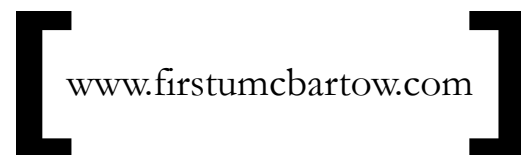




FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BARTOW, FLORIDA

455 S Broadway Ave.
Bartow, FL 33830
APRIL 2024

Phone: 863-533-0904
E-mail: firstumcbartow@aol.com
https://www.facebook.com/fumcbartow
YouTube: First Methodist Bartow



Building Bridges for Christ in Bartow

IMPORTANT DATES IN THE FUTURE:

MAY 6: FMS ARGENTINA BBQ FUNDRAISER

MAY 23: LAST DAY OF FMS

JUNE 6-8: ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN LAKE LAND AT FSC

JUNE 8: CELEBRATION OF PASTOR MISSY'S ORDINATION

JUNE 16-27: MISSION TO ARGENTINA

JULY 22-26: VBS: Marketplace Nazareth

BE IN PRAYER...

For the church and music ministry as we complete the transition in leadership in the choir. May we continue to seek to work together in this ministry He has called us to, to be His hands and feet to the lost.



Missy Turbeville Pastor
Becky Otten Administrative Assistant
Margie Anderson Interim Choir Director through March 31st
Sylvia Spencer Pianist/Accompanist & Choir Director as of April 1st
Will Alderman Audio/Visual Technician
Ernesto Fonseca Sanctuary/Annex Custodian

Did you know we have a **Facebook** page and a **YouTube** page?
Share with your friends as you "Follow" us and watch services at First United Methodist Church Bartow, FL on Facebook and First Methodist Bartow on YouTube!



So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it.

-Paul in Colossians 3:1, The Message

We are an Easter people! We believe in second chances and new life. ...And WE ACT LIKE IT!

How? Well, it is a little different for each of us, but we do have a few things in common:

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF JOY

We look for the good and celebrate it! On Palm Sunday, the religious leaders wanted to silence the crowd for singing praises for God's saving acts. Jesus responded that the stones would shout if His followers were silent. They were excited about what God was doing and so are we. We share the good things we see God doing and share the stories of God's love at work in our lives and the world!

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF HOPE

We understand that there is much difficulty and darkness in the world, but we don't believe that is the final answer. We know that a light shines that darkness cannot overcome. We know Good Friday is followed by Easter Sunday. We know that in Christ we are more than conquerors and that strengthens us as we look for and act as a light in this sometimes dark world. In Christ, we abound in hope as we look for and share that hopeful good news with others.

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF COMPASSION

The love of God in Christ flows through us as we look around. With the Holy Spirit's help, we don't just have joy and hope in our hearts sharing words. We act! When we see someone hurting, yes we pray, AND we also ask questions and find out if there is something we can do to help. This is hard and messy. Not everyone understood when Jesus fed, healed, and ate with folks they thought weren't good enough to deserve attention. Not everyone will understand when we do the same, and that's ok.

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF SACRIFICIAL LOVE

It's easy to go out of our way for someone we know and love. It's much harder to be generous with our time, talents, and resources for someone we don't know or love. That didn't stop Jesus and it won't stop us. The love that empowers us to act sacrificially isn't soft or naïve, it is stronger than death and wipes out all fear. We act like Jesus who loved with power and abandon.

WE ARE A PEOPLE WHO FORGIVE

We all fall short of the glory from time to time. The good news is that we are not simply a people who forgive, but also a people who know we are forgiven. Further, if we mess up we know how to fess up and ask for forgiveness again as we seek the Holy Spirit's help to not make the same mistakes again. We are thankful for God's grace in our lives and extend that grace to others.

Maybe you are reading this list and saying, "Hooboy, I'm not sure that I live up to all those things all the time." Maybe not. Do any of us? The point is, we keep trying, we keep going. One smile when we feel like frowning. One sharing of God's goodness to a friend or stranger. One canned good donated to hungry people. One hour given to help instead of watch TV. One moment to say, "I forgive you." One small act at a time builds a new life in Christ.

Excited about Easter? Serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ? Let's all act like it! One moment and decision at a time!

With LOVE & JOY in Christ,  - Pastor Missy

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CHOIR NOTES

Dear Choir... 🎵

Thank you all for your support and continuing to share your talents with our congregation these past 4 months since Bonnie's illness and retirement! It was exciting tonight to welcome Sylvia to leading part of our rehearsal as we eagerly anticipate her full leadership beginning April 1st.

Continue to lift in prayer: Bonnie & Ken and Sylvia along with our choir and congregation. We continue to pray for BJ's daughter-in-law - recovering from brain cancer surgery and next steps moving forward; Deborah Brister - upper respiratory stuff; just found out on Face Book that Lanny Sheffield now has shingles.

Here's the current "line-up" for the next few weeks:

Sunday, March 24th - Anthem: "Hosanna!"

Thursday, March 28th - 5:45 - Maundy Thursday Love Feast in Fellowship Hall followed by 7:00 Tenebrae service in Sanctuary - *CHOIR SINGS for this service! (* - "Behold, the Lamb" and "Oh, My Jesus")

Easter Sunday, March 31st - "Resurrection Day"

Sunday, April 7th (Sylvia's first Sunday with choir!) - "When the Holy Ghost Shows Up!"

More information on the choir room white board.

-Margie Anderson 🎵

I want to thank our wonderful choir members for their continuing faithfulness and support when our beloved Bonnie was unable to continue leading us. You've all been so supportive as I stepped in to 'fill the gap' from Bonnie's illness and subsequent retirement to Sylvia's taking the director's 'baton.' Please continue to keep Bonnie and Ken in your prayers and pray for Sylvia as she continues to share her amazing talents as our pianist and now, director! FUMC Bartow is blessed by the many dedicated musicians in our midst.

To God be all the glory! -Margie



We are excited to announce that **Sylvia Spencer** will officially be our new Choir director as of April 1st!



APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 FMS Closed- Easter Monday	2 8 am: Breakfast and Devotions Broadway Diner 9:30 am: Prayer Zoom 5:30 pm: Choir	3 NO WND or Bible Study	4 2:30 pm: Youth	5	6
7 *10:30 am: Worship, Baptism of Mason Pickard, and Communion 2nd Quarter Missions Luncheon Cuba	8 11:30 Women's Bible Study 870 Lila Street	9 8 am: Breakfast and Devotions Broadway Diner 9:30 am: Prayer Zoom 5:30 pm: Choir	10 NO WND or Bible Study	11 2:30 pm: Youth	12	13
14 *10:30 am: Worship	15 9:30-11:10 FMS Chapels	16 8 am: Breakfast and Devotions Broadway Diner 9:30 am: Prayer Zoom 5:30 pm: Choir	17 6 pm: Wed Night Dinner Covered dish & Chicken 6:45 pm Argentina Mis- sion Program	18 2:30 pm: Youth	19	20
21 *10:30 am: Worship 5 Pm Silver Saints Covered dish & Bingo Night	22 9:30-11:10 FMS Chapels	23 8 am: Breakfast and Devotions Broadway Diner 9:30 am: Prayer Zoom VPK Graduation 9:30 am 5:30 pm: Choir	24 6 pm: Wed Night Dinner Beef stroganoff, carrots, & salad 6:45: Bible Study Library	25 2:30 pm: Youth 6 pm: FMS Program in Sanctuary	26	27
28 *10:30 am: Worship	29 9:30-11:10 FMS Chapels	30 8 am: Breakfast and Devotions Broadway Diner 9:30 am: Prayer Zoom 5:30 pm: Choir				

* in the Sanctuary, on Facebook, and by Monday on YouTube

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BARTOW

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2- Clarice Roth
- 4- Ted Wright
- 6- Connor Johnson
- 8- BJ Simpson
- 9- Nathan Presnell
Ethan Hartsaw
- 13- Kaylee Coil
- 15- Pat Huff
- 24- William Etheredge
- 27- Garrick Neely
- 28- Cheryl Layton
- 30-Cliff Daniels

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 2- Cliff & Jennifer Daniels
&
15- Tim & Marcia Brooks

February's Silver Saints Game Night and Charcuterie



Please remember these in your prayers, visits, and other expressions of Christian love.

The Chronically Ill and Homebound

- | | | |
|------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Beverly A | Lyle H | Patricia W |
| Diane A | Pat H | Z family |
| Jerry B | Allie M | |
| Amanda B | Heath P | -Leaders everywhere |
| David B | Mary Beth P | to do God's will |
| Shirley B | Steve R | -Everyone affected by |
| Jonathon B | Lynn S | sickness, repressive |
| Brian | BJ S | governments, gun |
| Shawn F | Louise T | violence, & natural & |
| Karel H | Jean & Dick T | human caused disas- |
| Brandon H | Tom T | ters. |
| Melody H | Bill & Joan W | |

Serving in the Military: Jeremy B, Victor O, Joseph S, Bryson T

Missionaries and Others: Pioneer Missions, Indonesia: Christian, Dawn & Joshua William; Sister Church: Iglesia Metodista de Santa Cruz del Sur, Cuba; Missionaries in Angola: Leo & Cleivy Garcia, Kutela Katembo, Serguey and Graciela Espinosa; Iglesia Evangelica Metodista Argentina Pastor Doug Williams; Our Pastor, Church, & School Staff; District Supt. Emily Hotho, and our Bishop Tom Berlin

Don't Forget!

The Newsletter is available in a variety of ways! Printed copies are on the table in the back of the Sanctuary and in the Church Office in the Education Building.

It can be found in digital format in the EMAIL the church sends out with it attached each month AND the website: firstumcbartow.com.

If you wish to receive a newsletter by mail, please contact the church office at firstumcbartow@aol.com or 863-533-0904.

Thank you!

Large print bulletins can easily be made!

Contact the church office if you would prefer a LARGE PRINT BULLETIN!

PLEASE NOTE

Information for the April newsletter should be submitted by Friday, April 19th. Thank You for helping us send out the Newsletter in a timely manner. The Newsletter is published monthly by FUMC-Bartow 455 S Broadway Ave, Bartow, FL 33830.

Special Events, Seasonal Services, and Sunday Worship

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday Service, March 24 in the Sanctuary at 10:30 am



Maundy Thursday Love Feast, March 28 in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45 pm Followed by a Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary at 7 pm



Good Friday Crosswalk, March 29 Meet at the Assembly of God Church at 11:45 am to begin walking to meet at NOON in Fort Blount Park



Holy Saturday, March 30 Community Easter Egg Hunt 10 am- 1 pm at the Carver Center 520 Idlewood Ave S



Easter, March 31 Community Easter Sunrise Service in Mosaic Park at 7:00 am



Traditional Easter Service in our Sanctuary at 10:30 am

Don't forget your flowers for the Flower Cross!



The angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here! He has risen, just as He said He would! Come and see the place where He was lying. Go quickly! Tell His disciples, 'He has risen from the dead. He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.' Now I have told you." Matthew 28:5-7 NIV

THE UPPER ROOM

DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

These are available in the back of the sanctuary or in the office.

Small print \$1 Large print \$2.



Adult Sunday School Meets EVERY Sunday

at 9 am in the Library in the Education Building

Breakfast and Devotions at

Broadway Diner Tuesdays at 8 am Everyone is invited!



Contact Walt Hause 215-237-7985

Prayer Zoom Tuesday Mornings at 9:30!!!

You are invited to join us for prayer via zoom video or voice call. Please call or email the church office for the link/phone number! If you can't join us in those ways, please join us in prayer in one accord.

Wednesday Night Bible Study Is on Spring Break!

We will restart on April 24
6:45 pm in the Library

We WILL have WND on April 17 with a special Argentina Mission sharing time afterwards.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

RESCHEDULED THIS MONTH

April 8, 11:30

870 Lila Street

All ladies are welcome to join us!
Bring a sandwich or salad.
We will have soup to share.

The Congregational Care Team

Ever wonder who sends you your birthday, anniversary, get well, or sympathy card from FUMC?

BJ and Faye on the Congregational Care Team, that's who!



An entire Visitation Team keeps up through calls, texts, cards, little gifts, and, you guessed it, visits with our folks who have difficulty getting out.

Betty oversees Bereavement and Becky in the office coordinates errands, driving, and meals.

There are many more wonderful people involved and this team does a lot, but they cannot do what they do without you!

If you could help or know someone who could benefit from a meal, visit, phone call, card, or other help like driving; please contact the church office.

SHARING OUR BLESSINGS



Emily Hotho
Gulf Central
District Superintendent

Connectional Giving...

Connectional Giving helps fund ministries like:

District Work Fund

The District work fund provides for the operations of each District. Monies from this fund support the maintenance of the District Parsonage and District Office, the salary and benefits of the District Administrative Assistant (and sometimes other staff), office supplies, office utilities, office equipment, and the cost of District meetings and/or District training events.

- Dorothy Tucker

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house."

"Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

-Malachi 3:10

This letter was sent by Bishop Tom Berlin to our pastor and church:

I am writing to personally thank you and your congregation for paying 100% of your apportionments in 2023. I am grateful to you and the faithful members of your congregation for your mutual commitment to the Florida Conference and the ministry of the United Methodist Church. Your gifts make a difference. They fund new churches, hospitals and health clinics that save lives in Africa. They bring scholarship assistance to students in universities like Bethune-Cookman University and Florida Southern College.

You provide materials for evangelism and discipleship that enable people to begin and sustain their faith journey. Your generosity does this and much more. It gives life to our connection. I am grateful for you and honored to work with and among people who give generously so that others may grow in their faith in Christ and enjoy the love and support of the United Methodist Church.

The ministries of our global denomination depend on your faithful giving every year. The work of our missionaries, the training of our clergy and lay leaders, and the resources for Disciple-making are all possible because of your support. Because of your gifts, lives are changed, and communities experience the goodness of having the Church in their world.

In this season, I ask you to continue to pray with me for the Florida Conference and The United Methodist Church as we continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In Christ,
-Tom Berlin

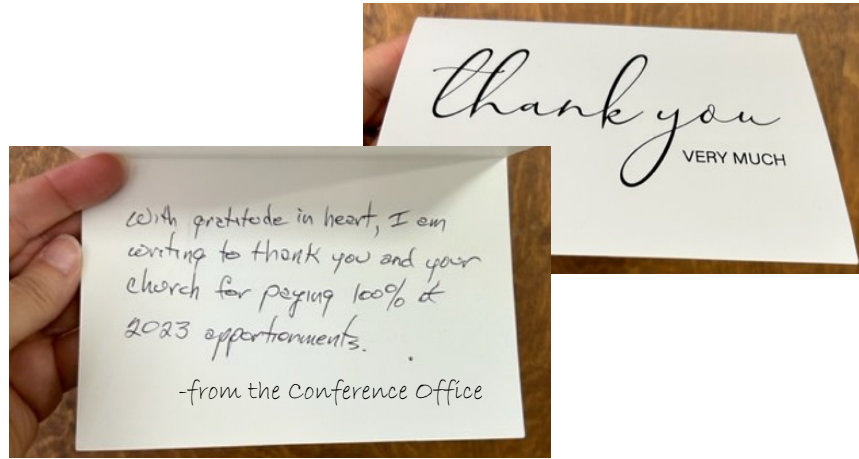
Grace Notes

Have a "Thank you" Grace Note you want to share? Email the church office at firstumcbartow@aol.com

Thank you, THANK you, THANK YOU!!!

to **Margie** for all of her time and dedication to the Choir during our time of transition. She went above and beyond these last several months!

Margie, from all of us here at the church, we thank you!



THANK YOU... for all your love and prayers that continue to cover the Ministry and the children we serve. We love you!

Happy Easter!
The Florida United Methodist Children's Home
AKA Residing Hope

Thank you to everyone who made and brought soups and sandwiches for Wednesday Night Dinners during Lent. It was a beautiful practicing of the discipline of living simply as we remembered the extravagant love of our savior. Your creative preparing and cooking was a gift to us all. THANK YOU!

SHARING OUR BLESSINGS

Looking for Offering Envelopes?

We are using leftover unused offering envelopes that we have from former years.

Because of this AND because it makes less work for our wonderful counters, please make sure that your: **name, amounts, and what you are giving toward** are clearly marked **on the outside of your envelope.** Thank you!

Want to give online?

It's easy and free!
Talk to your bank about how you can

ZELLE

your tithe, offerings, and other gifts directly from your bank account to the church's bank account.

Use the email address firstumcbartow@aol.com to give!
THANK YOU!

Sunday Morning is for Children!

Sunday mornings mean Children's Moments and Children's Church!

We have a wonderful group of young gentlemen and amazing volunteers who have a great time together learning about God and Jesus!



FUMC in Ministry with FMS

We NOW have a once-a-month **Craft Time** for



Elementary Children on the **FIRST Wednesday** of each month from **3:30-4:30 pm!**



In March we learned about Holy Week!

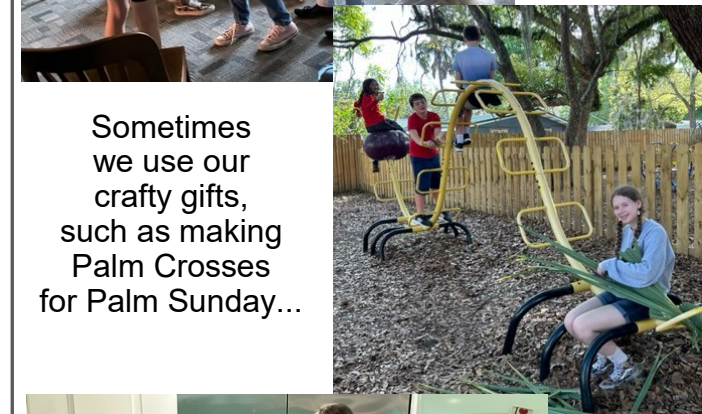
Looking for a way to be the hands, feet, and heart of Christ? There is a place for you in our church's ministry with FMS!

Interested? Contact the office, sign up in the Sanctuary, or talk to Pastor Missy!

First UMC Youth Group: Thursdays 2:30-5 pm



It's not all fun and games in youth...



Sometimes we use our crafty gifts, such as making Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday...



...Or our culinary skills as we learn to cook and bake.



Sometimes we snack, talk about our day, and discuss more ways to share God's love!

Contact the Church Office to know more!

Worship and Fellowship



We had a fabulous time worshipping & cooking out at **Mary Holland Park** in March!



Thanks to Sylvia, Bill, Brandon, Sam, and Will for all their help in worship!



It was a little chilly for some folks, but we persevered and together enjoyed a beautiful day in God's creation!

More thanks to everyone who brought sides and desserts to share and Laura, Mary, Robert, and Bill for stepping in and helping with the grilling when Lanny couldn't join us! Thanks also to Gwyn, John, Pat, Shirley and others!



May is Eye Health Awareness Month! We are Collecting Eye Glasses!

We are collecting eye glasses to provide to the Lions Club so that they can share them with people in need.

There is a collection box available in the back of the church.



AND REACHING FURTHER OUT...

Ways we are the body of Christ in the world through **M**ission **O**utreach **E**vangelism!



Missions Luncheon in support of Cuban Missions

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Menu: Cuban Pork, Black Beans, Rice, Salad, Bread and Flan.



Take out *will* be available!

Robert & Mary Lopez will be leading a

District Mission to Cuba in mid October of 2024



for churches to visit their sister churches.

If you are interested in visiting **our sister church in Santa Cruz del Sur**, talk to Robert or Mary ASAP!



Visas take 5 months, so it is important to begin planning now!

PEACE Nehemiah Action Monday, April 29, 6:30 pm Resurrection Catholic Church

Join us as we gather to hear what initiatives PEACE is working on and show our elected officials that people care about each other in Polk County!

Pastor Doug is safely with his new churches in Northwest Argentina! Here he is with his new church in Salta.



Our church has a new Mission & Outreach opportunity: **Wahneta UM Mission**

The Wahneta United Methodist Mission was started back in the 1950's as a daycare center serving the migrants in the Wahneta and Eloise area. Today the area is composed primarily of Hispanic and immigrant families with many needs. In 2017 the mission was closed down, but St. John's UMC in Winter Haven didn't like to see it sitting empty and took it on as one of their missions!

Because of St John's UMC's heart for missions, Wahneta UM Mission is open again and thriving as it meets many of their community's needs and dreams of meeting more. St. John's and Wahneta can't do it alone. The support of the larger UM community is vital to Wahneta's success.



Stay tuned to learn more as we seek ways to partner with Wahneta and witness to Christ in our Judea and Samaria!



Argentina Group and Fundraisers

We are excited to be taking a group of 5 people to Argentina to continue to strengthen our ties with the First Methodist Church of Mendoza and Colegio Albert Schweitzer.

To help underwrite some of the trip costs, we are hosting some fundraisers!

Wed, April 17, 6:45 pm After Wed Night Dinner



We will have an informational time of sharing what we are doing and buy-in through mission shares!



Monday, May 6 BBQ Pork Fundraiser Hosted by FMS Order ahead for takeout or for a fun-filled dinner.

Ways we are the body of Christ Jerusalem and Judea!

Vacation Bible School planning has begun!

Nazareth Marketplace VBS

July 22-26, 9 am-12 pm

Marketplace VBS is great, but it takes LOTS of Volunteers! Help ahead of time with Prep Work. or... Help for a couple of hours, for 1 or 2 days, or the week. or... Cut out or sew fabric. or... Cut & drill wood
Maybe you have something around your house we need to borrow!
Look below to see how YOU will participate!

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

Shopkeepers: (1-5 days)

- Baker
- Carpenter
- Cloth Shop
- Fisher
- Jewelry Maker
- Leather Worker
- Metal Worker
- Potter
- Rock Quarry
- Synagogue School
- Village Green (games)
- Weaver
- Food Market (possible)
- Tribe Leaders** (small groups)
MUST be there ALL FIVE DAYS

Other Volunteers:

- Storyteller (5 days)
- Game leader (1-5 days)
- Kitchen Lead (5 days)
- Kitchen Help (1-5 days)
- Folk Dancer (1-5 days)
- Outside Games (1-5 days)
- Registration (1-5 days)
- Photographer (1-5 days)

Prep Work

- Wood worker- cut & drill wood
- Decorating Team
 - plan & collect ahead of time
 - actual decorating is July 20/21 with lots of helpers
- Organizing Supplies
 - mostly July 7-19

DONATIONS

- 2 X 2 wood (Two 8 ft or 16 ft total)
- .375 in Round Wood dowels (28 ft total)
- Fabric—PLAIN (white, light browns, blue, green, purple, maroon, gray, brown, stripes, or old sheets)
- Fabric—bright any color NO PRINTS, stripes are ok
- Adhesive (sticker) pages
- Air Dry Clay or Model Magic
- Beads— WOODEN -all sizes
- Colored Sand
- Glue Dots
- Jute and string
- Leather pieces
- Leather laces
- Malleable Thick Wire
- Permanent Markers
- Plaster of Paris
- Ribbon— THIN
- Ribbon— Medium
- Sandpaper
- Small stones/tiles— blue & white
- Stretchy String
- Wood glue
- Grains (wheat, rye, oats, etc)
- Dried Herb Plants
- Apple Juice
- Apples
- Apricots— dried
- Bananas
- Canned biscuits
- Cheese
- Dates
- Figs— dried or fresh
- Flour
- Frozen Bread Dough
- Grapes
- Hummus
- Olives— Black
- Olives— Greek
- Olives— Green
- Pita
- Puffed Millet— 2 bag
- Puffed Kamut— 1 bag
- Raisins
- Sesame seeds

THINGS TO BORROW- Please label CLEARLY with YOUR NAME!

- Potted Palms and Trees (real or silk for decoration)
- Baskets (large or small— for decorating & holding supplies)
- Hammers or Mallets (preferably withOUT claws)
- Old looking clay jars (for decoration)
- Simple wood tables (for decoration)
- Wooden Boxes (to be used in decorating & holding supplies)

PRE-REGISTRATION will begin in MID-April, watch for forms!

YOU can SIGN UP TO HELP now in the Sanctuary or by contacting the church office.

ACROSS THE COURTYARD

by Nadine Waters Robbins, Church Historian



April 2024

During the Lenten season, our FUMC family was challenged to donate coins for Mission and Outreach ala Lenten coin calendar. Each day's contribution was to correspond with numbers of specific items in our households.

One such coinage was to match one's number of T-shirts. Because I have T-shirts on hangars, T-shirts in drawers, T-shirts in tubs, etc, on that day my "T-shirt equivalency" resulted in a "best estimate" donation.

Among my vast assortment of "textile tales, travelogues and timelines" were a trio of tees from our Bartow First United Methodist. One was during the Celebrate Jesus Mission our church hosted in 2002. Our entire church was involved with the purpose being "to help people find Jesus and loving fellowship of a local church through prayer followed by planning." It was stated "We will reach into the community with loving kindness (servant evangelism) ... as we provide these acts of kindness we will be inviting the community to a block party which will be held at our church. The main purpose is to share God's love in Bartow."

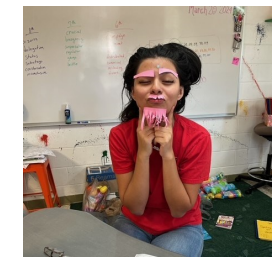
Our "CJ Staff" consisted of key Leaders: Bill and Joan Wright, Hospitality: Beverly Etheredge, Prayer: Carolyn Hinton, Fellowship: Dorothy Tucker, Block Party: Leah Snell, Pam Wyant, Ted Wright, and Chris Snell.

Another of my FUMC T-Shirts commemorated our churches 150th anniversary in 2017. Each month we scheduled some sort of "Historic Event" such as a Reenactment of our 1935 Order of Wor-

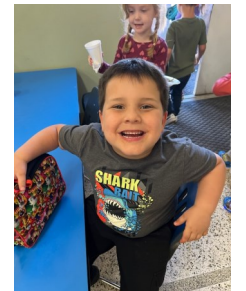
ship, A Celebration of our First UMC Marriages and Recognition of our former pastors. In November of that year we held an "All-day" "history celebration" in our Fellowship hall. This was open to the community and attendees enjoyed displays, speakers, refreshments and history related activities. In December, Bishop Carter preached, then everyone enjoyed a covered-dish luncheon. FUMC Pastor Armando pointed out "First FUMC Bartow was the first congregation to be officially recognized as a church in Polk County. We are pioneers. By the grace of God and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit we will continue the work of those who proceeded us."

My other FUMC shirt simply states "The Church has left the building." The messages conveyed by our "T-shirt of the day" may also contain a "Textile Testimony". However, the body beneath the shirt, as part of the Body of Christ is where the most important messages of Christ's Love can be shared with others.

Two pictures just to brighten your day because we had room!



Bella dressed as Mr. Meier



Braylon

CLASSIFIEDS

We have many great places to make donations...

The Church Service Center would like everyone to know that at this time they can NO LONGER receive books and magazines. Thank you!

Have yarn that you don't use/ need? Ms. Shirley would like to have it so that she can use it to make blankets! Bring it with you to church and we will make sure she gets it. Thanks!

If you have something you would like to have in the Classifieds section, please contact the church office by Friday, April 19th. Thank you!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall
RSVP by Monday noon each week, THANK YOU!

April 3 & 10: NO WND or Bible Study

April 17: Covered dish & Chicken

April 24: Beef Stroganoff, Carrots, and Salad



During Lent, we practiced simple living with Soup and Sandwiches

The **Silver Saints**
Had a great time at the Huffs in February for Game night and Charcuterie!



See more pics on Page 14...

Our NEXT EVENT will be **Covered Dish & Bingo** at the Huffs on **Sunday, April 21, 5 pm**



is every Monday night. Contact Elsa or the church office for details!

LUNCH BUNCH

Each month we have a time of Fellowship at a restaurant after church (it is usually the first Sunday, but not always)



Last month we went to **Broadway Diner!**



March Birthdays! The cake had coins in it for St. Patrick's Day!

NEXT LUNCH BUNCH will be **MAY 5**



First Methodist School



FMS Shared about President's Day and Love In February!



First, we practiced in front of our friends



Second, we got dressed up...



Then, we shared with our friends and families!



Somehow we still had time for lunch, learning, and making cool balloon art!



Please keep us in prayer as we prepare for our **VPK graduation on April 23** and our big **Spring Program on April 25!**



FMS is a ministry of First UMC Bartow. If you would like to be more involved with the school through reading to a class, doing crafts afterschool, helping with the Youth, or helping with physical projects contact the church office. You have love to share!