

THE SPIRE

AUGUST 13, 2025

FIRST ST. CHARLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH // ISSUE 15 // VOLUME 54



**CHECK OUT ALL
THE CHILDREN &
YOUTH SUNDAY
FUN HAPPENING
SOON!**

MEET THE STAFF

REV. KIM MITCHELL
REV. DEBBY BARTLEY
REV. STEVE WILLIAMS
PATTI ADAMS
KARLA CURRY
STACEY DAVIS
ERIC HEIEN
MARSHA HUNT
KERRI JOHNSON
BETH KELLEY
JACK MCCORMICK
JIM NICHOLS
OLIVIA OSTERHAGE
KATIE ROAM

FIRST *friends*

AVAILABLE ON OUR  &  PAGES!



Michelle DeMumbrane

OLIVIA WOULD LOVE TO INTERVIEW YOU! LET HER KNOW
IF YOU'RE INTERESTED. SHE'LL EVEN COME TO YOU!

NEWS ALERT



WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



NOT GETTING YOUTH EMAILS?
REACH OUT TO BETH!

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully (Romans 12:6-8 NIV).

Hey everyone, exciting news! This Sunday marks the start of a new worship series, "A Little More Like Jesus." It is inspired by the UMC Council of Bishops' fresh vision for our connectional church.



Throughout August, we'll be diving into the different aspects of this vision, exploring how we can each embody Jesus' teachings a bit more. We'll be asking ourselves some important questions: How can we love more boldly? What does it mean to serve with joy? And how can we lead with courage in our daily lives? What does that really look like? Christian rock artist Zach Williams has a song that speaks to what that might mean as he sings:

*A little more like mercy, a little more like grace
A little more like kindness, goodness, love, and faith
A little more like patience, a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me
(Zach Williams, Less Like Me 2019)*

Okay, so what does it really mean to be more like Jesus?

Well, it starts with getting to know Jesus through the scriptures, where we truly discover who he is. Then, it's about putting that knowledge into action. Think loving like Jesus - showing kindness to everyone, even when it's tough. It also means being compassionate and helping those in need, just as Jesus did. And importantly, it's about practicing humility and extending forgiveness to others. Our world needs us to be more like Jesus. One practical way to be more like Jesus is to serve in First St Charles ministries. Right now, we need volunteers to lead, teach, and shepherd our children and youth on Sunday mornings. Would you pray about saying yes to our Next Generation?

I'm really looking forward to exploring these themes together and discovering practical ways we can reflect Jesus' light in our community and beyond. It's going to be an inspiring month, and I hope you'll join us each week as we journey towards becoming a little more like Jesus. See you on Sunday!

Grateful to you all,
in Christ's Love,
Pastor Kim Mitchell



**MARY & TOM
STEPHENSON
CELEBRATED THEIR
75TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY!**



CHOIR IS BACK!

10 REASONS TO SING IN THE CHOIR THIS FALL

10. WE WEAR ROBES, SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT TO WEAR ON A SUNDAY MORNING.
9. IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR HEART AND LUNGS!
8. IT RELEASES ENDORPHINS!
7. IT HELPS DEVELOP YOUR NATURAL BEAUTY!
(BY EXERCISING YOUR FACIAL MUSCLES!)
6. IT'S RELAXING! (EXCEPT DURING CHRISTMAS AND EASTER!)
5. DAD JOKES!
4. COOKIES!
3. YOU'RE A PART OF SOMETHING LIFE-AFFIRMING!
2. IT'S ECO-FRIENDLY - NO UPGRADES OR FOSSIL FUELS REQUIRED!
1. YOU'VE GOT A GUARANTEED PLACE TO SIT ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND EASTER SUNDAY!



CHOIR PRACTICE BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, AT 7:00 PM.

***CALL THE OFFICE TO GET THE DOOR CODE IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN JOINING!**

WE PRACTICE EVERY WEDNESDAY, AND SING AT THE 9:00 AND 11:00 WORSHIP SERVICES ON SUNDAY. IF YOU'VE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SINGING IN THE CHOIR, YOU ARE INVITED TO COME AND SEE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT. IT'S A NON-AUDITION GROUP - ALL ARE WELCOME!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE OR EMAIL REV. STEVE WILLIAMS:
[SWILLIAMS@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG](mailto:swilliams@firststcharlesumc.org)

NEXTGEN >>>

KIDS STUDENTS YOUNG ADULTS

PREPARE.

FUN things are happening!

WE INVITE YOU TO OUR

Children & Youth
**LEADER
MEETING**

August 24th @ 12 p.m.

THIS MEETING IS FOR:

- ANYONE SCHEDULED OR INTERESTED IN TEACHING CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL
- LAY LEADERS INVOLVED WITH YOUTH GROUP
- NURSERY WORKERS
- ANY PARENT WHO WANTS TO LEARN MORE!

PLEASE RSVP SO WE CAN FEED YOU!

BKELLEY@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

THE FUN BEGINS: SEPTEMBER 7TH

NEW THINGS

PSSST!!

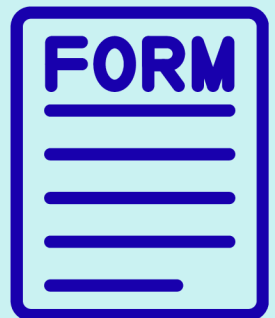
YOU'LL LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE
THINGS AT THE LEADER MEETING!



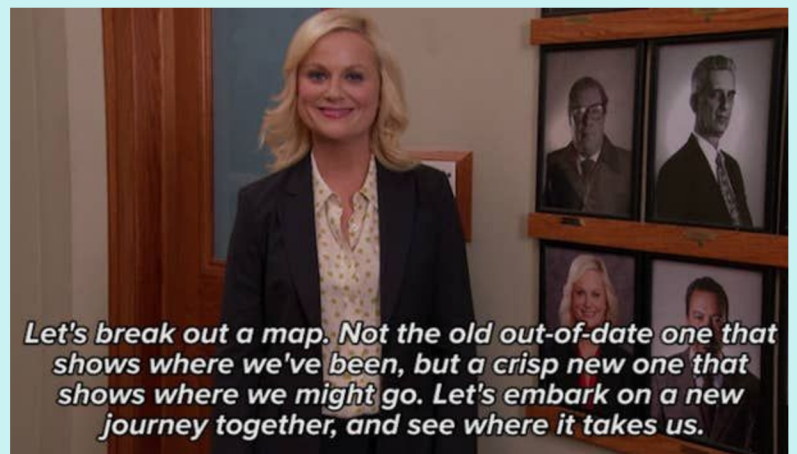
STREAMLINED
CHECK-IN
SYSTEM



YEARLY
INTAKE FORMS
FOR ALL KIDS



A NEW TWIST ON
YOUTH SUNDAE
SCHOOL!



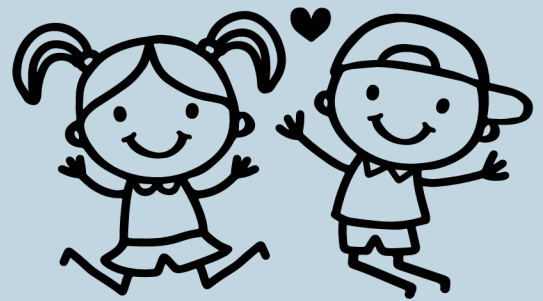
CHILDREN: 6 WEEKS - 5TH GRADE

NURSERY

6 WEEKS -
PRE-KINDERGARTEN

FIRST KIDS MAIN FLOOR -
SEA HORSE ROOM [AT] END OF HALL

DURING & IN BETWEEN SERVICES



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

K-2ND: UPSTAIRS: FIRST KIDS GYM

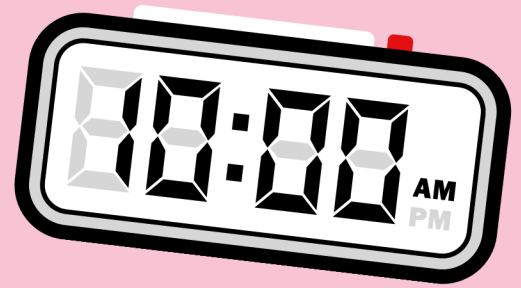
3RD - 5TH: UPSTAIRS: FIRST KIDS
CLOWNFISH ROOM

- LED BY LAY LEADERS
- CURRICULUM BASED
- SNACKS!

MEET NEW
PEOPLE!



YOUTH:
6TH-12TH GRADE



YOUTH "SUNDAE" SCHOOL



6TH - 12TH : **DOWNSTAIRS,
BLUE YOUTH ROOM**

- **LED BY LAY LEADERS**
- **CURRICULUM BASED**
- **CHANCE TO EARN ICE CREAM!**

**MEET NEW
PEOPLE!**

YOUTH GROUP

6TH - 12TH : **MEET IN ATRIUM**

SUNDAY



- **COOL LAY LEADERS!**
- **CURRICULUM BASED**
- **FUN SCHEDULE COMING SOON!**



ADULTS

SUNDAY School

TAUGHT BY PASTOR DEBBY!

DOWNSTAIRS: RED YOUTH ROOM

- **FOLLOWS CHILDREN & YOUTH CURRICULUM**
- **RELAXED SPACE TO VIBIBE**



**DESIGNED TO GIVE ADULTS & PARENTS
THE OPTION TO BOUNCE BETWEEN BOTH!**

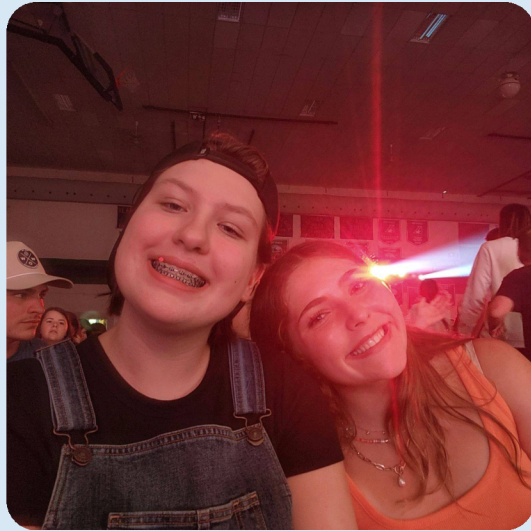
NEW

TAUGHT BY KATIE ROAM!

ROOM TBD

- **FEW WEEKS OF CURRICULUM THEN A BREAK - ALLOWING YOU TO POP OVER TO DEBBY'S CLASS OR ANOTHER SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTION**

OUR STUDENTS AND ADULT LEADERS HAD A FANTASTIC TIME AT UNITE 2025!





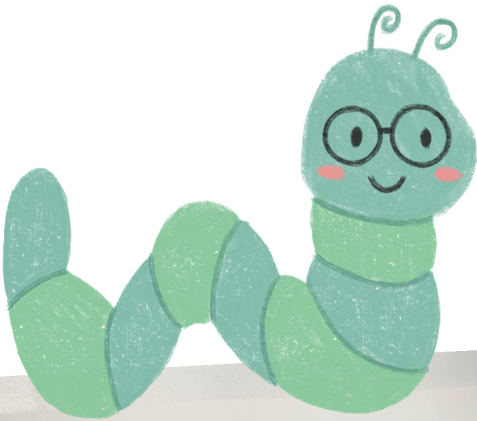
First Kids

Early Childhood Center

A ministry of First St. Charles United Methodist Church

**HAVE YOU SEEN THE PARENT
TESTIMONIALS WE'VE BEEN
SHOWCASING DURING WORSHIP?
FIRST KIDS IS AN IMPORTANT
MINISTRY OF FIRST ST. CHARLES
AND AS SCHOOL GEARS UP WE
ARE SENDING CONFIDENT &
CAPABLE KIDDOS TO
KINDERGARTEN!**

That warm feeling like home is how I felt when we met, and I then knew this is where she should be. Thank you for a year of care and support.



Miss. Lisa,

I love you. Thank you for teaching me and my friends how to be a good listener, and how to behave at school!

Kerri,

Thank you for providing the best care to the boys over the past 6 years! I can't express just how thankful I am to have found First Kids. You have been with us through the good & bad. In those difficult times, it was so comforting to know the boys had a safe place to go. Our experience has been extraordinary and I am forever grateful. You and the First Kids family are truly a GEM!





worship WITH US



**In-Person Services
at 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.**

Live Stream via



CONNECT ON THE GO

WITH OUR NEW PODCAST!

Catch up on sermons in the car, or share them with a friend across the country! Our new sermon podcast is now available on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Spotify. Find it by searching "First St. Charles" in your podcast app.



Apple Podcasts
(iOS)



Google Podcasts
(Android)



Spotify
(Android & iOS)

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



[@firststcharlesumc.org](https://firststcharlesumc.org)

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

NEW SESSION!

GRIEF SHARE®

A 13-week group designed to offer healing, hope,
and support on your journey of grief.

Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 pm beginning August 18th

If interested contact Rev. Debby: dbartley@firststcharlesumc.org


Caregiver *Support Group*

*Third Tuesday of the month
6:30-7:30 pm in room 301*

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICKI REYNOLDS:
NREYNOLDS6@CHARTER.NET



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES



Now meets
on the 3rd
Tuesday of
each month!

LGBTQ+ SMALL GROUP

BRING YOUR OWN DINNER AND
ENJOY A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP!

AUGUST 19TH
CATHERINE COLLIER ROOM
@ FIRST ST. CHARLES
6:00 PM

HELLO
MY NAME IS

*Welcome Team
Member*

Join our
Welcome Team!
It's the best way
to meet members
& guests on
Sunday mornings!

For more info, contact **Olivia Osterhage**:
oosterhage@firststcharlesumc.org

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

WATER WALKING

**AUGUST 14TH [AT]
7:30AM**

**WAPELHORST
WATERPARK
COST: \$6.50**



ADULT CONFIRMATION

Renew and reaffirm your confirmation into the
Christian tradition in a seven-week series led by
Pastor Kim

THURSDAY NIGHTS AT 6:30PM BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 18TH



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES



who is this for?

- ✦ IF YOU'RE NEW TO FIRST ST. CHARLES.
- ✦ IF YOU'VE BEEN AROUND A BIT BUT WANT TO LEARN MORE
- ✦ YOU'VE BEEN AROUND AWHILE BUT ARE LOOKING TO GET CONNECTED
- ✦ IF YOU WANT TO MEET SOME AMAZING STAFF & LAY LEADERS
- ✦ ANYONE WHO WANTS A TOUR OF THE BUILDING

PLEASE RSVP TO MARSHA IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING!
MHUNT@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

Showers of Blessing

AUGUST

DONATIONS
NEEDED:

SHOWERS
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

- ☀️ INDIVIDUAL BUG REPELLANT
- ☀️ TRAVEL-SIZED DEODORANT
- ☀️ COOLING TOWELS
- ☀️ MEN'S & WOMEN'S BELTS
- ☀️ MEN'S JEANS → SIZES 30, 32, 34



Every Monday & Wednesday, our Showers of Blessing ministry offers warm showers, clean clothes, and a friendly smile to folks in our community who could use a little extra care. It's a simple way to help people feel seen, loved, and valued.

We could really use more hands on Mondays—especially men who can help with our male guests in the shower area and reception. Your presence helps everyone feel comfortable and welcome.

You don't need experience— we'll help ensure you feel comfortable and equipped. Whether you can come every week or once in a while, you'll be making a real difference!

If you'd like to jump in and help, reach out to **bkelly@firststcharlesumc.org**.

DABKE DANCE RECITAL

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21ST

FROM 5-7PM

Our church has proudly hosted a Palestinian dabke dance group this summer and they have extended an invitation to come watch their dress rehearsal!



Dabke is a vibrant and energetic folk dance rooted in the Levantine region of the Middle East, including Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria. It is a line or circle dance, often performed at weddings, celebrations, and cultural events.

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

FISH PANTRY

ITEMS NEEDED:

PORK & BEANS, JELLY, CAN PINEAPPLES, SPAGHETTI SAUCE, BOX POTATOES AU GRATIN, BOX JELLO MIX, SALTINE CRACKERS, SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER



Little Food Pantry

ITEMS NEEDED:

mac n cheese cups - fruit cups - tuna packs - individual peanut butter cups - ritz crackers - chili - canned pasta (spaghetti o's/ravioli) - granola bars - pudding cups - oatmeal packages - peanut butter crackers



All canned items need to have pull-tab tops



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

AUGUST 20
8:30AM-12:30PM

Visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment!

SAVE THE DATE

FIRST ST. CHARLES
YOUTH PRESENT:

HALLOWEEN TRIVIA NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT 7 PM

\$25/person
\$200/table

PROCEEDS BENEFIT NEXTGEN MINISTRIES

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23
7:30 - 9:30 PM

the

last splash of summer

FREE DRINKS | FREE FOOD | FREE ENTRY
THE COVE @ ST. PETERS REC PLEX



FIRST ST. CHARLES
United Methodist Church



Back-to-School Prayer







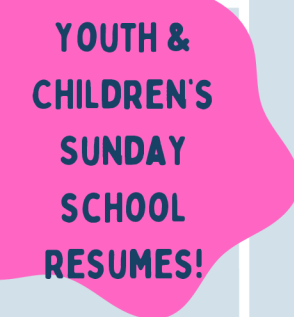


Dear Lord, as teachers, students, and families
begin this new season, please grant them
patience, wisdom, and protection.

Patience among the chaos,
Wisdom to see all as whole people,
And Protection against anyone seeking to harm.

Amen.



AUGUST & September

			13 SPIRE TELL ME THE STORY	Thursday 14 WATER WALKING!!	Friday 15 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Saturday 16
 BACK to SCHOOL BLESSING INCLUSIVITY MATTERS	Monday 18  GRIEFSHARE BEGINS!	Tuesday 19  COMMUNITY CARE LGBTQ+ CAREGIVERS	Wednesday 20  DONATE TELL ME THE STORY	Thursday 21	Friday 22 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Saturday 23  Pool PARTY
Sunday 24  YOUTH & CHILDREN LEADER MEETING!!	Monday 25	Tuesday 26	Wednesday 27 SPIRE  CHOIR BEGINS!	Thursday 28 WATER WALKING!!	Friday 29 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Saturday 30
Sunday 31  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Monday 1  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Tuesday 2 September		Thursday 4  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Friday 5  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Saturday 6
Sunday 7  YOUTH & CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES!	Monday 8	Tuesday 9 55+	Wednesday 10 SPIRE	Thursday 11 WALKING GROUP! 	Friday 12  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	Saturday 13