



# MESSENGER

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

DECEMBER 2019



Hurricane season ends just in time for us to begin our Advent journey. Two months ago, our focus centered on Hurricane season as Dorian swirled off the coast of Florida, destroying the Bahamas and causing most of us to prepare for a potential strike. It is amazing how quickly even the possibility of a hurricane can clear store shelves of water, bread, batteries, generators, and plywood. Even for those of us who are seasoned Floridians, we tend to prepare just in case.

Have you noticed our preparation typically only takes place when we are threatened? The agencies who monitor weather and catastrophes begin warning us about the possibility of a hurricane and the need to prepare before the official season even begins but most of us just make the assumption (or so it seems) that we will not need to prepare this year; surely, we will not get a hurricane this year. I experienced the same attitude in the propane business; customers would wait until the weather forecast said the temperatures would be below freezing and panic. They would call and ask if we knew there was going to be a freeze followed by an explanation of how it was my fault they had waited until the last minute to have their tank filled. Probably more than sixty percent of my customers used this same means of operating. Once, I asked a particularly rude individual if they realized it was winter and it was going to get cold. Their response was "I didn't think it would get cold this year." I asked how old he was and he replied seventy-something. I then asked, "Has it gotten cold all those other years." He said, "Yes, but I didn't think it would this year." We need to learn to prepare for what we can expect to happen. It is the same in our spiritual life. I have heard many times, "You need to be ready because you do not know when the end will come." However, we do not like to think about the end, or our end, do we? Advent is one the times of the Christian year when we are to prepare to receive the risen Christ's return.

Advent is a time of preparation and expectation. We do not expect Jesus to be born but to return. Often we "preacher types" say we are living in the now and the not yet. The now is that Jesus has come to earth as one of us fully human, died, and risen again. We believe he has won the victory over sin and death but that we have not fully received that victory. The "not yet" is the return of Christ in the completion of the victory (final Victory is what we call it in the communion liturgy). The question is: do we see advent in this way? Are we looking for the return of the victorious King or celebrating the birth of a child? I wonder how many live as though we are waiting on the baby to be born another time, to remember that helpless infant, God-Human lying in a manger. That beautiful baby that is still too young to require anything of us, the precious easy to control God. I will admit it is much easier to remember and want the beauty of His birth than the fear of His return. We often sing about what a wonderful day it will be when He returns, while the Jewish faith sees it as a fearsome day of judgement and sorrow. I wonder what it will be. I am sure I cannot imagine such an event, yet I believe it is coming. As I think about Advent and the celebration of Jesus' return, I have to ask am I preparing for that event as I would a hurricane. Am I getting my "house" in order? Am I living like I believe His return is near. Paul taught Early Christians to be prepared every moment. They expected He would return in their lifetime to judge and redeem Israel. They lived each day looking for His return. I do not think we do. Just as with weather events I am afraid we have heard so much about it and witnessed so many would-be soothsayers tell us when the second coming will be, we have become tired of hearing about it. It appears we have adopted the same attitude toward the return of Christ as we have a hurricane or a freeze. We wait and see what happens, thinking there is no use wasting time preparing for something that is not certain to happen soon. We wait and we lull ourselves with the songs of angels and stories of shepherds to fill our advent with wonder and praise for the birth that we forget He is returning.

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Advent is a time of preparing our hearts to receive Jesus, not just the baby but also the victorious king that comes in victory to redeem the earth and put evil under His feet permanently. As we approach Advent, I invite us to begin to do a search of our lives, our minds and our hearts to make us ready to receive the King when he returns. As Wesleyans, we believe we have not arrived but are going on to Sanctification, to wholeness in Christ. I know too many who adopt a Calvinist approach: we are saved and that is the end we do not have to do anything else (which really is not what Calvin taught). We are to be always preparing, but even more so during Advent. I know searching and examining our lives is hard but it is a continual process. There are many ways to accomplish this goal. I will recommend two that I believe are positive and possible. The first is the Daily Examen of St. Ignatius. This

practice works through prayer and five steps to take in prayer. (You can Google Daily Examen to get more information). The second is the twelve steps of AA. These steps are a continuing examination of our lives and our thoughts that are valuable not only to those who suffer addictions but to everyone. (You can Google 12 steps AA for more information.) You might find another method but I invite you to join me this Advent season in preparing our hearts to receive not only the baby but also the Risen Victorious King.

I love being your pastor.

*Wayne Cook*

December 15 2019 | 5-8 PM  
United Student Ministry at  
First United Methodist  
Church of Titusville  
Fellowship Hall

Join the student ministry in the fellowship hall from 5pm-8pm as we celebrate the Christmas season with a *waffle bar*, an *ugly christmas sweater contest*, and a *movie!*

**Everyone is welcome!**



**Need a Christmas Gift? Here's an idea!**

**One of our members is willing to give away some handmade woodworking. Some examples of items are on the back table.**

**These items are available for a donation.  
100% of donations will be given to First United  
Methodist Church.**

**Contact the church office for more information.**

# Happy Thanksgiving!

2019 Thanksgiving Dinner was a huge success, a special thank you to all those who came out to volunteer for our annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner! Our church family was able to serve over 250 people with delicious home cooked food.





# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Sunday, December 1st @ 4pm**

The music department wants to help everyone get in the holiday spirit. There will be sacred and secular favorites to spark the Christmas cheer in your heart. You'll hear songs like *Santa Claus Boogie*, *The 12 Days After Christmas*, *One Small Child*, *Let There Be Peace On Earth*, and *I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas* as well as many others.

Performers include:

**Broadstreet  
Chancel Choir  
Ladies Choir  
Soliloquy  
Soloists**

**AND**

Guest group, **Cross Pointe**,  
our from First Presbyterian Church of Titusville.

## Memorial Gifts

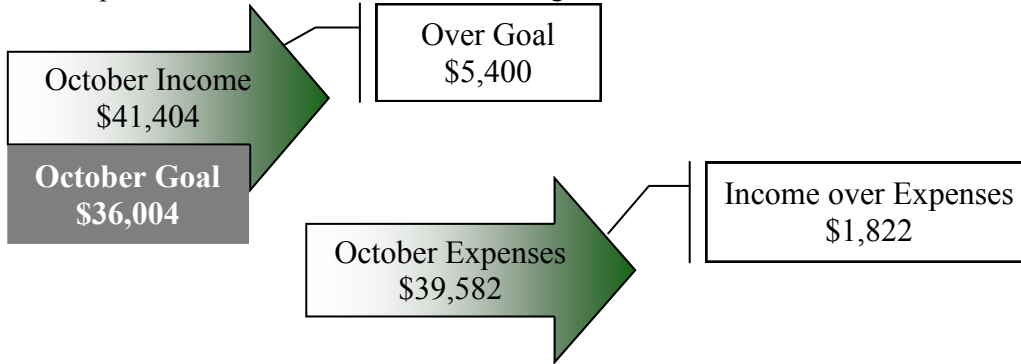
*We would like to acknowledge and thank the families and friends who have designated memorial gifts to our church this year in memory of those who have gone to be with our Lord and Savior.*

<i>Vance Alexander</i>	<i>Carol Key</i>
<i>Ruth Alman</i>	<i>Grace Lazzari</i>
<i>John &amp; Joanne Baker</i>	<i>Jan Lichtenwalter</i>
<i>Bill &amp; Kitty Baldwin</i>	<i>Michael &amp; Dina Maurer</i>
<i>Helen Becker</i>	<i>Joseph &amp; Cheryl Maxwell</i>
<i>Robert C. Bessen</i>	<i>Walter &amp; CJ McAllister</i>
<i>Vic &amp; Yvette Boodhoo</i>	<i>Sammy McGraw</i>
<i>Barbara Borman</i>	<i>Trudy Metzger</i>
<i>Marion &amp; Joy Brady</i>	<i>Ed &amp; Ingrid Patterson</i>
<i>Lew &amp; Barbara Brinkley</i>	<i>John &amp; Marie Pridgen</i>
<i>Nancy Bunting</i>	<i>Bill &amp; Lois Queen</i>
<i>M.J. and R.S. Carrabba</i>	<i>Michael &amp; Laurie Richards</i>
<i>Randy &amp; Lynn Coleman</i>	<i>Judith Riddle</i>
<i>Keith &amp; Libby Cooke</i>	<i>Frank &amp; Ann Rist</i>
<i>H. Lucille Deeter</i>	<i>Bob Russell</i>
<i>Ken &amp; Louise DeTorres</i>	<i>Frank &amp; Linda Russell</i>
<i>Terresa Fannin</i>	<i>Truman Scarborough</i>
<i>Joseph &amp; Judy Fine</i>	<i>Barbara Schwartz</i>
<i>Patsy Gadapee</i>	<i>Betty, Eric, &amp; Jean Shearouse</i>
<i>Paul &amp; Jan Grimard</i>	<i>Georgia Smith</i>
<i>Ed &amp; Debbie Grimes</i>	<i>John &amp; Carol Stephens</i>
<i>Gary &amp; Joanne Hamilton</i>	<i>Ray Stewart</i>
<i>Alfredo Hernandez &amp; Greg Morgan</i>	<i>Tommie &amp; Michelle Suggs</i>
<i>Sydney Herndon</i>	<i>Jim &amp; Sharen Talbert</i>
<i>Adrienne Herrell</i>	<i>William &amp; Rachel Terry</i>
<i>Kaye Hooper</i>	<i>Laurilee Thompson</i>
<i>Jake &amp; Debbie Huether</i>	<i>Bill &amp; Natalie Walls</i>
<i>French &amp; Naomi Johnson</i>	<i>John &amp; Maxine Watkins</i>
<i>Jewell Johnson</i>	<i>Herman Wattwood, Jr.</i>
<i>John &amp; Debra Jones</i>	<i>Rich &amp; Linda Wilson</i>
<i>Frank &amp; Ann Kennedy</i>	<i>Jim &amp; Carolyn Winn</i>
<i>Kerry Kennedy</i>	<i>Richard &amp; Amy Yunker</i>
	<i>Caroline Zaffery</i>



### 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.



### December Prayer Focus

**December 1-7 — Pray for Indian River City United Methodist Church.**

**December 8-14 — Pray for Mims United Methodist Church.**

**December 15-21 — Pray for St. Andrew United Methodist Church.**

**December 22-28 — Pray for First United Methodist Church, Titusville.**

**December 29-January 4 — Blessings in the New Year.**



### **Lay Liturgists/Readers For December 2019**

**December 1 — Jerry Copeland**

**December 8 — Mike Mustard**

**December 15 — Lois Queen**

**December 22 — Mike Mustard**

**December 29 — Jennifer Evans**

# DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Eunice Chalmers  
5 Gay Hammond  
6 Paul Harvey  
7 David Hanson  
7 Jessica Johnson  
7 C.B. Till  
7 Maxine Watkins

10 Sydney Herndon  
11 Beverly Marsh  
11 Jim Winn  
14 Bob Moyer  
15 Pascale Daniel  
15 Evelyn Hooks  
16 Dorothy Cameron

18 Brady Tabin  
22 Carl Breznik  
22 Mary Harvey



*“You shall allot it as an inheritance for yourselves and for the aliens who reside among you and have begotten children among you. They shall be to you as citizens of Israel; with you they shall be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel.”*

— Ezekiel 47:22

# DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

10 Vic & Yvette Boodhoo  
17 Jim & Carolyn Winn  
21 Tom & Gay Hammond

24 Michael & Glenda Waring  
27 Joe & Gloria Kendall, Sr.





**December 6th @ 7pm**

**First United Methodist Church  
206 S. Hopkins Ave.**

**December 7th @ 7pm**

**St. Andrew United Methodist Church  
3380 Dairy Rd.**

**Free to the public!**

**A love offering will be collected.**

**This much-loved annual concert of Christmas music is back! 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 St. Andrew United Methodist Church and Trinity Lutheran Church.**





# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## What's happening at United Student Ministry

Middle and High School students, *Join us for Sunday School* upstairs in the Education building at 9am as we read through the Bible.

*Sunday evenings 6-7:30* join us across the street from the church at the youth room for fellowship, food and a relevant lesson.

# December 2019

## First United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 4:00pm Christmas Concert	<b>2</b> 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm SPRC Meeting	<b>3</b> 11:00am Knit Wits 5:30pm Handbells	<b>4</b> 9:00am Patchwork Friends 6:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Celtic Xmas Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 11:30am Ladies Day Out	<b>6</b> 1-3:30pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Celtic Christmas @ FUMC	<b>7</b> 7:30am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 2:00pm R. Cherry Funeral 3:00pm R. Cherry Recept. 7:00pm Celtic Christmas @ St. Andrew UMC
<b>8</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 6:00pm Mountaintop Xmas Prty	<b>9</b> 1:00pm Staff Meeting 3:00pm Worship Design 3:30pm Dove Circle 5:30pm Finance Meeting	<b>10</b> 11:00am Knit Wits 5:00pm UMW Meeting 5:30pm Handbells	<b>11</b> 10:00am ADK Meeting 6:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	<b>14</b> 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 9:00am Christmas Store
<b>15</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>16</b> 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm Trustees Mtg.	<b>17</b> 5:30pm Handbells	<b>18</b> 7:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	<b>21</b> 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
<b>22</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>23</b> 3:00pm Worship Design	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> 5:00pm Christmas Eve Children's Service 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> 	<b>26 Office Closed</b>	<b>27 Office Closed</b> 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	<b>28</b> 7:30am UMM Breakfast 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
<b>29</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>30 Office Closed</b>	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b> Office Closed				

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# December 2019

## FUMC Staff

Reception Desk	Ext 201
Rev. Wayne Cook - Pastor	Ext 202
Mario Davis - Administrative Assistant	Ext 203
Tom Mosier - Facilities Manager	
Lauren Peterson - Dir. of Student & Adult Min.	
Glenda Waring - Membership Secretary	Ext. 204
Rayelynn Henderson - Finance Secretary	
Carol Henn - Music Director	
J.D. Daniel - Organist	
Steve Rossi - Sound Tech	
Josh Huss - Lights and Visuals	
Dr. Bob Titus - Pastor Emeritus	

### **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](mailto:office@fumctitusville.com)

Website: [www.fumctitusville.com](http://www.fumctitusville.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/682694095204027](https://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/UCChscOeLDe-wGkXHftvzGX9Q>

