



We welcome and affirm those of every age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability into all aspects of the life of this congregation.

www.fumcgv.org

Candlelight Vigil

For Palestine

6:15 pm, Friday, 22nd August 2025
City Hall Courtyard, Gainesville, FL

Join us in community as we share space
for grief and hope with poems, music,
visual arts, and prayers from Interfaith
Ministers.

There will be a candlelight vigil at the Gainesville City Hall **tonight at 6:15 p.m.** to share space for grief, hope, and prayers for the Palestinians in Gaza. A group from First UMC is planning to attend this vigil and will meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. and walk to City Hall together.

DID YOU KNOW...?

First UMC pays a portion of our annual income (an apportionment) through our Florida Conference to the global United Methodist Church to allow the UMC to accomplish things that a single church or conference could not do on its own. One of these things is to support the running of UMCOR ([United Methodist Committee on Relief](#)) so that when we have a special offering to address a disaster in the world, 100% of the collected money goes to providing the needed relief and assistance. [Here is a link to a good story that highlights one of the ongoing relief efforts of UMCOR.](#)



SAM SHOVEL 2

A big thank you to everyone who came out to watch Sam Shovel 2 shows on August 8, 9, and 10 and to all of the



participants who made the show a great success. This event raised over \$4000 for the FUMPers Scholarship Fund!

FUMPers Scholarship Fund

WORSHIP NEWS

Join us for worship this 11th Sunday after Pentecost as we worship with a hymnsing! The service starts at 10:30 a.m. in our Sanctuary and our [online stream](#) starts at 10:15 a.m.

Our nursery will be available for infant to pre-K during worship and Sunday School.

SUNDAY HYMNSING

On Sunday, we are having a "hymnsing" where, through music and singing, we are exploring our theological framework as Methodists. This framework, colloquially known since the 1960's as the "Wesleyan Quadrilateral", describes the principal factors that John and Charles Wesley believed illuminate the core of the Christian faith for the believer. As Methodists, the four key sources that guide our understanding of our Christian faith are Scripture, Church Tradition, Reason, and Personal Experience. These sources are not considered equal authorities, but rather work together to shape our beliefs and practices, and provide a structured approach for us to engage with faith and make theological judgments. Scripture is the primary authority and standard for Christian faith and practice while church tradition, reason, and personal experience offer further insights and interpretations for us within the framework. These four elements taken together bring the individual Christian to a mature and fulfilling understanding of the Christian faith and the required response of worship and service.



STEPHEN MINISTERS AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS

If you, or someone you know, wants to meet with a Stephen Minister, they will be available for the half-hour after worship every Sunday through the summer in the Epworth Parlor. You can also contact them by email at stephenministers@fumcgvn.org. For more information on Stephen Ministers, visit their web page at <https://fumcgvn.org/stephen-ministry>

ONLINE DISCIPLE 1 FAST TRACK STARTS IN OCTOBER

Are you interested in a bible study where you meet together without leaving the comfort of your own home? You are invited to join participants from across the Northwest District for an updated and streamlined version of the classic **Disciple** study being hosted on the **BeADisciple Study App**, giving you convenient access on your smartphone, tablet, or computer.

The curriculum has been fully revised and expanded - this 24-week journey through the entire Bible meets via Zoom for 75 minutes on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Classes start on October 7 and run through April 7, 2026. By the end of the study, you'll have read approximately 60% of the Bible, gaining deeper insight into God's Word and your walk as a disciple. In addition to the self-paced online content, participants will gather weekly via Zoom for rich discussion, fellowship, and group study. **Disciple 1 Fast Track** is facilitated by Dr. Brian Myers and the Reverend David Leonard, and is open to all in the Northwest District. Class size is limited to only 14 participants. To register, contact Margaret Myers at mmyers@trinitygvn.org or 352-376-6615 by Tuesday, October 7th.

ALTAR GUILD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The **Altar Guild** is a group of people who ensure that the altar area is ready for the worship service and includes such things as filling the candles with oil, changing the altar cloths, and preparing for Communion. If you are interested in volunteering to be part of the Altar Guild, please contact Sondra Moorhead at babbler_semipro_0i@icloud.com.

SUMMER BREAK IS OVER!

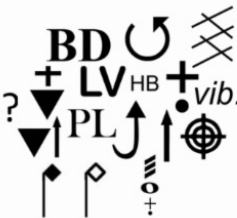
Summer break for the *Only Youth* and *Joyful Adulthood* growth groups has ended and they have resumed meeting on Sunday at 9:15 a.m. *Only Youth* meets in the Youth Cafe on the second floor of Epworth Hall and *Joyful Adulthood* meets in the Wesley Room on the second floor of Bell Hall. For more information on *Only Youth*, you can contact Trisha Eccles at OnlyYouth@fumcgvn.org, and for information on Joyful Adulthood, contact Elise Caton at JoyfulAdulthood@fumcgvn.org.



For a complete listing of all our growth group opportunities please visit <https://fumcgvn.org/GrowthGroups>



BEEN A HOT MINUTE
since you played handbells
or just want to brush up your technique?



JOIN US for

Three Thursday Technique Classes

Thursday, August 14

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Treble Bell Techniques
4-In-Hand, Shelly, Thumb Damp, and more

Thursday, August 21

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Table and Stick Techniques
Mallets, Martellato, Singing Bell, and more

Thursday, August 28

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Bell Weaving

ALL Sessions are open to the public.

Please RSVP to reserve a spot for one or all three classes.

Contact:

Michael Ekbladh

Director of Music and Worship Arts

michael@fumcgvn.org

or find Michael on Facebook



Classes sponsored by First UMC-Gainesville ♦ 419 NE 1st St ♦ www.fumcgvn.org

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

All of the funds to operate First UMC come solely from the giving by our faith family. Please prayerfully consider how you can help financially maintain and grow the ministry impact of our church. Remember, it's not First UMC without U!

**Support First
UMC**

Financial

PRAYER REQUESTS

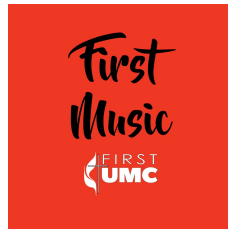
We have a dedicated team of people who are receiving all prayer requests and praying over them daily. Please send us your requests - no concern is too large or too small - at prayer@fumcgnv.org. Also, if you'd like to be a part of the prayer team or know someone who could use a prayer blanket or shawl, please email Janet Rocap at janet@fumcgnv.org.



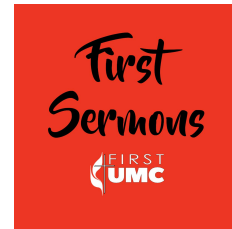
Our **Prayer Blanket and Shawl Ministry** group meets every Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Barbara Close to work on prayer shawls. For more information, contact Barbara at 561-512-8442.



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Click the image to visit our [Worship Music](#) archives!



Click the image above to view past sermons from worship.



OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS



A RECONCILING
MINISTRIES
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First United Methodist Church | 419 NE 1st Street | Gainesville, FL 32601 US

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FIRST UMC

2025 FINANCIAL UPDATE

data through 8/21/2025

Total Giving to the Budget:	\$475,909
Total Expenses:	\$477,902
Year to Date Status:	- \$1,993

[Click Here to Give Online](#)

[Click Here for Other Ways to Give](#)

Contact Kristy Farrell, Director of Finance
with any questions or comments at
352-372-8523, ext. 16

[*kristy@fumcgmv.org*](mailto:kristy@fumcgmv.org)

[*www.fumcgmv.org*](http://www.fumcgmv.org)