

The Anchor

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

March 2026

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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 |
| 5:00 p.m. | Confirmation Class |
| 6:00 p.m.: | Elevate Youth |
| 6:00 p.m. | Junior Youth |

Staff

| |
|--------------------------------------|
| Senior Pastor |
| Rev. Dr. Brian Sixbey |
| Assistant Pastor |
| Rev. Becky Holland |
| Office Manager |
| Kassandra Brown |
| Music Director/Organist |
| Mark Biondolillo |
| Accompanist |
| Andrew Blackmon |
| Youth Director/Worship Leader |
| Larissa Luma |
| Treasurer |
| Ruth Simkins |
| Part-Time Sexton |
| Mikell Bond |
| Nursery Attendant |
| Chelsea Kyme |



“Take Care”

For whatever reason, I remember hearing and saying “take care” at the end of many conversations growing up. Instead of “goodbye” or “see you later,” the common phrase was, “Take care.” I write this because I just read an article about taking care of ourselves, and I realized it has been a long time since I have heard someone say, “Take care!” I am not suggesting that anyone change their vocabulary or common phrases—I am suggesting that Lent is a good time for us to “take care” of ourselves.

Now comes the part you may not have expected: taking on a spiritual discipline during the season of Lent is a great way to take care of ourselves! For example, although I am not Roman Catholic, I

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decided that this year I would use the “Breviary” as a daily morning discipline during Lent. The Breviary is a series of readings, prayers, and Psalms used daily by Catholics. If you attend Mass, much of what you do during worship comes from the Breviary. The reason I am using it is that it is a discipline I have never practiced before, and I believe it will add more structure to my quiet time. The Book of Common Prayer, which is Episcopalian, could be used just as well, by the way.

The truth is, though, that any spiritual discipline will do. Fasting, keeping a regular prayer time, reading, serving others, giving, centering prayer, meditation, contemplation, meeting with others for Christian conversation—many disciplines exist. If some of these interest you and you have never tried them, I would be more than happy to explain them as best I can and help you get started. The only thing I would like to encourage you to do is to take on a spiritual discipline during this season. If you fast, take the time you are fasting to read, pray, or do something for your spirit. If you serve others as a discipline, then use the time preparing to serve to pray, and follow your service with reflection and prayer. If you try meditation or contemplation, there are many books and articles to help you. The main thing is to learn how to deal with the distracting thoughts that will emerge—that is the real discipline of prayer, meditation, and contemplation.

All of the disciplines take time. They require time to plan and to implement. That is time you will take away from other things, such as worrying, fretting, and being anxious. Taking time away from worry and anxiety is a powerful way to care for yourself. Therefore, please do not see “spiritual discipline” as something that makes you anxious or worried. Instead, see it as a way to reduce worry and anxiety.

Footnote: It is possible that you may suffer from depression or clinical anxiety. I do not want to suggest that you can merely “pray” these struggles away. Please reach out for help while you pray over them. If you do not know of a competent counselor, I would be glad to suggest some to you.

Please take some time this season to “Take Care!”



New Members!

Welcome to all who joined our fellowship this past month – Brian and Megan Fatkin, David Messick, Kim Thomann, and Tammy Winston! You help make our joy complete.

Confirmation Has Begun!

If you want to learn more about being a disciple, growing in your faith, and asking and seeking answers to hard questions, then talk to Pastor Brian about joining confirmation. Whether you have been baptized or confirmed before, all ages can join in. We began on Feb 22, but if you’d like to join us (any age over 11), please let Pastor Brian know!

Invitation to Light and Prayer

Wednesdays during Lent, the sanctuary will be open from noon-1pm each week for all who wish to come light a candle and spend time in prayer.

From Fear to Faith

As we move into the season of Lent, we pray that we are moving from fear to faith. There is much to fear today, but God has not stopped working, and while there is light, neither should we! Join us as we move from fear to faith together.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday – March 29 – 9 and 10:30 a.m. – We will celebrate Palm Sunday with a walk around the church building (for those who can) at the beginning of each service.

Maundy Thursday – April 2 – 7 p.m. – We will be joined by Phoebus UMC and perhaps others for a Maundy Thursday service of Communion and remembrance.

Good Friday – April 3 – 7 p.m. – We will have a service of Tenebrae (light and darkness), combined with the 7 Last Words of Jesus.

Financial Fundamentals March 2026

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.

Clearly, having two out of four Sundays “closed due to weather” is not the best way to start the year. Fortunately, on-line giving and our members who have caught up since returning have helped. Thank you to all who have maintained their support. If you aren’t there yet, we encourage you to help refill that gap; expenses don’t go away just because we are not here on any given Sunday.

Annual Donation statements have been distributed. If you did not receive yours and/or have any questions, please contact the office promptly so we can get that addressed.

Speaking of **donation statements**, we are planning to make future distribution **via e-mail**. This will get you the information much quicker and save substantially on mailing and related costs. Please be sure that we have a good address for you by sending it, preferably from that e-mail address, to churchoffice@firstumcfoxhill.org. If you do not have access to e-mail where you can receive your statements, let the office know so alternate arrangement can be made.

As shown in the accompanying stats, we continue to whittle away at the loan we secured to complete our major HVAC repair and roof replacement. Thank you to all who have stepped up and made specific, “over-and-above”, contributions to those projects. Now we need to pay off that loan. The quicker we do so, the less we have to pay for interest. As you look at your giving for the year, we encourage you to help us eliminate that ongoing cost.

Tax time is right around the corner and a tax refund can be an easy way to help your church meet financial obligations. If you are looking at an anticipated IRA required distribution, consider First Fox Hill for a Qualified Charitable Donation which can help both you and your church. Be sure to talk to your financial/tax advisor and our Finance Chair, Bill Bryan, before you make any unfamiliar actions.

Gifts to the One Fund – General Offering allow your financial staff flexibility in managing cash flow effectively. Many people find making on-line donations convenient. If you are reading this online, [click here](#) for easy on-line access. You can also use your phone and the donation QR Code or go to www.firstumcfoxhill.org, click on give, scroll down to GIVE ONLINE, and click. There you can set up one-time gifts or automatic regular giving on a weekly, twice a month, or monthly schedule.

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 January 2026 | | |
|---|---------|-----------------|
| Income For Planned Expenses¹ | | \$24,909 |
| Total One Fund Expenses (excludes pass through ²) | Planned | \$46,104 |
| | Actual | \$33,788 |
| Pass Through Income ² | | \$1,662 |
| Pass Through Expense ² | | \$1,862 |
| “Pay-It-Forward” Contributions | | \$202 |
| LUMENs Fund Raiser Income | | \$0 |
| LUMENs Fund Raiser Expense | | \$0 |
| Roof & Boiler Repair Income 2026 ³ | | \$502 |
| Roof & Boiler Repair Expense 2026 | | \$10,908 |
| Loan Principle Balance – Feb 1 | | \$148,598 |

¹Includes regular and memorial contributions, building use income, interest, not listed, etc.
²Represents contributions for non-budget items, e.g., flowers, special mission programs, not listed, etc.
³Does not include \$153,922 net loan for roof project.



Missions Team Update January/February 2026

The “helping hands” of our Missions Team are up and running here at First UMC Fox Hill. At our first meeting in January, 2026, we discussed how we can grow our mission work as a church. We reviewed the mission team guidelines from the United Methodist Church and discussed our church’s strengths and interests. We will continue to explore opportunities to expand our impact by deepening relationships with our mission partners. Our focus will be on making a difference right here in our community and beyond.

We approved a request for funding for Marie Clements and her upcoming mission trip to Morocco. Marie is a student at UVA and actively participates in our contemporary service on Sundays when she is not at school. This is her fourth trip with her UVA service organization and we are excited to hear about the impact she and her team will have on this mission trip.

Thank you to everyone who supported our 2025 Christmas Angel Tree project with prayers and gifts. Hampton Healthy Families was able to provide gifts for 511 families. Thank you for helping us provide gifts to 28 Hampton children!

First UMC Fox Hill Missions Team continues to support Jones Magnet Middle School and will be providing an appreciation gift for all staff during the first week in February. Thank you to Mary McNally for helping Kathy Fisher and Pat Leary put together 80 brownies and hot chocolate packets to deliver to the school. We met with members of their staff on February 11 to discuss more ideas about how we can continue to partner with them and further our relationship.

We invited families from the Lighthouse Daycare Center (across the street) to our Feb. 5 production of Jack and the Beanstalk by Rainbow Puppets (thank you, Dave Messick). We have such a positive presence in our community for the pumpkin patch and feel like this could be extended with events like these at other times of the year.

Judy Adams and Jane Barbour continue to work on outreach for church members who are housebound and are considering ways to provide support for caregivers. There are good opportunities for providing outreach in this area right here at our “church on the corner”. Another opportunity to extend a helping hand! Stay tuned for more information as we discuss the possibilities.

Our next Mission Team meeting is March 18, 2026 at 4:30 pm. Location to be announced.

Send us your ideas and feedback for mission work!

Kathy Fisher and Pat Leary, Co-Chairs



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.

March Team Leader: Marilyn Eubank,

March Members: Marilyn Eubank, Kay Foster, LaRose Richardson, Kathy Fisher, Patty Biondolillo

Prayers

Patrick Parker
Brian Eubank, Sr.

We continue to pray for our homebound, those with chronic conditions that may require ongoing treatment, and those unspoken prayers.

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and phone calls on the death of my twin brother Robbie. It's been a very difficult time and the love you've shown has been overwhelming.

Ronnie and Doris Steele

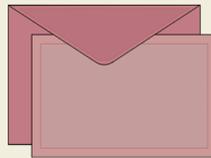
Fifty Plus

The Fifty Plus trip to Chattanooga in April is now filled. If you missed out, but are still interested, we will take your information for the wait list in case of any late cancellations.

Be sure to join us on Sunday afternoon, **June 14**, for a rousing **Mystery Patriotic Musical** performed by the **Williamsburg Players**. Contractual requirements preclude naming the show till March, but it will be a great afternoon out on Flag Day. Afterward we will stop for a meal. Cost is \$19 plus your meal.

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.

ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER



FOR THE YOUTH'S MISSION TRIP
TO KNOXVILLE. TN

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED TO OUR ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER! IN JUST TWO WEEKS, WE'VE ALREADY REACHED OVER 15% OF OUR GOAL, AND WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY. IF YOU HAVEN'T PARTICIPATED YET, PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING. EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Holy⁺Week

SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| March 29 Palm Sunday | SERVICES AT 9:00 & 10:30AM |
| April 2 Maundy Thursday | SERVICE AT 7PM |
| April 3 Good Friday | TENEBRAE SERVICE 7PM |
| April 5 Easter Sunday | SERVICES AT 9:00 & 10:30AM |

First United Methodist Church Fox Hill
1 Salt Pond Road, Hampton, VA 23664
www.firstumcfoxhill.org



EASTER LILY ORDER

COST: \$20.00 EACH
DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Given By: _____

Number of Lilies Ordered _____

Amount Paid _____

Please print legibly. Attach payment and place in offering plate or turn into church office.

Birthdays

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|--------------------|------|-------------------|------|
| Jo Ann Markel | 3/1 | Elizabeth Edmonson | 3/16 | Seth Black | 3/25 |
| Becky Thompson | 3/2 | Kathy Morgan | 3/17 | Jennifer Pavusa | 3/25 |
| Reb Godwin | 3/2 | Dawn Davis | 3/17 | Hannah Malinowski | 3/25 |
| Gloria McGhee | 3/8 | John Hamilton Jr | 3/17 | Aaron Avery | 3/26 |
| Karen Nolin | 3/8 | Keith Melanson | 3/18 | Heather Hopewell | 3/26 |
| Pam May | 3/10 | Caspian Luma | 3/19 | Justin Colton | 3/26 |
| Jocelyn Rennie | 3/13 | Kassandra Brown | 3/20 | Toni Nystrom | 3/27 |
| David Taylor | 3/13 | Lloyd Cato Jr. | 3/20 | Jack Peretin | 3/27 |
| Ashley Wilson | 3/14 | Calvin Leary Jr. | 3/21 | Ken Gilpin Jr. | 3/28 |
| Brian Haight | 3/14 | Timothy Dickey | 3/21 | Melinda Davis | 3/29 |
| Lyn Wayman III | 3/14 | Robert Huber | 3/22 | Annette Harris | 3/29 |
| Steven Ward Sr | 3/15 | Jordan Townsend | 3/22 | Jeff Doughty | 3/29 |
| Phyllis Holland-James | 3/15 | Robert Sawyer | 3/23 | Janet Coe | 3/30 |
| Jennifer Williams | 3/16 | Jordan Rowe | 3/23 | Marshall Johnson | 3/30 |
| Chris Alhouse | 3/16 | Shelley Palko | 3/23 | Meagan Colton | 3/31 |
| Michelle Horner | 3/16 | Austin Williams | 3/24 | | |

Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| John & Phyllis Blake Jr. | 3/3 |
| Dallas & Melaney Jenkins Jr. | 3/17 |
| Ronnie & Doris Steele | 3/26 |



March

Wednesday, March 4 Church Office Closed

Sunday, March 8 Daylight Saving Time starts

Monday, March 9

6:00 p.m. The Collective: Youth Council
6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting: ESR
7:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting: Tri-X Room

Tuesday, March 10

1:00 p.m. Vibrant Worship Committee Meeting: Tri-X Room
3:30 p.m. Rainbow Puppets Rehearsal: FH Stage

Wednesday, March 11

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

Sunday, March 15 Anchor Newsletter Deadline

**Monday, March 16 - Wednesday March 18
Church Office Closed**

Tuesday, March 17

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

Wednesday, February 18

12:00 p.m. Fellowship of Circumstance for Women
4:30 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting: Tri-X Room
5:30 p.m. Howe Farms HOA Meeting

Monday, March 23

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

Tuesday, March 24

8:00 a.m. Facilities Team Workday
11:00 a.m. Bagging for Food Pantry

Wednesday, March 25

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting: Tri-X Room
12:00 p.m. Food Pantry

Saturday, March 28

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

Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday

Scan the QR code below to subscribe to our email updates.



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
12:00 p.m. Light and Prayer: Sanctuary
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

11:00 a.m. Hour of Prayer: Tri-X Room
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

**Check the bulletin and weekly emails for calendar updates.
Meeting times and dates may change during the summer and/or holidays.**