAH SHEPPARD CIRCLE | Ongoing | 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. You will enjoy a time of sharing, hearing from occasional speakers, Bible study and missional focus. For more details, please contact Debbie Wallace at mwwal@bellsouth.net.

UMM BREAKFAST & MEETING | 2nd Saturdays | 8:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | All men are invited to attend our monthly (second Saturday) breakfast and meetings. For more info please contact Ken Coale at gk.coale@gmail.com.



SOLO SENIOR MEN | 10:00 a.m. | Off Campus | Spanish Fort Municipal Building | Back Patio | You are invited to join this group of men for a time of fellowship each Monday. For more information please contact David Massey at 251dcm@gmail.com.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER | Weekly | Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Make plans to join us for Wednesday night supper and fellowship. Following the meal

everyone will be dismissed to attend their Wednesday night classes. Main courses will be published in the weekly calendar in the bulletin. Please make

reservations by calling the church office, 251-626-1334 or emailing ministries@spanishfortumc.org by the Sunday prior to the Wednesday Night Supper. Donations are greatly appreciated! We look forward to seeing you there!

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



GRIEF SHARE | March 1 | 6:00 p.m. Main Campus MB100, Upper Reed Building Grief Share is a model of support that helps those grieving do so with comfort and

hope. Seeing grief as a journey helps us navigate the course with support and resources. Please join us so we can help you foster community, build relationship, and sit with our compassionate facilitators who are all too familiar with the journey of grief. Grief Share is a 13-week program where you are free to attend when you are able, and still have access to the support and resources needed on this journey. We are praying with you and for you, and we look forward to having you be part of this support group. For more details call the church office at 251-626-1334.

DEATHS | Our condolences and prayers are extended to:

Laura Maxwell and family on the death of her father, Dr. William David McDole. Mr. McDole passed away on February 5, 2023

Joe Jones on the passing of his wife, Mrs. Joyce Lindsey Jones. Mrs. Jones passed away on February 23, 2023.

FLOWERS FOR SANCTUARY ON EASTER | Flowers will be available for purchase in honor or memory of a loved one. These will be placed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Cost, type, deadline, and order forms are coming soon.

5TH FAMILY SUNDAYS | April 30 | Main Campus | Join our church family as we come together to fellowship by sharing in a family style meal! The main dish and drinks will be provided by the church. Watch for more info on how to sign-up for side dishes!





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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CHURCH STAFF

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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.*