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

How Deep is Your Love?



The month of February is really a fun-loving time of year. Within these 28 days of the shortest month of the year, we have: Ground Hog Day (Feb. 2nd), Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 5th), Valentine's Day (Feb. 14th), President's Day (Feb. 20th), and Shrove Tuesday/ Mardis Gras/Fat Tuesday (Feb. 28th). And if you are interested in more entertainment, you have the Grammy's on the 12th and the Academy Awards on the 26th!

Much of our society has trivialized the meaning of love during this month. I remember a song by BeeGee band member, Calvin Harris who wrote, "How Deep is Your Love?" This popular 1970's tune asks, "How deep is your love? Is it like the ocean? What devotion? Are you?" However, this song is addressed to another human being and is quite worldly in its approach. Still, these questions also apply to the disciple Christian and how we relate to one another. Pastor Steven Molin explores this question in a sermon that he preached during a wedding wermon (but it is appropriate for daily living in all of our lives):

The sctipture: First Corinthians 13 is commonly called "the Love Chapter." In this Bible passage, the Apostle Paul describes the sacrificial love of Christian community. But the tension of relationships is still the same; there are times when we don't like people in our church; we disagree with what they think, we are disappointed at what they do, but the words of Paul compel us to love them still. Our love is not mdependent upon feelings or frustrations or agreement. Love is a choice, and today, you are making that choice. Imagine for a moment that this is what Paul has written to you:

Love is patient and kind; he is not envious, he doesn't brag about himself, he is not egotistical, nor is he ever rude.

Love is not an angry person, she' not one to carry a grudge, she loves the truth. Love hopes all things, believes all things, and endures all things.

My greatest desire for you - is God's greatest desire for you - that you would love one another in this way. That you would aspire to love one another with the love that Paul describes. And when one of yo has been hurt by the other, you will still love. And when one of you has been disappointed by the other, yo u will still love. And when yo find that your capacity to love has been spent, may it then be that God's love flows through you. Because human love has its limits, but the love of God knows no bounds. And that's the kind of love God wishes for us in family; a selfless, sacrificial and unconditional love . . . Even when you don't like.

This Messenger Newsletter contains some excellent ways in which we might explore our love for Christ and our love for each other as a community of believers in Jesus. In this edition of The Messenger, you will find invitations to Children's Ministry, Adult Bible Studies, travel opportunities, worship events and even a Mardis Gras event at the end of the month.

Let me invite you to deepen your love for Jesus and one another through these many experiences that our leaders and staff are planning for you and your loved ones. We encourage you to bring a friend, relative, associate in business, and/or neighbor(s). We are blessed to be celebrating our 142nd year as one of the leading churches in our area. So, why not bring more people to God's party?

Blessed and Honored to Be Your Pastor.

Fred Ball

Page One

Worship Opportunities For February

During the month of February, we invite you, your loved ones, friends, family and neighbors to our Sunday morning worship experience at 10 a.m. in our sanctuary. (We are also going to have informal praise worship in the Youth Building on Saturday nights from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.). In February we will be continuing our message series on Re-Claiming Your Self Identity. Here is what we are planning:

February 5, 2017 — Live With Integrity on Communion Sunday

"The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail." (Isaiah 58:11) "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot... Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill." (Matthew 5:13, 17)

Something with "integrity" is stable — all the parts are supporting the whole. We are invited to examine all the parts of our lives to see if they point toward the fulfillment of our identity, vocation and call.

February 12, 2017 — Create Right Relationships

"Choose life so that you and your descendants may live..." (Deuteronomy 30:19) "So, when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift." (Matthew 5:23, 24)

Who we are cannot be fulfilled in isolation. We were made for relationship and for passing on the life and love given to us by God.

February 19, 2017 — Go Beyond on

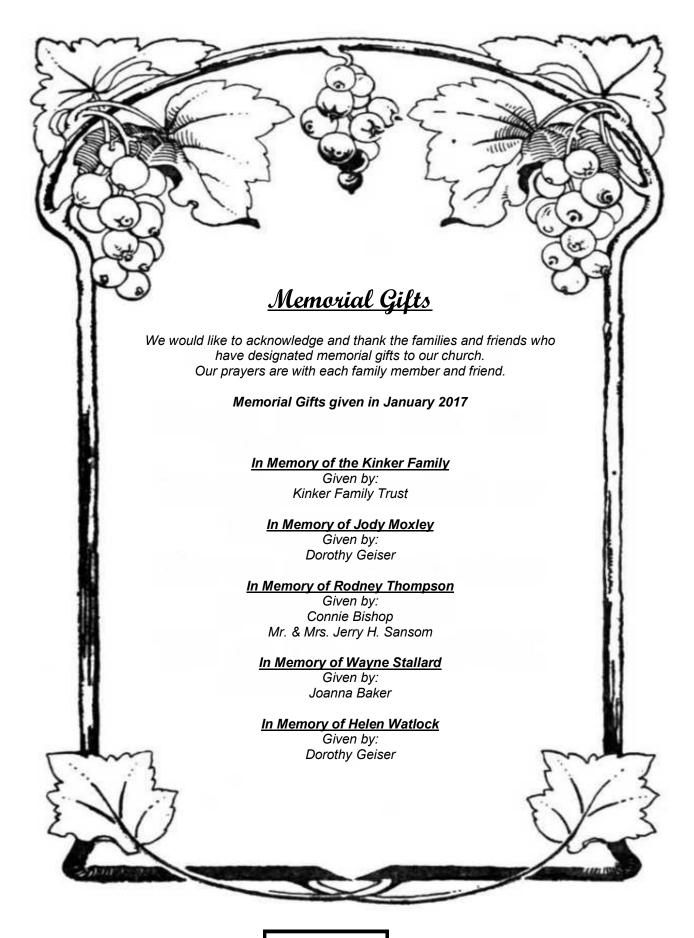
"You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 19:10)..."and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile...For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?" (Matthew 5:41, 46)

Living fully into who we truly are produces such abundance that the fruits of the fields of our lives overflow. Offering this bounty with others is the command of God. Even more than that, the scriptures invite us to go beyond just what we have to offer, and also move into giving what we must strive to offer on behalf of love. How can we go the extra mile as a church?

February 26, 2017 — Proclaim Transformation on Transfiguration Sunday. (REMEMBER: Shrove or "Fat Tuesday" is February 28th 6 p.m. and Ash Wednesday is March 1st at 6 p.m.)

"The Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain'...Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel." (Exodus 24:12, 17) "Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves...suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' " (Matthew 17:1, 5)

Several have asked about having a Praise Worship Service come back in the evening time at 1st United Methodist Church. Therefore, we are now offering a one hour informal service of Praise and Worship to begin on Saturday, February 4 at 6 p.m. in the Youth Building (on Palm Avenue). We hope this is a place and time which will accommodate young people and their families during a hurried weekend. If you would like to volunteer in the areas of hospitality, music, praying or teaching, please call: Kaye Ball at 321-267-0566 or 863-451-1315 or Pastor Fred at 321-269-7631, ext 204



An Invitation to Join Confirmation Class, 2017

All young people who are in the seventh grade and above are invited to join us for First United Methodist Church's Confirmation Class 2017. As you enter this class, you will discover an exciting adventure of interesting activities, field trips and places that you have never heard or seen before now! So, come along, join the journey into faith, let go and let's get to know our God who came to us in Jesus Christ. This six-week class will start on Sunday, March 5th and go to Palm Sunday, April 9th. Confirmation will be on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017.

If you would like to join us, call the church office and reserve a place for your young person to participate. Phone: (321) 269-7631, ext. 204.

February Birthdays

- **Betty Carothers** 1 Brenda Pittman 1 Jacob Rinehart Tom Thompson 2 Tim MacMartin 2 Chris Stallard 3 Dick Gadapee 3 Joann Pacific 4 Ruth Laurene 4 Alice Stadio 4 Charlotte Studstill 4 Paula Thomas 4 Hannah Tillett 5 John Canarie 5 Ruby Smith 6 Tom Johnson 7 Chuck Kennedy 7 Brian Mewborn 8 Christopher Alex 8 Grey Cooke Becky Lee Billy White 9 John Withington
- 10 Jeanette Hamed 10 Michele Howe 10 Kathy Metot 11 Sara Congilio 11 Ken DeTorres 12 Russ Beeker 12 Randy Blalock 12 Brett Huether 13 Libby Sherrill 14 Shane Thompson 14 Duane Torneden 15 Brian Blihovde 15 Debbie Pickens 16 Michael Meara 16 Jim Mewborn 16 Jason Wilson 17 Debbie Grimes 17 Stacey Myers 17 Merlyne Owens 17 Nancy Torneden 18 David Stallings
- 19 Connie Barnhart
- 19 Tyler Moxley 20 Kaye Ball 20 Jackson Crews 20 Lisa Dunlop 20 Grace Lazzari 20 Ronald Thompson 21 Beau Arnold 21 Ed Patterson 22 Richard Barron 24 Adrian Erlenbach 24 Alison Erlenbach 24 Murray Nance 25 Charlene Harper 25 Sandy Higginbotham 25 Ashley Mays 26 Bob Preston 27 Carolyn Glass

27 Bonnie Sego

28 Matt Mustard

28 Davis Baumgardner

28 Samantha Phillips





FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

5 Richard & Grace Barron

19 David Lesky

5 Marion & Joy Brady

Page Four

A Journey with Christ

(Reprinted from http://emmaus.upperroom.org)

"While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them." (Luke 24:15)

Both the Walk to Emmaus (for adults), Journey (for young adults) and Chrysalis (for High School Sophomores—Seniors who are 16–19) weekends are experiences of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.

The Walk to Emmaus, Journey and Chrysalis weekend experiences begin with the prayerful discernment and invitation from a sponsor. After one accepts this invitation they complete an application. The Emmaus leaders prayerfully consider each applicant and in God's time, the person is invited to attend a three-day experience of New Testament Christianity as a lifestyle. (Please talk with Richard & Grace Barron or Fred & Kaye Ball or Carl & Lynn Varner for sponsorship.)

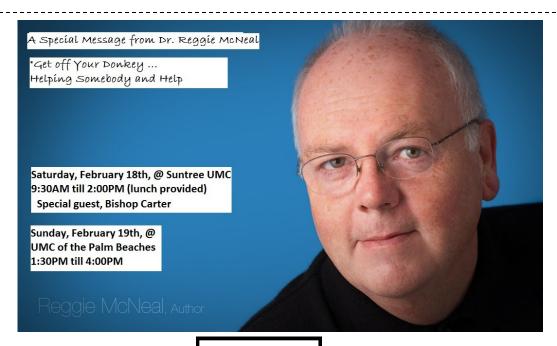
Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ.

Through the formational process of accountable discipleship in small groups and participation in the Emmaus community, each participant's individual gifts and servant-leadership skills are developed for use in the local church and its mission. Participants are encouraged to find ways to live out their individual call to discipleship in their home, church, and community.

The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others. For more info. Please ask Richard & Grace Barron; Carl & Lynn Varner; or Fred & Kaye Ball.

Upcoming Weekends:

March 2 – March 5, 2017 (Men's Weekend # 149) in Fruitland Park March 9 – March 12, 2017 (Women's Weekend # 149) Fruitland Park April 27 – April 30, 2017 (Women's Weekend # 150) Fruitland Park



Page Five

CALLED TO CONNECT

to Schools and the Community

Clergy and Laity Day of Learning

AC District Annual Local Church Training

Sat. Feb. 18th at Suntree UMC - 9:30 a.m.

We are excited about having Rev. Reggie McNeal, bestselling author, teacher and popular speaker for groups engaged in community service.

Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend the Annual Atlantic Central District Training Event.

Our hope is that we will have each church send 15-20 people from their leadership to hear this dynamic speaker. Bishop Carter will be participating in the event on Saturday.

Schedule for Feb. 18th:

9:30 - Gathering and registration 10:00 - Welcome 10:15 - Keynote

3:00 - Closing

Dear colleagues in ministry (especially those serving in Brevard County);

The Leadership Council of the AC District has approved an initiative that the United Methodist (U.M.) Churches of Brevard County band together to put on a fun appreciation event for all Foster Families in Brevard County, as a gift of Agape from the UM community for all that these wonderful people do to care for God's most vulnerable children. This will be in cooperation is Brevard Family Partnership (the agency that is in charge of all foster care in Brevard), and the North Brevard Coalition of Human Services' Task Force on Foster Care.

We hope to hold this event in May (Foster Care Awareness Month) at a central location. We ask that your church participate by sponsoring/volunteering/funding. A task force has been formed and will be moving forward in planning this important outreach event. You will find attached a copy of the minutes of that meeting so you know what we are planning (especially item "III").

You are asked to let John Gill know that your church will participate in some way, and recruit a contact person who can help your church be involved. You can contact him at John.Gill@TheOpenDoorUMC.org or 321-794-0010. Thank you in advance!

Patti Moxley Atlantic Central Administrative Assistant



News from Our Atlantic District

District Superintendent - Rev. Gary Spencer's Column

Growth Hurts (Part One)

Is your church stuck?

Why? [Pause]

By now I'm sure you have come up with several reasons.

One reason, and there are many, is what I call growth barriers.

Timothy Keller wrote a great article titled 'Leadership and Church Size Dynamics.' The clergy peer learning groups will be reading this article this year as they examine where their church is and what barriers are keeping them stuck.

The churches in our District except for two or three have not grown significantly in worship attendance in the last four plus years. Here is our breakdown for Worship: 1,200 =1; 900-1200 =0; 800's =1; 700's =0; 600's =5; 500's =1; 400's =5; 300's =6; 200's =10; 100's =15; and 0-99 =12

Some churches, not all, stay where they are because they do not think differently about how they are organized and lead. Keller points out there is a "size culture" that greatly affects how decisions are made and how laity and clergy approach ministry.

Here is a great insight from Keller's article: "A large church is not simply a bigger version of a small church. The difference in communication, community formation, and decision-making processes are so great that the leadership skills required in each are of almost completely different orders."

In next month's article I will share some specifics of how churches break through their growth barriers.

Keller points out size culture matters, I no longer could spend one-on-one time with them, they didn't know everyone and they were not in on all the decisions. As the leader, do I try to appease them and slow the growth down so we can all be close like when we met in the school or do we face the pain/ loss with close friends leaving? This is where many churches get stuck and why we have over half of our churches with 200 or less in worship. To some degree this is an unconscious behavior by pastors and laity to keep it small; keep it manageable so we 'feel' comfortable. My BIG question to pastors and laity is: Will you be willing to move beyond your comfort zone for the sake of the Kingdom?

Read Acts 6 as a way of allowing Scripture to help all of us, me included (I had a hard time seeing my friends leave), to face the hard decisions for the sake of the mission.

Gary

February Prayer Focus

"You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.' Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent."

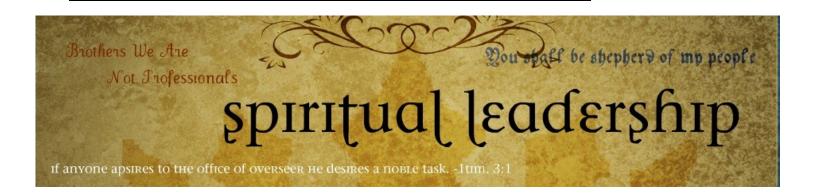
(Psalm 91:1–2, 9–10 NRSV)

February 5–11 — Cherish God's Blessings

February 12–18 — Forgiveness for Ourselves and Forgiving Others

February 19–25 — Love God, Your Neighbor, and One Another

February 26–March 4 — Join Others in Prayer for our World



Lay Liturgists/Readers For February 2017

February 5 — Jan Grimard

February 12 — Glenda Waring

February 19 — Mike Mustard

February 26 — Patsy Clark



Page Eight

"Who is My Neighbor?" PARTNERSHIP Between 1st U. M. Church and Apollo Elementary

By action of our Administrative Council, Church Charge Conference and in agreement with Principal McCleary of Apollo Elementary, our church is in a partnership relationship with this school. Ms. Syncia Jeanty is our official Liaison between school and church (she has children who attend). We are in need of Adults who will volunteer to take the training from our United Way staff liaisons in order to Mentor the children of this school. (We will also be accepting donations for the benefit of students who attend this school).

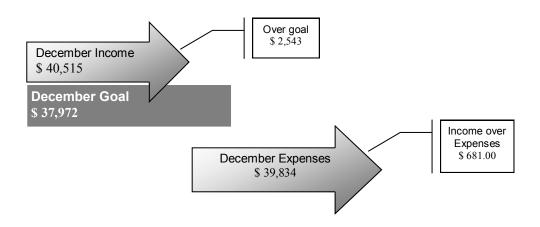
Partnerships can include a variety of things: meeting with the principal (or parent teacher organization) to understand the needs of the school and surrounding community, school supply drives, adult volunteers partnering with the school to help children with reading or other academic needs, providing food or gifts for teachers, encouraging students during standardized testing, assisting with improvement projects at the school, and much more.

United Methodist Beliefs Class

Whether you have never heard of The Christian Church: "United Methodist" or you have been a United Methodist all of your life, you are cordially invited to a three week class on United Methodist beliefs. This class will begin on Sunday mornings after the morning worship service (about 11:20) and last until noon in The Adult Studies Room. It is being taught by Pastor Fred Ball. The class covers such topics as: sharing your life's story and Christ's story, telling the story about the Christian and First United Methodist Church, and what First Church does and how you can participate in our ministries. This class will begin on Sunday, February 5th and finish on Sunday, February 19th. If you want to join our church, you'll want to attend these 3 sessions. If you cannot stay after worship services to attend these classes, please contact Pastor Fred and he will be happy to arrange a special class for you during the week (this would be about 90 minutes). Everyone is welcome to attend!

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 the year is \$455,665 which has been divided evenly making each month's goal \$37,972 rather than being weighted differently throughout the year.

Page Nine

Celebrate Recovery

Do you have a hurt, habit or hang-up? Do you want to talk about it in a confidential small group meeting?

This meeting follows AA's 12 Steps and the teachings from The Bible through the year.

Celebrate Recovery meets every Saturday at 9:30am in the Adult Studies Room.

Do You Know of a Church Member or Church Attendee Who Needs a Visit?

One of the 2017 goals of Pastor Fred and our Personnel Committee (Staff Parrish Relations) is to increase the pastor's visitation with Church Members and Attendees. Please e-mail the church office at office@fumctitusville.com or call us at 321.269.7631 ext 204 or 207 and tell us.

New Emergency Night Shelter for Our Neighbors When Temperatures Fall below 40 Degree

As you are aware there is a growing population of homeless in our community. Although our temperatures do not compare to those of the north, we do experience cold temperatures for sleeping outdoors.

We are asking for donations of blankets and socks (adult sizes). When belongings get wet they are useless for keeping someone warm and it can take days for items to dry out.

As you go through your closets this year and find you have unused blankets and/or socks that you could spare, please bring them to the church office and they will be distributed and greatly appreciated.

If you wish to help out with the emergency shelter for homeless neighbors, the DAV on Singleton Road has agreed to be their place to stay whenever the drops below 40 degrees F. They need a hot meal that will feed 6 to 8 persons. If you want to stay as a volunteer, we will orient you there.

February Adult Ministries

<u>Line Dancing</u> — Thursdays at 2:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Fun and exercise for everyone.

<u>Adult Coloring</u> — 1st Monday of each month <u>beginning on Feb. 6th @ 10:00am</u> at Sunshine Bakery Many adults find coloring relaxing, a time to reflect and fellowship. Bring a coloring book and colored pencils. We will have some extra supplies on hand. Join us upstairs, have a cup of coffee or maybe a scone.

Friday Fellowship — Friday, February 17th at 6pm

February means chocolate! Join us for a dessert demonstration with a twist. Gretchen, owner of MacSweets, will lead our fun. Afterward, we'll enjoy eating our dessert while watching a good movie.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner — Tuesday, Feb. 28th at 6pm

Save the date! Come celebrate Shrove Tuesday. Fill up on pancakes and sausage before Lent as our forefathers did. Wear a mask, fun beads. We will have a few on hand. Broadstreet will sing during our meal and afterward, Jennifer Evans will be playing the piano. Join the celebration!

Looking ahead

Bus Trip to Forever Florida in St. Cloud — Tues. March 7 Deadline: Feb. 17 Price: \$10pp

Experience a narrated tour on a land buggy. Learn how this ranch family preserved their land to keep Florida's natural history. Lunch is available on the premises. <u>Only 14 seats available on the bus so reserve early.</u>

<u>Lenten Lunch Study</u> — <u>begins March 8th at NOON.</u> Soup and Sandwiches will be offered.

On the Trail of Martin Luther Tour — Sept. 20 – 30, 2017 Deposit Deadline: March 10

2017 is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Embark on an inspirational journey through Germany that follows the epic trail blazed by Martin Luther. A donation will be given to the church out of the proceeds.

To sign up for any of these programs, check the table in back of the sanctuary or call Sandi at 269–7631 @ ext 206

February 2017

First United Methodist Church

	Saturday	4 7:00am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 6:00pm Praise Service	11 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 9:30am Celebrate Recovery 6:00pm Praise Service	18 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 9:30am Celebrate Recovery 6:00pm Praise Service	25 7:00am UMM Breakfast 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 9:30am Celebrate Recovery 6:00pm Praise Service	
	Friday	3 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	10 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	17 1-3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Fri. Fellowship	24 1-3:30pm Food Pantry	
	Thursday	2 11:30am Ladies Day Out 1:00pm Beth Moore 2:45pm Line Dancing 6:00pm Band Practice	9 9:30am Retired Teachers 1:00pm Beth Moore 2:45pm Line Dancing 6:00pm Band Practice 6:30pm Security Team	16 9:30am Ladies Day Out 1:00pm Beth Moore 2:45pm Line Dancing 6:00pm Band Practice	23 1:00pm Beth Moore 2:45pm Line Dancing 6:00pm Band Practice	
	Wednesday	1 8:00am Pastors' Meeting 10:00am Beth Moore 9:00am Patchwork Friends	8.00am Pastors' Meeting 10:00am Beth Moore 6:00pm Men's Quartet 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	15 8:00am Pastors' Meeting 10:00am Beth Moore 6:00pm Men's Quartet 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	22 8:00am Pastors' Meeting 10:00am Beth Moore 6:00pm Men's Quartet 6:00pm Ladies Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	
	Tuesday		7 10:30am Sara Fernandez at the Beeker Home 11:00am Tues Morning Knitters 5:00pm Bells 6:00pm Soliloquy 6-8pm Youth Getaway	14 Valentine's Day 11:00am Tues Morning Knitters 5:00pm Bells 6:00pm Soliloquy 6-8pm Youth Getaway 7:30pm Broadstreet	21 11:00am Tues Morning Knitters 11:00am Staff Meeting 3:30pm Dove Circle 5:00pm Bells 6:00pm Soliloquy 6-8pm Youth Getaway	28 Shrove Tuesday 11:00am Tues Morning Knitters 5:00pm Bells 6:8pm Youth Getaway 6:00pm Pancake Dinner 7:30pm Broadstreet
	Monday		6 10:00am Adult Coloring 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00 pm SPR Meeting	13 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm Finance Meeting	20 President's Day 3:00pm Worship Design 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	27 3:00pm Worship Design
Page Elev	Sunday		5 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:20am Beliefs Class	12 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:20am Beliefs Class	19 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:20am Beliefs Class	26 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:20am Beliefs Class

Table of Contents:

Page One — Pastor's Column

Page Two — Worship Opportunities

Page Three — Memorials

Page Four — Confirmation Class/Birthdays/Anniversaries

Page Five — Journey with Christ/Special Message

Page Six — Called to Connect Page Seven — District News

Page Eight — Prayer Focus & Lay Liturgists

Page Nine — Announcements / Budget

Page Ten — Local News / Adult Ministries

Page Eleven — February Calendar

Page Twelve — Staff Directory

February 2017





First United Methodist Church

206 S. Hopkins Ave Titusville, FL 32796

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. M-F Closed from 12:00—12:30 p.m. (Staff at Lunch)

Phone: (321) 269-7631 Fax: (321) 269-8359

Worship Services: 10:00 a.m. Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

E-mail Address: office@fumctitusville.com

Website: www.fumctitusville.com

FUMC Staff

1	Rev. Fred. Ball / Pastor		Ext 204
2	Mario Davis / Administrative Assista	ınt	Ext 207
3	Jutta Yarber / Facilities Manager	Ext.202	
4	J.D. Daniel / Organist		Ext 209
5	Carol Henn / Music Director		Ext 209
6	Nursery		Ext 208
7	Receptionist / Volunteer		Ext 201
8	Sandi Bandieri / Director Adult Minis	stries	Ext 206
9	Keith Cooke / Financial Secretary		Ext 201
1	0 Amy Martin / Director Children's M	inistries	Ext 205
1	1 Dr. Bob Titus / Pastor Emeritus	Home:	321-362-5241
		Cell:	321-289-1657

12 Steve Rossi / Sound Tech

13 Josh Huss / Lights and Visuals

14 Nancy Burgess / PowerPoint presentations