

Save The Date!

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

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MONDAY MISSION NIGHTS

Star Gospel Mission

Join us once a month as we prepare a meal at Star Gospel Mission

Followed by dinner and fellowship downtown CHS.

Dates & Sign Ups On Realm

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.

“January Jingle”

A Handbell Workshop for
EVERYONE!

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

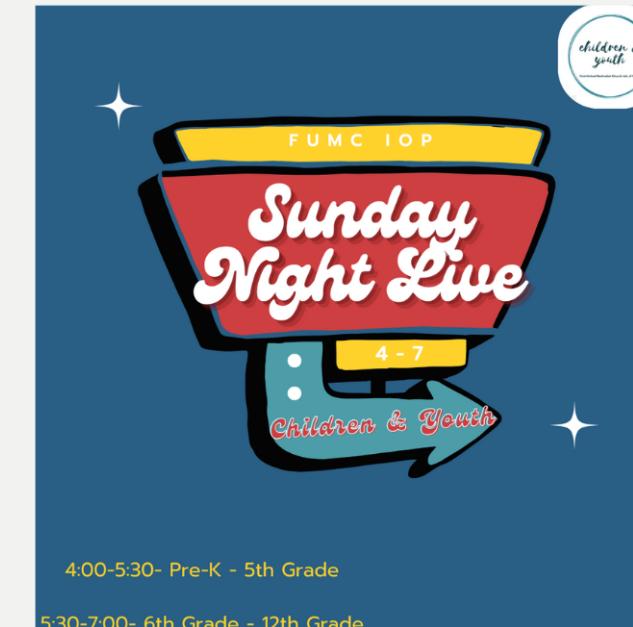
First United Methodist Church Isle of Palms
12 21st Ave
Isle of Palms SC
29451

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



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

MAHJONG MONDAYS

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



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

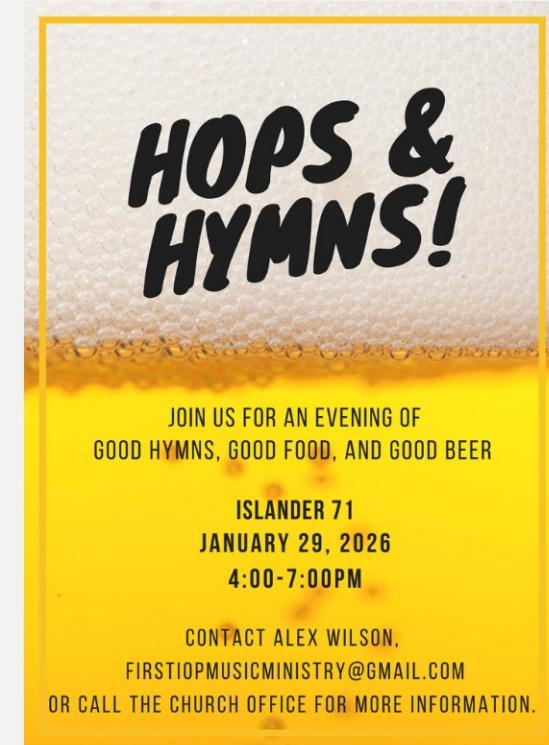
5:00pm

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 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.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ISLE OF PALMS

OYSTER ROAST & CHILI COOKOFF

Sunday, March 1
3:00-5:00

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