

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday – September 13

9:15 am Prayer Group, Room 2
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
11:15 am UWF Monthly Bake Sale, Gathering Space
 Children's Choir, Room 1
 Social Concerns Class, Lower Ed
 Studies of the Bible Class, Room 4
 Youth - Bowling at Round1
 Iglesia Pentecostal Jesus Rey De Reyes, Sanctuary

3:00 pm

Monday – September 14

6:30 pm Worship Design Team, Zoom

Tuesday – September 15

9:30 am Staff Meeting, Office

Wednesday – September 16

9:45 am Women's Bible Study, Room 4
7:00 pm Church Council Meeting, Room 4
 Women's AA, Upper Ed

Thursday – September 17

12:00 pm Lunch Bunch, Room 4
7:00 pm Bible in a Year, Zoom
 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

Friday – September 18 - Office Closed

7:00 pm AA, Upper Ed

Saturday – September 19

8:00 am United Methodist Men Monthly Breakfast, Gathering Space
10:00 am United Women in Faith, Room 4
1:00 pm Service for Don Ritenour, Sanctuary
 Iglesia Pentecostal Jesus Rey De Reyes, Sanctuary
 (IPUL) Bible Study, Upper Ed

September 6, 2026

In-Person Worship - 103
 Online Worship - 16
 Sunday School/Small Groups - 57
 General Fund Giving - \$10,427.26

To make a financial gift
 through online giving, please
 use the QR code.



I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK





Hymnals and Bibles are available on the rolling carts near the entrance of the sanctuary. Feel free to take one for use during the service and then return it to the cart after worship.

Please complete a Weekly Connect Card found in the bulletin and place it in the offering bag when it is passed during the service.

Please be aware that photography and video recording/live streaming occur during our worship service and are used on social media. Our children and youth are often included. If you do not want your child in any photos or videos, please speak with one of the ushers.

We love children!

There are several opportunities for children to grow during worship. Our Family Worship Space offers quiet resources and activity bags to help families engage children during worship. Children may take items to their seats or sit at the table when it's available. Parents/caregivers are asked to be seated with children at the table or nearby to assist them in worship. Childcare is available for infants through age 5 during Worship and the Sunday School hour in the nursery at the end of the main hallway.

Choir Rehearsals have begun! Now's a great time to lend your voice.
Chancel Choir rehearsal: Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary
Gospel Choir rehearsal: Sundays at 12:15 pm in Room 1
Children's Choir rehearsal: 2nd Sundays after worship in Room 1
Interested in sharing music but can't participate in a choir? Talk to Jimmy Reed!

Are you getting our weekly e-newsletter? Each week on Thursday, we send out an e-newsletter highlighting the worship series, upcoming events, expressions of thanks and care, pictures of various groups and events and MORE! To sign up visit www.gsumc.net or email the church office at adminassist@gsumc.net

Miracle Sunday Offering - A worldwide United Methodist Uniting Effort
As part of a denomination-wide initiative led by the United Methodist Council of Bishops, over 30,000 UMC congregations worldwide are invited to receive a special offering to support theological education in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. In many parts of the world, access to formal theological training is limited, yet God continues to call leaders to serve. Through this offering, we help equip those leaders for faithful and transformative ministry while strengthening our United Methodist connection. Over the next several weeks, we will share stories in worship to highlight the need being addressed. We ask that you prayerfully consider giving a gift beyond your regular giving by October 11th. Please designate "Miracle Sunday".

Pastors and Office Contact Information

Lead Pastor: Lisa Barbery
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This week's "Bible Through the Year" readings:

Sep 13th:	Matthew 24:1-25:46	Sep 14th:	Matthew 26:1-75
Sep 15th:	Matthew 27:1-28:20	Sep 16th:	Mark 1:1-3:35
Sep 17th:	Mark 4:1-5:43	Sep 18th:	Mark 6:1-56
Sep 19th:	Mark 7:1-8:38	Sep 20th:	Mark 9:1-10:45

Join us for an informal, one-hour group conversation on Zoom this Thursday at 7pm:
Meeting ID: 884 822 1386
Passcode: rzRn4s

GOOD SHEPHERD IN MINISTRY

Monthly Prayer for Our Church
Join us by including this in your daily prayer time
and at all church gatherings.

God of relationships, we give you thanks for the community of Good Shepherd. We are grateful to be a people knitted together through your love, providing a source of encouragement and care as we journey together as disciples. Lead us by your Spirit to extend that same love and care beyond our walls so that others might know and experience your grace. Infuse us with willing hearts and curious minds to meet the needs of others you lay before us. Send us out as disciples who bless our neighbors and join your transforming work in the world. In Christ’s name we pray, amen.

The children will meet in Room 1 after worship for their monthly choir rehearsal. We look forward to hearing the children next week in worship.

In lieu of our regular hospitality, we invite you to support the missions of the United Women in Faith by purchasing from their bake sale in the Gathering Space.

Join us on September 17th at 12 pm for a once-a-month potluck meal and time of fellowship. Bring a dish to share.

Fall BBQ lunch on September 27th after worship outside. Bring a chair and, if able, a side or dessert to share. Outdoor games are welcome too! We will provide brisket, pulled pork, and BBQ chicken.

Capital Campaign “Soft Launch.” Thank you to the many who have already responded to the need shared in worship and via letters related to our building maintenance. Thanks to your generosity, we have met the first \$5,000 goal that the Flames will match. Thank you, Good Shepherd! Though the official campaign won’t launch until after the new year, if you are led to support this effort with a gift beyond your regular giving to the General Fund, please designate your check or envelope with “Capital Campaign.” You may also give electronically through our website by selecting “Capital Campaign” from the fund options.

Join the Studies of the Bible Sunday School Class as they begin a new study called “The Heart Of The Psalms---God’s Word To The World” authored by UMC Pastor James C. Howell. Study begins this morning in Room 4.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Sermon Series: I’ve Been Meaning to Ask

(*) Please stand as you are able for this act of worship.
Bold Print indicates congregational/unison responses.

*Gathering Song Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty UMH 64

*Words of Welcome

*Gathering Words
We are from north and south.
We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes.
We are from this city and from others far away.
We are from big families and dinners made for one.
We are from stages of grief and stages of love.
We are from hot summers and cold winters.
We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.
We are from many places, but today we are here.
Today we are together.
Holy God, gather us in.

Hymn My Faith Looks Up to Thee UMH 452

Miracle Sunday Moment

Good Shepherd in Ministry

Praising God with Our Gifts

Offertory Music When I Rose This Morning

*Doxology UMH 94

Children’s Time Pastor MiRhang

Prayer for Understanding Pat Pearsall
Holy God, we don’t always know how to pray, but you find us anyway. We don’t always know how to listen, but you are in our ears all the same. We don’t always know how to believe, but you surround us with beauty and we find ourselves held together in love. Where we come from, there are so many distractions and so much noise. Find us. Hold us. Be in these words. Help us hear. Amen.

Scripture John 1:35-51 N.T. 86

Message Pastor Lisa

Anthem *We Shall Be Thankful*

Reception of New Members see insert

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance
When people heard that Jesus was from Nazareth, they asked, “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”
We confess, God of beginnings, that we have asked the same question.
Can anything good come from that side of town?
From a school with poor test scores? From a criminal history?
From the opposite political party? From a history of addiction?
From a faith with doubt? From a church with faults?
Holy God, forgive us for doubting that you are in all things at all times. Open our eyes to see your goodness, not as something that resides here or there, but as the expansive grace that it is.
Can anything good come from there? **Yes. Always yes. Amen.**
Family of faith, if you ever ask yourself, “Can anything good come from this messy and human life of mine?” Remember this: God is always whispering, “Yes.” You were created in the image of God. Your origin story is one of goodness and love from the very beginning. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel: **God is here. God is at work among us. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.**

*Affirmation of Faith

*Hymn *Open My Eyes That I May See* UMH 454

*Benediction

Postlude *Panis Angelicus (Franck)*

Votive Candle Stand. Our votive candle stand invites contemplative prayer. Feel free to light a candle before or after our service, or during communion.

Worship Resources Used: Video from Virginia Annual Conference Miracle Sunday Resources
Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC.

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Prayer requests remain for 4 weeks unless otherwise updated. Please submit, update, or remove a prayer request via the Connect Card or by contacting the church office.

Remember in Prayer (as of September 6, 2026)

Awilda Durham - upon the loss of her daughter, Madeline
Chris Evatt - broken wrist after a fall
Don Abrell - recovery from stroke
Debbie Ritenour and family upon the loss of husband, Don
Guy Andrew - David Andrew, cancer
JoAnne and John Neal - JoAnne, undergoing chemo; John, health problem
Kathy McNeil - Myra Keifer in physical rehab, Heather, cancer treatments
Lerita and Fred Milbert - friend, Phil Goble, in hospice care
Neneh Kanneh - husband Sheikh Kanneh, eyesight and health
Pam Buchenauer- Megan, recovery from hospital visit; Frank, recovery from fall;
Cynthia, recovery from injuries; Lori, recovering at home; Chris & Joe have moved;
Joe, Parkinsons; Roberto, injuries from a fall
Pat Pearsall - Teryl Freeman, extended treatment and illness
Rossie and Carol Alston - Alberta Alston, health concerns; Carol’s sister Alyson, breast cancer
Ruth Herndon - Raquel’s mother-in-law, Marion with health issues
Steve Koch - cousin Lynn, surgical recovery after brain bleed
Uni Samura - rehab at home, continued paralysis
Winnie Agyin - Samuel Agyin, recovery from stroke
Our country and our nation’s leaders
For all places experiencing natural disasters, storm recovery, and wildfires
For all places experiencing war, violence, and humanitarian crisis
For those who struggle with mental health and the families that love them