



303 N. Evers St.
 Plant City FL 33563
 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
 9 AM-12 PM & 1 PM-4 PM
 (813) 754-3519
 firstchurchplantcity.com

THE VINE

Week of: April 26 - May 2, 2020

MINISTRY CONNECTION

How to stay involved:

1 SIGN UP

Register your email to receive electronic communications from First United Methodist Church of Plant City. There are two weekly emails. The first is the Faith Flash which is sent on Thursdays and includes helpful ministry connections, small group updates, and the needs of the Church. The second is a Sunday Morning Worship reminder, which includes a PDF of "The Vine" as well as accompanying information like the song list, and scripture readings.

Visit <https://firstchurchplantcity.com/about-us/our-e-newsletter/>

2 FOLLOW US

Keep up with everyday ministry and get time-sensitive information directly from one of our many social media pages, including:

- Twitter - <https://twitter.com/FUMCPlantCity>
- Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchplantcity/>
- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchPC/>
- YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/user/1stUMCPlantCityFL>

3 SEE AND BE SEEN

We may not meet in person these days, but we still need that social connection. So much can be gleaned just from a picture of your face! Send us pictures of how you, your friends, your family, are spending your time. Any tips to share about schedules, projects, or time management? Email us! fumcpc@tampabay.rr.com

4 GET INVOLVED...FROM HOME

There is a misconception about volunteering that you must be present to help. Not so! The Church has many opportunities to help us fulfill needs in the community. For instance, our new phone trees have been formed for this crisis, and they are positions that can be filled remotely.

5 CONNECTING WITH OUR "UNCONNECTED"

Each one of us knows at least one person who is not tech savvy, or maybe not connected in ways we take for granted. This outreach is imperative for the people who are isolated without the knowledge of the tech world and its many connective opportunities.

For questions, please email fumcpc@tampabay.rr.com or call (813) 754-3519
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Tithes and offerings are being accepted online through members.myeoffering.com or you can mail your contributions to:
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Our children have THREE online worship, fellowship, and study opportunities. We will also borrow the invitation from the “grown-up” invitation to worship on Facebook - “You can bring your dog or cat to church!”

Children’s Worship video online on Sunday morning, following the regular service and available online continuously for your convenience. Videos from all previous services are still available for viewing. These videos could be excellent “short movie” time for your children as you plan at-home activities, and they will help to keep our children connected to our church family! We are communicating individually to each parent to be sure all can tune in. Please be sure you are on her list. You can call the office to be added!!

Children’s Fellowship, Bible Study, and Crafts on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm with Jenny Kime via Zoom. Jenny welcomes all of our children to join. Simply download the Zoom app to phone, tablet, or computer. Each week Jenny will send the log-in code to participants. If you are not yet on our parents’ list, please call the church office and give your cell number to be added to our children’s roll.

Children’s Church on Sundays, via Zoom, usually following Children’s Worship online. Miss Ginny or Jenny notify parents of time and sign-in code each Sunday. If you are not yet on our parents’ list, please call the church office and give your cell number to be added to our children’s roll.

Plant City Food Bank sent out an urgent call for donations. The demand for their services has increased tremendously.

How you can participate in a church-wide food drive to take to PC Food Bank: Many of us want to reach out to those are in need and feel pretty helpless with the 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. If you find yourself driving past the church on an essential outing and you have non-perishable goods to donate, a drop off spot will be available outside the Red Door on the northwest side of the traditional building Monday through Thursday. If you cannot participate, please do not feel obligated. Shelf stable items are needed.

Recommendations: peanut butter, jelly, cereals, pasta, rice, pasta sauce, canned meats. Volunteers are willing to pick up goods from the church and deliver donations to the PC Food Bank.

Tip: Order your groceries and pick them up curbside to avoid contact with people. For more information please contact Kathy Baker at kathryn953@verizon.net

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS & STORIES!

We want to see you! Show us what you, and anyone you know, is up to while we work to flatten the curve and stay healthy. Email pictures, stories, or both to Jennifer Kramer at jenn.m.kramer@gmail.com and they may be featured in Church communications!



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This week, the children were invited to send Mrs. Jenny picture of themselves climbing trees, and here are some of the submissions. Also, Madycen, on the left, celebrated her 9th birthday this week! Happy Birthday, Madycen!

At Home with Nita

by Nita Shaw

I have spent considerable time this morning with many many memories of past Easters, and contemplating on the future ones. What did it all mean? I think of the memories that Christ dying on the Cross has brought to all of us - whether we accept it or not. I was visiting Lake Wales United Methodist Church some years ago when a dear cousin said, "Every day you are making memories, what kind of memories are you making?" That statement haunts me. As I dealt with so many children through the years I ask myself - "What kind of memories have I left for those little people."

As a classroom teacher I focused at the end of the day in pointing out to the class of 30 the things we had enjoyed, NOT the problems we had. EACH got a hug and slap on the rump and sent to their other life. I did not know to what environment they may be going. Every child's name would be left on the board - only good names were ever put on the board. If I noticed even the most trying student doing anything to give a good comment about I would put that name on the board. I am sure through the years I must have disappointed some of my treasures. In my classroom and later my guidance suite I had a large bulletin board- "Where do you go when you hurt?" Scattered around was pictures of parents, grand parents, friends, teachers, centered in the middle was simply the church. I did have to be careful. In small groups we would discuss the bulletin board and 'hurts' children might experience - even skinned knees. To today, during this Corona Virus shut down, I want us to focus on this time - memories, you see, we are even making them today. Are we grumbling about who did or didn't make good decisions, whining, baking cookies with the kids, calling people and just chatting like we love to do....What? Stephen has asked us to send pictures to share even in the distance, that we might enjoy memories of each other. Have a blessed week-end - See you all at 'church' Sunday..... Just sit, remember the wonderful life you have.

We will ALL put one foot in front of the other and move forward together.

We are accustomed to helping individuals move forward, but have we all had to circle 'hand' and moved forward? We'll have so much hugging and sharing to do when we can all get together again. I imagine each of us will have changed.....