



United Methodist Temple October Newsletter

Greetings United Methodist Temple Friends, Neighbors and Supporters!

Happy October! You know what they say about October, right (well, at least I do)? The snowball has begun to roll down the hill and before we know it...in the blink of an eye...the Christmas Season will be upon us.

During the past month, Floridians have been dealing with Hurricane Irma and all that she brought with her: Frantic gathering of supplies, evacuations, and clean up. Personally, I have never been in a hurricane moving to Florida in November of 2009. While Irma was barreling towards Florida, I happened to be on vacation in NJ at my daughter's and my return was delayed because of gas shortages, blocked roadways and heavy traffic. I have been intrigued by the personal stories shared – stories of preparations, endurance, new relationships made and relationships deepened and clean up. Crises can do that.

Our church was without electricity for a week. Worship service was held the Sunday after Irma, in spite of having no electricity. Thank you to Kay Sloan and Jim Jordan for preparing a meaningful worship service. Kay's message based on Psalm 23 was quite inspirational. Many of our church members worked tirelessly to clean up debris, limbs and branches that covered our parking lot, sidewalks and property. Thank you! Also a huge thank you to The "R" School for their efforts in the clean up as well. It is just this last week of September that the office has been able to almost get back to normal.

There are many needs in Florida and Texas, Puerto Rico and several Caribbean Islands. We are offering three United Methodist opportunities to support these post-hurricane efforts: UMCOR- Domestic Advance (100 % goes towards victims) Cuba sister church, (100 %) Bishop's Hurricane Irma Fund (100 %). Please read further on in our newsletter for more detailed information. Thank you for those who have supported these.

As we look towards the fall and holiday season, we are excited to partner with the "R" School in several projects such as: Kids Pack, Christmas Tree Ministry and Fundraiser and Music ministry. Stay tuned for more details.

The Spiritual Formation Small Group has resumed on September 30th and will be held two Saturday mornings a month for 6 weeks.

We serve a loving and graceful God! A God who loves us more than we can imagine.
In God's Love and Light...Pastor Karen MacDuff

Visit our Website: myumt.org

Many needs from the impact of the disasters over the past weeks

There are many needs in Florida, Texas, Puerto Rico and several Caribbean Islands and there are three ways that you can help. Give to::

1. Hurricane Irma Fund - This is to help churches and communities in Florida affected by Hurricane Irma. Please write on your check/envelope "Hurricane Irma."
2. Our sister church in Camaguey Cuba, is in need of help. Please write "Cuba" on your check/envelope.
3. UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). These funds are used wherever they are most needed. Please write on your check/envelope "UMCOR #901670"



As this article has to be turned in Thursday morning, I am writing just prior to our first packing of the season. And I am so excited and looking forward to tomorrow with great anticipation. Wendy Bradshaw, Academic Director of the "R" School is bringing some of her older students to observe and assist. I have been thinking of ways they can be of most help, and looking forward to trying these ideas out. I believe I have come up with areas in which they will be a big asset. Our first packing, there will be some trial and error - but I am confident that by next month's packing, we will be that "well oiled" machine once again. Stay tuned, hopefully you will hear good things about our process and progress in next month's newsletter.

To date (Sept. 27), two deliveries have been made. As Kids Pack had quite a few already packing, they brought us enough for 4 weeks (we missed one week thanks to Irma). We are presently delivering 15 packs per week to Cleveland Court (same as last year), but they have been told we have additional funding if they need to request more. Southwest is receiving 20 packs per week, and increase of 5 - and they are requesting 3 more.

As a team, we really enjoy our fellowship and realizing how this ministry impacts the young children who receive the "fruits of our labor."

Evelyn Joiner



R School children helping package Kids Pack food to be delivered to Cleveland Court and Southwest Elementary.



Thank you R School children for helping with Kids Pack packing on Thursday, September 28th



34th Annual UM Florida Conference Women's Retreat February 16-18, 2018 and March 8-10, 2018

The Annual United Methodist Women's Retreats will be held February 16-18, 2018 (Keynote speaker: Rev. Geraldine McLellan) and March 8-10, 2018 (Keynote speaker: Vidalis Lopez) at the Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg, Florida.

Registration opens November 1, 2017. You can only register online at

www.flumc.org/floridaconferencewomensretreats

Brochures will be available in the Narthex or in the church office.

A Mission Trip to Cuba in February, 2018 is tentatively being planned. Contact Paul Harrell if interested. He can be reached by phone: (863-944-2642, text, e-mail PGHGator@aol.com)

October Calendar of Events

10-1 9:00 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship, 11:30 AM Pot Luck lunch
10-4 5:30 PM Staff Parish Relations Committee
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
10-5 9:30 AM Kids Pack Delivery
10-8 9:00 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship, 11:30 AM Dine Abouts to Village Inn for lunch
(Call Brenda Dorn - 644-5250 or Frances Mundy - 646-1300 by Oct. 6th if attending)
10-9 10:00 AM Elizabeth Circle
10-11 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
10-12 9:30 AM Kids Pack Delivery
11:30 AM Worship Committee (Planning for Fall and the Christmas season)
10-14 10:00 AM Spiritual Formation
10-15 9:00 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship
10-17 6:30 PM United Methodist Men
10-18 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
10-19 9:30 AM Kids Pack Delivery
10-22 9:00 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship
10-26 9:30 AM Kids Pack Packing and Delivery
10-28 10:00 AM Spiritual Formation
10-29 9:00 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship



Happy Anniversary to:

**10-3 Todd & Kristie Taylor
10-19 Ed & Ruth Perkins**

Happy Birthday to:

10-1 Judy Shively & Sindi Steverson

**10-8 Caryl Kelley
10-9 Brian Guertin & Matt O'Donnell
10-16 Margaret Merritt & Martha Schneider**

10-20 Tom Holloway & Edna Houghton
10-21 Chelsea Wolf
10-22 Stephanie Hunt
10-23 Denise Clark, Barbara Franz & Darby Sanford
10-27 Todd Taylor
10-28 CJ Sparr
10-29 Sara Beatty
10-30 John Adams

Talbot House Ministries 14th Annual Benefit Dinner
Thursday, October 26, 2017
6:00 PM - Silent Auction 7:00 PM - Dinner
Interested in attending - register online TalbotHouse.org
phone: 863-687-8475, ext. 117 Calisha Thompson
email: cthompson@talbothouse.net