



GOOD NEWS

OCTOBER 2011

PASTOR'S CORNER



look for the good. Where are the signs of God's love and presence?

The people in our neighborhood need to know that there is hope, and we know that hope is in the love and grace of Jesus. Over the next few weeks, we will have the opportunity to radiate that love to hundreds and hundreds of our neighbors.

The Pumpkin Patch and Fall Family Festival are our way to offer joy. So get your smile and a helping hand ready.

The pumpkins are coming!

Blessings,
Rev. Betty

The church cares about you. Jesus loves me this I know. Goodness is stronger than evil. The light shines in the darkness. This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine!

Choose any of those phrases and make it your breath prayer. We need to be reminded that God is always with us. When all is dark,

THE THEME FOR 2011-2012 IS

DRUM ROLL PLEASE!!

Find out on Sunday, October 2, 2011. Here is a big hint!

ICION

MEETINGS THIS MONTH

Tues., 10/11 at 7:00 pm
Meeting Night

Thurs., 10/13 at 7:00 pm
Finance Meeting

Tues., 10/25 at 7:00 pm
Church Council Meeting

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

See page 8 for all of the "Patch Happenings".

See page 4 for information on the "Free Fall Family Festival".

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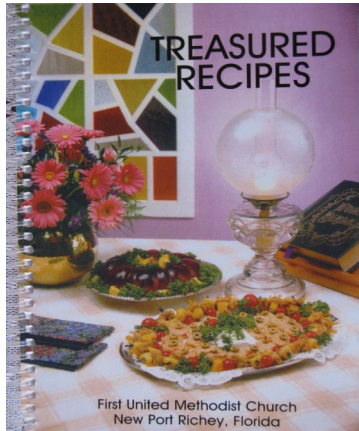
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WHAT A BARGAIN!

“Treasured Recipes” Cookbook
Produced by FUMCNPR

&

“The Windows and History of FUMCNPR”
DVD by Kitty & Doggie Productions

&

Stained Glass Window Christmas Cards
Provided by FUMC’s WPUMW

Three item \$25.00 package deal for only \$15.00!
Just in time for holiday giving

Items can be purchased individually
Cookbook for \$10.00, DVD for \$10.00, Cards for \$5.00
Package deal = more for your money!

Contact Vonnie Maytum at 727-847-5601
or wm.maytum@verizon.net



World Wide Communion Sunday Luncheon on October 2, 2011. What a wonderful time to celebrate the outreach of Christ in the World. We will gather after the 11:00 am service to share a meal together, and bless the days ahead as we share God’s love through the Pumpkin Patch.



CHILDREN’S SABBATH SUNDAY OCTOBER 8, 2011

On Sunday, October 8, Christians and other faith traditions across the country will celebrate Children’s Sabbath as a way to lift up

ministries for children. What a great way to begin our time of ministering to families.

IMPACT MISSION TRIP TO ORLANDO

BY AMBER ALLEN

Our mission trip to Orlando was an awesome experience. We stayed at First Stillwater Baptist Church with other youth from Lake Worth St. Luke's UMC and Sanlando UMC from Longwood.

Our job was to paint and repair a shed along with touchups around an elderly lady named Lunette. She was not strong enough and did not have money to do it herself.



While we worked on the shed she was working in her yard by pulling weeds and raking. One day I asked to use her bathroom. She was very friendly and showed me pictures of her family, she said that she appreciated all of our help and was glad that we came to her house for our mission trip. She lives alone and doesn't get much company. It was nice to know that we made her feel happy by helping her. I am looking forward to going again next year.

YOUTH MINISTRY INSTITUTE UPDATE

BY IAN DEANE

I have finished my second two-day Retreat at Warren Willis UM Camp – Usually offered monthly, classes are taught in a workshop format (3-5 per retreat). Each workshop is taught by a different faculty member, sometimes focusing on a pre-assigned text. This past retreat was New Testament, evangelism, leadership, creative worship and programming plus writing a reflective application paper about what I learned and how it applies to my ministry setting.



My first conference is October 12-15 for The Academy of the Youth Ministry Institute which is an in depth class made up of 2 days of instructional workshops for the professional youth worker; 1 day of multiple workshops for the volunteer youth worker; and, 3 days of fun, reflection and inspiration!!! I have books to read and a RAP (reflective application paper) to write that is due at the next retreat plus a verbatim on our core competency. Thanks about investing prayer, time, energy and money about where First church is about reaching out into our neighborhood.

Life's a journey, so bring a paddle.

Agape and Grace,

Ian Deane



BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS



The Pumpkins are coming, the pumpkins are coming and they are bigger and better than ever!!! It is going to be a great season — come join the fun and experience lots of God Sightings!

Invite your neighbors to join us on October 22 for our Fall Family Festival and Community Garage Sale. Perhaps, your neighbors have a garage full of items they would like to sell! Sign up sheets are now in the Narthex.

For more detailed information and a Schedule of Events, please see Page 8.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Children's Sunday School welcomes a new teacher, Jean Ann Lewis. We are thrilled to have another teacher working with the children this fall! Jean Ann and her husband, Bill, have officially declared Florida their home.. They will still be making trips to Pennsylvania but First Church is home.

Be sure to drop in the classroom and say hello. Along with our October theme of "Pumpkins with a Purpose," we will be looking at the stories of Kings. The BIG idea is that we believe the stories of faithful kings help us to be faithful leaders for God. This month's verse is: "The Lord is King! Let all the earth rejoice." Psalm 97:1. We will continue collecting our pennies to be God's helpers. Last month, a blanket was purchased for Church World Service with their offerings.

THANK YOU NOTE FROM RICHEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dear First United Methodist Church Members,

Wow! Your congregation is always so good to the students at Richey Elementary. Thank you for your donation of school supplies. The supplies will be shared with the students who are most needy. Each day we are enrolling new students and some of those students are living in temporary housing, having moved from other states. New students arrive somewhat nervous, so it is wonderful to see the look on their faces when we present them with new school supplies. It makes such a difference when we have generous people supporting our efforts to make sure all students have what they need to learn. We are forever grateful to you all.

Sincerely, Kim Stratman, Community/Parent Involvement



TIDBITS & THIS & THATS

If you have any plastic silverware that is wrapped in plastic, please consider bringing it in for the Food Pantry. Those without a home would surely appreciate having a clean eating utensil to eat the food they receive from our Food Pantry.

New Member Sunday is on October 23.

Thank you to everyone who is working and will work at the Patch and the Fall Festival this month. Your dedication is amazing! Thanks to our Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops for their assistance with the Festival as well.



OUR REFLECTION ON 9/11

BY JOHN & DIANE WELSH

John and I have two things that we are thankful for. First, our sister-in-law was in the World Trade Center on the first floor. She was able to get out. Second, our brother was going there on business, but he had another business meeting that day. As a result, he was not on Flight 93. Otherwise, he would have been the 41st one killed.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS



We are grateful for your generosity to the Food Pantry ministry. Each week 18 to 25 bags of food are distributed to serve individuals and families. Both the giver and those who receive are blessed.

We are always in need of peanut butter and jelly, soup, pasta, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, cereal, canned meat and canned fruit. Thank you for all of your gifts of food, clothes, etc. And, all those that we serve say "THANKYOU!!"

NEWS FROM THE WEST PASCO UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



We invite all Ladies to come and join in our activities. Our main goal is to raise funds for Local Missions and on special occasions for Global Missions, always putting women, children and youth foremost.

Our next meeting will be on October 4 at 1:00 pm in Henderson Hall at First UMC. The program will be given by Dorothy Cherry and Maxine Clayton on Letters from John. We will begin collecting the items for the Ditty Bags. It is not too late to secure a list of items needed from any member of the WPUMW. All donations are appreciated. Members, please don't forget to bring an item for the Church Food Pantry.

The Executive Meeting will be in Room 1 on Tuesday, October 25, at 1:00 pm. All officers and Circle Leaders are urged to attend as plans for the coming year will be discussed.

Dorothy Cherry and Jo Babcock attended the United Methodist Florida Conference Women's Spiritual Life Retreat on September 9. They will be telling us all about it at our meeting on October 4. Hope to see you there.

Submitted by,

Libby Baillie and Dorothy Cherry, Co-Presidents

OCTOBER IS DITTY BAG MONTH

We are in need of more PERSONAL HYGIENE KITS. If you cannot fill an entire bag, just bring in what you can and put it in the basket in the Narthex and the WPUMW ladies will finish them up. We are also accepting donations of men's and women's new socks. These bags are given to the homeless here in West Pasco. There is an unending need for these bags. The WPUMW thanks you for all your support in this project.

ADULT DITTY BAG CONTENTS

1 full-size bar of soap & washcloth
 1 or 2 disposable razors
 1 deodorant (regular size)
 1 toothbrush & 1 toothpaste (any size – no mouthwash, please)
 2 or 3 travel-size shampoos & 2 or 3 travel-size conditioners
 or
 1 20 oz. bottle of shampoo/conditioner combo product
(Place above items in a 1 gallon Zip-Lock bag)
 and

1 or 2 pens or pencils
 1 small notebook
 1 Pocket New Testament or Upper Room (no large Bibles, please)
 1 small packet of Kleenex
 1 comb or brush
Optional Items
 1 travel-size hand lotion
 5 Band-aids
 1 nail clipper

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome

We welcome Jean Ann and Bill Lewis and Gene Willett into the First Church Family.

Jean Ann and Bill are now full time residents of New Port Richey, and have al-

ways been active in their United Methodist Church up north. Jean Ann is already volunteering with our children and Bill is glad to be able to help where needed.

Welcome to Gene Willett. Gene and his wife, Beth Traxler, are returning to the area and are glad to find a church family at First Church. They are already finding places to serve.

TIME TO STUDY!



On Wednesdays at 10:30 am and 6:00 pm, we are studying three letters of Paul. We are learning a lot about grace. All are welcome to join a group or study on your own.

“Change the World, Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus” is the theme of our new adult Sunday School class meeting at 9:45 am in Room One. Come be a part of this new group!

PRAYER NEEDED

Fall is a busy time for our church. Please be in prayer for the Pumpkin Patch for this outreach into the community. Pray for your church leaders and staff for wisdom and stamina as we seek to accomplish many things, and touch many lives.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

The Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners have gotten off to a great start. A special thanks goes out to Marianne Falbo for all that she does. She shops, cooks, cleans up and shares her grandmotherly wisdom with the youth. She needs HELP!!! Any help with these dinners would be much appreciated.



PUMPKINS WITH A PURPOSE

PATCH HAPPENINGS



Sunday, October 2 – World Communion Sunday, Luncheon and Pumpkin Dedication

Monday, October 3, at 7:00 pm – Pumpkin Baking in Henderson Hall (Pumpkin Breads and Cookies)

Thursday, October 13, at 4:00 pm – Pumpkin Unloading with Dinner to Follow

Saturday, October 15, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – Trunk or Treat in Church Parking Lot

Saturday, October 22, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm – Fall Family Festival, Food Drive and Community Garage Sale

Saturday, October 29, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – Pumpkin Carving and Marshmallow Roast

The Patch is now accepting the following donations: candy, large marshmallows, retired fall decorations, fall/treat bags, (small treat bags for cookies). There is also a need for wheel barrows and wagons to be returned at the end of the Patch.

BLOOD DONORS HELP PATIENTS FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

This September and October, Florida Blood Services (FBS), Tampa Bay's not for profit community blood center, are reminding past, present and future blood donors that their gifts of whole blood, red cells, plasma or platelets help cancer patients in their fight for life. As a special thank you all donors during this two month campaign will receive an "I Can Fight Cancer-I donate blood" T-shirt plus a buy-one-ticket, get-one-free coupon from MOSI: Museum of Science & Industry in Tampa. In addition, all donors receive a wellness checkup of blood pressure, pulse, temperature and iron count, plus a cholesterol screening as a health benefit.

LAITY SUNDAY

October 15, the services will be led by different persons from the congregation, celebrating the diversity of ministries we have at First Church.

INCREASE CHRIST IN YOUR LIFE

WWW.FUMCNPR.COM

WE'RE ON THE WEB

E-mail: frontoffice@fumcnpr.com

Fax: 727-845-8956

Phone: 727-842-7674

NEW PORT RICHEY, FL 34652

5901 INDIANA AVENUE

NEW PORT RICHEY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF

Postmaster Send Address Changes To:

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OF NEW PORT RICHEY

5901 Indiana Avenue

New Port Richey, FL 34652

FUMC STAFF

Minister: Reverend Betty Batey

Music Director: Henry Fletcher

Youth Director: Ian Deane

Administrative Assistant: Martie Grimberg

Organist: Peg Davis

Staff Parish Relations Chair: Cheryl Vaughn

Church Council Chair: Dwight Smith

Board of Trustees Chair: Rick Vaughn

Finance Committee Chair: Carolyn Arnold

Traditional Worship Services

8:30 am and 11:00 am

Nursery provided at 11:00 am

Sunday School at 9:45 am

Phone: 727-842-7674 ***** Fax: 727-845-8956

Website: www.fumcnpr.com

