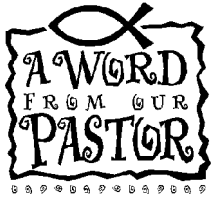


THE MESSENGER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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OCTOBER, 2017



October has snuck up quickly in the wake of Irma, but I hope your life is returning to normal. Halloween is the dominate holiday for most this month, but on that same day we celebrate

Reformation Day. For years we have shared the day and Halloween pumpkins and candy have bested the little reformer priest who changed the Christian church forever. Martin Luther challenged abuses in the church on October 31, 500 years ago. It took time for the Protestant Church to actually be born, but it is a significant anniversary and I hate the thought of it going by without us knowing the day had come and gone. On the last Sunday of the month, we will celebrate this important anniversary and maybe for a few minutes this Halloween, we can give thanks for God's blessings.

Don

A big thank you to everyone who braved the extreme heat to help put up the hurricane shutters on the church and old parsonage in time. We also thank those who donated flood buckets and water. The flood buckets and several cases of water were delivered to Moore Haven and a trailer load of water went to Sebring.

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

The pumpkins for the youth's Pumpkin Patch will be arriving on Saturday, October 7 at 8:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help unload the semi truckload!!!



The United Methodist Women invite everyone to attend their Annual Fall Bazaar on Saturday, November 4 from 8:00 a.m.

to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You will find a variety of crafts, quilted items, nuts, knives, baked goods and white elephant items. There will also be a large selection of Christmas items and gifts. Plan on staying for lunch. Soup, sandwiches and desserts will be available from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Proceeds will go to mission projects local, national and abroad. Come and bring a friend!

Donations of "quality" white elephant items are needed (no clothes). Especially popular are knick-knacks, glassware, small appliances, costume jewelry, children's toys, Christmas decorations, etc. They may be left in the Conference Room Sunday, October 29 through Thursday, November 2 or brought to the Fellowship Hall by 10:00 a.m. Friday, November 3. Donations of baked goods are also requested. Good sellers are fudge, cookies, small breads (such as banana) and brownies. Bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Friday morning or early Saturday morning. Craft donations are also most welcome.

We thank you for your continued financial support of our church. We will have extra expenses with some hurricane related repairs and will still have the payments on the new parsonage, so we appreciate your continued support.





The United Methodist Women cordially invite everyone (men and teens as well as women) to their Quarterly Gathering and Luncheon on Sunday, October 15 from 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Pat McCoy will speak about ways we can connect with the schools and be supportive of their needs. There will be a very brief meeting first to elect officers and vote on the budget for 2018. Bring a covered dish to share at lunch and join us for a time of fellowship and learning. If you are bringing a child who will need nursery care, please notify Cynthia Yoder at 357-2103 by Sunday, October 8.

Small Groups for adults and children will resume next Sunday, October 8 at 5:00 p.m. The adult group will be led by Al Young and will use Adam Hamilton's study, "The Apostles' Creed" (Room 26). Please contact Al, (863) 763-8417, if you are planning to attend the adult group. Nancy Fletcher and helpers will be leading the children's group, Rainbow Kids and it will be open to all children (Room 1). Everyone is invited to participate. (There will be no meal following small groups).



Please check the Giving Trees in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall; October giving will be for Hospice Hamrick House. We help them by helping those who are visiting loved ones in the Hospice House. We are looking for regular and decaf coffee (not instant), filters, sugar, different sweeteners, creamer, tea bags, Crystal Light, stirrers, paper towels and napkins. God bless your giving.

A joint Church Conference for our church will be held on Sunday, October 29 at 2:00 p.m., First UMC, Stuart. Everyone is invited to attend.

The program for the September UMM's meeting was on the youth mission trip. Jim Dawson gave an overview of the trip and showed the trip video. Several members of the missions team gave their experiences and what the trip meant to them. October's UMM meeting program will be presented by the City Police Department and at November's meeting all spouses are invited. Real Life Children's Ranch will be presenting the program for November. There will be no meeting in December.

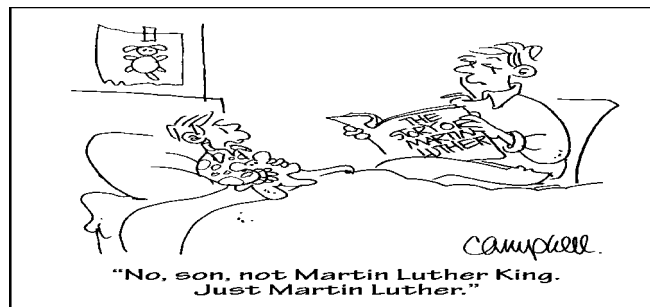


HURRICANE DAMAGE: We were very fortunate not to have received any major damage to our church facilities during Hurricane Irma. Quite a few roof shingles were lost on both the church and Sunday School wings, the basketball court lights were knocked down, and the shade cover for the picnic tables for Big Lake Missions was destroyed by falling tree limbs. The backyard fence at the old parsonage was damaged and a few shingles were lost across the back side of the house.



ATTENTION WOMEN: Please mark your calendars for the following dates.

- October 3, 5:45 p.m. - Executive Committee
- October 3, 7:00 p.m. - Esther Circle
- October 11, 1:30 p.m. - Ruth Circle
- October 14, 9:30 a.m. - District Annual Meeting, Indian River City UMC, Titusville
- October 15, 11:15 a.m. - Unit Meeting
- October 19, 1:30 p.m. - Lydia Circle





- 2nd - Lisa Harrison, Glenn Davis
- 3rd - Elizabeth Stanley, Becky Wolf
- 5th - Tyler Rhodes, James

Bush

- 7th - Jack Wolff, Jennifer Hawthorne, David Blankenbaker
- 8th - Gary Rucks, Genia Arbogast, John Boak, Brent Simmons
- 9th - Arthur Sienes
- 11th - Brent Rucks, Gene Rhodes, Loris Asmussen
- 12th - Gary Sperry
- 13th - Cathy Kline, Kyle Smith, Beulah Morse
- 14th - Jane Frey, Renee Bishop
- 16th - Andrea Childs, Glenna Rucks
- 19th - Dora Coen, Roxanne Barnes, Wesley Bishop
- 22nd - Leah Suarez
- 23rd - Eric Walker, Jane Ehrhart, Laura Medina
- 24th - Barbara Eve, Florence Oake
- 25th - Suzanne Hoover, M/M Gil Culbreth, Jr., Vance Shirley
- 26th - Mark Tenniswood, Bailey Regan
- 27th - Bruce Watford
- 28th - Gregory Straight, Karson Fowler
- 29th - Anna McBee, Rev. Bruce Simpson, Sharon Suits
- 31st - Kenny Bass

If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or has been omitted, please call the Church Office.

The gift of grace

God's grace is a free gift, not something we can earn on our own. How do we have this gift?

Directions: Complete the Bible verse by placing the capital letters from the gifts on the blanks below.

F	u	O	R	L	t	A	s	W	v	w	G
I	x	V	p	E	N	M	q	O	S	a	r
E	r	S	e	G	R	m	A	C	E	d	T
R	U	n	T	H	T	H	R	k	O	U	G
H	j	J	E	S	f	U	S	u	C	O	H
R	b	I	y	p	S	T	J	O	i	H	N

“ _____ the _____ was _____
 through _____ ; _____ and
 _____ came _____
 _____ ”
 _____ 1:17, NIV

Answer: "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." John 1:17, NIV