

## First United Methodist Church of Seffner

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

Our mission at First Seffner is to GO into  
the world to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

### Potpourri of Happenings

**\*There will be no Choir Practices in September.**

**September 3: Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting:** Sunday, 11:30 a.m. in the GNR.

**September 4: Labor Day:** Monday. The Church Office will be closed for the holiday.

**September 5: Legend Dairy 4H Group:** Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. in the Good News Room.

**September 5, 12 & 19: Country Western Music Group:** 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall.

**September 6 & 20: Family Support Group:** 6:00 p.m. Every other Wednesday in the FH or GNR.

**September 7: Nominations & Leadership Meeting:** Thursday, 6:30 p.m. in the GNR.

**September 9: Breakfast Club:** Saturday, 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome.

**September 10, 17 & 24: Youth Group Meeting:** Sundays, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the FH & GNR.

**September 11: Irene Circle Meeting:** 7:00 p.m. Meets the 2nd Monday every month in the GNR.

**September 11: Bible Study on The Holy Spirit:** Mondays, 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

**September 12: Trustees Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. in the GNR.

**September 13: Wednesday Night Dinner:** 6:00 p.m. Join us for fellowship and a delicious dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. Advance Sign Up - \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children under 12.

**September 14: SPRC Meeting:** Thursday, 7:00 p.m. in Good News Room.

**September 18: Finance Meeting:** Monday, 6:30 p.m. in the Good News Room.

**September 19: Foster Angels Meeting:** Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. in the Old Sanctuary.

**September 19: Church Council Meeting:** Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. in the Good News Room.

**September 24: Youth BBQ:** Saturday, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the FH and yard. Come join our Youth for fun and a BBQ. Sign up in the Narthex to let us know how many are coming.

**September 24: Youth Council Meeting:** Sunday, 9:30 a.m. in the Choir Room.

**September 25 - 28: Termite Tenting:** All the Church buildings will be closed Monday, September 25 after Meals on Wheels, for a complete tenting of our entire church campus on Tuesday through Thursday, September 26-28. All buildings will be open again on Friday, September 29.



Dear Friends in Christ and Fellow Laborers with Him.....

As I sit at my computer contemplating what to write for “the Pastor's Message” for the September edition of our church newsletter, “The Encourager,” it hit me that we are at a milestone in 2017 already...Labor Day! I'm stunned! Where has this year gone? In our personal lives, the life of our church, and the life of our country and world, these first eight months have been marked with ups and downs of every shape and kind. Some have left us literally stunned. Others have encouraged us. Hopefully, through them all we can see the hand of God at work!

I pray that this Labor Day causes us to take pause and give thanks to God and to all who have labored on our behalf. The words of the Reverend Sam Candler, Dean of the Cathedral of St. Andrew, Atlanta, I believe express gratitude for all those who labor for God daily and for God's people, whoever they are, better than anyone else I have ever read. Reverend Candler's words caused me to take pause and give thanks for all who have, and continue to labor for me! I hope they do the same for you!

“I live today because someone has labored. I live today because many, many, people have labored. On this Labor Day, I give thanks for them.

I eat today because someone served. Someone cooked. A grocer sold me food. Or a local farmer at a farmers market sold it to me directly. A distributor supplied food to the grocers. A laborer tilled the soil. Another farmer planted and planned. Years before that, someone else prepared and cared for the very soil.

I wear clothes today that someone else sewed. Someone designed. Someone developed the store. Someone else marketed and advertised and kept the books and answered the telephones.

I wake up in a house that someone planned and built. Someone financed. Someone loaned. Someone brokered. I used money that someone paid me. Someone advised the investments. Someone did the banking. Someone else arrived to repair plumbing and wiring and appliances.

I drive a car that someone built. Someone marketed. Someone built the factory. I use public transportation, buses and trains, that someone else built. Someone planned. Someone else sold the bonds. Someone else drove.

I live in a city that someone manages. Someone lads. Someone polices. Someone administers and protects and cleans and keeps the utilities going. Someone teaches students who will be my neighbors and future laborers with me. Someone provided all the communication devices and techniques around us.

I am alive today because someone diagnosed my illness in a hospital. Someone nurses. Someone prescribes medicine and attends to medical emergencies and advises my future health.

I write these words on a computer that someone researched and developed. Someone labored for the electricity that powers it. I read a book that someone wrote. I read a newspaper that someone laid out.

For all our industries, someone fabricated the designs, mined the metal, built the machines, and then recycled the metal. Someone developed the commercial building that houses offices for all these laborers. Someone sold the land.

My soul is inspired today because someone sang, someone else painted, someone wrote, someone hugged me. Someone preached, someone taught, someone challenged me.

I live a fruitful life because many, many people have labored. I know that they did not always labor for me in particular. Maybe they loved someone and wanted to help them. But their labor has also helped me.

All our labor, together, is what makes us a society, a culture, a civilization. I give thanks for that labor today, for each and every vocation that God has given to each and every one of us. For those without jobs, I pray for their quick relationships with a fruitful vocation. God wants each of us not just to have a job, but to have a vocation—a calling through which we can be proud that we are serving the world. When our labor makes a positive difference in the world around us, we truly have a vocation; and vocations, working together, create a beloved community. I give thanks for those vocations this year. Thanks to each and every one of you who serve!” --Sam Candler

I pray that this Labor Day 2017 is a day of reflection and gratitude for each and every one of us for ALL who labor for God first and then for us! May it also be a day of re-commitment to our vocation to serve God and others as well!

In His Service, with Peace for ALL!  
Pastor Terry

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## **WATCH YOUR BULLETIN.... ...FOR WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP OUR CHURCH**

Areas of need and opportunities for ministry will be appearing soon in the church bulletin. Please prayerfully consider where you can serve the church and enhance the ministry of the church!

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## **HELP WITH CHURCH WEBSITE**

Pastor Terry needs some help updating the Church website on a monthly basis. If you are interested please let Pastor Terry know as soon as possible!

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## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

The following were welcomed as new members of First UMC of Seffner on Sunday, August 20th, during the morning worship celebration:

Harry and Gail Cumber

Please take the opportunity to welcome them as our new members!



## **CONGRATULATIONS**

.....to Chief Warrant Officer 4 Carolann Mullins on the occasion of her retirement from 30 years of service to our country through the United States Coast Guard. We thank Carolann for her faithful service and wish her “fair winds and following seas” as she transitions to retirement to civilian life and ALL the amazing places and ways that she serves the community and church!

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## **CONGRATULATIONS AND GRATITUDE**

....to our church's Administrative Assistant and Treasurer, Deborah Gendreau, who is celebrating her tenth year of service to our church! Her tenth year anniversary date was August 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Deborah for your dedication and faithfulness and your helpful spirit! (If you have a moment Monday through Friday from 9AM to 2PM, stop by with a word of congratulations and thanks!)

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## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to everyone for the cards, gifts and well wishes, they were very much appreciated! It has been a blessing to be here for the past ten years and work for and with such wonderful, warm and caring people. I look forward to another great ten years.

Blessings,  
Deborah Gendreau

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## **TERMITE EXTERMINATION UPDATE**

We have our money from the United Methodist Foundation AND we have a date for the extermination! The church will be closed after Meals on Wheels on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, for a complete tenting of our entire church campus on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> and will not open again until Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>!!!

Much preparation will take place in the coming days for this process. Please watch the bulletin and listen to announcements in church as to how you can help. Also...please mark your calendars for Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> on when and how you can help us get the church cleaned and ready for church on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## No Choir Practice

There will be no Choir Practices in September.

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## Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting Sunday, September 3rd

There will be a Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting at 11:30 a.m. in the Good News Room. Please join us if you are interested in helping with our Trunk or Treat event in October.

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## Trunks & Volunteers Needed for Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 21st

The Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat event is rapidly approaching. It will be held on Saturday, October 21st from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Please sign up in the Narthex to host a trunk so the children can trick or treat. Volunteers are also needed for inside and outside activities, setting up, help with games, sitting at a trunk, cleaning up.

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## Breakfast Club Saturday - September 9th

Please join us Saturday, September 9th at 8:30 a.m. for fellowship and a delicious breakfast.

\*Please sign up in the Narthex on September 3rd to let us know how many will be coming to help us plan for food purchasing.

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## Special UMCOR Offering September 10th

There will be a special offering for the UMCOR Disaster Response for the Texas flooding relief from Tropical Storm Harvey. Please look for your special giving envelope in your Sunday bulletin on September 10th for your donation.



## Bible Study

### New Bible Study Beginning

Bible Study on the Holy Spirit begins Monday, September 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. Bring your bibles.

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The Irene Circle meets the second Monday of each month at 7pm in the Good News Room. In 1985, eight ladies met to organize a mission-minded group. The focus was to serve inside and outside the walls of the church. This group is still going strong today and looks forward to some of the following projects over the next several months:

- Assemble “walk-out” bags for distribution to our neighbors
- Make treats and sponsor a booth in support of Trunk or Treat
- Assemble and distribute Thanksgiving Baskets to our shut ins

You are welcome to join us at our next meeting, Monday, September 11.

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### *Wednesday Night Dinner*

September 13, 2017 @ 6pm

Please join us for fellowship and a delicious dinner on September 13th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Dine in or Take Out

Menu: Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Dessert

Advance Sign Up: \$6.00 - Adult ~ \$3.00 - Children under 12

At Door: \$7.00 - Adult ~ \$4.00 - Children under 12

\*Please sign up in the Narthex to reserve your seat.





## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

### Youth BBQ

Please come out and support our new Youth Group by joining us for the Youth BBQ September 24th from 3 to 5 p.m. You can join or cheer the teams on in slip and slide kickball followed by a cookout. Sign up in the Narthex so we know how much food to prepare. Hope to see you there.

### Save the Date

Save the date, November 11 at 6:00 p.m. The Youth Group would like to invite their church family for a home cooked traditional Thanksgiving dinner. More details to come.....

### Opportunities to Help

If you would like opportunities to help with the youth, please see Joan Sampere and the Youth Council.

### Heritage Sunday

Next spring we will celebrate 130 years of "Telling the Story". Hopefully, you will be enriched by the "stories", new and old, that have shaped our presence in the community through the years. Get ready to start celebrating in 2018.



### Bishop Carter's Invitation to Easter Pilgrimage to Italy in April 2018

Led by the Florida Conference, Bishop Ken Carter, travelers will visit Venice, Assisi, Siena, Florence and Rome while studying the Gospel of Mark and the legacy of Peter during April 3-12, 2018. For links to more information, a down-loadable brochure and registration, go to [www.flumc.org/eastertrip](http://www.flumc.org/eastertrip). Brochures are also located in the Narthex.

## Stewardship Minute

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” --Matthew 6:22

Our Giving for August:                 \$13,109.00

Our Monthly Need for Ministry:     \$13,455.00

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## Outreach Ministry News

Letter from Burnett Middle School on 8/14/2017:

First United Methodist Church of Seffner:

Thank you for reaching out to Burnett Middle School for a partnership. It's through generous donations like yours that Burnett Middle School continues to excel in student achievement, parent, and community involvement. We could not do it without you. On behalf of the teachers, faculty, & staff, we thank you!

Sincerely,  
Donald L. Cook  
School Social Worker  
Burnett Middle School

P.S. - We would like to invite you to our campus to meet some of our students and to learn more about our programs.

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## Altar Guild Volunteers Needed



Altar Guild is a very important part of keeping God's church presentable to Him and who worship. We still need 2 volunteers for December. It takes about an hour a week for four weeks or one month. Nothing strenuous and no heavy cleaning, just being sure God's worship area is presentable. If you need a further explanation or will volunteer please see me or contact Deborah in the Church Office. Please, you're really needed.

Blessings, Joan



## MEALS ON WHEELS HELP NEEDED



Come one, come all! Meals on Wheels is looking for volunteers on Monday mornings, if you can spare an hour or two between 7:00 and 11:00 a.m. to help with the food prep and/or cleanup.

Meals on Wheels is also looking for volunteer drivers and people to ride along with them to deliver the Monday meals from 10:30 to 12:00. Substitute drivers are needed as well. Please call the church office at 689-3513 or see Connie Nelson if you would like to help.

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## BUY FROM AMAZON AND EARN REBATES FOR OUR CHURCH

If you purchase anything from Amazon you can now have 1/2 percent of your purchase price rebated to our Church.

Just follow these easy steps:

1. Open Amazon as **Smile.Amazon.com**
2. If you have an account with Amazon go to “my account”.
3. Go to “Settings”
4. Go to “Change your Charity”
5. Type in “First United Methodist Church of Seffner”

Then when you wish to make a purchase from Amazon open in **Smile.Amazon.com**. Everything will be the same. But now you will be earning rebates to our Church. If you have questions see Jim Blaney.

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## Altar Flowers



Please consider providing altar flowers in honor or memory of your friends and loved ones. These flowers not only grace our worship center with their beauty but honor loved ones as the church community gathers for worship each Sunday. The cost is only \$25.00. Please note your payment is for altar flowers. Sign up on the flower chart on the door outside the sanctuary.



## Prayer Requests

Remember Our Shut-Ins: Carl Brill, Charlene Cabbage, Frances Jordan.

Jim & Dot Blaney: Healing prayers for Robin Blaney for recovery from breast and lung cancer. Prayers for John Kolibab, brother-in-law, for a cure from liver and pancreas cancer.

Inge Davis: Healing prayers for health issues.

Connie Nelson: Prayers for Britney Edmondson for radiation and chemo to help heal her from cancer that is spreading into her bones that can't be removed by surgery.

Chris & Larry Carter: Prayers for friend, Marcus A. for side effects of chemo and radiation and complete healing from head and neck cancer. Treatment is shrinking tumor - Praise to God.

Sarah Whitt: Continued healing prayers for recovery and therapy for broken right elbow, in rehab for the next 5 weeks or so. Cards may be sent to: Consulate Health Care of Brandon 701 Victoria St. Brandon, FL 33510 (Sarah Whitt - Room 403)

Penny Williams: Continuing healing prayers for daughter, Airman Krista Williams, in Germany receiving treatment for an unexpected medical condition.

Bob Van Etten: Prayers for healing and strength.

Allen Duncan: Healing prayers for our custodian, Allen, for high blood pressure issues.

Joan Sampere: Healing prayers for Michael Quinn for recovery from adenoid and sinus surgery.

Marian Burzimat: Healing prayers for chronic back pain.

Betty Herbert: Healing prayers for daughter, Nancy Kasten, for recovery from a second surgery after a heart attack. Healing prayers for son, James Evans, for recovery from vascular surgery for a blood clot in his leg and for other health issues.

Sid Fortner: Healing prayers for recovery from shoulder surgery and for therapy. Sid will be home recovering for 3 weeks or so. Cards may be sent to: Sid Fortner 3206 Summer Cruise Dr. Valrico, FL 33594

Tricia Woodford: Healing prayers for her brother, Dan Herron, for cancer on his arm and cancer invasion on his sternum.

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## Monday Morning Prayer Group

Our Monday morning Prayer Group meets every Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Good News Room. Join us as we pray for church members, family, friends, anyone who is in need of prayer. Everyone is welcome.

<b>Weekly Events:</b>	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Small Groups	Morning (FH)
Monday Meals on Wheels	7:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday Cub Scouts	

# SEPTEMBER 2017

## SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

<b>3</b> 9:30 a Sunday School Class 10:30 a Worship <b>11:30 a Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting</b>	<b>4</b> 10 a Prayer Group 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics  Office Closed	<b>5</b> 6:30 p Country Western Music 7 p Legend Darty 4H Meeting	<b>6</b> <b>*No Choir Practice</b> 6 p Family Support Group	<b>7</b> <b>6:30 p Nominations &amp; Leadership Meeting</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>8:30 a Breakfast Club</b>
<b>10</b> 9:30 a Sunday School Classes 10:30 a Worship 3p Youth Group Meeting	<b>11</b> 10 a Prayer Group 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics 7 p Irene Circle Meeting 7 p Bible Study on The Holy Spirit	<b>12</b> 6:30 p Country Western Music <b>7 p Trustees Meeting</b>	<b>13</b> <b>*No Choir Practice</b> <b>6 p Wednesday Night Dinner</b>	<b>14</b> <b>7 p SPRC Meeting</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:30 a Sunday School Classes 10:30 a Worship 3 p Youth Group Meeting	<b>18</b> 10 a Prayer Group 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics <b>6:30 p Finance Meeting</b> 7 p Bible Study on The Holy Spirit	<b>19</b> 6:30 p Country Western Music 6 :30 p Foster Angels Meeting <b>7 p Church Council Meeting</b>	<b>20</b> <b>*No Choir Practice</b> 6 p Family Support Group	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:30 a Sunday School Class 10:30 a Worship <b>3p Youth BBQ</b>	<b>25</b> 10 a Prayer Group <b>*ALL CHURCH BUILDINGS CLOSED AFTER MEALS ON WHEELS TO PREP FOR TERMITE TENTING</b>	<b>26</b> <b>TERMITE TENTING ALL CHURCH BUILDINGS CLOSED</b>	<b>27</b> <b>TERMITE TENTING ALL CHURCH BUILDINGS CLOSED</b>	<b>28</b> <b>TERMITE TENTING ALL CHURCH BUILDINGS CLOSED</b>	<b>29</b> <b>CLEANING UP CHURCH BUILDINGS AFTER TERMITE TENTING</b>	<b>30</b> <b>CLEANING UP CHURCH BUILDINGS AFTER TERMITE TENTING</b>

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Time sensitive material—Please deliver promptly.

1310 South Kingsway Rd.  
 PO Box 607  
 Seffner, Florida 33583  
 Phone: 813-689-3513  
 Fax: 813-654-4460  
 Email: staff@funmcseffner.org

First United Methodist Church of Seffner

The Encourager  
 September 2017

Please let the office know if your special date is not listed!!



Anniversaries

September 1 Jim & Dot Blaney  
 September 20 Ed & Pam Hoyos

October 8 Larry & Harriet Stone  
 October 27 Felix & Renee Lebron



Birthday's

September 1 Marty Davis	September 17 Coleen Burch-Cline
September 1 Beverly Hazen	September 19 Nancy Yutzy
September 5 Tricia Woodford	September 21 Joyce Allen
September 8 Jim Twente	September 28 Brenda Scott
September 12 Kimberly Cawood	September 30 Maryse Lamour
September 15 Richard Scionti	September 30 Frances Jordan

October 6 Pastor Terry	October 22 Sandy Naugle
October 7 Chris Breeden	October 23 Connie Nelson
October 7 Jaxon Breeden	October 29 Larry White
October 8 Robert Van Etten	October 30 Alan Bunch
October 20 Robert Davis	