



THE MESSENGER



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TITUSVILLE

206 S. HOPKINS AVE, TITUSVILLE, FL 32796

FEBRUARY 2020



As children many of us used the response, “sticks and stones, may break my bones but words will never hurt me.” Possibly, our parents taught us this response to unkind words, however, it is completely false. Words do hurt us when used to degrade another person, in anger, or hatred. Words have power. Yet, words used quickly and casually without thought of their value and meaning cause destruction. Even when used in grace and love, words are often

misunderstood and misinterpreted.

The current situation within our denomination has caused me to think about the way we use words or more likely misuse them. The first example that occurred to me happened in 1945. The allies developed and sent to the Japanese government the Potsdam Declaration demanding immediate and complete surrender of Imperial Japan to the Allies. Japanese Premier Kantaro Suzuki responded with one word: *mokusatsu*. It was an interesting choice. It appears there is more than one way to translate *mokusatsu*. One of the ways is to understand it is withholding comment until a decision can be reached. The second possible translation is to ignore with contempt, as in we are not even considering what you said. This second option is how the word was translated to the allies and was the final action leading to the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima. We will never know beyond doubt what the message was intended to mean, but we certainly know the outcome. (Unknown 1968) This was surely a tragedy, yet the bomb ended the war at the cost of millions of lives.

A second example from scripture is told in the paper referenced above. “A missionary in Africa ran into this problem with the sentence, ‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock.’ (1 John, 3:20) In that region only a thief knocks on doors; if anyone responds, the

intruder runs away. Visitors with honest intent shout the name of the person in the hut. The translator solved the problem by rendering the verse, “Behold, I stand at the door and call.” (Unknown 1968) It seems there is not the possibility of translating even the Bible on a word for word basis.

A third example is certainly a lot lighter. It’s a southern saying. I love the southern dictionaries that supposedly help non-southerners understand colorful southern sayings. I do, however, find many of them don’t match my family usage of the same saying. My favorite is “In high cotton”. Most of these fancy books say “in high cotton” means you are doing well. You are well off and have plenty especially in the wealth category but in my family, “I never wanted to hear my dad say I’m fixin’ to put your behind in high cotton.” In his vernacular, to be “in high cotton” meant I was about to be in trouble that involved his belt and my behind. I think you get the picture. This is almost opposite of the meaning of the fancy books that explain southernisms. It would seem they are, as the other two examples, speaking another language.

So what’s the point? The point is we often miscommunicate with each other in matters both large and small. We experience the pain of these miscommunications much deeper in such stressful times as we are now experiencing in our denomination. The current divide not only in our denomination but also in our country is worse than any other time in my memory. We all have thoughts and opinions as to what is right and what is wrong. We all have the answers and understandings we have developed over our lifetimes based on our family, the community we come from, the general culture, and even the church we grew up in and who taught our Sunday school class. We need to realize in that huge mix which has made us who we are. We are at times correct and at other times incorrect. We are right about some issues and events and wrong about others and we typically don’t know which is which. It is our human condition. So what? The “so what” is we need to treat each other with

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respect, kindness, and grace in all situations of life and even more carefully when we are in times of brokenness, confusion and turmoil. Remember, either person may be wrong even though their thoughts and beliefs are long and dearly held. It still doesn't cost us a thing to be loving and grace-filled. Most if not all of us like to believe we are correct in our thoughts even when we are proven wrong. I hate it when that happens. We still can treat each other with love.

Sadly, too many see the UMC brokenness as something that is an issue for the intangible United Methodist Church that only exists every four years while General Conference is occurring. If we are honest, we realize that the pain, hurt, and brokenness will move through every branch and level of the church, all the way down to the pews, friends, and families. Just because we disagree does not mean we have to stop loving each other or start treating each other with disdain. How do we continue to love each other when we disagree on strongly held beliefs?

A quote often wrongly attributed to Wesley tells us, "In essentials unity, in doubtful things/non-essentials liberty, in all things charity." This quote points out that we are to offer charity, which indicates having a Christian love for the other person, in all things even when we disagree on essential things. A second quote is from John Wesley which says, "if your heart is like my heart, take my hand." I believe both quotes lead us to understand the importance of maintaining

relationship and offering Christian love to others. As we approach May 2020, some of you have asked what will happen, how it will happen, what will you do, what will we do. I can speculate on the answers to all these questions; the truth is I don't know. I have never been to a General Conference and probably won't ever go to one. What I ask of you is to be careful how you respond to the events, no matter which side you feel is correct; you don't know who this brokenness affects or to whom the discussion is a personal reality of life. I can tell you as long as we continue to love each other, we are a living example of the love of God in action to the world around us.

I hope you will join me in praying for our congregation and its individual members, for the delegates, and all involved. Remember words can kill or heal...let's use healing words.

I love you all.

Blessings



Unknown. "Mokusatsu: One Word, Two Lessons," NSA Technical Journal, Fall 1968, Volume 13 Issue 4, Page: 95-97. <https://www.nsa.gov/Portals/70/documents/news-features/declassified-documents/tech-journals/mokusatsu.pdf>.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Brenda Pittman	12 Russ Beeker	21 Deb Kershner
1 Jacob Rinehart	14 Duane Torneden	21 Ed Patterson
4 Charlotte Studstill	17 Debbie Grimes	24 Fay Kikta
5 Jason Kline	17 Nancy Torneden	26 Bob Preston
8 Billy White	18 David Stallings	27 Bonnie Segó
11 Sara Coniglio	20 Jackson Crews	
11 Ken DeTorres	20 Grace Lazzari	

start the conversation



Do you know what your teen is looking at online?

INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY

Statistics show that the largest consumers of porn are teens age 12-17!

Chances are they are struggling with porn right now. Are you struggling with how to approach it or where to start?

With Christ's help, let's do something about this epidemic problem together!



FREEDOMBEGINSHERE

Parent Conference: Sunday, Feb 9th 2020 1-2:30pm
IRC United Methodist Church
Studio 153, Wesley Hall
1355 Cheney Hwy, Titusville



Student Classes: Following 4 Sundays
Feb 16th, 23rd, Mar 1st & 8th
Jr High 1pm-2pm, Sr High 2pm-3pm



Please contact CJ Gehlman for more info & RSVP:
321-591-7168 or cjgehlman@hotmail.com



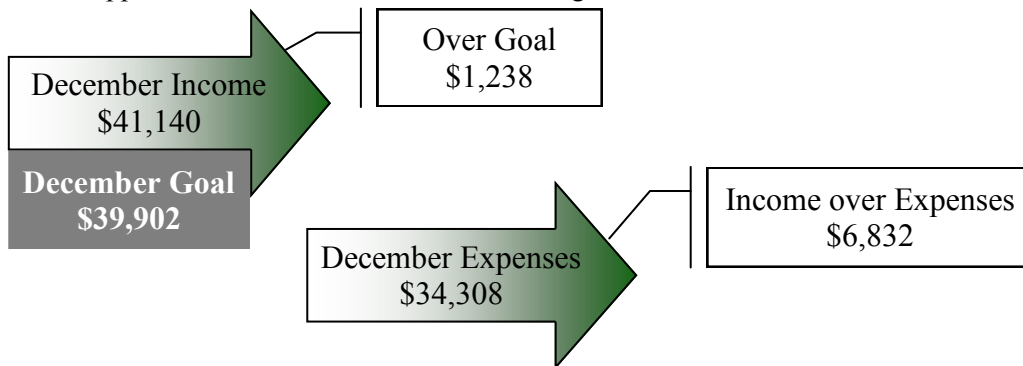
*“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.”
— Ephesians 4:32 (KJV)*

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Bob & Debbie Preston 5 Marion & Joy Brady
- 5 Richard & Grace Barron 15 Ted & Hillary Page

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 2020 is **\$478,826** which, divided evenly, makes each month's goal \$39,902 rather than being weighted differently throughout the year. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to cover all of our expenses and have a surplus of \$5,702 to help cover the expenses of 2020. We have some building improvements and repairs coming up for this year and will need your continued support to make those improvements happen as well as fund our expanding outreach programs.

February Prayer Focus

February 2 – 8 — Pray for our Leadership Team

February 9 - 15 — Strength To Carry Out my Resolutions

February 16 - 22 — Help us to remember to help others

February 23 - 29 — Remember that with God, all things are possible



Lay Liturgists/Readers For February 2020

February 2 — Jerry Copeland

February 9 — Nancy Burgess

February 16 — Glenda Waring

February 23 — Lois Queen

March 1 — Diana Barnhart

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Spring Festival

Saturday, April. 25 10am

First United Methodist Church

This Spring join us for a multigenerational Spring Festival!

Free to the public!

Games//Prizes & Giveaways

Bounce House//Car Show//Craft Fair

Chick-fil-A & Hot dogs

For Car show and Craft Fair please sign up in back of the church or call Lauren at 321-269-7631 Ext. 213

To Volunteer with children's bounce houses and games sign up in the back of the church or call Lisa at 321-269-7631 Ext. 213

NORTH BREVARD UMC

LENTEN SERIES

PORTAIT OF JESUS

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 6:30PM

03/04/2020 | FUMC | CHARLEY WATTS

Portrait of Jesus

03/11/2020 | PORT ST JOHN | BILL CORRISTAN

Portrait of Jesus

Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

Blessed are those who mourn

03/18/2020 | MIMS | PATRICIA PENA

Blessed are the Meek

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness

03/25/2020 | ST. ANDREW | DAVID CHARLETON

Blessed are the Merciful

Blessed are the Pure in Heart

04/01/2020 | IRC | WAYNE COOK

Blessed are the Peacemakers

Blessed are You when People Persecute You

Celebrate Recovery



EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

\$3 Dinner at 6:30

Large Group Meeting at 7:00

Small Confidential Groups

Evening Refreshments

**1355 Cheney Hwy
Titusville, FL 32780**

321-267-7922

Childcare Available by Donation

February 2020

First United Methodist Church





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  7:30am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast	2 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	3 3:00pm Worship Design	4 11:00am Knit Wits 5:30pm Handbells	5 9:00am Patchwork Friends 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	6 9:30am PEO Meeting 9:30am Ladies Day Out	7 1-3:30pm Food Pantry
8 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 2:00pm Linda Butts Funeral	9 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	10 10:00am UMW Meeting 11:00am Knit Wits 1:00pm Staff Meeting 3:00pm Worship Design 5:30pm Handbells	11 11:00am UMW Meeting 11:00am Knit Wits 1:00pm Staff Meeting 3:00pm Worship Design 5:30pm Handbells	12 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	13 9:30am Ladies Day Out	14 Valentine's Day 1-3:30pm Food Pantry 
15 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 11:00am Betty Mattingly Funeral	16 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	17 President's Day 3:00pm Worship Design 	18 11:00am Knit Wits 3:30pm Dove Circle 5:30pm Handbells 6:30pm Broadstreet	19 9:00am ADK 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	20 1:00pm Bible Study 5:30pm Leadership Team Mtg.	21 1-3:30pm Food Pantry
22 8:00am Comm. Breakfast	23 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	24 3:00pm Worship Design	25 11:00am Knit Wits 5:30pm Handbells 6:30pm Broadstreet	26 Ash Wednesday 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir 	27 1:00pm Bible Study	28 1-3:30pm Food Pantry
29 7:30am UMM Breakfast 8:00am Comm. Breakfast						

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2020 February



FUMC Staff

Reception Desk	Ext 201
Rev. Wayne Cook - Pastor	Ext 202
Mario Davis - Administrative Assistant	Ext 203
Glenda Waring - Membership Secretary	Ext. 204
Rayelynn Henderson - Finance Secretary	Ext. 204
Lisa Mick - Dir. of Children's Min.	Ext. 205
Lauren Peterson - Student & Adult Min.	Ext. 205
Tom Mosier - Facilities Manager	
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

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/UCChscOcLDe-wGkXHftvzGX9Q>

