

## PASTOR'S NOTE

Amidst the blazing heat of summer we are edging closer to the new school year. I must admit that I still like the "old schedule" of school starting after Labor Day. Yet there are no "summer slumps" here. VBS, Youth and Children's Camps, and Youth Week have been incredible events in the mission of our church! We are grateful for our leaders and many volunteers who have made possible these vital ministries! And now we catch our breath for a moment to enter the new school year. Upcoming events include Blessing of the Backpacks, Presentation of Bibles to 3rd and 6th Graders, Back to School Gatherings, Church-wide Pool Party, Wednesday Night Suppers (\*new start time of 5 p.m.), Bible Studies, etc. Please review [www.spanishfortumc.org/info](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/info) and the Newsletter to stay informed about all the upcoming activities and events.

You should know our church is in the Discernment Process under the new policy established by the Conference Trustees. Updates have been sent and our District Superintendent, Dr. Debora Bishop sent a letter/email more recently. We will be sending out a 40 day Prayer and Fasting Guide for our church by mid-August as we discern the direction of our church regarding disaffiliation. I remind you of the Town Hall meetings led by Dr. Bishop on August 13th at 4 p.m. and August 31st at 6 p.m. You will only need to attend one of the meetings. James reminds us that the prayers of the righteous are powerful and effective.

Blessings, 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 (Wednesday @ 7 a.m. or Thursday at 6 p.m.). For more details, please call the church office at 251-626-1334.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH



### SFUM PRESCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE |

Spanish Fort United Methodist Preschool is the largest consistent outreach ministry of SFUMC. Help the preschool stock up for next year by donating supplies. Visit the link [bit.ly/SFUMPWishList](https://bit.ly/SFUMPWishList) to view their Amazon List or scan the QR code.



### 23/24 SUNDAY SCHOOL - MEET THE TEACHERS |

August 6 | 10:00 a.m. | West Campus | WD104, Children's Area After meeting in the large classroom, WD104, for an End of the Summer Celebration and meeting their new Sunday School teacher, children will be escorted to their new classrooms. Parents will pick up their children from their new classrooms. Volunteers will be out in the hallway for directions. If you have any questions, please contact Kellie Isbell, 251-753-8650 or [children@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:children@spanishfortumc.org).



### 3RD & 6TH GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION | August 13 | 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Main Campus | Sanctuary | Our 3rd and 6th Graders will be presented with their new Bibles they can use with their Sunday

School curriculum. If your child is in the 3rd grade they will learn "How to Use My Bible" and 6th graders/Confirmants, "How to Study My Bible". Please register your child at: [bit.ly/biblepresentations23](https://bit.ly/biblepresentations23)



### CATAPULT YOUTH FELLOWSHIP RESUMES |

August 16 | 6:30 p.m. | West Campus | WC112, Youth Area | Join us each Wednesday night in the Youth Area for a time of worship, praise, study, fun and fellowship. (Grades 6th - 8th). For more information please contact Zack McCraw at [youth@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:youth@spanishfortumc.org).

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.spanishfortumc.org)

**KIDZ UNIVERSITY RESUMES** | August 16 | 6:30 p.m. | West Campus | Children's Area | Pre K - 5th grade children are welcome to participate in age level programs that study God's word through the stories in the Bible, play games, make crafts, learn worship songs, and grow in fellowship with one another and in relationship to Christ. If you have any question, please email Kellie Isbell at [children@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:children@spanishfortumc.org).



## SERVE

**2023 SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING - MAKE UP DAY** | August 23 | 6:30 PM | West Campus | WD107,



Children's Area | Attention ALL Volunteers! IF YOU MISSED THE FIRST TRAINING SESSION and you volunteer with vulnerable adults, youth, or children's ministries, please join us for Safe Sanctuaries training for the '23-'24 academic year. Have family dinner on the

Main Campus first at 5:00 p.m. then come to training on the West Campus in the Children's area. Nursery and childcare provided. If you have questions, please contact [ministries@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:ministries@spanishfortumc.org) or call the church office at 251-626-1334.

**KIDZ EATZ VOLUNTEER PACK DAY & SOLES FOR SOULS** | August 1 |

9:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Our Kidz EatZ Ministry is adding the Soles4Souls outreach program to their pack day this year. Please join us as we pack meals for our local needy school children and shoes for the needy all over the world. If you have gently worn shoes you would like to donate, you may bring or send them on this one day. For more information please contact Anne Davis at [jams4mom@gmail.com](mailto:jams4mom@gmail.com) or 251-581-0427.



**KIDZ EATZ VOLUNTEER PACK DAYS** | August 2 | 9:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Please join us to help assemble meals for our local school children in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Anne Davis at 251-581-0427 or email [jams4mom@gmail.com](mailto:jams4mom@gmail.com).

**GRIEFSHARE & DIVORCE CARE INTEREST MEETINGS**

August 2 & August 3 | 2:00 p.m. | West Campus | WD101, Office Area | If you are interested in serving as a GriefShare or DivorceCare facilitator then this information setting is for you. Choose either date to attend for more information. If you have questions, please contact Kitsy Dixon in the church office at 251-626-1334 or email [kitsy@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:kitsy@spanishfortumc.org).

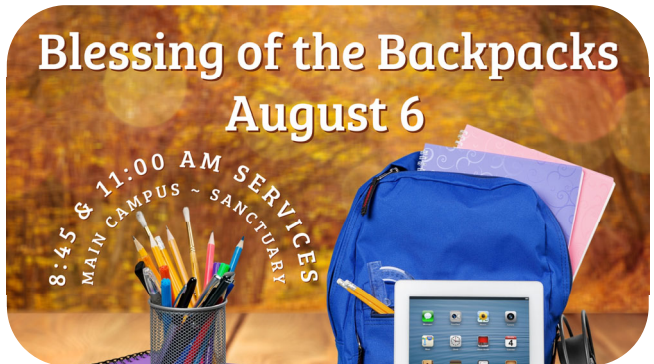


**PRAYER MINISTRY** | Ongoing | Calling all prayer warriors interested in joining our Congregational Care Prayer

Ministry, lifting others up in prayer. If you are interested, please contact Cari LeMaitre at [carissal@bellsouth.net](mailto:carissal@bellsouth.net) or call the church office.

## COMMUNITY

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS** | August 6 | 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | All Administrators, Support Staff, Teachers, and Students of **ALL ages** are invited to bring their briefcase, bag, or backpack to be blessed for the coming school year! Please join us in a special time of prayer as everyone prepares for their upcoming school year. For more information contact Kellie Isbell by calling 251-626-1334 or email her at [children@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:children@spanishfortumc.org).



**UMM BREAKFAST & MEETING** | August 12 | 8:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | All men are invited to attend our monthly (second Saturday) breakfast and meetings. For more information please contact Ken Coale at [gk.coale@gmail.com](mailto:gk.coale@gmail.com).



**PRIME TIMERS GAME DAY** | 2nd Tuesdays | 3:00 p.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | Games and fellowship for 55+. For more information please email [sansandra7425@aol.com](mailto:sansandra7425@aol.com).

**BACK TO SCHOOL CHURCH-WIDE POOL PARTY** | August 6 | 1:00 p.m. | Bay Minette City Pool | Let's join as a church community at the Bay Minette City Pool from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Bring towels, sunscreen, and be ready for fellowship and fun!! Snacks and drinks are provided. Don't forget to bring your Summer Family Challenge packet to the Pool Party to see which family wins! For more information contact the church office at [ministries@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:ministries@spanishfortumc.org) or call 251-626-1334.





# DISCERNMENT

Town Hall Mtg - 8/13 @ 4 PM

Town Hall Mtg - 8/31 @ 6 PM

Main Campus - Sanctuary

[www.spanishfortumc.org/discernment](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/discernment)



**TOWN HALL MEETING** | August 13 | 4:00 p.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | For more information please visit our website at [www.spanishfortumc.org/discernment](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/discernment) or contact the church office at 251-626-1334.

**TOWN HALL MEETING** | August 31 | 6:00 p.m. | Main Campus | Sanctuary | For more information please visit our website at [www.spanishfortumc.org/discernment](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/discernment) or contact the church office at 251-626-1334.



## "SPECIAL EDITION" PRIME TIMERS (55+) FELLOWSHIP |

August 3 | 10:00 a.m. | Main Campus | MC101, Fellowship Hall | If you are age 55+ please join us as we host Sam Crosby, who will discuss and answer questions concerning wills, trusts,

estate planning and elder law. We meet monthly (the first Thursday) for an informal social hour with coffee and brunch type foods supplied by attendees. For more information, please contact Asher Carmichael at [acarmic985@aol.com](mailto:acarmic985@aol.com) or 251-591-2675.



## Begins September 13

6:00 p.m. - \$20

Register thru Church Office

[www.spanishfortumc.org/info](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/info)

**DIVORCECARE** | Begins September 13 | 6:00 p.m. | Main Campus | MB100, Upper Reed | Divorce is a heartbreaking experience, but God is close to the broken-hearted. DivorceCare is a support group designed to help you manage the emotions of a painful divorce, through implementation of biblical and foundational healing. A study book is required for this group and cost is \$20.00. Once you register for the class, the church office will order your study book. If you would like further information, please contact Kitsy Dixon in the church office at [kitsy@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:kitsy@spanishfortumc.org) or 251-626-1334.

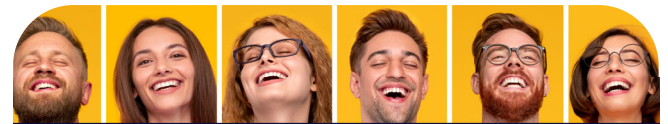
**DEATHS** | Our condolences and prayers are extended to:

Shannon Murphy and family on the death of his father, Michael Lee Murphy. Mr. Murphy passed away on July 12, 2023.

## FINANCE UPDATE | Second Quarter Giving

Statements were either emailed or sent by postal service on July 11, 2023. If you did not receive your record, please contact Faye Childers in the church office at [faye@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:faye@spanishfortumc.org)

or 251-626-1334. As God has called us to be faithful stewards of ALL He has blessed us with, we appreciate each of you for trusting and obeying in order that we may continue His ministry here and throughout the world.



## MID WEEK IS BACK!

Begins August 16

Wednesday Supper @ 5:00 PM

Children's & Adult Activities @ 6:30 PM  
Both Campuses

[www.spanishfortumc.org/info](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/info)

**MIDWEEK IS BACK!** | August 16 | Both Campuses | PLEASE NOTE: Wednesday Night Suppers will now begin at 5:00 p.m. All other activities for adults and children will begin at 6:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise. Be on the lookout for more information via slides, bulletins, website, and email about more classes and opportunities to serve coming soon. If you have questions, please contact the church office at 251-626-1334 or email [ministries@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:ministries@spanishfortumc.org).

**COMMUNICATIONS REMINDER** | As we start to ramp up activities for the Fall, we want to remind everyone of our Communications Policies & Procedures. They, and the Meeting/Class/Event Request Form, can be located at [www.spanishfortumc.org/info](http://www.spanishfortumc.org/info) towards the bottom of the page. They can also be picked up in the church office or emailed to you. Once they are completely filled out, please email them to both Faye Childers at [faye@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:faye@spanishfortumc.org) and Jennifer Stewart at [jennifer@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:jennifer@spanishfortumc.org). *Our policies and procedures apply to ALL staff members and ALL congregation members or guests. Please, do not call the office and request that they fill them out for you. When in doubt fill it out!*

There is a lot of information to complete, but it is all crucial to maintain our calendar of events, room usage, event details/timing, work flow, etc. This also allows your staff ample time to get the information out more efficiently. If you have any questions, please email [jennifer@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:jennifer@spanishfortumc.org).



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## CHURCH STAFF

### Bill Price

Senior Pastor

[bill@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:bill@spanishfortumc.org)

### Kitsy Dixon

Associate Pastor

[kitsy@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:kitsy@spanishfortumc.org)

### Mike Owenby

Minister of Worship Arts

[worship@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:worship@spanishfortumc.org)

### Andy Cloninger

Contemporary Worship Director

[andycloninger@mac.com](mailto:andycloninger@mac.com)

### Zack McCraw

Youth Director

[youth@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:youth@spanishfortumc.org)

### Maddie Walker

Assistant Youth Director

[maddietippenswalker@gmail.com](mailto:maddietippenswalker@gmail.com)

### Mandy Reeves

SFUM Preschool Director

[preschool@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:preschool@spanishfortumc.org)

### Kellie Isbell

Children's & Nursery Ministries Director

[children@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:children@spanishfortumc.org)

### Elizabeth DeRocher

Children's Curriculum Specialist

[elizabeth@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:elizabeth@spanishfortumc.org)

### Faye Childers

Executive Assistant

[faye@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:faye@spanishfortumc.org)

### Cindy Cunningham

Business Director

[cindy@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:cindy@spanishfortumc.org)

### Christi Wood

Ministry Assistant / Receptionist

[ministries@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:ministries@spanishfortumc.org)

### Jennifer Stewart

Communications Specialist

[jennifer@spanishfortumc.org](mailto:jennifer@spanishfortumc.org)

### Al Jacobi

Technical Director

### Wanda Cooper

Accompanist

## 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).
- 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.*