



Messenger

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TITUSVILLE
206 S. HOPKINS AVE, TITUSVILLE, FL 32796
DECEMBER 2018



Joyous Advent!

I bet you've never had anyone wish you that before. In our rush to get to the season of Christmas, we have mostly forgotten the season that precedes it: the season of Advent. It has been incorporated into what we commonly call the Christmas season. We tend to desire to sing Christmas Carols and to begin the celebration of the Christmas before it actually begins. So what is the season of Advent and what does it represent?

Advent actually began in France in the fourth century (300's) and is a celebration that marks the longing for the Messiah that had been a part of the Jewish tradition over the centuries. The Jewish people longed for the coming of the Messiah who would set them free from their bondage. This longing is reflected in the season of Advent in many Christian denominations such as our own United Methodist tradition. During Advent, we are called to prepare for and anticipate the coming of Christ into the world. While it has become primarily a celebration of remembrance, it is also a continued watching and waiting for the victorious Messiah who will one day return in power. We look back to the birth in order to see forward to the return which will be the fulfillment of his promise to return and to take us unto himself and a fulfilling of the Old Testament prophecies regarding the Messiah as a powerful king. Advent is so important that it marks the beginning for the Christian calendar and begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day and ends on Christmas Eve.

Sadly, as modern Christians, we have lost much of the beauty and solemnity of this season of preparing our hearts and lives to receive the coming King both as remembrance and active anticipation. In our secular world of a profitable Christmas, we are told that we need to celebrate without preparation other than the spending of money. As such, "we lose the richness and the benefit of experiencing the promise, longing, hope, and expectation of Advent. The world, television, and shopping malls have done all they can to convince us that Advent does not matter, that it has no place in our culture, and many of us have come to accept that for our church, as well. Our faith teaches us something very different. Our faith teaches us to wait in hopeful anticipation of the fulfillment of a promise as the Jews have waited and are waiting for the coming.

I hope we can regain the understanding of Advent and the hope and joy it brings, and as a result, we can regain the wonder of a savior who becomes one of us on Christmas. We can wonder on the season of Christmas which is comprised of twelve days beginning of December 25 and lasting until January 5. This year consider what one change you can make to create an Advent celebration that slows down your world and invites you into deep contemplation on the coming of a savior and what that means to you, to us, and to our world.

I look forward to celebrating this season of waiting with you as we prepare our hearts and lives to receive and accept the Messiah that comes to change us and our world.

Joyous Advent!

Blessed to Be Your Pastor,

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.

<i>Sandi Ahrens</i>	<i>Gertrude Metzger</i>
<i>Ruth Alman</i>	<i>David & Linda Miller</i>
<i>J.R. & V.C. Andres</i>	<i>Helen Mills</i>
<i>Dan & Sharon Balch</i>	<i>Frank & Delores Pannell</i>
<i>Suzanne Bennitt</i>	<i>Norma Phelps</i>
<i>Marilyn Birnbaum</i>	<i>David & Margaret Pifer</i>
<i>Lewis & Merry Brimelin</i>	<i>David & Frances Ray</i>
<i>George & Jeannine Browning</i>	<i>Neal & Mary Lou Roeder</i>
<i>Jim & Pat Clark</i>	<i>Joseph Rudisill</i>
<i>Randy & Lynn Coleman</i>	<i>Bob & Janet Russell</i>
<i>James & Patricia Coleman</i>	<i>Truman & Barbara Scarborough, Jr.</i>
<i>Bernie & Margaret Covevey</i>	<i>Ben & Linda Seltzer</i>
<i>Roanne Damoff</i>	<i>Jimmie Shehane</i>
<i>Jacqueline Decker</i>	<i>Georgia Smith</i>
<i>Patsy Gadapce</i>	<i>Esther Sorensen</i>
<i>Dale & Mary Graham</i>	<i>John & Carol Stephens</i>
<i>Ralph & Reba Howington</i>	<i>Jim & Sharen Talbert</i>
<i>Jake & Debbie Huether</i>	<i>Gary Tannenbaum</i>
<i>French & Naomi Johnson</i>	<i>Melba Taylor</i>
<i>E.J. and Gloria Kendall</i>	<i>Ron Thompson</i>
<i>Kerry & Janine Kennedy</i>	<i>Jennifer Vaughn</i>
<i>Katie Luttrell</i>	<i>Bill & Natalie Walls</i>
<i>Pat Manning</i>	<i>Billy & Ruth White</i>
<i>Dale & Donna Mags</i>	<i>Patricia Young</i>
<i>Jeanne Mags</i>	

Sunday School Classes

Pathfinders

This class studies the Bible by using lesson plans that samples all the books of the Bible over a multi-year period. We do not have a specific teacher, but instead, we rotate between class members who want to share and teach. We are a small group growing spiritually, sharing joys and concerns, and welcoming members, visitors and any who would like to share our discussions of the Christian life. We meet on the 1st floor of the Education Building.

Mountain Top

Leader: Randy Coleman

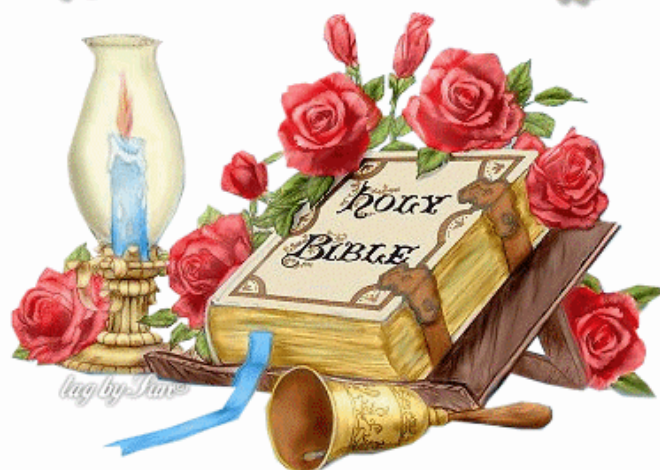
This class is an exciting and lively group of wonderful people (singles and couples) who truly love the Lord. We have a variety of ages that lend itself to a well-rounded perspective of life experiences. A class member coined the delightful phrase, "There is joy in the doing." That is exactly what the class members' do....serve the Lord with gladness! The up look and outlook is always good from the Mountaintop! Come and join us. We meet on the 1st floor of the Youth Building.

Trinity

Leader: Pat Clark

This class is a small group of various ages, both singles and couples who are Bible focused. We start each class by having fellowship with coffee and snacks. We study together to learn how to live a Christian life. We welcome new members and visitors at any time to join our circle of friends. We meet on the 1st floor of the Education Building.

Christmas Blessings



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December Prayer Focus

“Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise.”

— *Victor Hugo, Les Misérables*

December 2-8 — Those for whom the holidays are difficult.

December 9–15 — Birth of Hope

December 16–22 — Birth of Joy

December 23–29 — Birth of Peace

December 30–January 5 — Birth of Love

Lay Liturgists/Readers For December 2018

December 2 — Jennifer Evans

December 9 — Patsy Clark

December 16 — Fay Kikta

December 23 — Nancy Burgess

December 30 — Glenda Waring



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

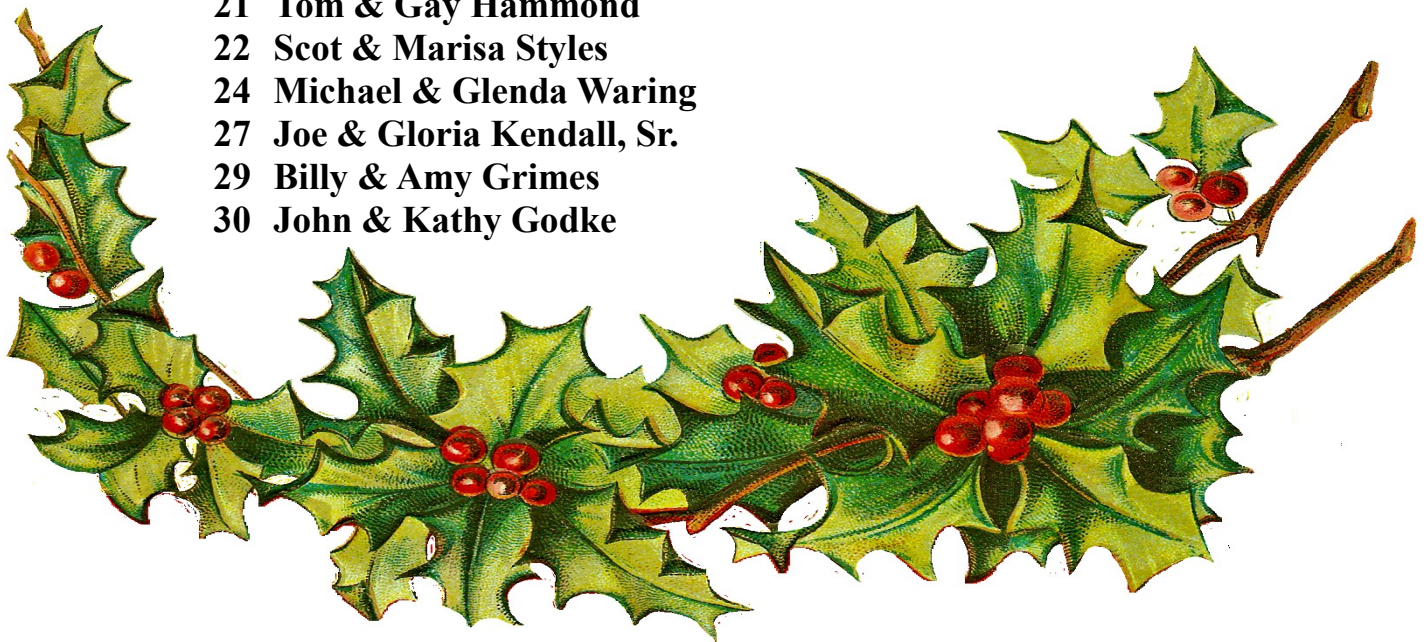
3 Eunice Chalmers
5 Gay Hammond
7 David Hanson
7 Jessica Johnson
7 C.B. Till
7 Maxine Watkins
9 Carolyn Coyle

9 Amy Martin
10 Sydney Herndon
11 Beverly Marsh
11 Jim Winn
14 Bob Moyer
15 Susan Crickon
15 Pascale Daniel

15 Evelyn Hooks
16 Dorothy Cameron
18 Courtney McLean
22 Carl Breznik
26 Becky McGonigle

December Anniversaries

10 Vic & Yvette Boodhoo
16 Bob & Ruth Yerkes
17 Jim & Carolyn Winn
21 Tom & Gay Hammond
22 Scot & Marisa Styles
24 Michael & Glenda Waring
27 Joe & Gloria Kendall, Sr.
29 Billy & Amy Grimes
30 John & Kathy Godke



Blue Christmas



December 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
206 S. Hopkins Avenue
Titusville, FL 32796
321-269-7631
www.fumctitusville.com

First United Methodist Church invites you to a special holiday service designed for those for whom the holidays might be difficult. If you have undergone a difficult loss, transition, or life change, the church cares about you and invites you to a special time of music and worship. Just as Mary and Joseph struggled through this time of year and found peace and rest, let us acknowledge the struggles we all face as we provide you a place for rest, comfort, and healing.





DECEMBER 16TH @ 3PM

**First United Methodist Church
206 S. Hopkins Ave.
Titusville, FL
321-269-7631**

**Free to the public!
A love offering will be collected.**

This much-loved annual concert of Christmas music is back for one performance only! Some of your favorite traditional Christmas tunes are given an Irish flare as we tell the story of the birth of our Saviour Jesus. We will have a celtic band, Irish step dancers, and tons of fun! This year, our production is a joint effort with Trinity Lutheran Church with instrumentalists from St. Andrew United Methodist Church.



COLOR ME CHRISTIAN



WHAT'S HAPPENING



December 16 – Children's Ministry Christmas Shop

Our annual Children's ministry Christmas shop is approaching. Children pick out gifts to take home to family members which are wrapped in gift paper or placed in gift bags. We are in need of new or donated items for them to choose from; especially men's items such as cologne, socks, small tools, ties, wallets, etc. Please place donations in the back of the sanctuary or bring them to the office. Thank you for your support! Contact Amy Martin, (321) 474-8546 with any questions.

December Children's Ministry Workshop

The children's ministry program will be hosting a Saturday workshop in the fellowship hall where families are welcomed to participate in creating gingerbread houses. A sign-up list will be posted in the back of the sanctuary for anyone interested in volunteering or participating in this fun holiday event. Candy donations are requested: graham crackers, mini and large candy canes, peppermints, pretzel sticks, gum drops, red licorice, red hots, marshmallows, chocolate baking chips, coconut flakes, skittles, M&M's, Hershey kisses, hard candy, etc., and Styrofoam plates. *The date will be determined later.*

THE GENEROSITY OF OUR CHURCH

In the month of September, we had a number of ministry programs to help those in need. Collected backpacks full of school supplies for the children at the United Methodist Children's Home. We had a fundraiser to help fund and collect items for our sister church in Cuba. We raised over \$1200 during that fundraiser to help get members of our congregation to Cuba and collected many items to take to the congregants and local citizens. We held a drive to collect socks for the homeless during this cold season and we collected 500 pairs of socks! We asked our members to bring in canned food for those in need during Thanksgiving time and we pulled together 2 shopping carts to overflowing with canned goods! We also fed, ate, and communed with homeless and needy members of our community during our Thanksgiving community dinner on November 18th. Bishop Carter also asked for our help and the help of all churches in our state to fund relief for Hurricane Michael. Our church alone pulled together \$4,000 for UMCOR...all of which will go toward a \$500k fund-matching donation. We are over half way to that \$500k goal and there is still time to reach it!

Let us continue to touch the lives of those in our community and abroad.

Thank you

to everyone who helped decorate the Sanctuary under Ingrid Patterson's supervision.



UM Children's Home Christmas Gift Card Drive

With Christmas approaching, the time has once again come to consider purchasing gift cards to be distributed across the Children's Home ministry to give to the children we serve. The children will not just receive gift cards on Christmas morning. Because our houseparents and therapists know our children well, they will go shopping for gifts using a portion of the gift cards. These gifts will be wrapped and placed under the Christmas tree to be opened on Christmas morning, along with a few gift cards that will allow the youth to go shopping. Our goal is to be able to give each child \$150 in gifts and gift cards. If we surpass this goal, any additional gift cards will be used after Christmas to purchase needed items for the children throughout the year.

We would be most grateful for the purchase of **gift cards in increments of \$10, \$20, \$25, and \$50** to major chain stores and restaurants. Especially useful and flexible cards for our children include **Walmart, Kohl's, Famous Footwear, and Gamestop** gift cards. Popular restaurants our houseparents like to treat the children to over Christmas break include **Golden Corral, Papa John's, Chick Fil-A, McDonald's, and Darden restaurants**.

Eirinn Abu

The Eirinn Abu concert on November 28th was a huge hit! What a blessing to have such a talented artist share his and God's message through his stories and music.





THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED FOR DECEMBER. THEY WILL BEGIN AGAIN IN JANUARY. PLEASE WATCH YOUR BULLETIN FOR DETAILS.

Learn to Sew—Monday @ 1:00 pm
Knit Whits—Tuesday @ 11:00 am
Movie Night—2nd Thursday @ 6:00 pm
Friday Fellowship—3rd Friday @ 5:30 pm
Smartphones, Tablets & Computer ABCs—Wednesday @ 1:30pm

THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD IN DECEMBER.

CHAIROBICS – December 4 and 11 @ 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (Cancelled Dec 18 and 25)

This is what everyone has been waiting on. An exercise class that lets you sit down. This class is designed so that everyone can participate. Put your comfy clothes on and join us for a lot of fun and exercise. **No need to sign up....just show up and have fun.**

LINE DANCING – December 6 and 13 @ 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (Cancelled Dec 20 and 27)

We turn the AC down and the music up. Join Adrienne for fun and exercise. **No need to sign up....just show up and have fun.** We also have a group that performs for Nursing Homes. **See Adrienne for details on this group.**

LADIES DAY OUT – December 6th @ 11:30am *****SIGN UP BY DECEMBER 5th***** – Brunch at Grace Lazzari's home. Bring a covered dish. Please call 321-269-3328 to let us know what dish you are planning to avoid duplicates.

To reserve a space, call Carol Stephens at 321-267-2600 or Rayelynn at 321-269-7631.

You can also sign up at the rear of the church.

CRAFT TIME – Christmas Ornaments— Class is Tuesday, December 4th @ 10:30 a.m. in the Adult Studies Room

Have fun making a no-sew tacked Christmas Wreath using fabric. This wreath uses fabric squares to create colorful designs and patterns. It is a lot of fun for everyone. You will enjoy this simple craft. ****PLEASE SIGN UP BY DECEMBER 3rd - \$5.00 materials fee****

ADULT COLORING – Monday, December 3rd @ 10:30am in the Adult Studies Room

Coloring is not just for kids. Adults relax and also enjoy it. Join us for an hour of fun and fellowship. Don't worry about bringing supplies....we have plenty to share. You can bring your Diamond Painting to complete. **No need to sign up....just come and color!!**

PATCHWORK FRIENDS – Wednesday, December 5th @ 9:00am in the Quilting Room

Want to learn to quilt? We will teach you. **NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!!** We make quilts for all occasions....a new baby, returning service member....nursing home guests and lot more. You will learn how to put love into a quilt. **No need to sign up....just show up and have fun.**

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

**call Rayelynn at 321-269-7631, ext. 206 and leave a message.
It's very important to sign up so we can prepare for the program.**

December 2018

First United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 12:00pm Mountain Top Party	3 10:30am Adult Coloring 11:00am Stallard Funeral 12:00pm Stallard Reception 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm SPRC Meeting	4 10:30am Craft Time 11:00am Knit Wits 1:00pm Line Dancing 2:30pm Chairrobics 5:30pm Handbells	5 9:00am Patchwork Friends 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Celtic Xmas Rehearsal	6 11:30am Ladies Day Out 1:00pm Bible Study 1:00pm Line Dancing 2:30pm Line Dancing	7 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Youth Getaway	1 7:30am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 8 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
9 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 2:00pm Pastor's Open House	10 1:00pm Staff Meeting 1:00pm Learn to Sew 3:00pm Worship Design 5:30pm Finance Meeting	11 11:00am Knit Wits 1:00pm Line Dancing 2:30pm Chairrobics 5:30pm Handbells 6:00pm UIM Women Social	12 10:00am ADK Meeting 6:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Celtic Xmas Rehearsal	13 10:00am Retired Teachers Mtg. 1:00pm Line Dancing 2:30pm Line Dancing	14 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Youth Getaway	15 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 9:30am Christmas Store
16 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:30am Children's Xmas Store 3:00pm Celtic Christmas	17 1:00pm Learn to Sew 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm Trustees Mtg.	18 2:30pm Chairrobics 3:30pm Dove Circle 5:30pm Handbells	19 7:00pm Chancel Choir	20 6:00pm Blue Christmas Service	21 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry 5:30pm Friday Fellowship 6:00pm Youth Getaway	22 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
23 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	24 Office Closed 5:00pm Christmas Eve Children's Service 6:00pm Birthday Party for Jesus 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day 	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28 Office Closed 12:00pm Band Practice 1-3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Youth Getaway	29 7:30am UMM Breakfast 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
30 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed 1:00pm Learn to Sew 3:00pm Worship Design					

Table of Contents

- [Page One](#) — Message from the Pastor
- [Page Two](#) — Memorial Gifts
- [Page Three](#) — Sunday School Information /
Lay Liturgists / Prayer Focus
- [Page Four](#) — Birthdays / Anniversaries
- [Page Five](#) — Blue Christmas
- [Page Six](#) — Celtic Christmas
- [Page Seven](#) — Color Me Christian Page
- [Page Eight](#) — What's Happening
- [Page Nine](#) — What's Happening
- [Page Ten](#) — Adult Ministries
- [Page Eleven](#) — December Calendar
- [Page Twelve](#) — Table of Contents / Church Info



FUMC Staff

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Rev. Wayne Cook - Pastor | Ext 204 |
| 2 | Mario Davis - Administrative Assistant | Ext 207 |
| 3 | Keith Meck - Facilities Manager | Ext.202 |
| 4 | Rayelynn Henderson - Adult Ministries | Ext 206 |
| 5 | Carol Henn - Music Director | Ext 209 |
| 6 | Nursery | Ext 208 |
| 7 | Reception Desk | Ext 201 |
| 8 | Amy Martin - Children's Ministries | |
| 9 | Dr. Bob Titus - Pastor Emeritus Home: 321-603-0235 | Cell: 321-289-1657 |
| 10 | Keith Cooke - Financial Secretary | |
| 11 | J.D. Daniel - Organist | |
| 12 | Steve Rossi - Sound Tech | |
| 13 | Josh Huss - Lights and Visuals | |

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

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

