



# Forward *in faith*

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

There are so many things I love about being a pastor. My favorite time of the week is Sunday morning and being in worship. I absolutely love to preach. Although I have been preaching for over 35 years, I still approach each week with fear and trembling. I love to do baptisms, welcome new members, lead a person to Christ, and share special "God moments" with people. Of course, there are those things I don't particularly like about being a pastor. I don't like meetings! Especially those where an individual shows up with a negative attitude, or those that never seem to end. I really don't enjoy the administrative part of my job. However, being the senior pastor of one of our largest churches requires that I be an administrator as well as a pastor (a rancher as well as a shepherd). Therefore, I have surrounded myself with people who are gifted in administration, and I could not even begin to do what I do without the administrative skills of Pastor Sam and my staff!

Perhaps, the thing I am most passionate about is worship and preaching. I believe the hour you spend in worship on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning is the most important hour of your week. I love planning the worship calendar and creating new sermon series. But over the past two years I have found myself so busy doing "administrative" things and taking care of the "business" of the church that I have not spent adequate time doing the thing that is most important. It is necessary that I spend time seeking God's vision for UMCSCC and then casting that vision to you, the Body of Christ at UMCSCC. That is why I took this extended time away - to truly seek God's face and then return to you from the "wilderness" rested, renewed, revived and ready to press on with what God has called us to do! My most important task as your senior pastor and what God has called me to do is to be the primary vision caster and continually keep God's Vision for UMCSCC before us.

When I return on October 13th, I am planning a brand new Sermon Series called Faith-Works. This series will be based on the Letter of James, and it will deal with basic Christianity - somewhat of a "boot camp" approach to how faith and works go together, how words matter, and the difference between humility and pride. In Advent, we will again journey with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem to welcome our newborn Savior. We will also welcome new members into our church family,

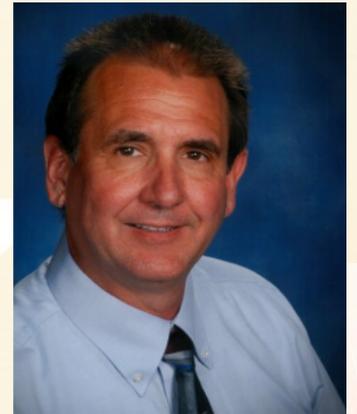
and we will finish 2019 stronger and healthier than ever!

The theme for the New Year will be 20/20 Vision! Throughout the year we will seek to know and live out God's perfect vision for us at UMCSCC. During the month of January, I am planning a 4 week Sermon Series entitled "1 Month to Live." What would we do if we knew we only had 1 month left on this earth? During January, we will look at what it looks like to truly live passionately, love completely and laugh regularly - to live with an eternal perspective, leave a lasting legacy, find true peace and boldly leave this life and move on to the next! In February and throughout Lent, I am planning a Sermon Series entitled "God's Vision for Us." How do we really know God's plan for our life and for UMCSCC?

Other Sermon Series throughout the year will include: "Things that Jesus Never Said and Things We Wish that Jesus Never Said" - "Defying Gravity - Overcoming the things that pull us down" - "Not Your Average Joe - What we can learn from Joseph." These series have been inspired by the Holy Spirit and from ideas and requests for sermons that you, our Church Family, have given me. I am writing this article for the Newsletter on September 10th, so I actually still have a month of study and renewal time left. Therefore, these are just projections at this time. Hopefully, over the next month God will continue to inspire me with many more creative ideas for worship and for sermons in 2020 and the for several years to come!

I want to thank my excellent Staff and also the Staff Parish Relations Team for giving me this time away. A special thanks to Pastor Sam and Pastor Pam. I also wish to thank my D.S. Dr. Candace Lewis and Bishop Carter for approving this study and renewal time. Thank you to you the congregation of UMCSCC for your ever-present love, prayers and support, and for allowing me this time away. Finally, my sincere love and appreciation to my wife Marcia for allowing me to be away and for taking care of everything at home by herself in my absence. I don't know how Marcia puts in the hours she does at work (being in the O.R. at 6am or earlier every morning) and still manages to be an incredible wife, mother and friend. I think Marcia may need a renewal and study leave when I get back!

See you on October 13th!



Pastor Charlie Rentz

## Scripture of the Month

"Be a doer  
of the word  
and not a  
hearer only"

*James 1:22a*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Online Giving

Online electronic giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church grow! Sign up by going to our website, [www.sccumc.com](http://www.sccumc.com) and click on the online giving picture like the one at the top of this page. Electronic contributions can be changed or discontinued at any time. Try it out—we think you will like it!

## CHURCH DINNER

We are on the patio Sunday mornings selling tickets for our October 8th, church Dinner. The menu is Salad, Roast Beef, Potato, Veggies, Bread & Dessert. The entertainment will be *Lily Meyers*. Stop by our table on the patio and get your tickets today!



## SWAG - SINGLE WOMEN ALWAYS GOING

Our monthly lunch will be **Tuesday, October 22nd** at 12:00 noon in the Life Enrichment Center. Reservations must be made by Monday, **October 15th**. Contact Anne at 813-633-4031.

## FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - Monday, October 7

Our first Meeting of the new Season will be Monday, October 7, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 19. All Ladies are invited to join us, no reservations necessary. We will enjoy light refreshments, a musical program and most importantly, a time of friendship and joy.

## SOUTH BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING OCTOBER 15th, 2019

On Tuesday, October 15th, the South Bay Genealogical Society will meet in the Life Enrichment Center (LEC). We begin at 10:30 am with a Round Table Discussion. That will be followed by a sit-down luncheon at noon, and then the main presentation by our guest speaker at 1:00 pm. This month's speaker will be George Morgan. He will be presenting "Using Multiple Databases in Tandem to Solve Problems." George will show how to use the major genealogical databases and your own compilation of sites and resources to locate as much evidence as possible in order to find proof to answer your questions. The cost is \$15.00 per person for lunch. For reservations and information, call Dotty Love at 813-634-2749. Mail checks to "SBGS" P.O. Box 5202, Sun City Center, FL 33571. Your check must be received by **October 3, 2019**.

## MEDICARE UPDATE FOR 2020

As you make your health care decisions this month, please attend this valuable seminar on **Tuesday, October 8th** at 10:00 a.m. given by Marcie Maisonet of Payant Insurance. She will update you about all the insurance programs and help you find the one that fits your needs. Whether you are turning 65, or currently enrolled in Medicare, insurance options are life choices for the long term, and you will want the best one for you. Please call the church office at (813) 634-2539 to reserve your place for this important seminar sponsored by the Health Ministry Team of the church. Light refreshments will be served in room 30. All are welcome to this free talk.

## HOLIDAYS ARE FAST APPROACHING Blue Christmas Service

Another month has slipped by. Up north the leaves are turning beautiful shades of orange, red and golden yellow. Pumpkins are being harvested and our little ones are trick or treating. This last part of the year goes by so very fast as we head toward Christmas and the season of our Savior's birth. Here in Sun City Center we are happy not to rake leaves anymore. We are also fortunate that we still get to enjoy the little ones through our wonderful children and youth programs. Thanksgiving and Christmas will follow quickly.

As you are filling up your calendar with seasonal events, please consider adding our *Blue Christmas Service* on December 8th. We are surrounded by such joy and celebration during the Christmas season. Yet so many of us have an ache in our hearts for loved ones who have passed on. This service, linked to The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting, unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles to honor the memories of loved ones that have passed away.

Believed to be the largest mass candle lighting on the globe, this event creates a virtual 24-hour wave of light as it moves from time zone to time zone. This is a time of remembrance for those that have passed but will never be forgotten. This year we are pleased to announce that our very own Amanda Jordan will be leading the ceremony on Sunday, December 8th beginning at 6:45pm. You just know this will be a special time!

This event is free and open to anyone who might find meaning here. Please reach out to those you know who may be having a difficult time this holiday season.



## TIMELY TREASURES UPDATE

Only a month until our big fall sale on **Oct. 31 - Nov. 2!** Please bring your donations of clean, useable items to the shed on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Our offsite storage units are full, so we are unable to pick up any more furniture or appliances.

Volunteers, please sign up on the patio on Sunday mornings in-between services for the times you can volunteer. There will be a meeting for volunteers on Monday, October 21st at 1:00 in the LEC. Any questions, please call Hollie Fox at 813-634-9765 or our new volunteer coordinator, Gayle Rickert, at 502-222-1001.



Come find that "new to you" treasure! Whether you are looking for clothes, shoes, jewelry, electronics, furniture or cookware, we are sure to have something you'll love.

Enjoy lunch at our T.T. Café or take home great pies, cakes or cookies at our amazing bake sale run by our own Friendship Circle. All proceeds of the bake sale go to Missions.

**NOVEMBER 1ST & 2ND**

**FRIDAY: 8AM - 1PM**

**SATURDAY: 8AM - NOON**

**Back This Year**

**\$10 Early Entry**

**Thurs. October 31st**

**5PM - 7PM**



**United  
Methodist  
Church**

**1210 Del Webb  
Blvd West  
Sun City Center, FL  
813-634-2539**

# TGIV EVENTS



*Dewayne Hill, America's  
Funniest comedy magician*  
Friday, October 4  
7PM (\$10 at the door)



*Jay Brooks, organ*  
Sunday, October 13  
4PM (\$10 at the door)



*Kiwanis Benefit Concert  
with Broken Together  
Contemporary Praise Band*  
Friday, October 18  
7PM (love offering)



## October Movie October 11th - free 3:00PM & 6:00PM

The film tells the story of a St. Louis teenager who slipped through an icy lake in January 2015 and was underwater for 15 minutes before resuscitative efforts were started. Although being rescued, he is in a coma, and his family must rely on their faith to get through the ordeal.

It premiered in St. Louis on March 20, 2019, and was released in the United States on April 17, 2019, by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures.

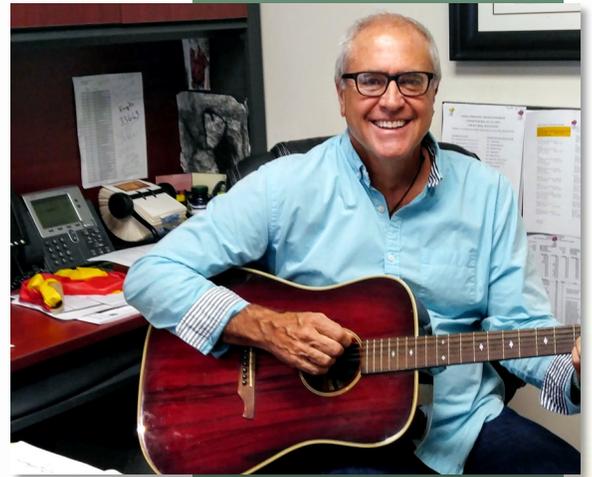
# From the *Director of Worship Arts*

*And I'll praise you in this storm  
and I will lift my hands  
That you are who you are no matter where I am  
And every tear I've cried You hold in your hand  
You never left my side and though my heart is torn  
I will praise you in this storm*

chorus from a song of the same name by the band  
Casting Crowns

Are you in one of the 'storms' of your life right now? Heading into one or heading out of one at this time? I think this metaphor that we so often use to describe our life struggles is, as they say, spot on, especially as we get through with our rainy season here in sometimes-not-so-sunny Florida! Just think about the last time you were driving in a car [or worse, riding a bike or motorcycle] and you saw that big black cloud ahead... you knew that you'd soon be engulfed in a torrential downpour. And then when you are in the midst of that storm, think of the fear that grips you as you [barely] see all of the tail lights flashing on and off in front of you as other drivers slow down or stop. And finally, after what seems like an eternity [even though most of our rainy season downpours don't last very long], you break through the darkness into light and the drops begin to slow, and you begin to breathe a bit more easily.

I don't know about you, but usually when I think about the challenges in my life and in the life of my family, I really don't consider these 'slightly more difficult' times 'storms', rather, I think of them as a little rain that 'must fall'. I think that many of us do the same. We compare our storms to those of others, storms that might include words like "addiction", "cancer", "divorce" and often "death". But here's the thing – our seemingly lesser storms often do have a profoundly negative impact on our lives. I believe we need to recognize them for what they are – very real and often very disruptive. And we need to be



sure to deal with these challenges in a healthy way. How? By taking time away from them, by accepting and embracing the love and help of those who offer, and by honestly praying to the One who will bring healing and hope to us – one way or another and in His time.

I've been thinking about this lately because this year has been a little 'stormy' for the Jordan family with a couple of fairly serious procedures preceded or followed by additional hospital stays. As we endured and continue [for Amanda] to endure these storms, I have become aware of the toll they inevitably take on us and our families. In short I say to you, my dear Church Family, two things. First and foremost, if you have storms, hurricanes or sun showers, share these with others and especially with your Lord. That's just what we do for one another! And finally, Amanda and I thank you for your amazing love and prayers these pasts several months. It would have been a long and very lonely road without you, our amazing Church Family, wrapping your loving arms around us!

Soli Deo Gloria

Jeff

# From Our Ministries

## Support Groups

### **CARE GIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

As a caregiver, you may get tired, frustrated and may feel alone in your daily care giving. Care Givers Support Group is here to share, give each other support and you will find out there is no judgement. Come see that you have friends that are here to help you cope by listening, laughing together, offering suggestions and support with your 24-hour-a-day journey. We also have written material that you can take home to read that may help. This is a Christian based group but you do not have to be a member of the United Methodist Church. All are welcome. We meet twice a month, on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday, at 2:00 p.m. in room 12. If you have any questions, please call Kit Carson 706-897-9526 or Sharon Carson 706-897-9770 or our home phone, 813-419-4735.



### **NEVER ALONE**

Never Alone meets the last Monday of every month at 1 pm in room 30. This is a support group for anyone who is experiencing the loneliness of grief, following the loss of a loved one, whether it is the loss of a spouse, child, grandchild, or close friend. We share with one another and listen to others who are dealing with loss as well. Please call Elaine Moore at 813-634-4550 or Rebecca Reynal at 813-260-3543 for more information.

### **HEALTH TEAM STARTS NEW INITIATIVE**

The Health Ministry team would like to announce a new initiative they are starting to help our local Emergency Squad. As many of you know, the Emergency Squad has a program to help them when they are called to your home. It involves putting a pill container in the butter compartment of your refrigerator with a form filled out listing vital information about you. It is a very handy tool for them to expedite their information gathering while trying to assist you. For more info please call the Emergency Squad. We are going to be collecting old pill containers during the month of November (we are starting now to give you time to collect them). We are only in need of 3 ½ inch high bottles. We have a procedure to clean them and if you wish to remove the labels you can easily do it by holding a hair dryer on the label for 5- 10 seconds. If the labels are not removed, we will do it for you. Please put all containers in a clean plastic bag and we will have receptacles in the area between the two buildings every Sunday in November. This is certainly a new take on recycling, and we hope you will join in our project!

### **NEARLY NEW SHOP NEEDS HELP**

The Nearly New Shop is looking for volunteers. It is located at the rear of the Sun City Plaza and is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8am until noon. Merchandise revenue from the sales is returned to the Community through Grants and Scholarships. The United Methodist Church has benefited from their grants and scholarships and would like to reciprocate by asking our members to consider volunteering. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 813-642-9099.



**TRUNK**

**OR**

**TREAT**

**- SAFE FAMILY FUN -**

A safe place for your children to have fun and get candy!

*Come celebrate with us*

**October 30th**

**6:00 PM - Dinner**

**6:30 PM - Trunk or Treat**

**Please contact the church office if you can decorate a trunk or golf cart for our kids! There is also a \$25 gift card to the Pages of Life for the best decorations.**

**The United Methodist Church**

**1210.1210 Del Webb Blvd West | Sun City Center | FL**

**[www.sccumc.com](http://www.sccumc.com) | 813-634-2539**

## SEE YOU AT THE CONCERT!

KEVIN GOODENOW  
Concert Coordinator

# Thank God It's VARIETY

This month's column is ironic, with the title being "See You at the Concert". In October, Peg and I are going to "sneak away" for a nice vacation, so I mostly won't see you at the concert in October. But don't worry, I'm leaving you in (very) capable hands, as our two main "maestros" here at UMCSCC (Jeff Jordan and Keith Rasmussen) will be filling in for me.

We start out the month on October 4 with America's most comedic magician, Dewayne Hill. He has appeared on America's Got Talent, as well as ABC, NBC, Fox Sports Net, The Food Network and The Travel Channel, among others. Dewayne is sure to amaze, amuse and entertain you.

On Sunday, October 13 we will host a nationally acclaimed organist, Jay Brooks. He is a national and

regional competition-winning organist, who will bring his own style and interpretation to great organ works such as *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor*, by J.S. Bach, *Fantasy Prelude on Amazing Grace* by Charles Callahan and *Final from Symphony No. 1 for the Organ* by Louis Vierne, among others.

On Friday night, October 18, Jeff Jordan will lead "Broken Together", UMCSCC's own praise and worship band, in a concert in the LEC to benefit Kiwanis Scholarships. This concert will be quite different than any previous Broken Together performance. It will feature hymns-old and new, like *How Great Thou Art*, *It Is Well*, *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*, *All My Hope* as well as a medley of turn-of-the-century classics and a few surprises. Don't miss this special concert that will help provide scholarships for local, deserving high school seniors.

We are starting to see some of our UMC snowbird members trickle back, so be sure to welcome them "home". And if you have snowbirds friends or neighbors who have never been here before, invite them to a concert. It's a fun and non threatening way to get them to come into our beautiful LEC or sanctuary. It could be the first step toward their eternal salvation. Think about it, and in the meantime, I'll see you at the concert (soon)!

Kevin Goodenow

## Church Membership

Are you a member of UMCSCC yet?? We would love to have you be a part of the UMCSCC family! This December we are inviting all who are interested in learning more about our church and what church membership really means. Our Pastors and staff are excited to host an informal get together in our Life Enrichment Center at an event we lovingly call "Coffee with the Pastors". We are blessed to have one of our church members bake homemade cookies for us to serve with our fresh coffee. We'll have a great afternoon of fellowship and we'll answer your membership questions. If you are interested please mark your calendars for Monday, December 2, 1-3 PM.!



# Mission of the Month-October

## Anchor House Mission

Thank you for this opportunity to share what is happening here at Anchor House! 2019 has been an exciting year. The Port of Manatee continues to grow, so the need for our ministry continues to grow. We have seen a 36% increase of ships in port, a 23% increase in meals served here at Anchor House, and a 38% increase in the number of Seafarers that we take off port for shopping and other excursions.

As you can see, the need for our ministry is growing. It is common to have the Seafarers sitting in our dining room in the afternoons and evenings on their down times talking with their families on their smart devices face to face. They can do this because we provide free WIFI to the Seafarers. This allows them to stay in touch with their families even though they are thousands of miles from home. Recent studies of Seafarers show that the biggest stress for these folks is extreme loneliness. This ability to connect with their families, at no monetary cost to them, is an incredible support to these Seafarers.

Each and every ship receives a visit from one of our Chaplains. The Chaplain visits with both the crew and officers, talking with them to

build relationships and assure them that we have their best interests at heart. We will sometimes have worship services on board the ship if the crew requests it. We hand out Bibles in many languages, and we hand out “Ditty Bags” to the Seafarers around Christmas time. Those contain knitted caps and bathroom supplies. Some of the Seafarers make repeat visits to our Port that allows us to build deeper relationships with them. Often when they are on the phone with family back home they want to introduce us to their families. It is important to remember that these Seafarers are away from home for many months at a time, so having a friendly face in port is often a relief. As the Port grows, so do the number of seafarers that we minister to. We are trying to increase our WiFi capacity to better serve the seafarers. This will be a significant cost. Our costs continue to rise as we make many more trips to take the seafarers shopping. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to minister to the seafarers coming into the Port of Manatee. Thank you for your continued support.

Richard Lewman

Executive Director, Anchor House

## OUR VERY OWN JENNA McENEANEY RECEIVES HIGH HONORS!

You may remember a young lady named Jenna, daughter of our own J-Mac, who worked as our summer receptionist and nursery caregiver a few years ago. As her church family, we even celebrated her graduation at one of the services on a Sunday. After graduation, Jenna went on to join the United States Coast Guard, stationed in Long Island, New York. She recently received a letter of commendation from the Commander of her Sector and I would like to share a few excerpts with you. In his letter, Captain K. B. Reed outlined several instances where Jenna showed professionalism and expertise, and in one specific instance it resulted in a life saved. He ends the letter with these two statements: “You are commended for your outstanding performance of duty. By your meritorious service, you have upheld the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard. You are hereby authorized to wear the Commandant’s Letter of Commendation Ribbon Bar.”

If you see her father, John, around the campus as he is every day, please congratulate this proud dad. And we, as part of the UMCCSCC family can feel we also had a small part in influencing Jenna’s life. We have that same opportunity with the Under The Cross young people of our church. Let’s give them just as much encouragement!



# From Our Youth

Hello Church Family!!!

It's been another amazing month with our UTC Youth. Since the new school year has started we have introduced reading a new book into our lessons called "When You're a Christian, The Whole World is from Missouri" by James W. Moore. Basically what the title is saying is that Missouri is known as the "Show Me" state, so when you tell someone that you are a Christian they expect you to SHOW THEM you are. A lot of times people are quick to say they are a Christian, but their actions are not always very Christian-like. I think for most of us when we hear someone say they are a Christian, we think to ourselves "I have to see it to believe it." This book is teaching us how to show the world our Christian selves, our faith in our Lord and His love for us. So far we have made it through the first 3 chapters. With an understanding on kindness and dedication, we are off to a good start with showing the world we are Christians. Forgiveness was the 3rd trait we discussed and that is the one that seems the most difficult for us. Forgiveness is really a hard thing give and to show that you have given it. We were reminded that while Jesus was on the cross his words were "I forgive you..." That gives us the strength to be able to forgive.

The UTC Youth just went on an outing. We were blessed with the opportunity to go play laser tag. IT WAS SO MUCH FUN!! We broke up into teams and we had 90 mins to ourselves to be able to play. It was just what we needed after the start of new and stressful school year. On Sept 25th we will be having our annual Cookie Bake Off. We are given a simple cookie recipe and we are able to adjust and add and discard as we wish til we have the best cookie. This year we are including JAM. It is going to be so much fun. This will be a great bonding moment with us and the kids. We will be able to learn more about our future youth and wolf pack members. On Sept 29th we had a Spaghetti Fundraiser. Our UTC Youth served spaghetti for lunch between services. We had a great time AND made almost \$1800! We know that without the support of our church family we wouldn't be able to do the things we do. Thank you for making it possible for us to continue our journey with Christ.

- Keilah Ramirez

## Center 4 Life Learning

The Center 4 Life Learning's first trip was to Port Tampa Bay and the International Plaza. Everyone enjoyed the scenery of our beautiful Port of Tampa Bay and the shopping and lunch at the International Plaza.

Upcoming trips are listed below. You may register online at [www.4lifelearning.org](http://www.4lifelearning.org) or you may reserve your trip by calling (813) 634-8607.

- Imagine Museum
- Lavender & Lace Tearoom
- Mount Dora Craft Fair
- 50 Years of Rock 'N' Roll
- Anna Maria Princess
- Snook Haven
- Singing Christmas Tree
- Lights in Bloom/Selby Gardens
- 112 Years of Broadway

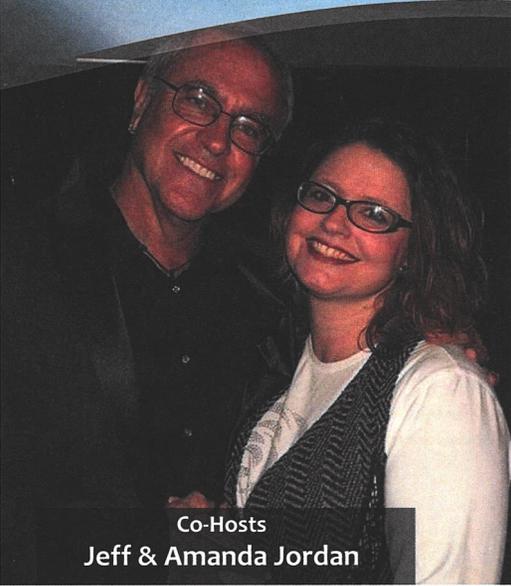
- Friday, October 11, 2019
- Saturday, October 19, 2019
- Saturday, October 26, 2019
- Saturday, November 2, 2019
- Wednesday, November 6, 2019
- Friday, November 29, 2019
- Saturday, December 7, 2019
- Monday, December 30, 2019
- Thursday, March 19, 2020



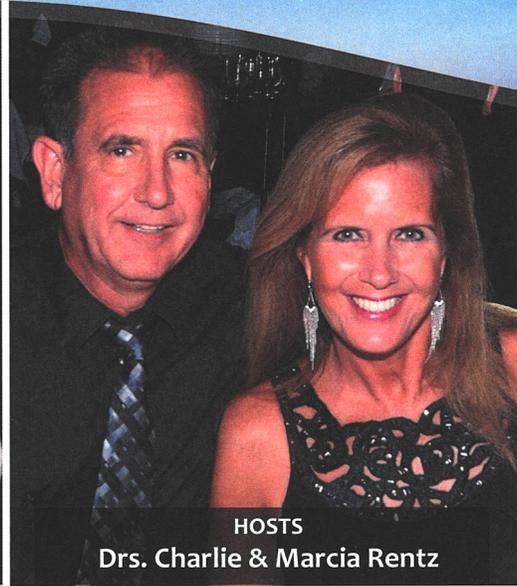
Center 4 Life Learning Trip to Port of Tampa Bay and International Plaza September 26, 2019

Hosted by Pat & Len Jones

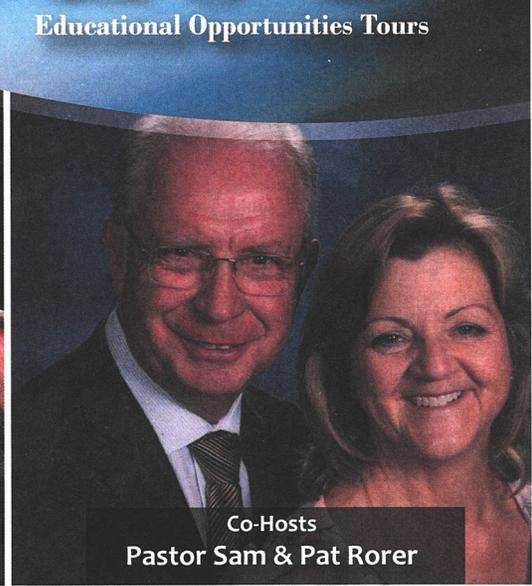




Co-Hosts  
Jeff & Amanda Jordan



HOSTS  
Drs. Charlie & Marcia Rentz



Co-Hosts  
Pastor Sam & Pat Rorer

Join Drs. Charlie and Marcia Rentz

# Return to Israel 2021

September 13-24, 2021



# Contact Us

The United  
Methodist Church  
1210 Del Webb Blvd W  
Sun City Center  
Florida 33573

813-634-2539  
www.sccumc.com

# Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sunday  
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

# Clergy

Dr. Charles D. Rentz  
Senior Pastor

Rev. Samuel Rorer  
Sr. Associate Pastor

Rev. Pam DeDea  
Associate Pastor

Pastora Yamiley  
Martinez  
Hispanic Pastor

Rev. Frank McClendon  
Pastor of Visitation

# Saturday Service Times

4:00 PM Casual, *Sanctuary/LEC*

# Sunday Service Times

8:00 AM Contemporary, *LEC*

9:00 AM Traditional, *Sanctuary*

10:00 AM Contemporary, *LEC*

11:00 AM Traditional, *Sanctuary*

4:00 PM Hispanic, *LEC*

# *“The Pages of Life Bookstore”*

## Hours:

**Pages of Life** is open Monday, Wednesday &  
Friday 9:30AM-12:30PM and Sunday 10AM -  
12:30PM