

THE MESSENGER

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

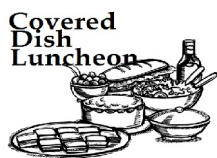
NOVEMBER, 2025



The United Women in Faith invite everyone to attend their Annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 1 from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a Christmas area offering a selection of Christmas items and gifts. Crafts, nuts (limited amount), and baked goods will also be for sale. Craft donations are always welcome. Donations of baked goods are appreciated. Good sellers include fudge, cookies, small breads (such as banana) and brownies. Please bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Friday morning or early Saturday morning. Local arts and crafts vendors will have items for sale. If interested in being a vendor, or know someone who would like to be one, see Lonnie Kirsch. Nut pre-orders will be available for pickup at the Bazaar. A limited number of nuts will be available for sale on the day of the Bazaar. Plan on staying for lunch. Soup, sandwiches and dessert will be available from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Proceeds to benefit mission projects local, national and international. Come and bring a friend, or two!

On Sunday, November 2, following the worship service there will be a covered dish luncheon in the Fellowship Hall for everyone.

The meat will be provided. Bring your favorite vegetable, salad, side dish or dessert and plan to join us for great food and fellowship.



Remember to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 1!



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

November 1, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Bazaar
November 4, 1:00 p.m. - Exec. Committee
November 12, 11:30 a.m. - Regal Pizza
November 12, 1:00 p.m. - Ruth Circle
November 20, 1:00 p.m. - Lydia Circle

Our Annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday, November 9 at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Finance Committee has finalized the 2026 Budget and made some changes to improve our financial situation.

At the recommendation of the Staff-Parish Committee, we have reduced salaries substantially. As Pastor Don has begun receiving his Social Security, he has offered to reduce his salary, the Administrative Assistant will be reduced to 4 days a week at a reduced salary, and the Custodian will have reduced hours. The bookkeeping duties will also go from a Treasurer to a CPA firm at a lower cost. We appreciate our staff members being willing to adjust their salaries to help our budget!





2nd - Ed Bobbitt, JoAnn Butler
6th - Joe Juday
10th - Mark Thompson
13th - Larry White
19th - M/M Jim Dawson,
Robbin Dawson
20th - Rosemary Hill, Wesley Hill

25th - Judy Sienes
26th - M/M Ed Fletcher
28th - M/M Steve McKinley
29th - Christy Spangler, Opal Wolff



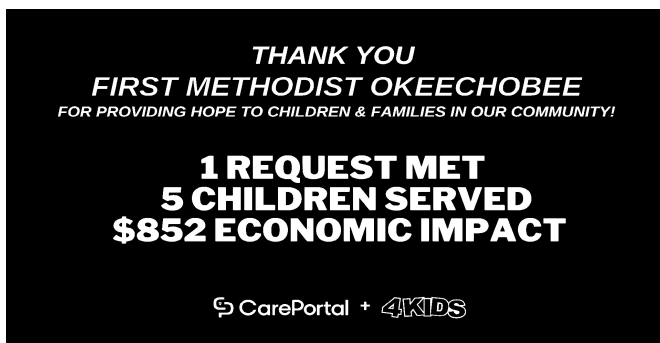
The Methodist Men's meeting on October 20 featured a program by Larry Simmons of the Okeechobee Gideon Camp.

The Camp has recently reactivated and now has several members. Larry spoke about the work and mission of the Gideons and encouraged all men to either join the Gideons or become a Friend of the Gideons to help spread the Gospel. They would like to have a least one member from each church. Contact Larry at (561) 261-1000 if you would like more information or are interested in joining.



A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the Pumpkin Patch and supported the project by purchasing pumpkins. A special thank you to the OHS football team and our members that assisted in unloading the truck of 2,629 large pumpkins plus hundreds of smaller ones. Our thanks also to Mike Holmes, Vance Shirley, Dowling Watford and Pastor Don for transporting and placing pallets; Doc Thrift for repairing the signs and displays; Ed Fletcher for the use of his wagon; Robbin Dawson for collecting and counting money and maintaining boxed items; Vance Shirley and Dowling Watford for maintaining the patch. This was our highest sales year ever!

The Methodist Men will sponsor a Yard Sale on January 10, 2026 in the back parking lot. To make this a large event, the men have invited the SAR and SCV organizations to participate. If you have items to donate, please contact Dowling Watford.



The United Women in Faith would like to thank everyone for their generous support of our annual nut sale and Bazaar. Both were successful! Your support enables our unit to continue our mission giving for children, youth, and women, locally, nationally, and internationally. Women not already active in our local unit, and would like to be, or to learn more about it, please see Opal Wolff.

