



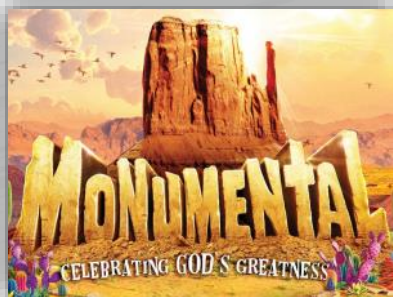
FUMCHS News

June-July 2022

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“But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”
Joshua 24:15



VBS July 11-15, see page 3

Greetings to Those Who Find their Hope in our Lord Jesus Christ *a message from Pastor Doug*

There is an important issue facing the United Methodist Church today. Some will claim it is only over the issue of human sexuality, however the issue is much larger and broader with kingdom implications.

Following the merger in 1968 of the Evangelical United Brethren Church with the Methodist Church, an interesting shift began to occur in theology as to what it means to be a United Methodist. This new shift was identified as doctrinal pluralism. Doctrinal pluralism means that you can believe a variety of things, even contradictory things and still be a part of the same church. People may believe Jesus was the Son of God and others may hold that Jesus was simply a prophet. Some will baptize infants and others refuse, performing only “believer” baptisms. The plurality exists in many forms. Christians could be part of the same church and hold these diametrically opposed theological constructs. As the UMC developed, tradition, reason, and experience became equal to Scripture. A question then arose, how can you discover the ministry and mission of the church when you cannot agree on theology? *(cont. on pages 4 & 7)*

CROP Hunger Walk *by Mary Geible*

A HUGE thank you to all who joined us for the Walk 4 Ukraine! 26 people from FUMCHS, Ridgeway and Cambridge walked. It was a great time of camaraderie and exercise. Thanks also to Dunkin Donuts for donating donuts to the walkers and Kathy Gordon for the advertising. Because of your generosity, we are happy to report that over \$4,600 was raised in Hobe Sound, and \$4,400 in Plainfield, Indiana—all to help the Ukrainian refugees who are facing so many difficult obstacles. Thank you so much for your generosity and support. Blessings!

June & July 2022 Events

June 8, 7 PM	Pray with Pastor Doug
June 9-11	Florida UMC Conference
June 18, 4 PM	Singles Night Out—Fresh Catch
June 18, 4-6 PM	Family Picnic
June 18, 5-8 PM	Parents Night Out
June 19, 10 AM	Youth Sunday
June 25-July 2	Youth Summer Camp
June 26, 11:30 AM	Hello Neighbor! New Member Orientation
June 28, 30	Reverse the Door Camp
July 4	Office Closed
July 5, 10 AM	VBS Mandatory VOLUNTEER TRAINING
July 5-8, 10 AM-2 PM	VBS Decorating & Preparations
July 11-15, 9 AM-12 PM	Monumental VBS
July 17, 10 AM	VBS Sunday
July 18, 10 AM	VBS Clean Up
July 16, 4 PM	Singles Night Out at Dolphin Bar & Shrimp House

Did you know? In May 2022,

LAHIA received **600** pounds of food &

MISS received **300** pounds of food

from our church pantry,

thanks to your donations!



**FUMCHS Response Team
is here to help. Call us at**

(772) 546-3303

kgordon@fumchs.org



Children & Family Ministry by Kathy Gordon

Father's Day is June 18, so **Parents Night Out** will be June 17, from 5 to 8 PM. To register or to make a reservation for your child (from 3 to 11 years old), contact Kathy Gordon at (772) 546-3303 or kgordon@fumchs.org.

Children's Church is on Sundays at 10 AM, after Acolytes serve, and the Children's Message at around 10:10 AM. Children then go to the Children's Wing for Bible stories, games, and crafts, and return to the Sanctuary and their families. The June children's faith word is SPIRIT and the Bible verse is Galatians 5:22. The July faith word is PRAISE, and the Bible verse is Psalm 150:6.

We'll go "off-road" for a Monumental **Vacation Bible School** adventure, from **July 11 to 15**, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, by exploring God's awesomeness. Children (3 to 11 years old) will form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead through music, crafts, games, and stories. The cost is \$15 per child, but no more than \$40 per family. Register online by scanning the image with your smart phone, or go online to www.fumchs.org/vacation-bible-school.



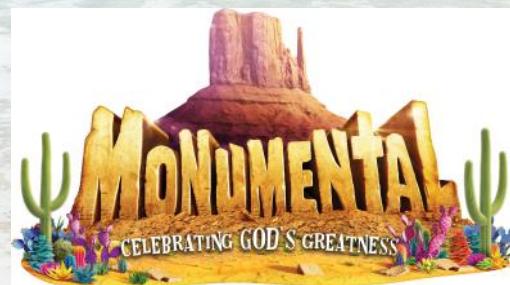
The First UMC Hobe Sound Backpack Ministry will resume in September 2022. Thank you for donating fresh fruit for the children this 2021-2022 school year.

13 FUMCHS volunteers
140 children who received
4 meals, 2 snacks, & 1 fresh fruit
for 30 weeks
at Seawind Elementary
& Hobe Sound Elementary.



4,300 bags filled
4,300 fresh fruit
8,600 snacks
17,300 meals

How many smiles?



2022 Monumental VBS
July 11 to July 15, 9 AM to 12 PM

Children's Church Curriculum for June & July 2022

June 5	Pentecost	Acts 2:1-41
June 12	Philip & the Ethiopian	Acts 8:26-40
June 19	Spiritual Gifts	1 Corinthians 12:1-11
June 26	Fruit of the Spirit	Galatians 5:22-23
July 3	David Dances	2 Samuel 6:12-19
July 10	Shout with Joy	Psalms 100
July 17	Praise the Lord	Psalms 150
July 24	Mary's Song	Luke 1:46-55
July 31	Salt and Light	Matthew 5:13-16

Greetings to Those Who Find their Hope in our Lord Jesus Christ *cont.*

Fast forward several years, now bishops and clergy are teaching and living lives contrary to the teaching of the authority of Scripture. The Lordship of Jesus Christ is almost a second thought. Theological liberalism and doctrinal pluralism have reached a boiling point as expressed in divergent views over human sexuality. Despite our differences the UMC has remained committed to loving every person, as all persons are of sacred worth. When we look at the woman at the well, we see that Jesus did not condemn the woman, he taught her that her behavior was inconsistent with God's will for her and loved her into a transformative relationship.

The traditional view holds that homosexuality is inconsistent with scriptural authority. For many years, divergent opinions were just that, opinions and we could function together with differing viewpoints on morality. But in 2011 the opinions gave way to practice. Clergy began to perform same sex weddings. Bishops looked the other way on same sex weddings and boards of ordained ministry began ordaining self-avowed practicing homosexuals. When opinions and practice diverge then is there discord. Every General Conference since 1972 has affirmed a traditional view of scripture and the corresponding view that homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Once that opinion and practice were open to a variety of expressions, the pressure to accept every person, into full inclusion, into every aspect of the church, was before us. The council of bishops have become more progressive over the last 50 years, a reflection of academia and liberal theological education.

Today, traditionalists and progressives are now at an inflection point. To continue forward, a way was to be made for churches to exit the UMC denomination, a denomination in rapid decline in North America. If we really do not

know what it means to believe and practice as a United Methodist, how can we ever expect people to want to become a part of such confusion? The continuing UMC will remain affirming of same sex weddings and ordination of persons who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Maybe we can continue forward in this new reality of differing opinions and practices in the continuing UMC, maybe not. The progressive movement contends it is up to them, helping traditionalists begin to see, believe, and affirm pluralism and liberal theology. Yet there remains a large segment in the UMC, that believe the progressive movement as wrong. Still, the progressives think there can be a "big tent" as they seek to foster a renewing of traditionalists minds, into something more progressive. Therefore, progressives refuse to leave the UMC and there is no way to assist them under our discipline.

So why would traditionalists want to continue beating their heads against the wall, a wall that was established and affirmed in every General Conference vote since 1972? The WCA and the Global Methodist Church is proposing a new denomination. One that is reliant on the primacy of Scriptural authority, informed further

(cont. Page 7)

Growth



Groups

Sunday, 9 AM Light for the Way

Monday, 7 PM Fresh Start

Tuesday, 10 AM & 7 PM Pastor Bible Study

Wednesday, 11 AM Midweek Bible Study

Wednesday, 6:30 PM Youth Bible Study

Thursday, 7 PM Spirit Rising

We Bow, Not to Processes, But to the God Who Creates Processes by Don Brown

I was in the delivery room during the births of our children, Derrin and Sarah. I have to say, no matter what I've heard friends say about babies' being beautiful, what I saw at first was a lizard, looking like it was shedding its skin. When I've seen the pictures of a fetus, I'm more convinced there's a lizard in there somewhere. However, that doesn't reflect at all on the beautiful people that both of our children have become. There's a process in that.

From a microscopic bunch of cells comes a thinking, feeling, creative person who can change the world. Everywhere I look at God's creation, I see processes, from the micro of atoms and subatomic particles to the macro of galaxies and the universe. That shouldn't be a surprise, because the Creator of the Universe not only created stuff, but also time. Stuff changing over time kind of defines the word process. God has also given us the capability of creating stuff in this world. We have the capability to bring Goodness into existence. I see this as one of the primary spiritual giftings that goes along with Wisdom and Love.

Just as God brings processes into existence,

we should expect that our creative effort is similar. Very seldom, if ever, do we see the result of a creative effort just springing into existence. There is a beginning step, a series of following steps, each a part of a process that ultimately forms the result we want to bring about. We also see that there is a process involved as our church strives to follow Jesus' command to make disciples. We are INVITING folks to gather with us. We help them in CONNECTING with Jesus and His Church. We facilitate the TRANSFORMING of each of their minds - their intellect, their emotions and their character - to be more like Jesus. We support them as they find joy SERVING in our community and in our church.

We encourage everyone who wants to know more about our church to dig into this process. Check out our Welcome brochure. Talk to one or more of our leaders. And, finally, see how God might be pouring spiritual gifting into you to fire up some part of the process.

Spiritual Gifts Inventory can be found at the Welcome Desk, or online at www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en

Salute to Service Mural by Stephanie Moreno

It started out as an art professional development meeting. The art teachers who organized the project for the Palm City Post Office, knew it was a huge undertaking and invited all the art teachers to come help out. There were high school students that had committed to helping but some art teachers who were doing the actual painting of the mural. So I went to check it out that weekend and WOWZA!

It was like nothing I have ever seen. They had projected it up to the wall and traced it out in sharpie the week before and so there was a basic design already on the wall. We needed to

work on a scaffolding because the wall was about 17 feet high and 75 feet long. I got to be on the scaffolding because no one else wanted to be up there! It was like a dream come true. So I grabbed all the supplies I thought I would need and climbed up and started painting.

We worked for several Saturdays and made a lot of headway. We had a field trip one day where the high school students and teachers were able to go paint at the mural. It was a great day. We just kept working each time we could. Many people thought it was finished when we, the artists, were still not done (cont. page 6)



Stephanie and Nadia, her daughter, painting the mural on a scaffold.

Salute to Service Mural by Stephanie Moreno (cont.)

putting the final touches. After five months, it was finally finished!

This has been such an amazing experience for me. Every day that we were working on the mural, cars were driving by and saying thank you. There was so much gratitude from the community. One day, a man parked his car and took the time to explain to us that we had the salute wrong. He felt compelled to share this with us artists, as he was a retired vet. We had no idea! So this became a big deal to the community and they even talked about it at the school board meeting. We ended up painting over the wrong

salute and re-doing it on the other side. What people do not know is that when they projected the image to trace it on the wall at such a grand scale, it was in reverse. We were happy that we were able to fix it.

Overall, it was an experience that I will remember forever and I am so grateful to God for this opportunity to renew my inspiration for art and provide respect to our service providers, who are the building block for our communities.

Stephanie Moreno was the Children's Director for the last three years, until January 2022.

Current Events in the UMC by Rev. Dr. Doug McClain

What seems to be the presenting issue facing the UMC today, is the inclusion of the LBGTAI?+ community, only masks the real issue. The issue is really a disagreement over fidelity to the historic confession of the Christian faith, as expressed in the normative nature of the Holy Scripture as the primary rule of faith, ecumenical creeds, the Articles of Religion, and Wesley's standard sermons. Beneath the surface of the so-called dividing issue on inclusion, is the continued argument over the theological and moral foundations of contemporary Methodism. We seem to have lost the Wesleyan expression of Christian faith anchored in the Holy Trinity and reliance on Christ our Savior and Lord. The Christian Gospel transcends every instance of idolatrous worship of contemporary cultures, including but not limited to hedonism, racism, ag-

ism, sexism, greed, power, and narcissism. We must confess our **complicity to the** current culture. We must counter the current trend and rediscover a radical allegiance to Christ. The time for theological toleration ripe with moral indifference is past. We now have a diseased expression of Christianity in the United Methodist Church; we must recognize the reality and the battle we are in to reclaim a core Christian orthodoxy. There is no better offer than to offer someone a new life in Christ that is given by the Holy and Sovereign Lord of the Universe. I/we will continue to be in ministry to all people and with all people. I see a movement of the Holy Spirit in the current renewal of the Church Universal, liberated from cultural Christendom.

(cont. page 7)



Current Events in the UMC by Rev. Dr. Doug McClain (cont.)

I rededicate myself in uniting to this higher commitment to Christ. I will work on my commitment through prayer, fasting, and an ever-increasing reliance on Scripture. My hope is that most every person who desires to speak and be heard will occur during June and July. If this timeframe is unavailable to you, I am open to discussions by appointment. If you would prefer to speak with me privately, contact Bette in the

office to schedule a time. If July does not work for you, please arrange a time to speak with me. The work before us is difficult on many levels we all need to be informed and we all need to be heard. I am committed to this work for God, for my family of origin, and my beloved family in Christ. Regardless of all that is happening, we will remain Methodists, and we will continue serving our Lord and community.

Greetings to Those Who Find their Hope in our Lord Jesus Christ (cont.)

by 2,000 years of Church tradition. I believe, after nearly three years at First Hobe Sound, ours is a vision of a future with a traditional church and its missions and agencies remaining grounded in Scripture and less affected by societies changing morality norms. Our first responsibility is doing what Jesus instructed, follow me and make disciples of all people.

I recommend and encourage your personal investigation. Begin by looking through some materials from both the UMC and the WCA_GMC. A good explanation of the traditional dilemma is seen in a video by Tom Lambrecht <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SSVXTiu3s8> I recommend you take an opportunity to listen to this video and search for others on both sides of the issue. Here are some suggestions:

- GMC: www.globalmethodist.org
- WCA: www.wesleyan covenant.org
- WCA-FL: www.wcafl.net

Also search through Social Media for the Global Methodist Church, Wesleyan Covenant Association, Wesleyan Covenant Association-Florida and for current UMC resources you might want to begin here: 1. [A Narrative for the Continuing United Methodist Church](#) 2. [#BeUMC](#) 3. [A Community of Love and Forgiveness](#) (links available in the church office)

I will continue to do my best to keep you

informed as to the continuing dialog, but most of all, PRAY! Pray that we can recognize God's intention for us as a local church. Pray that God will deliver us to a place where we can be the most effective voices to the marginalized, reaching them for Jesus. Pray for revival, regardless of your traditional or progressive values, that we may recapture the enthusiasm for our faith to be expressed in a Wesleyan theological framework of personal and social holiness. Pray that disciples are made in small groups. Pray that worship is not relegated to only Sunday morning at specified times, duration, and style. Pray that the way we worship will be a contextual voice in the wilderness. Pray and anticipate a future that holds, all becoming fully functioning disciples of Jesus Christ. That is the mission from which we have strayed.

As always, I am here to help lead and guide us through the turbulent waters confronting our faith. I believe God appointed me here for this purpose. We should never desire to see a brother or sister separated from the love that is Christ Jesus and the love of the Methodists in Hobe Sound.

In service to the one & only Truth,
Pastor Doug

First United Methodist Church

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We are a gathering place on fire with the joy of Christ's Spirit.

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Rev. Dr. Doug McClain's Sunday Sermon Plans

SURPRISE! God Acts in Unexpected Ways		
June 5	I Don't Dislike Surprise Parties Any-more (Pentecost)	Acts 2:1-21
INTERVENTION: Serving a God who, when needed, intervenes in our affairs.		
June 12	What We Mess Up, God Sets Right	1 Kings 21:1-21
June 19	Stay Put and Change Your Heart	Luke 8:26-39
June 26	God Guides God's Own	Luke 9:51-62
July 3	An Intervention to Humble	2 Kings 5:1-14
FOUND: Discovering the True God in Psalms		
July 10	In the Courtroom	Psalms 82
July 17	The Price Often Paid	Psalms 52
July 24	We Need a Do Over	Psalms 85
July 31	The True God Loves Tears	Psalms 107:1-9, 43