## THE MESSENGER

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

SEPTEMBER, 2021



As we reported last month, we were able to completely pay for the Sanctuary roof repairs with your very generous giving. The Trustees have determined that the Sunday School/Office wing

roof is in dire need of repair. Several spots are leaking, and we have ceiling damage in some rooms. They are in the process of getting bids. Hopefully we can fund out of existing funds and will not have to have another appeal. We thank the congregation very much for the continued support!

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

September 7 - 5:45 p.m. Executive Committee

September 7 - 7:00 p.m. Esther Circle September 8 - 1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle September 16 - 1:30 p.m. Lydia Circle



The UMM continue to FIT ANSHIP serve those in need through the Care Portal program that serves children who are in danger of going into foster care. Below are two of the caseworker

requests to which we have responded. We provided a \$150 gift card for clothing in the first case, and provided \$100 for the FPL bill in the second case.

"This is an in-home case. This is a family of seven members. There are five

children and two adults in the family. The father works to support the whole family, and the mother stays in the home and takes care of the children. The father used to work long hours, but due to the investigation and open case he has had to miss work causing him to get behind in bills. He currently owes \$367.00 for his utilities bill and is unable to pay it. He also needs assistance with school supplies and clothes for the children".

"The family consists of 6 children in the home, ages: 13, 11, 9, 8, 7, 5. The parents are in the process of getting a divorce. The father has already left the home and left the mother to care for her 6 children and taking care of bills. The mother has no help from her husband and she is struggling to provide for the family. She has another daughter age 17 who does not live in the home and has a child of her own, but frequently comes to the home to help as much as possible. For FPL, the mother owes \$272 immediately, but the total \$644 is due August 2<sup>nd</sup>. For OUA, the mother owes \$127 by 7/19. The mother would benefit from financial assistance and will ensure the children's stability. Any help would be greatly appreciated".

The UMM will have their Smoked Chicken Dinner again on November 19. This will be our first fund raising event since the COVID outbreak and we ask for your support. More information will be in next month's newsletter.



The September Giving Tree is for hygiene kits for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). UMCOR is one of the first responders to all disasters in the United States and around the

world. The following items are included in each kit:

- 1 Hand towel 15"x25" to 17"x27" No kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels
- 1 Washcloth <u>No</u> kitchen, cleaning or microfiber
- 1 Comb Sturdy, longer than at least 6"; <u>No</u> rattail or picks, please
- 1 Toenail or fingernail clipper No emery boards or metal nail files, please
- 1 Bath-size soap 3 oz. bar or larger in original packaging <u>No</u> Ivory or Jergen's
- 1 Adult toothbrush in its original packaging10 Adhesive bandages 3/4"x3" (Band-aids or similar)
- 1 One-gallon size re-sealable plastic bag
  - · All items must be new
  - Do not wash any of the items as they will no longer be considered new
  - Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols
- 1<sup>st</sup> Jeanne Enfinger, James Hall, Vicki Green, Aloma Clark, M/M Ernie Wayman
- 3<sup>rd</sup> M/M John Waite, Mary Thompson
- 5<sup>th</sup> M/M George Cox
- 7<sup>th</sup> Roxy Wyatt
- 9th Gary Kirsch, Fred Hofmann
- 10<sup>th</sup> Karen VanBeek, Arlene Clark, Donald Comfort, Ramiro Cortez, Garry Savage
- 11th Ida Berlew
- 12th Carolyn Barrett, Peggy Smith
- 13th Patti Padgett
- 14th Victoria Vaughn, Steve McKinley

- 15<sup>th</sup> Joe Spangler
- 17th Dawn Troyer
- 18th Cheri Watford
- 19<sup>th</sup> Minta Hayford, Ed Mucherino, Nancy Fletcher, India Coons
- 20<sup>th</sup> Merle Hendry, David Wemmer, Kimberlee Marquis
- 21st Brooke Snyder, George Cox
- 24th Jim Dawson
- 25th Gail Minor, Rick Barnes
- 26th Robert Woody
- 27th Simon VanBeek, Steve Padgett
- 29th Dolly Kressley
- 30<sup>th</sup> Kylie Nix, Billye Oden, Andy Troyer

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

