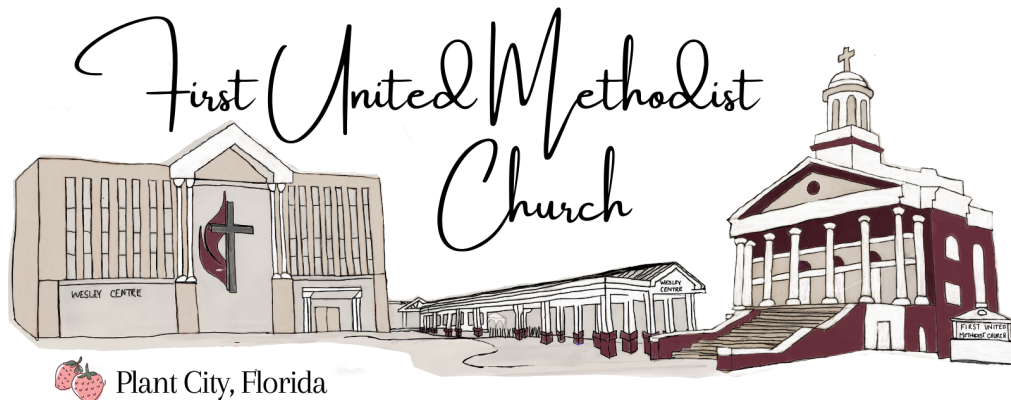


APRIL 25 - MAY 1, 2021

THE VINE

Reach UP In Worship.
Reach OUT In Mission.
Reach DEEP In Discipleship



WORSHIP

Praise | Prayer | Communion

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Nita Shaw and in commemoration of her birthday on April 30.

The 2021 Flower Chart is posted in the case near the Pastors' offices. Cost is \$25 per Sunday for two arrangements. Payments should note "Altar Flowers". You may sign up in person or contact the church office to reserve a spot to honor or commemorate someone special.



Our Faithfulness

Annual budget 2021 - - - \$ 553,514.16

Weekly requirement - - - \$ 10,644.50

Donations as of April 18 - - - \$ 144,161.59

THE UPPER ROOM MAY/JUNE

The March/April edition of The Upper Room is available for pick up at the church. You may pick up one on Sunday mornings during the worship services, or Monday thru Thursday at the Red Door between the hours of 9AM-12PM and 1-4PM.



Choir practice has returned on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary.

Join us as we learn hymns, sing together, and prepare for Traditional Worship on Sunday's at 11AM.

Please contact the music department at music.fumcpc@gmail.com for more information or feel free to show up on Wednesday night!

MISSION

Grace | Mercy | Justice



Prayer Chain

Prayer warriors may add their names to the prayer chain in a couple of ways, according to how you would like to contact us and how you would like to be contacted:

- Shirley Robertson at 813-389-7174
- Audrey Montella by text 813-966-5698 or email audreymontella40@gmail.com

When anyone hears of a prayer request or need we pass the information along to the others. Mighty and fervent prayers will be sent up to the Lord from the whole group.

Please keep our sister churches and all our brothers and sisters in Christ in your thoughts and prayers during these particularly difficult times. Due to the increase in Covid-19 cases the Cuban government has shut down all church services while allowing many businesses and other activities to stay open. Our sister churches are reaching out to their congregations on Facebook, which is another challenge since internet is not common in homes in Cuba. Our sister churches are getting together in small groups in homes but must be discreet about their meetings.

Both parties for the purchase of the house in Cabo Cruz for our expanded ministry are ready to close but due to Covid-19 all public law offices are shut so the transfer has now been delayed.



JERICO ROAD FUND

Luke 3:11 NIV

John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same."



The church is here during difficult times for its church members. If you find yourself in need of help or if you are able to donate to this fund, please contact Pastor Stephen Hartsfield at (386) 848-6392 or email him at pastorstephen@tampabay.rr.com.

Plant City Food Bank sent out an urgent call for donations. The demand for their services has increased tremendously. Many of us want to reach out to those who are in need and feel pretty helpless with social distancing.

If you are able to purchase a few extra items each week while grocery shopping, the help will be appreciated. If everyone gave a few things we could make a big impact. You may bring your donations on Sundays or to the red door of the main building during office hours.

Sunday

Contemporary Service 9 AM

Children's Church available

Traditional Service 11 AM

Monday

Deadline for The Vine 4 PM

Tuesday

Staff Meeting 1:30 PM

Boy Scouts 6 PM

Wednesday

The LOFT: *Student Ministries* 5PM

Praise Team 6:30 PM

Choir 7:30 PM

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Weekly Devotion By Pastor Dennis

Proverbs 14:23 “All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.”

Before Theodore Roosevelt became President, he was an avid sportsman and hunter. However, few people were aware of his efforts for conservation. After a hunting trip to the Dakotas in 1887, he returned to his East Coast home concerned that trees were being cut down carelessly, animals were being slaughtered by “game-butchers,” and the grasslands were becoming a desert.

Mr. Roosevelt did more than talk. He founded the Boone & Crocket Club, dedicated to the preservation of wilderness in America. Largely through that club’s influence, legislation was passed to protect Yellowstone National Park and the sequoia trees in California. It also served to regulate hunting practices.

Our faith and our family standards deserve the same efforts and protection. In the book of James chapter 2 vs.14, James asked..... “What good is it my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds?”

When Jesus was crucified, He left His Church in the hands of His apostles. It was up to them to share the Good News of Jesus Christ a world which was greatly influenced by a legalistic Sanhedrin. For their efforts, every apostle except one (John) was killed.

Fortunately, Christians today do not have to fear such persecution. Yet, the responsibility of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ is still ours.

What We Should Know

The Christian Church today is in serious decline and, without our efforts, it will continue on that “slippery slope.” Let us work together. Participate in small groups and studies. Invite people to church. Tithe and give to build the ministry. Let’s do all we can to build the kingdom. Hoping for change rarely brings about change. Work, however, generally does!

DISCIPLESHIP

Scripture | Tradition | Experience | Reason

Children's Church meets each Sunday during the 9 am Contemporary Service in the Wesley Centre with Lead Teacher, Amanda Comer.



We are excited that our attendance is growing, as more of our families return to in-person worship! If you are still considering your return to in-person, we want to assure you that all church service meeting areas, including the Children's Church room, are sanitized before each service.

Our church family, including adults and children, is extremely conscientious about required face coverings and social distancing outside of family groups, as we all share the responsibility for our church family's health and safety.

Because we are growing, we need an adult assistant to help us with Children's Church each Sunday. PLEASE consider this opportunity to volunteer! Experiences with our children are the BEST, and your help will make an immeasurable impact on our children's faith walk!

You may commit one Sunday at a time on a regular schedule or on the occasional Sunday you are available, whatever works for you. WE NEED YOU NOW!!

Please contact Ginny Roebuck by phone or text at 813-505-9399 or email at g_roebuck@msn.com to say "YES, you will help and when you would like to start"!



Last Saturday several members of our dedicated and hardworking Band of Brothers spent the entire day pressure washing and sprucing up our church playground for our children! This was truly a labor of love, as these men, all dads of older children and/or granddads, gave their time and effort to serving God by preparing the playground for our children's enjoyment and fellowship. Sunday morning our children enthusiastically showed their appreciation! Thank you, Band of Brothers, for your work and, more importantly, for your witness to your faith!

