The Messenger
First United Methodist Church of Zephyrhills

Special dates
- National Day of Prayer, May 2, 2019
- Mother’s Day, May 12, 2019
- Armed Forces Day, May 18, 2019
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 20, 2019
- Memorial Day, May 27, 2019
- Ascension, May 30, 2019

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Dear Friends in Faith,

The month of May is Christian Home Month. Appropriately we celebrate Mother’s Day on the second Sunday of the month, May 12. We hope you’ll be able to attend services that Sunday. We will have a gift for all the ladies in worship that day.

Speaking of family, my wife Elaine and I are happy to announce the arrival of our third grandchild (and first grandson) Dashiell Gordon Thomas, born on April 12 in New York City. Elaine and I will be taking some time away at the beginning of May to visit Dashiell and father Jake and mother Emily in New York.

When I get back we will be starting up our Thursday studies again. Our first Thursday to meet will be May 16. We will meet in the Lamplighter Classroom at 10:00 a.m. with the class being repeated at 7:00 p.m. We will be studying the Old Testament book of Isaiah.

Elaine and I recently found out that when the parsonage got a new phone service shortly after we moved here, the package included a message service that we have discovered, sadly, was often in competition with the message service that is on our telephones. What that means is that you may have called the parsonage and left a message that we never received. We have cancelled the message service provided by the phone company but we apologize for any messages that we did not answer. God Bless.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jim
Thank you to everyone that donated eggs and candy, stuffed eggs, helped with registration, with games, hide eggs, set-up, take down, and to everyone that came to the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. You all were a blessing that helped to make this event a wonderful success!
-See photos on next page!

Mark your Calendars for VBC! Vacation Bible Camp at FUMC will be July 15th-19th!
This year’s theme is ROAR!

VBC is for children turning 4 by September 1, 2019 through completed 5th grade this school year.

We can use some help gathering Safari themed items!

We also need some creative volunteers!

Check out Cooper Hall beginning in May to sign-up to join a crew, volunteer, and to donate!

Dates for Child Protection Trainings will be announced soon for all that want to volunteer!

Thank you,
Lacey—Director of Children’s Ministries
Youth Ministry News

Come celebrate our graduates!
On Sunday, May 19 after the 11 am service, students, families, and church members are invited for a senior celebration in Cooper Hall. Lunch will be potluck style, so please bring something if you plan to support our students. Students will be able to decorate a board and a portion of a table. We do not want to miss any of our high school graduates, so please contact Albert Pavon or the front office with the student’s name and email/phone number. Albert will get back to you with more information about the board.

Scholarship info!
In other graduate news, if you would like to be eligible for a scholarship from our church, please contact Albert Pavon or the front office with your address and the student’s name. This needs to be done as soon as possible.

Warren Willis news
Camp is coming up soon! Everybody should have received a letter by now from Warren Willis camp regarding how much each student has received in a scholarship to go towards their final cost for camp. Please turn those vouchers in to Lacey or Albert. Final deposits are due to one of us by Wednesday, May 8. Contact us with any questions you may have.

The Youth had a fantastic time at our concerts last month. So much great energy from the bands. We are looking forward to our next concert!

Thank you,
Albert Pavon,
Director of Youth Ministries
Total Sales for 2018  $ 43,202.23

Committee met on March 9, 2019 and decided on the missions for this year from our 25%, list as follows:

- Pregnancy Care Center, Zephyrhills  250.00
- Farm Workers Self Help, Dade City  300.00

ABC programs of
- Woodland Elementary  300.00
- Chester Taylor Elementary  300.00
- West Zephyrhills Elementary  300.00
- Lachoochee Elementary  300.00
- Centennial Elementary  300.00
- Stewart Middle  300.00
- Zephyrhills High School  300.00
- Sunrise of Pasco  300.00
- Thomas Promise  300.00
- Park Feeding  250.00
- Lighthouse for Blind  250.00
- Children Ministry, First Methodist Zhills  500.00
- Youth Ministry, First Methodist Zhills  1500.00
- Cuba Sister Church  1000.00

- Henderson Settlement, Frakes, KY  350.00
- Foster Children  300.00
- Meals on Wheels  300.00
- Smile Train  300.00
- Grand Total  $8000.00

We still have some money in reserve for emergency that might arise during the year.
COMMISSION ON MISSIONS

Our mission focus for May is the United Methodist NOMADS, meaning “NOMADS on a Mission of Active Divine Service.”

All dues paying members of the group own recreational vehicles. They work all over the United States, in teams, doing maintenance and repair work for United Methodist facilities who have made application for their help.

NOMADS also help people return to their homes after natural disasters. The NOMADS board of directors reports to the Board of Global Ministries. NOMADS are not included in the mission budget and must raise their own working capital.

More information will be given in Mission Moment on May 12, 2019. If you wish to give, please use the pew envelope and mark NOMADS on the memo line.

NOMADS' ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS
What Is a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are laypeople—Christian men and women—trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation, or separation due to military deployment.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life. Their commonality? A passion for bringing Christ’s love and care to people during a time of need.

If you should find yourself in a difficult time of life, please know we have trained Stephen Ministers who are here to walk with you through this place. Please call Dave Hill at 410-409-9132 or Elaine Thomas at 407-883-0948.

Healing Hospitality

Repeated headlines about violence can make us “feel like locking our doors and never entering society again,” writes pastor and author Max Lucado. After another mass shooting, he penned an online opinion piece that urged people to do the exact opposite by opening their doors, their hearts and their circles.

“It’s no accident that hospitality and hospital come from the same Latin word,” Lucado writes, “for they both lead to the same result: healing. When you open your door to someone, you are sending this message: ‘You matter.’”

Because daily life is filled with rejections, extending an invitation — even to a simple meal — can be life-altering, Lucado contends. What you think is a messy house might be a sanctuary to someone else, “and to those who eat alone every night, pork and beans on paper plates tastes like filet mignon.” Our kitchen tables are “God’s secret weapons in the war on fear,” Lucado says. “We never know what one meal will do.”
Audio Visual needs—Are you being called?

The Audio/Visual Tech’s goal is to provide a seamless, coordinated enhancement of the Order of Worship being presented. Changes in our current volunteer support make it very important to identify a list of Standby Volunteers who are familiar with parts of the A/V system. Also, to start training new volunteers for summer. Please review the four stages of volunteer commitment below and respond as indicated:

Level 1 - Register as a volunteer with knowledge of our Audio/Visual equipment. Stand by to fill in for absent A/V Techs and technical advice.

Level 2 - Attend a get acquainted session. Watch techs in live setting. Schedule a tour to discuss locations of monitors, microphone plug-ins, video screens, speakers, etc. Watch a demonstration of start up and shut down of A/V equipment.

Level 3 - Schedule a hands-on A/V simulation using the A/V equipment and following the Order of Worship materials.

Level 4 - Volunteer is paired with an A/V Tech for training in live Worship Services.

See Ted Hall after the 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Service

The United Methodist Women will not have a meeting in May.

Next scheduled meeting will be September 12, Cooper Hall at 1:00 p.m.

CPR Class will be held in Cooper Hall June 1st, 2019 Cost is $50 (no credit/debit cards)

Healthcare Provider BLS RECERTIFICATIONS will be from 7:30-9:30am

Community American HeartSaver CPR with AED and First Aid will be from 9am to 12 noon (this will also satisfy High school Homeschool Required Hope Credit and High school PE credit for teens!)

Please Text or Call Druann Briggs to reserve your time at 813-420-7919
MY WALK TO EMMAUS

I recently had the opportunity to go on the Walk to Emmaus. I was very apprehensive about going. The fear of the unknown, I guess. It turned out to be one of the most meaningful and rewarding weekends of my life. I am so grateful to God for giving me “the nudge” to attend.

Depending on where you are in your life and your spiritual walk, everyone gets a little something different out of the experience. For me, I have never felt so filled with the love of God. I felt it from those serving, from my sponsor, from those who had previously been on the walk, and from those praying for all of us. My heart was overflowing and I hope to keep that feeling long after my walk.

We laughed a lot, we cried a little, we learned a lot.....about our relationship with God and about ourselves. I met new friends and developed a deeper relationship with old friends. I was reminded to Fully Rely On God. (FROG)

So if you feel that “nudge” to go on the Walk to Emmaus, I hope you will give it some serious thought and prayer. Perhaps you will take that leap and just be a FROG.

Janet Toth

THE NEXT SPIRITUAL WALKS TO EMMAUS ARE:

Fall Walk: Men’s October 24-27,

Women’s Walk October 31 – Nov. 3.

For more information, contact www.hofemmaus.org.

Or speak to an Emmaus Member
Serving Our Country

Clark, Matthew, 1ST LT. Army, Ft. Drum, N.Y., Grandson of Jack & Louise Smith
Dilks, Alayna, US Army, Joint Base Lewis McChord, WA, Granddaughter of Carolyn Dilks
Greenawalt, Linda, SGT 1st class, Afghanistan, Daughter-in-law of Judy Greenawalt
Hill, Nathaniel, SP4, Colorado National Guard Reserves Son of David Hill
Houseworth, Brett, US Army, Afghanistan, Grandson of Karen Darland
Hunter Hollaway, Army National Guard, Great Nephew of Lori Hollaway
Hurley, Luka, MSGT., Grandson of Gordon & Norma Hurley (Omaha, NE)
Jared Monteira, U.S. Coast Guard, Grandson of Debbie Huffert
Lenz, Alexander, MM3, Navy, Norfolk, Va., Grandson of Richard & Linda Bice
Mueller, Hannah, US Army, Fort Sui, Oklahoma, Daughter of Lorraine & Tom Mueller
Nipp, John, Captain, USAF, Mississippi, Brother of Bob Nipp
Noel, Tim, MSSGT., Air National Guard, Japan, Son-in-Law of Ann Crawford
Shoup, Justin, Deployed
Tindall, Tyler, US Army Specialist, Texas, Grandson of Ed Fisher
Tull, Brandon, SSGT. USAF, Kansas, Son of Mary Spink
Turner, Nicholas, CAPT., USAF, Husband of Kristen Beville Turner
Wagner, Jeff, CAPT., USAF, Colorado, Nephew of Elton & Pat Wagner
White, Darrel, 1ST SGT. Army, Texas, Nephew of Gerald & Virginia Swank
Williams, Andrew, Lt. COL. USAF, grandson of Bob & Barbara Williams

IN NURSING HOMES OR COMMUNITY ASSISTED LIVING

Out of Town
Emilo Estates, ME: Dorothy Bowden

Local
American House - Lois Tali, Raybell Surratt, Mary & Buford Wicklund, Ruth & Douglas Farr
Heartland: Barbara Cook, Ginger Schaeffer (no visitors), Connie Norton
Rose Castle: Becky Hubhart, Heather Bogdan
Royal Oaks: Germaine Newcomb
Westbrooke Manor: George Boyea
Zephyr Haven: Larry Phillips
Z-Hills Health & Rehab Center: Faye Gore, Shirley Force
Happy Birthday!

5/2 Wendy Leslie
5/2 Cathy Turner
5/2 Buford Wicklund
5/3 Roma Coleman
5/3 Verena Ruddnick
5/5 Amanda Hawk
5/5 Myma McIntyre
5/10 Lorraine Hall
5/10 Susan Paradine
5/14 Gloria Briggs
5/14 Grace Kane
5/16 Fay Kingery
5/17 Theodora Black
5/17 Joan Donaldson
5/17 Louise Miller
5/17 Alva Thomas Travis II
5/17 Betty Wilson
5/19 Zachary Springfield
5/19 Elton Wagner
5/21 Sharon Britton
5/22 Reginald Bradley
5/24 Teresa McDougall
5/24 Mary Theel
5/24 Mary Wheeler
5/25 Deann Harrington
5/25 Bettie LaHaye
5/26 Germaine Newcomb
5/26 Floyd Otto
5/26 Teresa Proctor
5/27 Travis Eldridge
5/27 Bruce Jeffries
5/28 Mary DeAnn Ainsworth
5/28 Alice Perry
5/29 Ruth Gill
5/29 Frank McCafferty
5/30 Barbara McCarthy
5/31 DeAnna LaHaye

Happy Anniversary!

5/1 Glenn & Sammye Burton
5/4 Leo & Joyce Ostberg
5/6 Buford & Mary Wicklund
5/12 Charles & Robin Williams
5/12 Patrick & Virginia Gray
5/18 George & Ann Schipper
5/21 Robert & Joanne Harrell
5/21 Thomas & Coral Vorhees
5/24 Jack & Louise Smith
5/26 William & Yondale LaBarre
5/26 William & Marjorie Austin
5/28 Roger & Judy Sibley
5/28 Bob & Barbara Williams
**PARISH NURSE MINISTRY TEAM/ May 2019**

The next blood pressure screening and rechecks will be **May 7th**, in Cooper Hall, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Check the Bulletin Board in Cooper Hall for Health Info and Tips

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**MAY IS NATIONAL SKIN CANCER PREVENTION MONTH**

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States.

More than two million skin cancers are diagnosed annually.

It is estimated that one American **dies every hour** from skin cancer. Each year there are more new cases of skin cancer than the combined incidence of cancers of the breast, prostate, lung and colon.

One in five Americans will develop skin cancer in the course of a lifetime. **Melanoma is the second most common form of cancer for young adults 15-29 years old.**

The states with the highest incidence rates of melanoma are: New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Utah, Connecticut, Idaho, Delaware, Washington, Oregon, and Massachusetts.

Whether from the sun or an artificial source (tanning beds), ultraviolet radiation is a proven human carcinogen. [SkinCancerPrevention.org](http://SkinCancerPrevention.org)

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**Sunburn Questions and Answers**

**Why is it important to avoid sunburn?** Sunburns are painful, and should be avoided for that reason. Sunburns represent skin damage. Mutations that are not repaired can lead to the development of skin cancer. This is why we should all avoid sunburn, especially for children. But wait, there’s more: sun’s skin-damaging ultraviolet (UV) rays also produce free radicals in skin cells, which can lead not only to cancer but also to wrinkles, blotches, and premature aging.

**If it is cloudy, I don’t need to take any precautions, right?** In fact, some of the worst sunburns happen on hazy days. Many people mistakenly assume that if it’s cool or cloudy outdoors they won’t get burned. They don’t realize that while clouds block the heat (infrared) energy, UV rays can still penetrate through quite strongly.

**I won’t get sunburned, because I already have my ‘base tan’ to protect my skin from the sun throughout the summer.** A suntan is the skin’s way of trying to protect itself from additional sun damage. Because DNA or cellular damage is the prerequisite for pigment production, a suntan is a sure sign that the skin has been harmed. This is why it can be said that “there is no safe tan.”

**I have already had a bad sunburn - what can I do now to reduce my risk of skin cancer?** Unfortunately, we do not yet have an effective treatment to reverse all the damage and mutations caused by a sunburn.

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

Through Christ, Druann Briggs RN Parish Nurse Ministry Coordinator 813-782-3272
Joys of motherhood

- A hug for no reason.
- Belly laughs.
- The light-bulb moment when your child understands something you’ve been trying to teach them.
- Smiles and giggles.
- Mud pies.
- Arms raised in the air after a big accomplishment.
- Hearing Scripture and prayer from your child’s lips.
- Quiet moments on the couch.
- Reading aloud together.
- A family meal filled with conversation and laughter.
- Watching your child be kind to another.
- Recognizing a moment you’d like to freeze in time.
- A child’s look of surprise and joy.
- A quiet conversation that heals a wounded heart.
- The words “I love you” – and a sticky kiss.

—Unknown