



The Happening

FEBRUARY 2023

Mission of the Month

Florida United Methodist Children's Home

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home was started in 1908 as an orphanage in Enterprise, Florida. Today, it has transformed into a multi-faceted organization with a great deal of breadth and depth. The Children's Home serves children through two residential campuses (Enterprise and Madison), Independent Living services in Enterprise, as well as an emergency shelter in West Palm Beach. Community based services include serving children through our foster care program in four counties around the state. Finally, we serve children and families through outpatient therapeutic counseling in ten counties.

Some organizational highlights include our Equine Therapy program at the Madison Youth Ranch, and our on-campus school at Enterprise, the Legacy Scholars Academy for middle and high school students which was recently named top three in Volusia County reading scores. Our Spiritual Life Team reported that six youth were baptized in 2022, five youth who had no previous experience playing musical instruments took music lessons with our worship coordinator and began playing in our SPARK praise band last year, and 28 of our youth have been involved in leading worship.

In 2022, we served 228 children in our residential and shelter care programs. We served 240 children in Volusia, Flagler, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties through our Foster Care Services. Our Independent Living program provided support to 27 young adults as well as 6 minor children belonging to some of those young adults. Circle of Friends Services provided counseling for 1498 children and families. Our Legacy Scholars Academy had one high school graduate this past year. For more success stories please check out our website at www.fumch.org.

We are thrilled to announce that we are planning our 2023 Day on Campus on Saturday, March 25th as an in-person event after three years of Covid restrictions. All are invited to attend on that day at our Enterprise campus and we eagerly look forward to seeing you there and sharing with you the long lasting impact your partnership with us achieves.

*Finally, we could not accomplish anything without your continuing gracious, generous, selfless partnership with us. Our Fifth Sunday offerings remain the backbone which enables us to do all that we do. Thank you!
May our GOD richly bless you all.*

Scripture of the Month

*"No, dear
brothers and
sisters, I have
not achieved it,
but I focus on
this one thing:
Forgetting the
past and
looking forward
to what lies
ahead"*

Philippians 3:13



DONATE BLOOD

**Sun City Center United
Methodist Church
Sunday, January 29
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

All donors will receive*:

- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **OneBlood Long Sleeve T-shirt**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

Fact: A single car accident victim can require 100 pints of blood.

Donors
Receive



- PLUS -



- PLUS -



Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use **sponsor code #15721**.

ID REQUIRED

*One offer per donor, per donation. No cash value. Not-transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/details.



oneblood 
Share your power.



Soul Café Returns

*Beginning Monday evening, **January 30th, 2023**, we will resume our weekly Soul Café meals and bible study sessions. There will be four different study groups to choose from and sign ups are encouraged. You can do so in the church office. The evenings have dinner available at 5:45PM for \$8.00 paid at the door. Reservations are needed by January 25th. We can't wait to see you there!*

Afternoon Class

Led by Pastor Debbie Marion - 4:30PM in Room 11

"Luke" by Adam Hamilton

Jesus came for all. In *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*, pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton explores the life of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's stories we find Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As we study Luke and see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.

Men's Class

Led by Tim Porter - 6:30PM in Room 30

"The Bible... Got Questions?"

What is the Bible? How did it come about and how was it created or assembled? Who wrote the Bible and when? How did we arrive at 66 books? Who determined that these 66 books were correct? How do we know that what we read today is accurate? Hasn't material been added to the Bible to make it sync with history? How is the Bible organized? What is the Old Testament about and why should we read it? What is the New Testament about and why should we read it? What are the different translations and why do we have them? What resources are available to help understand the Bible? Is there a simple way to learn how to study the Bible?

Women's Class

Led by Becky Layton - 6:30PM in Room 19

"Confronting Jesus: 9 Encounters with the Hero of the Gospels" by Rebecca McLaughlin

Jesus is the most famous human being in all of history. While many people have a basic sketch of Jesus in their minds, comparatively few have taken time to read the four biographies of his life in the New Testament Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. In *Confronting Jesus*, Rebecca McLaughlin shares important biblical context to help all readers see why the Gospels should be taken seriously as historical documents. Exploring eyewitness testimony about Jesus, McLaughlin points to him as a first-century Jewish man who is the Son of God, King of the Jews, mighty healer, greatest teacher, lover of sinners, suffering servant, perfect sacrifice, and universal Lord. This follow-up to her first book, *Confronting Christianity*, helps readers understand the message of the Gospels and explore who Jesus really is.

Pastor Richard's Class

Led by Pastor Richard Hasley - 6:30PM in the L.E.C.

"Exploring Foundational Theological Topics"

The Couples Class of Soul Café will be exploring foundational theological topics including:

*God's Word (the Bible and why you can trust it) - God the Father - God the Son - God the Holy Spirit
The Church - Salvation - Future Prophecies from Scripture*

The intent is to provide a firm grounding in foundational matters to guide us in an increasingly anti-Christian environment. Everyone—single or couples—are welcome!

UTC Youth & Kids Club

Led by Bill Turner and Jennifer Glancy

The Children's Ministry sessions will be meeting weekly in Creason Hall with their regular programming and dinner. This ministry is open to all children and youth!



CENTER 4LIFE LEARNING

SEMESTER

STARTING FEB. 13

REGISTER TODAY

UPCOMING TRIPS:



\$91
Mar 9



\$49
Apr 5



\$41
Apr 26



\$72
May 11



\$65
May 26

CLASSES OFFERED:

- Acrylic Painting
- Android Smartphone & Tablet Workshop
- Beginning Genealogy
- Beginning the World Over Again (History)
- Chautauqua VI
- Chinese Brush/Sum-E Workshop
- Conversational Spanish (Beginners & Intermediate)
- Cuba - An Island of Contradictions
- Cut the Cord
- Drawing II
- Fundamentals of Economics & Investing
- International Travel
- Living with ADHD
- Managing Life Transitions & Estate Planning
- Music Medicine
- Sign Language
- The Parody of Gilbert & Sullivan
- The Practical Side of Great Philosophers
- The Sixties: A Journey Down Memory Lane...
- U.S. Immigration Policy
- United States History
- Wellness Topics
- What Would Happen If You Got Hit By A Bus
- World Religions

Sign Up Today
Mon-Fri
8:30AM - 12:30PM
813-634-8607

New with the Disaster Response Team (D.R.T)

The Disaster Response Team (DRT) is planning mini classes *immediately* following the monthly meetings (which begin at 1:00pm in Room 19) in February, March, and April. The DRT meets on the second Wednesday of each month (September through May). On February 8th, the mini class will focus on being a Team Leader for Local Missions. On March 8th, the mini class will focus on being the Team Recorder/Listener. On April 12th, the mini class will focus on being the Equipment Maintenance Manager. If you are interested in attending, please reach out to Debe Allen at debeallen@icloud.com

The Disaster Response Team (DRT) of Sun City Center is a group of caring, friendly, talented Christian volunteers from our church and surrounding areas. The DRT also assists others within our local community and church with minor repairs and maintenance. We need people with many different skills on our team. Besides workers with tool skills, we always need cooks, organizers, administrators, and people to lend a caring presence.

If you are interested in becoming an active member of our DRT, please register on our DRT email database at:
<http://eepurl.com/gew3MD>



Recently members of the DRT have helped with tree landscaping and digging trenches to get power to the new sign. Many thanks to those who helped!

Grief Support Group

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one

NOW - MARCH 28TH
WEEKLY TUESDAYS
5:30PM - 7:30PM

**WE ARE HERE TO
HELP AND LISTEN**

Weekly Seminar and Support Group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

GRIEF SHARE®

SIGN UP TODAY

813-634-2539
josh@sccumc.com



Disciples Class Sunday Mornings 9:45-10:45

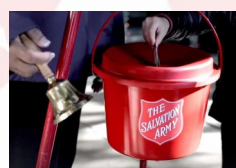
Are you looking for a way to get to know new folks while studying God's Word. Consider meeting with us on Sunday mornings. Currently we are studying, "Yes Lord, I Have Sinned But I Have Several Excellent Excuses," written by James Moore.

There is a seat available for you and the friends you haven't met yet!

If you have questions, please contact Elaine Moore at 813-634-4550

We cant wait to meet you!!

Thank You!! Salvation Army Bell Ringers



We raised \$15,929.95!

We were the number one location in all of Hillsborough county for collecting the most money. Congratulations!!

If you missed out on the fun this year be sure to sign up next year!!

Thank you again from
Karen Ransbury & Ted Kulinna

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research

An education program presented by the Alzheimer's Association



Thursday, February 16 | 11 a.m.

Join us to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and tips to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging.

Speaker: Bernice J. Pelea, MPH, MS, RN, Program Manager for Care & Support

Call the Church Office at 813-634-2539 to reserve your spot.

**United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, LEC Building
1971 Haverford Avenue, Sun City Center, FL 33573**



Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, February 11th

10:00AM - 12:00PM

Fenced Area Opposite Creason Hall



A FREE photo of your precious pet!

All Pets Welcome

Hot “dogs” and snacks for you! **Treats for all!**

“Blessed are You, Oh God, and all of your creatures!”

Sponsored by Community Connections

Renew Your Wedding Vows with the Hispanic Congregation



The Hispanic Congregation will be hosting a celebration to renew Marital Vows on

Sunday, February 12th, 2023 at 4:00PM.

The event will be in Spanish. All who are interested in renewing your vows must RSVP to Serbando Gonzalez at 941-580-0488 by January 31, 2023.

Vivacious Ministries with Victoria Sorensen

Hello Everyone!

Wow! January came and went so quickly with so many things going on around the campus. Our Soups-to-Go started on January 5th and the soup has been selling quickly.

Remember, soup is available on Mondays and Thursdays from 9am until 12:00pm in the Life Enrichment Center Lobby, so stop by and see what all the excitement is about. Soups are \$4 and \$5 dollars depending on the type, and are dependent on the availability of ingredients.

On January 25th, we started our Living In Faith Everyday (L.I.F.E.) Women's Brunch and had such a wonderful time getting to know each other. I encourage you to come and join us this month - February 22nd for our Mardi Gras celebration brunch. Brunch is from 10am until 11:30am in the Life Enrichment Center (LEC). Our menu for February is Grillades and Grits, Maque Choux Corn, and Salad with King Cake Bundt's which we will be decorating for dessert.

Laissez les Bons Temps Rouler!

Our ministries are very busy doing great things not only here on campus, but in our local community. On January 19th, Matthew 25 hosted the Connecting Resources through Community Involvement event which included Hillsborough County Schools, local food pantries, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department, Kenneth Williams, owner of God's Dogs, ECHO, and Feeding Tampa Bay, just to name a few. This group met to learn about all the resources available to serve the underserved in our community. This group's motto is "Let's Help the Ones in Need, The World will be a Better Place with **YOUR** Help. Be an Agent of Change!"

A Big Thank You to everyone who has registered to donate blood during our January OneBlood Drive on January 29th. Your blood donation helps to save lives in our local community. Be on the lookout for future OneBlood Drives in 2023.



“WE WANT YOU!”

Our campus is filled with hustle and bustle, and we need your talents and gifts to help our church community continue to grow. Our Ministry Teams are looking for people who are passionate about serving. If you are passionate about helping others, growing our church community, and helping in our local community, please contact me through email victoria@secumc.com or by calling the office (813) 634-2539 ext.1010 and set up an appointment to see how your talents and gifts help you connect and serve with others. I look forward to seeing you on the Patio on Sunday mornings!

Much Love and Blessings to All!
Victoria

What's Happening in

-Jeff Jordan



Looking back at a very event-filled January, I wish to thank everyone who made the **Madrival Dinner** such a great success, especially Carol Stewart (AMAZING costumes) and Joe Gregory (AMAZING food). I'd also like to thank Kevin Goodenow for one of the biggest concert months this church has ever seen! And as always, a shout out to everyone in the **Worship Arts Ministry** from the singers and players to the behind-the-scenes folks who make it all work seamlessly... y'all are the BEST!



February is one of our busiest months as we prepare for the upcoming Lenten and Easter seasons. The handbell ensembles are preparing for a **concert** on March 19th (3PM), and the Chancel Choir is preparing for their annual **Easter cantata** (*Covenant of Grace* by Joseph Martin, orchestrated by Brant Adams) that will be presented on Saturday, April 1st (4PM) and Sunday, April 2nd (8:30 & 11AM). The cantata will again be accompanied by a professional string and percussion ensemble.

During the month of February, our ensembles will be celebrating **Black History Month** in music, especially on the 5th when you'll hear some authentic *a cappella* spirituals. And in addition to the three fine Friday night concerts that you can read about in Kevin's article in this newsletter, Teodora and I will be performing a **4-hand and 2-piano concert** on Sunday the 19th at 3PM. Our one-hour program will include works by Mozart, Brahms, Debussy and Ravel as well as arrangements of some popular songs. Football season will be over, so there's no excuse for missing this one!

Finally, just a few words about the future of our church. I know that Pastor Charlie has lost lots of sleep over this and I suppose I have as well. I just want to say, as the longest serving staff member, that I love this church and my church family. We have done a pretty good job of 'loving folks into a relationship with Christ', and I think, no, I **KNOW** that we'll continue to do that whatever happens. God has blessed this church abundantly, and He will continue to do so.

Soli Deo Gloria

UTC Youth Happenings

(Under the Cross) - Bill Turner

Hello UMCSCC family. Under The Cross Youth is back in full swing. We have a few big events planned for the month of February.

First up will be our annual Super Bowl party. We will gather on Sunday, February 12th at 5:30pm in Creason Hall for food, fellowship, fun and football. Who will win the 'Big Game' this year?

Next up is our Golf Cart/Car Wash Fundraiser. On Saturday, February 25th from 11am-2pm, we will be washing your golf carts and vehicles for a donation to the youth fund. We will also be selling hot dogs along with all the 'fixin's'. Chips and beverages will also be available.

We are and have been in dire need of van drivers and monitors for some time. The time has come where we must add a 3rd route to ensure all of our children and youth are able to be present and fellowship with each other. It is almost impossible for all of our children and youth to make it here with drivers and monitors in very short supply. Please prayerfully consider becoming a van driver and/or monitor to ensure that our youth and children have a way to make it to church on Sunday and Monday for fellowship. If you feel led to serve, please reach out to me via email at bturmer@secumc.com or by calling the church office at 813-634-2539.

Thank you all so much for your continued support of our youth program. We love you all.

Bill Turner - UTC Youth Director





THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH AT 8:00AM

Join us for Men's Breakfast. Led by Pastor Josh, come be encouraged and challenged through God's word and enjoy a delicious meal together! This is a great opportunity for getting to know other men from your church family. We are always happy to welcome new faces and voices to this group!

This Month's Menu:

Scrambled Eggs, Fried Eggs, French Toast, Buttermilk Pancakes, Applewood Smoked Bacon, Pork Sausage Links, Breakfast Potatoes

Men's Breakfast is the third Thursday of each month. Cost is \$8.00. Sign up in the LEC Lobby by February 12th.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND AT 10:00AM

Ladies please join us for a bite to eat, fun, and fellowship in the Life Enrichment Center (LEC). Our theme for the month of February is Mardi Gras!

Februarys Menu

Mixed Green Salad

Beef Grillades

Cheesy Grits

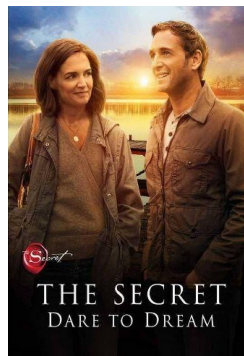
Masque Chou (Stewed Corn & Tomatoes)

Build Your Own King Cake

L.I.F.E Brunch is the fourth Wednesday of each month. Cost is \$8.00. Sign up in the LEC Lobby by February 19th.

Friday *Night* at the Movies

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH AT 6:00PM



Miranda Wells is a hardworking young widow who's struggling to raise three children on her own. A powerful storm soon brings a devastating challenge and a mysterious man, Bray Johnson, into her life. In just a few short days, Bray's presence reignites the family's spirit -- but he carries a secret that could

change everything. With its timeless messages of hope, compassion, and gratitude, The Secret: Dare to Dream is an inspiring and heartwarming film that shows how positive thoughts can transform our lives. Starring Katie Holmes and Josh Lucas.

This is a free event for our church and community. Light refreshments are available. Doors open at 5:30PM.



Tuesday, February 21st

Beginning at 10:30AM is an optional Round Table Discussion, followed by a sit-down luncheon at noon, and then the presentation by our Guest Speaker at 1:00 pm.

Our speaker will be Paula Smith who will be presenting Paul Milton, Where did you go? This presentation is a case study in resolving multiple identities through research documentation and DNA correlation. Paula will illustrate the steps taken to locate and identify her long lost great grand uncle, Paul Milton Hare, of Ashtabula Ohio.

The cost is \$18.00 per person for the meal and the presentation. For reservations and meal choice, call Dianna at 864-607-1330. Make your check payable to SBGS, and mail it to South Bay Genealogical Society, PO Box 5202, Sun City Center, FL 33571 Your check must be received by February 9th.

Children's Ministry News

February 2023



Above our children & UTC joined forces for a successful mission of "ESCAPE ROOM" in a little new year fellowship

VBS planning committees will be announced this month. We are planning to do evening VBS programming July 24th -28th. Mark your calendars now to join us on an adventure that will be out of this world!



Our Tot-Spot Ministry by Mrs. Sharon Bennyhoff continues to offer fellowship and fun to toddlers and their caregivers. Tuesdays at 9:30AM.

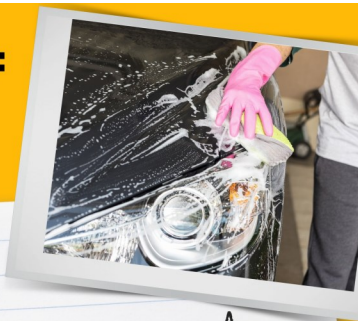


UPCOMING EVENTS

"BOWL WHICH IS SUPER" VIEWING PARTY Feb/12 5:30PM

For meeting times and more information on upcoming events please visit www.sccumc.com

UTC Youth Presents:



Golf Cart Car Wash FUNDRAISER

A fundraising event to help fund our UTC Youth's Spring Retreat & Summer Camp

**SATURDAY
FEB. 25TH
11:00AM - 2:00PM
CREASON HALL
PARKING LOT**



Hot Dogs with ALL the Fixings, Chips, and Beverage will be Available for Purchase

UTC YOUTH

SUPERBOWL PARTY

Bring a Friend!
Have a 'Super'
Fun Time!

**SUNDAY
FEB 12
5:30PM
CREASON**



February's Soups to Go Monday & Thursday 9:00AM - 12:00PM

Beef Chili\$5
Turkey & Vegetable\$4
Potato & Kale\$4
Tomato\$4

Pick Up in the LEC Lobby

Soups may change due to availability of certain ingredients

congregational CARE

**Thursday, February 23rd
2:00PM Room 19**

If you have never attended a Congregational Care meeting, now is the time! This is one of the most rewarding places to serve the Lord. You are able to "tend" to His "flock" who are no longer able to attend church in person. There are many ways to serve in this ministry: visiting homebound members or sewing needed items such as walker bags, lap robes, clothes protectors, etc.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

If you have any questions please contact
Elaine Moore at 813-634-4550

OUR LENTEN SEASON BEGINS



ASH WEDNESDAY

WORSHIP SERVICES
FEBRUARY 22ND
7AM & 7PM

COME RECEIVE THE
IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Let us remember the love of God
that is poured out through Christ
Jesus on the cross in His death;
and His defeat of death, and
resurrection that brings
Eternal Life to you.*

Starting Sunday, February 19 you can pick up
your FREE Lenten Devotional Book written by
staff members of your church.

See You at the Concert! - Kevin Goodenow

Seems like yesterday we were singing Christmas carols and enjoying Christmas concerts, and here it's February already. That can only mean one thing: we have a new month's slate of concerts to tell you about.



February 3rd will see popular Nashville duo Dave & Daphne returning to our stage at 7:00PM! They are a great duo. They bring a Las Vegas style show that is heavy with country & patriotic music, with some pop & gospel thrown in. They have been touring in Texas, Florida & Arizona for many years and have a huge following ... especially here in Florida.

On Friday night, February 17th we'll be hosting Chris Golden, an amazingly talented musician/vocalist with a great pedigree in the music industry. You see, Chris' daddy is none other than Lee Golden, the long-bearded original member (and still with them!) of the Oak Ridge Boys, one of America's favorite groups. That aside, Chris has actually performed with three of America's favorite country acts over the last 3-4 decades: The Oak Ridge Boys, Alabama and Restless Heart. Chris plays several instruments, and is a great vocalist. His show will inspire you.



We have a big treat in store Sunday, February 19th. Our own Jeff Jordan & Teodora will present a piano concert! Yes, they will play some 4-hand and 2-piano pieces that you don't want to miss. This will be Teodora's first concert with Jeff. They have a great program scheduled. Come support the church and enjoy a great concert!

Then at 7:00PM February 24th, we are hosting a concert called "The Great American Songbook". A very accomplished concert pianist who moved to the area a few years ago will be playing this wonderful music, and he will be joined by two very talented, local

vocalists. Soprano Paula Spangler Klein and tenor Ashley Lobo will present their vocal renditions of this music, much of it from the beloved, late singer Nat King Cole. Some of you may remember Paula from our recent Madrigal Dinner, as she portrayed the beautiful-voiced Christina in our church's January 6 production. Ashley may not be as familiar, but for the last few years, he has been the leading male vocalist in the Pelican Players' Cabaret Singers. One of his gigs before moving to Sun City Center was singing with the Nashville Symphony Chorus in TN. If you like hearing Johnny Mathis, you'll love listening to Ashley!

I am sure that one of these concerts (or all of them!) will be to your liking. So, as always, *I'll see YOU at the concert!*

From the Ledger With Dana Wallace

In December we received \$224,588 in income to offset \$185,972 in expenses. This leaves \$38,616 in income over expenses. Our budget anticipated \$222,673 in income or a surplus to budget of \$1,915. Our year-to-date income is \$2,319,191 and our year-to-date expenses are \$2,670,233 which leaves us with \$351,042 in expenses over income this year. We had anticipated in our planning that we would break even for the year.

Our current mortgage balance is \$1,798,404 down from \$1,987,503 on January 1st, a reduction of \$189,099.

It was a very busy and productive year for our missions and ministries, and through several changes to our staff that hopefully were transparent. We continue to serve our communities locally and worldwide with fervor and with your ever-present monetary support and the help of hundreds of dedicated volunteers. Thank you for your stewardship to your ministries this past year and we look forward to your continued support in what we plan to be an even better 2023.

Final reminder, please insure we have your most current contact information to ensure that you receive your giving statement which should be emailed in the first few days of February

Blessings in the New Year.



PATRIOT PLAZA

SARASOTA NATIONAL CEMETERY

**The Community Foundation Tampa Bay
invites veterans and their families for
a Presidents Day tour of Patriot
Plaza and Sarasota National Cemetery**

Monday, February 20, 2023

Bus departs at 9:00 a.m. Returns at 3:00 p.m.

Sun City Center Community Association
1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd
Sun City Center, FL 33573

Complimentary transportation and lunch
at Der Dutchman Restaurant provided

Space is limited

RSVP at [HonorTour2023.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/honor-tour-2023-tickets-484848484848)

Questions: 813.282.1975 or info@cftampabay.org



**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
TAMPA BAY**