



Forward *in faith*

From the Pastor's Desk

November is here and there are just two months left in 2019. It will soon be Advent and Christmas, and 2020 is upon us. I want to say thank you again for a gracious welcome back from my renewal and study leave. November brings with it some special themes on the weekends. On the 2nd and 3rd of November we celebrate All Saints when we will be remembering our Saints from UMCSCC who have moved from this life on to life everlasting since *All Saints Sunday* last year. On the weekend of the 9th and 10th we will celebrate *Stewardship Sunday*. Throughout my ministry, this has been the one Sunday I dreaded and disliked the most. However, this year I am excited to bring the message. While on my renewal time, God truly laid a message on my heart for this special Saturday and Sunday, perhaps, a totally different approach than I have ever taken in past years. Now that you know it is coming, please don't take this as a time to "skip" the Stewardship message. I trust that you will be both inspired and blessed. God has done and is still doing some great and incredible things in our midst and I believe much more is on the horizon!

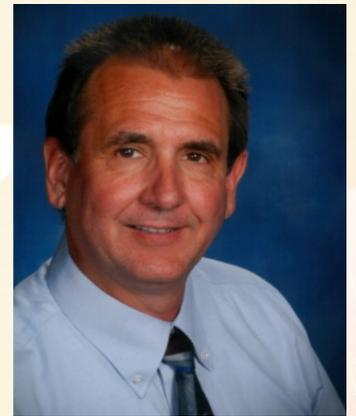
We will continue the Sermon Series - *Faith Works - From the Heart of James* throughout this month. On the weekend of November 16/17 Pastor Sam will be bringing the message (from James). By the way, Pastor Sam will be taking the

lead in our Saturday afternoon services for the next 8 months! He will be preaching the Saturday afternoon services during November (except for the 9th when I am preaching on Saturday). On the weekend of November 23/24, we will conclude the *Faith Works Sermon Series* as we look at James 5:13-16. On this weekend before Thanksgiving we will conclude all of the services with a special time of prayer including prayers and anointing for healing (James 5:14).

As we move through November and then December and all throughout 2020, I ask each and every person who worships at UMCSCC to join me in praying "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done IN ME - Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done IN OUR CHURCH." While on renewal leave, God put this on my heart to ask our entire church family join in this prayer daily, as we personalize the words of the Lord's Prayer that Jesus taught us. The theme for the new year is 20/20 Vision - God's Perfect Vision in 2020. May God truly pour out His Spirit upon us!!!

Love and Prayers and Thanksgiving. I am blessed to serve as your Senior Pastor.

Pastor Charlie Rentz



Pastor Charlie Rentz

Scripture of the Month

"You will
always harvest
what you plant.
So let's not get
tired of doing
what is good.
At just the right
time we will
reap a harvest
of blessing if we
don't give up."

Galatians 6:7b,9

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 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, Turkey, Potato, Veggies Bread & Dessert. The entertainment will be *Maria, Amanda & the Broken Together Band*. Stop by our table on the patio and get your tickets today! Only \$10 for dinner and entertainment!



SWAG - SINGLE WOMEN ALWAYS GOING

Our monthly lunch will be **November 26th** at 12:00 noon in the Life Enrichment Center. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, **November 19th**. Contact Anne at 813-633-4031.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - Monday, November 4

Our first meeting of the new season will be **Monday, November 4th**, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 19. We will have devotions, a program from Cathy France about Feeding Hungry Children during times when they are not in school, light refreshments and, most importantly, a time of friendship and joy.

SOUTH BAY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING November 19th, 2019

On **Tuesday, November 19th**, 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 Donna Moughty. She will be talking about "Immigration." This program will help you find the place from which your ancestors left and where they landed. She will answer questions on the process of immigration, which has made us all Americans. 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 **November 7, 2019**.

EMPTY BOWLS - 'SAVE THE DATE'

The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center will be hosting an 'Empty Bowls' Event on **Wednesday, January 22, 2020** from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. Empty Bowls is an international project created to fight hunger, personalized by artists and art organizations on a community level. The 'Empty Bowls Project' was started as a way to bring community awareness of local hunger needs. The Empty Bowls Project allows the talented artists of the Kings Point Pottery Club and the Sun City Potters Wheel Club to contribute to this worthy cause while showcasing their incredible talent. For a \$15.00 donation, guests will select one of the bowls and will be served a meal of soup, bread and water. These participants will then take home their bowl as a reminder of how many bowls go empty around the world. 100% of the proceeds will benefit the underprivileged in the South Hillsborough County community.

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 kid 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 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.



Happy **THANKSGIVING**
I WILL GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD WITH ALL MY HEART...PS 111:1

SouthShore Christian Women's Connection Luncheon Program

Please join us for fun-filled events that include inspired speakers, featured community programs, good food and great fellowship happening the first Thursday of every month October through May at the Life Enrichment Center located within the United Methodist Church complex at 1210 Del Webb Blvd West, Sun City Center, FL. Our programs are from 11:30 – 1:30pm and seating begins at 11am. The cost is \$17.00 which includes an excellent meal as well as all administrative costs associated with putting on an event. Reservations are required for each event.

SouthShore Christian Women's Connection is part of Stonecroft Ministries (see Stonecroft.org), an international organization that has been equipping and empowering women for 80 years. Our group is not affiliated with any church or denomination and no membership is required to attend our programs. We feel blessed that the United Methodist Church here has so warmly and graciously opened their doors to us to host our events.

We enjoy meeting women as they are where they are in life, and sharing all that Stonecroft has to offer them. You will find friendly faces, warm greetings, and hopefully make many new connections that become friends.

For more information about the group, please contact Kay Newsom, Chair at (813) 296-1168 or Stephanie Shaw, Associate Chair at (770) 313-5303.

Laughter is Good for the Soul

Friday November 22, 2019 at 10:30AM

Explore the spiritual connection between laughter and your inner life. Use laughter to elevate your mood, lift your spirits, smooth life's challenges and prepare you to handle the tough stuff. Understand why laughter is the best medicine. Learn the difference between a problem and an inconvenience. Make a commitment to Good Hearted Living principles and use the techniques of "Day by Day the Laughter Club Way." Connect to God and others through the power of humor. This program shows you exactly how to add the power of laughter to your spiritual toolbox. Presenter Nancy Weil is known for her energetic, entertaining and content rich programs. A national speaker, Nancy has helped thousands of people across the country change their lives through laughter and get in touch with their "inner happy." She is the founder of The Laugh Academy and is the author of the book *If Stress Doesn't Kill You, Your Family Might*. Nancy serves as Director of Grief Support for Veterans Funeral Care. This program is presented by Health Ministry of Sun City United Methodist Church and is free to the community. Please make a reservation with the church office at 813-634-2539. Light Refreshments will be served.

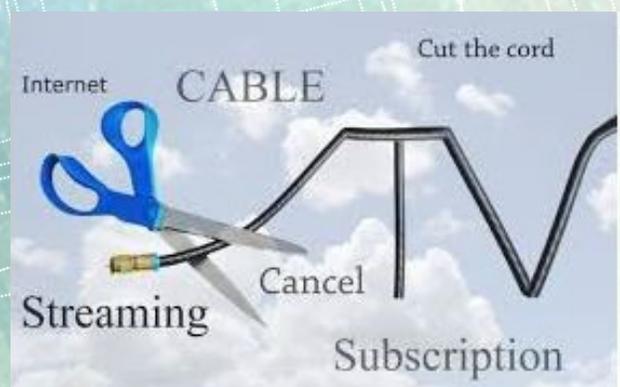


CUT THE CORD

Center 4LifeLearning is having a one day class that will review cable TV and phone alternatives. Cable offerings from Spectrum and Frontier, like the "triple play" (TV, Internet, and Phone) will be discussed, and alternate sources with their limitations, will be explained.

Alternatives like broadcast TV, Streaming Services and devices like Roku and the Amazon Fire Stick will be described. Get your entertainment, information and news, using and paying for only the Internet. Come and see the alternatives so you can make your own "cut the cord" decision. Our instructor will be Phil Sorrentino, who is well known for his knowledge of technology.

Registration required for class on December 9, 2019 is \$7.00. You can sign up with a credit card, for class on our website at <https://4lifelearning.org/lecture> or download an order form at <https://4lifelearning.org/forms>.



Mission of the Month-November

Disaster Response Team

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE DRT

New DRT Trailer

The DRT purchased a new trailer this past summer. Shelving has been installed and all equipment has been transferred from the old trailer to the new trailer. The old trailer even helped pay for the new one!

Nearly New

In August a few of our dedicated members rolled up their sleeves and helped re-paint the walls of the Nearly New interior. When you visit Nearly New, please be sure to notice the sparkling paint job!

TiAnVica Mission

On Monday, October 14th 18 members of the DRT went to TiAnVica Riding Academy in Bartow, Florida to perform various chores, including mowing grass, trimming bushes, cutting tree limbs, cleaning and painting fences and barn doors, and picking up tree branches and debris. Also, the staff let us give the horses some special snacks prepared by a team member!

TiAnVica's motto is "Riding for Therapy". It provides assisted riding activities for people who are physically, mentally, or emotionally challenged. Some of the groups they serve are

Florida Youth Ranches, Veterans Administration, and Lakeland Teen Challenge. TiAnVica relies heavily on volunteers and donations. They would welcome your support either as a volunteer or as a contributor through Mission of the Month.

Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful

Saturday, September 28th, thirteen members of the DRT picked up trash along the roadway from Bob Evans Restaurant to the back gate of Kings Point. This is a quarterly event, so if you missed this time, you will have another opportunity to participate in early December! There are signs posted at each end of the roadway giving UMC credit for the trash pick-ups.

Keep Our Paradise Litter Free!
Adopt-A-Road
813-221-8733



Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE



Hillsborough County Florida



Adopted by:
United Methodist Church
Disaster Response Team

Mary Petro Food and Medicine Fund Is Taking Applications

The Mary Petro Food and Medicine Fund has been serving residents of Sun City Center and Kings Point for over eight years. The fund provides monthly food cards to local grocery stores and assistance with prescription medicine. Persons with incomes of \$17,000 or less per year are eligible and must be permanent residents of Sun City Center or Kings Point. Applications are reviewed yearly and all information is confidential.

The Mary Petro Fund Office is located in Room 12. The phone number is 813-634-8306. The office is open 10:00 AM -2:00 PM Tuesdays and Thursdays. Applications can be either picked up at the Mary Petro Fund Office, church office or can be mailed to anyone interested. Please visit during our business hours.



TGIV EVENTS



**Piano-Organ Concert
Haig & Keith
with string ensemble**
Sunday, November 10
3PM (\$10 at the door)



**South Shore Concert Band
Patriotic Concert**
Monday, November 11
7PM (\$5 at the door)



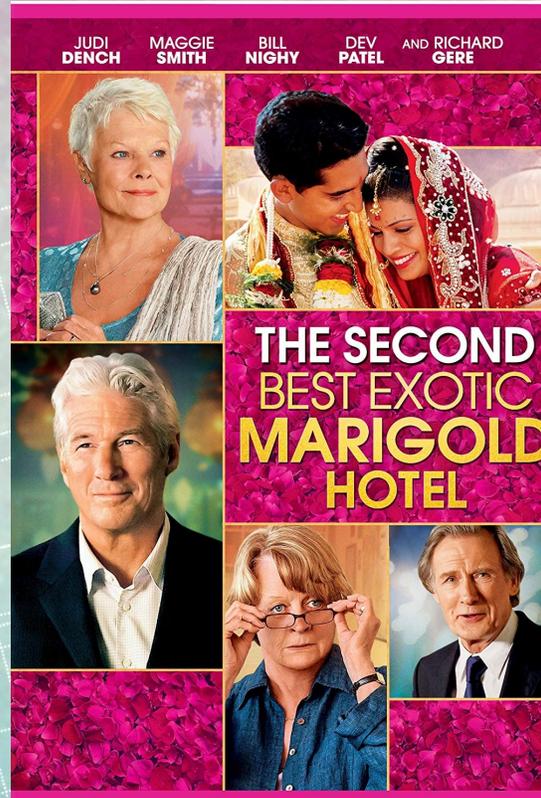
**The Kempters
Americana Worship**
Friday, November 15
7PM (\$10 at the door)



**Mike Williams, comedian
CAHT benefit concert**
Friday, November 22
7PM (\$10 tickets in advance,
\$15 at the door)



**South Shore Community
Thanksgiving Service**
Tuesday, November 26
7PM (free will offering)



November Movie

November 8th - free
3:00PM & 6:00PM

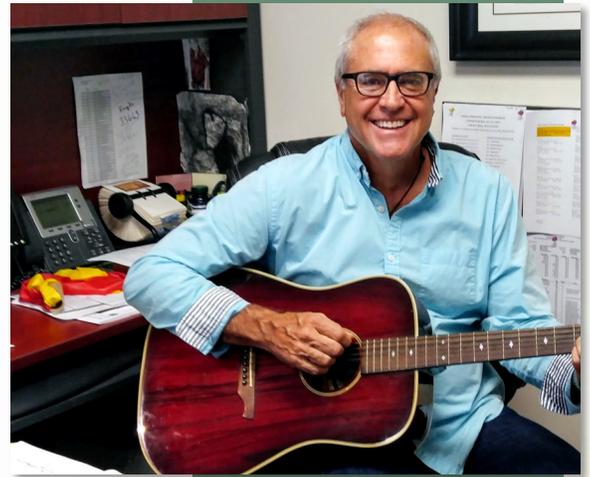
Now that *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* is full up with its long-term residents, co-managers Muriel Donnelly (Maggie Smith) and Sonny Kapoor (Dev Patel) have a dream of expansion, and they've found just the place: *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*. With plans underway, Evelyn and Douglas (Judi Dench and Bill Nighy) venture into the Jaipur workforce, wondering where their regular breakfast dates will lead.

From the *Director of Worship Arts*

Maybe it's just the weather down here in sunny Florida that fools us into thinking that Thanksgiving and Christmas have got to be at least a few months away. As I sit here writing this article in my [73 degree] air-conditioned office looking out on a beautiful [88 degree afternoon], it's hard to believe that this is ALREADY THE END OF OCTOBER! Heck, I was in our [unheated and, admittedly, kinda cool] pool just yesterday, and hope to jump back in a couple of times before Florida 'winter' sets in. But these Family and Holy Days are just around the corner - it's time to buckle down and get serious about our preparations, and that's exactly what we're doing in Worship arts right now...

As a rule, I try not to simply run down the upcoming services and special events in my monthly *Forward in Faith* article, but I'm going to break that rule this time since there are SO many exciting things to share! First, I want to welcome back Pastor Charlie – we missed you [even if the Sam-Pam, one-two punch was very good while you were away].

The month of November starts off with everybody's, and I mean everybody's favorite sale – TIMELY TREASURES. Special thanks to Hollie Fox and all of her excellent volunteers for making this one-of-a-kind event another success on November 1st and 2nd! Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll see that there are FOUR *Thank God Its Variety* concerts this month. The first of these features our own Keith Rasmussen along with fine local pianist, Haig Yaghoobian on Sunday, November 10th at 3PM. There is also a patriotic concert on Veteran's Day, the 11th, at 7PM, an excellent gospel ensemble, The Kempters, performing on the 15th at 7PM, and a special benefit concert for the Campaign Against Human Trafficking featuring a very funny comedian on the 22nd at 7PM. Thanks to Kevin Goodenow, our concert series is truly varied isn't it! Your contemporary praise team, *Broken Together*, will be the Church Dinner



entertainment on the 12th of the month. Amanda and Maria have put together a beautiful program of light contemporary music for that night. Finally, our Church is hosting this year's *Community Thanksgiving Service* on Tuesday, November 26th at 7PM in our beautiful sanctuary... and then there's the Advent and Christmas seasons! In addition to our yearly *Christmas Cantata* [on both Saturday AND Sunday again this year] and *The Sights and Sounds of Christmas*, this December we will be adding a *Christmas Messiah Sing-Along*. More about all of this in our next edition of FIF.

As always, the Worship Arts Team thanks you for your unending love and support!!

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.

BREAKAWAY MINISTRY

Breakaway Ministry started on September 30 in Creason Hall. Breakaway is a ministry that provides meaning, socialization and love for those who are living with memory loss from Alzheimer's, Dementia, and Parkinson's. From 10am to 2pm on Monday's and Tuesday's we offer a variety of activities that promote memory stimulation along with exercise, music, pet therapy, arts and crafts, and service projects for other ministries here in our church. We have 12 participants registered and we are now averaging seven participants each day. We are blessed with several volunteers, yet we are always seeking more volunteers. Most of our participants are men and we really could use more men volunteers on Tuesdays. So I ask you to pray about whether or not God is calling you to come and join this great ministry.

We have received wonderful feedback from our caregivers about how this ministry is making a positive difference in their lives and the life of their loved one. One story that touches my heart on so many levels is that of one of our participants who was mostly non-verbal before Breakaway and is now communicating at Breakaway and at home. Hearing these testimonies affirm that this is a ministry that is needed for the caregiver and the person living with memory issues. Our Breakaway Ministry team celebrates these testimonies because we know how much it means to our participants and their families for them to be more communicative and active.

I encourage everyone to come one day and participate with us and you too will see the joy and love that is had by all as we are God's hands and feet to these very special people. Here are just a few pictures of the smiling faces from our Monday's and Tuesday's.



SEE YOU AT THE CONCERT!

KEVIN GOODENOW

Concert Coordinator

Here it is November, and you're beginning to think about Thanksgiving and the holidays already, right? Or at least Thanksgiving. Who will host the family gathering this year, who will cook the turkey, and who's bringing the pumpkin pie? I'm afraid I can't be of much help with any of those questions. But here's the good news: when all your Thanksgiving plans have been made, and you're in the mood for some good music, we're here for you!

Sunday, November 10 starts our November line-up. None other than our own great organist, Keith Rasmussen, a guest, local concert pianist named Haig Yaghoobian, and a talented string quartet directed by our own maestro, Jeff Jordan. All that talent in one Sunday afternoon concert (3:00p.m.)! And it's all Bach, and all for only a \$10 donation at the door.

The next evening, Monday, Nov 11 at 7:00 finds the local South Shore Concert Band presenting a patriotic concert titled, "American Salute". It is likely you will recognize every piece the band will play. You'll hear, The Blue and the Gray, Stars and Stripes Forever, Americans We, Armed Forces – Pride of America and much, much more. Under the direction of Mr. Ken Easton, this band has become a point of pride in the community. The \$5 donation is a huge bargain!

Friday night, November 15 finds us hosting a concert by a great family group who is coming to UMCSCC for the first time...The Kempters. This family band will bring a brand of music they call "Americana Worship". The Kempters weave shades of bluegrass, country, vintage gospel and contemporary Christian genres

into a unique style that is all their own. The group hails from Deatsville, a small town in Alabama. But there is nothing small about their sound. They produce a big-time, crisp sound that you would expect from a full time, "around-the-country" touring band. What a great night this will be!

And to "ice the cake", so to speak, we will have a nationally known comedian coming to give us a night of comedy on Friday, November 22 at 7:00p.m. Mike Williams will be the headliner for this evening of laughs. But there is a very serious side to this night. Right here in Tampa, in our own Hillsborough County, lies a secret: the greater Tampa Bay area is one of the nation's hubs for human trafficking. That's right. According to a February 8, 2019 report by The Tampa Bay Times, The Florida Department of Children and Families collected more than 2,100 reports of human trafficking in just the last fiscal year. The problem has been growing for over a decade. Comedian Mike Williams is a Christian comedian, a Dove Award winner, and just happens to be the Lead Missionary of the Crossover Cups Mission, a mission for affected children in the Dominican Republic. He has a heart for children affected by human trafficking, and has offered his services to benefit the Crossover Cups Mission and our local chapter of Campaign Against Human Trafficking. Look for local chapter members to be selling tickets to this night of comedy for only \$10. And the church office will have them available as well. We haven't hosted a true night of comedy in almost 5 years. Why not come enjoy a night of clean comedy and help be a ray of light to a very dark, local problem at the same time? You'll be glad you did. Everything from comedy to beautiful Bach music...all in November...all right here at UMCSCC. As always....See You at the Concert!

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 **December 5 @1-3PM in room 30!**



From Our Youth

Hello again Church Family!! It has been another amazing month. Finishing last month with our spaghetti fundraiser was great. We always really enjoy putting together a fundraiser and appreciate our church family for always being willing to help support us. Recently we had our Annual Fall Bake Off. We did things a little bit differently than we have because we included JAM to join us. We were all separated into different groups and we had to make our own special cookies to be tasted and judged. It was so much fun!! And it is always a wonderful experience getting to know our future wolf pack. I've included some pictures of our bakeoff in this article.

As you may know, every Sunday before the 10AM service that we attend we have our bible study. Lately we have been reading and learning the book of Acts. In Acts it talks about the Apostles need to spread the Gospel through the world. This ties into the other book we are still reading, "When You're a Christian, The Whole World is from Missouri". The idea behind this book is to show the world you are a Christian. To show the world THEY want to be a Christian. We are enjoying learning and being guided on our journey with our Lord.

We are all looking forward to our fall retreat the beginning of November. In the past we have all experienced our Lord's presence while being able to disconnect from the world. We focus on strengthening our relationship with God. We focus on listening to what God is trying to tell us. We praise and we worship and it is a pretty wonderful experience. We are so thankful to our church for this opportunity. God Bless All

-Keilah Ramirez



KID'S JESUS & ME JAM

Hello Church Family! We have been busy getting organized over the past few months and we are ready to JAM! Each month our children are introduced to a new bible verse to instill biblical foundational skills. Our goal is for every child to see that God is in the midst of everything they experience in life, not just in times of need but in times of great joy. So, we enjoy God's love through praise and worship, through prayer, games, movies and crafts. No matter what we do, God is in the CENTER of it all. October's bible verse comes from 1 John 4:7, "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God". So to spread LOVE we combined our youth and children for one night of FUN and CHAOS!

On October 9th our UTC youth and J.A.M joined together for **The Ultimate Cookie Showdown**. Just like any cooking show, the question on everyone's mind was "whose cookie would reign supreme?" Just a take a look at some of those faces and it will tell you that it was hard to choose. Each team was judged on five categories, presentation, taste, teamwork, creativity and most importantly FUN! I have to say GOD Won! Despite the organized chaos, the teens enjoyed working with the kids, and God's Love poured into each cookie and they were DELICIOUS!



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