

GOOD NEWS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1 NEWSLETTER DATE

PASTOR'S CORNER

It has taken a while but I have learned to live with the new normal. Change is constant and uncertainty is ever with us.

The new normal is that the communication model that surrounds us has moved from oral to print to broadcast to digital. Immediacy and the interconnectedness of individuals to communities keep shifting.

Some days I just get tired trying to keep it all in balance. But most days I am energized by how great it is to be able to know the news or connect with friends and family in a matter of seconds, especially the ones on the other side of the

world.

In the midst of the new normal, we have the old, old story to tell and share. "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so." How we tell it may be a little different. Screens and Facebook and the internet are essential to how we live today.

And yet, people still need the human touch found through the loving care of the church. People need to experience God as the rock and refuge that never changes.

The new normal is here. Are you ready for the ride?

See you in church!



Rev. Betty

LABOR DAY SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 4

We will honor the work that we do now or earlier in our lives. Please bring a tool to display that represents the work that you do or have done in the past.

NEW THEME FOR 2011-2012

Let the anticipation build!

Next month, your Church Council will unveil the new theme that was chosen at our Dreams and Visions Retreat. "Increase Christ in

Your Life" has touched us all this year. Our hope has been that you have been more intentional in growing in your faith, through Worship, Study and Action. So let's see where we go this year!

MEETINGS THIS MONTH

Thurs., 9/8 at 7:00 pm

Finance Meeting

Tues., 9/13 at 6:30 pm

Meeting Night

Tues., 9/27 at 7:00 pm

Church Council

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WHAT A GREAT SUMMER WE HAD!



Caption describing picture or graphic.

THANK YOU. What a great summer we had! VBS touched the lives of children, youth and adults as we learned about what life was like when Jesus was a kid. Our youth had a busy summer and participated in weekly themed gatherings and two mission experiences. One was with Impact Florida in Orlando doing home repair. The second was with the Kids

Camp VBS, serving at Joining Hands.

Our UMW hosted the Gulf Central District in fine fashion and showed true spirit of service as hosts to that large gathering of women.

Our Back to School Sunday was a great day. We blessed all going back to school, enjoyed a great meal, and gave school supplies to many chil-

dren and youth. We gathered school supplies to give to Richey Elementary. Thanks to all who participated and provided leadership for these events.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

“TO CATCH THE READER’S ATTENTION, PLACE AN INTERESTING SENTENCE OR QUOTE FROM THE STORY HERE.”

We will begin our Fellowship Dinners for the entire church family on Wednesday, September 14, starting at 5:00 pm until 6:30 pm. Marianne Falbo has been faithfully preparing meals for our youth all summer, and is looking forward to sharing with everyone in a few weeks. Get

ready for great food and fellowship!

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE



Caption describing picture or graphic.

The Tenth Anniversary of September 11th (9/11) falls on Sunday this year. On that day we will remember those who died, the ones who came to help, and the families. We will remember the unity of our nation in the midst of such a difficult time. There will be a Service of Remem-

brance on Sunday, September 11, at 4:00 pm in Simms Park. The Richey Concert Band led by Henry Fletcher will be playing. Plan to attend along with school and civic groups from the entire county.

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

We will welcome new members into the Church on Sunday, September 25. Please contact Rev. Batey if you wish to become part of the fellowship at First Church.

Welcome new members, Bill Odom, Bill and Jean Ann Lewis and Gene Willett to First Church.



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CHILDREN'S HOME AT FIRST CHURCH!

On Sunday, September 18, Rev. Stephen Hartsfield will be our guest to share about the ministry of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home with our congregation. Rev. Hartsfield has served at the Children's Home for many years and will bring us up to date on how the children and youth are being served today.

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A THANK YOU NOTE FROM BELLA CALAFIURA

I would like to extend my gratitude to you and all of the First United Methodist Church for awarding me the church scholarship. FUMC has raised me since I was an infant and they have been there to watch me grow. Dancing in church was something I loved to do because I could show the congregation how much I love the gift God has given me. Now that I'm going off to Indiana University to major in ballet, I couldn't be more excited and grateful for the financial help you have given me!

The First United Methodist Church will always have a

place in my heart and I will miss you fondly.

Sincerely,

Bella Calafiura

BB



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ONE, BIG HAPPY FAMILY!

Kid's Camp was an absolutely amazing time. It was a life-changing experience. Well, kind of. Once you meet your campers that are in your group, they become your family for the week. It's like "one, big happy family" that loves God. In that week, we learned what Jesus did for our sins; what he created; and, what he does for us now. We made multiple crafts about

Jesus and our theme for the week, Pandamania, to remember what we did/learned on that specific day. Everyone had an amazing time and by the looks of it, they will come back again next year. I know I will! It is a really good way to spread the word about God to Little children, that's for sure. (:

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

YOUTH MINISTRY INSTITUTE

The Staff Parish Relations Committee and the Church Council are pleased to announce that Ian Deane and the church will begin a two year continuing education experience to enhance Ian's skills in Youth Ministry, and guide the church in designing

a program to meet the needs of the youth and families served in this ministry.

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WESLEY ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



Our Wesley Adult Sunday School class will focus on wisdom learned from experiences and tradition of the people living in the Old Testament times.

The four lessons during September draw on the wisdom collected by the writers of the Book of Proverbs.

This is just a glimpse of this month's lessons. Come join us at 9:45 am in the Wesley classroom ready to meet your friends, sing related hymns, share in the prayers and take part in a lively discussion.

Y'all Come!

Co-Leaders,

Phil and Dorothy

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

Next month will mark our 14th Annual Pumpkin Patch and 5th Annual Fall Family Festival! We look forward to another season of blessings as we tend to our Pumpkins and community. There are many opportunities for each and every one of us. Updates will be posted on the web site and weekly bulletins as we get closer to October. Please contact Julie or the office if you would like to help with recruiting volunteers, training sales staff, setting up and decorating, publicity, finance and school field trips. Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

Pumpkin Pass (unloading and meal)-Oct 12th, 13th or 15th

Fall Family Festival - Oct 22 - 10:00am – 2:00 pm

Live B.I.G. - Sunday mornings at 11:00 am with Miss Julie (Preschool-Elementary grades)

B.I.G. Nursery - Sunday

mornings at 11:00 am with Miss Joan.

Our Live B.I.G. program is a DVD-based Sunday school resource designed to excite and enrich your children's spiritual lives by bringing their everyday real world experience into Sunday school. Our themes change monthly and incorporate music, art, imagination, discussion, games and prayer to enrich the weekly bible stories. Our One B.I.G. Room is open for preschoolers through elementary grades.

September's B.I.G. Theme
The Beginning of the Story

September's B.I.G. Idea
We believe that stories in Genesis help us understand God's plan for God's people

September's Bible Verse
The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. Psalm 24:1



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“TO CATCH THE READER’S ATTENTION, PLACE AN INTERESTING SENTENCE OR QUOTE FROM THE STORY HERE.”

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you’re trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

This fall, we will be doing the Immersion Bible Study on Galatians, Ephesians and Philippians. Beginning on September 14, the morning group will meet at 10:30 am and the evening group will meet at 6:00 pm at the parsonage. It will be exciting to learn more about how the

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INSIDE STORY HEADLINE



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"Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." (Psalm 90:1-2)

Life is short and hard, and God is angry with us. Have a good week! Okay, there's more to it than that, but those are the messages that come through the loudest in the first half of Psalm 90. We're going to camp out with this ~~depressing, motivating, and~~ inspiring (really!) Psalm of Moses (yes, that Moses) this week.

For starters, though, Moses points out that God has been around for a really long time. As each new generation of humans is born, lives, and then dies, God remains -- an unchanged and unchanging home for His people. The first step to seeing ourselves for what we are — temporary, fragile, minute—is to see God for who He is— ~~endless, indestructible, ex-~~ expansive, and available to His people.

Think: What does it mean to have God as your dwelling place as a Christian? Do you think of yourself as living "in Him"?

Pray: Thank God that He is everlasting and an unchanging home for His people.

Do: Up for some math? If we think of a generation as 40

years or so, about how many generations of humans has God seen come and go since the time of Moses in about 1500 B.C.?

The Summer is still going strong. We have 4 weeks before the fall starts. That means cooler temperatures, right? Oh yes, I forgot, I live in Florida now. Amazing things have been happening here with many, many God sightings. Over the summer, the revolution youth group has helped out with our VBS, "~~Homertown~~ Nazareth": Kathy Allen, Amber Allen, Michael Confer, Alec Cranford, Derek Cranford, Jeremy Kettles, Jacob McBee, Kyle McDowell, Michael Mulcahy, Gerardo Otero, Kristin Poff, Becky Radivoy, Crystal Radivoy, Jonah Ribezzo, Emmi Rude, Wade Scott, Brennan Smiley, Tanner Smiley, Jeff Smith and Charlie Timony.

It's been a continuous theme this summer of "serving others". With the restart of the praise team and tech team, new youth are interested and willing to serve. Our EPIC mission trip to Orlando through Impact Florida was a success. I believe each of us came back changed in some way for the better. Please ask one of the following to tell you about the trip: Jonah Ribezzo, Brennan Smiley, Kayla Seeberger, Crystal Radivoy, Becky Radivoy, Amber Allen, Julie Calafiura

and myself. By the way, we will be returning next Summer for Impact Florida in late June.

We had a rewarding week at Kids Camp, hosted by Metropolitan Ministries/Joining Hands Community Mission. The youth helped with running stations and watching over groups of children. Thanks to the following who gave so much that week: April June, Tiffani Maclean, Brennan Smiley, Kyle McDowell, Jeff smith, John Radivoy and Emmi Rude.

Agape and Grace, Ian

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NEWS FROM THE WEST PASCO
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

On August 13, we hosted the Gulf Central District Annual Summer Fellowship Luncheon at Asbury United Methodist Church. 122 United Methodist Women from all around the District enjoyed a picnic style event with door prizes, a nice lunch and fantastic musical entertainment from Henry Fletcher and Joan Geschke. A big thank you to all the local Unit ladies that donated food and decorations and worked hard to make it possible.

Our regular monthly meetings will resume on Tuesday, September 6th, at 1:00 pm in Henderson Hall. The speaker will be Nancy Dougherty. She will be addressing the changing of Joining Hands Community Mission to Metropolitan Ministries in Pasco. This meeting will be the time that the money from the Blessings Calendars will be collected. The money will be divided among the local food pantries. Also, a collection will be taken for the Prayer and Self-Denial offering for undesignated Missions. The idea of the offering is that you deny yourself something and instead put the money into the offering. The money will go to help persons that experience self-denial every day of their lives.

The Executive Committee will be meeting on August 30th at 1:00 pm in Rm. 1. All officers and Circle leaders are urged to attend with ideas for the coming year's activities.

Watch your church's bulletins for the time that your Circle will be meeting.

Don't forget to start filling your ditty bags using the ditty bag list. Collection of these items will begin at the October meeting.

The United Methodist Florida Conference Women's Spiritual Life Retreat starts on September 9 and ends on September 11. For more information go to www.flumc.org. If you miss this one, there will be another on January 20-22, 2012. Pastor Mary Ashcroft from Joining Hands Mission Church in Holiday will be sharing her experiences with the Kairos prison ministry.

Submitted by,
Libby Baillie and
Dorothy Cherry,
Co-Presidents



Caption describing picture or graphic.

THANK YOU NOTE

I want to say thank you to everyone for your recent prayers, phone calls and cards.

Jane Strawderman



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NEW SUNDAY
MORNING
ADULT STUDY

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This group will be discussion based applying faith to life. “Change the World, Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus” is the name of the study. This group will meet in Room 1 at 9:45 am beginning September 25. Sign up to be part of this new group.

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

www.freerice.com is a web site supported by the United Nations Food Program. It has learning games that when you get the right answers, grains of rice will be distributed around the world. Thanks to Connie Cranford for sharing this with us.



FREE RICE



Organization

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW PORT RICHEY

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Address Line 3
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

EXAMPLE.COM

BUSINESS TAGLINE OR MOTTO

Our web site www.funcnpr.com continues to improve every day with more useful information about our location, services, ministries, calendar, the "Good News" and bulletins. This is how people find churches today. Thanks to Alex Grimberg, Guy Gratton and the newest member of the web team, Alec Cranford, for their work. We can track the visits. Most visits are from the area, but we have had hits from all over the world—Auckland, Chicago, Denver, Arlington, L.A. WOW!!!

WE HOST THE COMMUNITY

On Wednesday, we have a Girl Scout Troop meeting in Room 1.

On Thursday nights, we have a Boy Scout Troop meeting in Henderson Hall.

Also on Thursday nights, Gamblers Anonymous meets in Room 1.

New this fall, we will host the New Port Richey Chapter of AARP every fourth Wednesday from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 pm in Room 1.



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