

FIRST ST. CHARLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH // ISSUE 1 // VOLUME 55

THE SPIRE

January 14, 2026



WELCOME TO OUR TEAM

MEET Ellie

Youth Coordinator

Hi everyone! My name is Ellie, and I'm so excited to introduce myself as your new Youth Coordinator. I'm really grateful for the chance to join this community and begin getting to know you and your youth.

I come with over a decade of various ministry experience working with youth and young adults, and I'm currently pursuing a Master of Divinity at Phillips Theological Seminary. I am deeply relational, and I love walking alongside young people as they ask big questions, explore faith, and figure out who they are in this complicated world. I believe the church should be a place where curiosity is welcomed, doubt is allowed, and everyone knows they belong.



As a queer woman and proud lesbian, inclusive and affirming ministry is very personal to me. I care deeply about creating youth spaces where every young person feels safe, affirmed, and loved exactly as they are. I'm especially passionate about trauma-informed ministry and helping the church be a place of healing, honesty, and hope.

I'm also a mom to two little boys, which has shaped both who I am and how I show up in ministry. When I'm not working or studying, you'll usually find me spending time with friends or family, exploring a new restaurant or coffee shop, knitting or crocheting, or curled up with a good book.

I'm really looking forward to meeting you, learning this community's story, and partnering together to support and nurture our youth. Please feel free to say hi.

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING



Merle Nicholas

100th

Birthday



Lift Up in Prayer

**MERGIE ADAMS, WIFE OF
MAX ADAMS, PASSED AWAY
DECEMBER 18, 2025**


**WORSHIP
with us**

**IN-PERSON [AT] 9 & 11
ANY TIME ON**



FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

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
Meredith Ramsey
Katie Roam
 Ellie Stahr

Pecan

sale



\$12/BAG



Paul Boughton
retired after



*of faithful service to the
Showers of Blessing ministry.*



thank you



FIRST KIDS PRESCHOOLERS PERFORMED TEN SONGS AT THEIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT.



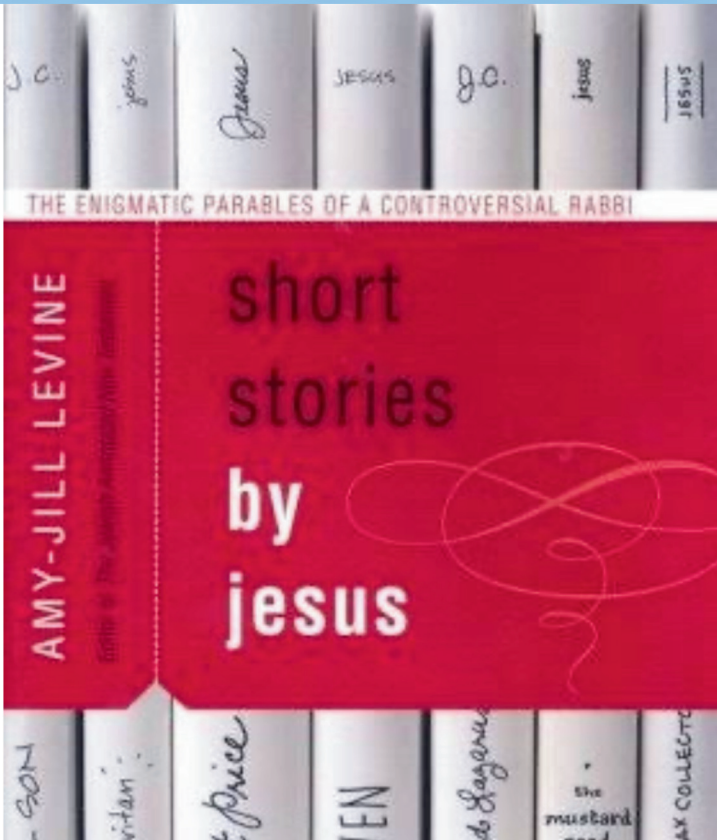
SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

Adult Study

Sundays at 10am

Jan 4th — Feb 8th

Room 162 (Red Room)



KATIE ROAM LEADS A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS!

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

WALKING GROUP

**JANUARY 22ND
AT 7:30AM**

LGBTQ+ SMALL GROUP

BRING YOUR OWN DINNER AND
ENJOY A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP!

**JANUARY 20TH
CATHERINE COLLIER ROOM
@ FIRST ST. CHARLES
6:00 PM**

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

FISH PANTRY

ITEMS NEEDED:

TUNA HELPER, MUSTARD, KETCHUP,
SHAMPOO, TEA, WOMEN'S DEODORANT,
ADULT TOOTHPASTE, BODY WASH,
DISH SOAP, CHILDREN'S TOOTHBRUSHES



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

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

Showers of Blessing

January 



SHOWERS
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

 HOT HANDS

 MEN'S JEANS → SIZES 30, 32, 34

 WASHCLOTHS

 TRAVEL-SIZE DEODORANT

 TRAVEL-SIZE BODY WIPES



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

THIS *sunday* PIZZA

WITH THE

PASTORS

JANUARY 18TH AT 12PM

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR
MINISTRIES, SMALL GROUPS & WAYS TO SERVE

PLEASE RSVP TO MARSHA:
MHUNT@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

who is this for?

- ◆ IF YOU'RE NEW TO FIRST ST. CHARLES & WANT ALL THE INFO!
- ◆ YOU'RE NEW-ISH AND WANT TO LEARN MORE OR GET CONNECTED
- ◆ YOU'VE BEEN AROUND AWHILE & ARE LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO SERVE
- ◆ 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



We'll be offering
Drive Thru Ashes
again this year in our
atrium circle drive
from 7 am - 4:30 pm



FIRST ST. CHARLES UMC

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, January 28th
8:30am-12:30pm in the atrium



THIS
Friday

Paint Night

January 16th at 6:30 pm

Ages 5 and up are invited to paint along with an instructional video.

We will provide all the painting materials.

Frosted Vista



**SIGN UP
TODAY**

WARMING CENTER

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Jan. 11th-17th Feb. 8th-14th

Jan. 25th-31st Feb. 22nd-28th

For more info email: mhunt@firststcharlesumc.org

When temperatures drop below 20 degrees, we open our doors so those who are vulnerable have a warm place to sleep. We need volunteers to help during the nights Warming Center is activated.



**Cold
Weather
AHEAD**

We are on-call for the weeks listed above, but will not actually activate and open unless the temperatures are forecast to drop below 20° during our week. You will receive an email and/or text if we activate, so no need to worry about keeping up with the weather. You can get the sign up link from the office!

It takes a small army to provide this life-saving service, so we're grateful to each of you for your willingness to serve our neighbors in this way!

January & FEBRUARY

WARMING CENTER



			14 <i>Thursday</i>	15 <i>Friday</i>	16 <i>Saturday</i>	17 <i>Sunday</i>
			SPIRE CHOIR		PAINT NIGHT	
<i>Sunday</i> 18	<i>Monday</i> 19	<i>Tuesday</i> 20	<i>Wednesday</i> 21	<i>Thursday</i> 22	<i>Friday</i> 23	<i>Saturday</i> 24
 PIZZA WITH PASTORS	 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED		 CHOIR	WALKING GROUP! 	 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
<i>Sunday</i> 25	<i>Monday</i> 26	<i>Tuesday</i> 27	<i>Wednesday</i> 28	<i>Thursday</i> 29	<i>Friday</i> 30	<i>Saturday</i> 31

WARMING CENTER

SPIRE

CHOIR

CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED

<i>Sunday</i> 1	<i>Monday</i> 2	<i>Tuesday</i> 3	<i>Wednesday</i> 4	<i>Thursday</i> 5	<i>Friday</i> 6	<i>Saturday</i> 7
FEBRUARY			 CHOIR		 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
<i>Sunday</i> 8	<i>Monday</i> 9	<i>Tuesday</i> 10	<i>Wednesday</i> 11	<i>Thursday</i> 12	<i>Friday</i> 13	<i>Saturday</i> 14
 WARMING CENTER			SPIRE CHOIR	WALKING GROUP! 	 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	

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**LIFE'S MOST
PERSISTENT
AND URGENT
QUESTION IS,
'WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
FOR OTHERS'?**

”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.