THE MESSENGER

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

March, 2021



The Giving Tree for March is the Days for Girls Project. Volunteers are sewing feminine hygiene kits for

women and girls where the disposable products we take for granted are not available. This international project has provided over two million kits to women and girls around the world. The following items are needed for these kits:

Hotel-size soaps

Girls Cotton Briefs - Sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 (Colors or prints)

Ladies Cotton Briefs - Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8 (Colors or prints)

Good quality 100% cotton flannel - medium or dark colors (Any size pieces larger than 12"x12")

Quilter's quality 100% cotton fabric - medium or dark colors (Any size pieces larger than 12"x12")

Grosgrain Ribbon ($\frac{1}{2}$ " or 5/8" wide at least 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards in length)

Cash to buy other supplies (Give to Lonnie Kirsch or put in offering plate in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Days for Girls"). If writing a check, please make it payable to UMW

EMAIL LIST - We would like to create an email list to send announcements, newsletters, etc. to our members. If you would like to receive emails, please contact the Church Office with your email address.

As we continue with limited activities and services, the finances of the church continue to suffer. Our giving for the first month of 2021 was below 2020's amount. With the PPP loan from the



government we were able to get through 2020 with a positive balance, but expenses still exceed our local giving by about \$5,400. We will continue to monitor expenses and encourage giving. Remember you can give by e-check or credit card by going to the church's website: fumcokee.com; News and Events; Giving/Budget; and then click on the link provided.



The February UMM meeting program was presented by Tim Putman and Michael Keen with 4Kids on the new CarePortal program.

CarePortal is an online system to connect churches with families that are in danger of having children removed from the home and put into the foster care program. Churches that join the program are provided email alerts with items that the family might need to safely keep the children at home. Items range from bedding, car seats, household items, or assistance with power or rent bills. The churches can then choose the things they can donate or provide financial assistance. There is no obligation to provide everything needed.

ATTENTION WINTER VISITORS: When packing to go home, if you have canned goods or non-perishable foods that have not reached their expiration date that you do not want to take with you or leave here, please consider donating them to the needy of Okeechobee. Place them in the laundry basket in the Fellowship Hall and they will be donated to Big Lake Missions.



REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 13.

The following committees will meet this month in the Fellowship Hall. Social distancing and masks will be required.



Finance Committee - March 18, 7:00 p.m. Staff-Parish Relations Committee - March 23, 7:00 p.m.

Church Council - March 25, 7:00 p.m.



- 2nd Bea Wayman
- 3rd Merle Bass, Arthur Sienes, Edward Thornton
- 4th Debbie Krum
- 5th Donna Tenniswood, D.J. Stevens, Ann Thigpen, Nanette Dotts
- 7th M/M Simon VanBeek, Anna Lou Wilson
- 8th 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, Mary McLaughlin
- 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, Ruth Anderson, Nancy Neunaber
- 26th Joy Burnham, George Jackson
- 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.