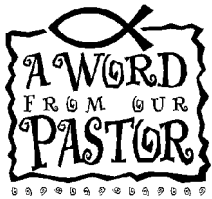


# THE MESSENGER

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SEPTEMBER, 2018



I voted today! It feels odd to vote on August 15<sup>th</sup> when the Primary is still almost 2 weeks away and the General Election is still months away. If you did not vote before you received this newsletter, then you missed the first go around and I am sorry. I was the 401<sup>st</sup> voter out of a potential 20,000 registered voters. If we get the usual 20% of registered voters or so then my vote is worth 5 votes or 4 more than of those who didn't vote. In the General Election, it will drop to as low as 2 if we get to 50%. I don't want to have more say in the election than 1/2 the people because I would love to see every voter participating. In the last Presidential Election, 69% of registered voters turned out in Okeechobee County, but in non-presidential years it is about half.

The reason I am writing this now is that by the time you read this we will have turned a corner. The General Election is ahead and every day for 2 more months, we will have political ads on every show and many a corner in our community. I worry that by November, many people will become discouraged and frustrated, but I believe it is important to vote! I know we live in a polarized country and indeed in households that are divided by party, but when we vote, we exercise a right for which many have fought. I don't care who you vote for, but just think, your vote is worth double this time around.

Pastor Don

In September the Missions Committee is collecting items for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). UMCOR is one of the first responders to hurricanes and disasters in the U.S. as well as overseas. The items must be new. Items needed are:



- Terry cloth hand towels
- Metal nail files, fingernail clippers (no emery boards, no toenail clippers)
- Children's blunt scissors
- Small individual pencil sharpeners (no emblems)
- School bags (14"x16" tote bags)
- New baby sweaters (open in the front)
- New cloth baby diapers (cloth only - no disposables)
- New baby gowns or sleepers



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

September 10, 5:45 p.m.

Executive Committee

September 10, 7:00 p.m. - Esther Circle

September 12, 1:30 p.m. - Ruth Circle

September 15, 9:30 a.m. - District Mission Study - Roseland UMC

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



**FROM PARISH NURSE DIANA SAUM, RN: Part II - 10 Easy Ways Seniors Can Boost Their Mental Health and Well Being**

- 6. **Go Back to School - Challenge your brain by taking a class at your local community college. Isn't there something you always wanted to know more about? Audit a class.**
- 7. **Get a Pet - Animals actually help us engage more socially. Your neighbor may not know your name, but they know your dog, "Spot".**
- 8. **Play Games - Try word puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, crossword puzzles, Suduko to keep your brain healthy and active. Join or start a card club. Learn to play Bridge.**
- 9. **Make a Deeper Spiritual Connection - Religion and the religious community that goes with it offers friendship, support, as well as activity. Plus it's a good place to volunteer.**
- 10. **Make a Difference - Volunteering comes in all shapes and sizes. Help locally in your community or if you can't leave home, volunteer at church to contact people who are shut-ins to check how they are doing. We all need human contact. An active senior is a healthy senior.**



- 1<sup>st</sup> - Jeanne Enfinger, James Hall, Vicki Green
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - M/M John Waite
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Roxy Wyatt
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Gary Kirsch
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Karen VanBeek, Joyce Gorham
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Ida Berlew
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Victoria Vaughn
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Joe Spangler
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Cheri Watford
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Minta Hayford, Ed Mucherino, Nancy Fletcher, India Coons
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Merle Hendry, David Wemmer, Kimberlee Marquis
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Brooke Snyder
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Jim Dawson
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Gail Minor, Rick Barnes
- 26<sup>th</sup> - M/M Don Minor
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Simon VanBeek
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Kylie Shirley

**If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or has been omitted, please contact the Church Office**

**The Cross and Flame:  
Conversations with Bishop Carter**

Join Bishop Carter at one of the fall regional gatherings. These events are open to all and there will be an opportunity to submit questions for Bishop Carter prior to the gatherings. Each event will begin at 6:30 p.m. and a reception will follow. The one being held in our area will be Tuesday, September 18 at First UMC, Boca Raton.

To register, please visit [www.flumc.org/bishopconversation](http://www.flumc.org/bishopconversation)



**A Big Lake ~ Highlands Men's Chorale Concert directed by Mike Zierden will be presented in our Sanctuary on Saturday, September 8 at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free. A free-will love offering will be taken.**

