



The Happening

AUGUST 2022

Mission of the Month: *Watoto*

Watoto is a family made up of people from all over the world who are working together to ensure that the forgotten have a place to belong.

In 1984, during a time of civil war, our founders, Gary and Marilyn Skinner, planted a local church in Kampala, Uganda to speak hope and life to the nation. Since then, we've rescued over 5,000 orphaned and abandoned children, placing them in loving families. We've come alongside thousands of vulnerable women, equipping them with skills and empowering them to be the mothers and leaders God has called them to be. And to help our hurting neighbors, we've extended our reach into South Sudan.

In over 35 years, the challenges facing Africa have changed, but our vision remains the same. We come alongside the most vulnerable in our society, embracing them with the love of Jesus as we work to give each woman, child, and baby a chance at a better future – a future full of promise.

We believe God's call for the global church is to care for the hurting and the vulnerable. We would like to thank everyone at Sun City Center United Methodist Church for standing with us and for your generous support over the years.

Your support during this season has been especially meaningful. It has been over two years since the Watoto Children's Choir has been able to travel due to the pandemic, and yet the work in Uganda continues.

Watoto provides support to our children all the way through university or vocational training. Over the next five years, the number of Watoto children graduating from high school and going on to university or vocational school is going to triple!

Scripture of the Month

*Ask me
and I will
tell you
remarkable
secrets you
do not
know
about
things to
come.*

Jeremiah 33:3

Mission of the Month Continued

Meet Beatrice

As a little girl, Beatrice's life was turned upside down when she was abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a rebel group that terrorized northern Uganda for years. She witnessed family members brutally raped and murdered and was frightened daily for her own life.

But one day a miracle happened - Beatrice escaped, and her life was changed forever. She was rescued and welcomed with loving arms by her new Watoto mother. Here, she was given food and a safe place to call home. She learned about the love of Jesus and received an education. Once a child who went hungry in the bush, today Beatrice is a recent graduate from Uganda's Culinary Institute who is passionate about feeding others. This is the result of God's love and people like you doing their part to change a life.

Your support is helping to make this possible. Thank you to everyone who sponsors a child at Watoto and thank you to the Missions Team for selecting Watoto as the mission of the month for August and for your faithful support!

To learn more about Watoto, please visit our website www.watoto.com.



congregational CARE

Congregational Care needs your help,

If there is someone you know who would like a visit from their church, please let us know. We depend on everyone's assistance in locating anyone who is facility bound or home bound and unable to attend church at this time.

We send greeting cards, make phone calls, and visit in homes when needed. This is an important ministry because when someone is unable to attend church we are there to let them know that they are loved, appreciated and remembered.

Thank you for your help in locating these folks and referring them to us.

Please call Elaine Moore at 813-634-4550 with information.



The Mission Team will begin accepting applications for Mission of the Month 2023 on August 1st, 2022. Applications will be available in the church office and on the church's website: www.sccumc.com

**The Mission Team MUST receive the completed applications by
October 1, 2022.**

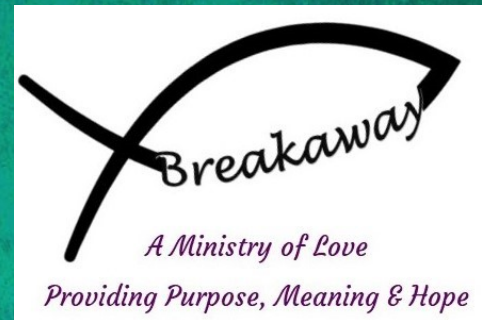
The Mission Team will prayerfully consider every application. Should your mission be approved, a member of the Missions Team will contact you.

"Sharing Jesus' love worldwide through spiritual, educational, physical and financial support to empower change."

Critical Needs Grant Awarded to Us

We are pleased to share that we are the recipient of a Critical Needs Grant from the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay in the amount of \$4,500.00. This grant was secured for two ministries at the church. The Mary Petro Program operates for the residents of Sun City Center who need assistance with food or medicine. The program has been in dire need of updated technology such as a computer, printer, etc. for some time. This grant will allow for the purchase of these items which will benefit the program and the clients it serves. Ms. Madeline Hughes is the Director of the program.

The second ministry that will benefit greatly from this grant is the Children's Program. To help provide for the safety and security of the children within the ministry, a KidCheck system is needed. KidCheck is a secure children's check-in program that enhances our security system and simplifies the check-in process. KidCheck helps ensure no one can pick up a child without a parent or guardian's consent. Ms. Jennifer Glancy is the Director of Children's Ministries at the church.



Hello Everyone,

Summer has taken a toll on the Breakaway family, and we need your help.

Are you feeling bored?

Do you want to feel better?

Do you enjoy having fun?

Would you like to bring a sense of purpose to another human?

Do you want to serve God?

If you answered yes to any of the questions, then Breakaway Respite Ministry might be for you!

On Monday and Wednesday, we come together in Creason Hall at 9:30 am for some simple preparations before greeting our friends at 10:00 am.

Our friends are men and women from our congregation and our community living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

For the next four hours we offer them and each other faith, fellowship, hope and fun.

We start each morning with socializing followed by devotion to both God and country.

We stimulate our minds with "brain games" and whiteboard activities. We exercise our bodies with snowball fights and the Hokey Pokey!

We share a family style meal to gain our energy for balloon volleyball and end each afternoon with music and hopefully dancing!

While we're having fun, the true caregivers of our friends can have a brief respite from their regular 24/7 job of caring for their loved ones. For some of them, Breakaway is their only chance to break away for the week.

If any of these activities sparks an interest and you're on Facebook, please look at the Breakaway Respite Ministry page.

Not on Facebook? That's okay too! Feel free to call Renee Tisdale at 813-634-2539 x 1011 and arrange a visit to check us out live!

We would love for you to join our family!

What's Happening in **WORSHIP** ARTS P

As I write this article in the undeniably 'dog days' of July, I'm enjoying the thought of the weather in the months to come about which I'll be sharing! First of all, several of our musical ensembles are off in July, so August is the start of our musical 'year'. I say that because this is a GREAT time to consider becoming a part of the Chancel Choir or one of our three handbell ensembles (Bellissima, Jubellation and/or Glory Ringers)! There are no auditions for these ensembles, AND if you're new to singing or ringing Nancy and I will be happy to get you 'up to speed'. This is also the time that we begin to work toward our Christmas Cantata and Advent/Christmas handbell offerings. Please see Nancy Harris or me if you are interested!

Our contemporary praise team, Broken Together, which rarely takes any time off is also in need of guitarists, bass players, keyboardists, drummers and, of course, singers. Interested in auditioning for any of these? Please see Jeff anytime!

Finally, our amazing Audio/Visual/Lighting (AVL) team headed by Bill Turner is also always looking for volunteers. These are the folks that make all of our worship and concert events sound and look great. Consider being a part of this special behind-the-scenes team. See Bill for more info.!

Soli Deo Gloria

Jeff

A Few Words from Pat



Dear Church Family,
I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your love and support over the past 12 years. It has meant more than words can express. You have been there for me for the best times and the worst! Especially after Les' passing you carried me and

I shall never forget and will always be grateful.

Tia and I are slowly getting settled in our home near the Villages but we are both homesick for YOU! Our new address is 4990 Golden Eagle, Oxford, FL 34484. Phone number (407) 462-4162. I'd love to hear from you. The cards and notes I received from you at the reception and continuing are awesome and so appreciated. They lift me up!

When Victoria, your new Director of Ministries gets settled, I will come down to see you on a Sunday morning. Please love Victoria as you have loved me!

Blessings and love always,

Pat and Tia



Are you looking for a place of Bible study, fellowship or meeting new friends??

Please join our Sunday Morning Disciples Class in Room 30 at 9:45AM.

Currently we are studying "Moments that Take Your Breath Away" by James Moore.

"As the saying goes, 'It's not the number of breaths we take, it is the number of moments that take our breath away.' Every now and then, and more often than we realize, God breaks into the routine and gives us one of those awesome moments, so powerful, so amazing, so beautiful that time seems to stand still.

All are welcome!

We look forward to having you join us!



BACK to SCHOOL

Center 4Life Learning

Upcoming 2022 Fall Semester is
October 10 - November 18th
Class Registration will begin September 1st.
Our fall courses and one-day classes will include:

Android Smartphone & Tablets

Phil Sorrentino

Basic Watercolor Painting

Barbara Weskot

Beginning Goren Contract Bridge

Regina Tucker and Barbara Mattson

Beginning Modern Calligraphy

Julia Macek

Chautauqua V

Professors Wiley Mangum, Robert Silverman, & Frank Slesnick

Conversational Spanish

Hud Richard

Cut the Cord

Phil Sorrentino

Diabetes Self-Management Education

Deanna Doran

Friendship Rocks

Sheila Thurston and Sharron Nabak

Fundamentals of Economics & Investing

Rudy Fernandez, CFP

Immediate Chinese Brush Painter's Group

Renee Vickery

International Travel

Kai Rambow

Living With Style

Maria Trupia

Managing Life Transition & Estate Planning

Paul Sponseller, CFP

Optimizing Your Memory

Mary Stedman, MD

Perspective

Barbara Weskot

Preparing for Life Changing Events

John O'Connor

Selling on eBay

Jon Wagner

Sign Language

Bonnie DeVango

Six Landmark Episodes from the World

Dan Madden, PhD

The Fifties

Professors Wiley Mangum, Robert Silverman, & Frank Slesnick

Music Medicine

Nancy Starewicz

Understanding Jazz

Harry Miedema

Wellness

Shirley Sullivan



All classes are In Person on our church campus. Tuition for regular courses is \$35.00 for six 90-minute classes.

Some classes run for a shorter period of time and the tuition is adjusted.

Be Sure to Sign Up!

Center 4Life Learning

Sue Holter, Office Manager

813-634-8607

center4life@sccumc.com

www.sccumc.com/4lifelearning

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:30AM - 12:30PM

CENTER 4LIFE LEARNING TRIP



Anna Maria
PRINCESS

DAYTIME MUSIC CRUISE

LUNCH AT DER DUTCHMAN

BRADENTON BEACH MARINA

ONLY \$70

**Tuesday
Sept. 13th
2022**

Tickets Are Still Available! BUT Hurry You Don't Want To Miss This!!
Contact Center 4Life Learning for more information :
813-634-8607
center4life@sccumc.com

UTC Youth “Happenings”

Hello UMCSCC family. As we turn the calendar to August, we are gearing up for a return to school on Wednesday, August 10th. We have 8 youth that will be entering their senior year of high school. Please especially keep these young adults in your prayers as they prepare for one of the biggest transitions that they will encounter in their life.

On Monday, August 1st we are starting a new video series by Tim Tebow titled ‘This is the Day,’ please see a brief description below:

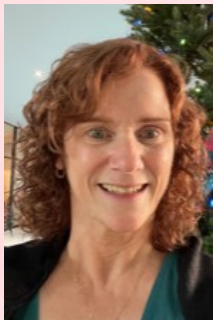
Have you ever felt stuck?

Sometimes life feels rigid—as if nothing could ever really change. Maybe we’re afraid of taking a step of faith. Or maybe we’re too injured from the past to move forward. Or maybe life threw us a curveball and we still don’t know how to react. No matter where you find yourself, you can make the most of today. In this inspirational series, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow shares stories from his life to illustrate what it means to seize each day for God’s glory. He challenges us to step out in courage because this is the day to act.

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

Bill Turner - UTC Youth Director

Thank You Karen!

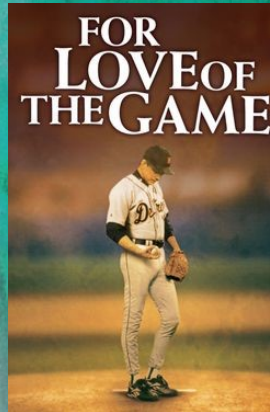


Our church family is approached with another bittersweet moment, Karen Thorne, our church receptionist has announced her retirement. Her last day will be Thursday, August 11, 2022. Karen has been employed with us for the last 5 years. She has been a constant in a year filled with change in the

church office. She provides a smile for everyone she comes in contact with. Karen wears many hats at the front desk to ensure smooth operating of daily church life. She is appreciated more than she knows. Karen will be deeply missed, but hope that she enjoys her next voyage in life as she takes the first step into retirement. On behalf of everyone that you speak to every day and every staff member. THANK YOU KAREN, WE LOVE YOU AND WILL MISS YOU!!!

Friday Nights at the Movies

August 12th @ 6:00PM



Forty-year-old pitcher Billy Chapel (Kevin Costner) is practically a dinosaur by professional baseball standards, fast approaching the end of his career. But, as Chapel stands on the mound pitching the game of his life, his thoughts don't turn to his prized history in sports, but rather return again and again to his tumultuous relationship with Jane Aubrey (Kelly Preston), a single mom who has stood at his

side through the good and the bad but is now on the verge of leaving him.

This is a free event for the community and church. Light Refreshments will be available. Doors open at 5:30PM

ISAIAH 6:8

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”



VOLUNTEER DRIVERS & VAN MONITORS DESPERATELY NEEDED

To apply as a volunteer, please email
Bill Turner bturner@sccumc.com or
Jennifer Glancy jennifer@sccumc.com

SPLASHING INTO KID'S CLUB



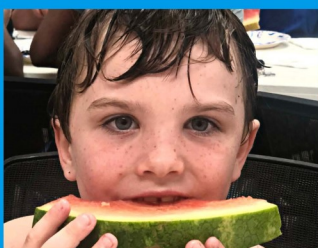
Sometimes you just need to have fun. In this picture the Kids Club has gathered in fellowship.

A cheerful heart is good medicine. Proverbs 17:22



THANK YOU!!

YOUR generous support allows Kids Club to be the pivotal anchor it is in area children's lives. We provide a fun, safe, Christian atmosphere for growing Christians. We are in **DESPERATE** need of drivers & monitors for all of our offerings. If you would like to help us transport children, please reach out to jennifer@sccumc.com.



We had hotdogs, hamburgers, watermelon, macaroni salad, fruit and ice pops.



We watched a movie, ate picnic food and made tie-dye shirts.



We played several fun games and we had a huge water balloon war. Here you see Colin Thompson just before he landed a water balloon on our newest pastor, Josh Landen.



Our Splash Back into Kids Club was well attended. We had 39 children and 4 youth and 12 volunteers. We are looking forward to the rest of the Summer and to our next big event which is "Believers at the Ballpark" August 21st at Tropicana Field in St. Pete.

VENDORS WANTED!

Do You Make:

- Handmade Crafts
- Original Artwork
- One of a Kind Gifts
- Holiday Decorations

Bake Sale!!

60+
Vendors Spots
Inside
&
Covered
Outside

Arts & Crafts Fair

**Saturday
Nov. 26th
2022**

9am – 2pm

Save the Date!



Presented by:
**TIMELY
TREASURES**

For More Information:
timelytreasures2022@gmail.com

See You at the Concert! - Kevin Goodenow

Don't tell our community that it's the "slow" time of the year! It might change their plans, laugh out loud. We drew 283 people for our 3:00 Sunday afternoon presentation of the patriotic cantata, *Of Faith & Freedom*. The afternoon presentation was put on as a free concert for the community. There was no church service attached to it, just the music. Almost 300 people attending a concert in July here is almost unheard of. It is our reality now that our greater surrounding community has grown by 20,000 – 40,000 people over the past 5 years. So what's in store for next month? Glad you asked! We are blessed to have Grammy-Award winning Gospel legend Larry Ford appearing Friday night, August 5 at 7:00pm. He is still one of the Gaither Homecoming Series best DVD sellers of all time. His magnificent tenor voice has taken him across Europe and to many South American countries, as well. His message has always been pure, and his delivery is smooth. If you want to hear beautifully sung Gospel music, come catch this concert.

We have a returning pianist coming Friday night, August 19. Bobby van Deusen returns after successfully defending his championship Memorial Day weekend at the "World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest" in Oxford, Mississippi (Senior Division).

He won it in 2019, and then due to Covid it was held virtually in 2020 and 2021. He has now won it back to back for the last two contests that have been held in person. This is not a start-up competition just introduced recently. It has been held every year since at least 1975, mostly in Illinois until four years ago. The contest is all about popular tunes written prior to the 1930s with a lot of piano rolls, boogie woogie and honky tonk type music. Bobby van Deusen is no slave to genres. He played with some of the "big boys" of jazz such as Al Hirt, Pete Fountain and The Dukes in New Orleans a few years ago. Among others, he studied at Eastman in New York, the same college where our late, great organist Keith Rasmussen studied. He has been a professional pianist for 46 years. Everyone who attended his concert here back in 2019 or 2020 told me "You better bring him back because he was terrific." Bobby is great with the audience, as well. You will so enjoy this concert!

So there you have it... two concerts coming up in August which will be very different. A great Gospel singer and a great pianist. Remember, you don't have to choose...come see both! And whether you come to one or both, I'll see you at the concert!

From the Ledger—Dana Wallace

In June we received \$183,379 in income to offset \$232,419 in expenses. This leaves \$49,041 in expenses over income. Our year-to-date income of \$1,237,798 and our year-to-date expenses are \$1,446,670 which leaves us with \$208,872 in expenses over income this year to date. We had anticipated in our planning that we would have \$1,517 in expenses over income to be covered by our savings.

Our current mortgage balance is \$1,893,949 down from \$1,987,503 on January 1st.

I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know many of you as we work together on the many missions of the church.

Luke 6:38

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

