

Save The Date!

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| JAN 12 TH | Youth Monthly Mission Night 4:00pm at Star Gospel Mission |
| JAN 17 TH | "January Jingle" Handbell Workshop 10:00am - 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall |
| JAN 21 ST | Youth Beach Bible Study 5:00pm meets at the Church beforehand |
| JAN 24 TH | Choir Retreat 10:00am - 1:00pm in the Choir Room |
| JAN 25 TH | "Load the Loft" Sunday 10:30am Service in the Sanctuary |
| JAN 29 TH | Hops & Hymns 4:00-7:00pm at Islander 71 |
| JAN ~ FEB 30 TH ~ 1 ST | Youth Ski Trip Jan 30 (3:00 pm) to Feb 1 (11:30 pm) Lake Junaluska (Cataloochee Ski Area) |
| FEB 8 TH | Youth Valentine's Spaghetti Supper 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall |
| FEB 9 TH | Youth Monthly Mission Night 4:00pm at Star Gospel Mission |
| FEB 15 TH | Lenten Organ Concert 4:00pm in the Sanctuary |
| FEB 18 TH | Ash Wednesday Service 6:00pm in the Sanctuary |
| FEB 18 TH | Youth Beach Bible Study 5:00pm meets at the Church beforehand |
| Looking Ahead: | |
| MAR 1 ST | Oyster Roast 3-5:00pm on the Church Yard |
| MAR 29 TH | "Requiem" Hymn Festival 6:00pm in the Sanctuary |



REMINDER:
There will be ONE Worship Service on
Sundays at 10:30am

January / February 2026

FUMC IOP

Vol 3 Issue 1

FUMC IOP Newsletter

TO BEGIN AGAIN

Where did last year go? In many ways, it seems that the year 2025 flew by in an instant, and we are in the first days of a new year. Before we launch ahead, now is a great time to look back in gratitude at the year that is behind. Let's consider doing some prayerful reflective work together as we "examine" the last year.

A great way to pray is to look for God's presence in your life. More than 400 years ago St. Ignatius Loyola encouraged prayer-filled mindfulness by proposing what has been called the Daily Examen. The Examen is a prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God's presence and to discern his direction for us. Try this version of St. Ignatius's prayer to "examine" the last year:

1. Become aware of God's presence. Look back on the events of the year in the company of the Holy Spirit. The day may seem confusing to you—a blur, a jumble, a muddle, a challenge. Ask God to bring clarity and understanding.
2. Review the year with gratitude. Gratitude is the foundation of our relationship with God. Walk through your year in the presence of God and note its joys and delights. Look at the work you did, the people you interacted with. What did you receive from these people? What did you give them?
3. Pay attention to your emotions. One of St. Ignatius's great insights was that we detect the presence of the Spirit of God in the movements of our emotions. Reflect on the feelings you experienced during the year. Boredom? Elation? Resentment? Compassion? Anger? Confidence? What is God saying through these feelings?
4. Choose one feature of the year and pray from it. What has been your most significant prayer? It may involve a feeling—positive or negative. It may be a significant encounter with another person or a vivid moment of pleasure or peace. Or it may be something that seems rather insignificant. Look at it. Pray about it through intercession, praise, repentance, or gratitude.
5. Look toward the coming year. Ask God to give you light for future challenges. Allow this to turn into prayer. Seek God's guidance. Ask God for help and understanding. Pray for hope.

Ultimately, you may find that this Ignatian process of examining the past year will give you more clarity for the coming year. Even if the prayerful process of assessing the past year seems frustrating and challenging, remember that even our frustrations might teach us more about ourselves. May God's blessings of peace and comfort be with us all in the coming year.

Grace and peace,

Charles

Pastor Charles

Upcoming Events



MONDAY MISSION NIGHTS

January 12th & February 9th

4:00-7:00pm

For 9th-12th graders. Parents & friends are encouraged to join as well!

"JANUARY JINGLE" HANDBELL WORKSHOP

January 17th
9:30am-1:00pm

This joyful morning of music-making is open to all experience levels — whether you're a seasoned ringer, brand new to handbells, or simply curious to try something new. Lunch provided.



Ring in the New Year with Music, Joy, and Bells!
Join us for The January Jingle, a fun and engaging Handbell Workshop designed for ringers of all experience levels — from first-time ringers to seasoned musicians.

What to Expect:
Hands-on handbell ringing
Skill-building and ensemble playing
A welcoming, joyful learning environment
Fellowship, laughter, and plenty of ringing!

No prior handbell experience required — just bring your enthusiasm and willingness to try something new!

JANUARY 17th: 9:30-1:00pm

First United Methodist Church Isle of Palms
12 21st Ave
Isle of Palms SC
29451

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call the Church Office: 843-886-6610

Recurring Events

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

Children ~ 4:00-5:30pm
Youth ~ 5:30-7:00pm



MAHJONG MONDAYS

Monday evenings at 4/5:00pm
in the Fellowship Hall.



CHOIR PRACTICE

Handbell Choir
Wednesday afternoon
4:30-6:00 pm

Chancel Choir
Wednesday afternoon
6:30-8:00 pm

Children's Choir
(Following SNL schedule)
Sundays 4:00-4:20pm

BIBLE STUDIES

MLBS:
Contact Wessie Mitchell to get involved.

Disciple IV:
Contact Mike Holman to get involved.

Devotional Beach Walk:
Contact Suzanne Redford to get involved.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call the Church Office: 843-886-6610

Receiving New Members!

We joyfully celebrate some of the newest members of our congregation who joined us in 2025. May you find faith, fellowship, and love as we grow together in Christ!



John and Shannon
Biggers



The Bowen
Family



Joseph Burgess



The Ford
Family



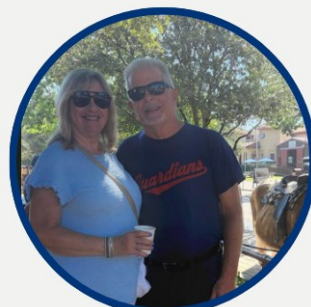
The Hardy
Family



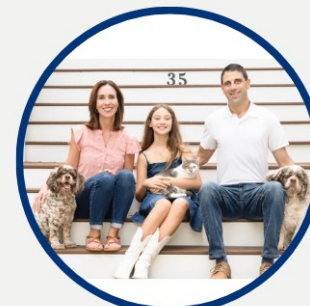
Georgia Meyer



Alex Johnson &
Katy Saunders



Greg and Sharon
Smith



The Shirbacheh
Family



Ed and Nancy
Talmage



Craig and Suzi
Wheeler



Rick and Susan
Zuerlein

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call the Church Office: 843-886-6610

Upcoming Events

YOUTH BEACH BIBLE STUDY

January 21st &
February 18th

5:00pm

Middle and High School Youth are invited to come together to grow their faith through study once a month. We will gather at the Church, share a meal, and walk on the beach for devotion.



HOPS & HYMNS!

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
GOOD HYMNS, GOOD FOOD, AND GOOD BEER

ISLANDER 71
JANUARY 29, 2026
4:00-7:00PM

CONTACT ALEX WILSON,
FIRSTIOPMUSICMINISTRY@GMAIL.COM
OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

HOPS AND HYMNS

Islander 71
January 29th
4-7:00pm

Contact Alex Wilson,
firstiopmusicministry@gmail.com
to get involved!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call the Church Office: 843-886-6610

Upcoming Events

YOUTH SKI TRIP

January 30th - February 18st

6th-12th graders are invited to come on our annual youth ski trip!

We will be staying at Lake Junaluska and they will be providing all of our meals and this is included in the cost. Friends that are non members are welcome to join! Scholarships are available!



VALENTINE'S SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Led by First Church's Youth!

February 8th at 5:30pm

\$20 per person in advance.
\$25 per person the day of.

RSVP on Realm or call the Church office.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call the Church Office: 843-886-6610

Looking Ahead



SEASIDE SERENADES CONCERT SERIES

February 15th -
"What Wondrous Love is This"
Organ Recital with Alex Wilson
4:00pm

March 29th - "In Paradisum"
Gabriel Faure's Requiem
with First UMC Chancel Choir
and Charleston Symphony
Musicians
6:00pm

OYSTER ROAST

Sunday, March 1st
3:00-5:00pm.

Tickets are \$30 for adults
and kids and youth \$10.

We are raising funds for
our church international
mission trip to Chiapas,
Mexico this Summer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call the Church Office: 843-886-6610

