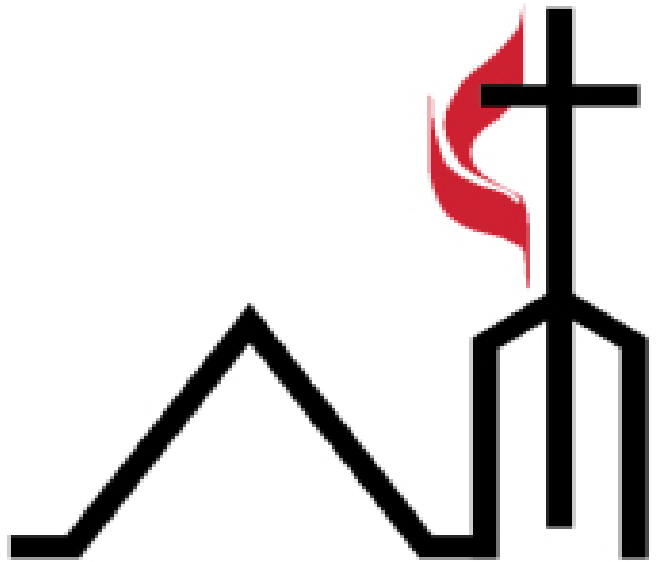


BEACON

week of  
January 14, 2024



Shalimar United  
Methodist Church

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# Shalimar UMC

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Lead Pastor

Dr. Alan  
McBride

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**Pastors and Staff**

Dr. Brad Bradford

Rev. John Kelsoe

Gerald Batton

Chris Bennett

Chris Bennett

Pat Brantley

Tanner Dubose

Denise Heath

Sarah Hicks

Karen Jadin

Tony Mallini

Heyward McKenzie

Amanda Marshall

Sara Morrison

Leigh J. Rice

Dawn Rozofsky

Ben Savage

Worship Pastor

Associate Pastor

Custodian

Facility & Maintenance Manager

Interim Youth Director

Office Administrative Assistant

Interim Communications

Financial Secretary

Children's Director

Preschool Director

Interim Church Administrator

Chef

Nursery Coordinator

Financial Assistant

Respite Director

After School & Camp Director

Director of Worship Arts

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## Stay In Touch!

Shalimar United Methodist Church  
1 Old Ferry Road, Shalimar, FL 32579  
(850) 651-0721  
[office@shalimar-umc.org](mailto:office@shalimar-umc.org)

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# Our Vision

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Christ-centered, multi-generational,  
family & community relevant ministries through  
**WORSHIP, DISCIPLESHIP, and MISSION.**



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# Our Mission

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We **REACH** our community with the good news of Jesus Christ.  
We **TEACH** how to love God and to love one another as ourselves.  
We **SEND** disciples into the world to share their experiences of Jesus.

# Weekly Schedule

Week of January 14th

## Sunday, 14th

Adult Sunday School	9:30 am
Shalimar Students Sunday School	9:30 am
Special Buddies Sunday School	9:30 am
Shalimar Kids Worship	9:30 am
Shalimar Kids in Freedom Worship	11:07 am
<b>Church Townhall Vote</b>	<b>1 pm</b>
Youth Choir Rehearsal	4 pm
Special Buddies	5 pm
Shalimar Students Worship	5 pm

## Monday, 15th

Church Office Closed

Bread House	9 am
Threads of Love	10 am
Connect Service Rehearsal	5:30 pm
Alanon	6 pm
Lighthouse Rehearsal	6 pm
<b>Trustees Meeting</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
AA	8 pm

## Tuesday, 16th

Joyful Place	10 am
Shalimar Kids 3rd Grade Bible Study	3:45 pm
Joy Ringers Bell Rehearsal	5:30 pm
Men's Group	6 pm
<b>Missions Meeting</b>	<b>6 pm</b>
Prayer Group	6 pm
Freedom Service Rehearsal	6:30 pm



## Wednesday, 17th

Bread House	9 am
Splash of Joy 1	9:30 am
Splash of Joy 2	9:30 am
Blessings for Children	10 am
Fellowship Dinner	5 Pm
Shalimar Kids Club	5:30 pm
Shalimar Students Small Groups	5:30 pm
Gloryland	6 pm
<b>Nominations</b>	<b>6 pm</b>
Old Testament Studies	6 pm
Pastor's Class	6 pm
Rejoice	6 pm
Young Adults	6 pm
Chancel Choir	7 pm
AA	8 pm

## Thursday, 18th

Joyful Place	10 am
<b>Heinrich Funeral</b>	<b>11 am</b>
Shalimar Kids 4-5th Grade Bible Study	3:45 pm

## Friday, 19th

Bread House	9 am
<b>Middle School Game Time</b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>

## Saturday, 20th

Pickleball	9 am
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SHALIMAR  
METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES  
9:30, 11:00 & 11:07 AM  
PASTOR ALAN MC BRIDE  
ASSOC. PASTORS  
AD BRADFORD  
HNI KEL SOE

# — This Week in Worship —

**Sunday, January 14, 2024**

**TRADITIONS – SANCTUARY**

8:00am – In-Person & Online  
Message by Rev. Dr. Alan McBride  
The Gifts of the Wise... Presence  
Matthew 2:1-6  
Worship Led by Charlie Curry  
Rejoice – Honor and Praise

**CONNECT – SANCTUARY**

9:30am – In-Person & Online  
Message by Rev. Dr. Alan McBride  
The Gifts of the Wise... Presence  
Matthew 2:1-6  
Worship Led by Robin Baugh  
Connect Worship Team  
Holy Communion Celebrated by Rev. John Kelsoe

**TRADITIONS – SANCTUARY**

8:00am – In-Person & Online  
Message by Rev. Dr. Alan McBride  
The Gifts of the Wise... Presence  
Matthew 2:1-6  
Worship Led by Charlie Curry  
Chancel Choir – At the Name of Jesus  
Rejoice – Honor and Praise

**FREEDOM SERVICE – FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

11:07am – In-Person & Online  
Message by Rev. John Kelsoe  
The Gifts of the Wise... Presence  
Matthew 2:1-6  
Worship Led by Ben Savage  
Freedom Worship Team

# Wednesday *Fellowship* Dinner

January 10

**ENTREE:** BBQ PORK

**KIDS:** PIZZA

\$7 ADULTS | \$3 KIDS (3-10) | \$25 (MAX) FAMILY

RSVP AT [OFFICE@SHALIMAR-UMC.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@SHALIMAR-UMC.ORG) OR  
CALL (850) 651-0721 BY NOON ON TUESDAY



## DOWNLOAD OUR APP

SEARCH "SHALIMAR UMC" IN  
YOUR DEVICE'S APP STORE



# CHURCH TOWN HALL VOTE FOR MEMBERS

*January 14 | 1 p.m. | Sanctuary*

*See beacon for more details*

C  
U  
B  
A

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CUBA MISSION TRIP

GRAB A LIST OF NEEDED  
ITEMS & DROP OFF TO  
FLC LOBBY BY JAN. 15

**MISSION TRIP**  
**JAN. 19-29, 2024**



**REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR OUR KIDS WINTER RETREAT AT BLUE LAKE CAMP! THE RETREAT IS FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES 3-5. THE COST OF THE TRIP IS \$135 (SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE IF NEEDED). REGISTRATION ENDS THURSDAY, JANUARY 21.**

*The link to register and pay is <https://bluelakecamp.com/retreats-events/>  
If you have any questions, please get in touch with our Children's Director, Sarah Hicks, at (850) 217-0694 or [sarah@shalimar-umc.org](mailto:sarah@shalimar-umc.org).*



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# Church Life

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## Cuba Mission Trip Items Needed

Grab a flyer from the FLC Lobby and consider donating the items listed for the 2024 Cuba Mission Team to bring to Methodist churches and a Retirement Center in Cuba. Donated items can be placed in the designated box in the FLC Lobby through Monday, January 15. We also request your prayers for our team's safety and for your financial support. To make a financial gift, please note "Cuba Mission" in the memo line however you usually give.

## Kids Winter Retreat

Registration is open for our Kids Winter Retreat at Blue Lake Camp! The retreat is for children in Grades 3-5. The retreat runs from February 3-5 and costs \$135 (scholarships are available if needed). Registration ends Monday, Thursday, January 24. If you have any questions, please get in touch with our Children's Director, Sarah Hicks, at (850) 217-0694 or [sarah@shalimar-umc.org](mailto:sarah@shalimar-umc.org).

## Church Town Hall Vote

This Sunday is very special as our Church's Professing Members are asked to gather for a Townhall Meeting at 1:00 in our Sanctuary. All members attending this meeting can turn in a written ballot regarding their feelings about remaining within the United Methodist Church or disaffiliating from the UMC. Church Members can register to receive their written ballot anytime today beginning at 9:00 am in Room 106 in the FLC. At 12:15, the Registration Team will move their materials for registration into the Narthex of the Sanctuary. Light refreshments and reception-style food items will be available in the front wing in the FLC at the close of the Freedom Worship Service at about 12:15 pm. Everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments as we fellowship before the Townhall Meeting

## Preschool Registration

Preschool registration for the 2024-25 school year will begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16, in Room 106 of the Family Life Center. Before registration, please visit The Early Learning Coalition on Emerald Coast's website to get your child's VPK certification. If you have any questions, please get in touch with our Preschool Director, Karen Jadin, at (850) 651-0721 ext. 109 or [preschool@shalimar-umc.org](mailto:preschool@shalimar-umc.org).

# Good of the Church

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ARE BACK!

Wednesday  
programs  
started back last  
Wednesday on the  
10th!



## Offering Moment

Cuba Mission Trip



## Attendance 12.10.23

8:	145
930:	159
11:	240
1107:	53
Kids:	17
Bay Port Chapel:	18
Livestream:	194
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>826</b>

# Follow Us Online



@shalimarumc



shalimar umc



Shalimar-umc.org



So You're in the Know

The Church office will be closed on **Monday, January 15** in observance of Martin Luther King Day and will re-open on Tuesday, January 16th at 8:00am



## Preschool Registration

**Preschool registration for the 2024-25 school year will begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16, in Room 106 of the Family Life Center**

Before registration, please visit The Early Learning Coalition on Emerald Coast's website to get your child's VPK certification. If you have any questions, please get in touch with our Preschool Director, Karen Jadin, at (850) 651-0721 ext. 109 or [preschool@shalimar-umc.org](mailto:preschool@shalimar-umc.org)



# – Articles & Announcements –

## DID YOU KNOW?

The SUMC Missions & Outreach Committee connects with many agencies in our local community. One of those agencies is One Hopeful Place. This is a ministry for our homeless to go during those cold freezing nights to be warm, fed, and given the opportunity to wash clothes and bathe.

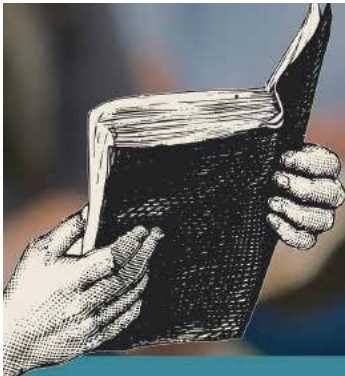
One Hopeful Place currently has a need for can goods, rice, and paper products. If you are interested in donating to this cause, please reach out to Ms. Sherry Jones, Community and Public Relations Director at 850-376-3509.







Are you passionate about helping people feel welcome and enjoy themselves over a delicious meal? If so, consider serving on the Hospitality Team during the weekly fellowship time at Wednesday night dinner and Sunday morning brunch. Contact Chef Heyward McKenzie during the fellowship times for more information.



# **PRACTICAL** **Christian** **LIVING**

**A STUDY THROUGH THE BOOK OF JAMES**

**A BRAND NEW YOUNG ADULTS STUDY**  
**WEDNESDAYS | 6:00P.M. | ROOM 212**



## Men's Barn Meeting

Men's Barn meeting Jan 11, 2024. Departing from the FLC at 4:30, returning about 10:30. There is a free steak dinner with beverage and desert. There will be a very dynamic speaker giving his testimony, and fellowship galore. Come join us.

We extend an invitation to join in on the JOY of volunteering at Joyful Place. Why volunteer?



- Put your Faith into actions, reach others
  - Improve your mood
  - Connect with others
- Free lunch on volunteer days
- Gain a sense of purpose
- Have fun....yes, FUN!

New Volunteer Training January 31st.





As Shalimar UMC has done for many years, we will be sending a mission team of nine members on this January 19–29 to serve Christ and love our Cuban brothers and sisters. This trip will focus on serving three Cuban Methodist churches and a Retirement Center with whom we have special relationship.

Please consider donating the following items for the team to bring to the churches of Cuba:

- **Medicines and vitamins of any kind**
- **Personal hygiene products (male and female)**
  - **Perfume or cologne**
- **Musical instruments (keyboards, guitars, brass instruments, etc)**
  - **Tools of any kind**
  - **Reading glasses**
  - **Sporting equipment**
- **Craft items (for children's Vacation Bible School)**
  - **Spanish Bibles**

Donated items can be placed in the designated box located in the FLC Lobby through Monday, January 15.

In addition to the items listed above, we also request your prayers for the safety of our team, and your financial gift support would be very welcome as well. To make a financial gift, please note "Cuba Mission" in the memo line; however you usually give to Shalimar UMC.

Please contact Mr. Pete Peters at (703) 395–2437 or Pastor Alan McBride at (251) 747–3567 with any questions or special ideas to offer this mission experience.



Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy New and Blessed Year to each of you! I truly pray and hope that as you read this message, you already know of Jesus' deep love for you and my love and appreciation for you as your Pastor. As I write this brief update, there are two things on my mind to share. First is a brief reflection regarding the Town Hall Meeting and Vote this Sunday, January 14th at 1:00pm. The other is to share briefly about the state of Shalimar Church at the close of 2023.



Ever since March 21st when I was first contacted about coming over to Shalimar as Lead Pastor, and ever since, I have understood very clearly my Calling from God: simply stated, my Call as it applies to this church is to do everything I can and to trust Jesus to keep us Together, to keep us unified as One, to encourage us to Love each other and absolutely stay on Mission. I state our mission in very simple terms- we are called by God to make sure that everyone possible knows Jesus' love and that they experience His love through or from us.

This Sunday's Town Hall Meeting and Vote, I know, is very important. There is much that all of us can gain from knowing quantitatively what our membership feels about alignment with the United Methodist Church. Our church's leaders especially will know how best to move forward and they have plans to reflect a number of contingencies. However, for me, my wonderful Associate, John Kelsoe, and my wonderful Worship Minister, Dr. Brad Bradford, and the staff persons I have the great opportunity to work with, Sunday's vote will not change anything. Our focus will continue to be as I stated in the paragraph above.

Since the issues regarding the possible changes to the UMC's position on human sexuality, ongoing lack of accountability as set forth in our Discipline, and potential challenges in the future to our Doctrinal Standards have caused desire for Shalimar to disaffiliate from the UMC. There has arisen great passion surrounding these issues on both sides of the question. I want to ask all of our Church family to hold fast to the fruits of the Holy Spirit Paul described in Galatians 5:22 and 23; have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control. These fruits are especially for persons who are members of the Body of Christ as we live and serve in ministry together.

While this may cause some frustration, I need to say that on Monday, January 15th, after our Town Hall Vote is concluded and we likely know the position of our Church membership, nothing will change at Shalimar Church. If you desire a particular outcome and receive it through the vote tally, any change from that knowledge will not happen overnight. If the desire you have is not met by the vote, it's still true that Shalimar Church is just as Shalimar Church has been for many, many years.

As we ended 2023 in ministry, we began our 74th year in ministry for Jesus Christ in this community! That is an amazing fact that points to the faithfulness of God and the faithful discipleship of you and many people before you. However, faithfulness in discipleship has seen some challenges in the past year or two, largely related to the subject of our continuation as a United Methodist Church. Consequently, I am aware that our ministry budget for past years has shrunk as some people have departed to other churches, at least for a season, or for good. We have seen a couple hundred thousand dollars in faithful giving to God depart as well.

During 2023, our ministry budget was \$1,893,246. By the close of the year, we had expended 95% of what we had budgeted to deploy in ministry for the year- technically, we ended the year \$94,000 “under budget”. That would sound like a good thing to finish under budget, but we ended 2023 still having spent \$73,000 more than we received in giving. It grieved me when I first arrived in July of this past year to discover that we had already expended our Operational Reserves. During August, our deficit was nearly \$122,000, so I am very thankful that as the year approached it’s close, our Church family stepped up in their giving.

December 11th, our Church Council approved a ministry budget for 2024 as recommended by our Finance Committee of \$1,822,214. This budget is 5% lower than 2023 and represents a difference of \$71,000. In the next several weeks, I wish to send out to the Church Family an explanation of how we will deploy your giving to God in His ministry in the Church called a Narrative Budget.

I sense that the same denominational issue has impacted our attendance trends over the past two years or so, but I wish to share briefly about worship attendance in-person and through live stream during 2023. At the close of 2022, the average attendance in all services in-person was 403. People attending by livestream at home averaged 200. By comparison, I’m thankful to say that our attendance in all worship services in-person in 2023 was a bit better! We averaged 434 sitting in a pew or chair, but our livestream numbers dropped a little to an average of 161.

I’m praying for a fresh outpouring of God’s Spirit this year that will grow our attendance in person to 500 and through livestream to 250. You need to help Shalimar accomplish this, by the way...

As we start into this new year, I am hopeful, as always, about what God can and will do in our midst. As we stay faithful to His Mission and cling closely to His Word in scripture, He will bless and bring us what we need in order to do what is our calling and do what is God’s Will. I know with certainty because of the testimony of scripture that it is definitely God’s Will that we stay Together, stay One, stay in Love, and keep doing everything it takes in order that others come to know Jesus’ love for them and that they can experience His love as well.

With the Love of Jesus,  
Alan



This new five-week series dives into the story of the wise men in Matthew 2, and how their example teaches us to steward what we have been given to serve God. During this series, we'll take the next step in our discipleship journey as we offer our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to the King of kings and Lord of lords. Join us on Sunday, January 7, for the beginning of The Gifts of the Wise!



## CHURCH LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION

FEBRUARY 10  
9-10:30 A.M.  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER





## Church Townhall Vote for Church Members, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

January 3, 2024

Dear Church Family,

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! This letter is to announce to all of our Church Family, but especially our Professing Membership that we will hold a Church Townhall Vote at 1:00pm Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> in our main Sanctuary.

You may well recall that Shalimar Church had planned for sharing in a Church Family Townhall back on October 22<sup>nd</sup> to ask our Professing Members to register their desire by a written ballot whether or not they would want Shalimar to seek to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church or remain in the denomination. Our Church Council leaders had unanimously voted to determine the wishes of the congregation after receiving a letter from the Conference Board of Trustees on September 19<sup>th</sup> that we would not be allowed to have a Church Conference to officially vote regarding disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church.

In the week prior to our Church's scheduled Townhall, our Church's Board of Trustees and Church Council voted unanimously to join with 41 other churches under the National Center for Life and Liberty to seek an injunction in the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Alabama to reverse the decision of the Conference Trustees and allow our churches to have their Church Conference vote. In light of joining that legal action, the attorneys of the NCLL encouraged our leaders to suspend a Church Vote at that time.

In November, Judge Reid of the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court denied the injunction, but in her filed brief encouraged the churches in the group to appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court. Indeed, immediately following the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit denial, the NCLL representing Shalimar and 41 other UM churches did file an appeal with the Supreme Court.

In the most recent communications our leaders have had with NCLL, we have learned that we are on the docket for the Alabama Supreme Court to hear our appeal sometime in February 2024. The NCLL attorneys informed our church leaders that if we desired to go forward to have the Church Family Townhall Vote which we had previously planned, it would not hinder the basis of the appeal before the Supreme Court.

Therefore, on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, our Church Council voted to move forward and schedule Shalimar Church's opportunity to hold a vote at the "earliest feasible time" possible in light of the holidays and still desiring to follow guidelines for such a vote which are in the Book of Discipline.

Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting; however, only professing church members who are physically present during the meeting can formally submit their ballot. Members can register for the meeting and receive their registration packet at designated tables in Room 106 in the Family Life Center beginning at 9:00am, following the 8:00 Traditions worship service.



The packet will include a simple written ballot and a database card for making changes to your address, email, or phone number if these have changed. Registration for members will remain open and available after each service throughout the morning of January 14<sup>th</sup>.

Following the 11:07 service, about 12:15, we will have finger foods and light refreshments available for the Church Family in the FLC in the front wing of the gym building as people wait for the 1:00 meeting in the Sanctuary. A Registration team will also move to the Narthex of the Sanctuary at 12:15, prior to the start of our Church Townhall Vote.

After the start of the meeting after an opening prayer, the Meeting Leader will offer instructions about how to complete your ballot and bring it forward. These ballots will be immediately tallied and verified by a team of Counters we use for handling church offerings every Sunday, and the results will be reported back to the Church Family Meeting in as efficient a manner as possible before the close of the gathering.

Please understand that this is a *non-binding* ballot seeking only to receive feedback from our professing membership. Church leadership will utilize the results to learn the pulse of our congregation on this issue. As the Church follows the progress of the current appeal before the Alabama Supreme Court, the feedback they receive from our members will assist in future plans.

It may be that you are one of those whose name is still carried as a Professing Member here at Shalimar UMC and in receiving this communication plan to come and vote, registering your opinion. However, please prayerfully consider, if you have "joined" another church or have been actively attending another church body and not been active in following your vows of membership which you made when you joined Shalimar- in addition to confessing faith in Jesus as Lord, we vow to give to God through His church our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. If you have not been able to share in these vows here, for whatever reason, ask if it is fair to come on January 14<sup>th</sup> and vote.

Our prayer is that, as we walk through this process together, we will move forward united as a Church, filled with God's vision to reach, teach, and send people into our community with the Gospel message for many years to come.

Please contact the Church Office at (850) 651-0721 or [office@shalimar-umc.org](mailto:office@shalimar-umc.org) if you have any questions regarding the Church Family Townhall, and we will be glad to assist you.

*In His Blessed Service,*

David Mobley  
Chairman of Church Council



## Week 191 – Dec 29th

### Food Distribution Numbers



#### This Week

495 bags collected  
228 bags given out  
0 card given out  
197 members served

#### Total

69,515  
53,639 (201.1 tons)  
239 (\$8735)  
52,635

3 New Families visited this week, representing 4 individuals.

**Happy New Year! Thanks for all your support  
through out the year!!!**

### Items always needed!

1. Toilet paper and Paper Towels a must need each week!
2. Canned Meat; Tuna, Chicken, Spam!
3. Canned Vegetables: Corn, Green Beans, Mixed!
4. Dried goods, beans and rice!
5. Fruit, potatoes, onions

If you don't have time to shop, you can donate money to The Bread House by sending a check to SUMC, MEMO line put "Bread House."

Questions or want to become a volunteer, contact Pete Peters, 703.395.2437, fpeters1@cox.net, or Robin Hays @ 850-621-7014. We'd love to have you!

# CONTACT US

## PHONE

(850) 651-0721

## EMAIL

[office@shalimar-umc.org](mailto:office@shalimar-umc.org)

## ADDRESS

1 Old Ferry Road  
Shalimar, FL 32579

# FIND US

## FACEBOOK

[Shalimar UMC](#)

## INSTAGRAM

[shalimarumc](#)

## WEBSITE

[shalimar-umc.org](http://shalimar-umc.org)

## APP STORES

Shalimar United Methodist Church