

March 2026

FUMCHS News

A Monthly Newsletter Highlighting Events at Your Church!



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From Pastor Tim

Wednesday, February 18th – Ash Wednesday – the church's liturgical season of Lent began, a forty - day (minus the Sundays) period leading to the great celebration of Easter on April 5th. It is a season for awareness: what are the 'hungers' that gnaw within us that lead us to more generously share our resources with those who are truly hungry; practicing a prayerful life in which we listen for the nudge of the Spirit moving us to supportively come alongside a neighbor or church member who is ill, grieving, or struggling; offering thanks to God for blessings that lead us to thank someone who has blessed us in the past year.

The online resource Ministry Matters offers this reflection:

Lent has always carried three pillars : prayer, fasting, and almsgiving . The tradition is ancient, rooted in the desert fathers and the early church's

preparation of new converts preparing for baptism . For most of Christian history, these three practices were understood as inseparable . You couldn't fast without giving what you didn't eat to someone who was hungry . You couldn't pray without being interrupted by the neighbor in need. Somewhere along the way—especially in middle - class American Christianity —we kept the prayer and the fasting and quietly let the almsgiving become optional . We turned Lent into a self-improvement project dressed in sackcloth ... Lent ... was designed to make us a different kind of people—the kind whose practices reshape not just [our] inner life but [our] shared life, whose fasting is connected to someone else's hunger, whose prayer leads somewhere beyond personal peace."

In this season of Lent, let your spiritual disciplines lead you beyond a personal time with God and move you outward to practical acts of care and service, for love of God and love of neighbor are inseparably linked.

Yours in faith, hope and love, Pastor Tim

A Personal Note from Pastor Tim,

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Friends in Christ,

Florida Area Bishop Tom Berlin called me last April and asked if I would serve one year as the interim pastor of your church. I said 'yes.' And I came to serve you in July of 2025. As a pastor for thirty - four of my forty - one years of full - time service, I arrived at more than one church and saw both great need and great potential. Together with the congregation, we went to work —from our knees planted on the prayer rails to painting scuffed hallways to building new ministry teams. We prayed, repaired, restored, and grew a stronger church. I see the same great need and great potential among you, too. The pastor in me sees this and I want to jump in with you for the years of praying, repairing, restoring, and growing a strong church. But in my heart, I know that the work, with God's help, a pastor and you can accomplish together, is no longer my work. My heart turns to grandchildren, to friends, and serving with Candy in our church family that we have come to love.

In late June my time with you will end, and soon you will know who is coming to serve you as pastor. My prayer is and will continue to be that the Lord will bring you a pastor who will love you and lean into the work of ministry with you.

And now that we have met, worshipped and served together, rejoiced and cried together, like all the congregations I have had the high privilege to pastor, you will remain in my heart and my prayers. Always. Pastor Tim

March Birthdays

We celebrate these beloved members of our church family this month! May God's blessings surround you on your special day and throughout the year.



Alani, Janice, Jacquelyn, Todd



Mary Sue, Mija, Glen, Samantha



Dave, Vince, Cindy, Courtney



Arlene, Sarah (Sally), Kiera, Mia



Bryson, Silas, Konnor, Asher

Taking Action in Love

By Julie Collett

This month I've been thinking about something simple... and powerful.

If I see a tree limb on the ground —I pick it up.

If a counter needs cleaned off —I clean it.

If a sign is outdated —I update it.

If something needs attention —I don't wait for a meeting about it. I take action.

Not because I'm trying to be busy.

Not because I think everything depends on me.

But because healthy things require care.

Here's what I've learned:

Church health isn't built in big moments. It's built in small obediences.

It's easy to say, "Someone should fix that."

It's stronger to say, "I can help."

Action is stewardship.

Action is ownership.

Action is love with work boots on.

And let's be honest —love isn't a soft sentiment. Love is movement.

Love notices the limb in the yard so someone doesn't trip.

Love clears the counter so the next person walks in to order instead of overwhelm.

Love updates the sign so our message is clear and welcoming.

Love makes things better, not louder.

Over the years, I've seen something true:

Love changes people.

Love softens people.

Love heals a church.

But love is not passive. Love participates.

If you want to see our church grow stronger, start with what's in front of you.

What can you pick up?

What can you improve?

Whom can you encourage?

Where can you step in instead of stepping back?

Every small action becomes culture.

Every small act of care becomes an atmosphere.

Every quiet "yes" builds unity.

We don't need more critics. We need more caretakers.

So this month, let's be people who act.

If you see it —steward it.

If you can fix it —fix it.

If you need help —ask for it.

If someone else is serving —thank them.

Because when love moves, things change.

And when love leads, churches heal.

—Julie

"Healthy things require care"

Shoppers Paradise Thrift

Tuesday to Saturday
10:00am to 1:00pm

First United Methodist Church, 10100 SE Federal Hwy, Hobe Sound, FL 33455



- Here are some ways to get involved:
- Serve at church gatherings
 - Provide light office or tech help
 - Join teams
 - Support Sunday roles like greeting or setup
 - Be part of a small group
 - Offer childcare
 - Help with setup or cleanup
 - Offer steady encouragement to someone
 - Help prepare items for weekly outreach
 - Join simple craft or prep sessions for events
 - Help hang clothes or stock shelves
 - Assist with organizing materials for upcoming programs

HELPING HEARTS SATURDAY!

The 4th Saturday of every month*
Starting at 9:00 AM
Check for holiday exceptions.



Clean & Fix



Behind the Scenes



Be a Greeter



Meet Friends

Join us once a month to help our church!



DONATE

Apples and oranges are making a real difference in young lives. Thanks to your generosity, children lacking reliable weekend food are nourished through our Backpack Ministry. We appreciate your support in providing these nutritious snacks. Your contributions significantly impact their well-being, ensuring they receive nourishment during the weekend.



WEDNESDAYS BY NOON

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FROM THE FUMCHS OPERATING TEAM

Good News!

The "Souper Bowl" soup sale netted \$721 thanks to super soup makers and soup lovers!



What's Happening Now?



Goodbye Old Fridge!



Thanks to Don Brown, Cost: \$2,905 + \$1,230 + We Have a **NEW Refrigerator!** - Install/Removal

Next Month: Blessing Our New Sanctuary Roof! Cost: \$46,000



No More Raindrops on Our Heads!

Rebuilding Our Capital Reserves!

These projects have greatly depleted our **Deferred Maintenance Fund.**

If you can help replenish our reserves for future needs, we'd be so grateful!



March Happenings

March is full of connection,
service, and celebration,
Mark your calendars and
join us!

March 1 <i>First Look – 11:30am</i>	← →	March 4 <i>Fellowship Team – 9:30am</i>
March 6 <i>RTD Food Truck – 7:30am</i> <i>Parent's Night Out – 5–8pm</i>	← →	March 8 <i>Covered Dish – 11:30am</i>
March 15 <i>Clatter Collection – 10am</i>	← →	March 20 <i>RTD Food Truck – 7:30am</i>
March 22 <i>OneBlood Big Red Bus</i>	← →	March 26 <i>Church Council – 7pm</i>
March 28 <i>Easter Family Fun – 9am</i> <i>Helping Easter Hearts – 9am</i> <i>Singles Night Out (Salty Pelican) – 4pm</i>	← →	March 29 <i>Holy Week Begins</i>

“Join us. Invite someone. Let’s grow together.”

Contact Kathy Gordon for volunteering with Easter Family Fun and for all the fun details. Kgordon@fumchs.org



Weekly Studies

- Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class 9a (rm 10)*
- Pastor’s Bible Study Tuesdays 10a & 7p
- Mid -day Bible Study Wednesdays 10:45a
- Spirit Rising Thursdays 7p

Where: Youth Building, Worship Room*

*First United Methodist Church
10100 SE Federal Highway
Hobe Sound, FL 33455*

Phone: 772- 546- 3303

Email: info@fumchs.org

Website: www.fumchs.org



Belong, Believe, Become

Pastor Tim Smiley’s Sermon Plans

Join us in worship each Sunday at 10AM, where we stand at the foot of the cross and hear Jesus speak to us. “The Last Words of Jesus”

March 1, *“Today you will be with me in Paradise.” Luke 23:32 - 43*

March 8, *“Dear woman, here is your son.” John 19:25 - 27*

March 15, *“My God, why have you forsaken me?” Mark 15:33 - 34*

March 22, *B.L.E.S.S. Genesis 12:1-3*

March 29 , *Palm/Passion Sunday, “It is Finished.” John 19:28 - 30*

Maundy Thursday *worship with the Lord’s Supper in the sanctuary* ,
April 2, 6:00 PM *“Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit”* ,
Luke 23: 44 - 49

Easter Sunday worship at 10AM
April 5, “Resurrection Scars” John 20:19 - 29

Tim Smiley, Pastor
pastor@fumchs.org
904-338-4033

Julie Collett,
Admin Assistant
jcollett@fumchs.org

Kathy Gordon, M.Ed.,
Children’s Director
kgordon@fumchs.org

Don Brown, Director of
Discipleship
Contemporary Music,
Technology
brownndonray@fumchs.org

Norm Geible, Traditional
Music
Barbara McIntosh, Pianist

Lisa Seigford, Bookkeeper
lseigford@fumchs.org

Marie Ostrout, Campus