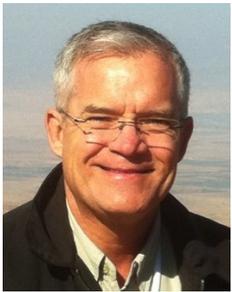




June 2019

Monthly Publication



Vic's Views....

Memorial Stone

Joe passed away. His will provided \$30,000 for an elaborate funeral.

As the last guests departed the affair, his wife, Helen, turned to her oldest friend.

"Well, I'm sure Joe would be pleased," she said.

"I'm sure you're right," replied Jody, who lowered her voice and leaned in close.

"How much did this really cost?"

"All of it," said Helen. "Thirty thousand."

"No!" Jody exclaimed. "I mean, it was very nice, but \$30,000?"

Helen answered. "The funeral was \$6,500. I donated \$500 to the church. The wake, food, and drinks were another \$500. The rest went for the memorial stone."

Jody computed quickly. "\$22,500 for a memorial stone? My goodness, how big is it?!"

"Two and a half carats."

Memorial stones are important! Not the sparkly kind referenced above necessarily, but stones that mark a time and place of significance in our lives.

The nation of Israel pulled 12 memorial stones from the dry Jordan River bed to set up a marker of how God miraculously held the waters back for them to pass-through to enter the promised land (Joshua 4).

Every faithful Jewish person remembered God's miracle when they saw that stone monument. And in remembering they drew strength for what God would do in the future!

God is at work all the time but it is up to us to set the marker for it. God leaves that for us to do.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

So what memorial stones are you putting in place today to mark the miracle that God has brought about in your life? What stone marker in your life commemorates the healing that came your way? What stone monument have you put in place to remind you of God's faithfulness?

In church a couple of weeks ago I showed a picture of the sidewalk on which I used to sit and pray for my future children. I was a teenager at the time and hadn't even met my wife yet. But that slab of sidewalk is now a stone monument to God's answer to my prayers! The blessing of children and the fulfilled promise of his leading and guiding is as great a miracle as the parting of the Jordan.

So what is that for you? It's important that you set a marker. Markers help us remember. It may not be a literal stone edifice but it should be like stone that it stands the test of time as a reminder.

Debbie and I have what our children dubbed the "love tree:" a smooth-barked sycamore in Ritter Park, Huntington, West Virginia. At the risk of being charged with defacing state property 42 years ago, I'll tell you it is where Debbie and I carved our initials: VW+DL. We've even been repeat offenders by digging out the scars years later when they began to heal over. It's not a stone monument but it has stood the test of time with a little help from my Case XX (those who know pocket knives will know what I'm talking about).

But more than that, it's been an important marker along the way, helping us to remember the love that brought us together in the first place and the calling we both share to tell people how loving God is and how He will not let them down.

Whether your marker is stone or a tree or maybe even a sparkly diamond, let it be the long-standing reminder of God's faithfulness so that you can gain strength for the challenges ahead.

Jeremiah 31:21 says "*With rock piles and signposts, mark the road well, my dear people. The road by which you left by will now lead you home.*"

You are Loved!

Pastor Vic Willis





Pastor Perri & Family

How do I start to say goodbye? So much has happened in these four years with ya'll. So here is my hodgepodge of I love yous.

Staff....Thank you for welcoming me, letting me learn from my mistakes, collaborating to make things happen, planning together, for the times over meals, for the holy moments, for your pursuit to love God more and share Him with the world. It's been an honor to serve with you.

Children's Ministry and Preschool....Thank you for loving my tiny humans and raising them up to know God and love Jesus. They learned to crawl on the altar steps, walk and run down these halls (even though they are constantly told to quit running in the building. Hehe!) They learned their letters, numbers and how to share in this place. They have had amazing Nursery, Sunday School and Preschool Teachers. Thank you for welcoming my Mom, Debbie, to serve in this space with her grandkids. She loves her Wednesday nights with all the kids. Ya'll will be greatly missed.

Youth and 18-20s....Gil and I never dreamed we would get to serve together in my first church. He loved his years with ya'll and we are a phone call or text away. We loved watching ya'll grow to ask the harder questions of faith, doing fun outings with ya'll and watching the friendships ya'll built along the way. Keep seeking God in all you do! We love ya'll!

United Methodist Men....Thank you for the discipleship and service you do gathered around the breakfast table. Ya'll welcomed my Dad, Bill, in to share a meal with you. You invited him to go visit shut ins with you, work the pancake breakfasts and

sponsored him on the Emmaus walk. I have watched this old man's faith grow before my eyes. I credit that to your desire to love God for yourselves and to help other men grow to love Jesus more too. I thank you! I encourage you, keep going. The work isn't over. The journey continues. May God be glorified!

United Methodist Women and Praying in His Presence....Ya'll are all over this campus, serving, crafting, eating, praying and in seasons buying diapers for us. This is the first church I've been at with a UMW and I'm happy to say I've been here to experience and serve with ya'll. Thank you for loving Nana as your own. She found great joy in her circle cooking for ya'll, being with ya'll and your prayers. I have watched the weekly prayer request list change and I have heard countless prayers answered that you ladies spent time praying over. I love you! Thank you all!

Acolytes, Ushers, Greeters, Communion Team, Welcome Desk, Praise Team and Choir for all three services....It has been an honor to get to know ya'll and serve with ya'll. Thank you for all you do to help our congregation feel the tangible reality that the presence of the Lord is in this place at every service we offer. Keep doing it! Keep welcoming newcomers into your midst. I love you and thank you!

Methodist in Action (MIA)....It has been a true joy to come here knowing parents were seeking a place to gather and getting to be a part of starting this group. We have shared praises and prayers, tears and laughs, silly moments and holy grounds. We have beached it, bowled it and trampoline jumped it. We served and laughed as we had Michael Jr. here. We have studied the scriptures and learned from each other. We have served together. I have had the privilege and honor to baptize many of you and your sweet tiny humans. I've married some of your children and walked with some of ya'll through deep loss of pregnancies, children, spouses and parents. I hold all of these moments very dear. Now keep bringing others in and loving them the way ya'll love each other. Keep seeking God with all our hearts and find

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

the resting place in the Parlor as a sacred and holy place to lean in deeper to God's hopes and dreams for you. I love you!

If you don't feel you fit any of these other titles....Maybe you don't but that doesn't mean you haven't meant so much to me and my family. Every hospital visit, home visit, last visit, ice cream visit, or just when you pop into my office, I have found special. Many times I call myself the minister, walking the sanctuary before or after the services, or into your room at the hospital, but when I leave that moment, place or phone call, I notice God comforted you and your presence and story have ministered to me. Thank you! I love you!

When I came here, a friend of mine made me a painting for my office. It is from a hymn that says, "I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart." Englewood United Methodist Church, I hold you in my heart. Thank you for the opportunity to love and serve this community together.

Until next time,

Pastor Perri



Sunday School Class

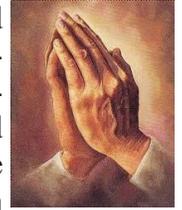
Our SingleHearted Women's Sunday School class is issuing a call for new members. This is a small class strictly for the ladies! Here we enjoy a special kind of nurturing friendship by sharing our hurts and our joys, our struggles and our victories through Faith.

The class has been meeting for over 20 years and is currently using the Uniform Series published by Cokesbury to heighten our understanding of the importance of Biblical principles in our lives.

We would love to have you visit us at 9:15am each Sunday in the Parlor (Room 101)!

God's Amazing Grace

More than 24 years ago Pam and her husband Bob were serving as missionaries to the Philippines and praying for a fifth child. Pam contracted amoebic dysentery, an infection of the intestine caused by a parasite found in contaminated food or drink.



Pam went into a coma and was treated with strong antibiotics before they discovered she was pregnant. Doctors urged her to abort the baby for her own safety, telling her the medicines had caused irreversible damage to the baby. She refused the abortion and cited her Christian faith as the reason for her hope, and that her child would be born without the devastating disabilities physicians predicted.

While pregnant Pam nearly lost their baby four times, but still refused to consider abortion. She recalled making a pledge to God with her husband: if you give us a son we'll name him Timothy, and we'll make him a preacher.

Pam ultimately spent the last two months of her pregnancy in bed and eventually gave birth to a healthy baby boy August 14, 1987. Pam's youngest son is indeed a preacher. He preaches in prisons, makes hospital visits, and serves with his father's ministry in the Philippines. He also plays football and baseball. His name is Tim Tebow!

Even before Tim was born, God had a plan for his life; a life that was nearly ended before he was born! Despite the advice of the doctors, and several near miscarriages, Tim's parents trusted in Jesus. Tim was born a healthy baby, destined to carry out God's plan. Yes, he became a famous football player, but that was just part of God's plan; to provide the funds to make Tim's ministry a reality. Like his parents Tim trusted Jesus. Now every year churches are sharing the love of Jesus with thousands, in the event called Night to Shine. The next time EUMC hosts "Night to Shine" think about how you might serve as a volunteer, and be ready to share Jesus' love.

Barbara Terardi,

Prayer, In His Presence

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p><i>At Home</i> Fran Altman Jimmy Clovis Joe & Ethel Croce Audrey Grant Lori Ierardi Howard & Nan Jackson Jean Kushall Deborah Larsen Geri Meneely Roger & Barb Molendyke Jackie Morton Damon & Ruth Runyon Adele Stewart Mary Thompson Matt & Helen Williams Gina Willis Virginia Wilson</p> <p><i>Aston Gardens</i> Barbara Liddle</p> <p><i>Bay Breeze</i> Dorothea Fleming</p> <p><i>Brookdale Palmer Ranch</i> Vivian Slimak</p> | <p><i>Brookdale Venice</i> Jim Roch</p> <p><i>Family Affair</i> Marjorie Fitzgerald</p> <p><i>Gardens of Venice</i> Alice Buck</p> <p><i>Grand Villa</i> Margaret Cypher Jim & Shirley Davis Diane Keemon</p> <p><i>Heritage Oaks</i> Frances Bates Helen Campbell Sandra Dussault Peg Grim Coleen Haag Charles Lindberg Willard & Janet Wilson</p> <p><i>Inglenook</i> Jeanne Sawyer</p> <p><i>Jacaranda Trace</i> Margie Laney</p> | <p><i>Live Oak Manor</i> Shirleen Gallagher</p> <p><i>Magnolia Acres</i> Gayle Davis Dorothy Hill</p> <p><i>North Port Pines</i> Janice Reynolds</p> <p><i>Pinebrook</i> Geri Demmin Dorothea Fleming</p> <p><i>Quality Care</i> Jenny Chastain Dick Davis</p> <p><i>Sunset Lakes Village</i> Al King Vivian Miller</p> <p><i>Towers of Venice</i> Audrey MacEhiney-Rogers</p> <p><i>Tuscan Gardens</i> John & Janice Watson</p> |
|---|--|--|



The journey of life is such an interesting one. Some pastors in our Methodist church are in transition this month. We say farewell to Pastor Perri and look forward to greeting Pastor Bo and his family. I have had twelve experiences of moving to different congregations during my nearly 50 years of ministry. Each of us move through life having to make moves at times. I think of many who have to consider going into assisted living and adjusting to the newness of the day. God knows just where we ought to be and what we need at any given time. We can be on earth and walk through each day in a heavenly way because Jesus took all our sins away and within our heart a song of joy and redemption can ring. We know where we are and we know where we're going and we know that along the way He is with us, loving us, finding us, seeking us, keeping us. I read recently a note by Paula Finn and she expressed some beautiful thoughts about a journey which allowed thought and contemplation. We are on this journey where each experience will teach us something valuable and we can't get lost for we know the way of the heart. It is a universal yet uniquely personal and profound journey, yet astonishingly simple – where sometimes we stumble and other times you will soar. We learn that even in our darkest points, we have a light. At the most difficult crossroads, we have an answer and the answer to our every need. Friends and family will accompany us part of the way, and we'll walk the rest of the way alone. ... but we will never be alone, for He walks with us and He talks with us. We can travel at our own pace. There'll be time enough to learn all you need to know and go as far as we are meant to go.

I've traveled so much in life that I encourage you to travel light. Letting go of extra baggage will keep your arms open and your heart free to fully embrace the gifts of the moment. You may not always know exactly where you're headed on this earth but if you follow the desires of your heart, the integrity of your conscience and the wisdom of your soul, then each step will lead you to discover more of who you really are, and it will be a step that God has lead you in the right direction of a lifetime.

He leadeth me, O blessed thought. Where are you headed today? Exciting!!!! *Pastor Don*



Fall Mission Trip Planned

Would you like to help someone be *Warmer, Safer, and Drier* this winter? Marty Bencsik and Margie Kennedy are organizing the Appalachia Service Project Fall mission trip to Jonesville, VA. There are 8-10 volunteer spots available to create two work teams that will work for a week on homes of needy folks. We need guys and gals to volunteer.

Volunteers are required to raise/contribute \$350 to cover transportation, lodging, meals, and building materials. Volunteers will leave EUMC October 13th and return October 21st.

If you are unable to come and work but are interested in supporting this program, please contact:

Marty Bencsik, 734-788-1065 or email:
pinesandbox@sbcglobal.net
or Margie Kennedy, 207-233-3200

New Members Class

The new members classes will not be held during June or July. The next classes will be held Tuesdays, August 13th and 20th for those interested in joining the church. Classes are from 6:00—8:00pm. (room to be announced). Membership Joining Sunday will be August 25th during the service you attend.



The classes are a great way for Pastor Vic to get to know you as well as for you to know him, and to learn about the history of EUMC.

If you are interested in joining the EUMC family, please call the church office at 941-474-5588, ext. 105 and let Teresa know you're planning to attend the classes. Childcare will gladly be provided upon request.



On Wednesday, June 19, from 6:30 to 7:30pm. there will be *A Night of Prayer* in Doan Chapel. Kevin and Laura Wooster plan to use Skype to introduce you to a missionary serving abroad during the evening. It's a great way to become more informed about God's heart for the nations and to pray for our overseas workers. This will be in place of the regular Wednesday Night Bible Study.



Suggested Read for Men

Rough Cut Men
 by David Dusek

This is not another men's ministry "how-to" guide or a handbook to tell you how to live your life. The book is full of "guy movie" references, stories of men in the world you most likely know, some personal testimony, and a good dose of biblical truth.

The single mission of the book is to create friendships. Read it with a few guys then meet up and hit the discussion questions hard. At the end of each chapter you will find discussion questions called **ACTIVATION QUESTIONS**. In military jargon "activation" is defined as the "order to active duty." In other words, training is over and it's time to go to war.

The resulting friendships that are formed will be nothing short of astounding. Give **ROUGH CUT MEN** a try.

There are copies of the book in the EUMC library you may check out.

Health & Wholeness

Does gum disease increase the risk of heart disease? Recently, dentists, researchers and doctors have begun to examine the link between oral health and overall health. One specific area is the relationship between gum disease and heart disease.

Gum disease, also known as periodontal disease is an inflammation of the gums. It can lead to a breakdown of gums, teeth, and bone tissue that hold them in place.

Heart disease refers to a broad range of conditions including heart attack and stroke. Heart disease is caused by a narrowing or blockage of important blood vessels.

One study done in 2014 found that adequate care of gum disease, cardiovascular care costs were 10-40 % less that those who did not get proper dental care.

Another study found that gum disease increases ones risk of a heart attack by 20%. The reasoning is that gum disease involves bacteria and this entry into the blood stream eventually leads to narrowing of the important arteries.

Gum diseases and other health related issues include:

1. Osteoporosis or low bone density leads to bone loss.
2. Respiratory disease: Bacteria in the mouth can move into the lungs causing pneumonia or other infections of the lungs.
3. Cancer: Some research suggests that gum disease may increase the risk of certain cancers as kidney, pancreatic, and blood cancers.
4. Rheumatoid arthritis: Review of literature shows an association between gum disease and RA.
5. Diabetics: They are at increased risk of gum disease. This is likely from the increased inflammation and greater risk of infections in general.
6. Pregnant women: They are at increased risk of gum disease due to the hormonal changes and increased blood flow.

Some symptoms of gum disease are bad breath, swollen, red gums, pain with chewing, highly sensitive teeth, receding gums, loose teeth or changes in bite.

Your dentist or dental hygienist can measure the pockets around your teeth, evaluate gums, x-ray teeth for bone loss and examine sensitive teeth in addition to cleaning the plaque off your teeth.

Money spent on regular dental care pays dividends in the long term.

Next month we will examine heart disease symptoms.

Grace Talada



Comparative Financial Operations/Performance For the 12 months ending April 30, 2019

| | 2019 | 2018 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Tithes & Offerings | \$664,740 | \$667,065 |
| Cash Expenditures | <u>\$521,917</u> | <u>\$630,245</u> |
| Tithes & Offerings Less Expenditures | \$142,823 | \$ 36,820 |

THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who donated medicines to be taken to Cuba. Dan Christopherson, SW District Cuba Coordinator, goes to Cuba 4-6 times a year. Dan is able to take 22 pounds of the over the counter medicines on each trip.

Donations are always greatly appreciated. The Cuban people do not have access to a simple bottle of aspirin. Remember they do not have a CVS, Walgreens or Walmart in Cuba. All meds must have an expiration date at least one year beyond the purchase date.

If you have any questions contact the church and ask for Jan 941-474-5588 ext. 106 or email: jan@englewoodumc.net



Ms. Patty's Playroom

It is two weeks before graduation, we are in the midst of Staff Appreciation Week and I wanted to take a moment to reflect. As I think about this school year I am filled with a grateful heart for so many reasons.

First, my staff this year has been incredible. They have worked so hard to up their education levels, to understand kids with trauma better and to work as a team to serve the kids in the best way they are able. My Administrative Team has been rock solid. Ms. Amy needed to take over a classroom in April and although this was difficult, she has been able to do this really well while balancing her other duties. Ms. Kim has been amazing in keeping our food budget in tact while providing really great meals and Ms. Donna K has made sure our paperwork is not just in order but stellar so that our audits have been seamless. I don't know how I would make it through each week without this team.

The second reason my heart is so full is because of the many angels we have supporting us. This week alone I have had a few families run into financial situations and we were able to help because of our "Sponsor a Child Program." The Church's need to sell their bus is completely understandable but exposed us to financial burdens we had not anticipated for this summer. Recently, I received a gift from one of the angels that should cover this burden in full. Our UMW angels provided us with unexpected funding that will provide for even more educational opportunities for staff and some special things for the kids.

It feels like every time I say, "Lord, I know this is what you want us to do but I'm not sure how to get it done," an angel comes our way with the answer. It might be financial, it might be an extra pair of hands, it might be a donation of much needed materials like copy paper, but it is always what is needed and for that I am extremely grateful. The staff is preparing for both summer and fall activities and because of these angels, they have the funding necessary to do some incredible things.

As we move into summer activities I covet your prayers. Much planning has gone into both the summer and fall schedule. Recruitment is nearly complete for a full school. Prayers for safety, continued staffing stability, good health and continued positive growth as a school serving children and families in need of not only quality education but the message of who God is and how much He loves each one of us would be very much appreciated.

My prayer is one of thanks. I am humbly proud of this school, so appreciative of the support this congregation and other individuals provide and I am grateful for the parents who entrust their children into our care. I hope that when people ask you about your church one of the things that comes to your mind is how "Our Preschool Rocks thanks to all of you and the incredible heart of God!"

P.S. Thanks to everyone that donated copy paper during the past month. This is a great savings for the Foundation budget.

Patty Tuff

Director of Preschool



Reception for Pastor Perri

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend a "Farewell" reception for Pastor Perri, Gil and their family on Sunday, June 9th following the 11:00 a.m. service in Fellowship Hall.

Refreshments will be served and it will be a good time for fellowship and reflecting on the good work Pastor Perri has done these past four years at EUMC as our Associate Pastor.

We want to send her off "well" to River of Life UMC in Jacksonville for her next chapter in ministry.

**** 90 (or over) Years Young!**

6/07 Adrienne Skoog **
 6/11 Sally Rogers
 6/12 Mary Thompson
 6/19 Margaret Cypher **
 6/26 Beverly Rienks
 6/29 Evelyn Hire **



June Super Senior Birthdays

Super Senior Birthday Registration

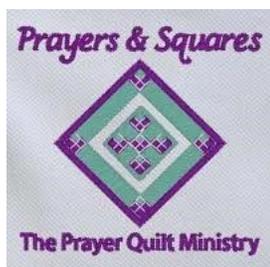
Name _____

Birth Date / /

Month Day Year

Are you a Super Senior of four score years or more? We have the names and birth dates of many of our 80 (or more) years old, but we want to recognize ALL of these honored members. Please register your birthday if you haven't done so already. Just call the church office or send in the registration form.

The Super Senior birthdays are listed each month in the Messenger. Help them celebrate their super birthday by congratulating them on their special day.



The loving hands and hearts of **Prayers & Squares**, the Prayer Quilt Ministry, are gathering to work together on Thursday, June 20th from 10:00am to 3:00pm in Fellowship Hall 1 & 2.

There are **many** ways to help that **do not** require any sewing skills, and you're always welcome to observe. Please feel comfortable in joining us *for any amount of time* that your schedule allows during those hours above. You are **never** late and **always** considered a blessing! We enjoy warm fellowship and build new friendships while working to serve others in the Lord's name.

If you'll bring a bagged lunch and beverage (refrigerator available), we'll be saving a special place at the table just for you at 12:30! Don't hesitate to contact me if I can help answer any questions.

In His LOVE,

Jane Parker

firstjp@aol.com

941-564-6844

The EUMC Food Ministry has long had on its "Wish List" to purchase and install a walk-in refrigerator/freezer for our church kitchen.

Preparing dinner for hundreds requires adequate, safe refrigeration.

The cost of the installation of the 2 units is \$22,000 and we already have \$12,000 in seed money with a goal of raising the additional \$10,000 needed by September 1, 2019.

Please prayerfully consider supporting this important program. Thank you!
Food Ministry Team

A Family Promise Homecoming

(A story from Family Promise National)

Ten years ago, Sarai Williams walked into the Family Promise of Greater Denver with a newborn baby. She had been living in a shelter that only allowed a 30-day stay, and, quickly approaching the end of her month there, she spotted the Affiliate on a resource list.



The visit changed her life forever. For the next two months, the staff helped Williams sign up for food stamps and other benefits she was entitled to as an unemployed single mom. Williams says that her time in the program was special because of the kindness of the congregational volunteers, who always made sure that her daughter had clothes, diapers and formula, as well as a crib for every weekly stay in the host congregations. “The congregations and volunteers did so much for us,” she remembers. “They took care of us.”

Today, Williams is still praising the role that congregations and volunteers play in helping the guests in the Family Promise program. But now, she views the role from a different perspective, as a part-time case manager for the Affiliate she once called home, Family Promise of Greater Denver.

Williams, who began her job in December, traveled a long way to return to the organization that launched her on her path to self-sufficiency. After she secured housing, she enrolled in college. After changing majors, she focused on a career in social work, where she would be able to give back.

With her degree in hand, Williams applied for the case manager job with Family Promise of Greater Denver. During the interview, Williams shared her story with Executive Director Jolynn Snyder.

“Sarai brings such a depth to the Affiliate,” says Snyder. “None of the other staff members have

been homeless; none of us are single moms. She shows our guests what is possible when we can overcome barriers. She has also participated in several speaking engagements, which helps bring the issue of homelessness into the community spotlight.”

Her experiences also helps inspire the guest families. “Many of our guests find it difficult to believe that they can go to college,” she says. “But my story shows that it’s possible.”

Williams is thrilled to be giving back to the organization that helped her and her daughter, now 10, regain their independence. “I’ve brought my daughter to the Day Center, and she knows that Family Promise is the organization that helped us when she was a baby, when we needed a place to stay,” she says. “It’s just so wonderful to be here.”

Note from Maria Ciampi.....

As many of our friends have returned north for the summer, we will be very challenged to meet the volunteer requirements during the next two Family Promise Hosting dates which are June 16th and September 1st.

Volunteers are the backbone of our program. They are needed to: prepare a meal, host and enjoy a meal with our guests, read a story to a child, offer compassion and support. Just being there gives hope, knowing someone cares. Remember even a couple of hours of volunteering can change lives.

Keep in mind that overnight hosting is the most challenging to schedule this time of year. If you serve on any of our teams and you are able, please consider serving as an overnight host for the next two scheduled guest stays.

Please contact me at 941-473-0945 if you would like to participate as a Host for the first time. I will connect you with our Host Coordinators.

During 2018 Family Promise of South Sarasota County: Served 58 families: 104 children and a total of 168 people.

*Thank you for your continued support
of this program.*



It's June and many of our EUMC family have returned to their summer homes. We wish you happy times with your friends and family and look forward to your return to us later in the fall. Some of you may be contemplating making Florida your permanent residence. Having moved many, many times in my married life, I can emphasize with the decisions you will have to make as to what to keep and what to part with. I have been cleaning out files, books, closets, clothes, Upper Room devotions, and memorabilia from 65 years of marriage to Jan. A December 2018 article in the Upper Room written by a teacher from Nigeria spoke to me. Perhaps it will speak to you.

What's Your Perspective?

The man wrote that when he was young he wondered why so many people would choose such unexciting, small creatures as goldfish for pets. When he had the opportunity to visit a botanical garden with his school, he saw a pond full of brilliantly colored fish. He was surprised to learn that not all goldfish are small and that their size depends on their environment.

He writes that years later he understood the broader lesson: the limitless possibilities of our lives are limited by our perceptions. How often had he been like the goldfish in the small bowl, not able to see the potential for growth? He was concerned that he had perhaps relegated others to small bowls and considered them as unexciting or insignificant.

He concluded the article by writing that his faith in Christ taught him that if he forgot his perceived limitations and swam beyond the boundaries he had placed on himself, he could achieve so much more. With a wider perspective, he was able to see the potential in others and, because of this, he was able move them from their small bowls into an ocean of possibilities.

Just imagine a world full of people who believe that anything is possible through Christ, and who reach out and claim it. We can do astonishing things together.

Venezuela... An urgent plea has been received from **Samaritan's Purse** to assist in the dire needs of the people in Venezuela. The town of Cucuta, Columbia is right on the border and is one of the primary escape routes for people fleeing this once prosperous nation. Desperate families are fleeing into Colombia as neighboring Venezuela faces dire food shortages, power blackouts, and a collapsing national healthcare system. More than 1 million migrants have come into Colombia in recent years, which is why **Samaritan's Purse** is on the ground there bringing relief to tens of thousands of desperate people on the move, providing food and shelter, treating the sick, and sharing the hope of the Lord Jesus Christ with those who have lost nearly everything.

There are two aid stations, or shelters, along the migrant route from the border town to points south in Colombia, including Bogota, and beyond, where migrants receive hot meals, a safe place to stay for the night, and hygiene kits. Some also receive backpacks to help carry their belongings as they face days and sometimes weeks of walking ahead—a few look to Peru, Ecuador, or Chile as their final destination. The Missions Committee has sent \$3,000 to Samaritan's Purse to help in this crisis. They need our prayers!

New Missionary Training... Many of you will remember Kevin and Laura Wooster, who spent so many years in Russia and Siberia, learning languages and dialects, planting churches and teaching. They have now returned to the US and are living in Sarasota. Kevin is Director of Development with Global Serve International. He writes: "...the organization continues to grow as young singles and couples and families prepare to go out into areas of the world that are even more difficult than even we can imagine. Please remember to pray for these folks as they learn more than one language, live in areas that are not friendly to Christians and in countries that are far from family." Please keep these people who have decided to "step out of the boat" in your prayers.

"They may see the good you do as self-serving. Continue to do good."

"They may see your generosity as grandstanding. Continue to be generous."

"They may see your warm and caring nature as a weakness. Continue to be warm and caring."

"For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It never was between you and them anyway."

Nancy Prins, Mission Chair



Jesus promises to give us a gift that surpasses anything we could ever dream of or imagine. He promises to give us abundant life. He promises to give us eternal life. However, Jesus does not promise that our lives would always be easy or free of risks and dangers. A life wholly devoted to God is dangerous. A fully committed follower of Jesus must sometimes go against the ideas of the crowds and culture. This lifestyle isn't always popular or easy, but Jesus promises that ultimately, it's the best lifestyle to pursue.

Our students face the issues of peer pressure and popularity on a daily basis. Social status is increasingly becoming more and more important in their lives. They usually know what's right and often desire to do it, but sometimes making that decision can be really scary. The IGNITE students have just finished a series called "Dangerous People." These three lessons introduced students to people who wholly gave their lives to God. We looked at Daniel (Daniel 1:3-21) as he stood up against peer pressure. How Ester (Ester 4) stood up against injustice. And watched Peter (Matthew 14:22-23) as he took a step of Faith. These biblical characters faced tough, potentially dangerous situations, but in the end, they all experienced lives better than they could have ever imagined because of the amazing power of God.

We have moved out of Parsonage 2 and will be meeting in Fellowship Hall 1 & 2 for most of the summer. They are also planning several off-campus events over the summer. Pay close attention to the weekly Ignite E-News for updated details.

If you would like weekly updates on the youth please email KoryLHall@gmail.com and let him know that you would like to be added to the weekly youth e-news.

Summer is nearly here, and most college students will be home for summer break by the time you are reading this. We are planning to gather together and create a summer young adult program that involves

bible study, discipleship, fellowship, and fun. If you are 18-30 and in Englewood area for the summer and have not yet been contacted about the summer programs, contact Kory Hall at 843-602-6448 or KoryLHall@gmail.com to find out more.

Kory Hall

Director of Youth Ministry

NEW tennis shoes (sneakers) are needed for the many needy children in the area. This project helps to ensure that **ALL**



school age children begin the school year with a new pair of tennis shoes. In the last 14 years 73,967 new pairs of shoes have been delivered. Many churches and organizations in the area participate in this project.

The shoe drop boxes will be in the main church entries and the office area from June 17 till July 21. If you prefer to made a monetary donation, please make your check payable to: **EUMC** and note in the memo box "**Shoes for Kids.**"

REMEMBER...the shoes must be **NEW**. If you have any questions about this project please contact: Jan at EUMC 941-474-5588, ext. 106.

Memorial Corner

4/20 Jean Leshner

4/23 Betty Corser

4/29 Nancy Hofele

4/30 Karl Ashline

5/4 Maury Leman

*Our thoughts and prayers are with
their family and friends.*





Englewood United Kids Ministry

*"They will be called Oaks of righteousness, A planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor."
Isaiah 61:3*

Promotion Sunday is scheduled for June 2nd during the 9:15 contemporary service.

As we are nearing the end of the school year, it is time to promote the children to the next grade level.

Kids who are moving up from 5th grade to 6th grade are invited to join youth group!



Vacation Bible School is rapidly approaching!

July 15th-19th 9am-12 noon for kids 3 years through 5th grade

Pre-register your kids online at www.Englewoodumc.net

We are currently recruiting volunteers.

Sign-up to help in Fellowship Hall, any Sunday between services.

All volunteers must attend both a Vacation Bible School (VBS) as well as a Child Protection Training (CPT).

June 23rd (Sunday) 12 noon Music Training, 12:30pm VBS,
1:30pm CPT

June 25th (Tuesday) 6pm VBS, 7pm CPT

June 27th (Thursday) 4pm VBS, 5pm CPT

June 30th (Sunday) 12 noon Music Training,

12:30pm Vacation Bible School training only—No CPT

July 11th (Thursday) 5:30pm Music Training, 6pm VBS, 7pm CPT



If you would like to help in any other capacity or if we can serve you?
Please contact Suzie Asa through the church office, 941-474-5588, by email at
suzie@englewoodumc.net or
susanasa93@gmail.com

Volunteers who love Jesus and children are always needed and welcome in our kids ministry!



Book Buzz!!!!

Let us have a little chat about what is in our church library.

When you walk into the library, you will find new fiction and non-fiction right in front of you. Plus down below on shelves are the paperback honor books for vacation reading, DVD's of Christian movies and various lectures and all types of large books of Atlases and other holy land info.

We have a shelf to the left of the door with large print fiction.

If you see a devotional for the whole year, sign it out and keep it the whole year, reading daily.

We have a Biography and large fiction section to the left and all along that wall to the window.

To the right in the back of the library begins the Dewey Decimal System. This system was founded 130 years ago to establish a register for all subjects imaginable while assigning a number system for each.

For instance, if you are in a class studying the various books of the Bible, you might look in the section 222.1 for Genesis or 225 for the New Testament study books. Books on Jesus' life are found in the 232 area. 242 are devotions, 245 Church music with various hymnals and histories of music, 248 Personal religious stories, 263.9 Christmas books, 305 Care of the Aging, 500+ Natural Sciences, 600+ Applied Sciences, 700+ The Arts where you will find quilting books, 800 is Literature and 900 is Geography and History.

If you take out a new book, please don't keep it too long as others review that shelf weekly to find a new fiction for the week. Also, as a matter of housekeeping, please bring back any movie you might have borrowed! We have lots of them out of the library at this time! Thank you!

Pam Heady,

Your church librarian

EUMC Scholarships

The Englewood United Methodist Church Men's Fellowship is pleased to announce that scholarships totaling \$30,000 were awarded to the following students for the 2019-2020 school year.



High School Students—\$1,500 Each

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Raider Bachnik | Brandon Gielow |
| Grace Badovinac | Brooklyn Hodgson |
| Arianna Cicchella | Joseph Meisner |
| Jenna Dunakey | Nathan Whelden |
| Matthew Engel | |

College Students—\$1,500 Each

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Grant Alexander | Justin Hinch |
| Sarah Bedford | Olivia Hodgson |
| Taylor Cannon | Alexandra Moyer |
| Alyssa Church | Benjamin Orkins |
| Kaitlyn Dailey | Samuel Stonehouse |
| Ocielia Flowers | |

Congratulations to all of these fine and deserving students. Thank you for participating in the pancake breakfasts and rummage sale. This is where our scholarship funds come from to support our program.

Harry Shaffer

Chairperson
Scholarship Committee



The EUMC office will be closed on

JULY 4th & 5th

Hurricane Awareness Seminar

June 3, 2019

2:00pm—4:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Information will be
available on:



Evacuation routes, shelters, preparation
for your family and home, pet care, and
much more.

**This seminar is FREE and
open to the public!**

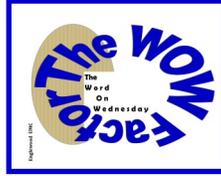
**Non-perishable food donations would be
greatly appreciated to benefit
Englewood Helping Hand.**

**Suncoast Community Blood Mobile will
be on site from: 1:00pm—5:00pm**

BE PREPARED FOR A HURRICANE!



Thirteen week Biblically grounded support group
for those hurting due to separation or divorce.
Meetings will be on Tuesdays, beginning June 18th
6:00—8:00pm in Room 103
Facilitated by Skip Wilson
Workbook \$15 if financially able,
scholarships are available.



Dinner in Fellowship Hall

5:00-6:30 pm

There is a \$7 suggested
donation.

Take-out meals are
available for \$7 each.

As always children eat for free!
Kid's meals are always served.
Left over food is given to
Englewood Meals on Wheels.

June 5

Parmesan Crusted Chicken
Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
Vegetable
Chef Salad
Fudge Brownie Ala Mode

June 12

Baked Ziti
Roasted Vegetables
Tossed Salad
Garlic Bread
Cheesecake Shooters

June 19

Chicken Salad Platter
Coleslaw
Fresh Fruit
Croissant
Fruit Cobbler

June 26

Oven Roasted Chicken
Stuffing
Green Bean Casserole
Tossed Salad
Candied Cupcakes



Englewood United Methodist Church
700 E. Dearborn St., Englewood, FL 34223
Phone No. 941-474-5588 Fax 941-475-2865
Website: www.Englewoodumc.net

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June 2019

THE MESSENGER

A SERVANT CHURCH

*Following the example
Of Jesus Christ,
The Englewood United
Methodist Church
Shall strive to make God
And His Kingdom
More real through our
Caring, worship, study
Fellowship & outreach.*

*To this end, as a
Servant Church,
We offer ourselves
And our facilities
For the Christian growth
Of all persons.*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Adopted 1978

Revised 1989

