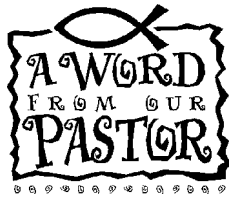


THE MESSENGER

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

June, 2020



Never have I seen the future less clearly! In the past, I have just assumed that tomorrow would look very much like today, but today is so uncertain. We are in the process of “opening up” as a community, state and nation, but the need for social distancing, masks and other things will continue for some time. We have never stopped worshiping on Sunday mornings! Our attendance has been as few as 6 on several weeks and that includes Joy and me, Jim and Robbin and Sheila. Ramiro Cortez has made it back and now we are running between 25 and 30 and are likely to have more in the coming weeks.

In order to be good stewards and to love one another, we are wearing masks on Sunday morning. It wasn't an issue when we had just a handful of people, but it is important for protecting those around us. We have blocked off seats to encourage sitting apart from each other and are actively looking for the means to create a hand sanitizing station near the entrances. We want those who attend to be safe, but understand that many will opt not to attend until it is safer.

I don't know when we can be back to church as “normal”. I suspect that we may always see some masks and it may be quite a while before we can have a choir again, but we will be here with online services at Facebook or YouTube.com (both are at Okeechobee First United Methodist). We may not have hugs or handshakes, but we will still be the church, virtually or literally because you are the church. Wherever we go, we go as the church. Be it the grocery store or doctor's office, be the church. Love one another and do good everywhere you can and tomorrow will look all the brighter!

God Bless,

Pastor Don

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!!

*Dalton Callahan
Gracie Frank
Kendall Harrison
Nicholas Hayford*

*Briana Hight
Allison Meara
Dallas Miller
Roxy Wyatt*



The United Methodist Men awarded four \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors. Our requirements are that the recipients must be an active member of the church. Our scholarships were given to:

Kendall Harrison - Kendall is active in Absolute Truth, SOWERS, and has gone on several mission trips. She plans to attend Florida Gulf Coast University and become a Nurse Practitioner; **Briana Hight** - Briana is a member of Absolute Truth and participated in mission trips. She plans to attend IRSC and become an RN; **Dallas Miller** - Dallas is active in Absolute Truth and also went on mission trips. She plans to attend IRSC and be a NICU RN; **Roxy Wyatt** - Roxy is active in Absolute Truth, SOWERS and participated in mission trips. She plans to attend Full Sail University and study graphic design. Congratulations to all the graduates!! The UMM hope to resume monthly meetings as soon as it is safe to do so.



The Finance Committee would like to thank you for your wonderful support during this uncertain time. Our offerings have been very good and many members have increased their giving. The church also received a PPP loan from the government. With the loan, we were able to keep all employees and did not have to lay anyone off. Thank you again for your outstanding financial support!

- 2nd - Michael Achy
- 3rd - William Chaffee
- 5th - Rev/Mrs Don Hanna
- 6th - Mary Alice Bobbitt, Elizabeth Stefanov, Betty Head
- 7th - M/M Randy Burnham
- 8th - Savannah Mintz
- 9th - Joe Ostavitz, Anna Wells
- 12th - Vanessa Watt, M/M Dennis Anderson, M/M Joe Juday
- 13th - Doug Wyatt, George Carpenter, Michelle Ostavitz
- 15th - Kayla Sorto, M/M Chad Clark
- 18th - Chris Watford
- 19th - Anna Jane O'Steen, Debbie Johnson
- 20th - Helen Jordan
- 21st - Dorothy Anderson, M/M Kenneth Keller
- 22nd - M/M Darrell Enfinger, Erin Bennett
- 24th - Campbell Streelman, Chris Askeland
- 25th - Christopher Ostavitz
- 26th - Carolyn Huffman
- 27th - M/M Ray Fuller
- 28th - M/M Joe Spangler, Marilyn Cox



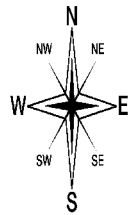
If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or has been omitted, please call the Church Office.

PUZZLE

Wherever we go

No matter where we journey, God always protects us.

Directions: Use the map and compass to answer the clues. Then write the boxed letters in order in the spaces below to complete Psalm 121:8, NIV.



Start at the SHIP.

Move 1 space N, 3 spaces E, and 2 spaces N

Start at the WORLD.

Move 1 space W, 1 space S, and 1 space SE

Start at the SUITCASE.

Move 1 space NE, 2 spaces S, and 1 space E

Start at the PLANE.

Move 2 spaces SW, 1 space S, and 1 space W

Start at the CAR.

Move 1 space E, 1 space N, and 1 space NW

Start at the SIGN.

Move 1 space SE, 1 space W, and 2 spaces NW

The _ ORD will watch ove_ your comi_g and go_ng
both no_ and for_ vermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV

Answer: plane, car, sign, ship, world, suitcase. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV