



**First United Methodist Church of Dunnellon**  
**October 2018**  
**NEWSLETTER**

### **PASTORS COMMENTS**

October 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm in our Narthex will be our first Cub Scout Round Up. Paul, our Scoutmaster will be in charge and the district will be sending us a temporary Cub Master until we find one in our community. This Scouting program is sponsored by the United Methodist Men. All parents are invited to this first round up and there will probably be others in the future.

The second week of October will be a busy administrative week in preparation for our yearly charge conference. Our Staff Parish Relations Committee will meet on Tuesday night, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm and our Finance Committee to approve our budget will meet on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm. There is a special Called Administrative Board meeting to approve our budget and new leadership for 2019 on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Sanctuary. All are invited to that board meeting. October 20<sup>th</sup>, 9am to Noon will be what is called a Super Charge Conference at the New Covenant UMC in The Villages. Our district will all meet together for an event of celebration and to approve what our board meeting the previous week voted on for our own church. We are a connectional church and our representatives or chair persons are encouraged to attend the event in the Villages.

On October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm the United Methodist Men are sponsoring a concert and all the proceeds go for their mission. The vocalist will be Sandy Ruise. Tickets are \$15 and we hope all will attend.

Wednesday night worship services will be closed down October 24<sup>th</sup> for the Annual United Methodist Women's Flea Market preparation and October 31<sup>st</sup> for we are hosting once again Trunk or Treat. We call it Truth or Treat or TNT. That will be from 6pm to 8pm and we are expecting hundreds upon hundreds to come through our property and for us to bless them that evening.

**Our media room needs volunteers! We are looking for volunteers to learn how to use our videotaping equipment and once trained, videotape various services. If you are interested please contact Rachelle Small at [Rachelle@fumcdunnellon.org](mailto:Rachelle@fumcdunnellon.org).**

Our church is hosting a simulcast of the 2018 Global Gathering of the Wesleyan Covenant Association on November 3, 2018 in our Friendship Hall. Information about the Gathering can be found at

<https://wesleyancovenant.org/unashamed/>. In the midst of great uncertainty, the Wesleyan Covenant Association invites you to Stand Unashamed for the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Join us at our simulcast site November 3, 2018 as we proclaim Christ Crucified and Risen, our sure hope for the future. The doors open at 8:00am with the program starting at 9:00am and running until 3:00pm. Snacks and lunch will be provided. We are the only simulcast site in our area and could expect up to 100 folks from our area to attend. I encourage those interested to go to the Website to register, or you can register on the day of the event. Cost will be \$50.00 per attendee. **I will need volunteers**, more information about what you can do to help will be available mid-October.

### **AGAPE SAFETY TEAM**

On 10/26 & 27 there will be a "Church Intruder Seminar" at the First Baptist Church of Ocala. We hope to have our new members, that have not been through this training attend.

First Aid/AED Certified Training: We have 6 team members who have recently completed this course and hope to have the remainder of the team trained in the near future. 4 new radios have been ordered to provide radios in the kitchen, admin office, all harmony classrooms, and one for our custodian. This will provide communications to all the areas that are active on campus during the week. We are looking into expanding the closed-circuit camera system to cover the whole church campus. Pastor Eddie has graciously offered his small sanctuary prayer room/office to use as our safety/security office. Thank you, Pastor Eddie!

We are in our second season of The United Way "Strong Families" program. We provide a meal every Monday night for 15 weeks to about 40 parents and children. We have completed 6 weeks this session. So far this session we have made \$1400.00 and last session we made \$3600.00. Between the United Way money, Dollar Sundays and many kind donations we are able purchase and do all the things mentioned previously. BLESS YOU!

We have met with the leaders of the Meadowbrook Church of Ocala and they have offered to present a Church security seminar at our church for a "Love Offering". They have also offered an invitation to go through their "Tactical Training

Course” at their Morriston Gun range.

PLEASE BE INFORMED that on Sundays anyone entering or exiting the Admin building MUST use the front door and if dropping off or picking up children you must have your I.D. Bracelets.

Leaders, if your group will be meeting past the regular 8pm closing time please let us know so we may have someone present to make sure the campus is safe. (if we have someone available)

## **BUILDING COMMITTEE**

The Building Committee is putting the finishing touches on the site plans for our 30-acre campus expansion. This means we hope to file a site plan with the City of Dunnellon in the Fall of 2018 which will include our latest addition of the portable building for our ever-expanding youth activities.

FUMC Dunnellon is growing, notwithstanding the temporary pause we have experienced with our build programs as a result of the Global UMC issues with human sexuality. Our church is blessed with amazing and talented volunteers that are committed to seeing our children and youth learn and grow in the Lord. With that in mind, we are adding a portable building to our campus that will be housed near the youth building. This will accommodate youth activities of Wednesday evenings especially during rainy weather.

When you start to see property markers and survey stakes, consider stopping to say a prayer of thanks to our Lord and Savior for all the blessing He shares with us continually. We are expanding and will continue to share God’s love to the community of Dunnellon.

Stay tuned for more and please keep us in your prayers!

## **FORGET ME NOT ELDER CARE MINISTRY**

We continue to meet our Mission goal providing 4 hours of care to the elderly, providing their caregivers respite one day a week. Caregivers of frail or elderly patients have the hardest job of all. Their care is often 24 hours a day, leaving little personal time or relief. Each Tuesday, from 12:30pm until 4:30pm in Friendship Hall, we provide social activities to anyone who is alone, lonely or just wants some companionship. This program gives the caregiver a few hours of time off and a much-needed emotional break. As always, we are looking for volunteers, if you'd like to give of your time to this worthy effort, please call Grace Burks.

## **FRESH EXPRESSIONS BOOK CLUB**

This Book Club meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday every month from 10:30am-11:30am at the Dunnellon Public Library.

## **KINGDOM BUILDER INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

### [What is an Appreciated Real Estate Gift?](#)

Did you know a gift of real estate can generate a tax deduction for the full appraised fair-market value? Just like stock securities, the capital gain is not taxable to the donor or the church. Donors who prefer to give a gift of real estate to the church at some future date can set up a “retained life estate” where they designate the ownership of their home to the church but retain occupancy during their lifetime.

Did you know you can transfer your home tax free and receive income for the rest of your life? A Charitable Remainder Unitrust permits the sale of your home tax free and then provides you with income and a current charitable income tax deduction for the remaining trust principal which will go to charity. There are a number of plans to consider for your home & real estate that permit you to make a gift to charity and receive income and tax benefits. For more information please feel free to discuss in confidence with our Pastor, members of our KBIC committee or our District Stewardship Consultant, Tom Wilkinson, directly with the Florida United Methodist Foundation at (866) 363-9673 or by email to [twilkinson@fumf.org](mailto:twilkinson@fumf.org).

## **MILITARY SERVICE BOARD**

This board is in the hallway of Friendship Hall. It is available to display a picture of any service member so the congregation can keep them in their prayer while they serve our country. This includes all active duty service members as well as reservist. Reserves are routinely called up for deployment. They need our prayers as well. FUMC Dunnellon is a praying Church!!

## **MISSION COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS**

**Jesus Is:** On September 21, Ken Rowe of the Missions Committee presented a new grill to Carl Haigler of Jesus Is Ministries on behalf of FUMC Dunnellon. Ken learned that the ministries previous grill had burned out, and was able to purchase the new grill at his Walmart in Homosassa.



**Cuba Sister Church:** On September 18, Rick DuCharme sent a suitcase full of clothing and over-the-counter medications along with \$2,300 for the new church construction to our sister church in Cieneguita, Cuba. Pastor Yabay's daughter Alma models one of the "pillow case dresses" sewn by JoLynn Peart.



**Hurricane Florence Relief:** In conjunction with Crossroads Alliance, Debbie Wright coordinated the effort to fill a large trailer with food and other relief supplies, along with funds to send the trailer to North Carolina. Thanks to all who participated in providing this much-needed relief to the Hurricane Florence victims - and a special thanks to Debbie Wright for coordinating this effort.

**October Mission Highlight is Michelle-O-Gram.**

## NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> Pastor Eddie and I held the most recent new members class. Seven adults and no children were in attendance, with all saying yes to wishing to join our church. In late September, we also met with 2 additional people who had been unable to attend the August 26<sup>th</sup> class. On Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, we received 9 new members during the evening service. Rita and Stanley Spencer had brought to our attention the small Cross In My Pocket, crosses that are an individual reminder that Jesus is the Lord of our lives, and that are easy to carry. So for the first time, the Cross In My Pocket was included in the packets for each new member joining. At the end of the service, after both the new members and the congregational vows were made, the little crosses were on the Round Table for everyone at the service to pick up. Another new member, Dave Hickman, made the lovely display of the Ten Commandments, the Birth of Christ, and the empty tomb & resurrection of Christ, which is currently displayed on the Round Table in the narthex. Also, we will be having another river baptism on September 29<sup>th</sup>. These are always open to anyone who wishes to renew their baptismal vows, as well as to anyone who has never been baptized. Blessings to all, Crystal Goins

## PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

Prayers and Squares members meet at Friendship Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (unless notified differently) from 9 – 11am. New members are always welcome. Fabrics, batting, and patterns are available at the meeting. We will also do the cutting out of a pattern for you, layer a quilt, and assist new quilters.

Due to the size of our congregation it is impossible for us to automatically make a quilt for each person whom is ill or hospitalized. Prayer quilts are made on request. A black notebook with information sheets to request a quilt for a friend or loved one is located at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. A prayer quilt may also be requested by calling Charlotte Eberhard at 352-465-7330 or Laura Rutkowski at 352-465-0527.

We wish to thank the Country Quilters group, (which meets at our church on Mondays in Friendship Hall) for making quilt tops for this ministry during the months of August and September. Prayer shawls and scarves are available for those whom have a new health issue and have already received a prayer quilt. FUMC Shepherds may take one to their lambs. These are in a tub marked "Prayer Shawls", on a shelf in the closet in Friendship Hall. Cards and bags are available to go with them. Please write the name of the person in the notebook provided.

We would like to share this thank you note sent to Rick and Francene Ducharme from their neighbor Marylou Smith: Dear Rick and Francene, I would like to thank you both as well as your church, The First United Methodist Church, for the very special prayer quilt I received. The prayers and the written messages of those who participated were so appreciated. The prayer quilt is something I will always treasure. Please accept this check for \$25 as a donation to your church for all the very appreciated things they do for the community and personally me. Love & Blessings, Marylou

## SECOND LIFE THRIFT SHOP

The Second Life Thrift Shop continues to move forward as a mission of our church, in our endeavor to build the Kingdom of God. We want to thank Pastor Eddie for being our interim chairman until we were able to elect a new chair person. We are very happy to announce that Dot Chadwick by unanimous vote has graciously agreed to be our new chair person. She does a wonderful job with everything she undertakes.

The board voted to give a monthly tithe to assist the General Fund of our church in this time of need. God has blessed us and tithing always blesses the giver.

We held a called board meeting and Rick DuCharme met with us explaining an investment process that would “put to work” any excess funds that the Thrift Shop has in our working account like other church committees have done. We have followed their lead and have invested \$15,000. We continually thank the Lord, our church and community for the donations and support that continue to flow. The Thrift Shop could not function without the great volunteers that work unselfishly and happily. Thank you everyone and Thanks Be to God.

## **SHEPHERD MINISTRY**

No NEW news. We still need Shepherds. We keep getting new members, but no new Shepherds. We definitely need to work on this program. Meeting has been delayed due to surgeries, family activities, and people being gone over the Summer. We hope to have our meeting after things quiet down. Hopefully, we will get a good turn out so that we can discuss this program and bring new life to it. Thanks to all Shepherds who are faithful in their prayers. Maybe a few prayers for the program could bring us some new ideas.

If there is anyone who is interested in this ministry, we definitely need to hear from you. We can always use additional Shepherds. It is not a difficult ministry--it is not a "DO FOR" ministry. It is a "PRAY FOR and CARE FOR" ministry. Taking the time to pray and care is one of the greatest ways to let the Lord show through you. Please contact Adele Strausberger if you are interested. Blessings.

## **STEPHEN MINISTRY**

We are recruiting new ministers to begin training this winter. If interested, pick up an application from the Welcome Center, complete the form and come to an information meeting to be announced soon.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We began a new curriculum for fall emphasizing God at home with videos, songs, puzzles, crafts and take-home sheets for the family to review the lesson.

## **TRUTH OR TREAT**

**Truth or Treat is Wednesday October 31,2018. It will be from 5:30 -7:30pm. If you are participating, you must have your trunk ready by 5:00pm.** There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you want to participate. There will also be a basket in the Narthex for candy donations. We need a lot of candy! We will be giving away free hotdogs, water, and snow cones again this year. Any questions please contact Jennifer Nemetch 352-216-8574.