# Welcome

### WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

First time visiting? Stop by the Welcome Desk outside the Sanctuary for a gift bag and church information. If you find an activity in this week's announcements that interests you, we would love for you to join us! Just indicate interest on the Connect Form and place it in the offering plate.

Hard of Hearing: Devices are available with earphones or neck loops. Please see an usher if you would like to use one. We have a sign language interpreter for our 9:15 a.m. service and associated live stream.

### Hispano Hablantes: Los

dispositivos de traducción simultánea están disponibles en el servicio de las 9:15 a.m.

### Kid Nation Availability: Kid

Nation will not be running today. Children are welcome to join us in the Nursery or Kids Crossing.

### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Tom Berlin - Lead Pastor Rev. Ashley Allen - Assoc. Pastor Rev. Jake McGlothin-Assoc. Pastor Rev. Barbara Miner - Assoc. Pastor Rev. Bob Riggles- Assoc. Pastor Rev. Tim Ward - Assoc. Pastor



### Message from Lead Pastor Tom Berlin

Welcome to Christmas Eve at Floris UMC. It is a special night, and I am glad you are here to share that experience. We all need the light of Christ's love and hope in our lives.

Please join us in January as we begin a new sermon series, "Living Your Strengths." This series is designed to help you consider how to discover and use your natural talents to lead a resilient and purposeful life. We will discover how our God-given strengths can be used to change the way we live, work and serve.

At Floris UMC, our goal is to worship God, grow in our faith in Christ, connect to meaningful relationships with others and make an impact on our local community and world through service and generosity.

You can find great information about Floris UMC on our website. Here are some links that I think are especially helpful in discovering more about Floris UMC:

- Discover the total of our Christmas Eve offering that is given away to our community and the world: FlorisUMC.org/Christmas-Eve-Offering.
- Take the next step on your faith journey: FlorisUMC.org/Connect.
- Find a caring community at Floris UMC for those struggling with life's challenges (divorce, addiction, disease, etc.): FlorisUMC.org/Support-Groups.
- Learn about service opportunities: FlorisUMC.org/Serve.

Thanks for being here. I hope you have a great Christmas and will join us next week or in 2019.

Merry Christmas,

Rev. Tom Berlin Lead Pastor

No cash today but still want to give? No problem. To give by credit card, scan the QR code and give online or visit the giving kiosk next to the Welcome Desk.





TodaylSawGod.org



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Christmas Day Service:** Join the South Asian Ministry for a Christmas day service tomorrow, 10 a.m. featuring Indian and Pakistani Christmas traditions. Prayers and songs will be in English, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi and Urdu. Coffee and cake will be served afterwards. Learn more about this service at *FlorisUMC.org/Christmas-Day-Service*.

Watch Night Service: Join us December 31, 11:30 p.m.-January 1, 1:30 a.m. Experience a time of prayer and a variety of traditional English and South Asian worship songs. Learn more at FlorisUMC.org/ Watch-Night-Service.

**Preschool Open House:** Come and learn what makes Floris UMC Preschool so special and fun, Wednesday, January 16, 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. This is an informational event for prospective preschool families for the 2019-2020 school year. Learn more at *FlorisUMC.org/ Preschool*.

General Conference 2019 Briefing:

Join Rev. Tom Berlin, January 6, 6:30 p.m. for an update on legislation being discussed at the 2019 General Conference. Tom will share information related to new legislation under consideration by General Conference delegates regarding issues of inclusion related to human sexuality. The General Conference will take place February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis.

### NEXT STEPS

**New Small Group:** Financial Peace University (FPU) begins Sunday, January 20, 2 p.m. FPU is designed to teach you and your family how to get out of debt, stay out of debt and build wealth. Sign up on the Connect Form or at *FlorisUMC.org/Financial-Peace*.

**Cuba Mission Trip:** A Cuba mission trip in May 2019 is being organized now. Show your interest on the Connect Form or learn more at *FlorisUMC.org/Cuba*.

### Living Your Strengths Small Groups:

Discover your God-given talents and inspire your community. Join a church-wide small group. Sign up in the Gathering Space January 6 or 13. Learn more at *FlorisUMC.org/Living-Your-Strengths*.

### DivorceCare Support Group: We

invite you to become part of a small support group of people who are also experiencing separation and divorce. You'll meet others who understand what you are feeling and who will be able to offer you encouragement. The meetings are on Thursdays, January 24-April 25. Learn more at *FlorisUMC.org/ DivorceCare-Winter*.

**Dementia 101 Seminar:** Join us to learn the basics of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease January 31, 7 p.m. While not everyone travels the same path, we will discuss the general stages of dementia to help you anticipate and navigate future changes. Sign up on the Connect Form or at *FlorisUMC*. *org/Dementia-101*.

### In Worship Today

December 24, 2018 - 7p.m.

Welcome

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles

Anthem: "What A Glorious Night"

Prayer

Giving

Doxology: "O Come All Ye Faithful"

"Joy To the World"

Anthem: "The First Noel"

Scripture: Luke 2:1-20

Message: What if the Shepherds Stayed in the Field?

"Silent Night"

Benediction

### Calendar

#### DECEMBER

**25** Christmas Day Service

**30** Confirmation Registration Deadline

30 No Kid Nation

31 Watch Night Service

#### JANUARY

3 Christmas Cleanup
3 Dementia Support Group
5 South Asian Fellowship

**5** South Asian Fellowship

4-5 Grace Ministries5 NAMI Family Support Group

6 Help Hungry Kids Red Bag

Distribution

6 General Conference Briefing

**11** Open Mic Night

- **11** Kids Night Out
- 12 Prayer Blanket Ministry
- **12** Bi-District Training

**13** F.I.S.H. Archery Tag

**13-20** Floris Guest House

**16** Preschool Open House

24 Divorce Care Support Group

31 Dementia 101 Seminar

### WEEKLY EVENTS

**Tue** Celebrate Recovery

## **Connect Form**

December 24, 2018 (Place in offering plate)

\_\_\_\_ Dementia 101 Seminar

\_\_ Cuba Mission Trip

\_ Financial Peace University

#### Volunteer Name

### eCommunications

\_ I would like to receive the Floris UMC Weekly eNote.

### **REGISTER ATTENDANCE**

Last Name

First Name(s)

Email

Phone

# Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.