Dear Friends,

Sunday was one of those days that every pastor dreads. It is a day when the weather is such that a pastor has to decide whether to cancel services or not. This is always a hard decision to make and Sunday was no exception. As I shared in our services Sunday, I know some pastors who cancel the services so that a small crowd doesn’t hurt their average attendance. I have never been one that wanted to cancel services for that reason. I have always felt that if we can have services we ought to have them and so I am very slow to cancel. As I contemplated whether to cancel this past Sunday or not and as I watched the weather and news, I came to the conclusion to have services. Yes, the crowd was very small and the service was shorter than usual but it was a worshipful time.

Another reason I don’t want to cancel our services is because we broadcast them on radio. Whether there is a congregation of 300 or 20 in attendance we can still broadcast and those unable to attend services have a time of Sunday worship. So, in case you wonder how the decision is made on whether to have church or not, this is how. I think in my years of ministry I have only cancelled maybe five services that I felt needed to be canceled. Anyway, whether you were able to attend or not, I hope you had a blessed day.

Something that I shared with the worshipers this past Sunday, I want to share with you. After a lot of prayer and soul-searching I have decided to retire, effective June 30, 2019. I believe it is time for me to let someone else lead this congregation and it is time for me to enter another stage of life. This was not an easy decision, but I believe it is the right one. Connie and I have enjoyed our ten years here and we will be saddened to leave relationships we have made. It is one of those aspects of being a pastor that has been a challenge over the years---when is it time to leave as pastor of a church? To decide to retire from full-time pastoral ministry was a new challenge that was difficult as well. Again, I believe this is the time. Our District Superintendent, Stan Irvin and our Bishop Frank J. Beard, Jr., will be meeting with our Staff-parish Relations Committee in the near future to come up with a person that will match the needs of this congregation. I ask that you remember these in prayer as they work to find pastoral leadership for this great church. I also ask for your prayers for Connie and me as we make this transition in our lives. Just to let you know, I will be sending a letter to the entire congregation with much of what I have said here in order to try and share this information with everyone. I know God will bless us all as we move forward in ministry in this time of transition.

See You Sunday,

Alan
PARISH
As of January 23, 2019

In Church This Week

24 Thursday
4:00 Chimes Rehearsal, Rm. 415
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch and Yoga, Rm 404
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

25 Friday
9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404

26 Saturday
Blood Pressure Sunday
8:15 Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship Service
10:45 Super Church, Chapel

28 Monday
6:00 Finance Committee
7:00 Church Council

29 Tuesday
8:30 Men’s Group, Heritage Room
9:00 Daniel Plan Essentials, Room 403
10:15 Golden Yoga, Room 404

30 Wednesday
9:00-3 Healing Touch (by apt. only), Rm 403
10:00 Children’s Story Time, Diane Neill Dorsey
Memorial Children’s Library, Room 413
4:45 Handbells Rehearsal, Rm 418
6:00 Grateful Hearts, Room 308
6:00 Youth Group, Chapel

31 Thursday
4:00 Chimes Rehearsal, Rm. 415
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch and Yoga, Rm 404
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

CONCERNS
If you would like yourself or a family member removed from or placed on the Concerns List, please notify the office (457-2416). The information on this sheet is printed on Thursday mornings.

Address Change: Mary Lou and Courtland Munroe, 106 Stoneridge Avenue, Mount Dora, FL 32757. Phone and e-mail remain the same.

Call for Volunteers: We need volunteers to be Usher Captains for May/November 2019. Regular Ushers needed at 8:15 a.m. for February/August and June/December. There are no Volunteers at this time for the 8:15 a.m. services in February and August. Please call the Church Office to volunteer.

Call for a Volunteer: Volunteer needed to update the Church bulletin boards on the Sanctuary level on a regular basis.

Join the Fun

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE
February 2, 2019
5:30 p.m. at Bandana’s

Your hosts for the evening are Pam & Steve Yarbrough

Join Ms. Jane for stories, music, games, and crafts as we learn about the Bible and how Jesus taught us to live and love.

Disciples for Sunday, January 27, 2019

Coffee Hosts: 8:15 Joe and Kathy Swindell;
10:45 Alison & Trent Funk

January Nametags: Betty Graig

Outside Greeters: Koch Family

Van Drivers: Brian Gorecki

Welcome Center: 8:15 Jean Boehne;
10:45 Angie Voss

Children’s Church: Sam Indorante & Carolyn Gibson

Youth Helpers: Katie and Guy Indorante

Children’s Church Registration: Sharon Sims

Parish Nurse: 9:15 Betty Graig
YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018

GENERAL FUND

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BUILDING FUND

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The December 2018 fifth Sunday offering was $90. This will be included in the March to the Manger offering for distribution to agencies. Thank you for your generous giving!

The Missions Committee

The Missions Committee will not meet in January or February.

Feb. 7—Priscilla Circle, 1 p.m.
March 7—Priscilla Circle, 1 p.m.
March 19—Morning Circle, 10 a.m.
April 4—Priscilla Circle, 1 p.m.
April 16—Morning Circle, 10 a.m.
April 27—UMW Cache River District Meeting

Location: Grace United Methodist Church

Marion Medical Mission founder, Tom Logan, shared a message expressing appreciation for your support of their water well building mission work in Africa. In 2018 Marion Medical Mission completed 3,015 wells across 57,000 miles of rugged, rural African terrain. As a result, over 370,000 people gained access to clean drinking water in 2018.

Mr. Logan expresses his thanks in a short video which Bob Weiss has uploaded and made available for viewing on the church webpage (http://www.fumc-cdale.org/marion-medical-mission) and the church Facebook page.

Thank you, Missions Com-

Opening to God 2019: A Retreat

Purpose: Providing immersion experiences to explore spiritual disciplines that people don’t often practice, such as Dayenu, praying in color, Taize prayer, Ignatian meditation and so on

Date: 2/15 (Friday, beginning from 4pm) and 2/16 (Saturday, ending at 5:30pm)

Place: Little Grassy Camp

Cost: $75, or $50 for commuters (includes Saturday breakfast and lunch); if plus Friday sack supper, $84, or $59 for commuters

Registration: www.igrc.org/openingtoGod, by 2/1

Note: If youths, young adults or young families are interested and need financial support, please contact Yiwen
Best wishes to these church members and friends.

February 2  Judy Cunningham  February 13  Becky Baker  February 24  Betty Crippen  February 25  Amanda Mitchell
February 3  Nancy Mitchell  February 14  Celia Butler  February 26  Howard Hesketh, Jr.
February 4  Matthew Mitchener  February 15  Adelyn Tallman  February 27  Patrick Parker
February 5  Maddie Posthard  February 16  Joseph Toe  February 27  Lindsey Bailey
February 6  Amanda Shelby  February 17  Drew Hugdins  February 27  Nancy Hoffman
February 7  Matteo Bongiorno  February 18  Maggie Mandell  February 27  John Williams
February 8  Patti Simon  February 19  Mollie Mandell  February 27  Charlene Zieba
February 9  Lisa Washburn - Owens  February 20  Beth Arthur  February 28  David Childers

February 2  Ron Diel  February 13  Doug Ellis  February 24  Nicholas Harfst  February 25  Peter Huh
February 3  Natalie Nickerson  February 14  Nicholas Harfst  February 26  Peter Huh
February 4  Phillip Ripley  February 15  John Vorquila  February 27  Karen Graham
February 5  Joe Bryant  February 16  Karen Graham  February 27  Nancy Sheele-Mendoza
February 6  Baleigh Koester  February 17  Nancy Sheele-Mendoza  February 27  Judy Cunningham
February 7  Meghan Hagedorn  February 18  Gary Austin  February 27  Natalie Nickerson
February 8  Violet Fager  February 19  Gary Austin  February 27  Phillip Ripley
February 9  Maryl Meeboer  February 20  Joan Erickson  February 27  JoAnn Rice
February 10  Terry Meyer  February 21  Jay Crippen  February 27  Laura Depolo
February 11  JoAnn Rice  February 22  Jefferson Wright  February 27  February 25
February 12  Laura Depolo  February 23  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 13  Maryl Meeboer  February 24  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 14  Terry Meyer  February 25  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 15  JoAnn Rice  February 26  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 16  Laura Depolo  February 27  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 17  Maryl Meeboer  February 28  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 18  Terry Meyer  February 29  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 19  JoAnn Rice  February 30  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25
February 20  Laura Depolo  March 1  Justin Hinde  February 27  February 25

SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children’s Opportunities , Sundays
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (K-5th grade) uses the Deep Blue from Cokesbury.
Main Topic: “Healing Families” — January 27 Sunday School — “Jesus Heals Ten Men”

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Children’s Church (K-5th grade). All children are invited to Children’s Church following the Children’s Time at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

Youth Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m. Junior/Senior High Class meets in Room 414 and uses a variety of materials connecting the lessons of the Bible with issues relevant to today’s youth.

Adult Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Renew - Renew is a group of women seeking deeper meaning in their lives through Bible study, reflection and prayer. They meet in Room 402. Women of all ages are welcome.

The Investors Class - The Investors Class will resume THE STORY CONTINUES in Room 404, the Chapel on December 30. Everyone welcome!

The Electives Class - Scripture studies following the lectionary led by Rev. John Sims. They meet in the Heritage Room. All are welcome!

Small Group Opportunities
The Daniel Plan Essentials meets in Room 403 at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. Everyone welcome.

Grateful Hearts meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in Room 308. They are studying Anxious for Nothing by Max Lucado.

Youth Group meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Chapel.

Men’s Group All men of the church are invited to coffee and refreshments on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. We discuss anything and everything from the perspective of our relationship with God.

Gentle Toning, Stretch, and Yoga Techniques meets on Thursdays at 5:45 p.m., Room 404, the Chapel.

Golden Yoga meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. and on Fridays at 9:30 a.m., Room 404, the Chapel.

Get Connected...to great opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship on your Christian journey.