

# Save The Date!

MAR 2ND	New Member Brunch 12:15 PM
MAR 5TH	High School Beach Bible Study 5:00 PM
MAR 5TH	Ash Wednesday Worship 6:00 PM
MAR 13TH	Men's Club Guest Speaker 6:00 PM
MAR ~ MAR 19TH 21ST	Tea Room 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM
APRIL 6TH	Easter Egg Hunt 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
APRIL 13TH	Palm Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
APRIL 18TH	Good Friday Service 6:00 PM
APRIL 20TH	Easter Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

## FUMC IOP Newsletter

### WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Fellowship Opportunities
- Volunteer Opportunities

### THE SEASON AHEAD

The season of Lent consists of forty days from Ash Wednesday and end the day before Easter. The forty days of Lent are fast days where we remember our mortality and the need to let go of constraints. It is a time of discipline and self-restraint. I realize that the idea of fasting may not be particularly appealing, but the spiritual discipline of fasting is an ancient practice. You may feel led to observe a brief fast, in moderation of course.

Sundays throughout the Lenten season, however, we feast on the presence of Christ in the midst of the Church. We acknowledge the grace God poured out on all humankind in the person and work of Jesus Christ. In short, we may fast through the week, but each Sunday is a day of celebration of God's grace.

Then why forty days? In biblical terms forty is a round number symbolizing fullness. It's a span of time sufficient to accomplish what needs to take place; therefore, the number is used frequently and becomes a kind of shorthand for much of sacred history. Rain fell in Noah's time for forty days and nights. For forty days Moses and Elijah (who represent respectively the Law and the Prophets) dwelt at Horeb. Moses ascended Mt. Sinai for forty days and nights to receive the Law of the Lord. For forty days Jesus endured temptation in the wilderness and later the same period was revealed to the disciples after the resurrection. Nineveh was given forty days to repent. For forty years Israel wandered in the wilderness prior to admission into the Promised Land.

Often, spiritual formation practices are seen as something "added on" to our personality that solves all our emotional, psychological, physical and mental problems. When this happens, problems can be repressed or covered over with a veneer of "spirituality" that claims to solve the problem. Perhaps someone has told you, "You just need to pray more, go to church more, read your Bible more, be more obedient to God, have more faith, deal with unconfessed sin in your life, and everything will be fine." Spiritual formation, however, is a life-long endeavor enabled by God's grace and calling.

Some people have said, "we are human beings in search of a spiritual experience." Think of this for a moment or two: "We spiritual beings who are in search of a human experience." Here are three practices that may aid your spiritual experience for the forty-day journey through Lent:

PRAYER – Set aside intentional time and place to speak to and listen to God.

SPIRITUAL READING – Sometimes we read Scripture to develop a lesson plan, a Bible Study, of a sermon. Spiritual reading is about formation not simply for information.

Meditate on and truly listen to Scripture for the word, phrase or theme that God reveals in the Word.

LITURGY – As we gather for worship throughout Lent, consider approaching the services of worship in new ways; come expecting to see, hear and experience something new and holy each Lord's Day.

In closing, although we walk together along this journey through Lent, we each must take each step for ourselves. May the love of God sustain you along the journey.

Grace and peace,

*Charles*

Pastor Charles



# Looking Ahead

## UPCOMING SERMONS

03/02 - "Down from the Mountain"  
03/05 - "These Forty Days"  
03/09 - "Three Simple Rules"  
03/16 - "Do No Harm"  
03/23 - "Do Good"  
03/30 - "Stay in Love with God"  
04/06 - "Putting it All Together"  
04/13 - "Prevailing Voices"  
04/17 - "A New Commandment"  
04/18 - "Love Crucified"  
04/20 - "On the First Day"  
04/27 - "That You May Believe"



## CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Wee Worship Leadership	Sunday Night Dinners	Youth Group Leaders	Chaperoning Trips
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## VOLUNTEER WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

They say it takes a village to raise a child, I think it takes a church to raise a Christian!

Please help out with our children and youth ministry programs here at First Church.

Please see weekly E-Blast with sign up links and contact Courtney with questions.

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

# Reoccurring Events

**Children & Youth  
Music @ FUMC**

A fun time for children and youth to fellowship through music and worship!

STARTING  
**FEB  
2**

**IN THE CHOIR ROOM**

**2ND - 5TH GRADERS**  
3:15pm - 4:00pm

**6TH - 12TH GRADERS**  
4:45pm - 5:30pm

COME AND JOIN US!  
12 21ST AVE. ISLE OF PALMS  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
FIRSTIOPMUSICMINISTRY@GMAIL.COM

## CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE

3:15 - 4:00pm  
2nd through 5th  
graders.

4:45 - 5:30pm  
6th through 12th  
graders.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2025

7th graders are invited to join us in a semester of deepening faith and learning what it truly means to be a follower of Jesus Christ and a member of First Church.

If you are older than 7th grade and have not yet been confirmed, you can join as well!





# Reoccurring Events



**CHANCEL CHOIR-**  
WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6:00PM-7:30PM  
CHOIR ROOM

**KIRK CHOIR- SHOW UP AND SING!**  
SUNDAY MORNING 8:30AM  
(CHOIR ROOM)

**CHAMBER CHOIR-**  
MONDAY AFTERNOON 4:00PM-5:00PM  
CHOIR ROOM

**HANDBELL CHOIR-**  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 5:00PM-6:00PM  
HANDBELL ROOM

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR**  
SUNDAY AFTERNOON 3:15-4:00PM  
CHOIR ROOM

**YOUTH CHOIR**  
SUNDAY 4:45PM-5:30PM  
CHOIR ROOM

**WE WANT YOU!  
BE INVOLVED!**  
[firstiopmusicministry@gmail.com](mailto:firstiopmusicministry@gmail.com)

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Whether you drum on the steering wheel or a drumset, whether you sing opera or in the shower, there is a spot for you! Check out the many offerings of First Church. Be plugged in. Be involved! Help us share God's love through music to the IOP community and beyond!

## CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

Kids: Sundays at 4:00-5:30pm.

Youth: Sundays at 5:30-7:00pm.

This is a time for children and youth to explore God's word through play and recreation.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Sunday Night Live**

**4 - 7**

**Children & Youth**

Come help with leading Kids Programming at 4:00-5:30 OR Youth 5:30-7:00

Can't stay the whole time? Volunteer by bringing dinner one week!

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

# Looking Ahead



First United Methodist Church Isle of Palms

**new member BRUNCH**

Sunday, March 2nd

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:15

## NEW MEMBER BRUNCH

Sunday, March 2nd at 12:15.

Come and learn what it means to be a member of First Church.

Jen and Pastor Charles will lead and speak to you about next steps of becoming a member.

Register on Realm or call the Church office.

## TEA ROOM

March 19th through March 21st.

We need the help of our congregation to make this endeavor a success. We need a lot of hands in place on March 19th-21st but there is also an opportunity to get involved before the Tea Room even opens. We need assistance getting everything ready on both Monday, March 17 and Tuesday, March 18.

For more information, call Kathy Elliott (843) 834-6198



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ISLE OF PALMS

**TEA ROOM**

Enjoy a lunch with yummy food, tea, and fellowship

**MARCH 19TH-21ST**

**11:30-2:00**

12 21ST AVE  
ISLE OF PALMS, SC 29451

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



# Looking Ahead



## Services

Ash Wednesday 3/5/25 at 6:00PM  
Palm Sunday 4/13/25 at 9:00 & 11:00AM  
Good Friday 4/18/25 at 6:00PM  
Easter 4/20/25 at 9:00 & 11:00AM

## Activities

Kids Palm Sunday Processional  
4/13/25 at 9:00 & 11:00AM  
Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon  
4/6/25 12:00 - 1:30PM

## EASTER EGG HUNT

Fun fellowship Church event for ALL!  
Children will hunt for eggs at 12:15 and  
free lunch for all will begin at noon.

RSVP in Realm for lunch or call the  
church office.

## LENT AT FIRST CHURCH

Plan to attend these meaningful services  
as we begin the Holy season of Lent.

Ash Wednesday 03/05  
6:00 pm

Palm Sunday 04/13  
9:00 am & 11 am

Good Friday 04/18  
6:00 pm

Easter Sunday 04/20  
6:00 pm



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

# Looking Ahead

## MISSION TRIP



WHERE: CHIAPAS, MEXICO  
WHEN: JUNE 7-14, 2025  
WHO: YOUTH & ADULTS

## INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP

First Church has the amazing  
opportunity to go international  
this summer to Chiapas, Mexico.

June 7-14, 2025.

Email [lindamarie727@yahoo.com](mailto:lindamarie727@yahoo.com)  
for more information.



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