



August 2019

Monthly Publication



**Vic's Views....
Time for
Mid-Summer
Kickoff!**

The purpose of our church is to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

All our programs and activities should in some way lead people deeper into Christian discipleship. So...we are not busy just to be busy. We have a purpose to invite, engage, grow and serve others toward the end of becoming disciples.

Paul says this disciple making is like changing clothes—taking off the old nature and putting on the new. (Ephesians 4:22-24)

A San Diego minister was called into the sanctuary early one morning. The custodian wanted him to see a strange offering that had been left on the altar. There were a pair of brown corduroy pants, a belt, a white T-shirt, a pair of tan suede boots, and a note. There were bloodstains on the shirt and the note. The note said: "Please listen to God." It was signed, and there was a phone number. The minister dialed

the number. A 19-year-old man answered and told his story. He was a runaway who had been drifting from place to place, involved in drugs. He had gotten into all kinds of trouble and sordid behavior. The night before, he had hit rock bottom. There had been a street fight and he had almost killed someone.

After making sure that his victim was recovering in a nearby emergency room, the young man came to the church, found an unlocked door and went inside. He stayed there all night, crying, praying, and thinking. He asked God to forgive him and show him the way. All at once God's presence became very real. He knew God was there, and he felt God's forgiveness. A wonderful peace overcame him. He committed himself to follow Christ. He determined to make right the things he had messed up. He felt fresh and clean, like a new man. To symbolize his new life and new commitment, he put on new clothes he had in his backpack and left his old clothes on the altar. He felt like this symbolized giving God his old life. He walked out the church door a new person with a new vision, new hope, new life, and a new direction.

(Continued on page 2)

This is what church is all about. It is about people being made new by the power of Jesus Christ. It's the reason you and I must do our part to see that the church is all Christ means for it to be, because He is depending on us. It is the reason we must continue to grow in love for one another and for the world for which Christ died. It is the reason why we must be concerned with authentic ministry rather than an artificial image of what a church is. Jesus didn't hire a P.R. guy. He simply gave his life for what he believed. And look what came out of that one life. So we want to help people change their spiritual clothes.

The way we do that is through service. Even though there's a slower pace in Englewood during summer, there are many opportunities to practice this "change of clothes" discipleship at EUMC.

July was a well-deserved break from activity for many of our mid-week volunteers. We so appreciate the work and love invested by our wonderful volunteers who help prepare and serve and clean up after our WOW meals, those who help shepherd and lead our Children and Youth in their activities and others who faithfully lead our adult Bible Studies.

And now with August on our doorstep, new studies start up, old friends resume work together, familiar groups resume. We continue the wonderful cycle of learning and serving God together!

I look forward to a great new season together and the month of August is no less exciting! Our Word on Wednesday programming will resume on August 7 with a fellowship meal at 5:00 p.m., various study opportunities for adults and Youth and Children's programs at 6:30 p.m.

As for the Worship services on Sundays, August 4 will offer us a study from Proverbs on how to battle apathy taking some cues from the industrious ant. Yes, an ant is mentioned in the Bible as one creature to emulate when it comes to initiative and working hard and smart. It is surprising what we can learn from an ant!

Our Youth will lead us in worship on August 11 as our Director of Student Ministries, Kory Hall, equips our young people with leadership assignments for all three worship services that day.

Then, the last two Sundays of August bring the beginning of a sermon series on Ephesians. Paul's letter to the Christians at Ephesus helps to clarify the identity of the Christ-follower. "*Who Do You Think You Are*" is the title of the series with August 18 and 25 dealing with us being "*Chosen,*" and "*A Masterpiece.*"

Our Pastor's Wednesday Night Bible Study will focus on Chapters 1 and 2 of Ephesians during the last two weeks of August.

There are many other opportunities of study and service contained within these pages. It's all designed for a change of spiritual clothing. Please read this newsletter thoroughly ready to be involved so that we can grow in our life with Christ together.

You Are Loved!

Pastor Vic Willis





**A WORD
FROM.....
PASTOR BO**

We are so gratefully overwhelmed for all your blessings and love in welcoming our family. As we have taken your heart into ours, we also have embraced your sincerity, love, smile, and laughter. We also have been deeply touched by those who left their little paw prints of unseen blessings which are strewn all over our journey into Englewood; even before we took a step. Thank you! Thanks “all y’alls” for your unfathomable embrace of love. These little drops of love in action are synonymous to the togetherness in harmony as described in Psalm 133.

How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers (and sisters) live together in harmony!

Harmony is as refreshing as the dew from Mount Hermon that falls on the mountains of Zion.

[Psalm 133:1, 3a]

Everything begins little. Great things begin from little things. There is a saying, “A thousand miles begin with a single step.” A deep love begins with a small touch. All great works begin small and *quietly*. Therefore, a wise person is the one who values the little things. In fact, even a great sea is a gathering of little water drops. However, we often forget about the importance of little things. Mother Theresa once said, “There are many people who desire to do great things, but few who want to do little things.”

What we must do is to be faithful with little things. Our potential lies in being faithful with the small things. Therein lies our confidence. There is no little thing before God’s eyes. All is precious in God’s eyes. Little things are big in God’s eyes. There are big things within little things, and a future is contained in a little start. Because God created all, little things can be big things. There is nothing worthless in God’s creation. A big tree lies in a tiny seed, and a great forest is hidden in a little seed.

In our lives’ journey, wherever we go, whomever we meet, face them with a warm little smile. We often forget how much our little smile can mean to others. A little smile with the love of Jesus can open, touch, and warm people’s hearts deeply. Although it may seem a little thing to do: a gentle glance, a warm touch, little things such as wrapping gifts with a loving heart, cooking tasty fixings for others with thanksgiving, sharing the gospel with a prayerful heart, and perhaps, simply saying “God loves you.”

Along with concern for the little things, serve others with joy. In order to serve others with joy, there must be a fire of love burning in our hearts. We become joyful when we serve with love. The gospel of Jesus is more important than any other things of this world. It is the peace and joy of Jesus.

Let us be a contagious person who spreads the Joy of Jesus.

The dew from Mount Hermon (meaning *consecrated*) that falls on the mountains of Zion, feeds fountain springs which form streams and rivers. These merge to become the Jordan River which feeds the Sea of Galilee. Remember, insignificant little water-drops gather together to form great rivers and vast seas.

So therefore, my friends,

Share a little water drop of Jesus with those around you.

Share your little bit of love.

Pray quietly wherever you go.

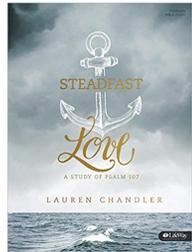
Pray hard in all situations.

Pray as you take every step in the journey of life. Pray, so that the power of the gospel of Jesus will invade wherever you go and wherever you are.

We can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens us, as we take a step together on this new chapter of HIS Ministry. May the Lord bless us all and in all that we do...

Joyfully,
the ‘newby’ servant Bo –

On a breezy afternoon, in the parsonage, glancing over the steeple of our church.



Women’s Monday Bible Study

This summer we will be hosting morning & evening videos featuring Women of Faith speakers.

10:00 am & 6:30 pm in Doan Chapel

August 5, 12, 19, 26

No registration needed, just come as you are!

New Study Begins September 23

A Steadfast Love A Study of Psalm 107 by Lauren Chandler

7 week course at 10:00 am & 6:30 pm

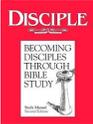
Workbook: \$15.00—Scholarships are available

Registration begins Sunday, August 18 in Fellowship Hall, or call the church office.

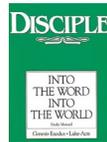
Sign-up for a Disciple Class Today!

The Disciple series is a highly recommended, in depth Bible study course. Disciple I *Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study*, Disciple II *Into the Word, Into the World*, Disciple III *Remember Who You Are*, and Disciple IV *Under the Tree of Life* are each approximately 34 weeks long and require 6 days of homework and a weekly 2 hour class. It is a commitment but it usually is a pivotal Bible study for those who take it.

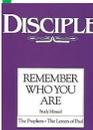
Registration will begin in Fellowship Hall, **Sunday, August 4.**



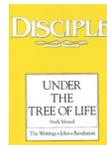
Disciple I “Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study”
Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in Room 102
Facilitated by Margaret Rock
Begins September 10



Disciple II “Into the Word Into the World”
Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Room 104
Facilitated by John & Jackie Ruthman
Begins September 10



Disciple III “Remember Who You Are”
Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in Room 100
Facilitated by Jim Beamguard
Begins September 9



Disciple IV “Under the Tree of Life”
Facilitator Needed
See Joyce if interested in leading or taking the class.

You must have taken Disciple I to take Disciple II, III or IV, but they can be taken in any order.

Cost of workbook for each class is \$40, scholarships available.

If you are interested or have any questions, please see Joyce in between services in Fellowship Hall or by email joyce@englewoodumc.net.

Every Day Strategies to Reduce Back Pain

Tips and tricks to promote function and reduce back pain with proper body mechanics training, modified techniques, do's and don'ts for exercise and stretching.

Wednesday, August 21, 5:00 p.m.

Doan Chapel





At Home

Janet Albrecht
 Fran Altman
 Mary Lou Bogart
 Jenny Chastain
 Jimmy Clovis
 Joe & Ethel Croce
 Audrey Grant
 Shirley Grayson
 Lori Ierardi
 Howard & Nan Jackson
 Jean Kushall
 Deborah Larsen
 Betty Madison
 Geri Meneely
 Roger & Barb Molendyke
 Jackie Morton
 Anna Mae Myers
 Damon & Ruth Runyon
 Marilyn Smith
 Adele Stewart
 Mary Thompson
 Helen Williams
 Gina Willis
 Virginia Wilson

At Nursing Home or Assisted Living

Frances Bates—*Heritage Oaks*
 Alice Buck—*Gardens of Venice*
 Helen Campbell—*Heritage Oaks*
 Margaret Cypher—*Grand Villa*
 Dick Davis—*Quality Care*
 Gayle Davis—*Magnolia Acres*
 Jim & Shirley Davis—*Grand Villa*
 Geri Demmin—*Pinebrook*
 Sandra Dussault—*Heritage Oaks*
 Marjorie Fitzgerald—*Family Affair*
 Helen Funk—*Gardens of Venice*
 Shirleen Gallagher—*Live Oak Manor*
 Peg Grim—*Heritage Oaks*
 Colleen Haag—*Heritage Oaks*
 Dorothy Hill—*Magnolia Acres*
 Diane Keemon—*Grand Villa*
 Al King—*Green Village*
 Margie Laney—*Jacaranda Trace*
 Barbara Liddle—*Aston Gardens*
 Charles Lindberg—*Heritage Oaks*
 Audrey MacEhiney-Rogers—*Towers of Venice*
 Vivian Miller—*Sunset Lakes Village*
 Janice Reynolds—*North Port Pines*
 Jim Roch—*Brookdale Venice*
 Vivian Slimak—*Brookdale Palmer Ranch*
 Jeanne Sawyer—*Inglenook*
 John & Janice Watson—*Tuscan Gardens*
 Willard & Janet Wilson—*Heritage Oaks*

THE BLESSINGS OF SERVING AS A CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTER!

Since 2015 we have had several people from our church and surrounding congregations trained to be Congregational Care Ministers. They became CCM's as a way to help others who were alone, hurting, in need of ministry, and they have quickly discovered that God blesses them in amazing ways as well. It becomes a part of your life and provides a ministry that affords you opportunity to be more in tune with people's needs, a ministry of listening, caring and sharing the love of Jesus. It's amazing to see God's work through you to change lives. Congregational Care Ministry will teach you how to be a caregiver and how to live life in a new way. It enhances every relationship you have. It gives you courage and confidence. Your faith will grow and your prayer life will be strengthened. It will draw you closer to God by allowing you to be Christ's presence to another person.

The Congregational Care Ministry family is part of a loving, caring family who support each other in their ministry. We meet and share experiences, food and fellowship as our faith becomes stronger. It changes you for the better. My prayer is that if you feel that this is a way you can serve that you will answer the call of Jesus to be involved in the ministry of Congregational Care. There are several people in our congregation and community that need your care, prayers and service. Please give me a call if you would like to join us in serving God faithfully by bringing his presence to those in need. In the process God will bless you with skills and enrich your life in more ways than you can imagine. God Bless our Congregational Care Ministers.

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 be held Tuesdays, August 13th and 20th for those interested in joining the church. Classes are from 6:00—8:00 p.m. (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.

UMCOR 2019-2020 MISSION TRIPS



We are planning to assist UMCOR again to help families devastated by Hurricane Irma (2017). According to Steve Potter, UMCOR Volunteer coordinator, there are many families still needing home repairs.

Riverside Retreat continues to need help with projects at the retreat center and we will plan day trips to assist them. Consider getting involved with either the UMCOR or Riverside opportunities posted below:

- November UMCOR week of Nov.18-22
- November Riverside Retreat day trip Nov.14
- December UMCOR week of Dec.16-20
- December Riverside Retreat day trip Dec. 19
- January UMCOR week of Jan.13-17
- January Riverside Retreat day trip Jan. 16
- February UMCOR week of Feb. 17-21
- February Riverside Retreat day trip Feb. 20
- March UMCOR week of Mar. 23-27
- March Riverside Retreat day trip Mar. 26

Contact: Peter Patrick 410-713-2406 or propanepete@live.com

Comparative Financial Operations/Performance For the 12 months ending June 30, 2019		
	2019	2018
Tithes & Offerings	\$926,082	\$917,019
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$832,816</u>	<u>\$884,739</u>
Tithes & Offerings Less Expenditures	\$ 93,266	\$ 32,280

Health & Wholeness....Gingivitis

As a follow-up to Grace Talada's excellent article about maintaining your teeth and gums, Skip Miller submitted the following information.

At age 19 in the Air Force, I was diagnosed with gingivitis (periodontal disease) and underwent surgery at several locations in my mouth. Back then there was little known about the disease or what maintenance is required to keep it in check.



At age of 37, I was told again by a dentist I had very severe gingivitis and he would refer me to a Periodontal Surgeon for treatment at very expensive costs.

Shortly after I happened upon an article in the Wall Street Journal authored by Dr. Paul Keyes (rhymes with skies). Dr. Keyes through his research had found people with little money brushed with baking soda and rarely had gingivitis whereas people using toothpaste exhibited gingivitis. Through Dr. Keyes research he learned the microbes (mainly spirochetes) could not survive in an alkaline environment exhibited by baking soda. Dr. Keyes authored a regimen (The Keyes Technique, you can Google it) to treat periodontal disease without the need of surgery. Of course he was bashed by the Periodontal Industry.

The Keyes technique uses a tablespoon of baking soda combined with 1/2 strength hydrogen peroxide mixed into a slurry. The slurry is applied with a toothbrush to each quadrant of the mouth and then worked into the gum line with a rubber tipped dental tool. Used daily, it took about 3 weeks for the bleeding of my gums to stop and the healing process to begin. On my next visit to my dentist, he could not believe I arrested this disease and that the pockets in my gums, about 5 to 6 millimeters were reduced to 3 to 4.

I continued doing this daily for about one year and then later switched to the regimen I do today. I brush with an electric toothbrush and toothpaste for 2 minutes every morning. I then floss and follow-up

with a Waterpik (dental irrigator) set at 50% pressure with warm water and about a teaspoon of hydrogen peroxide. While irrigating, I pause for 2 to 3 seconds between each tooth. I use a manual toothbrush to brush my teeth before going to bed.

I've lived with periodontal disease for over 40 years and still when I go to a new dentist they think I should see a Periodontist. I tell them there is no bleeding of my gums, the tissue is healthy and although the pockets are about 4 to 5 millimeters in some areas, what would be the purpose.

If you have the disease and wish to treat at home, remember, it is a regimen which must be followed diligently daily or you will probably end up in the surgeons office. I've told many people about this technique that were slated for periodontal surgery and they have all come back and thanked me for the thousands of dollars I saved them.

Skip Miller,

EUMC Member

Medical Equipment

Do you have a need for the use of medical equipment? EUMC has a medical loan closet with a variety of equipment....wheel chairs, shower seats, commodes, walkers, crutches, canes and toilet seat risers. Please call the church office at 941-474-5588 if you or someone you know is in need. There is not a charge for the use of the equipment.



**Rummage Sale items are
being accepted.**

**Please leave your items at the drop
off shed on EUMC property.**



**NO furniture will
be taken until
further notice.**

Thank You!



Ms. Patty's Playroom

It's August! It was our first summer without school age or infant children but that didn't prevent us from being incredibly busy.

Our kids who graduated from VPK this Spring spent the summer fine tuning their skills and going on field trips to places like Imaginarium, Jungle Gardens, and the Calusa Nature Center. They still have field trips to the Children's Garden and Sarasota Fountains scheduled if the weather allows.

We have had water days for each age group and a water slide twice this summer. The kids have had a blast and the pictures and videos have been remarkable.

Our preschool kids have continued to focus on learning, ensuring each group is ready to move up to the next age level in August.

For many of our students who we identified as needing speech, the summer has been a time of real focus with our Speech Therapist Katie Forsman. She has been wonderful and the kids are making vast improvements. This is really important because many of these children will be starting kindergarten in August and will be better prepared to take on the challenge of elementary school. If you are a "Sponsor a Child" sponsor, this assistance is because of your generosity and our families are sooooo grateful.

We are now focusing on the new school year. Not a lot of major changes. We will continue to have 1 one year old class, 2 two year old classes, 2 three year old classes and 4 VPK classes. We are adding a 4 year old class; moving them into what was known as our Gross Motor Room. We hate to lose this room but a class for our 4 year old children is really needed and the income will be helpful. Luckily, Ms. Suzie is willing to share the big room upstairs on rainy days.

It is also that time of year when we are doing a lot of shopping. We are buying furniture and materials for the new classroom, replenishing each classroom with needed materials to enhance learning and buying books, books and more books. It is very exciting! The blessing in all of this is that

these items can be purchased because of the incredible donors we have at the school. Our Adopt a Classroom sponsors have provided us the means to supply the classrooms and a very special donor provided money for books. With every purchase I thank God for these wonderful people.

As we get everything ready for Open House and the first day of school, the final physical changes needed (the hallway floors) will be done. We are so grateful to the Endowment Committee who agreed to pay 1/2 while the school paid the other 1/2 for this work to be done. If you have walked our halls recently, you know these floors are needed and we are so thankful it is happening.

As we begin our school year, my request to each of you is this... Please put the school, the staff, parents and children in your prayers. As Christians, it is a challenging time. There are so many people out there trying to squelch sharing the Word of God and the message of how important each child is to God. It is our priority to be sure the Word is shared and that each child understands how much they are loved by God. Your prayers provide us the strength, encouragement and love needed to help us be successful.

Thank you!

Patty Tuff

Director of Preschool



Emergency First Aid Training

Saturday, August 3

9:00-12:00, Rooms 100 & 102

Learn how to do chest compressions, operate an AED, and stop a bleed.

Class is free and open to all. Registration is not required, but is appreciated.

Sign up by calling the church office at
941-474-5588

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

8/04 Roy Kern
 8/11 David Carlson
 8/16 Bob Kitson **
 8/19 Joseph O'Reilly
 8/22 Shirley Bauer
 8/22 Ed Ferguson
 8/22 Beverly Parvin
 8/26 Doris Carlson
 8/31 Millie Cheek



August 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.



We are scheduled to gather for Prayers & Squares on Thursday, August 15, 2019 in Fellowship Hall 1 & 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Your presence, whether to observe or possibly help, will be welcome anytime. We are all blessed to be serving while having lots of fun. *Please, in case there is a schedule change, contact me at the phone number or email listed below to see if there has been a change or cancellation.*

The purpose of Prayers & Squares Ministry is to encourage the prayer life of our congregation. Simply put, "it is **NOT** about making quilts, it's **ALL ABOUT THE PRAYERS!** Hope to see you or talk with you

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

Jane Parker
firstjp@aol.com
 941-564-6844



Financial Peace University

Wednesdays, September 25—November 20

6:00-7:45pm—Room 102

Cost: \$109 per household,
partial scholarships are available

Facilitated by Rick Krieger

Since January of this year, EUMC FPU graduates have paid off \$82,600 of debt, saved \$68,376 & cut up 30 credit cards!

Come experience the freedom!

Register now! Space is limited.

- In Fellowship Hall on Sundays
- Contact Joyce Doyle at 474-5588
joyce@englewoodumc.net
- Church website: englewoodumc.net
under featured events

Impact of Clean Water in Cuba



Dan Christopherson, AKA “Mr. Cuba,” has provided a wonderful mission success story concerning the water purification systems which have been, and are being, delivered to Cuba. All three of EUMC’s sister churches have these systems due to your generous donations.

In thirteen years of God leading and directing me with the Cuba program no one project has made a larger impact in the country than the water purification systems (WPS) being delivered to Cuba. The project started innocent enough by a conversation in the back yard in Tacajo, Cuba. Three years of investigating the feasibility of the project, finding a manufacturer to make an affordable unit yet durable enough to handle conditions in Cuba, plus their level of contamination was not an easy effort.

We needed a unit that could be used in all conditions because no two locations are the same. The only similar item was the contaminated water. We had wells, cisterns, public water, run off problems and other obstacles. We just took each negative and overcame that one and went to the next.

I kept saying, "all things are possible with God" and praying how in the world do we beat this one. Let me clarify this again God worked this out I just followed his direction. The manufacturer turned out to be in our back yard; Water One, Inc. in Fort Myers, Florida.

Let me tell you the impact that has happened since Agape Flights of Venice, Florida delivered those first twenty-six units to Jose Marti Airport in Havana August 26, 2016 is incomprehensible.

- ◆ *We have (WPS) in eleven districts in Cuba.*
- ◆ *We have a unit at Camp Canaan...which holds several events every year, including Youth Camp for 1,000 Methodist children.*
- ◆ *We have units at the Bishop's office & Council of Churches in Havana.*

- ◆ *As of today there are a total of 50 units blessing the people of Cuba.*
- ◆ *By recommendation of doctors we have purified water being used by expectant mothers for pre-natal care.*
- ◆ *We have many, many stories from pastors telling us how many people in the community now come to the church to get clean water.*
- ◆ *It has served as a mission; our children are healthier than ever before and we have no parasite problems like we use to.*

I could continue there are many more stories, but I think you get the picture. There are endless needs in Cuba we all know that.

No one item taken into Cuba can affect hundreds of people like one water purification system.



Expectant women in Moron, Cuba in the Ciego de Avila District getting purified water.

“Thank you” to all the churches, organizations, and individuals that have helped to make this water project a great success.

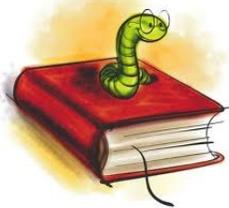
We still have many churches in need of a water purification system. Each unit cost \$2,400.....this includes: the purification unit, Agape Flights cost, custom fees in Cuba, delivery and installation at each location.



Can we get a mighty Hallelujah?

Nancy Prins,
Mission Committee Chair

**If you have any questions regarding this project contact:
Dan Christopherson,
941-468-7209 or dancc@comcast.net**



Book Buzz

On May 24, 1738, a young Anglican clergyman, who had gone from Oxford to an unsuccessful mission to the Indians in the colonies of America and who had served briefly as pastor in Savannah, Georgia, attended a religious meeting in Aldersgate Street, London. Martin Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans was read. And this young man suddenly felt his "heart strangely warmed." He had experienced a conversion. As a result he devoted the rest of his life "to promote as far I am able vital practical religion and by the grace of God to beget, preserve, and increase the life of God in the souls of men."

This young clergyman's name was John Wesley. At Oxford, he and his brother, Charles, had been members of a group of students who followed the monastic method of study in their approach to theology and hence had earned the nickname of "Methodists."

John and Charles led this movement for 15 years and it became known as the Methodist Revival within the Church of England. This revival placed emphasis up the following evangelical techniques: Lay preaching, outdoor meetings known later in America as "Revival Meetings," spontaneous prayer and wide use of popular hymns.

John Wesley, the preacher, traveled widely through England and Scotland, preaching his fundamental doctrine of "saving grace" which would lead to the fullness of faith or sanctification as its end.

If you would like to read more about Wesley and his great thoughts, come to the church library. We have several books about John and his ministry.

The library is a cool place to be during this hottest of months! Please visit! If the lights are off, come in anyway! The library is always open when the church doors are open!

Pam Heady,

Your church librarian

Ministry of Music



I recently attended a wonderful church music conference in Portland, Oregon. The theme was: "Leading the Church's Song: Doing Common Things Uncommonly Well."

The central symbols of the Word of God and the sacraments of grace can shine forth clearly when supported by the congregation's song and creativity in musical accompaniment. We explored the ways in which shared song and musical accompaniment can reveal or obscure these central things, and the many musical practices that support simplicity and beauty – whether one serves in a small town or a sprawling metropolis. There was time for reflection, common worship, reviewing new music, and practicing together the art of doing things uncommonly well. All of this took place on the campus of Concordia College in Portland, in sight of Mount Hood. New friendships and collegial relationships were formed, and common challenges discussed in our "free" time. I am grateful for the opportunity to attend this continuing educational event.

During the month of August, the Sanctuary Choir is taking a time of rest and renewal from their year-round leadership in the 11:00 worship service. If you see a choir member, thank them for their dedication and service. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful choir family, mark your calendars for Thursday, September 5, our first rehearsal of the Fall.

During the summer, the Voices in Bronze have been working on small handbell ensembles of two, three, or four players. This music is challenging them in their playing, reading and technique of playing. It's been fun to play in new ways!

I am continually grateful for all those who participate directly in the Ministry of Music at EUMC, as well as all those who support behind the scenes. It's great being part of the Team together!

Fonda Davies

Director of Music

Questions, Questions, Questions!

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ? Is He your Savior? Maybe you have said yes, of course. I come to church every Sunday because I was raised that Sunday meant going to church. I feel good when I go. I see people I know, I like the music, sing the hymns, and hear the message. So what else is there?



Are you saved? Have you personally made a decision to receive Jesus as your Savior? I don't mean because you go to church and do all the things you think you should do to please God. I mean actually asking Jesus to save you. You might be thinking....save me? Save me from what? Sin and death!

Every single human being sins, it is our nature. The Bible teaches sin un-confessed will lead us to separation from God, forever; death for eternity....Hell! So now maybe you are thinking: ok I visit shut-ins, I volunteer at church and in the community, I tithe, I do a lot to help others. Doesn't that count for anything? Yes, sure it does, but it does not save you, does not forgive your sins or offer life eternal with Jesus. Works are things we want to do and are called to do, but will not save you or get you into heaven. Jesus is the only way.

In order to be saved you must tell Jesus you know you are a sinner. You must believe in your heart that He died for you, to take away your sins. You must also believe that God raised Jesus to life again; to free you from your sins. Jesus suffered so much for us, He provided for you and for me, life after death for all eternity! We will be re-united with family members who have also believed, in Jesus as their Savior. What an awesome God we have. He loves us so much, He sent His Son to die for us. If you believe this with all your heart, in prayer, go to Jesus.....ask Him to save you; confess your sins. Tell Him you believe deeply from your heart..... and you will be saved!

Come to church, get into Bible Study, and join a Small Group. Fellowship with other believers; you will enjoy the presence of Jesus as never before.

It won't be like when you came to church because it was the thing to do, or because you were raised that way. Joy, great joy will fill your heart. You will want to be with other believers sharing the goodness and love of our Savior, Jesus.

Barbara Terardi,

Prayer, In His Presence

Memorial Corner

7/1 Ronnie Gunderson

7/14 David Crowl

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

Memorial Gifts

Food Service—Freezer

In Memory Of: Dorothy Pryor & Jack Fleming

Given By: Patricia Luster

Mission Committee

In Honor Of: Roger Thomas

Given By: EUMC Custodial Staff

Foundations

In Honor Of: Bud Ventimiglia

Given By: Anonymous

Non-designated Giving

In Memory Of: Jean Leshner

Given By: George & Helen Campbell

Eleanor Holsinger

Lawrence Kalaczynski

In Memory Of: Nancy Hofele

Given By: The Village of Wildflower

In Memory Of: Evelyn Woodford

Given By: Joseph Woodford

In Memory Of: Betty Corser

Given By: Jeannette Davenport





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*

The EUMC Summer Vacation Bible Schools were great fun this year! The donated umbrellas became African flowers and the paper towel tubes were fashioned into Hoopoe birds and binoculars! 45 children from Foundations Pre-school attended from June 3rd–7th. The second VBS we held had 153 children attend, with over 50 volunteers serving.

Thank you for donating and serving to evangelize the local children!



Did you know we sponsor after-school *Good News Club's* at two local elementary schools? We have previously hosted half of the school year at Vineland and the other half at Myakka River. We are praying for a few more volunteers to join, so we may create two whole teams. Then we can host clubs at each school for the entire school year. Good News Club is a ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship. We sing songs, play games, learn verses, engage in missional learning and of course learn tons about the Lord through the Bible. This is a fantastic way to engage unchurched kids.

Are you interested in joining our team? Please join us on Sunday, August 18th for an informative lunch at 12:30pm in Room 300 (upstairs in our Education Building). Register by contacting Suzie Asa or simply show up for the lunch meeting.

A free family event like no other!

Sunday, September 22nd at 4pm. Invite your friends and neighbors!

With lights, fog, a unique sound track and lots of action,

FamBlitz Live is coming to town!

Merely show up! We are excited

to host an event you can be proud to invite your friends to!



Do you have questions about our program? Or if you are led to get involved through mentoring our awesome kids, contact me through the church office.

Please pray for our efforts. Thank you! Suzie Asa

941-474-5588, email suzie@englewoodumc.net or susanasa93@gmail.com



***Family Promise
Thank You Letter
from
Merkes Family***

Victoria and I entered the Family Promise family in December of 2018. The day I met with Allisa, I would have never thought I would ever consider them family.

I suffered a nervous breakdown and lost everything. I ended up in the Catholic Charities shelter, never experiencing homelessness before my experience was horrifying. When I found Family Promise, I was reluctant to have an open mind, but I am glad I did. This became a safe haven for Victoria and me to rebuild our hearts and souls and faith in humanity. Along the way, we met amazing people who truly cared for us and wanted the best for us. Some we will never forget, we always had a safe place to go.

As a mother, I felt like I failed, but with Family Promise's help, I was able to give my daughter hope, strength, and a safe place to sleep with no worries. During our stay, I was able to get on the right medication for my mental health, go back to work full time and save to start our life again.

In April of 2019, Victoria and I got the keys to our new home. As happy as we were, some sadness was with us as we were leaving Family Promise, the place we grew to love. Only being gone a couple of months, we have found out that we are still a part of this family. And today, I'm proud to say I had this experience, I regained faith in so much and couldn't be happier. Allisa and Family Promise made our lives better.

Tonia & Victoria

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are the backbone of the Family Promise program. Would you consider preparing a meal or simply reading a story to a child, and offer compassion and support. Just being there gives hope, by knowing someone cares. Remember, even a couple of hours of volunteering can change lives.

Our next host dates are:

September 1st through 8th
December 1st through 8th

If you are interested in volunteering, simply attend one of the following Orientation Sessions:

Tuesday, August 27th @ 9:30am in FH-1
Thursday, August 29th @ 6:30pm in FH-1
Tuesday, November 19th @ 9:30am in FH-1
Thursday, November 21st @ 6:30pm in FH-1

**For more information, contact
Maria Ciampi at 941-473-0945.**



Join us every Thursday at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall for dinner, followed by worship and music at 6:45pm in the Sanctuary.

God's Vision for Celebrate Recovery: To partner with God in transforming people with hurts, habits and hang-ups from unbelievers to fully devoted disciples of Jesus.

We are looking for childcare volunteers. If able to help please call 941-474-5588 ext. 199.



IGNITE

Englewood UMC Youth

This word is like a fire in my heart, I can't hold it in. Jeremiah 20: 9

The Youth of IGNITE have continued to meet for youth group on Wednesday night through most of the summer. We have also had several fun events. We went bowling in Englewood one afternoon. Another afternoon a large group of us went kayaking out on Boca Grande with Glass Bottom Rentals. This was a guided tour which was great. It was great to have someone with us that could give us the history of Boca Grande and to tell us what we were looking at in the water. Fun was had by all. As I am writing this many of our youth are involved in helping to lead VBS. We still have a couple more events planned... baseball game, putt putt and SeaWorld's Aquatica water park. I'll tell more about those events in next months newsletter.

As you are reading this our students are making the final preparations for heading back to school. Every year in middle and high school presents our students with new challenges to overcome. New schools, new teachers, new routines, new friends, harder classes, and the everchanging social part of school. I ask that you lift up our students in prayer as they settle into this new school year. Pray that they know who God is and that He is with them through every challenge they face.



**Dinner in Fellowship Hall
5:00-6:30pm**

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.

August 7—The Word on Wednesday Annual Kick Off

Dinner 5:00-6:30

- Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
- Potato Salad
- Coleslaw

Bananas Foster A La Mode

6:00-7:30 Fun Children's Activities: Horses, Face Painting, Games & Treats

6:30-7:30 Youth Activities FH 1 & 2

6:30-7:30 Pastor's Bible Study -Doan Chapel

6:30-7:30 MIA (Methodists in Action) - Room 101

August 14

- Pork Tenderloin
- Stuffed Portabella Mushrooms
- Green Beans
- Tossed Salad
- Strawberry Shortcake

August 21

- Salisbury Steak
- Mashed Potatoes
- Roasted Baby Carrots
- Tossed Salad
- Mudslides

August 28

- Oven Roasted Chicken Quarters
- Spiced Potatoes
- Cheesy Broccoli Casserole
- Tossed Salad
- Pineapple Upside-down Cake



Join us on
Wednesdays!

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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August 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

