



The Connection



JANUARY 2018

Official News-Publication of Edgewater United Methodist Church

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Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - Noon



Church Staff

Rev. Gary Tarleton
Pastor

Melissa Macnab
Music Director

Dot Myers
Administrative Assistant

Andy Macnab
Audio-Visual Technician

Bob Snyder
Treasurer

Patty Moody
Pianist

Bonnie Patterson
Organist

Sheila Rossner
Nursery Attendant

Fred Dean
Custodian

MISSIONAL VITAL SIGNS

In recent years past you may have heard us talking about Missional Vital Signs. These consist of several measureable statistics for each congregation within the United Methodist Church that give an indication of how “healthy” each congregation is. That is healthy in terms of ministry and outreach, not physical health.

The thinking is that by specifically focusing on improving these numbers we will consequently improve our effectiveness in community outreach and personal spiritual growth. Each congregation is required to report these statistics every month to their District Superintendent.

I am writing about this now because in the coming year there is going to be a greater emphasis placed, by the Annual Conference and districts, on tracking and improving these numbers. I think it’s important that everyone in the congregation has at least a basic understanding of the MVS, pray about them, and contribute whatever ideas you might have on improving them. The following is a brief explanation of each accompanied by comments about where we stand.

Passionate Worship – Average Weekly Attendance at regular (not special) worship services. Over the past 24+ months we have had a marginal but steady increase (roughly 9%). This is a good sign that we’re doing something right!

Radical Hospitality – The total number of persons received into membership measured by “profession of faith” (POF) and “reaffirmation of faith” (RAF).

POF: The first public expression of commitment to Christian faith. Includes youth who join the church through the confirmation process and adults who have never been a member of a church who come to faith as part of your congregation.

This is a sign of evangelistic outreach. We have had very few of these.

RAF: A person who has been baptized at some point in their life, has made a profession of faith, and has possibly been a member of a congregation but has not actively been involved; who are renewing their faith as part of your congregation. (Not transfers from another UMC congregation.)

We have had a few of these, but most of our new members are transfers from other congregations.

Intentional Discipleship – The number of persons involved in any group with two or more individuals who meet at least monthly to read and reflect on scripture, what it means to apply God’s word to their lives, share honest feedback, and pray for one another. Includes Bible study groups, Sunday school classes, and youth groups.

This is one of our weakest areas and one in which we could improve significantly.

Salty Service (Redefined) – The number of persons serving through church ministries, to the community, for a least one hour each week. People serve in many ways (Rotary, hospital volunteers, etc.), but for our purpose, we are focusing on the outreach ministries, missions, and serving only through the local church.

We have always done an excellent job of this. (Continued on page 2)

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Extravagant Generosity – The total amount given to the church for budgeted operating and capital expenses and missional purposes. Includes all contributions received by pledged and unpledged giving, loose plate offerings, and funds given for capital debt, building or repairs, or special offerings to ministries beyond the church. Excluded are interest income, memorial bequeaths, facility use fees, pumpkin patches and similar fundraisers.

We are keeping our heads above water (barely), but this is certainly a category in which most of us could improve; and one which we need to pray about – a lot.

Two additional categories have recently been added:

Special Services – The number of people who attend services that are infrequent, such as Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Homecoming, Memorials, Musicals, etc.

This is about inviting people to church! We have generally done well in this category but could always improve.

Online Viewing – Number of visits to our church web page. We currently have no way of measuring this. Have a blessed, healthy, prosperous and joyful 2018!..... *Pastor Gary*

COOKIE SUNDAY



We refer to the second Sunday of the month as “Cookie Sunday”. Following each church service, coffee, hot tea and delicious cookies (also brownies and other goodies) are found in Hardin Hall. Thanks go to all of our volunteer bakers who provide these treats. Also, thank you to Louis & Charlene Giovanniello for providing coffee & snacks before the services every Sunday morning.

In 2017, Shirley Vickers extended Cookie Sunday to honor and celebrate all those who were celebrating their 80th birthday and beyond during the month - with a cake and song. This was well received and will continue in 2018.



WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

The Book of Revelation

John called his book an “Apocalypse” which means unveiling or disclosure. During the two centuries before and after Christ, a considerable number of Jewish and Christian writings belonged to this category. In this kind of literature persons are represented in the likeness of animals, and historical events in the form of natural events. The people of John’s day were familiar with this type of literature; most of us are not. How are we to understand the book of Revelation? There are four main interpretations. We will compare two throughout our study: the **preterist** - which interprets Revelation as a description of first-century events in the Roman Empire and appears to reject the prophetic nature of Revelation; and, **the futurist** which believes most of the events described will take place in the “end times” just prior to the second coming of Jesus.

Part one of our study will run for **eight weeks**. It will begin on Thursday, January 25, and end on March 15 from **10:30 to noon** in the **Adult Classroom** located off of the hallway that runs between our Nursery and the Choir Practice Room. We’ll take a three week break and then **resume** for Part 2 on **April 12 for eight** more sessions. The class format will include: prayer, video, teaching, and discussion.

In the first part of our study we’ll use the DVD “The 7 Churches of Revelation” from Day of Discovery along with two books: “40 Days Through Revelation” by Dr. Ron Rhodes a **futurist** interpretation; and “Breaking the Code” by the late Bruce M. Metzger. There is no cost to participate in this class. A FREE will offering will be accepted and donated to Discipleship.

To participate, call **Helen Karl (386) 409-8382** or email catsandbooks@bellsouth.net Books will be available beginning Sunday, January 21st in Hardin Hall; you may also sign up at that time.

**EUMC PRAYER GARDEN
DEDICATION CEREMONY**

Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018

**11AM/immediately following our
Rededication Worship Service**

Thank you to Jeanie Ryan & Jim Townsend for all of the work that they have done to transform this dream to reality. Thank you to everyone who has donated funds and purchased bricks. The total amount received = \$13,996.31 and the total expenses so far have been \$12,787.19.

If you would like to purchase a brick, please call the church office at 386-428-6552 or download the form from our website edgewaterunitedmethodist.org



THANK YOU!



A huge thank you to Nancy Hansen, Arlene Tilison, and ALL of the committees and volunteers for their dedication and hard work to make our 24th Christmas Under the Palms a success!

CUTP INCOME:

Space Sales= \$4,655 Bake Sales= \$914.46
Crafters=\$642 UMM Net Proceeds= \$217.68

CALENDAR OF CHURCH MEETINGS & EVENTS

Boys & Girls Club Mon.-Fri. 2PM-6PM- Jan. 8th-31st

- Jan 1 OFFICE CLOSED
- Jan 2 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting (Choir Room)
- Jan 3 6:30 PM SPRC Meeting (Choir Room)
- Jan 4 7:30 AM UMM Breakfast (Mom's NSB)
- Jan 4 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast (Camelot Country NSB)
- Jan 4 6:30 PM Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- Jan 6 9:00 AM United Methodist Men Mtg.(Choir Room)
- Jan 7 10:00 AM Rededication Worship Service
- Jan 7 11:00 AM Prayer Garden Dedication Ceremony
- Jan 9 1:00 PM Dorcas Circle
- Jan 10 10:00 AM United Methodist Women Meeting (HH)
- Jan 11 7:30 AM UMM Breakfast (Mom's NSB)
- Jan 11 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast (Camelot Country NSB)
- Jan 11 6:30 PM Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- Jan 13 1:00 PM Crafters (1PM-3PM Sunday School Rm.#1)
- Jan 14 9:00 AM Praise Worship Service (Cookie Sunday)
- Jan 14 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service (80+ BD)
- Jan 15 OFFICE CLOSED (Martin Luther King, Jr. BD)
- Jan 16 1:00 PM Ruth Circle
- Jan 16 7:00 PM Naomi Circle (Sunday School Room #3)
- Jan 18 7:30 AM UMM Breakfast (Mom's NSB)
- Jan 18 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast (Camelot Country NSB)
- Jan 18 9:30 AM Card Ladies (Card Room)
- Jan 18 6:30 PM Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- Jan 21 9:00 AM Praise Worship Service
- Jan 21 10:30 PM Traditional Worship Service
- Jan 25 7:30 AM UMM Breakfast (Mom's NSB)
- Jan 25 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast (Camelot Country NSB)
- Jan 25 10:30 AM Women's Bible Study (Adult Classroom)
- Jan 25 6:30 PM Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- Jan 28 9:00 AM Praise Worship Service
- Jan 28 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service



RICE



is needed for third SUNDAY donations.

Sunday, January 21, 2018

WE REALLY NEED THESE DONATIONS! WE NO LONGER NEED EGG CARTONS OR PLASTIC BAGS.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

All women are invited to join us for breakfast. It is not necessary to belong to a circle. January's location is Camelot Country 351 N. US HWY 1 Oak Hill, FL. We will meet each Thursday at 8:30AM.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

05—*Meta Devlin* +
 05—*Chuck Ruty* +
 07—*Jean Savage* +
 08—*Linda Cunningham*
 11—*Jean Moore* +
 13—*Lynda Malone*
 22—*Tom Craig*
 25—*Michael Warren*
 26—*Pastor Gary Tarleton*

+ = 80 or above



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

05—*Bill & Dot Myers*
 08—*Bob & Jo Moffat*
 23—*Chris & Bonnie Bailey*
 27—*John & Claire Cooper*



A Big Heartfelt Thank You to all of the volunteers who helped with the Advent Season Events.



PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER:

Jerry Adams	Mason Joseph Kiep	Carol Rutter
Gayle Allen	Matthew Kiep	Chuck Ruty
Greg Brice	Brenda Kupris-Cary	Suzanne Sammons
Thelma Buchard	Sandy Langlois	Carrie (Russell) Schaefer
Leigh Clark	Judy Littorin	Nettie Secrest
Brandy Crisafulli	Angel Lopez	Buck Settle
JoEllen Curtis	Catherine (Kitty) Martin	Joann Schuler
Kevin DeVault	Kathryn Merrow	Lynette Schwanke
Ozama Domokos	Miles Gresham-Miller	Vicki Sheets
Jason Drymon	Randy Miller	Jim Smith
Ruth Estella	Rev. Bob Moffat	Malize Smuts
Betty Freymuth	Nell Morgan	Jennifer Snyder
Tom Freymuth	Lorie Morris	David Sullivan
Ray Genco	Guy Moseley	Patti Sulzbach
Eric Glass	Bill Myers	Yolandie Swanepoel
Eva Goodrich	Ed Nunn	Rev. Charles Ternet
Harry Harris	Connie Peets	JoAnn Waikel
Jack Haun	Jeff Peters	Sue Warren
Jeannie Haun	Harvey Flourde	Al Wiefling
Donald Hockett	Maureen Powers	Lindsey Wiefling
Lib Hudson	Nicholas Presutti	Christy Wood
Scott Jackson	Kristina Reightmyer	Chris Wood
Richard Jordan	Merridith Richardson	Bill Young
Erin Juliano	Ivan Rua	Amy Zimmers & Family



Please keep in prayer and make a point to call, visit or send a card to our shut ins:

Norma Cassada	Louise Mills	Bill Price
Pat Chaney	Wilma Montgomery	Lois Ann Rector
Meta Devlin	Vivian Nunn	Marie Scudder
Betty Kormylo	Martha Petersen	Phyllis Sperry

**If you need an address or phone number please call the office:
 (386)-428-6552**