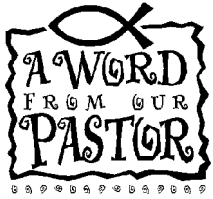


THE MESSENGER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 NW 2ND Street
Okeechobee, Florida 34972-4174
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www.fumcokee.com

MARCH, 2018



Lenten Journey

We are in the heart of our Lenten Journey and the Echoes from the First Holy Week will continue. There has been a positive response so far and I am thankful. Not just for your response, but for the inspiration of Ray Gibson, mentor, preacher and friend. Ray preached the Sounds from the Cross in the 80's, but it still speaks to me. I have long since made his series my own, but he made a lasting impression on me and gave me hope that I might do the same for others. All of us have opportunities to make a difference and I am sure have done so over the years. The way we live, speak and love can make a tremendous difference in others. How are you doing this season? Are you praying for someone specific this month? Are you intentionally trying to mentor someone? Can you call on someone and cheer them up? Listening to the Echoes of the First Holy Week reminds me that life is short and we need to live our lives to make a difference.

Blessings,

Pastor Don

SMOKED CHICKEN DINNER

Sponsored by
United Methodist Men
Friday, March 16
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
(Take-out Only)
4:00-6:30 p.m.
(Dine-in or Take-out)

Donation: \$10.00



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

March 6, 5:45 p.m. - Executive Committee
March 6, 7:00 p.m. - Esther Circle
March 14, 1:30 p.m. - Ruth Circle
March 15, 1:30 p.m. - Lydia Circle
March 17, 9:30 a.m. - Spiritual Day Apart, Christ By The Sea, Vero Beach

Even though we had a smaller balance to begin the year, we have been able to recover and have



now paid approximately 39% of our Conference Apportionments. Our Parsonage Fund continues to grow and we will be able to meet our monthly payments for the year. Thank you for your continued support!

SECURITY TEAM: The Church Council received the initial report from the Security Team and authorized the Team to continue its work and prepare recommendations for the Council to consider. The Team met on February 12 and will present its recommendations at the March Council meeting. Due to many of the recent events at churches and schools, we ask that everyone be aware of their surroundings and “if you see something, say something.” Thanks to the Security Team members for their time and hard work.



REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 10.

The UMM thank everyone for attending the Valentine Dinner. The OHS Show Choir was fabulous and the steak dinner was really delicious. We were able to donate \$480 to the Youth Mission Trip. A special thanks to Richard Kersey and Vance Shirley for cooking, Cheri Watford and Robbin Dawson for the beautiful decorations and everyone who donated to the honorarium for the choir. The February meeting program was by Sharon Suits on her diving trip to the Galapagos Islands. Sharon prepared a video and still pictures that showed the beauty and uniqueness of the Islands. The UMM will have a Smoked Chicken Dinner on March 16. All men are invited to attend our meetings on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.



Our Maundy Thursday Communion Service will be held on March 29 at 7:00 p.m.



- 3rd - Merle Bass, Don Minor
- 4th - Debbie Krum
- 5th - Donna Tenniswood, D.J. Stevens
- 7th - M/M Simon VanBeek, Anna Lou Wilson
- 8th - Lillian Doane, Nora Ragamat, Nicholas Flood
- 9th - Doris Entry, Chris Straight
- 11th - Angela Raulerson
- 15th - Kenneth Tyson
- 16th - M/M Bill Chaffee
- 19th - M/M George Clement
- 20th - M/M Tom Yackamouih, Howard Harrison
- 21st - Karen Smith, Jane Juday
- 24th - Cathie Carpenter, Kathy Boswell, Carroll Head, Naomi Harris
- 25th - Kent Emley, M/M Kenneth Tyson, Joy Hanna
- 26th - Joy Burnham
- 27th - Ken Keller, Cristian Suarez
- 28th - Betty Stinnett, Kathryn Murphy, M/M Richard Kersey
- 29th - Cody Walker
- 30th - Karter Keller, Evan Keller
- 31st - Rick Gammill

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

The next Membership Class will be held on Sundays, March 4th and 11th from 9:45-10:30 a.m. in Room 18. This is for anyone wishing to know more about United Methodism and our church in particular. Please let us know if you are interested so that we have adequate materials by contacting Opal Wolff at 763-4393 or the Church Office at 763-4021.

