



MESSENGER



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TITUSVILLE
206 S. HOPKINS AVE, TITUSVILLE, FL 32796
AUGUST 2019



A note from the pastor

Over the last few weeks, I have been thinking about our hymnology and the things we sing about. Primarily about the hymns we sang in church when I was a young person, not a UMC. I probably started thinking about this because a friend posted a comment that we need to throw out the screens and contemporary music and start using the old hymnals. This friend is older than I am, lives in a small rural community, attends a dying church and is sure those hymnals are the answer to make their church thrive. I began to go over the hymns and think about the words; my friend had mentioned how those old hymns taught us theology. As I reflected, I realized many of them did indeed teach us theology...both good and bad. I have realized two main areas in which they taught us bad theology. The first is they taught us escapism. The hymn that I think of most in this is “Stepping on the Clouds.” The hymn points out that we are leaving and that that is a good thing – so much better than being here. Christopher Benek states it this way in his blog, “Escapism theology is the concept that humanity needs to get away from this mess we call Earth and go ‘home’ to heaven.” Escapism theology leads us to see the world as void of goodness and not worthy of engagement. It calls us to separate ourselves and wait for Jesus to come get us and take us away. It leads us to ignore the needs around us and trash the earth because we ultimately do not need it. Escapism is killing the institutional church. Benek tells us, “Much of the global church has so embraced Escapism Theology instead of being God’s agent of change and redemption in the world. The institutional church in many instances has retreated from engaging culture only to become a failed coping mechanism for people. Veiled in poor theology, much of the church has simply become an isolationist way for people to flee the harsh realities of the world while waiting to cash in their Jesus-ticket to heaven.” If we fail to engage the

culture, we give up the right to speak and share the Gospel we have heard and believe with the masses of people who have never heard it and have no idea, at least not a correct idea, of what it means to them and their lives.

Now, there is a place called heaven but we should not be dying to go there so quickly that we miss the greater gospel message of love for others, offering the gospel, being stewards of the earth, and caring about changing the world in which we live. Escapism is killing the institutional church due to a lack of desire to change a world that will no longer exist. This concept ignores John’s statement of a New Jerusalem coming down from heaven. (Revelation 21). It ignores the call of God to care for the earth and to share the message of Grace. It amazes me how “we can be so heavenly minded we are no earthly good.” (Johnny Cash) We have to learn to move beyond some of the ideas we have learned and developed in order to change the world not to be a “woe is me Christian” who thinks the secular culture will overcome the church; it has not and it will not.

The second bad theology is calling people to come to the church. This one is the cause of so much misunderstanding of church. We can invite people to be a part of the church, to come to an institutional church, or to *be* church, but we cannot invite people to *come to* church. As the hymn “We are the Church” tells us, “The church is not a building; the church is not a steeple; the church is not a resting place; the church is a people.” We cannot *go to* church but we can *be* church. The church is the body of Christ alive, moving, and serving in the hearts and lives of believers. But we often confuse the sanctuary (a place of worship) with the church. This lets too many people off the hook. They say the church should do something about it. Well, yes, the church should, so get busy and do it because *you are the church*. Hymns such as “The Church in the Wildwood” ask us to come

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

to the church in the wildwood, not to worship in the wild wood. It is teaching us that the church is one organized body – responsible as a group – that provides cover for what we do not want to do. It is sad there are people who feel this way and have not accepted the responsibility, the authority, or the blessing to and of being the church.

Now the old hymns aren't the only music that has bad theology. As with all things, bad theology is scattered all over the place so there are contemporary praise songs that are just as bad. We just need to be aware of what we are singing and thankfully our UM hymnal is more balanced than some. It does not contain as many of the escapist songs, but many of us have sung them or heard them in other places we have worshipped and have been influenced by them.

The point is this: just because hymns are old does not make them better, they can still teach us bad theology. Likewise, just because praise songs are new, that does not make them better. John Wesley would tell us to use what draws people to come to worship and to go into

the world and find out what that something is that draws them. We are going to be a part of heaven someday (whatever it looks like and wherever it is) if we have given our hearts to Christ, so we should not be in a hurry to get there. We also need to learn to be the church in the world until that time comes. We are called to be disciples, followers who learn and serve. It's all about being who Christ calls us to be and offering our lives to Him each day in obedience to his call to be salt and light to the world.

I love serving here with you and look forward to the future as we venture out into the world with a message that changes hearts and lives and changes the world.

Blessings

Wayne Cook





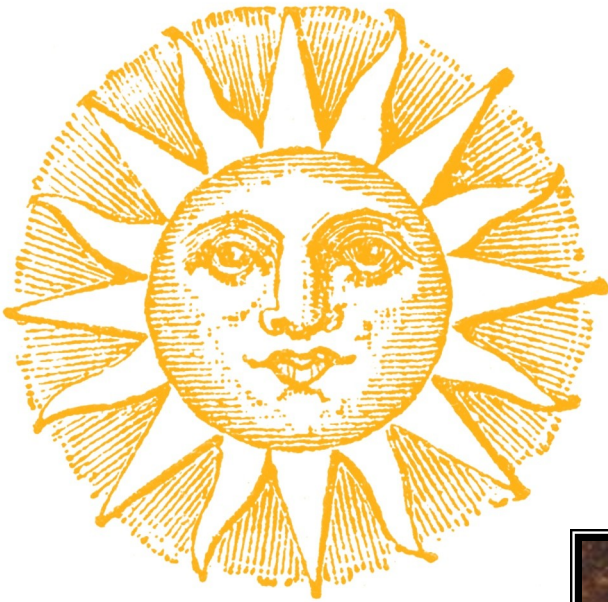
Memorial Gifts

We would like to acknowledge and thank the families and friends who have designated memorial gifts to our church this year in memory of those who have gone to be with our Lord and Savior.

*Vance Alexander
Ruth Alman
John & Joanne Baker
Bill & Kitty Baldwin
Helen Becker
Robert C. Bessen
Vic & Yvette Boodhoo
Barbara Borman
Marion & Joy Brady
Lew & Barbara Brinkley
Nancy Bunting
M.J. and K.S. Carrabba
Randy & Lynn Coleman
Keith & Libby Cooke
N. Lucille Dezter
Ken & Louise DeTorres
Teresa Fannin
Joseph & Judy Fine
Patsy Gadapee
Paul & Jan Grimard
Ed & Debbie Grimes
Gary & Joanne Hamilton*

*Alfredo Hernandez & Greg
Morgan
Adrienne Herrrell
Kaye Hooper
Jake & Debbie Huether
French & Naomi Johnson
Jewell Johnson
John & Debra Jones
Frank & Ann Kennedy
Kerry Kennedy
Carol Key
Grace Lazzari
Jan Lichtenwalter
Michael & Dina Maurer
Joseph & Cheryl Maxwell
Walter & CJ McAllister
Sammy McGraw
Trudy Metzger
Ed & Ingrid Patterson
John & Marie Pridgen
Bill & Lois Queen
Michael & Laurie Richards*

*Judith Riddle
Frank & Ann Rist
Bob Russell
Frank & Linda Russell
Truman Scarborough
Barbara Schwartz
Betty, Eric, & Jean
Shearouse
Georgia Smith
John & Carol Stephens
Ray Stewart
Tommie & Michelle Suggs
Jim & Sharen Talbert
William & Rachel Terry
Laurilee Thompson
Bill & Natalie Walls
John & Maxine Watkins
Herman Wattwood, Jr.
Rich & Linda Wilson
Jim & Carolyn Winn
Richard & Amy Yunker
Caroline Zaffery*



August Prayer Focus

June 28–Aug. 3 — Peace in the Middle East

Aug. 4–10 — Drug Crisis

Aug. 11–17 — Safety for Military &
Law Enforcement

Aug. 18–24 — Respect & kindness toward others

Aug. 25–31 — Improved economy for all

Lay Liturgists/Readers for August

July 28 — Rayelynn Henderson

August 4 — Jake Huether

August 11 — Ingrid Patterson

August 18 — Nancy Burgess

August 25 — Patsy Clark



Note from the Boodhoos...

We would like to thank the congregation for your messages of concern, your prayers, cards, and visits as Victor recovers from his recent surgery at the Mayo Clinic. Thankfully, he is making very good progress but will be home-bound until the end of August.

We do miss worshipping in church!

Victor & Vvette

*“Happy are those who do not
follow the advice of the wicked.”
— Psalm 1:1*

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

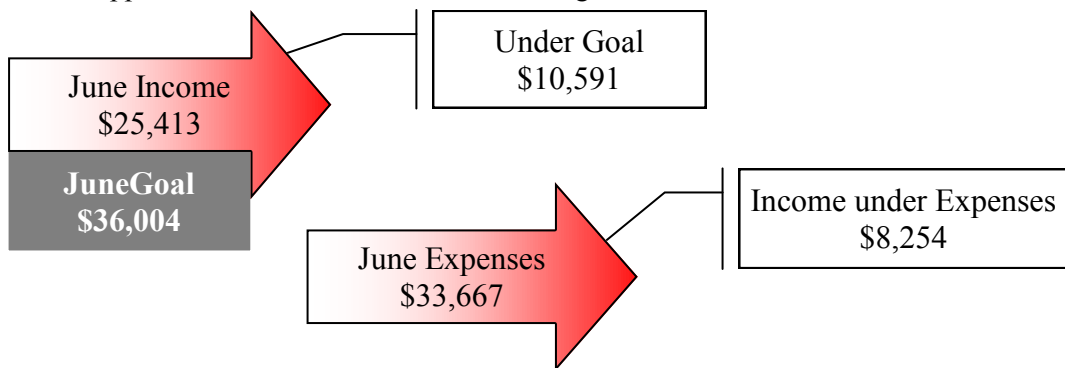
1 Bob Titus	18 Marty Nance	26 Eric Crickon
2 John Watkins	19 Carol Henn	27 Richard Cherry
3 Madison McLean	19 Linda Wilson	27 Pat Manning
4 Karl Leech	21 Caroline Sandusky	27 Trudy Metzger
7 Joy Brady	22 Rita Clark	28 Gary Pittman
7 Adelyn Cooke	22 Sue Whitson	29 Jonah Thomas
10 Patty Mooney-Hildebrand	24 Eva Jenkins	30 Katherine Crickon
15 Nancy Boffo	25 Jan Gilreath	31 Peggy Moyer
15 Angela Mayer	26 Carole Copeland	

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8 Paul & Beverly Marsh	23 John & Carol Stephens
10 Larry & Jan Gilreath	24 Jackie & Imogene Smith
15 Bob & Molly Titus	28 Mike & Nancy Boffo
16 Chris & Karen Styles	28 Billy & Ruth White
18 Bill & Natalie Walls	29 Richard & Susan Barton
20 Michael & Jennifer Evans	31 George & Fran Nolan
20 Gil & Diana Garcia	

The Church's Budgeted Finances

The Finance Committee appreciates your contributions and donations. With your support we will be able to continue sharing God's love with those around us.



The budget for 2019 is **\$432,047** which, divided evenly, makes each month's goal \$36,004 rather than being weighted differently throughout the year.



Adult Ministries

KNIT WITS — Every Tues. @ 11am in the Fellowship Hall

CHAIBOBICS — On break until September.

LINE DANCING — On break until September.

PATCHWORK FRIENDS – 1st Wed. of each month @ 9am in the quilting room

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP – Resumes in September

— **PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES** —

LADIES DAY OUT

Thursday, August 1st @ 11:30am – Lloyd Have Mercy

Thursday, August 15th @ 9:30 a.m. –

*To reserve a space, call Carol Stephens at 321-267-2600 or
sign up at the rear of the church.*

To sign up for any of these programs, check the table in back of the sanctuary.

It's very important to sign up so we can prepare for the program.

Now Hiring Director of Adult Ministries

First United Methodist Church

206 S. Hopkins Ave.
Titusville, FL 32796
321-269-7631
office@fumctitusville.com





Description

Part-time (15 hours/week on average)

The First United Methodist Church in Titusville, FL is seeking an outgoing spiritual leader to direct the spiritual growth and educational activities of the church's adult ministries. Our congregation celebrates worship through a blended worship service with a growing focus on discipleship and outreach. Titusville is a quiet community; we are looking for ways to reach the community through meeting needs and providing opportunities for community members to be involved in growing in Christ beyond Sunday. The ideal person will be discipleship focused, work with existing programs to develop leaders and provide guidance and resources, and work with the pastor to identify possibilities for church beyond the doors of the sanctuary. For more information please contact office@fumctitusville.com.

August 2019

First United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 11:30am Ladies Day Out	2 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	3 7:30am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
4 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	5 1:00pm Staff Meeting 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm SPR Comm. Mtg.	6 11:00am Knit Wits 1:00pm Line Dance Rehearsal 5:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Soliloquy Rehearsal 7:30pm Broadstreet Rehearsal	7 7:00pm Chancel Choir	8	9 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	10 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
11 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	12 3:00pm Worship Design 5:30pm Finance Comm. Mtg.	13 11:00am Knit Wits 1:00pm Line Dance Rehearsal 6:30pm Soliloquy Rehearsal 7:30pm Broadstreet Rehearsal	14 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	15 9:30am Ladies Day Out	16 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	17 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
18 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	19 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	20 11:00am Knit Wits 6:30pm Soliloquy Rehearsal 7:30pm Broadstreet Rehearsal	21 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	22	23 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	24 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
25 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	26 3:00pm Worship Design 5:30pm Admin. Council Mtg.	27 11:00am Knit Wits 6:30pm Soliloquy Rehearsal 7:30pm Broadstreet Rehearsal	28 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	29	30 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	31 7:30am UMM Breakfast 8:00am Comm. Breakfast

Welcome AUGUST 2019

First United Methodist Church

206 S. Hopkins Ave
Titusville, FL 32796

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Services: 10:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours: 8am – 4pm, Monday - Friday

Closed from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Phone: (321) 269-7631

Fax: (321) 269-8359

E-mail Address: office@fumctitusville.com

Website: www.fumctitusville.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/682694095204027

Twitter Handle: [@MethodistFirst](https://twitter.com/MethodistFirst)

Instagram Handle: [@UnitedChurch321](https://www.instagram.com/UnitedChurch321)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChscOeLDe-wGkXHftvzGX9Q>



FUMC Staff

Rev. Wayne Cook - Pastor	Ext 204
Mario Davis - Administrative Assistant	Ext 207
Keith Meck - Facilities Manager	Ext.202
Carol Henn - Music Director	Ext 209
Nursery	Ext 208
Reception Desk	Ext 201
Amy Martin - Children's Ministries	
Lauren Peterson - Director of Student Ministries	
Dr. Bob Titus - Pastor Emeritus	321-603-0235
Keith Cooke - Financial Secretary	
J.D. Daniel - Organist	
Steve Rossi - Sound Tech	
Josh Huss - Lights and Visuals	



Table of Contents

[Page One](#) — Pastor's Column

[Page Two](#) — Pastor's Column

[Page Three](#) — Memorial Gifts

[Page Four](#) — Prayer Focus / Lay Readers / Note from the Boodhoos

[Page Five](#) — Birthdays / Anniversaries / Budget

[Page Six](#) — Adult Ministries / Employment Opportunities

[Page Seven](#) — Calendar

[Page Eight](#) — Table of Contents / Church Info