



# *The* Happening

JUNE 2025

## **Mission of the Month**

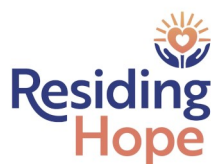
### **San Luis Methodist Church in Santiago (Our Cuba Sister Church)**

Reverend Diosmany Rodríguez Sivadie, who serves at the San Luis Methodist Church in Santiago, Cuba, frequently expresses his gratitude for your ongoing support and generosity. The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center has maintained a relationship with our sister church for over ten years, and your contributions are vital, especially given the real concerns surrounding food and medicine insecurity. Acts 1:8 calls us to reach out to the farthest corners of the earth, and your support has provided food, medicine, and hygiene items shipped to Cuba in the past year. In previous years, our church also supplied a clean water filtration system. Through your financial and material aid, our fellowship with our brothers and sisters in faith continues to thrive as you help meet their needs.



In April, the church sent 100 pounds of food and other essentials to our sister church, marking the fourth shipment of food, medicine, and supplies in the last twelve months. Rev. Diosmany sends his prayers and heartfelt thanks for your support. The San Luis Church is actively sharing their resources with the community through visits and food distribution. During the June Mission of the Month, feel free to visit the table to learn more about our sister church.

We sincerely appreciate your ongoing second-mile giving to our Cuba Sister Church during this Mission of the Month. If you wish to contribute, please make your donations through designated giving labeled as Cuba Sister Church MoM.



June has five Sundays and our fifth Sunday giving is always committed to Residing Hope. Residing Hope was established as an orphanage in 1908, and by the 1950's had changed its major emphasis to caring for abused, abandoned, neglected or dependent children. SCCUMC is one of the largest supporters for this ministry. Strong church support enables the program of the Home to maintain its ministry as a significant Christian outreach committed to the well-being of children, youth and their families. Throughout it's long and evolved history Residing Hope has been a haven of peace and a merciful blessing to all that have come into her care. Thank you for your continued support of this much needed ministry.





# DONATE BLOOD

**Sun City Center United  
Methodist Church  
Sunday, June 1  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

All donors receive\*:

- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **Trucker Hat**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

*Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.*



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](http://oneblood.org/details).

Donors  
Receive



- PLUS -



- PLUS -



**oneblood**   
Share your power.



## A Word From Our Pastor

Dear Friends,

Earlier this month my dear friend and mentor, Wilson T. Boots, died peacefully at the age of 94. Wilson was a pastor and missionary and a leader in The United Methodist Church. I met him in 1997 when I went to Cochabamba, Bolivia to serve as a volunteer missionary. Wilson and his wife Nora lived in Bolivia a portion of the year in retirement. They had met in Bolivia in 1953 when Wilson began his missionary service and would ultimately marry and move to the United States where they lived and served in New York City for decades.

Wilson's legacy in my own life is long and meaningful. As a retired pastor, he could relate to my world and ministry. He gave me advice and guidance over the years and was always full of encouragement. He also challenged me to make a difference in the world. He was one of the most positive people I have ever known, always celebrating life with a joyful word or smile and always giving thanks to God.

His passing has left a void in my life. We talked every two or three weeks and our conversations would cover the church, family and current events. I find myself making a list of things I want to talk with him about and then remembering we don't have a phone call scheduled. When this happens, I try to take a moment to pause and lift up a prayer. This is our new communication method. Though we often prayed together and committed to praying for one another, now all of our conversations will need to happen through prayer. As Christians, we believe in a "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1) that make up the communion of saints who have gone before us. I am so grateful for Wilson's love and care that continues to surround me. And if you, too, are grieving the loss of a loved one today, know that the love of God surrounds you and that prayer can draw us closer to those who have loved us and still remain close to us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Cynthia



**TUESDAY**  
**JUNE 17**  
**4:00PM**  
Life Enrichment  
Center (LEC)

**Newcomers and those interested in church membership are invited to meet the Pastors and learn about United Methodism, and serving opportunities.**

**New members will be welcomed during all three services on Sunday, June 22nd.**

**\*If you are unable to attend in person and would still like to join the church, please call the office at 813-634-2539 or email Aisling Turner at [aturner@sccumc.com](mailto:aturner@sccumc.com)**



Thank you to the drivers for Kings Point and Sun City Center. We had another successful year with our deliveries, though short with drivers, you came through and the residents of Kings Point and SCC thank you! We had a total of 11 drivers, (needed 19) and delivered 270 meals for Kings Point. A total of 233 meals, 13 drivers (needed 19) to SCC.

Drivers are very important part of the meals on wheels program. This is a seven day a week program for people who can not get out and they look forward to their meals each day.

Everyone involved gets rewarded. Without your generous willingness to help keep this program going it would fail.

Each month a different organization takes a turn at delivering the meals. SCCUMC month is April. I look forward to asking you to help deliver meals next year!

Blessings,  
Karen Ransbury



## Friendship Circle

Last month's Little Blessings Diaper and Wipes drive was a huge success! Thank you all for your generous support of this mission. Abundant Life Ministries in Apollo Beach help single new mothers in our community care for their little ones, and your donations will go a long way in helping these families.

Women, are you looking for a small group? Why not join our Friendship Circle?

We are a group of like-minded women who help local missions in our community and around the world and would love to have you come and join us. We meet on the first Monday of the month at 1:00PM in Room 19. Our next meeting is Monday, June 2nd. See you there!



## 'Break Away' with Breakaway



Volunteers are truly the lifeblood of Breakaway; this incredible ministry would not be possible without their support. Just as our bodies occasionally require assistance, like an infusion, Breakaway is in need of a boost and is seeking volunteers to join our family. Recently, we've had to bid farewell to some wonderful individuals, and as life continues to unfold for others, we find ourselves in need of additional help.

We recently held our first open house, where we welcomed six visitors interested in becoming part of our family, one even completed the paperwork on the spot! If you missed the open house and are eager to lend a hand, please feel free to drop by any Monday or Wednesday when we're open. We're available from 10 AM to 2 PM in Creason Hall.

You never know what activities you might find us engaged in! Whether it's working our brains with puzzles and games, working our bodies with exercise and dancing, playing volleyball, doing service projects or arts and crafts, you will find us happily being together and enjoying the fellowship!

An enormous thank you to all who donated last month and supported our sales on the patio! We will continue to have various items for sale that were created by our ministry, including plant stakes, pocket hugs and our latest item, beaded pens. Just stop by to take a look!

## Update from the Volunteer Response Team (VRT)

We are a group of caring, Christian volunteers that help with community projects, His Helpers, church maintenance, disaster response and recycling. (Please note that you can help even if you are not a VRT member.)

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, we had a very successful volunteer day where the VRT raked up a trailer full of leaves from the church campus.

Next meeting will be September 17th, 2025 in room 19 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Meeting times are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month. However, there will be no meetings June, July or August.

The Volunteer Response Team (VRT) of Sun City Center is always looking for people with many different skills to join our team. Besides workers with tool skills, we always need cooks, organizers, administrators, and people to lend a caring Christian presence.

If you are interested in becoming an active member of our VRT, please consider attending our monthly meeting and registering on our VRT email database at <http://eepurl.com/gew3MD>





# Boost Your Communication

## Social Group for Older Adults/Seniors



### WHAT IS IT?

A 4-week program designed to enhance communication, memory, and social skills.



### WHEN?

June 5, 12, and July 3, 10

#### **Morning Session:**

9:30am - 11:30am or

#### **Afternoon Session:**

1:30pm - 3:30pm

### Program Details

**Where:** United Methodist Church of SCC -1971 Haverford Ave. Sun City Center, FL 33573  
(Wheelchair accessible facility)

**Format:** Two-hour session over four weeks

**Activities:** Discussions, skill practice, presentations about healthy aging

Led by registered/licensed speech-language pathologists and graduate students

### Who Can Join?

- Older adults seeking to improve communication, memory, and socialization skills
- Spouses are welcome
- No communication problem required; all are welcome

**To Register or with  
Questions, Email  
tbi@gannon.edu**

### Requirements:

- ✱ Commitment to attend all 4 sessions
- ✱ Arrange own transportation
- ✱ Ability to engage in a two-hour session
- ✱ Independently able to toilet and transfer
- ✱ Clearance from treating physician to participate as appropriate





# Friday Night at the Movies

FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH AT 6:00PM



**Cabrini:** Arriving in New York City in 1889, Italian immigrant Francesca Cabrini is greeted by disease, crime and impoverished children. She soon sets off on a daring mission to convince the mayor to secure housing and health care for society's most vulnerable. With broken English and poor health, Cabrini uses her entrepreneurial mind to build an empire of hope unlike anything the world has ever seen.

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



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18TH AT 8:00AM

Please plan to join this month's Men's Breakfast. It'll be a good time with good guys, so don't be afraid to bring a buddy with you. This is a great opportunity to make new friends and meet some new brothers.

*Please note the special change in date for this event..*  
Cost is \$10.00. Please sign up by June .15th.

## LADIES' BRUNCH!! Save the Date!!

It's Picnic Time! As announced earlier, we will celebrate summer with a picnic. Remember the days of red and white checkered table covers, lemonade, iced tea, and bar-b-que? Come and join us on July 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the LEC. Our menu will be from our local BubbaQues to include pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, coleslaw and Texas toast. We will have cookies for dessert, and provide lemonade, iced tea, and water.

The cost for our picnic is \$15.00 per person and you must make your paid reservation by Sunday, July 27, as we are limiting seating to 100 women.

Our special guest speaker will be Sarah Taylor, the wife of Pastor Travis. This will be an event you won't want to miss, so stop by the church office anytime between now and July 27 and reserve your place at the table!



## Center 4Life Learning Come Learn and Be Entertained

### 2025 Spring & Summer Classes

#### Beginners Conversational Spanish Level II

*Instructor: Hud Richard*

Mondays, 7/7-8/11 | 8:30AM - 10:00AM

#### Beginners Conversational Spanish Level III

*Instructor: Andrea Ellena*

Fridays, 7/11-8/15 | 8:30AM - 10:00AM

#### Sign Language

*Instructor: Bonnie DeVagno*

Mondays, 7/21-8/25 | 10:30AM - 12:00PM

#### Cut the Cord and Stream

*Instructor: Phil Sorrentino*

Wednesday, August 13 | 10:00AM-11:30AM

*For class descriptions and instructors' bios, visit our website or Center office.*

## Center 4Life Learning's upcoming trips and tours!



Summer Circus Spectacular, Tour of  
Circus Museum, Buffet Lunch

**July 9 2025**

Grease Musical, Buffet Lunch  
Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theatre

**September 25, 2025**



Visit Downtown Mt. Dora

**October 1, 2025**

## Reservations Fill Up Fast – Register Today!

Contact the Center 4Life Learning office at  
813-634-8607

email at [center4life@sccumc.com](mailto:center4life@sccumc.com),  
or visit our website at [www.sccumc.com/4lifelearning](http://www.sccumc.com/4lifelearning)





-Jeff Jordan

By the month of June, nearly all our northern friends have ‘beat the heat’ and beat it back up north. I’ve got to admit that I’m at least a little jealous of y’all! Lisa and I made the mistake of walking from my house to the church [just a mile and a half, mind you] for an afternoon concert yesterday. Well, it felt like 110 degrees in the shade, and I’m still feeling the effects of that round trip today. I’ve always said that the heat didn’t bother me. Am I just getting old? Please don’t answer that question.

Since the month of July is one during which many of us take vacations, June tends to be a month of preparation for the new season, beginning in August depending on the musical ensemble. So, Teo and Nancy and I will be planning, planning, planning... and we love it!

This month kicks off with Annual Conference on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in Lakeland. Jennilyn and I will be there proudly representing the Disability Awareness Ministry with which we have been involved for the past couple of years. If you ever have any questions or thoughts regarding our church’s ability to be welcoming and accommodating to those that are differently-abled, please direct them to Jennilyn or myself. Jennilyn’s email is [jmcrawford31@aol.com](mailto:jmcrawford31@aol.com) and mine is [jeff@scumc.com](mailto:jeff@scumc.com).

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Teo and I will be performing another “Dueling Piano” recital comprised of two and four-hand piano music. This one includes works by Beethoven, Gounod, Haydn, Fritz Kreisler, Anton Rubenstein, Schubert, and Tchaikovsky as well as some popular standards. Please join us at 3PM for the recital that is part of our ongoing Rasmussen Concert Series. That reminds me... I better go and practice today sometime!!!

And finally, the Chancel Choir has been gearing up for their annual presentation of our patriotic cantata by Joseph Martin entitled “Of Faith and Freedom”. They will also perform Peter Wilhousky’s well-known arrangement of “Battle Hymn of the Republic” and will be joined by the Bellissima handbell ensemble playing a great arrangement of Woody Guthrie’s “This Land Is Your Land”. If you love singing good patriotic music, it’s not too late for you (and anyone in the community as well) to join us just for the cantata portion of our weekly Choir rehearsals. Just join us (and invite others to join us) at 1:45PM on Thursday afternoons. We have plenty of music as well as rehearsal CDs and links to performances of the pieces in the program.

Wishing all my church family and friends a safe and blessed summer!

*Soli Deo Gloria*

Jeff

## Congregation Care Team - Jane Keegan

If you enjoy chatting, visiting, and making someone’s day a bit brighter, you may be interested in joining our Congregational Care team.

We are a group of caring individuals who want to bring God’s blessings from The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center to those who need a little sunshine in their day. We visit people in their homes as well as a variety of local facilities. We love to make phone calls too, if that is what you prefer.

As a group we meet the first Tuesday of each month in the LEC at 3:00. If you are interested, please feel free to join us for our next meeting on June 3rd at 3:00.

If you are someone who would appreciate a visit or a call from one of our wonderful volunteers or if you know of a neighbor or friend who could use a visit, please contact Jane Keegan by text at 813-380-4788 or at [pjakeegan@yahoo.com](mailto:pjakeegan@yahoo.com) or Pastor Debbie Marion at [debbiemarion@scumc.com](mailto:debbiemarion@scumc.com).

As a reminder, we have prayer cards available for you to fill out during Sunday worship. You can also submit prayer requests online through our website or via email each week. Every Monday morning, our pastors and members of the congregational care team gather to pray over each of these requests. May God’s blessings be with you, Jane

## PRAYER

YOUR NAME:

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PHONE:

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*Please share my requests with:*

- ☐ Private (Pastors Only)
- ☐ Church Staff
- ☐ Email Prayer Chain

Prayer Request:

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## 'Happenings' with Next Gen

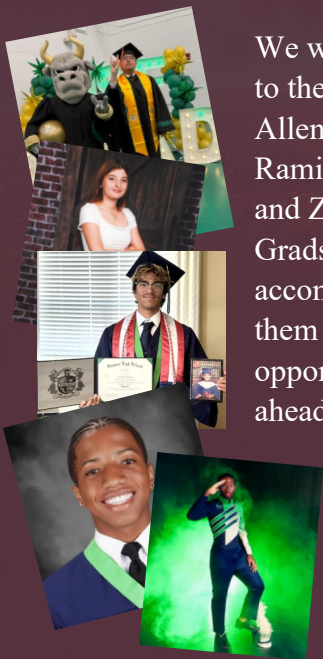
*Faniel Pradel*

Greetings, Sun City Center UMC Family! Here's what's been going on in the NextGen neck of the woods.

**Parents Night:** We had a nice and informative night on Parents night. Aside from filling out appropriate forms needed to update our database, we talked about all the fun things happening this summer, with our parents. Students were amped up about camp as well as a few highlights on our summer schedule. All in all, it was a great way to meet parents in person and give them an opportunity to get a glimpse of what we do. Speaking of summer, some of our activities include: Ultimate Frisbee, Swimming at the Wimauma Lagoon, Movie Night, and a trip to Busch Gardens! If anything jumps out at you as something you'd like to volunteer for, please email me at [faniel@scumc.com](mailto:faniel@scumc.com). We'd love to have you! In addition to those fun activities we will be assisting with Vacation Bible School and the Back to School Fair. Please let me know if you know of any other service projects our UTC Youth can help with.

**Last Youth Group of the School year:** On Monday the 19th, we had our last UTC youth group meeting of the school year. We looked back on some of the highlights of the year and shared what we may have learned from them. We also looked back on some 2025 Goals we wrote down in January to see how we were doing and to kind of use that opportunity as a moment of encouragement and accountability. It was a great way for the students to understand that although things don't always go as planned, it never hurts to check in and reevaluate how you're going about things. Although this is the last Youth Group of the school year, we still have plenty of fun things lined up, per our Summer Schedule.

We want to give a big congratulations to the graduates this year! Congrats to Allen Chen (USF Grad) Alyssa Ramirez, Donovan Levy, Ian Salgado and Zahir Singletary (Sumner High Grads) on their academic accomplishments! We are so proud of them and are excited about all the opportunities that they have lined up ahead. We pray that God guides their paths and gives us every chance to continue to support them on them.



**TRUE NORTH**  
Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**JULY 7 -11 | 6-8PM**

INCLUDES: FREE DINNER, FAMILY TIME, MUSIC, DANCING, GAMES, IMAGINATION  
STATION ICE CAVE, DANALI BIBLE ADVENTURES AND MORE... TEENS AGES 13+  
CAN VOLUNTEER FOR SCHOOL CREDIT! SHARE W/ FRIENDS!

REGISTER NOW!



## Children/Youth/Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy Training

**Sunday, June 29th**

**1:30PM**

**In the Life Enrichment Center (LEC)**

According to the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, every local congregation is required to implement a protection policy for children, youth, and vulnerable adults. Annual training on this policy is mandatory for all volunteers involved in ministries that serve these groups. If you are currently volunteering or intend to do so in the upcoming year with Children's Sunday School, UTC Youth, VBS, or Breakaway, please plan on attending this training. If you are unable to make it, reach out to schedule another time with:

Pastor Travis at [travis@scumc.com](mailto:travis@scumc.com),

Faniel Pradel at [faniel@scumc.com](mailto:faniel@scumc.com), or

Renee Tisdale at [breakawaymin@scumc.com](mailto:breakawaymin@scumc.com).



## Vivacious Ministries with Victoria Sorensen

“June is a time when new possibilities unfold, paving the way for personal growth and achievement.”  
– Sarah Addison Allen

Welcome to June! It seems like yesterday we were just in January, and here we are halfway through the year already. Time seems to go faster and faster as each year goes by...it must be because our church is constantly on the move, accomplishing so many things.



In the month of May we were blessed to help Abundant Life by providing many diapers and baby wipes to help single mothers in our community, thanks to our Friendship Circle and all of you. You continue to amaze me with your continued support of our local missions. In addition to helping Abundant Life, you continue to feed our local community with the food donated to our Food Pantry. It is amazing how many people we are able to help because of your generosity. And

speaking of generosity, I would like to say “Thank You” to the Kings Point Quilters and the Sun City Center Singles Group for their generous donations to our Food Pantry. I am grateful we are able to provide food for our community and backpacks filled with food and hygiene items for our homeless population, ensuring they are taken care of.

As we move into this month of June, we have a few things going on around the campus. On Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, from 8:00am-1:00pm, we will be hosting a blood drive through OneBlood. All donors will receive a \$20 eGift Card, a Trucker Hat, and a Wellness Check-up including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening. If you are interested in donating blood, please make your appointment today by visiting [oneblood.org/donate-now](https://oneblood.org/donate-now) and use **sponsor code 15721**. Thank you for taking the time to save a life!

Also, this month we are once again partnering with Gannon University for our second Boost Your Communication Social Group for Older Adults and Seniors. This 4-week program is designed to enhance communication, memory, and social skills. It will be held on four Thursdays, June 5<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> on the church campus. Two sessions are available each of the Thursdays above, one in the morning from 9:30am-11:30am and one in the afternoon from 1:30pm-3:30pm. If you are interested in joining us for this 4-week course, please register at [tbi@gannon.edu](mailto:tbi@gannon.edu) today as classes are limited in size. You must commit to all four class dates to participate; the flyer with more information is included in this newsletter or in the church office.

Join us for Movie Night on **Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm** in the Life Enrichment Center (L.E.C.) when we will be showing “Cabrinì” A true story about Francesca Cabrinì who risks everything when she petitions New York’s mayor to house the city’s orphans. So, bring a friend and join us, we will have the popcorn ready for you when you arrive. We cannot wait to SEE YOU at the MOVIES!

It is that time again! We will start collecting school supplies for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Back-to-School event scheduled for Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-3:00pm in the Life Enrichment Center (L.E.C.). We are supporting students from thirteen local schools by helping them prepare for the 2025-2026 school year, and we need your help. Here are some of the ways you can help this year: bring new school supplies and drop them off at the church from June 1<sup>st</sup> through July 13<sup>th</sup> in one of the bins located on the church campus or use this Amazon OQ code located on the (flyer in this newsletter) and order new school supplies and have them delivered right to the church for you, or if you would prefer, donate financially to help us by writing a check to SCCUMC and include Back-to-School in the memo line. Thank you in advance for your support of this important local mission for the children and youth in our community.

I would also like to thank everyone who participated in the CPR-AED Training on May 29<sup>th</sup> at the SCC EMS Training Center. We are so grateful for your willingness to help with a medical emergency on our church campus and in our community.

In closing, I am so grateful for each of you and what you do to help through our different ministries and missions. Each of you are truly the hands and feet of Jesus to so many in our community. I am grateful as you continue to answer God’s call to love each other fully.

Much Love and Many Blessings to each of You! Victoria





The United Methodist Church  
of Sun City Center




# Community BACK to School Fair



**Saturday  
July 26, 2025  
10AM - 3PM**

## SUPPLY DRIVE

Drop off location is The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center from Monday to Thursday, between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM  
1971 Haverford Ave, SCC, FL 33573.  
Supplies must be recieved by July 13th.



### What We Need:

Pencils, pens, paper, folders,  
binders, back-packs,  
highlighters, crayons, markers,  
glue, tape, calculators,  
notebooks, erasers, rulers,  
sharpies, composition books,  
scissors, etc.

Monitary donations will gladly  
be accepted



amazon  
wishlist



**For Hillsborough Public Schools**