

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

NOVEMBER 11
"I SALUTE YOU"
CHOIR AT PHUMC

NOVEMBER 11
VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 13
CHILI COOKOFF

NOVEMBER 17
YOUTH THANKSGIVING
DINNER

NOVEMBER 24
THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER

NOVEMBER 24 & 25
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

DECEMBER 4
CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

DECEMBER 14
GOSPEL TRAIN
FAMILY CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 17
THE LIGHT HAS COME
CHURCH MUSICAL

DECEMBER 23 & 26
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 25
CHRISTMAS
MORNING SERVICE

JANUARY 1
NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

JANUARY 2
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

From Pastors Desk:

A recent devotion was from Ecclesiastes 11:4, "Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest."

Waiting for the perfect conditions will mean we never start anything, and never get anything accomplished. In our spiritual journey we often put off starting a daily devotion, Bible reading, our stewardship, our plan for service, acts of thanksgiving, seeking reconciliation in a broken relationship...and you can add to the list those things that you never get around to doing because "the time isn't right." If we wait for the perfect time and place to begin, we will never begin. The lines in the devotional from The Life Application Study Bible in my YouVersion (my cell phone daily devotion guide) that struck me said, "If we are looking for the perfect church, we will never join. If we are waiting for the perfect ministry, we will never serve... Don't wait for conditions that may never exist."

We need to take steps to grow spiritually. We are so blessed to have so many wonderful opportunities to serve, learn, and grow in and through the ministries here at First Church-Tarpon Springs. God is blessing us and I am so proud to be serving with you as we seek to do His will, and glory His name in this place.

Thanking the Lord for all His blessings, especially the gift of Jesus to us and the whole world.

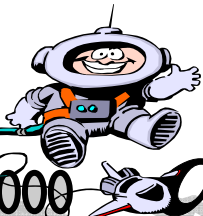
Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!
Pastor Doug

SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

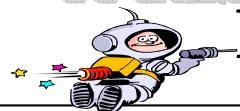
- ▶ The Encouragers meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month (women's group).
 - ▶ Potluck Supper & Bible Study meets 2nd and 4th Friday if each month.
- ▶ Bible Study, Prayer, Fellowship and Outreach group meet the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month.
 - ▶ Bible Study and Fellowship group meet the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month.
- ▶ Comfort & Caring Group meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month in the church library (JAN.)
 - ▶ Bible Study, Service, and Fellowship group meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

For more information on any of our study groups, please contact
Steve Francis at (727) 937-8998.

WHAT'S UP

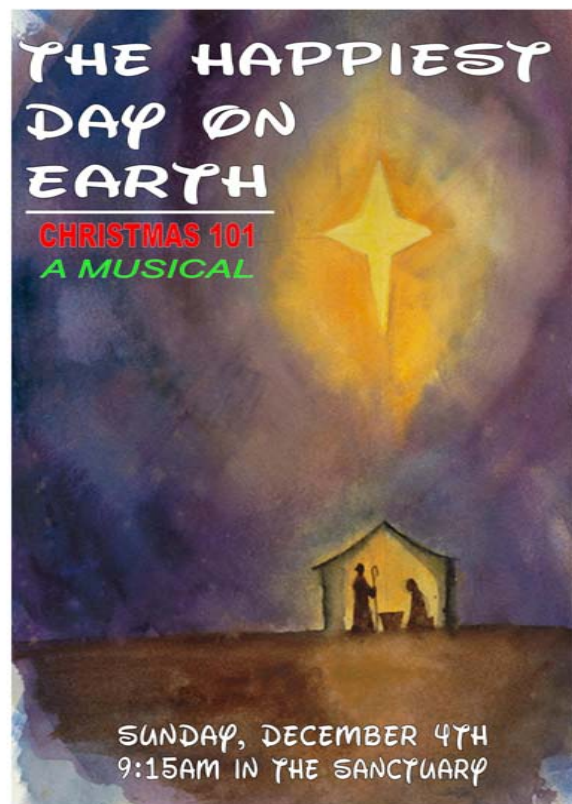


PLANET KIDS



NOVEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

Nov. 3rd:	Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm
Nov. 6th:	NO ROCK-IT WORSHIP Blast-Off Classes 11-12:00pm
Nov. 9th:	Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm
Nov. 13th:	ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am Blast-Off Classes 11:00-12:00pm
Nov. 16th:	Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm
Nov. 20th:	ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am Blast-Off Classes 11:00-12:00pm
Nov. 23th:	NO SPACE CAMP
Nov. 27th:	ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am Blast-Off Classes 11:00-12:00pm
Nov. 30th:	Space Camp 6:30-8:00pm



This is the story about the Happiest Day on Earth told by some kids in a school classroom to their friends who thought Christmas was only about gifts, parties, lights and a guy in a red suit.

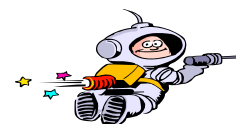
PLANET KIDS

Dean Giancola: Children's Pastor ext. 18

FROM THE CREATORS OF
JOY STORY 2:10
and
HALO REACHOUT

ROMAN Road Trip

COMING TO
ROCK-IT WORSHIP
FALL 2011



DECEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

Dec. 3rd:	Kid's Musical Dress Rehearsal MANDATORY
Dec 4th:	NO ROCK-IT WORSHIP The Happiest Day on Earth Musical Blast-Off Classes 11-12:00pm
Dec. 7th:	Space Camp Christmas Celebration 6:30-8:00pm
Dec. 11th:	ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am Blast-Off Classes 11:00-12:00pm
Dec. 14th:	SPACE CAMP CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Dec. 18th:	ROCK-IT WORSHIP 9:15-10:30am Blast-Off Classes 11:00-12:00pm
Dec. 25th:	CHRISTMAS DAY!!!! NO ROCK-IT WORSHIP OR BLAST-OFF

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



The special months of November and December are fast approaching!

The children at Gospel Train just completed class pictures and Fire Safety week in the month of October.

In the month of November we really focus on "Praise God from whom all blessings flow". We are all thankful for our families and our friends. We are thankful that we have this beautiful school that the church provides for us. During the month of November we will do a "Helping Hands" project. The children will bring in canned goods that will be donated to the Shepherd's Center. The children love to do this and it is a good way to teach them that not all children in our community are as fortunate as they are. Our school will be closed the

week of November 21st-November 25th for Thanksgiving vacation.

During the month of December we focus of course on the birthday of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The children will perform "A Family Christmas "on December 14th in the Sanctuary. After we finish the singing part of our show the children and their families will go to the gym to "ice-skate", make crafts and have refreshments. This is a great way for the family to celebrate together. All of us at The Gospel Train wish all of our church family a very blessed Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas!



"Halloween candy, Thanksgiving turkey/trimmings and Christmas ham, cookies..." Start ZUMBA now before it's a necessary New Years Resolution! Thursdays 6:30pm - 7:30pm Launch Pad (Women only of all ages) Learn Latin dance for Free and for Fun - Beginners Welcome!!!

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



**Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner
November 24th, 11AM-2PM in the Wesley Hall**

If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of food needed for this event, please make your check payable to:
FUMC and in the memo Thanksgiving.



VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

If you would like to help with our Thanksgiving Day Dinner in the following areas **please call the office 937-3271 ext 16** and leave your name, contact number and area you would like to volunteer in. You will be placed on our volunteer list. A call back will be made to you as we near the event with your assignment.

Areas we will need volunteers in:

Waitress	Greeter	Wrap Silverware	Bus Boy
Waiter	Kitchen Help	To-Go Orders	Bus Girl
Clean Up	Dessert Table	Sunday Cut-Up	Drinks
Sign-In Table	Side Dish Prep	Turkey Cut-Up	Set-Up

Thank you for volunteering your time and serving God.

The Library provides over 700 books and DVD's important to Christian study and discipleship. There are many resources tailored for the individual, the class setting, and for the congregation. The library supports the Mission Statement of the Church, "Equipping you for life", and the growth of the individual members' faith.

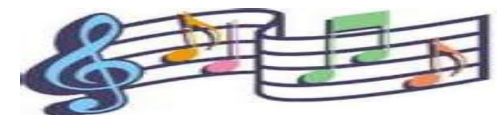
Library hours:

Sunday: 9am to Noon
Wednesday: 5pm to 8pm

The Library is always accessible during church office hours; please check in with the receptionist first.



Be sure to book the A Capella Team early for your Christmas Party or for your loved ones at 727-937-3271 ext. 17



Women's Friday Morning Bible Study - January 13th

Book of James (11 week study) - 9:45AM-12Noon
located in the Wesley Center room WC211.
Facilitator Robin Karr - 727-937-0739

Truth & Life Youth Ministry



Second Annual Chili Cook-off

Last year Mr. David Bolton won first place in our chili cook-off and we are looking for people to give him some competition. Registering for the cook-off is easy just stop by the office and pickup a form. Then on November 13 show up here at church with your big pot of chili. Last year some people had excellent chili but they ran out before all the judges could taste it, so be sure to make enough.

Lunch and Competition begins at High Noon in the Wesley Center.

We remembered those who have gone to be with the Lord. Keep them in your prayers.

MILDRED BONDURANT	OLGA PESSAS
JERI BROWN	JEANE SANNER
GEORGE HEMPHILL	EDYTHE SMITH
CONNIE HIGGINBOTHAM	ROY SMITH
BLAINE LECOURIS	RAY WEBB
ALICE LECOURIS	FRAN WOODHOUSE
SHIRLEY LYNCH	NICHOLAS ZAZALIARIS

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped at the Pumpkin Patch and Harvest Festival!! We blessed our community.

A special thanks to Janine & Dave Serfass, Keith Thornburgh & Rex and Tina Wilkinson.

Lay Leader Line

October 16 was Laity Sunday. The theme was "Disciples Transforming the World Through Gifts. Dr. Solomon Mekonnen gave the inspiring message. In 1 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."

Church is not somewhere you go; church is something you are - a living breathing body. We not only belong to God, we belong to each other.

Each of us has a part in keeping this body healthy. God has gifted each of us with something to nurture this body and make it strong. It could be a spiritual gift, a skill or talent, or financial prosperity.

Whatever it is, He desires us to give it back to Him in service to others and to this body of believers. Are we being good stewards of God's blessings and gifts? If we are, it will be reflected in a healthy church which is nurturing disciples and glorifying God.

Blessings to you all,
Carole Geibel

**Happy Veteran's Day
November 11th**



Young At Hearts To Celebrate Living in the Good Old U.S.A.

YaHa"s! Come celebrate the a good old U.S.A. by feasting on chicken barbecue prepared by Rex and Tina Wilkin-son. On Friday, November 11 we will recognize Veteran's Day by hearing stories from some of our seniors who were around when World War II ended. What were they doing when the announcement was made that the war had ended? How did they feel and how did they celebrate? We have heard many of the stories of valor from those who served our country. We would like to hear how the results were felt & celebrated by people at home.

Place: Wesley Hall

Time: Friday, November 11th at 11:00 am.

Cost: \$6.00 per person.

Friends or neighbors are always welcomed guests. Check the bulletin each Sunday for reminders. No ration cards required.

R.S.V.P. call Phil and Carole Geibel at 848-8107 by Monday, November 9th

WESLEY GROUP NEWS

Summer is over and all of the Wesley Groups are starting back into full swing. Recently the church had the pleasure of hearing testimonies from some of the Group leaders and how being a leader had blessed them. We also had members of different groups give testimony as to what the groups meant to them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We are planning another Leaders training session along with a **NEW LEADERS CLASS**. So please pray about this and if you feel God's nudging please plan to attend this class. If you feel after the class that it isn't for you that's okay. The dates will be announced soon. I know that we are heading into a very busy time but we will try to schedule the classes accordingly.

Birth Announcements



Courtney & Brian Rigby
announce the birth of
their son
Callan Thomas
Born September 8th at 2:12pm
8lbs 13oz. 20" long

Jenn & Rodney Nicodemus
announce the birth of
their daughter
Kyleigh Marie
Born November 1st at 3:59pm
6lbs 1oz. and 19 1/4" long



Shauna & David Wilkens
announce the birth of
their son
Carston Cruz
Born November 2nd at 9:45pm
6lbs 7.4oz. and 18" long



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 or call 937-3271 ext25.



Christmas Boxes for Our Homebound Members



The **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** invite all of the women of our church to join them at their Unit Meeting on **Tuesday, December 6th at 9:30 a.m. in Wesley Hall**. We will be filling **Christmas boxes** with personal care items, unbreakable ornaments, cards and postage stamps, homemade cookies, dried fruit, candy and Christmas cakes and then delivering them to our members who are **Homebound, in Assisted Living Facilities and Nursing Homes**.

These are the members who in past years were the Sunday School and Bible Study teachers, were members of the Choir, held positions as Trustees, served on the Finance Committee, the Staff Parish Committee, the Nominations & Lay Development Committee and Administrative Council. They are the faithful who have kept the Light shining for us.

*If you find the Lord is leading you to be a part of this **ANNUAL MISSION PROJECT**, we would love to have you join us!*

Please contact Betsy Downs—942-7121 if you have any questions.

The Light Has Come

*SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2011 AT 7:00PM
FUMC SANCTUARY*



Featuring:

Voices Of Praise Choir

Sound Truth

FUMC Worship Team

Brass Ensemble

Bones South

FUMC Dance Ministry

Tamra Comstock (special guest soloist)

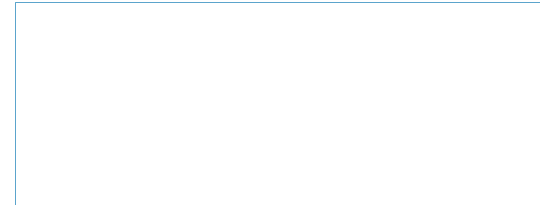
(Valet Parking provided by our Men's Ministry)



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
501 EAST TARPON AVENUE
TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689
727-937-3271
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Equipping you for life!

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*Annual Community
Thanksgiving Day Dinner*
11AM-2PM

Don't go without or eat alone
All are welcome!

