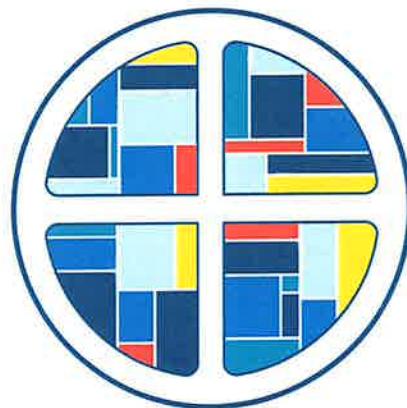


Leadership Luncheon

Sunday, January 11, 2026



GULF BREEZE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Leadership Luncheon

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Agenda

Lunch (please begin to enjoy and we will begin soon!)

Opening Prayer Rev. Pam Avery

Introductions

- Leadership Roster

Words from the Lay Leader Jureda Lambert

Words from the Senior Pastor Dr. Erik Mays

- Who we are and what we do
- Committee Meetings
- The year ahead
- Words of Encouragement

Questions

Closing Prayer Rev. Josh McLamb



GULF BREEZE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Leadership 2026

CHURCH COUNCIL

Clergy: Dr. Erik Mays, Rev. Pam Avery, Rev. Josh McLamb

2026: Nancy Holston, Cherry Fitch, Britt Rowland

2027: Beverly Sigurnjak, Mike Brock, Mike Jenkins, Steve Locklear

2028: *Boyd King, Joe Pace, Catie Chamberlin*

Chair: Nancy Holston

SPRC: *Jureda Lambert*

Trustees: *TBD*

Finance: Mike Mazenko

Church Lay Leader: Jureda Lambert

Lay Leaders to Annual Conference

Treasurer: Ralph Peterson

Administrator: Rhonda Elmore

Recording Secretary: *TBD*

Children's Place Rep: Vici Papajohn

Disaster Response Rep: *TBD*

Altar Guild: *Karen Pace*

Scout's Rep: Ben Womble

Executive Leadership

Dr. Erik Mays, Nancy Holston, Mark Shull, Mike Mazenko, Jureda Lambert, Ralph Peterson

Staff Parish Relations Committee

2026: Deeya Davis, Joe Pace, Dawn Bond

2027: *Jureda Lambert, Jenny Granse, Ron Bruce*

2028: *David Sigurnjak, Wade Wright, Von de Kozan*

Chair: *Jureda Lambert* **Vice-Chair:** *David Sigurnjak*

Board of Trustees

2026: Kathy Sprague, Al Garza, Mike Jenkins

2027: Matt Hammonds, Don Langston

2028: *Ben Womble, Mark Shull, Steve Vance, Mike Jenkins*

Chair: *TBD* by Trustees (January)

Vice-Chair: *TBD* by Trustees (January)

Administrator: Rhonda Elmore (ex officio)

Finance Committee

2026: Mike Mazenko, Lonnie Stockwell, Patti Roark

2027: Dave Cleveland, Neely Brown

2028: *Sherlyn Waghalter, Blake Fiene*

Clergy: Dr. Erik Mays, Rev. Pam Avery, Rev. Josh McLamb

Chair: Mike Mazenko

Treasurer: Ralph Peterson

Administrator: Rhonda Elmore

Financial Secretary: Lisa Conway

Trustee Rep: *TBD*

Church Council Chair: Nancy Holston

Church Lay Leader: Jureda Lambert

Missions Committee

Nancy Holston (**Chair**), Olga Batova (**Co-Chair**), Tammy MacDonald, Betty Bryant, Annelle Linger, Billy Brockinton, Dawn Bond, Sandra Brubaker, Dana Pewitt, Jim Baker, Boyd King, Cheryl Broscious, Dena Johnson, Sarah Bennett

Safe Sanctuaries Standing Committee

Tammy MacDonald (**Chair**), Karen Mize, Betty Bryant, Nancy Holston, Ralph Peterson, Virginia Clark, Rhonda Elmore, Ally Carroll, Lindsey Mays, Mark Shull, Jureda Lambert, Ben Womble

Clergy: Dr. Erik Mays, Rev. Pam Avery, Rev. Josh McLamb

The Children's Place Advisory Committee

Chair: *Vici Papajohn*

Parents: *McCall Hoover, Robyn Crowson, Jamie Condon*

Teachers: *Abi Barnett, Taylor Creech*

At-Large: *Cailyn Hamstra, Lonnie Stockwell, Don Langston*

Clergy: *Dr. Erik Mays, Rev. Pam Avery, Rev. Josh McLamb*

Ex-Officio: *Rhonda Elmore, Bianca Foley (Ally Carroll – Director, effective January 20, 2025)*

Committee on Nominations and Lay Leadership

2026: Nancy Holston, Jureda Lambert

2027: Karen Pace, Jonathan Clark

2028: *Danny Brothers, David Davidson*

Lay Members to Annual Conference

2026: Ralph Peterson, Linda Brothers

2027: Terri Davidson, Betty Bryant

2028: *Roy Roane, Karen Pace, Kathy Norberg (district at-large)*

Revised 1/6/26



*Below are descriptions of the Administrative Committees and positions of GBUMC.
Descriptions are not exhaustive. For complete descriptions, visit UMC.ORG.*

CHURCH COUNCIL

The church council provides for and oversees the planning and implementation of the local church's mission and ministry. It also provides for the administration of its organization and temporal life. It envisions, plans, implements, and annually evaluates the vitality of the church in relation to its mission and its relationship with the community. In addition, the church council shall be amenable to and function as the administrative agency of the charge conference.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Elected annually by the charge conference, the committee on nominations and leadership development is composed of professing members of the local church. The charge of this committee is to identify, develop, deploy, evaluate, and monitor Christian spiritual leadership for the local congregation. Members of the committee shall engage in and be attentive to developing and enhancing their own Christian spiritual life in light of the mission of the Church. The pastor in charge chairs this committee.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Elected annually by the charge conference, the committee on staff parish relations is composed of professing members of the local church or charge or associate members, except in cases where central conference legislation or local law provides otherwise. People serving on this committee must be engaged in and attentive to their Christian spiritual development to provide proper leadership in the responsibilities entrusted to the committee. The SPRC is responsible for developing personnel policies and procedures for evaluating staff, including clergy, hiring staff, setting salaries, and supporting clergy and staff to excel in their leadership. It is the responsibility of the committee on nominations and leadership development and/or the church council to communicate with the committee when there is a need for other leaders or for employed staff to perform in areas where the utilization of the gifts of the pastor(s) and staff proves an inappropriate stewardship of time.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The members of the committee on finance are elected annually by the charge conference upon recommendation by the committee on nominations and leadership development. The finance committee provides stewardship of financial resources throughout the year. It may delegate responsibility to a sub-group or task force to plan, strategize, and implement ways to generate more resources for the mission and ministries of local churches and beyond. The finance

committee shall prepare an annual budget for the local church and submit it to the church council for review and adoption. The finance committee shall be responsible for developing and implementing plans to raise sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the church council. It shall administer the funds received in accordance with instructions from the church council.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Subject to the direction of the charge conference, the board of trustees shall have the supervision, oversight, and care of all real property owned by the local church and of all property and equipment acquired directly by the local church or by any society, board, class, commission, or similar organization connected therewith, provided that the board of trustees shall not violate the rights of any local church organization elsewhere granted in the Discipline; provided further, that the board of trustees shall not prevent or interfere with the pastor in the use of any of the said property for religious services or other proper meetings or purposes recognized by the law, usages, and customs of The United Methodist Church.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The role of the missions committee is to connect the congregation to opportunities to be in missions at home and throughout the world. The missions committee educates, informs, and motivates the congregation about mission outreach and its part in it. The mission committee supports and resources the work of missions by various church groups. In addition to evaluating mission projects and reporting to the congregation on the results of its outreach efforts, the mission committee also works to involve members of the congregation in mission and service projects in the community and around the world, encouraging them to “go, see, serve, and learn.”

PRESCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Children’s Place Advisory Committee exists to support, guide, and strengthen the preschool ministry as an extension of the church’s mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ. The committee provides prayerful oversight, encouragement, and accountability to ensure a Christ-centered, safe, and nurturing environment where children experience God’s love and receive excellent early childhood education. Working closely with preschool leadership, the committee helps uphold educational best practices, supports administrative and financial stewardship, fosters strong connections between preschool families and the wider congregation, and advocates for the well-being of children, families, and staff so that the ministry reflects the church’s values of faith, love, hospitality, and excellence.

SAFE SANCTUARIES

The Safe Sanctuaries Committee oversees the implementation and evaluation of the church’s safe sanctuary policy. These policies are in place to protect children, youth, and vulnerable adults in the local church. This work is an essential part of our commitment as Christians and United Methodists to create safe and welcoming environments in our churches, particularly for the most vulnerable among us.

LAY LEADER

The lay leader represents laypeople in the congregation in working with the pastors to advance the congregation's mission and vision. The lay leader engages in spiritual practices that build a relationship of attentiveness to God's will and direction. This individual represents the laypeople in the congregation and serves as a role model of Christian discipleship. In addition, the lay leader works with the pastor and other leaders to launch or strengthen ministries that build discipleship and assists in advising the church council about opportunities available and the needs expressed for a more effective lay ministry of the church in the community.

LAY MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The lay members of the annual conference, along with the pastor, interpret the work done by the annual conference session to the congregation. They are the liaisons between the congregation and the general church, representing the congregation in actions taken at the annual conference sessions.

CHURCH STAFF

The church staff serves as the ministry team that carries out the church's mission and vision through faithful, collaborative service. Working alongside clergy and in partnership with lay leadership, staff support worship, discipleship, administration, missions, education, hospitality, and outreach. Their work helps ensure that ministries are well-organized, well-resourced, safe, and responsive, creating environments where people can grow in faith, serve others, and experience the love of Christ.

CLERGY

The clergy of the United Methodist Church provide spiritual and pastoral leadership that centers the life of the congregation in worship, Word, sacrament, order, and service. Appointed by the bishop and accountable to the wider church, clergy preach and teach the gospel, administer the sacraments, offer pastoral care, and equip the saints for ministry. Clergy guide staff, lay leaders, and committees in theological and spiritual discernment and chair key leadership bodies as outlined in the Book of Discipline. The Senior Pastor serves as the primary spiritual leader and chief missional strategist, offering overall leadership, articulating vision, and ensuring ministry alignment with the church's mission.

GBUMC 2026 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee	Time	Location	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Board of Trustees	5:30PM	room 1	1/13	2/10	3/10		5/12		7/14		9/8	10/13	11/10	
Church Council	5:30PM	room 2	1/11 @ 1:00PM			4/28				8/25		10/27		
Executive Leadership	4:30PM	conference	1/7			4/28				8/25		10/27		
Finance Committee	5:30PM	room 1	1/26	2/23	3/16		5/11		7/20		9/21	10/19	11/23	
Staff Parish Relations	5:30PM	room 1	1/20	TBD	TBD				TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	
Nominations Committee	6:00PM	conference	as needed											

Children's Place Advisory	5:30PM	lecture hall	1/12	TBD	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Missions Committee	4:30PM	room 5	1/13	2/10	3/10	4/14	5/12			8/11	9/8	10/13	11/10	12/8
Safe Sanctuaries	4:30PM	room 5			3/17				7/21				11/17	
Staff Meetings	11:00AM	reception	every Tuesday											

Annual Conference		Pensacola	June 7th - 9th											
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6 Steps for Church Leaders Going into a New Year

As a new year begins and fresh pages open on your calendar, it's natural to look back over the past year and all that has unfolded in your life and in the life of the church. For lay leaders, this kind of reflection isn't about tallying successes or dwelling on frustrations—it's about discerning how God has been at work among us and how we are being invited to serve faithfully in the year ahead.

Looking back is only helpful if it leads us forward. Reflection becomes meaningful when it turns into prayerful action. The goal is not simply to remember the past, but to *"remember forward"*—to carry what we have learned into a new season of ministry with clarity, humility, and hope.

Here are some simple steps to guide that process as you prepare for a new year of leadership.

1. Pray

Every season of leadership begins with prayer. Ask God to give you a clear and honest heart as you reflect on the past year. Pray for insight into your gifts, your limitations, and where God may be stretching you. Pray as well for the leaders, pastors, and ministry partners you serve alongside—that God would knit you together in wisdom, grace, and shared purpose.

2. Reflect

Take time to look back over the year—both personally and as part of your ministry or committee. Where did you see God's hand at work? What moments brought joy, growth, or clarity? Where were things difficult, uncertain, or discouraging?

As you reflect, notice any patterns. Are there areas where you felt particularly energized or effective? Are there places where you felt stretched or unsure? Honest reflection helps us see where God has been forming us and where we may need support or growth.

3. Listen

Leadership in the church is never meant to be done alone. As you move into a new year, be open to conversation—with fellow leaders, your pastor, or your ministry team. Ask thoughtful

questions. Invite perspective. Sometimes others can see strengths or blind spots that we may miss on our own.

Listening well is an act of humility and faith, and it strengthens our shared leadership.

4. Learn

Reflection naturally leads to learning. Ask yourself:

- What helped our ministry flourish this past year?
- What practices or habits are worth continuing?
- What challenges taught us something important?

Not every difficulty is a failure—many are teachers. When we view challenges through the lens of faith, they can become tools God uses to shape us into wiser, more compassionate leaders.

5. Name What Matters

As you prepare for the year ahead, it can be helpful to summarize what you've learned. This doesn't need to be formal—simple notes, bullet points, or key themes are enough. Writing things down helps us hold onto insights that might otherwise fade with time.

There's wisdom in the old saying: "*The shortest pencil is longer than the longest memory.*"

6. Rest

Finally, remember that faithful leadership includes rest. Some leaders find it helpful to step away for a few hours—or even a day—to pray, reflect, and listen for God's direction. Creating space away from routine and distractions can bring renewed clarity and peace.

Rest is not a luxury; it is part of faithful stewardship of the life and calling God has given you.

As you step into this new year of service, may you do so with gratitude for what has been, openness to what God is doing now, and trust in what lies ahead.