The Encourager

October 2018

First United Methodist Church of Seffner

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

Our mission at First Seffner is to GO into the world to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Potpourri of Happenings

October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29: Praise Team Rehearsals: Mondays, 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

October 2: Legend Dairy 4H Group: Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. in the Old Sanctuary.

October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30: Country Western Music Group: 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall.

October 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31: Choir Practice: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

October 3, 17 & 31: Family Support Group: Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

October 7: Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting: Sunday, 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

October 7, 21 & 28: Youth Group Meeting: Sundays, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

October 8: Irene Circle Meeting: Monday, 7:00 p.m. Meets the 2nd Monday every month. They will meet in the Old Sanctuary this month.

October 9: SPRC Meeting: Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. in the Old Sanctuary, Room 205.

October 10, 17, 24 &31: Bible Study on Experiencing God: Mondays, 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. Join Pastor Kathi starting October 10, everyone is welcome.

October 10: Wednesday Night Dinner: 6:00 p.m. Join us for fellowship and a delicious dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. Advance Sign Up - $6.00 for adults, $3.00 for children under 12.

October 11: Nominations Committee Meeting: Thursday, 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

October 13: Trunk or Treat Event: Saturday, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. on Church grounds. Everyone is welcome. Invite your friends.

October 16: Foster Angels Meeting: Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. in the Old Sanctuary.

October 16: Trustees Committee Meeting: Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. in the Good News Room.

October 20: Breakfast Club: Saturday, 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome.

October 21: Laity Sunday: The laity of First Seffner Church will be leading worship.

October 21: First Seffner Pre-Charge Conference Meeting: Sunday, 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, along with a potluck lunch. Everyone is welcome.

October 28: First Seffner Cuban Sandwich Sale: Sunday. Following Worship Service. Sign up in the Narthex to place your order.

Hello friends! Well, officially it is fall, but it sure doesn't feel like it! I can't wait for a little cooler weather (not cold, because I don't like to be cold)! When there is a bit of a nip in the air, it refreshes and reenergizes us, doesn't it?

The month of September was a pretty difficult month for myself personally, as well as for our church family. I want to thank all of you for your prayers, cards, meals and donations of time and money for the benefit of my family after the death of my Mother. She was a wonderful woman and we will miss her dearly, but we have faith, and find joy in knowing that she has been completely renewed and restored, and living now with her God that she loved so much. Paul tells us *"Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength"* (1 Corinthians 15:43).

We also lost one of our own – Wayne Allen. I cannot imagine, as your pastor, how difficult this is for our church family, who loved him and will also miss him dearly as well. I pray you can find comfort in knowing that he is also living the new life he was meant to live as his love for the Lord continues to deepen throughout eternity.

The month of October will be a time of healing for us. This is an opportune time for all of us to draw ourselves closer to the Lord, who is mighty to save! The writer of Psalm 147:3 remind us: *"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."* This is the time for us to come to know God intimately and fully, and to experience His love, grace and mercy in new and fresh ways.

I encourage you to join a small group during our Experiencing God sermon series. There is a Sunday morning group that is meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. I am starting a new group on Wednesday mornings beginning October 10th at 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. Or perhaps you would like to start a new group at your home in the evenings? Please contact me at 813-787-6198 to let me know of your interest in any of the above.

It is also a great time for us to do what is normal for us at this time of year. We will celebrate the fall weather through our Trunk or Treat event on October 13th. We have more trunks and community partners participating than ever before, which is over the top exciting news! It takes many hands to make an event like this successful. If you have not already signed up to volunteer somewhere on that day, please see Lauran Breeden and get connected!

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your pastor. I look forward to seeing what God has in store for all of us in the coming month.

Love in Christ,
Pastor Kathi

Support Our Youth

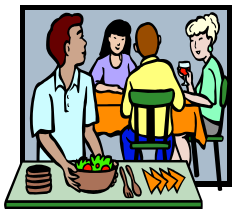
Can you provide a snack on Sundays?

If you can please contact Joan Sampere.

Thanks and Blessings

Wednesday Night Dinner

October 10, 2018 @ 6pm



Please join us for fellowship and a delicious dinner
on October 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Dine in or Take Out

Menu: Pasta, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

Advance Sign Up: $6.00 - Adult ~ $3.00 - Children under 12
At Door: $7.00 - Adult ~ $4.00 - Children under 12

*Please sign up in the Narthex to reserve your seat.

Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat
Saturday, October 13th
4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

The Trunk or Treat event is Saturday, October 13th.

Come join us for a free evening of safe family fun!

Volunteers - Please arrive at 3:00 p.m.

You can still bring candy donations on Saturday the 13th.

See You Saturday!

World Communion Sunday - October 14th!

Around the globe, countless gifted and qualified people face financial obstacles that hinder them from preparing for the vocation God has given them, especially youth and young adults. For ethnic students who will be the first generation in their families to attend college, or for those people of color who haven't historically had access to resources that make higher education possible, the road toward education has often been unwieldy.

What would it look like if the church today imitated Jesus' affirmation of the full dignity and God-given potential of all women and men—especially those who've historically been assigned to the world's margins? On World Communion Sunday your giving helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve.

Equipping Disciples Like Mary Grace to Serve in Jesus' Name

As a small child Mary Grace Galapon labored as a housemaid in exchange for food and clothing. Yet, allowed to attend church, she found hope. As a member of The United Methodist Church, your giving on World Communion Sunday has allowed this deaconess, of the Mindanao Philippines Annual Conference, to pursue an education that is now changing her community as she works to eliminate poverty.

Mary Grace's work, and the impact of hundreds more like her, are possible because you give.

Will You Equip World-Changers?

Will you give generously on World Communion Sunday to make education and vocational impact possible for more students, like Mary Grace? Will you equip gifted and qualified students from around the globe to become the world-changers God created them to be?

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." And because the people of The United Methodist Church believe that all of God's children have been created and gifted to build the kingdom Jesus ushered in, we're resourcing them to do just that. Because of your giving on World Communion Sunday, the most powerful tool to change the world is in more hands.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Kathi

Breakfast Club
Saturday - October 20th

We invite all to join us for breakfast one Saturday a month in the Fellowship Hall,
8:30 - 9:30 a.m. We have a great meal, no cost...just donations.
Then we have great fellowship about anything in general concerning our Church.

*Please sign up in the Narthex to let us know how
many will be coming to help us plan for food purchasing.

First Seffner Pre-Charge Conference Meeting
Sunday - October 21st

First Seffner UMC will have a Pre-Charge Conference Meeting on Sunday, October 21st immediately following the morning service in the Fellowship Hall, along with a potluck lunch. ALL CHURCH MEMBERS have both a voice and vote on all matters that come before the conference for action, but everyone is welcome to attend.

CUBANS COMING YOUR WAY OCTOBER

Make your meal plans on October 28th to include Seffner Methodists world famous Cuban sandwiches. Sign up early in the Narthex to place your order. The price is $6.00 per sandwich. Please commit to pay if you sign up and do not pick up. We work on very close margins and buy according to the signups.

Need for Digital Cameras for Colson

Colson Elementary is looking for used digital cameras for a camera club. This is a fun way for students to learn a new skill and perhaps develop a new talent.

If you have an old digital camera that you are no longer using, please bring it to the church! Thanks in advance for your support!

Love in Christ, Pastor Kathi

Stewardship Minute

"Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others." --Augustine

Our Giving for September: $12,425.00

Our Monthly Need for Ministry: $13,398.00

Manna Bags

In the Narthex you will find a tub marked "Manna Bags". Take a couple and keep in your car to give to the homeless you see on street corners asking for help. These bags contain water, canned meat, nutrient bars, cookies, etc. that will provide a nice meal for those in need plus a Cross and a little card that says why I carry a Cross in my pocket. Our Church members have distributed over 3000 Manna Bags over the past 10 plus years. Sponsored and packed by the Breakfast Club.

Aluminum Cans

Please save your aluminum cans and bring to Jim Blaney Sunday mornings. They will be taken to a recycling company where we receive up to .50/lb. The funds help to support Manna Bags and ultimately the homeless.

AMAZON ORDERS
EARNS REBATES FOR OUR CHURCH

If you purchase anything from Amazon you can now have 1/2 percent of your purchase price rebated to our Church.

Just follow these easy steps:

1. Open Amazon as **Smile.Amazon.com**
2. If you have an account with Amazon go to "my account".
3. Go to "Settings"
4. Go to "Change your Charity"
5. Type in "First United Methodist Church of Seffner"

Then when you wish to make a purchase from Amazon open in **Smile.Amazon.com**. Everything will be the same. There is no extra cost to you and ordering through Amazon this way brings added funds to our Church. If you have questions see Jim Blaney.

Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

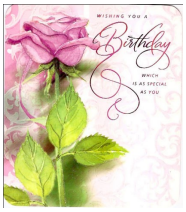
Volunteers are needed for Altar Guild for **November and December 2018**. We usually work in teams of two and it usually takes about an hour each week. This includes dusting Chancel area, replacing offering envelopes and pencils, checking hymnals and Bibles in the racks, changing paraments when needed, water plants, clean water fountains, etc. There is a complete list in the Sacristy. If you can spare an hour a week for this, please contact the Church Office at 813-689-3513 or seffnerfumc@gmail.com

MEALS ON WHEELS HELP NEEDED

Meals on Wheels is looking for substitute volunteers to be on call to help deliver the Monday meals when our regular drivers can't be here, as well as ride along delivery helpers and kitchen helpers. Please give the office a call if you would like to help or see Connie Nelson.

Altar Flower Calendar

There are still many Sundays without flowers for worship. The price is still $25/ Sunday. Please consider signing up for a Sunday or two and place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of your loved ones. Thank you.



Need To Send a Card?

There is a basket of free cards in the Narthex for church members who are unable to make a trip to pick one up. We have an assortment of cards, including Birthday, Get Well and Sympathy. Sherry Salamone will have stamps to purchase if needed.

Monday Morning Prayer Group

Our Monday morning Prayer Group meets every Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we pray for church members, family, friends, anyone who is in need of prayer. Everyone is welcome.

Prayer Requests

Remember Our Shut-Ins: Carl Brill, Charlene Cabbage, Frances Jordan.

Gail & Harry Cumber: Continued prayers for their daughter, Debra Alipaz, who has terminal cancer.

Connie Nelson: Continued healing prayers for recovery from knee replacement surgery and for therapy.

Lauran Breeden: Continued prayers for foot to heal.

Pam Hill: Healing prayers for Phil and Brenda Marcischak.

Larry & Susan White: Prayers that shots for Susan's leg pain will work.

Alan & Sue Bunch: Continued healing prayers for their 15 year old nephew, Joey Johnston, and for Alan's fundraising efforts for his care.

Bobbie Hawkins: Continued healing prayers for dad, Duke Hawkins, for afib heart problems, and for mom, Jean Hawkins, for blood pressure issues and vertigo.

Missy Shaffer: Healing prayers for medical issues.

Dee Scionti: Continued healing prayers for Dee's grandson, Chase Colwell, in the hospital for his seizures.

Anita Salay: Healing prayers for husband, Bill, for medical issues. Healing prayers for friend, George Sward, for recovery from surgery to have leg removed below the knee due to diabetes.

Dan Rogers: Healing prayers for health issues, in Brandon Hospital.

Bob Van Etten: Healing prayers for recovery from knee surgery after a fall, still in Brandon Hospital.

Palmers: Healing prayers for Greg Palmer, Paul and Sue Palmers' son, for gallbladder surgery on Monday.

Weekly Events:		
Sunday Worship		10:30 a.m.
Sunday Small Groups		9:30 a.m.
Monday	Meals on Wheels	Morning (FH)
	Venture Crew	6:30 p.m.
	Boy Scouts	7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 10 a Prayer Group 5 p Praise Team Rehearsals 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics	*2* 6:30 p Legend Dairy 4H Group 6:30 p Country Western Music	*3* 6 p Family Support Group 7 p Choir Practice	*4*	*5*	*6*
7 9:30 a Sunday School Class 10:30 a Worship **11:30 a Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting** 3 p Youth Group Meeting	*8* 10 a Prayer Group 5 p Praise Team Rehearsals 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics 7 p Irene Circle Meeting	*9* 6:30 p Country Western Music **7 p SPRC Meeting**	*10* 10 a Bible Study - Experiencing God **6 p Wednesday Night Dinner** 7 p Choir Practice	*11* **6:30 p Nominations Meeting**	*12* Friday - Sunday 6:30 p Boy Scouts Lock-In	*13* **4 - 6 p Trunk or Treat Event**
14 9:30 a Sunday School Classes 10:30 a Worship	*15* 10 a Prayer Group 5 p Praise Team Rehearsals 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics	*16* 6:30 p Country Western Music 6:30 p Foster Angels Meeting 7 p Trustees Meeting	*17* 10 a Bible Study - Experiencing God 6 p Family Support Group 7 p Choir Practice	*18*	*19*	*20* **8:30 a Breakfast Club**
21 9:30 a Sunday School Classes **10:30 a Worship - Laity Sunday** **11:30 a First Seffner Pre-Charge Conference Meeting** 3 p Youth Group Meeting	*22* 10 a Prayer Group 5 p Praise Team Rehearsals 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics	*23* 6:30 p Country Western Music	*24* 10 a Bible Study - Experiencing God 7 p Choir Practice	*25*	*26*	*27*
28 9:30 a Sunday School Class 10:30 a Worship **11:30 a Cuban Sandwich Sale** 3 p Youth Group Meeting	*29* 10 a Prayer Group 5 p Praise Team Rehearsals 5:45 p TOPS Club Meeting 6:30 p Aerobics	*30* 6:30 p Country Western Music	*31* 10 a Bible Study - Experiencing God 6 p Family Support Group 7 p Choir Practice			

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Time sensitive material– Please deliver promptly.

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

The Encourager

October 2018

Please let the office know if your special date is not listed!!

Anniversaries

October 8	Larry & Harriet Stone
October 27	Felix & Renee Lebron

November 7	Harry & Gail Cumber

Birthday's

October 3	Nathan Thompson
October 7	Chris Breeden
October 7	Jaxon Breeden
October 7	Billy Davis
October 8	Bob Van Etten
October 14	Missy Shaffer
October 20	Bob Davis
October 22	Sandy Naugle
October 23	Connie Nelson
October 29	Larry White
October 30	Alan Bunch

November 2	Amanda Lirot
November 5	Gail Cumber
November 5	Theresa Sparks
November 8	Wally Sparks
November 8	Brandi Fouche
November 11	David Trayal
November 15	Janice Rogers
November 18	Betty Herbert
November 20	Ryan Heffner
November 20	Matthew Whitney
November 26	Larry Stone
November 26	Renee Lebron
November 26	Nick Mullins