



First United Methodist Church of Bartow

May 2026 Newsletter

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 5



I baptize with water... The one who is coming after me is stronger than I...

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. -John the Baptist about Jesus in Matthew 3: 11

This newsletter is beginning with pictures from Holy Week and Easter and ends with a calendar that marks our celebration of Pentecost. In some ways this echoes the season of contrasts that our larger Church family is going through. As First and Asbury take time to worship, live life together, and discern whether to merge, we are like the early Christians facing uncharted territory. We know God is with us, even as we acknowledge that doesn't guarantee smooth sailing. Jesus' followers faced the highs and lows of amazed and angry crowds, of miracles and betrayal, of despair and resurrection. Both our churches have seen a lot of sometimes difficult changes over the last few years. There have been births and deaths, arrivals and leave-takings, endings and beginnings. We have been promised new life through Christ and empowering through the Holy Spirit to be something called Christians. In this new season, will we open the gift that we have been given or will we huddle like the disciples did at first in the upper room on Pentecost? Will we close our hearts like the shutters of windows and doors as if a hurricane approaches or will we welcome the Holy Spirit to blow through our hearts and lives and set us afire so that we might witness to the good news of Christ?

As many of us know already, this isn't always comfortable. It can even be scary. The Holy Spirit is a fire that does not burn skin, but instead takes up residence in our hearts and changes everything we've ever expected. The fire of the Holy Spirit burns away the chaff of our lives as individuals and the church. It refines and sanctifies us for beautiful participation in God's loving kingdom. Sometimes things we thought were essential lose their importance to us in this process. Sometimes new or old things take on a significance that they had not had as the clutter of the world's priorities are burned away.

Anyone who has seen my office knows that I am intimately familiar with clutter. I will never have a sparse office because I enjoy being surrounded by reminders of ministry and experiences, but there are times when it is too much. Each time a new church season progresses, more bags and boxes begin to take up space on the desk, floor, and chairs. Candles, seasonal handouts, baskets, and the like take over. As wonderful as these things are, when their season ends and everything is used up or stored for another time, the open space becomes a place of possibilities.

Like the early disciples, we are called into the possibilities that the refreshing wind and refining fire of the Holy Spirit brings. Thankfully in the midst of what can be confusing and chaotic, Jesus promises the Holy Spirit who is also Comforter. But the Comforter is not with us so that we can snuggle up and stay in our warm, safe beds, the Comforter is with us so that we will find peace and strength to go and face these days empowered by God. The disciples didn't get to stay in their room at Pentecost, sitting cozy with the flames dancing over their heads. They went out in the power of God to witness to the good news of Christ in word and deed and the world was changed.

As we move into this new season, let us love one another sacrificially like Jesus loves us. Let us serve, remembering Jesus who washed the disciples feet. Let us forgive, following the example of Jesus who forgave us all on the cross. Let us pray for each other and for God's will to be done as Jesus taught. Let us do all this and more because we are people on fire with the power of the Holy Spirit to witness to Christ in Bartow and Beyond!

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-Pastor Missy

CHOIR NOTES *by Sylvia Spencer, Choir Director*



“Choir Notes”



A tremendous thank you to all our dedicated choir members... Brandon, Bill, Lynn, Aidan, Elsa, Christine, Faye, Missy, Janet, Ina, Betty F, Bette O, BJ, & Judy!
Thank You, Lord for showing me that happiness is all a matter of degree.

To find happiness is good... to create happiness is better. But to bring happiness to others, that's the best Lord, the very best!!

When you see our choir singing week after week, try to remember they are sharing happiness to you.

Because of Him
...Sylvia



Welcome Asbury friends!

We are so happy that we are worshipping and living life together as we discern next steps considering merging our two congregations. We look forward to this time and what God is doing in all of our lives and in Bartow and beyond.

April 26 after church we will have a Q & A to discuss the potential merger with Asbury. Watch for more meetings as needed in the future.

Covered Dish Luncheon

*Next Sunday,
May 3 at 12 pm*

In the Fellowship Hall

We will be welcoming our Asbury UMC friends with a luncheon! Please bring a dish to share & if we have leftovers, we can make to-gos for friends & neighbors.

**LUNCH BUNCH
will now be on June 7**

Exciting News!

Our church is offering two part-time positions within our Children and Youth Ministries:

Sunday Nursery Worker

(2 hours a week 10 am - 12 pm on Sundays)

and also a

Coordinator of Children & Youth Ministries

The Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator will work with and support volunteers in our Sunday Children's Church and Thursday Youth Ministries.

The coordinator will be a point of stability to enable volunteers to use their gifts with Children and Youth.

This position is 10 hours a week to include Sunday mornings with other days/times to be negotiated.

If you know of someone interested, please have them contact the Church Office for more details.

Holy Week

Holy Week began with **Palm Sunday** and the waving of Palms in Worship, a Cross of Palms out front and Palm Crosses made by the Youth. When we sent this picture of our Cross to our friends in Argentina, they sent us this picture of the OLIVE BRANCHES that they wave on Palm Sunday in Alta Gracia, Argentina.



After Palm Sunday, some folks visited the **Stations of the Cross** at Mulberry UMC.



We had some great helpers setting up for the Love Feast, including the Youth!



At the **Love Feast**, folks from Asbury, First, and Mulberry gathered to remember the Last Supper with a meal and communion. Pastors Tamyra and Missy led the service.



We began with Sylvia's grand-daughter, Helena, beautifully singing two hymns!



Before we knew it, it was **Good Friday** and time for the **Cross Walk**! We had a group of ELEVEN who walked, ran, or wagoned!





Our **Tenebrae Service on Good Friday** remembered the last hours of Jesus' life. We are thankful for all who participated.



We were excited to have Pastors from Asbury, First, & Mulberry reading Scripture.



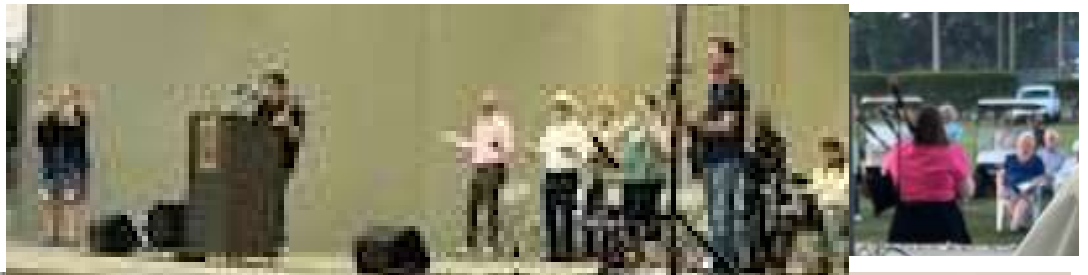
Special thanks to the Choir for their beautiful singing, and DJ for Acolyting.



Our **Easter Sunrise Service** was a blessing for all who attended. We are thankful for the seven area pastors who helped with Worship and Reverend Becky from the Episcopal church who reminded us that we all need a little Jesus!



We were excited to have Richard on Trumpet, Aidan on Bagpipes, and Lynn singing; as well as our own amazing Praise Band of Brandon, Tom, and Bill!



Our **Traditional Service** was filled with music, the joy of New Life and butterflies ...which our children even learned how to make and share to remind everyone of their resurrected life in Jesus!

And as always we had our beautiful flower cross !



ACROSS THE COURTYARD

by Nadine Waters Robbins, Church Historian



Nadine's gift for connecting the present to the past and future of our church is one we continue to learn from and will share for a bit longer. Below is another archive edition of "Across the Courtyard" from August 2014.

Once upon a time Chicken Little warned "The sky is falling, the sky is falling!" Then he called his cousin, "Renegade Rooster" in Bartow who responded, "The trees are falling, the trees are falling!"

This summer a combination of wind, water and weary old oaks have caused a rash of fallen trees in our "City of Oaks and Azaleas."

On a recent Sunday morning FUMC church-goers who frequent the "lawyers lot" south of the Annex were greeted by a massive limb which had fallen from the enormous oak on the corner of Stanford and Broadway onto the entrance of said parking lot. The descent of this gigantic limb onto the pavement of the Frost and Van den BOOM parking area resulted in an early morning "BOOM" that awakened the Orem family across the street and shook the windows in their house.

A "sister" tree to the aforementioned oak is located "in" Stanford Street in front of the lawyers complex that once belonged to Mary McLeod. The building on Stanford and Central was the original McLeod home. The adjoining "twin" structure on Central and Parker was added later to accommodate the lawyers' compound.

"Legend" has it that when the City of Bartow wanted to remove the tree that sits "in" Stanford Street Ms. McLeod blocked the way in her rocking chair, shotgun in hand and retorted, "Over My Dead Body!" (This "legend" is confirmed as FACT by Betty Fitzgerald whose Aunt Thelma was a good friend of Ms. McLeod.)

Although the "lawyers lot" is still patronized by Sunday morning FUMC "residents" it is now

done with a slight trepidation.

"Mother Nature" may one day be able to accomplish what the City of Bartow could not. In the meantime our prayer should be that Bartow remains the "City of Oaks and Azaleas" and does not become "The City of Fallen Oaks."

Recipes from the Congregation: Cottage Pie

Ingredients:

Beef Filling

2 tbs olive oil	1 tsp fresh thyme, chopped – or heaping ¼ tsp dried	3 tbs tomato paste
1 cup onion, chopped	1 tsp sea salt	1 cup carrots, diced – fresh or frozen
2 lb ground meat	½ tsp black pepper	1 cup peas, frozen or fresh
2 tsp fresh parsley, chopped- or ¾ tsp dried	2 tbs Worcestershire sauce	1 cup Guinness, red wine, or your favorite beer
1 tsp fresh rosemary, chopped- or heaping ¼ tsp dried	3 cloves garlic, minced	1 cup broth of choice
	3 tbs all-purpose flour	



Potatoes

2 lb potatoes, peeled and cut	2 oz cream cheese	1 tsp sea salt
¼ cup unsalted butter	1 large egg yolk	½ tsp black pepper
¼ cup whole milk	1 cup shredded cheddar cheese	

Assembly

¼ cup shredded cheddar cheese & 1 tsp Italian parsley, chopped

Instructions

Beef Mixture: 1) Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F / 200 degrees C. **2)** Add olive oil to a large frying pan over medium heat. Add the chopped onion and sauté for 5 minutes, allowing the onion to fully cook. **3)** Add the minced garlic and continue to sauté for an additional minute. **4)** Add the diced carrots and cook for 2-3 minutes until slightly softened. **5)** Add the ground meat and cook for 8-10 minutes or until meat is browned. **6)** Add the Guinness to deglaze the pan and scrape all the bits off the bottom of the pan. **7)** Add the flour, mix well, and cook for 2 minutes to get the raw flavor out of the flour. **8)** Add tomato paste, broth, Worcestershire sauce, rosemary, thyme, sea salt and black pepper. Stir well to incorporate fully and let simmer for 2-3 minutes, until liquid is reduced. **9)** Add in the peas and remove from the heat.

Mashed Potatoes: 1) Bring potatoes to a boil in a large pot with salted water. **2)** Cook until the potatoes are tender. Drain the potatoes and return them to the hot pot over low heat. **3)** Add butter to the pan and mash the butter into the potatoes. **4)** Whip the egg yolk with the milk. **5)** Add milk/egg mixture and cream cheese to the potatoes and mix until combined. **6)** Season with sea salt, black pepper to taste. **7)** Fold in 1 cup of cheddar cheese into the potatoes

Assembly: 1) Transfer meat filling into a 9x9 inch baking dish. Spread mixture evenly in the pan. **2)** Spoon the mashed potatoes on top of the beef mixture and even them out. **3)** Bake for 20 minutes. **4)** Remove the pie from the oven and add ¼ cup of shredded cheddar and chopped parsley on top of the potatoes. **5)** Return to the oven and continue to bake for 10 minutes. Let sit for 10-15 minutes before serving.

 **Adult Sunday School** 
9 am in the Annex Sunday School Room




Weekly Bible Study
Starts Wednesday, May 6 at 4 pm
Led by Pastor Tamyra in the Annex Choir Room

This study will be using Bishop Tom Berlin's new book *Jesus is Lord*. The book will be provided.

If you plan to attend, please let us know!

We Care Team Meeting
May 28 at 1pm
1140 N. Maple Ave Bartow



Women's Bible Study
May 4, 11:30 am
870 Lila Street in Bartow

Questions? Contact Jenny at 863-205-6129 or the Church Office at 862-533-0904



*We welcome new members!
Bring a salad or sandwich!
We will have a soup to share!*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER
6pm in the Fellowship Hall


MAY 6: Covered Dish & Chicken \$2
MAY 13: Lasagna, Bread, & Salad \$5
WND will resume in the Fall.



Don't forget to **RSVP** to the Church Office the Monday before!


 **Tuesday Breakfast & Devotions** 
At Broadway Diner
8:30 am

Questions? Call Walt at 215-237-7985



Grief Support

The new session, using the book *Understanding Your Grief*, will start **July 15 at 4pm** in the Annex Sunday School Room and will continue through **September 30**. If you are interested in participating when our next group begins, or you would like a book to read on your own, you can contact Faye at 863-537-0312 or the Church Office at 863-533-0904 or firstumcbartow@aol.com



Ways we are the body of Christ as Jerusalem and Judea with Children and Youth!

Children

Whether it is in the Sanctuary pews during Worship, at the Children's Moment, or in Children's Church, our children are loved as they learn!



Youth Thursdays 3-5 pm



Heading over to the Annex for Snack and back to the Fellowship Hall to help set up Love Feast.



We created a Good Samaritan skit when we were talking about watching out for each other.



We've had recent lessons on how we are all important in the body of Christ and all our gifts are important and work together to share the love of God.



We also learned how much harder it is to fix the trouble we cause with unkind words than simply not saying anything. It's even harder than putting baby food back in a squeeze tube!

Fellowship Events



**Golden Girls
Mother's Day Tea**

**Friday, May 1
at 12 pm**

*At the home of Elsa H
1895 Hermosa Ave*



Silver Saints

is looking for a coordinator!

If you are interested, please contact
the Church Office at 863-533-0904 or
firststumcbartow@aol.com

TWO LUNCHEONS coming up in May!

**May 3
Covered Dish Luncheon**

**May 17
East Angola Mission Luncheon**

Check out pg. 2 & pg. 13 for details on each Luncheon!

**Monday Night
Bingo at**



Come join us on Monday nights at 6pm
at Beef O' Brady's for a fun evening of
fellowship and FREE Bingo!

Come early at 5:15pm
and enjoy some fellowship and food.
Bring your friends and family!

All supplies are provided to you and
winners receive food coupons to
redeem on a future visit.



NEW DATE for the next **LUNCH BUNCH** at **Broadway Diner**

Sunday, June 7
at 12:15 pm



RSVP to the Church Office
by Wed, June 3, noon

First Methodist School



The Read-a-thon is a big deal and the whole school participated! The older students did a fantastic job reading with the younger ones and helping the littles learn to love reading!



Spring is here and so are the ...ducks?

Thanks To Our Sponsors

- American Insurance Center of Eagle Lake Inc.
- Florida's Finest Sheds and Structures LLC
- Rayl Engineering and Surveying LLC
- Angel's Heavenly Empanadas LLC
- Hall's Treahouse Properties LLC
- Supreme Roofing Services LLC
- Victor Smith Law Group, PA
- Thiesen Environmental LLC
- Central Florida Flooring
- Heatwave Fire & Safety
- Greenwood Chevrolet
- CTF Investments LLC
- Huston Automotive
- Penn Pro Properties
- Moody Engineering
- SIS Machinery, Inc.
- Simmons Family
- Tri Circle Pavers
- Jason Skaggs



Our VPK know the alphabet A to Zucchini!



Who knew there were so many YELLOW things? Our Preschoolers do, that's who!



Looks like it is time for a party!



Maundy Thursday of Holy Week the VPK learned about Jesus washing the disciples' feet firsthand!



And then it was time for Easter and Egg Hunts!



Our little Afterschool kids are practicing their "hugs & bubbles" and the older ones enjoy some cool water and rest after fun on the playground.



Check out our awesome VPK graduates!

Help celebrate our fantastic FMS staff! —>

STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

MAY 04 - MAY 08

DRIPPING SWEEETS ARE TREAT!

DROP OFF ALL WEEK LONG!

GET CARDS OF APPRECIATION FOR ANY LOCATION. THESE WILL BE OWNED BY TEACHERS OUTSIDE!

Help us celebrate our Teachers and Staff!



Due to the generosity of our siblings at Asbury UMC, FMS has a new shed for storage!

Grace Notes

Thank you

to David for everything that you do, to Barbara H & Betty F for coordinating and setting up the Luncheon for David, to Mike E for helping with set up, to those who spoke about David's selfless deeds, and to everyone that brought food and decorations, including each distinctive Energizer Bunny made to represent David!

Thank You

to David B for helping with the vent in the Church Office! - Aidan R

Thank You

to everyone who helped Holy Week such a special time: the Choir; the Praise Band; our soloists; our other musicians; those who helped with the Love Feast, including the Youth; all the Pastors who helped; everyone who helped with the Tenebrae service, including our Acolyte, DJ; & those who set up & decorated the flower cross for Easter morning.

Have a "Thank you" Grace Note you want to share? Email the church office at firstumcbartow@aol.com



The Spring Luncheon held a little surprise for our church's HIGHLY energetic Mr. David. Some heart-felt thanks from so many folks! ...including the FMS kiddos!



SHARING OUR BLESSINGS

Connectional Giving (Apportionments)

Helps fund ministries like the...

World Service Fund

World Service apportionment provides the basic financial resources for the core ministries of our denomination. It underwrites Christian mission around the world, empowers, enriches spiritual commitment and provides the means to equip and nurture our lay leaders through education and professional support. This fund helps God's children everywhere and enables the proclamation of our Christian faith.

- **General Boards and Agencies** – It represents the minimum needs of the denomination's general agencies which serve as a resource to local churches and as an extension of local churches in ministry and mission on a conference, national and world level.
- **Mission Giving** – The major thrust in mission giving in our church begins here. Every dollar given for relief efforts goes directly to people in need. Every dollar given to support the work of over 2,000 mission personnel goes directly to that personnel. In addition, when there is not enough money available to provide salary support for these missionaries through our Advance Special giving, World Service funds are used to make up the shortfall.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Some of our friends have exciting events coming up!

May 3, 3 pm: Lakeland Choral Society ~ Illuminations
Must purchase tickets to attend
 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr,
 Lakeland 33803

May 4, 7:30 pm:
 Hollingsworth Winds
 Through Music—Find Unity
 1100 Johnson Ave, Lakeland 33803



VOLUNTEER TO USHER OR GREET AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN LAKELAND AT FSC ~ JUNE 4-6

The Conference is looking for friendly faces to help welcome, guide, and assist folks from across the Florida Conference. You can serve for a full serving time or just a portion, whatever works for you!

*The deadline to sign up to volunteer as an usher or greeter is **May 22.***

<https://florida-reg.brapp.com/AC2026VolunteerOpportunities>

Want to give online? It's easy and free!

Talk to your bank about how to ZELLE your tithe, offerings, and other gifts directly from your bank account to the church's bank account. Use the email firstumcbartow@aol.com to give!

Witnessing to Christ in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria

Holy Week & Beyond VBS

June 15-19, 9 am-12 pm

Last year's VBS changed format was a big hit, so we are doing something similar this year as we go back in time to experience Palm Sunday through Pentecost!

We need YOU to make this year's VBS amazing!

Help ahead of time with Prep Work. or... Volunteer for a couple of hours, for 1 or 2 days of the week. or... Maybe you have something around your house we need to borrow!

Look below to see how YOU will participate!

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

All FIVE DAYS

Tribe Leader

day to create depth of experience)

pendants, & more!

Indoor old games

-plan & collect ahead of time

5 days preferred

Kitchen Lead

1-5 days helpers

(some choices are on specific days)

Kitchen

Folk Dancer (1-2 days)

-actual decorating is June 13/14

Craft Lead (craft changes each day to match story)

We need LOTS of

Outside Games (1-5 days)

with lots of helpers

Varied Craft/Activity

Craft helpers to "weave"; create with clay, make cross

Registration (1-5 days)

Prep Work

Organizing Supplies

-mostly June 8-12

Lead (changes each

Decorating Team

DONATIONS

Acrylic Paint

Wire that is BENDABLE

Dates

Grape Juice

Air Dry Clay- WHITE

Apple Juice- Many bottles

Figs- dried or fresh

Hummus

Feathers, small white

Apples

Flour

Olives- all types

Glue Dots

Apricots- dried

Frozen Bread

Pita

Leather laces

Bread-rolls & small loaves

Dough

Raisins

SILVER Sequins

Canned biscuits

Grapes- Need

Thin ribbon

Cheese-need A LOT

A LOT

THINGS TO BORROW - Please label CLEARLY with YOUR NAME!

Potted Palms and Trees (real or silk for decoration)

Wooden Boxes (for decorating & holding supplies)

Baskets (large or small- for decorating & holding supplies)

Old looking clay jars (for decoration)

YOU can SIGN UP TO HELP now in the Sanctuary or by contacting the Church Office.

AND REACHING FURTHER OUT...

Ways we are the body of Christ in Judea and to the ends of the earth!

East Angola
Mission Luncheon
Sunday, May 17
at 12 pm



Menu: Baked Ham,
Scalloped Potatoes, Sweet
Potato Casserole, Collard
Greens, Green Beans,
Cornbread, & Bread Pudding



KUTELA KATEMBO serves as agriculturist at the Quessua Mission in Angola, a historical center of Methodism that was almost totally destroyed in the three decades of civil war that finally ended in 2002. In the last few years, the Mission site, which includes a farm, has been restored. Quessua aims to produce enough food to feed its students and community. Kutela also works with the East Angola Annual Conference in evolving a sustainable agriculture policy that can help to overcome hunger and poverty in the region.

*The King will
reply, "Truly
I tell you,
whatever you
did for one of
the least of
these brothers
and sisters
of mine, you
did for me."*

—Matthew
25:40



Help us share some gifts with
our friends in Mendoza for our

Relationship Building Mission to Argentina!

Some things that we are looking for are...

Pencil top erasers

Lightweight, plastic beads

Pipe cleaners

Dry erase markers in colors

Thumb drives

Laptops or tablets that are internet accessible

Also... if you have smaller, lightweight, easily packable gifts that you have made and you would like us to take to our friends in Argentina, please talk to the Pastor.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BARTOW

MAY BIRTHDAYS

2—Kathy M	9—Richard L
3—Aaron B	16—Janie R
4—Patti T	19—Kayline L
8—Susan B	20—Brett L
& Sara VH	29—Cynthia L

Happy Birthday!

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

6—Bob & Trish P
28—Bill & Cindy E

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the day approaching.

~ Hebrews 10:24-25

Large print bulletins can easily be made!
Contact the church office if you would prefer a
LARGE PRINT BULLETIN!

PLEASE NOTE

Information OR PICTURES for the June Newsletter should be submitted by **Friday, May 15th**.

Thank You for helping us send out the Newsletter in a timely manner!

The Newsletter is published monthly by FUMC-Bartow
455 S Broadway Ave, Bartow, FL 33830.

Please remember these in your prayers, visits,
and other expressions of Christian love.

The Chronically Ill and Homebound

Alice	Mary Beth P— <i>health</i>
Diane A	Heath P— <i>healing</i>
Ken A	Ricardo— <i>Patti T's friend, healing</i>
Brian— <i>safety</i>	Brenda R— <i>Missy's mom</i>
Amanda B	Sadie
Susan B	BJ S
Shirley & Jonathon B	Jean & Dick T
Diane B— <i>healing</i>	Bobby V— <i>healing</i>
Maggie C— <i>healing</i>	Laura W— <i>health & comfort</i>
Daphne— <i>healing</i>	Greg W — <i>health & peace</i>
Shawn F	Pat W— <i>strength</i>
Lyda F— <i>Pat H's grandniece</i>	John Z
Cathy G	-All leaders to do God's will
Karel H	-Everyone affected by
Brandon H	sickness, hunger around the
Melody H	world, repressive
Pat H — <i>healing & energy</i>	governments, gun violence,
Jasmine— <i>4 yr old, doing well!</i>	and natural & human
John M	caused disasters
Allye M — <i>health</i>	<i>Also on our hearts:</i>
Dorrance M— <i>health</i>	<i>Our Nation, Cuba, Haiti,</i>
Kathy M— <i>healing</i>	<i>Middle East, Sudan, &</i>
Becky O	<i>Ukraine</i>
Carolyn P	

Serving in the Military:

Brandon A, Oscar A, Jeremy B, Victor O, Joseph S, Bryson T

Missionaries and Others:

Sister Church: Iglesia Metodista de Santa Cruz del Sur, Cuba; **Missionaries in Angola:** Leo & Cleivy Garcia, Kutela Katembo, Serguey and Graciela Espinosa; **Iglesia Evangelica Metodista Argentina:** UMC Missionary Doug Williams & First IEM Mendoza Pastor Alejandro; Our Pastor, Church, & School Staff; District Supt. Emily Hotho, & Bishop Tom Berlin

Don't Forget! The **Newsletter** is available in a variety of ways! Printed copies are on the table in the back of the Sanctuary and in the **Church Office** in the Education Building.

It can be found in digital format in the **EMAIL** the church sends out with it attached each month AND the **website:** firstumcbartow.com.

If you wish to receive a newsletter by mail, please contact the church office at firstumcbartow@aol.com or 863-533-0904.

Thank you!

MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 9 am: Adult Sunday School *10:30 am: Worship 11:45 am: Q & A Meeting	27 Chapels	28 8:30 am: Breakfast & Devo, Broadway Diner 5:30 pm: Choir	29 6 pm: WND	30 3 pm-5 pm: Youth 6 pm: FMS Spring Program (see pg. 9)	1 12 pm: Golden Girls Mother's Day Tea (see pg. 8)	2
3 9 am: Adult Sunday School *10:30 am: Worship & Communion 12 pm: Covered Dish Luncheon (see pg. 2) <i>Welcome Asbury Friends!</i>	4 11:30 am: Women's Bible Study (see pg. 6)	5 8:30 am: Breakfast & Devo, Broadway Diner 5:30 pm: Choir	6 4 pm: Weekly Bible Study (see pg. 6) 6 pm: WND	7 3 pm-5 pm: Youth	8	9
10 9 am: Adult Sunday School *10:30 am: Worship 	11 Chapels	12 8:30 am: Breakfast & Devo, Broadway Diner 5:30 pm: Choir	13 4 pm: Weekly Bible Study 6 pm: WND	14 3 pm-5 pm: Youth 5 pm: FMS Dance Recital (see pg. 9)	15	16
17 Ascension Sunday 9 am: Adult Sunday School *10:30 am: Worship 12 pm: East Angola Mission Luncheon (see pg. 13)	18 FMS K-8th Grade Field Day 11:30 am: Early Release	19 8:30 am: Breakfast & Devo, Broadway Diner 5:30 pm: Choir	20 Last Day for Day Care 4 pm: Weekly Bible Study	21 9 am: FMS Awards Ceremony (see pg. 9) Last Day of School & Early Release at 11:30 am	22	23
24 Pentecost 9 am: Adult Sunday School *10:30 am: Worship 	25 Memorial Day ALL CLOSED	26 8:30 am: Breakfast & Devo, Broadway Diner 5:30 pm: Choir	27 4 pm: Weekly Bible Study	28 1 pm: Congregational Care Team Meeting (see pg. 6)	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday 9 am: Adult Sunday School *10:30 am: Worship 	1 11:30 am: TENT. Women's Bible Study	2 8:30 am: Breakfast & Devo, Broadway Diner 5:30 pm: Choir	3 Pre-Conference Workshops 4 pm: TENT. Weekly Bible Study	4	5	6
Summer Camp 7 am—5:30 pm		Summer Camp 7 am—5:30 pm		Annual Conference at FSC in Lakeland		

* in the Sanctuary, on Facebook, and by Monday on YouTube

