THE MESSENGER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 200 NW 2ND Street Okeechobee, Florida 34972-4174 Phone (863) 763-4021 www.fumcokee.com

APRIL, 2017



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

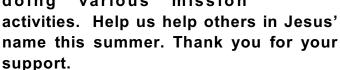
April 1, 9:30 a.m. Spiritual Day Apart, FUMC, Port St. Lucie

April 4, 5:45 p.m. - Executive Committee April 4, 7:00 p.m. - Esther Circle April 12, 1:30 p.m. - Ruth Circle

April 20, 1:30 p.m. - Lydia Circle

April 30, 11:15 a.m. - Unit Meeting

We are asking the church to help support the expenses for our youth's mission trip to Henderson Settlement, Frakes, KY, July 8-16. The goal is \$2,500. This year we will be doing various mission activities. Help us help others





Beginning, April 23 we will have one worship service at 10:00 a.m. and all Sunday School classes will begin at 8:30 a.m.

There will be a special workshop for children and their parents (and anyone else who wants to attend) on the United Methodist understanding of the sacraments: Baptism and Communion on Sunday, April 2 during the 11:00 a.m. Children's Church hour. Please plan on attending the service at 8:30 a.m. to hear the sermon, Sunday School and then our workshop. For more information, contact Nancy Fletcher, 763-4021.

Construction is coming along very quickly on the new parsonage. The walls, roof, interior framing, etc. are complete. Pictures are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Also, we will begin to



New Parsonage

"color" in the rooms on the floor plan as a "thermometer" to show our fund raising progress.



Thursday, April 13 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Easter Sunday, April 16
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service sponsored
by the OMA at the Rodeo
Arena, Hwy 441 N
9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Easter Cantata



We thank everyone for their support of our Smoked Chicken Dinner on March 24. It was another success.

Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to OHS Seniors at Awards Night. The March meeting speaker was Rev. Richard Barker. Barker is the Chaplain at the Okeechobee Correctional Facility and spoke on the challenges of offering religious services to the inmates and volunteer opportunities available at the prison.

The Fifth Sunday Offering for the Florida United Methodist Children's Home will be April 30. What began as the Florida Methodist



Orphanage in 1908 has grown into a diverse and complex ministry to meet the various needs of those who come for Your Florida United Methodist help. Children's Home now includes residential care, emergency shelter care, therapeutic group care, a teen mother/baby program, specialized treatment for bovs. independent living, foster care community child care center. About 120 children live on campus in 15 cottages. Each year, on average, about 65%-70% of the total funding comes from private Strong church support, including Fifth Sunday offerings in all Florida Conference United Methodist Churches, enables the Home to maintain its ministry as a Christian outreach to children. If you give a Memorial or Honor Gift to the Home, please note that you are a member of First, Okeechobee and your gift will count toward our goal. Thank you for remembering the children; they are depending on you.



Thanks to your faithful giving we have a positive balance and have paid 37% of our apportionments. FINANCIAL A letter has been sent asking for your support on paying our mortgage for the new parsonage. Please prayerfully consider this request and return your pledge card so we will know we can meet our monthly payments.

2nd - Billy Mattox

3rd - Bobbie Ezell, Wendy Passwaters, Judv Mattern



4th - R.J. Herndon

William Gillette

7th - Charlene Peck

8th - Pauline Davis

9th - Amy ProudFoot, Priscilla Rhodes

10th - Ryan Crawford, Doc Thrift, Judy McCutchan

11th - Elsie Close, Ethan Kersey

12th - M/M Aubrey Burnham

13th - M/M Clifford Matson

14th - Lauren Raulerson

15th - Diana James, Caitlyn Gaucin, Kendall Harrison

18th - Jenna Tenniswood, Brady Boak, Evelena Koch

19th - Shaina Ragamat, Tom Yackamouih

20th - Janice Mohr

21st - Kevin Shumate

22nd - Ray Fuller, Rachel Herndon, Ruth Watford, Elwin Kessler

23rd - Nicole Lynch

25th - Carrie Jones, Clifford Matson

26th - Evelyn Cherry, Orba Massey

28th - Jackie Flood

29th - Ernestine Robertson, Carolyn Sweatt, Judy Simpson, Joey Barletto, Martha Gillette

30th - Chelsea Walker

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