

The Anchor

A vibrant church, making Christian disciples and enriching lives through outreach.

November 2025

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Sunday's Schedule

9:00 a.m.:	Traditional Service
10:30 a.m.:	Modern Service
10:30 a.m.:	Faithlink Class
10:30 a.m.:	Searchers Class
10:30 a.m.:	Rise Children's Ministry
4:00 p.m.:	Women in the Word
6:00 p.m.:	Elevate Youth
6:00 p.m.:	Junior Youth

Staff

Senior Pastor

Brian Sixbey

Office Manager

Kassandra Brown

Music Director/Organist

Mark Biondolillo

Accompanist

Andrew Blackmon

Youth Director/Worship Leader

Larissa Luma

Treasurer

Ruth Simpkins

Part-Time Sexton

Mikell Bond

Nursery Attendant

Chelsea Kyme



“From the Mountain to the Valley”

By the time you read this, we will have had our Homecoming Revival, Homecoming service, packed up the pumpkins, and we will be settling in for Thanksgiving and thinking about Advent and Christmas. But there's one thing I don't think I've talked about that I want to bring up now: life gives us highs and lows, mountains and valleys – what is a faithful way to live and thrive in each condition – the highs and the lows?

Continued on page 2

Matthew 17, Mark 9, and Luke 9 all tell the story of Jesus going up to the mountain, being transfigured, hearing a word from the Father, and then going back down the mountain into the valleys, where he will be heading to Jerusalem, where he would suffer and be put to death. In other words, he had an amazing spiritual moment, followed by a long period of grief, challenges, and betrayal. While we could say that Jesus is unique, and no one's life should be like his, the reality is that while Jesus is unique as the only begotten Son of God, he also is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2).

As an example, it is said that Mother Teresa had many visions and spiritual experiences before she started the Missionaries of Charity order, but once she began the work, the experiences ceased to happen. Likewise, the prophet Isaiah had an amazing spiritual experience when God called him (Isaiah 6), but he endured significant suffering as he did the work of a prophet. My guess is that you too, whether you've followed Jesus your whole life or just started recently, have had a similar experience – blessings followed by trials – the mountain followed by the valley.

As a church body, we are going through a period of mountains – from Homecoming to the Pumpkin Patch, to Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. But January is coming, followed by February and March, and early next year, we will move into Lent, which is a valley followed by the mountain of Easter (which will be April 5 next year). What's important for us to do and remember is this: rejoice and be grateful for the mountaintop experiences, and remember them when we are in the valley, whether it is a personal valley or a common valley. Remember that you are loved, forgiven, and called to be God's instruments of grace for the world. Remember that, though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we do not fear any evil, for God's rod and staff will comfort us, bringing us to the rich banquet of eternity!

A faith that persists is a faith that is worth having. And remember this too – even if we forget, others in the church body remember. May we help each other experience the whole of God's mercy, forgiveness, and love!



Nights Welcome

FUMC Fox Hill will again participate in the A Night's Welcome winter sheltering program. The location schedule is still being worked out but our dates to supply meals are November 20, January 15, February 19, and March 19. As in the past each group will prepare the dinner meal and breakfast bags for the following morning and UMM will deliver the food and serve the dinner meal.

Dinner Meal:

Protein and side dishes, bread, dessert. Casseroles work well. Meals need to be delivered hot and ready to serve to the church by 5:15pm for delivery.

Breakfast Bags:

Breakfast item such as Pop Tarts or breakfast bread, fruit cups (not applesauce), cereal bars, anything else that is shelf stable. Also a beverage, preferably juice, and I am told that small cans of V8 are a preferred choice. Use paper bags and put the delivery date on the bag so that the ANW staff can track them for food safety.

Any questions please contact me. Dave Rogers, 757-848-3006, drogers51@cox.net

Martha's Ministry

Martha's Ministry is a wonderful group of ladies who give their dedicated service and outpouring of love to grieving families in their time of need. These ladies graciously prepare a reception for family and friends either at the church or in their homes. This ministry of the church, can always use more help! If you are interested, please call or email Marilyn Eubank.

November Team Leader: Jean Pickin

November Members: Jane Barbour, Jean Bernstrom, Marilyn Eubank, Becky Thompson, Bonnie Harper

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you or someone you know is in need of healing or strength please come take a prayer shawl out of the case in the west hallway. Anyone who is interested in joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry to knit or crochet should join us in the Edith Spencer Room on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

Financial Fundamentals November 2025

This report briefly addresses finances at FUMC Fox Hill. The latest information is in the weekly bulletin available at church or through our web site.

It is hard to believe the end of the year is just around the corner! Hard to believe, yes, but also a great time to work on putting our church finances into the best possible condition to be ready to start a new year. Except for some sidewalk work by the Prayer Garden, our major repair and replacement projects on the Boiler, HVAC, and Roof are complete. Your support for that project has gone a long way towards the cost, but has also left us with a substantial loan to pay off as soon as possible. We have also delayed payment of our Apportionments and set-asides while we worked through those project expenses/cash flow. By year end, we need to pay all that we can to clear that slate. Your support is critical to make that happen.

Please take a look at your finances and church support and see if you are where you want to be. Some of you may be impacted by the unfortunate federal “shut-down”, directly or in-directly. Others may be fortunate enough to be benefiting from this year’s dramatic growth in the stock market. Whatever your situation, we ask you to do whatever you can to support your church. Those who have IRA Required Minimum Distribution obligations may find significant benefit in taking the opportunity to make a Qualified Charitable Donation to the church. Others may have stock which has appreciated substantially in value and donating some of the shares could provide a tax advantage. We need everyone’s help. Be certain to talk with your tax and/or financial advisor and touch base with Bill Bryan, Finance Chair, before taking any unfamiliar action, but don’t delay.

Whether you give through the offering plate, in the mail, or on-line, your routine **regular giving** to the General (One) Fund can help your cash flow and the church’s. Use the method that works best for you. You may want to use our web site www.firstumcfoxhill.org where you can click on Give. If you are reading this online, [click here](#) for easy on-line access. Or use your camera to scan this QR code which is regularly seen in our publications and live stream. As noted above, those with **IRA funds** which must be withdrawn and/or **appreciated stocks**, may be able to achieve some

added benefits by using them for direct contributions. Always talk with your tax and/or financial advisor before taking any unfamiliar action. Also talk with Bill Bryan, our Finance Chair, about your plans.

Please direct **concerns/questions** about FUMC FH finances to our financial staff via the office or Bill Bryan, Finance Chair, at (757) 851-0748 or by e-mail to billb-1111@cox.net.

Total One Fund – Through September 2025		
Income for Planned Expenses ¹		\$325,830
Total One Fund Expenses (excludes pass through ²)	Planned	\$447,318
	Actual	\$346,482
Pass Through Income ²		\$1,085
Pass Through Expense ²		\$4,178
“Pay-It-Forward” Contributions		\$1,998
LUMENs Fund Raiser Income		\$25
LUMENs Fund Raiser Expense		\$0
Roof & Boiler Repair Income 2025 ³		\$95,384
Roof & Boiler Repair Expense 2025		\$218,847
Loan Balance – Oct 1		\$159,320.
¹ Includes regular and memorial contributions, building use income, interest, not listed, etc.		
² Represents contributions for non-budget items, e.g., flowers, special mission programs, not listed, etc.		
³ Does not include \$153,922 net loan for roof project.		

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Announcements

Fifty Plus

Don't miss out on any of the Fifty Plus activities.

- **Sunday afternoon, November 23** we head for **Christopher Newport University** theatre for their presentation of **Hooey-Hahs & Foofaraws**. The sleepy little burg of Battue Haven, MN, is an idyllic suburban gem of picket fences and manicured lawns until, suddenly, with a literal Bada-bing-bada-BOOM!!... the sudden arrival of two mob enforcers. If you are not already signed up, ask and we'll see if we can still secure a seat for you. **Cost is \$12.00 plus your meal afterwards.**
- **Reserve now for our Saturday afternoon, December 13** outing to see **A Christmas Carol** presented by the **Williamsburg Players**. This traditional holiday classic for the entire family is guaranteed to fill you with the Christmas spirit and warm your heart. **Trip cost is \$19.00 plus your meal afterward.**
- Coming up for **Saturday morning on January 17** we are **planning our annual breakfast at the Poquoson Dinner...mark your calendars.**

No destination has been selected yet for a possible Spring Trip.

Let us know immediately about your latest thoughts, desires, and suggestions.

More to come. Watch First Fox Hill publications for more details and contact Anne or Bill Bryan to sign-up – in person, at abandbb1@cox.net, or by phone to 757-851-0748.

Food Pantry 3rd Quarter

3rd Quarter	Households	Individuals	Children	Adults	Seniors	New Families	Bags Served	Lbs. of Food*	Cost**
July	78	253	98	99	56	6	126	1,909.50	\$ -
Aug	82	261	96	99	66	10	123	1276.25	\$143.42
Sept	89	304	112	115	77	5	140	1331	\$200.54
Totals	249	818	306	313	199	21	389	4,516.75	\$343.96

* This total does not include the hundreds of pounds of food donated directly by the congregation.

** These products were purchased at local stores because they were not available, or not available in sufficient volume, from the Food Bank. Products obtained from the Food Bank at this time are provided at no cost to the church/food pantry.



It's Shoebox time again! Through Operation Christmas Child, our church can help fulfill the Great Commission and share the Gospel around the world. A shoebox is more than toys and school supplies—it is a tangible expression of God's love.

In our Narthex, you'll find a display table with preprinted boxes and labels if you would like to prepare a gift. Please bring completed boxes back by **Sunday, November 23, 2025**—the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

For questions, contact **Mary Jane King** at 757-851-8628 or mjking@gmail.com.

Birthdays

Florence Butler	11/1	Cory Hodges	11/11	Chip Herncall Jr.	11/21
Steven Rochelle	11/2	Sherri McQuillan	11/11	Sally Brown	11/21
Chris Harman	11/2	Bill Bryan	11/11	Darcy Eiland	11/23
Traci Cotich	11/2	Nick Hopkins	11/11	Rachel Campbell	11/23
James Hodges	11/3	Nancy Allen	11/12	Cory Lanning	11/23
Kathy Fisher	11/3	Nolan Moon	11/12	Matthew May	11/23
Jayson Geib	11/4	Brady Broich	11/12	John Routten	11/23
Isaac Nadeau	11/4	Danny Hodges	11/13	John Guthrie	11/23
Margaret Fleshman	11/5	Justin Phillips	11/13	Rachael Melanson	11/24
Doris Steele	11/5	Beverly Godwin	11/13	Mike May	11/24
Kim Taylor	11/6	Christine Keesee	11/14	Meredith Guthrie	11/24
DeeDee Bullock	11/6	Troy Monteith II	11/14	Robert Allen	11/25
Wyatt Fatkin	11/6	Tom McLemore	11/14	Jesse Barbour	11/25
David Farlee	11/6	John Decker	11/15	Dave Hopewell	11/26
Brad Fleenor	11/6	Kari Ammons	11/15	Tommy Markham Jr.	11/26
Dave Rogers	11/6	Hunter Riss	11/16	Jennifer Coiner	11/27
Brian Thomas Eubank Jr.	11/7	Leon Keesee	11/16	Pat Parker	11/27
Mike Monteith	11/7	Wes Rogers	11/16	Bill Fulton Jr.	11/27
Jeslyn Hughes	11/8	Ellie Hopkins	11/17	Tori Doyle	11/28
Cliff Rowe	11/9	Jane Barbour	11/17	Doug Roberson	11/29
Cindy Johnson	11/9	Shelby Sours	11/18	Brandi Winston	11/29
Ben Landon	11/11	Julie Colton	11/20	Derek Hulick	11/30
		James Bly	11/21		

Anniversaries

Jim & Doris Dickert	11/2		Warren & Kimiko Wood	11/14
Walt & Kim Taylor	11/2		Michael & Gail Gulla	11/16
Jason & Claudia Seely	11/2		David & Marcy Messick Jr.	11/17
Patrick & Susan Brooker	11/6		Jared & Allison Peretin	11/19
Jeff & Michele Winston	11/7		Phillip & Kim Sagaser	11/21
Fred & Kay Foster	11/14		Paolo & Ashley Hawley	11/27

November

Saturday, November 1

9:00 a.m. Pumpkin Patch Cleanup

Sunday, November 2 All Saint's' Daylight Saving Time Ends

Wednesday, October 8 Church Office Closed

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting: Tri-X Room

Friday, November 7

4:00 p.m. Fire Auxiliary Meeting (Private use): FH Stage

Saturday, November 8

9:00 a.m. Fire Auxiliary Meeting (Private use): FH Stage

Sunday, November 9

10:00 a.m. Elevate Youth Tech Services: Narthex

3:00 p.m. District Conference: Shady Grove UMC

Monday, November 10

5:30 p.m. Vision Team Meeting: Tri-X Room

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting: ESR

6:30 p.m. The Collective: Youth Council

7:00 p.m. Ballroom Dance Class: FH

7:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting: Tri-X Room

Wednesday, November 12

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting: Tri-X Room

Friday, November 14 - 16

4:30 p.m. Elevate Youth: VAUMC Youth Retreat

Saturday, November 15 Anchor Newsletter Deadline

Monday, November 17

5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Info Session: Tri-X Room

Tuesday, November 18

1:00 p.m. Vibrant Worship: Tri-X Room

7:00 p.m. PPSRC: Tri-X Room

Wednesday, November 19

12:00 p.m. Fellowship of Circumstance for Women

5:30 p.m. Howe Farms HOA Meeting: ESR

Thursday, November 20 Night's Welcome

6:30 p.m. Rainbow Puppets

Saturday, November 22

2:00 p.m. Book Club: Robinson Home

Sunday, November 23

12:30 p.m. Fifty Plus Outing: CNU

Monday, November 24

6:00 a.m. Phoebus Women's Club Meeting: Faithlink Room

7:00 p.m. Ballroom Dance Class: FH

Tuesday, November 25

8:00 a.m. Facilities Team Meeting

11:00 a.m. Bagging for Food Pantry

Wednesday, November 26

12:00 p.m. Food Pantry

Small Groups

Monday

10:00 a.m. Yoga: FH Stage

1:00 p.m. "The Book" Club: Tri-X Room

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Shawl Makers: ESR

12:00 p.m. Dominoes: FH Stage

Wednesday

9:30 a.m. Soul Sisters: Faithlink

3:00 p.m. Love Unites: ESR

5:45 p.m. Wesley Bells Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. 1st Fox Hill Family Choir Practice

Thursday

5:00 p.m. TABS: Tri-X Room

6:00 p.m. Karate for Christ: FH Stage

Saturday

9:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Sisters in Christ: Faithlink

6:00 p.m. Elevate Youth: The Collective

7:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal: Sanctuary

Scouts

Tuesdays: 6:30 p.m. Pack 151 Meeting: FH
7 p.m. Scout Troop 151: FH

3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 1038: Ed Wing

2nd & 4th Friday 6 p.m. Crew 1151 Meeting: Tri-X

AA Meetings

Wednesdays & Fridays - 6 p.m.

Buckroe New Hope AA Group: FH - Kitchen

Saturdays - 9 a.m.

Buckroe Men's AA Group: FH - Kitchen

UMW

Thursday Morning Circle: 1st Thurs., 10 a.m.: FH

UMM

Dinner and Meeting: 3rd Mon., 6:30 p.m.: FH

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