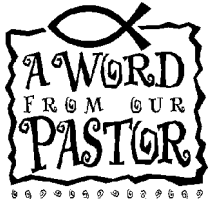


THE MESSENGER

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

April, 2021



We are in exciting days with the approach of Holy Week and signs that the pandemic is winding down. Now is not the time to relax our vigilance, but I believe there is a strong desire to get back to church. With that in mind, we will add an 8:30 a.m. service on Palm Sunday, March 28 and Easter Sunday, April 4. We will continue with our 10:00 a.m. service those Sunday's as well. This should make social distancing possible during these important services of the church. Thank you for your faithfulness through this difficult season.

Blessings,

Pastor Don

The Finance Committee would like to inform the congregation that unfortunately giving for the first 11 weeks of 2021 is 33% below giving for 2020. This is a very disturbing trend and we will need increased donations in order for us to maintain the current budget. With fewer winter visitors and lower attendance due to the pandemic, our offerings have decreased. Please prayerfully consider your financial support. If you are unable to attend our services, please mail or drop off your tithe to the Church Office, or you can give by credit card or e-check on our website fumcokee.com. Thank you for your generosity!



ANNUAL AND GENERAL CONFERENCES:
The 2021 Annual Conference will be held virtually due to the pandemic. The dates will be June 11 & 12. Recognition of licenses and services of commissioning and ordination will be held at First United Methodist Church of Lakeland and will be live-streamed. The General Conference originally planned for August, 2021 has been postponed to August 29-September 6, 2022 in Minneapolis, MN.

In response to last month's support children in danger of going into the foster care system, the UMM agreed to participate in the program. We will be contacted by email with specific needs (i.e. car seat, crib, child's bed, etc). We can donate a gently used item or purchase the item for the child. Let the UMM know if you would like to help.





- 3rd - Judy Mattern, Alysa Comfort
- 9th - Priscilla Rhodes
- 10th - Doc Thrift, Judy McCutchan
- 11th - Elsie Close, Ethan Kersey, Darleen Bradford Pat Klapper

- 12th - M/M Aubrey Burnham
- 13th - M/M Clifford Matson
- 14th - Lauren Raulerson
- 15th - Caitlyn Gaucin, Kendall Harrison
- 16th - Chad Clark
- 19th - Shaina Ragamat, Tom Yackamouih
- 20th - Janice Mohr
- 22nd - Ray Fuller, Ruth Watford, Elwin Kessler, Carl Holcomb, Judy Russ
- 23rd - Nicole Plant
- 25th - Clifford Matson, Linda Austin
- 26th - Evelyn Cherry
- 28th - Jackie Flood
- 29th - Ernestine Robertson, Carolyn Sweatt, Judy Simpson, Martha Gillette
- 30th - Chelsea Walker

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

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.

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.





PUZZLE

EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV