



# FUMCHS News

## September 2025

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### Baseball, Blessings and a Heart of Wisdom, by Pastor Tim Smiley

Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!" (Mark10:28)

I love baseball. I have loved it beginning in childhood. I fondly remember playing catch with my older brother and my father in the front yard. We held neighborhood pickup games in our backyard (Visiting that yard as an adult, I marvel how we even imagined we could play in such a small plot of grass!), until the point my father got tired of baseballs shattering Florida Room windows. He promised us that the next time we broke a window with an errant ball there would be a spanking. Lo and behold, a neighbor swung the bat, it flew from his hands and smashed through a window. When confronted by my father, I pleaded, "But it wasn't the baseball; it was the bat!" He just shook his head and walked away. But we were banished from the 7409 Olin Way backyard ballfield.

I played Little League and Senior League baseball, and the knock was "lots of potential but not enough result." Until my last year. My goal was

**Workson's  
Appreciation  
Gathering  
Sunday, 9-14**

thank you

### Covered Dish Lunch

Sunday, 11:30am



Sunday, September 14,  
11:30am Fellowship Hall



Thursday, **SEPTEMBER 18**  
Doors open 5:30pm, games  
begin at 6:00pm in Fellowship  
Hall for \$10. Gift prizes!



to play on the All-Star team in the post-season. I practiced the game for hours every single day. I hung a strike zone on the chain link fence of the local VFW and pitched the rawhide off a lot of balls. I practiced and played with anyone breathing and willing to be



dragged out to the sandspur filled field. I was committed, focused, “all in.” I dramatically improved my game. I pitched a complete game no-hitter that year, batted in the mid-300’s, and roamed the outfield when not pitching. I just knew I was going to get that call from the All-Star coach. Except, something happened. I got saved!

Two young Navy couples served as Sr. High counselors, and with their care and counsel our youth ministry grew. Our church decided to hire a youth intern for the summer break. My church friends told me that the first weekend after the end of the school year we’d all be going to New Smyrna Beach for a retreat. Not me, said I. I’d be home practicing and waiting for my call to join the All-Star team. But they talked me into going. It was great fun. And there were girls. But two things happened that weekend. First, we read and talked about Matthew 5, the opening chapter of Jesus’ “Sermon on the Mount.” I was intrigued with what Jesus said. And second, during a Saturday evening bonfire on the beach, as the youth worker led an informal worship service, I had an “out of body” experience. I was sitting with my friends around the bonfire, when suddenly I wasn’t. I was floating a distance above the bonfire, looking down on my friends. And I heard a voice say to me, “You know I love you.” I hovered there, savoring those words, and then found myself again sitting among my friends. I looked around – did anyone notice? No. And I said nothing to anyone.

Monday morning our home phone rang, and it was the All-Star coach inviting me to join the All-Star team. I thanked him for calling and told him no, that I would be busy with my church youth group all summer. And that was that!

Since that day I’ve played a lot of baseball and church softball. Now, at age 70, I can hardly throw a baseball because of a calcium buildup that aggravates my rotator cuff. But it’s all good. I made my decision at the age of 15. And I’ve never looked back on that weekend in June with regret. I was “all in,” but now it wasn’t baseball. I willingly let go of my dream of the All-Star team for something far better – to know the Lord Jesus Christ and His love for me.

As we continue in worship to explore “The Way to Go,” Jesus’ calls us to follow him as his disciples (apprentices, learners). He invites us to be “all in,” practicing, growing in faith, hope and love, and learning to live a life abundantly full, deeply meaningful, and joyful. And above all, to hear him say, “You know I love you.”



**Labor Day**  
Monday, September 1  
Office - Closed

**Parents Night Out**  
Friday, Sept. 5, 5pm - 8pm  
[kgordon@fumchs.org](mailto:kgordon@fumchs.org)



**RTD Food Pantry**  
Friday, September 5 & 19,  
7:30am  
Lisa ([lisa@reversethedoor.org](mailto:lisa@reversethedoor.org))



**Stewardship Committee**  
Monday, Sept. 8, 10am  
Workroom

**Sunday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**\*\*Grandparents Day\*\***  
**Staff Meeting 11:30**



In a quiet corner of fellowship and faith, two ministries come together with one purpose: to bring comfort and remind people they are never alone. The Carol Werner Prayer Shawl Ministry Ladies knit each shawl with care, stitch by stitch, knowing it will one day be wrapped around someone in need of comfort. At a later time, the Coffee with God group gather to pray over them, asking God to fill every fold with peace, healing, and love, covering it in blessings for the person who will receive it.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jackie	Roger
Beverly	Ann Myrna
Madison	Natalie
Adrianna	Ashaina
Marty	Rebecca
Joanne	Theon Harvey
Surina	Duff
Skyler	Keith
Johnny	Jennifer
Hilda Marie	Glenna
Callum	Karla
Bette	Kaitlyn
Michelle	Levi
Grace	Ulani
Carolyn	Addison
Calvin	Grace
Gail	Van
Catherine	Lianne
Hazel	Joshua
	Maureen



**First United Methodist Church Hobe Sound**

**Spaghetti Night**

**Friday,**  
**Sept. 19, 2025**  
**5:30pm**



**\$15 individual \* \$40 family**  
(Family is 2 adults & 2 children, \$7 for each additional child)

*Dinner includes spaghetti, meat sauce, salad, bread, dessert & beverage.*



# September 2025



**Workson Louis-Jeune,**  
**\*Appreciation Gathering\***  
in conjunction with

**Covered Dish Luncheon**  
**Sunday, Sept. 14, 11:30**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**Covered Dish**  
*Lunch*  
**Sunday, 11:30am**



**Clatter**  
**Collection**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays  
by Children*



**Clatter Collection**  
**Sunday, Sept. 17**  
**During Service**

**Church Workday**  
**Saturday, Sept. 27, 8am**  
**Jobs for everyone!**



**SINGLES**  
**NIGHT**  
**OUT**

**Singles Night Out**  
**Saturday, Sept. 27, 4pm**  
RSVP to Linda Evans 772-546-0107

## **Children's Report, Playground Committee Update** by Kathy Gordon

We have begun a new school year with a great start by Blessing of the Backpacks. From 2 to 11 Children have attended on Sundays for the last couple months, but now that school has begun, attendance has varied from 6 to 10 children, including a toddler. We need a dedicated nursery person.

The Children's Wing is being used more frequently now. The intense cleaning over the summer and just before school began has brought a shine to our space. Thank you for the lighting repairs, air conditioning repairs and plumbing repairs that were done over the summer. We are blessed to have the space we have to support homeschooling programs like Classical Conversations (on Mondays) and Veritas (Thursdays and Fridays), and Family Promise (four times a year for two weeks).

As far as the Playground Committee is concerned, many items have been checked off as completed, but there are still some outstanding items to address. The Eagle Scout Project by Sam Vestrem has halted progress as the west side of the fencing has revealed some complications. I will be meeting with Sam on Sunday to problem-solve steps forward. Thanks to a very generous donation, we are able to purchase a large playground equipment, but that is still in process. Thank you to Frank Gryta for being present on the work day with gardening tools to move the mulch around. Four pallets of mulch were distributed by about 6 families from Classical Conversations in about an hour—many hands made for light work. Justin LaCross has some finishing touches on the sandbox renovation to a kid clubhouse. The grass needs to be weeded from our new mulch, but otherwise, the playground is waiting for the safety areas around the fencing to be resolved before re-opening. Please caution those who may venture on the playground. Unsupervised children are not allowed on the playground, even when it is open—we need your help in reinforcing this rule when staff are not on duty. Our last major playground equipment will be ordered when fencing safety concerns are resolved.

### **Upcoming Children's Events**

September 5, 5-8pm....Parents Night Out

Friday, September 5, 5-8pm....Parents Night Out

Friday, October 3, 5-8pm....Parents Night Out

Saturday, October 25, 4-6pm....Fall Family Fun/Trunk-or-Treat

Friday, November 7, 5-8pm....Parents Night Out



## Children's Church Curriculum

**August 31, 2025.** (Psalm 119:89-90) **Catechism, The Sermon on the Mount** *Jesus knew He was sending us the Holy Spirit to help us live as Christ. We don't have to figure it out on our own. The more we follow Christ, the easier it is to live as He lived. Our focus should be on Christ.*  
Lesson 28 Challenge The Ten Commandments 1-10

**September 7, 2025.** (Matthew 6:33) **Kingdom of God, Mission:** The Gospels are ultimately about how Jesus is bringing the kingdom of God to earth. Lesson 29 Challenge The Beatitudes

**September 14, 2025.** (Matthew 6:33) **Kingdom of God, Evangelism:** *Evangelism means to share the good news about God's saving work in Jesus Christ. This involves both words and deeds, just as it happened in the early church among Jesus' earliest followers.* Lesson 30 The Beatitudes

**September 21, 2025.** (Matthew 6:33) **Kingdom of God, Mercy and Justice:** The ultimate act of mercy, of course, was Jesus taking on our sin on the cross. As we follow after Him, we are to imitate this in our own lives by offering mercy to others. Lesson 31 Challenge The Beatitudes

**September 28, 2025.** (Matthew 6:33) **Kingdom of God, Creation Care:** God created order out of chaos. Since before the fall, humanity was charged with keeping order of God's creation. Lesson 32 Challenge The Beatitudes



### Backpack Blessings

**August 3, 2025**



### Parents Night Out

On one Friday a month from 5pm to 8pm for pre-registered children who can play games, eat supper, create with crafts, & build friendships, while parents have three hours to themselves. **Confirm a week before with Kathy at [KGordon@fumchs.org](mailto:KGordon@fumchs.org).**

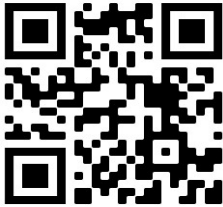
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## *Belong Believe Become*

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## Pastor Tim Smiley's Sermon Plans

### The Way to Go

Aug. 31, *What is Forming You?* **Isaiah 64:8; Romans 12:1-21**

Sept. 7, *When Will You Live on Purpose?* **Matthew 7:24-27;**

Sept. 14, *Do You Know Where You're Going?* **Philippians 3:7-14**

**Coming soon, the next sermon series: "B.L.E.S.S."**