

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TARPON SPRINGS

## LIBRARY HOURS

WEEKDAY—CONTACT OFFICE  
WEDNESDAYS—5:30PM-8:00PM  
DURING BIBLE STUDIES  
SUNDAYS—9:00AM-NOON

CHURCH TELEPHONE/FAX  
727-937-3271

CHURCH WEBSITE:  
WWW.FUMCTARPONSPRINGS.ORG

FL CONFERENCE NEWS  
WWW.FLUMC.ORG

UNITED METHODIST NEWS  
WWW.UMC.ORG



## Dates to Remember

SEPTEMBER 5  
OFFICE CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 6 & 20  
M.O.P.S.

SEPTEMBER 11  
SIMULCAST

SEPTEMBER 13  
GRIEF SHARE AT LAKEVIEW

SEPTEMBER 14  
WED. NIGHT DINNER &  
BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN

SEPTEMBER 14  
RE-LAUNCH SPACE CAMP

SEPTEMBER 17  
CONVERGE YOUNG ADULTS

SEPTEMBER 27  
GOSPEL TRAIN PARENT NIGHT

OCTOBER 3  
MONDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

OCTOBER 5, 12, 19  
NEW MEMBER CLASSES

OCTOBER 7  
FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

OCTOBER 14  
YAHA'S

OCTOBER 15-31  
PUMPKIN PATCH

OCTOBER 16  
LAITY SUNDAY

OCTOBER 18  
CHURCH CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 22  
CONVERGE YOUNG ADULTS

OCTOBER 25  
UMW DITTY BAG

OCTOBER 29  
HARVEST FEST

**WAKE-UP CALL**  
*For God's People*  
**Free** SIMULCAST  
with Anne Graham Lotz & Joel Rosenberg  
Sunday, September 11th  
7:00-9:30 PM  
located in the Sanctuary

## Small Group Ministries

- The Encouragers meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month (women's group).
- Sea-Son-Alls (Seasonal Resident Group) Lunch & Fellowship group
- A Cup of Joy - Women's Prayer & Share Group meet Wednesday mornings.
- Potluck Supper & Bible Study meets 2nd and 4th Friday if each month.
- Bible Study, Prayer, Fellowship and Outreach group meet the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month.
- Bible Study and Fellowship group meet the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month.
- Comfort & Caring Group meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month in the church library.
- Bible Study, Service, and Fellowship group meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

For more information on any of our Study groups, you can contact the church at (727) 937-3271 .

# WHAT'S UP PLANET KIDS

## SEPTEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Sept. 4th:  | <b>NO ROCK-IT WORSHIP</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm           |
| Sept. 11th: | <b>ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm |
| Sept. 14th: | <b>Re-Launch of Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm</b>                          |
| Sept. 18th: | <b>ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm |
| Sept. 21st: | <b>Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm</b>                                       |
| Sept. 25th: | <b>ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm |
| Sept. 28th: | <b>Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm</b>                                       |



Kids a-Flame  
CAN-ADA

## SUMMER TREK 2011 THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who participated, partnered with and supported us in our many outreaches this summer:

Kid's A-Flame, Canada, Kidz Quest, Operation Backpack, and Peru.

Many, many lives were transformed because of your support, prayers, and participation. Thank you for helping us follow His command and expand His Kingdom.



## THANK YOU SANDY KOULIAS

Most of you all know Sandy Koulias. She has been a member of this church for a very long time. She has also been on staff here for longer than most of the current staff. At the end of August Sandy stepped down from her position as the Children's Ministry Assistant. The Children's Ministry here at our church is very active in and outside our community and even though she was only part time...the work, prayers, and time that she gave to this ministry easily amounted to full time x100. God has been calling Sandy to focus on other areas of ministry in her life and she would not be able to be faithful to His calling if she remained as the Children's Ministry Assistant. **OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS TO FOLLOW GOD'S CALLING.....WE SERVE THE KING...NOT THE CASTLE.** So with that said....she will be missed. Her support, her creativity, her insight, her spiritual sensitivity in the everyday operations of Planet Kids will be greatly missed. I thank God that she will still be around and available but I am also thankful to have a friend that has a desire to follow God first. Integrity, Compassionate, Discerning, Serving, Nurturing, Strong, Courageous,.....Sandy.

**PLANET KIDS**  
Dean Giancola: Children's Pastor ext. 18

## MP

Assist. Encourage. Serve.

If you are going into 6th or 7th Grade and would like to become an MP in Planet Kids Children's Ministry than all you have to do is fill out an MP form. You can find the forms outside the Planet Kids offices. Every new recruit is required to participate in the MP Boot Camp. Date TBA.



## OCTOBER 2011 CALENDAR

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| October 2nd:  | <b>NO ROCK-IT WORSHIP</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm           |
| October 5th:  | <b>Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm</b>                                       |
| October 9th:  | <b>ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm |
| October 12th: | <b>Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm</b>                                       |
| October 16th: | <b>ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm |
| October 19th: | <b>Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm</b>                                       |
| October 23rd: | <b>ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm |
| October 27th: | <b>Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm</b>                                       |
| October 30th: | <b>ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am</b><br>Blast-Off Classes 11:12:00pm |

## Anniversary Wishes

### SEPTEMBER

- 9/1/1956 VILMA & ROBERT PLENNERT (55)  
9/1/1973 KAROL & KEITH THORNBURGH (38)  
9/2/1953 NANCY & BOB FISHER (58)  
9/13/1952 FRAN & BILL DOBSON (59)  
9/15/1984 SHARON & TOM HILL (27)  
9/17/1977 BONNIE & JOHN MILLS (34)  
9/22/1940 HELEN & BRUD NAYLOR (71)

### OCTOBER

- 10/9/1965 HELEN & BOB FLOWERS (46)  
10/16/1976 DEBORAH & RAY WILLOUGHBY (35)  
10/20/1951 BEV & ED MCNULTY (60)  
10/20/1966 JUDY & NORMAN HILL (45)  
10/20/1984 CAROL & DON FOOSE (27)  
10/21/1977 BILL & BYSIE WITHERS (34)

IF YOUR ANNIVERSARY IS NOT LISTED, PLEASE  
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE SO WE MAY UPDATE OUR  
RECORDS (25 YEARS AND OVER).

**Church office will be closed Monday, September 5th in  
observance of Labor Day.**

### THIS WILL BE OUR LAST MESSENGER MAILING

The Messenger can be found on our website at  
[www.fumctarponsprings.org](http://www.fumctarponsprings.org)

If you would like a copy mailed to you please con-  
tact Mella in the church office at  
727-937-3271 ext. 25.

Special thanks to  
Helen Shaffer, Pat Rogers, Dorothy Salls, Linda  
Murphy, Bernie Dibble, Nancy Fisher, Linda  
Thorpe & Judy Hunter for their help getting The  
Messenger ready for mailing.

**HEALING SERVICE**  
Held the 4th Sunday of each month following  
the 8:15 & 10:30 worship services.

**COMMUNION SERVED**  
FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH DURING WORSHIP.  
THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

**New Worship Times:**  
**8:15 Chapel**  
**9:15 Sanctuary**  
**11:00 Chapel**

Letters From War 2011 Tour  
featuring Mark Schultz with 33 Miles & Finding Favour  
Friday, September 30th at 7PM  
First United Methodist Church of Spring Hill  
Tickets call: 352-683-2600 ext.1



September kicks off M.O.P.S.  
Classes will meet on the  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month,  
9:45am - 11:45am in room WC105.  
Childcare available with reservations.  
Contact Farah Vann 919-6737.

## LIFE CLASSES

9:30AM & 11:00AM

- ◆Issues and Answers - WC211 - 9:30AM
- ◆Unmerited Favor - WC210 - 11AM
- ◆Marinated in His Word - WC216 - 9:30AM
- ◆Middle School Youth - WC212 - 11AM
- ◆High School Youth - Gym - 11 AM
- ◆Christian Life - WC206 - 9:30AM
- ◆Extraordinary - WC214 - 11AM

Please help us stay connected with our members by notifying the church office if you know of someone that needs prayers,  
is having surgery, sick or has gone to be with the Lord.

Send your email to [pray@fumctarponsprings.org](mailto:pray@fumctarponsprings.org) or call 937-3271 ext25.

*Gospel Train Church Pre-School Ministry - Bysie Withers - Director 727-934-2223*

Dear Church Family,

Another brand new school year is upon us at The Gospel Train. The teachers and children are excited and ready to go. We minister to the needs of children ages Two through Six. We offer a wide variety of learning activities to promote early literacy in a fun and age-appropriate way. The Gospel Train went through the Gold Seal accreditation process again during our 2010/2011 school year. This is a State of Florida certification with

strict standards. I am so proud of the hard work of our teachers and our church to accomplish everything that it takes to achieve this accreditation and make us again a Gold Seal rated school!

**Parent's Night will be on September 27th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.** See you there!

Faithfully yours,  
Bysie Withers  
Director



**CONVERGE**

**Young Adult Game Night - Saturday, September 17th  
(geared for married couples & singles) age 25-40ish  
7PM-10PM Wesley Hall (gym)**

**\*Bring a snack to share\***

**Details call Matt Milnes at 727-410-1398**

**Upcoming Dates: October 22nd & November 19th**

**PUMPKIN PATCH COMING**

**OCTOBER 15TH-31ST**

**PLEASE CONTACT JANINE SERFASS  
(727-938-1434) OR THE CHURCH**

**OFFICE TO SIGN UP AND BE A  
PATCH VOLUNTEER.**

**THE HARVEST FEST WILL BE HELD ON  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29TH.**

**Thoughts from Solomon:**

God met me last Sunday in a personal and irresistible way. Last Sunday during the morning worship service, the hymn "It is well with my soul" took me into a deep state of reflection during which the Lord caused my entire life experience to flash across my mind. Overwhelmed by tears as the congregation continued on singing, I was confronted by the Holy Spirit within myself regarding my specific and overall attitude about life as a child of God. Thinking about every difficult moment, the question was, "is it really well with your soul" even with all that? My answer was, "yes Lord because of You". Especially, the phrase "even so" put a specific focus on each event about which I complained. I am sick, "is it well even so?" I was fired, "Is it well even so?" there is a rift in my relationship, "is it well even so?" My woes are catching up with me, "is it well even so?" I was betrayed, "Is it well even so?" My most beloved died prematurely, "Is it well even so?" No one listens to me, "is it well even so?" They talk behind my back, "Is it well even so?" I can't stand them, him, or her, "Is

it well even so?" I feel shunned, "Is it well even so?" They want me for my money or for what I can give them, "Is it well even so?" Well friend, fill in your own experience, "is it well with your soul" in spite of everything you faced and might be facing?

I am not suggesting to deny challenges and simply say "it is well". That will be mocking our gracious Lord. But the question is: do we recognize the sovereign authority of our God and our Father over everything we face? Remember our journey is fully planned and cohesively directed by our loving Father with His multifaceted and all-inclusive overall and specific plan. Yes, "even so, it is well" with the soul of God's children. Are you one of those? Then have no fear or doubt. Do not collapse under the weight of your experience.

Join us for Sunday school class at room 211 beginning September 11 at 9:30AM. There the Lord is the teacher and we are the students.  
Solomon Mekonnen



Congratulations to Devin & Alison Vinson on the birth of their daughter  
Gwyneth Eve  
born August 25th at 1:06AM,  
weighting 7lbs 4oz and 20" long.

Grandparents to Bill and Lynda Vinson.

**GriefShare Session**

**10AM on Tuesday**

**September 13, 2011**

**Lakeview Community Church**

**475 East Lake Road N.**

**Tarpon Springs**

**Classroom #2**

**\$15.00 includes workbook**

**(scholarships available)**

**727-942-0229**

**Pre-register to ensure a spot.**

**Women's Friday Morning Bible Study - October 7th**

Book of Jonah (7 week study) DVD Driven - 9:45AM-12Noon in the Wesley Center room WC211. Workbooks available in the church office for \$15.

Facilitator Robin Karr - 727-937-0739

### Music Ministry News

Our **VOICES OF PRAISE CHOIR** is excited to have 5 new singers and 6 returning singers for our 2011-2012 Ministry Year.

We would like to welcome David Raunick, our new Worship Leader!

David will be building, rehearsing and leading the Worship Team for the our new 9:15am Contemporary Worship Service.

Our Handbell Choir (Wednesdays at 7:00pm) is in need of one or two ringers who can read music well and enjoy good fellowship.

Please mark Friday, November 11th, on your Calendar for a wonderful Celebration of Veteran's Day.

Our **VOICES OF PRAISE** and Bones South will be joining the Music Ministry of Palm Harbor UMC and five other church choirs to offer an evening which will honor our armed forces (both veteran and active).

You will hear more about this very soon!

For more information about our Ministry of Music, call Tom Drick at 937-3271 x39



Parents? Need something to do while your kids are diligently doing their homework? Why not read a Christian book and grow in your knowledge and spiritual life right along with them? It's quality family time!

So don't forget the library is open on Sunday mornings from 9:00 am to Noon, as well as during the Wednesday dinner and bible classes. The new worship schedule will allow more time to browse the shelves. Take advantage of a wonderful collection of materials that are available due to the generosity of members monetary contributions and donations.

**Pack #48 meets on Monday nights in the Wesley Center room WC215, Cub Scouts at 6:30PM and Boy Scouts at 7:30PM.**

**New Member Classes  
3 SERIES  
October 5th, 12th & 19th  
held in room WC217 6:30-8PM  
Sign-up by calling the church office.**

### WESLEY RIDERS MOTORCYCLE MINISTRY NEWS

**Blue Ridge Adventure Memories  
June 26 - July 1, 2011**



**Next Ride: September 24th. For more details contact Jack Taylor 727-939-3008 or Tom Drick 727-937-3271 ext 39**

### Lay Leader Line

Laity Sunday will be on October 16. This year's theme is "Disciples Transforming the World: Through Gifts." In I Peter 4:10-11 it is written, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ." Transforming the world through our gifts sounds like an overwhelming undertaking. But remember the world is not just those far away places; it is our homes, our church, our neighborhoods. God has gifted each of us differently and has given the exact gifts that are needed to nurture and strengthen our congregation. If there is something lacking perhaps someone is not using their God given gifts. We are called to serve one another with whatever talents and skills we have in order to build up the Body of Christ. What transformation would occur in our

congregation and in the world if each person gave their gift according to the grace they have been given.

How are you using your talents and skills to build the body? We need you! Every week in the bulletin are areas in which you can serve and use the skills the Lord has given you. If you are not serving in some way, you are missing out on a wonderful blessing and this has an impact on the life and growth of our church body. What wonderful and powerful things might happen if each member renewed their membership vows to "uphold the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness."

Blessings to you,  
Carole Geibel  
Lay Leader

### Young at Hearts Cruising the Globe

YaHa's, get ready to take off for a trip around the world. You won't need to pack your bags or find your passport. Just show up in the Wesley Hall on the second Friday of each month from October to April at 11:00 a.m. to join your fellow travelers as we highlight a country each month through our programs, fellowship and luncheons. Our first destination is Germany for an Oktoberfest on October 14. Then on November 11th we celebrate veterans and the good old U.S.A. with a barbecue. December will be Christmas around the world with traditional dishes from many countries and favorite Christmas songs as well.

We'll bring in the New Year with a Chinese New Year on January 13. Then on to France in February, Ireland in March and finally Mexico in April.

More details will be featured in the Sunday bulletins as the dates for departure approaches. So if your 55 or older and want to have a great time enjoying an unforgettable journey that requires no security lines, no I.D.s, no cost for baggage, join us each month at YaHa's.

Boarding at gate 501 Tarpon Avenue,  
Phil and Carole Geibel  
848-8107



### The UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

of our church are still in need of Ditty Bag items. Ditty Bags contain primarily personal hygiene items for adults and children and school supplies for children. Items can be dropped off at the church office. Volunteers needed to fill Ditty Bags on October 25th from 6-9PM in the Wesley Hall (gym). Questions, contact Pam Baldyga at 727-479-2111.

[www.fumctarponsprings.org](http://www.fumctarponsprings.org)

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS  
BEGIN SEPT. 14TH AT 5:30PM  
FOLLOWED BY BIBLE STUDY AT 6:30PM**

**Wednesday Night Bible Classes:**  
**John 3:16 - Larry Carroll - Room WC214**  
**Book of Jonah - Steve Francis - Room WC212**  
**Unmerited Favor - Fran Arfaras - Room WC206**

◆ ZUMBA is back to Thursday nights from 6:30-7:30PM in the Wesley Center upstairs in the Launch Pad. Info call Rachel Risoldi 727-804-0999. ◆



Please help us stay connected with our members by notifying the church office if you know of someone that needs prayers, is having surgery, sick or has gone to be with the Lord.

Send your email to [pray@fumctarponsprings.org](mailto:pray@fumctarponsprings.org) or call 937-3271 ext25.

# Truth & Life Youth Ministry

## Alabama Mission Trip



We have had an amazing ministry and fun filled summer. On the left side are pictures from our mission trip to Alabama. On April 27, 2011 a tornado ripped through Tuscaloosa. It was 1 of 200 tornadoes that day; 20 of them were F5's. We met up with 2 other youth groups (Ray Owens and Justin Boyd) and over 90 of us got together on Monday night and took a tour of Tuscaloosa. Our hearts broke as we saw the devastation and loss. Our group spent 2 days clearing a foundation where a pastor's house used to stand. It was incredible to see the power of wind. One of the pictures on the left is Brooke and me standing in the sanctuary of a church that had its roof completely ripped off. It was a life changing trip for many of our youth. Ask any of them about the trip, they love to talk about it.

After working for a week in Alabama we went to Daytona for a retreat. We met two other youth groups again (Ray Owens and Jarrod Hancock). We had amazing, very relaxing and spiritually challenging week. We had 2 worship services each day and 2 small group discussions each day. The youth said this was a great week for them and they are ready to go back to school and do incredible things for God.

We ended the summer with a week long VBS at Joining Hands Mission. We helped run a VBS for homeless and impoverished children. There were 115 kids that we played with and ministered to from 7:30am to 6pm everyday.

This was truly a life changing summer for a lot of our kids. We are looking forward to seeing what God does in their schools this year.



## Adrenaline Daytona Bch.

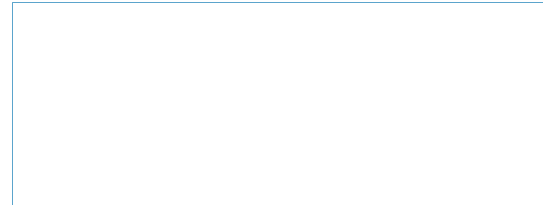




**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
501 EAST TARPON AVENUE  
TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689  
727-937-3271

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**CHILDREN'S CANADA MISSION TRIP**