

*in*SPIRE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BEAUMONT NEWSLETTER • MAY 2023

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Dear Church Family -

Holly and I love serving along side you all in ministry here in Southeast Texas! You all are an amazing congregation, filled with the life-changing limitless love of Jesus! And you all share that love with everyone at every opportunity. You have blessed our family in these six years in so many ways. We look forward to our remaining time with you, as we continue to make disciples of Jesus who love the city with the heart of Christ!

We will try our best to adequately express our deep gratitude to each of you and to the congregation as a whole as we have seen so much in just six years: two record-breaking named-storm floods; a pandemic that included a named-storm evacuation that hit the eastern edges for some in our congregation; denominational decisions among our district and annual conference; many staff transitions; a variety of big projects for our facilities, including a new Heat/AC control system, a new boiler, upgraded chillers, a whole new roof, and renovations in the sanctuary. We also celebrated the Golden Milestone - 50 years in our current facility and as of this year, 183 years in continuous ministry!

One-hundred eighty-three years of continuous ministry

where all God's children are always welcome!

(If you will, soak that reality up for a moment!)

When we look forward in the midst of a time of pastoral transition, we often wonder "What's Next?" Our work together in the heart of the city spans more than seven generations and we're just beginning! I know that First UMC Beaumont will continue to love and serve God and neighbor for generations to come! So, we will keep the faith and stay the course through this transition as we have for so many, many years!

With deep appreciation and affection,

Jon & Holly



COMMUNION RAIL OFFERING

May 7, 2023 – Charlton Pollard Elementary

May 21, 2023 – Some Other Place

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep our entire First UMC Beaumont community in your prayers. If you have a specific request, our prayer team would love to be praying with you. Email us –

prayer@fumcbeaumont.org.

TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETINGS

The regular meeting of the Texas Annual Conference will be held in Houston, at the Hilton Americas downtown, beginning Sunday, May 28, and concluding Wednesday May 31. Robin Snoek is our Lay Delegate to Annual Conference representing our people in the life of the Annual Conference.

SECOND SATURDAY SEMINAR

We will be continuing to explore the Attributes and Names of God. Intricately involved in this is How we View God and How We Feel We are Viewed by God. All are cordially invited as we share and explore together. Date is May 13 from 9:00 - Noon in the Faith Quester's / Parlor. Watch for signs and balloons. Food for thought and food for your tummy.

Facilitator: Neil W. Early

Questions? mnealy@bayou.com

409-651-0206

Welcome

REV. JEREMY WESTER



Pastor Jeremy Wester, pictured with his wife Sallie and their son Hutch who is 4 and a half.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is pleased to share the news that the Reverend Jeremy Wester will be our new pastor beginning July 1, 2023. Pastor Jeremy and Sallie and their son Hutch will be moving here from Rosenberg, Texas. Please enjoy a brief introduction in the greeting that Pastor Jeremy shares with us as we welcome them into our church family. We will be making plans to welcome the Westers to Beaumont and First United Methodist Church soon!



JILL FRANTZ RETURNS TO STAFF MINISTRY TEAM

Staff-Parish Relations is pleased to announce the return of Jill Frantz to our staff ministry team as Children's Ministry Coordinator. As we approached Easter this year, Holly Stouffer coordinated our efforts

as First UMC Servants to share in ministry with our children in Sunday school and Children's Church. Beginning May 14, Jill will join our team to coordinate our efforts as we seek to reach the youngest among us!

A LETTER FROM PASTOR JEREMY WESTER

Greetings FUMC Beaumont –

Sallie and I are excited for the opportunity to meet you and share in the work of loving the city with the heart of Christ. We both deeply believe that learning to love one another as God first loved us is the heart and soul of anything that matters or makes a difference. I've enjoyed hearing and reading your stories from afar and can't wait to join you and get to know you!

I am at least a fourth generation United Methodist and a third generation Texas Aggie. I was born in Victoria Texas before moving around South Texas a few times and graduating high school in Pflugerville. I graduated seminary at Duke in 2010 and have been serving churches in our conference ever since. Apart from my church work, I love tennis, ping pong, and playing with technology.

I met Sallie at the Texas A&M Wesley Foundation and we've been married for almost 15 years. Sallie is a marriage and family therapist and has specialized in working with trauma and abuse survivors. She currently runs her own private practice. We adopted our only son Hutch as an infant in 2018. He is an energetic and joyful people-person and can't wait to meet all his new friends!

The last few years have been a strange and challenging time for ministry - I can't wait to see what God will do next as we seek renewal in the love and grace of God!

Pastor Jeremy

FORMING CONFIRMATION CLASSES

We are planning for confirmation classes to begin this summer or in the fall. Confirmation will be for students in the 6th grade or older. Confirmation is designed to help students confirm the promises that were made at their baptism. During these classes students will have the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith and what it truly means to accept Jesus as their Savior. After completing confirmation students will have the opportunity to confirm their faith before the congregation.

Confirmation classes consist of 18 lessons. In the past we have spread these lessons over 2 or 3 weekends (Friday and Saturday). We will schedule specific dates for the classes after meeting with parents.

Please contact Jana Windle if you are interested in having your student attend confirmation or if you have questions.

**Email Jana at Jwindle@gt.rr.com
or call or text at 409-656-2148**

A NOTE FROM RUBY NELSON

Before I started preaching, I was a case manager with the Texas Department of Human Services. My job was to encourage welfare recipients to go to work, or to school, or whatever it took to become self-sufficient instead of welfare dependent. One of the main obstacles was lack of dependable child care. Have you checked the price of child care recently? Wow !!!!!

When I came to FUMC, I was thrilled to learn that a subsidized child care center operates within this building. That means that most of the parents are in school or working and pay according to their income. Thus they have an opportunity to make a home for their family, and a future for their children

Every Sunday, we end our worship service with "We will go out to be God's people, to love this city with the heart of Christ."

Can you think of a better way to love this city than to assure parents that their children are well cared for as the parents go out to work or in school? That is what Once Upon A Dream Center does. I am proud to be part of a United Methodist Church that helps that to happen.



Duo Korusa
Sujung Cho & Jacob Clark
in an all-Beethoven Concert
Sunday, May 21
4 p.m.
First UMC Beaumont Sanctuary

The recital will feature the complete works of Ludwig van Beethoven written for piano duet which includes a sonata, two sets of variations, three marches, and Beethoven's own transcription of the Great Fugue, Op. 134.

BIOGRAPHY

Established by pianists and Lamar University faculty, Sujung Cho and Jacob Clark, Duo Korusa is a versatile piano duo/duet team dedicated to the performance of lesser-known works of the 19th and 20th century, as well as new works of the 21st century. Since its inception in 2012, Duo Korusa has been performing rare or newly composed piano duet works throughout the United States. Equally academics and performers, both members of Duo Korusa have a keen interest in research and have presented lecture recitals at national and regional conferences of the College Music Society as well as at the National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Conference. Awarded a grant from Lamar University's College of Fine Arts and Communication, Duo Korusa used this funding to record the piano duet works of Marie Jaell and Jane Savage and the resulting album was released digitally and physically by Centaur Records in March of 2023. A second grant from the Center for Resiliency awarded for 2023 has resulted in a community outreach tour and will culminate in another recording featuring the complete works of Beethoven for piano duet also to be released on the Centaur label.

Congratulations

to our First Family members
who are graduates this school year!



Kinleigh Balla

Texas A&M University
Spring 2023
Bachelors of Science in
Biomedical Sciences,
Minor in Psychology



Karlge Ramos

Lamar University
Fall 2022
Bachelor of Science in
Theater and Dance, with Honors



Alaina Scott

Baylor University
Spring 2023
Bachelor of Music Education



Synia Thomas

Nederland High School



Ryan Woodland

Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School

FIRST UMC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

First UMC Scholarship applications are now available. Applicants must be a member of First UMC and enrolled in 12 hours of undergraduate level courses or 9 hours of graduate level courses in a post secondary educational institution. Applicants must also provide the required documentation listed on the scholarship application. **All applications are due in the church office by Monday, July 31, 2022. Download an application at fumcbeaumont.org/scholarship, or pick up a printed copy at the church office.**

WEEKLY RHYTHMS

SUNDAYS

Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

Family Worship Service
11 a.m.
In-Person & Livestream

Small Group with Robin & Charlie Snoek
6-7 p.m.

MONDAYS

Narcotics Anonymous Meeting
7 - 8:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Connect Group with Liza Nelson
Noon

WEDNESDAYS

Chancel Choir Practice
6 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous Meeting
7 - 8:30 p.m.

NEED TO SPREAD THE WORD?

Email your meeting info
and pictures to
Erika@fumcbeaumont.org

June Spire Deadline for entry
- May 22.

Late entries will be shared by email or in the
following newsletter.

STAY CONNECTED

 @fumcbeaumont

 @fumcbeaumont

 First UMC Beaumont

 fumcbeaumont.org

 (409) 920-PRAY

MAY & JUNE DATES TO KNOW

MAY

SUN., MAY 7

† Family Worship Service -
Rev. Romonica Malone-Wardley
Preaching
11 a.m.

🎓 Graduate Celebration
Immediately after 11 a.m. Family
Worship Service. Celebrating all First
UMC high school and college graduates
from Fall 2022 through Spring 2023.

MON., MAY 8

🗣️ Church Council Meeting
6 p.m.

WED., MAY 10

👤 Games Day
10 a.m. | Fun & Fellowship. **Contact**
Ruby Nelson for more information.
409-781-6798

SAT., MAY 13

❤️ SHP Bed Build
8:30 a.m. - noon, 12:30 - 4 p.m.
2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX
Pre register at bit.ly/shpevent

📖 Second Saturday Lecture
Parlor (Faith Questers) | 9 a.m. - Noon

SUN., MAY 14

Mother's Day

† A Celebration of Women
Celebrating all women of First UMC

MON., MAY 15

🗣️ Board of Trustees Meeting
6 p.m. | Library

TUE., MAY 16

**🗣️ United Women in Faith
- UMW Meeting**

The May meeting for United Women in
Faith will be held at Bocca Felice Italian
Cuisine, 4405 Calder, Beaumont at
6 p.m. on May 16th Please RSVP to
Chrissy Joyner ASAP at 409-656-1904.

FRI., MAY 19

❤️ Some Other Place Service Day
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SAT., MAY 20

❤️ SHP Delivery Day
9 a.m. - Noon
2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX
Bring your cordless drill with charged up
batteries.


SUN., MAY 21

**🎵 Dr. Jacob Clark & Sujung Cho
in an all-Beethoven Concert**
4 p.m. | Sanctuary

MON., MAY 22

 **Finance Committee Meeting**
6 p.m. | Library

SAT., MAY 27

 **Kairos Family Supper**
Rothwell Hall
Set up: 2 – 5 p.m.
Serving: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Clean up: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

SUN. MAY 28

Texas Annual Conference Begins
Houston, TX

 **The Day of Pentecost**
11 a.m. Family Worship

MON., MAY 29


Memorial Day
Church Office Closed

JUNE

MON., JUNE 5


 **Love the City Ministry Team Meeting**
6 p.m.

SAT., JUNE 10


 **SHP Bed Build**
8:30 a.m. - noon, 12:30 - 4 p.m.
2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX
Pre register at bit.ly/shpevent

 **Second Saturday Lecture**
Parlor (Faith Questers) | 9 a.m. - Noon

SUN., JUNE 11

 **Pastor Romonica Malone-Wardley: A Thanksgiving and Sending Forth**
3 p.m. Worship Service
Reception to follow


WED., JUNE 14

 **Games Day**
10 a.m. | Fun & Fellowship.
Contact Ruby Nelson for more information. 409-781-6798

FRI., JUNE 16


 **Some Other Place Service Day**
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SAT., JUNE 17

 **SHP Delivery Day**
9 a.m. - Noon
2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX
Bring your cordless drill with charged up batteries.

SUN., JUNE 18

Fathers' Day

 **A Celebration of Men**
Celebrating all men of First UMC

Breakfast Celebration with the Stouffers
Share your well wishes and send off Pastor Jon and Holly Stouffer!
9:30 – 11 a.m. | Rothwell Hall

MON., JUNE 19

 **Board of Trustees Meeting**
6 p.m. | Library

SAT., JUNE 24

 **Kairos Family Supper**
Rothwell Hall
Set up: 2 – 5 p.m.
Serving: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Clean up: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

MON., JUNE 26

 **Finance Committee Meeting**
6 p.m. | Library



Loving the city with the *Heart of Christ*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BEAUMONT



Duo Korusa

Sujung Cho & Jacob Clark

in an all-Beethoven Concert

Sunday, May 21

4 p.m.

First UMC Beaumont Sanctuary