Most of us would rather be strong than weak. We want to be capable of directing our life—of “doing for myself.” At about two, our daughter began saying: “Me do; me do!” And, it didn’t stop with doing, she also liked to say “I know that!”

There’s something inside the human spirit that wants to be self-sufficient, independent. This drive can motivate us to do great things. It can also limit the things we can do by disconnecting us from God.

Isaiah 40:29, “He gives strength to the weary and gives power to the weak.” Consider the possibility that God isn’t interested in highlighting our strength or image. The prophet Isaiah doesn’t say that God gives strength to the energetic or power to the strong. The weary and the weak connect when they call upon God with a sincerity best described as faith.

Pastor Rick Warren tells a story about his training as a life guard. A basic rule was: tread water near the struggling swimmer until their strength was spent.

That sounded cruel to me when I first heard it, but then he revealed the reason for this strategy. If you reach out to someone who still has the strength to struggle—they will have the power to drown you, too.

Of course, we could never “drown” God, but we can drown out God’s voice and confuse the success God makes possible with something we have done in our own strength.

It’s when I am weary—when I’ve tried to “fix it” my way, and failed, that I’m willing to ask God about his way. Psalm 119:28, “My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your Word.”

The old hymn, “I Surrender All,” says it well: “All to Jesus I surrender, humbly at his feet I bow. Worldly pleasures all forsaken; take me Jesus, take me now.”

There is no worldly pleasure greater than the feeling of power. Nietzsche described power as the ability to satiate any appetite. If you are thirsty or hungry or tired, power is the ability to fulfill that need.

I experience being powerless when I walk into a store with no money and see something I want or need. Most of us don’t like that feeling.

What if that feeling is the threshold of a genuine encounter with God? It doesn’t take much looking in the Bible to discover that God opposes the proud—those who approach life, even God, on their own terms.

I was born into a privilege I do not deserve but I am grateful to have. I am an educated white male, a Christian citizen of the most powerful nation on the planet today.

What if I must surrender all of that “strength” to receive God’s power? Maybe God sees us like I saw my 2-year-old daughter: “Me do!” and “I know that!” - and God sighs.

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STEPHEN MINISTRY
by Tom Meier

STEPHEN MINISTRY
(No action) can touch us except with (the Father’s) knowledge and by His permission... by the time it reaches us it has become God's will for us, and must be accepted as directly from His hands.
- Hannah Whitall Smith

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

WHEN I REPORT A NEED FOR CARE, HOW CAN I KEEP IT CONFIDENTIAL?
Confidentiality is the foundation of Stephen Ministry. Care receivers do not need to worry that others will find out what they discuss with their Stephen Minister.

When you report a need, you are the first important link in the process of confidentiality. You can help maintain confidentiality by:

◆ Never talking about a need unless you have permission from the person.

◆ Never asking a Stephen Minister about the caring relationship he or she is part of: and/or ...Telling others about Stephen Ministry and then asking for permission to report their needs. Permission is absolutely necessary. Confidentiality makes care possible. You can be a part of it.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry, or to receive a Stephen Minister’s care, fill out the Stephen Ministry pew card, place it in an envelope to Pastor Jerry, or turn it into the church office.

Please remember to notify the church whenever you or a loved one is hospitalized locally so visitation can be made.

Tom Meier, Stephen Leader

CORRECTION—last month I accidentally grabbed the wrong picture and showed you our neighbor’s house. Sorry about that. The above picture is of our new parsonage at: 9119 Luncarty Dr. here in Hudson.

Lisa and I are out of the rental property and are seeing the piles of boxes diminish. We want to thank everyone for providing a parsonage that should meet the needs of a wide variety of clergy families for years to come. We look forward to having you join us in the coming months.

- pastor Jerry and Lisa

EMMAUS
by David Smith

The Tampa Bay Emmaus has scheduled their fall walks for 2016. The Men’s Walk will be Sept. 8-11 and the Women’s Walk is Sept. 15-18. Each session is three days and is held in Bradenton. We pick up our pilgrims and take them to the camp on Thursday afternoon and bring them back Sunday evening. The camp needs at least 20 pilgrims to hold each event. This spiritual walk is a personal retreat that can bring Christians renewal, reinvigoration, and fellowship. There is a fee of $150.00 for the retreat, but financial assistance is available if needed. If you are seeking a deepening of your faith, please consider this opportunity. Application forms are available from Joyce or David Smith, Alexis Vicari, Pam Heally, Nancy Neumar, or Chris Kreiler. The deadline for the men’s walk is August 29th and for the women’s walk is September 5th. Don’t miss out on this life changing experience!

CHURCH STAFF EMAILs

- General Office ..................................................office@HudsonFirstUMC.org
- Barbara Mathias, financial secretary ... barbara@HudsonFirstUMC.org
- Darrell Day, worship director .....................darrell@HudsonFirstUMC.org
- Don Tomko, program director ...............don@HudsonFirstUMC.org
- Kristie Freeze, church secretary .......... kristie@HudsonFirstUMC.org
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- Pam Healey, parish nurse.....................pam@HudsonFirstUMC.org
- Pat Deighton, organist .......................pat@HudsonFirstUMC.org
- Pastor Jerry Milner .......................pastorJerry@HudsonFirstUMC.org
**MEET JACK HALLER AND CAROL JACKSON**

Jack Haller is from Tionesta, Pennsylvania and worked for the State of Pennsylvania as a surveyor. He retired to Ocklawaha, Florida in 1985 where he continued to work as a surveyor. He has a son, Scott, who resides in Hudson.

Carol is from Titusville, Pennsylvania and moved to Silver Springs, Florida in 1985. She worked as a medical assistant in Ocala, Leesburg, and Pennsylvania Hospitals. She has three daughters.

Although Carol and Jack lived 30 miles from each other in Pennsylvania and knew some of the same people, they did not meet until they moved to Florida about 30 years ago. They have lived in Hudson for the last 12 years.

Neither Jack, nor Carol, were raised in a Christian home. However, on and off in her life, Carol did attend VBS or a service now and then. When they moved to Hudson, Carol attended Hudson First UMC and had an overwhelming feeling this was home. Her relationship with Christ began to grow starting with her first Bible study at Hudson First with Doug Katz. She became very involved in church as a volunteer. Jack started coming to church because of Carol’s quiet, consistent invitation and now doesn’t miss a Sunday!

Jack and Carol work part-time for Hudson First UMC and spend many more hours volunteering, especially for the Food Pantry and the Thrift Store. The Thrift Store is Carol’s passion. It has thrived under her leadership and RTTS is now a generous giver to Hudson First UMC and its ministries.

Jack and Carol are a quiet force that are making a HUGE difference in the life of this church and the many lives that connect to Christ through our ministries. Thank you!

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**GRACE NOTES**

by Grace Chalela

**BUT HE’S NOT WHO I THOUGHT HE WAS!**

Have you ever been really disappointed in someone? Maybe someone you had very high hopes for and they turned out to be addicted to drugs, alcohol, pills, porn? Someone you thought would go so far in education and they dropped out of school? Someone you thought would be the perfect parent and it turned out they didn’t care for their children at all? Maybe even to the point of abuse? Maybe you had high hopes for a leader and their great ideas all fizzled? Or, maybe someone you thought was a great employee and they stole money from you?

Imagine how the followers of Jesus felt when He turned out not to be what they had hoped for. These men dropped everything to follow Him for three years. Three years! I can only imagine what their wives felt about all of this. Three years with no income. Three years of raising the children alone. Three years following a man only to have him die on a cross just like the criminals beside him. If I had been one of their wives, I can tell you I would not have been too happy with that situation. It seemed like it was all for nothing. He was NOT who they thought He was. He was just a good man, nothing more.

The followers were so disappointed. They had given three years of their lives to this man. They defended him. Stood beside him. Walked all over those dusty roads with him. Camped out with him. Listened to all his speeches. Watched Him heal the sick, raise the dead, and preach wonderful words. All for what? For just memories? So much failure. So much disappointment. Sad.

And then came Easter morning! Everything changed! The situation was not what they thought it would be but it was what God had planned. Sometimes our lives are like that too. We can’t see the plan at the time, but we can rely on God. He knows what He is doing, what His plan is. It takes patience and faith to wait. Wait. Wait for His plan. Be patient.

---

**SHARE YOUR GENTLY USED TREASURES!**

The Thrift Store does an amazing business, especially with jewelry. If you have any jewelry you no longer wear and would like to de-clutter, we have an opportunity for you! Bring any donations to the thrift store or the church office. Thank you!
Who is Denver Bierman? He is the founder of Denver and the Mile High Orchestra. Google them and you will see!

Denver is returning to Hudson FUMC this month. He and his band played a very successful concert at our church last August and he is bringing a solo concert on August 12th.

We are inviting other churches, their Worship Directors, and the greater community to hear Denver on that evening. This is in preparation for his band’s return to Hudson January 6th of next year. That concert will be at SunWest Park! How exciting is that?

We hope you will join us for this outstanding event of music and fun! Invite your friends and neighbors.

Here are the details:

Who: Denver Bierman of Denver and the Mile High Orchestra

What: A modern jazz sound doing sacred and secular tunes with lots of fun thrown in.

When: Friday, August 12 – 6:30 PM

Where: Our Worship Center

Why: To glorify God through music and celebrate life as a community!

We hope you will be a part of this very special event – a way of introducing God’s love to our community where they are. Please come and enjoy Denver’s music!

Thanks for all you do to further God’s Kingdom here on Earth.

Denver Bierman defies genres and generations. With his band’s recent release called “Mile High Hymns” and their Dove Award winning children’s album “Groovy,” they ensure their fan base far into the future without disappointing those who have come to love their unique style over the years.

Taking a new exciting look at old classics and hymns, blending a red hot horn section, along with jazz and big band roots, Denver and the Mile High Orchestra have created a sound that reminds us of legends such as Stevie Wonder, Chicago, and Earth Wind and Fire.

Denver is appearing at Hudson First on Friday, August 12th, 6:30pm as a solo act. He and the Mile High Orchestra will perform at SunWest Beach Park in January 2017. Mark your calendars!

Trustees Update: New Sod, Sign, and Shed; Repainted Sanctuary Vents

Thanks to the Guse Redevelopment Fund we are updating/repairing our facility to welcome new neighbors to Christ’s campus here at Hudson First!
Bible in a Year

Many friends have said that they’ve always wanted to read through the New Testament. As your spiritual coach let me say, “Let’s do it!”

August
- 2 Cor. 8:1-24
- 2 Cor. 9:1-15
- 2 Cor. 10:1-18
- 2 Cor. 11:1-18
- 2 Cor. 11:29-12:19
- 2 Cor. 12:20-13:13
- Rev. 1:1-19
- Rev. 1:20-2:17
- Rev. 2:18-3:6
- Rev. 3:7-3:22
- Rev. 4
- Rev. 5
- Rev. 6
- Rev. 7
- Rev. 8
- Rev. 9
- Rev. 10:1-11:7
- Rev. 11:8-12:6
- Rev. 12:7-18
- Rev. 13
- Rev. 14:1-13
- Rev. 14:14-15:8
- Rev. 16
- Rev. 17
- Rev. 18:1-18
- Rev. 18-19-19:10
- Rev. 19:11-20:10
- Rev. 20:11-21:8
- Rev. 21:9-22:5
- Rev. 22:6-21
- Romans 1:1-17

September
- Romans 1:18-32
- Romans 2:1-29
- Romans 3:1-31
- Romans 4:1-4
- Romans 5:1-21
- Romans 6:1-23
- Romans 7:1-25
- Romans 8:1-22
- Romans 8:23-39
- Romans 9:1-23
- Romans 9:24-10:4
- Romans 10:5-21
- Romans 11:1-16
- Romans 11:17-36
- Romans 12
- Romans 13
- Romans 14
- Romans 15:1-21
- Romans 15:22-16:7
- Romans 16:8-27
- Galatians 1
- Galatians 2
- Galatians 3:1-20
- Galatians 3:21-4:7
- Galatians 4:8-31
- Galatians 5:1-12
- Galatians 6:1-18
- Ephesians 1:1-14
- Ephesians 1:15-2:10
- Ephesians 2:11-12
- Ephesians 3:1-21
- Ephesians 4:1-4
- Ephesians 4:25-5:15
- Ephesians 5:16-6:4
- Ephesians 6:5-2:4
- Philippians 1:1-12
- Philippians 2:1-12
- Philippians 3:1-2
- Philippians 4:3-42
- Colossians 1:1-20
- Colossians 1:21-2:7
- Colossians 2:8-23
- Colossians 3:1-17
- Colossians 3:18-4:18
- Philemon 1:1-25
- Hebrews 1:1-14
- Hebrews 2:1-18
- Hebrews 3:1-19
- Hebrews 4:1-13
- Hebrews 4:14-5:14
- Hebrews 6:1-20
- Hebrews 7:1-19
- Hebrews 7:20-6:8
- Hebrews 8:7-9:7
- Hebrews 9:8-22
- Hebrews 9:23-10:10
- Hebrews 10:11-31
- Hebrews 10:32-11:7
- Hebrews 11:8-10
- Hebrews 11:20-40

October
- Hebrews 11:20
- Hebrews 11:21
- Hebrews 11:22
- Hebrews 11:23
- Hebrews 11:24
- Hebrews 11:25
- Hebrews 11:26
- Hebrews 11:27
- Hebrews 11:28
- Hebrews 11:29
- Hebrews 11:30
- Hebrews 11:31
- Hebrews 11:32
- Hebrews 11:33
- Hebrews 11:34
- Hebrews 11:35
- Hebrews 11:36
- Hebrews 11:37
- Hebrews 11:38
- Hebrews 11:39
- Hebrews 11:40

In Laughing in the Dark, Christian comedian Chonda Pierce calls God the Master Puzzler, because “in him all things hold together” (Colossians 1:17). In his infinite wisdom, God “can organize the colors better than anyone (Have you seen a sunset lately?) He knows where to fit every shape and size (Have you seen a mountain range?).”

Until God places the last piece, the final picture is a mystery to us. But in the meantime, God offers order and purpose, providing his law as the puzzle’s edges. Pierce encourages people to let the “Master Puzzler” take over when life gets messy. Like the prophet Jeremiah, we can cry, “GOD, pick up the pieces. Put me back together again. You are my praise!” (17:14, The Message).

Library Notes

by Ruth Lott

Donna True, a friend and long time member of our church, recently gave me a copy of Heaven is for Real, a #1 New York Times Bestseller.

Donna asked me to place the book in the library when I finished reading it. The author, Todd Burpo, is Pastor of Wesleyan Church, Imperial, Nebraska. This is a very engaging story about their three-year son (Colton) who went through a serious and lengthy illness.

Colton was at death's door and had to undergo surgery. During his recovery and the period of time following, Colton astonished his parents with revelations of things and people he saw during surgery.

Some of these people were his grandfather, a sister and others he never met and knew nothing about. He talked about seeing rainbows of many beautiful colors, God, Jesus, horses, swords, etc. Scripture relating to each item was recalled and is cited throughout the book.

We are fortunate to have both a hardback copy, and a paperback copy of this book. Thank you, Donna, for your thoughtfulness and gift. I encourage you to check this out and read it when you have an opportunity.

Next month I plan to list some DVDs containing study material for personal and/or group use. These are kept in Loraine Cors’ office and can be checked out through her.
A new support group begins October 6th at 6pm. We will be meeting in the banquet room at the IHOP, 4736 US 19 in New Port Richey. It is open to patients with pulmonary concerns, caregivers and related medical professionals. Refreshments will be provided. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Debbie Vostello at 378-8553 or dvostello@brighthouse.com.

ANSWERING GOD’S CALL
During a 2010 trip for famine-relief in Kenya, Kristen Welch asked God: “How can you allow so much suffering?” God asked her the same question.

That prompted Welch to put her faith into action by launching Mercy House – an organization that rescues pregnant women and their babies. The impact of Mercy House in Kenya — plus 19 other countries — is “miraculous proof that God is made perfect in our weakness,” Welch says. “Who would have thought a ‘yes’ in 2010 would make us the poster child that [proves] God can do anything with anyone?”

The building expense (for the Worship Center mortgage) year-to-date was $30,389.16. The extra $7,427.84 plus $1,950.00 that was contributed for principle only payment will be used to pay down the debt for the mortgage. The mortgage balance is currently $596,405.56, with twelve years and one month left to pay it off. With the principle prepayments that have been made over the past four years since the mortgage was refinanced with the conference, the church is now scheduled to pay off the mortgage 44 months sooner than scheduled. Praise the Lord for His provision!
# August 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 31</strong> Office: closed</td>
<td><strong>Every Sunday:</strong>&lt;br&gt;8:15 Nursery&lt;br&gt;8:30 Living Love, CE10&lt;br&gt;8:45 252 children, CWC&lt;br&gt;8:45 Refuge teens, CE1&lt;br&gt;8:45 Galileans, CE9&lt;br&gt;8:45 Young adults, Library&lt;br&gt;8:45 Searching Christians, HH&lt;br&gt;10 Worship, WC&lt;br&gt;6p Refuge activity, FH&lt;br&gt;Today</td>
<td><strong>Every Monday:</strong>&lt;br&gt;9 Quilters, CWC&lt;br&gt;9:30 Flex &amp; Balance, HH&lt;br&gt;12 Al Anon, CE10&lt;br&gt;1:30p Staff meeting, PO&lt;br&gt;Today</td>
<td><strong>Every Tuesday:</strong>&lt;br&gt;7 Bus. Ref. Network, CWC&lt;br&gt;9:15 Prayer Altar, CE10&lt;br&gt;2p Music 101, HH&lt;br&gt;7p Boy scouts, HH&lt;br&gt;Today</td>
<td><strong>Every Wednesday:</strong>&lt;br&gt;6:30p Men of Promise, BWR&lt;br&gt;9 Food distribution, HH&lt;br&gt;12 Al Anon, CE10&lt;br&gt;2p Empowerment, CE10&lt;br&gt;7p Choir rehearsal, WC&lt;br&gt;Today</td>
<td><strong>Every Thursday:</strong>&lt;br&gt;11:30 Brass Quint. Reh-WC&lt;br&gt;2p Music 101, HH&lt;br&gt;Today</td>
<td><strong>Every Friday:</strong>&lt;br&gt;9:30p Flex &amp; Balance, CWC&lt;br&gt;Today</td>
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<td>7 “Every Sunday” plus...&lt;br&gt;10 Flute Circle, WC&lt;br&gt;1:30p Beg Flute Circle, WC</td>
<td>8 “Every Monday” plus...&lt;br&gt;10 Flute Circle, WC&lt;br&gt;1:30p Beg Flute Circle, WC</td>
<td>9 “Every Tuesday” plus...&lt;br&gt;6:30p SPRC, CE10</td>
<td>10 “Every Wednesday” plus...&lt;br&gt;6p Intro to Bells, WC</td>
<td>11 “Every Thursday” plus...&lt;br&gt;5p Trustees, CE10</td>
<td>12 “Every Friday” plus...&lt;br&gt;6:30p Denver Bierman Concert, WC</td>
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<td>14 “Every Sunday” plus...&lt;br&gt;11p Evang Comm Mtg, WC</td>
<td>15 “Every Monday” plus...&lt;br&gt;Pasco Co. schools begin&lt;br&gt;10 Flute Circle, WC&lt;br&gt;1:30p Beg Flute Circle, WC</td>
<td>16 “Every Tuesday” plus...&lt;br&gt;10:30 Caregiver Supp., CE10&lt;br&gt;5p Finance, CE10&lt;br&gt;6:30p Council, CE10</td>
<td>17 “Every Wednesday” plus...&lt;br&gt;6p Intro to Bells, WC</td>
<td>18 “Every Thursday” plus...&lt;br&gt;12:30p Women’s Emmaus, CARES</td>
<td>19 “Every Friday” plus...&lt;br&gt;8 Men’s Emmaus, Sunnyside Restaurant</td>
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<td>21 “Every Sunday” plus...</td>
<td>22 “Every Monday” plus...</td>
<td>23 “Every Tuesday” plus...&lt;br&gt;10:30 Food Pantry Bd, CE10</td>
<td>24 “Every Wednesday” plus...</td>
<td>25 “Every Thursday” plus...&lt;br&gt;6p Intro to Bells, WC</td>
<td>26 “Every Friday” plus...&lt;br&gt;6:30p New Gen., OCS</td>
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<td>28 “Every Sunday” plus...</td>
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<td>31 “Every Wednesday” plus...&lt;br&gt;</td>
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**Notes:**<br>Additions/Corrections? Call 868-6178 or office@HudsonFirstUMC.org<br>Latest up-to-date info: www.HudsonFirstUMC.org/calendar<br>Locations: BWR-Beacon Woods Restaurant; CE-Christian Education building; COL-Church Office Lobby; CWC-Children’s Worship Center; FH-Fellowship Hall; HH-Howard Hall; OCS-Oasis Coffee Spot; PO-Pastor’s Office; WC-Worship Center, LIB-Library
66 Different Elementary School Students descended upon Hudson FUMC’s Kingdom Rock Vacation Bible School (VBS) on Monday, July 18th thru Friday, July 22nd. The children learned how to “Stand Strong for God”. The daily schedule began at 8:30am with breakfast, then learning VBS songs. Each child then rotated through the four stations of Bible, Crafts, Video/Snacks, and Games. We concluded with closing music. At 12:00pm, the day concluded with each VBS kid receiving a bagged lunch to take home. Any child who brought a friend to VBS, the child and the friend each received a prize from the Treasure Chest. At Noon on Friday, the kids performed 4 songs for their families, and then everyone enjoyed a closing party of “all you can eat” pizza and snow cones! Good times were had by all – and all of the 42 volunteers were truly blessed as much as the kids!

Attention All Vacation Bible School Volunteers, Workers, and Saints! Tammy Cooper, Loraine Cors, Don Tomko, Pastor Jerry, and Staff would like to thank all of you who donated your time in a variety of areas including Registration, Music, Bible Story, Crafts, Video & Snacks, Games, Greeters, Food Prep, Security – and everywhere in between. The 42 volunteers all know who you are – and God knows, too! You were a huge blessing to the church and to the 66 VBS kids/attendees. A special thanks also to anyone who donated money or items to make this VBS an enormous success. You are G-R-E-A-T!

Wonderful Wednesdays Resumes August 17th! Attention all Kids K thru 5th grade, and teens! The schedule is as follows:

- 4:45pm to 6:00pm – King’s Kids/Teens Bible Time
- 6:00pm to 6:30pm – Dinner, Dessert, & Fellowship
- 6:30pm to 7:00pm – “Wing’s of Spirit” Liturgical Dance
- 7:00pm to 7:30pm – “Kids of Praise” Children’s/Youth Choir

*Kids & Teens, mark your calendar. You won’t want to miss Wonderful Wednesdays this Fall – and bring a friend! J

Adult Wonderful Wednesday Classes also begin September 7th. We will offer three (3) classes on a variety of topics. Classes will start at 6:00pm and end at 7:30pm. Stay tuned to the Sunday bulletin for class offerings!

Hudson First UMC VBS 2016 ROCKED!
Fun and Festivities
Plan to come and join the fun!
Vendors will provide various Health Screens
Learn about the services they provide in our community

Mark your calendar for our 2016 event. We will be at Hudson First UMC at 13123 US 19 in Hudson. This will be your opportunity to educate our community about what makes your business unique. As you know this event has been well attended in the past and we look forward to giving each of our vendors a chance to tell their story, provide special screenings and draw crowds with a special drawing.

We would like to thank our presenting sponsors last year for making this event a great success.

- SUNCOAST EYE CENTER, 14003 Lakeshore Blvd, Hudson, FL 34667.  727-868-9442
- REGIONAL BAYONET PT MEDICAL CENTER, 14000 Fivay Rd., Hudson, FL 34667  727-819-2929

Save this Date
Flu Shot Clinic
by Walgreens Pharmacy

Wednesday, October 19th From 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM
If you have health insurance bring your card and a photo ID or you can pay cash $25.99. If you participate in the food pantry and do not have insurance you will qualify for a FREE flu Shot.
Praise: Great VBS!

Concerns: Rick Barrett, re-financing, Matthew DeFeo, Jr., Arlo, Marian, safe flight to Michigan, our country, Ellen McCormack, James and Sally Givens, Paul Smith, July 27th-end of Korean War, neighbor-Ralph, Freddie Bennett, Joan and Bobby Perry, Mary Vicari, Connie Katz, Sandy Brenner, Tedi Henry, Joan Walker, Barbara Brose, Dovie Sprang, Bette Lindell

We extend our hearts and prayers to the families of:

Carol Hendrickson—7/4

GRACE IN, GRACE OUT
The computer acronym GIGO — “garbage in, garbage out” — describes how putting wrong code into a machine will lead to faulty output. Jesus offers a similar lesson in Matthew 15: “What comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person” (v. 18, ESV).

GIGO works the other way, too. If we put good things (including the good news of salvation) “in” our hearts, Jesus’ goodness will shine “out” through our lives. And when God’s grace enters and changes us, we’ll also reach out and share that good news with others.

SYMPATHY

We extend our hearts and prayers to the families of:

Missions News
by Ed Youngs

When seated in your pew, at home, or wherever in prayer, I trust you have a sense of satisfaction and purpose knowing that you filled the baby bottles with a total of $3,093.09. This is huge, and trust me, I’m not mimicking the Kia commercial!

Where did those baby bottles filled with coins, dollars and checks go? They went to the West Pasco Pregnancy Center who offer hope, health and healing to those in need. At no cost, the WPPC provides a Twenty Four Hour Help Line, Free Ultrasounds, Free pregnancy Testing, Confidential Counseling, Information on Adoption and Abortion, Parenting Resources, Referrals and Confidential Post-Abortion Counseling. These baby bottles filled with Christian generosity may allow a woman to choose life for their unborn child.

Missions will not meet in August. We will resume our meetings on Tuesday, September 6th at 10:00am. If you have a heart for Christ’s mission here in West Pasco, consider joining us at this next meeting.

Scholarships News
by Ruth Lott

The Scholarship Committee was delighted to welcome Hannah Hall as our guest at the July meeting. Hannah, aglow with enthusiasm, provided us with an update of her studies at Marymount Manhattan College as well as her extracurricular activities and future goals. We appreciate and thank Hannah for taking the time to do this. She is truly a fine representative for Hudson First United Methodist Church.

The Committee reviewed a number of applications for renewal scholarships and will report on them in the September Newsletter.

Plans are underway for our annual Arts & Crafts Fair which will be held Saturday, November 12th, from 9am to 3pm. Applications are being received from Vendors. Indoor tables - $40, and Outdoor tables - $30. If you have any handmade crafts that you would be interested in selling, you may pick up an application in the church office, or through the website at www.HudsonFirstUMC.org under "Forms".

Grace in, grace out

The computer acronym GIGO — “garbage in, garbage out” — describes how putting wrong code into a machine will lead to faulty output. Jesus offers a similar lesson in Matthew 15: “What comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person” (v. 18, ESV).

GIGO works the other way, too. If we put good things (including the good news of salvation) “in” our hearts, Jesus’ goodness will shine “out” through our lives. And when God’s grace enters and changes us, we’ll also reach out and share that good news with others.
God’s Food Pantry Tidbits
by Mae Renwick

Each month we share how volunteers or clients in various our ministry are sharing God’s love with hungry neighbors.

Doug Doan (volunteer): It is a great pleasure and joy to be able to volunteer at our Food Pantry. I register the clients alongside Barb Mathias. We hear many different life situations that break our hearts. But, when we can make them smile, we know we are doing God’s work.

Thurman, Emily and Regina (clients): Hello, just wanted to pass a note on how and why the United Methodist food pantry is important to me:
I’m grateful for the people that help me when I can’t help myself with prayers. Miss Mae is the best, she would do anything in her power to help with your needs.

Thankful for everyone who volunteers at the pantry. For providing us with the food we greatly need when we’re down on our luck.

The Encouragers
by Ruth Lott and Betsy Triznadel

At some point in our lifetime we are all confronted with sadness due to a loss. This could be caused by relocation, a broken relationship, separation, divorce, or death of a loved one, friend or pet. Every experience is different and manifests in various ways. Betsy Triznadel and I have accepted the challenge to form and co-facilitate a group to deal with some of the feelings and issues that arise as a result of the changes we encounter.

The Encouragers will begin meeting at 10 am the second and fourth Thursdays of the month beginning September 8th. We invite everyone who is experiencing grief/loss to join us as we endeavor to help each other deal and/or cope with adjusting to the changes that are occurring in our lives.

Initially we want to get acquainted and will openly share ideas to learn the interests, needs and expectations of each participant. Everything shared within the group will remain confidential and within the confines of our meeting. Programs will be structured around the information gathered and might include guest speakers, films, Bible study, writing, discussions of brief materials, etc.

If you would have an interest in joining us, please sign up at the kiosk in the narthex, in the office or on the website at www.HudsonFirstUMC.org.

When sad, read John 14; when experiencing loneliness or fear, read Psalm 23.

Thank you!

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Kerry Schroeder for his kindness after church on July 10th when he changed the flat tire on my car. No easy task in the sweltering 90 heat! God bless you, Kerry, for being such a good Samaritan!

In appreciation, Donna True

I would like to thank everyone at First UMC for their prayers, visits, cards, and letters during my long stay at Solaris Rehab. You all lifted my spirits and brightened my days. I hope to be strong enough to resume attending church soon.

Sincerely, Dovie Sprang
CARE GIVER SUPPORT GROUP
10:30a 3rd Tues of month in CE10
Contact Laura: 863-0176
Care for caregivers—a place to laugh, learn, share, and care.

EXERCISE WITH FRAN
9:30a Mondays—Flex and Balance
9:30a Fridays—Flex and Balance
Contact Office: 868-6178
Cost? Bring a canned good for the Food Pantry!

NEW GENERATION
6:30p 4th Sat of month at Oasis
Coffee Spot
Contact Lexi: 868-6178
Encouraging and enriching the lives of young adults 18-25.

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252 CHILDREN’S MINISTRY
8:45a Sundays, Children’s Worship
Contact Cheryle: 868-6178
K-5th grades

REFUGE YOUTH MINISTRY
8:45a Sundays, Discipleship
6p Sundays, Activity & Devotion
5p Wednesday, Small Group
Where teens encounter Christ in themselves and their world.

HEART-TO-HEART WOMEN
9-11a, 3rd Saturday each month
Contact Ann Bromwell: 868-6178
Open to all women—faith and friendship blend together in a time of Christian fellowship.

Hudson First
United Methodist Church
13123 U.S. Hwy 19, Hudson, FL 34667 • 727-868-6178 • www.HudsonFirstUMC.org