



October 2023



First Congregational UCC

Often, we think of November as a month of gratitude, but my heart is full of thanksgiving after all the faithful work that has been done this summer.

GRATEFUL
Thankful
& BLESSED

First, I want to celebrate those who did so much with our sanctuary enhancement project. We give a standing ovation to **Bud Rives** for outstanding leadership of the project.

Carol and Doug Fields for their tireless help with removing baseboards and upholstering chairs. Thank you to **Carol Fields** for the beautiful new paraments that celebrate our covenants! Thank you to **Don Hoy** for his leadership and help on upholstering chairs, especially the four chairs that sit in the chancel. Thank you to **Roy Burns** for his generous contribution for pew cushions and to **Maggie Revere** who also contributed to the cushions that keep us comfortable. **Rob Quarles, Chris Cooper and the entire Facilities and Grounds Team** the untold ways they supported this project from beginning to end. To our amazing **Women's Association** for the new pew pads that we will pass every Sunday. We are grateful to the design team of **Greg Chestnut, Becky Rives, Marsha Knight, Carol Fields and Bud Rives.**

And to everyone, the list is too long, who came out on Saturdays to wipe away layers of dust, Murphy Soap Oil pews, put in the new cushions, and so much more.



On September 17th, we re-dedicated our sanctuary space to the glory of God and prayed that future generations will find this to be a place where ALL are welcome.

Office Hours

Pastor Wes:

Mon.-Thurs.: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sherry Glover:

Mon.-Tues.: 10:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Wed.-Thurs.: 10:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Mark:

Mon. - Fri.: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Greg:

Tues. - Sat.: various hours



- **Worship ~ 9:00 a.m.** in the Sanctuary
- **Worship ~ 11:00 a.m. in person in the Sanctuary and livestreamed** on YouTube and Facebook.

Pastor Wes Vacation Days:

October 2 – October 8

One of the first hymns that we sang to the tiles and a melody that soaked into the cushions was the hymn, “All are welcome”. Pray the final verse with me:

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught, and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace. Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.



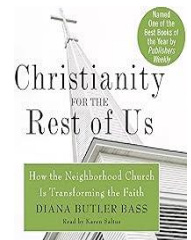
As those words open our sacred imaginations, I turn to the second note of gratitude to our amazing wordsmithing group who gathered comments and thoughts on our Core Values.

At the leadership retreat in January 2023, we began looking at our mission, vision, and core value statements, which are now 10 years old. Each of our Teams and Covenant Groups reviewed the current documents and made suggestions. In April, we hosted an after-church conversation about core values led by Jim Butterworth. Over the summer, a diverse group worked to incorporate the feedback we received. We give thanks to **Jim Butterworth, Harold Mezile, Nancy Morris, Cindy Woodling, Nancy Taylor, Sandi Armstrong, Lucy Tobias, and Dick Miller** who all brought their faithfulness to the table.



On Sunday, September 10th, I invited you to think of our Core Values as words that grow **within us and among us like a vine**. The six core value words are (in random order—NOT ranked or rated) justice, stewardship, worship, welcome, belonging, and caring. These words overlap like the leaves of a vine. These words all spring forth from the same source—our Creator who loves all creation into being. I invite you to think about how we embrace these words now and how might we embody these words in the future?

Beginning in late October, Jim Butterworth will be facilitating a four-week discussion series this fall based on ***Christianity for the Rest of Us*** by Diana Butler-Bass which considers the shape of emerging Christianity and the renewal of mainline Protestant churches such as our UCC. Butler-Bass shares examples of inspiring work which congregations around the nation are doing in vital areas of church life such as hospitality, worship, justice, healing, and diversity.



On four Monday afternoons from **October 30 through November 20 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Oasis Center and on Zoom, participants will discuss a few of these “signposts of renewal” each week and consider how we are accomplishing God’s work in these key areas of our congregational life. I pray you will consider reading this book to take our six core values from the page to our lived faithfulness as a church. In 2024, we will begin our 70th year of ministry. In 2024, I will begin my 11th year of ministry with you. Our renewed sanctuary and core values are a firm foundation for us to build into the future!

With heartfelt gratitude for each of you and God’s love ~ Wes

WORSHIP

9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the sanctuary
(Livestream every Sunday at 11 a.m.)

October 1 ~ World Communion Sunday ~ We gather at Christ's table where everyone is warmly welcomed. **Rev. John Vertigan**, Conference Minister of the UCC in Florida, will be with us to share in the liturgy of the table. Pastor Wes will preach on 1 Kings 17:8-16 ~ the jar of meal a widow and her son share with Elijah.

October 8 ~ Pastor Wes on vacation. **Rev. Dr. Sarah Melcher** will preach and lead worship at both 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. She will preach on the prophet Hosea. We will celebrate our Creation Justice Covenant and honor our LGBTQ+ siblings as Coming Out day is October 10th—See pg. 8 about the luncheon on this day.

October 15 ~ We continue to let Elijah's story inform and inspire our story as we hear how the widow's son was near death, and Elijah's prayer, 1 Kings 17:17-24. Let us honor how gratitude and grief often sit side-by-side on the shelves of our souls. **Please stay for our SURE (Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity) house meeting in Syster Hall at noon—**See pg. 7. We will be recognizing World Hunger Day with breads from around the world.

October 22 ~ We turn to how Elijah faced down 450 priests of Baal in 1 Kings 18, selected verses. Please stay following the second service for our **2024 budget presentation**. We will live stream the presentation for those at home.

October 29 ~ Water Sunday* ~ At both services, please bring your water from travels this last year. As October wraps up, we hear how Elijah fled with fear in 1 Kings 19 and how God appears in a still small whisper. This is also Reformation Sunday which reminds us that our faith is the unfinished house in which we all dwell—still under construction! **Safety team update in Syster Hall at noon.**



November 5 ~ All Saints Sunday** ~ We will sing out about how the chariot carries Elijah away and the mantle of leadership is passed to Elisha, 2 Kings 2. We will light candles in honor of our saints at both services.

** **Water Sunday** ~ Our church has a tradition of honoring our travels with the gathering of waters which will be October 29th at both services. Please bring a small amount of water OR if you happen to forget to gather water, you can bring some from your Sarasota faucet too! This is a wonderful chance to share where we have been and how we are connected to each other.*

*****All Saints Day** ~ If you have a saint, you would like named during our celebration on **November 5th**, please let Pastor Wes know. We will light a candle for the great cloud of witnesses who surround us and sustain us in these days.*

**Support Project 180's Valuable Work
Helping Prisoners Transition
Back to Community Life**



Join Us to Support Project 180!

Barbara Smith-Bacon and Jim Butterworth are attending the October 19th Strong Voices fundraiser at Michael's on East. **Tell us you are coming, and we'll ask to be seated together.**

What: Support Project 180's work to help prisoners transition back to life "outside," and learn about Project 180.

When: Oct. 19th Doors open at 11:00 a.m.; program and lunch start at 11:30 a.m.

Where: Michael's on East.

Tickets: \$40/ticket includes lunch, and may be purchased at www.project180reentry.org/lecture-series/

Background: Project 180, has an office in our Outreach Building providing residential and nonresidential support. Project 180 includes workforce education and financial literacy classes for inmates, information and referrals for felons seeking housing, programs, employment, and a comprehensive whole-life Residential Program for men in recovery.

**Join the
Zoom Conversations**



COLLAGE 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 11 a.m. ~ COLLAGE is our LGBTQ and Ally Group. All are welcome to join our COLLAGE group on Zoom for support and faithful discussion.

Tuesday Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m. ~ We meet on Zoom to discuss the upcoming Sunday Bible passage.

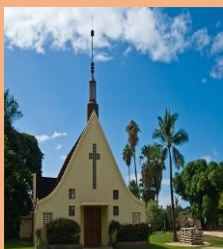
Wednesday Bible Study @ 11 a.m. ~ **HYBRID** in the Oasis Center to discuss the upcoming Sunday Bible passage.

SCOR (Sacred Conversations on Race) 2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ 3 p.m. ~ **HYBRID** in the Oasis Center.

***Zoom links available
through Pastor Wes***

Lahaina ~ Opportunity to Help

The Mission Team is trying to help the people of Lahaina after the devastating fires last month. Please visit www.hcucc.org where funds are being gathered. Through the Hawaii wildfires appeal, the UCC is supporting the immediate relief efforts and will be present for the journey ahead, enabling long-term aid for persons who require assistance with recovery.



Waiola UCC

I am also getting questions about how to help the Waiola UCC in Lahaina which lost their sanctuary and fellowship hall. The Waiola church celebrated its 200-year anniversary last fall. They are having online services and their minister reports they are currently in the discovery stage; it will be some time before they start the recovery stage. Many members lost their homes as well and are living on other islands. I will let you know of their individual needs and when the church reconstruction will begin.

~ Jan Andersen, Mission Chair

**Our Racial Justice Mission Group
Invites you to a Native American Blanket Ceremony**



**Saturday, November 4th
12:00 Lunch
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Free Workshop**

After a free-will offering lunch, retired UCC pastor Rev. David Houseal and members of Windermere Union Church (Orlando) will offer an interactive history lesson on how Indigenous Nations lost their land over time through specific historic events. This program honors Indigenous Peoples' History and Culture; it inspires those who support Racial Justice and Environmental Justice efforts for our Native brothers and sisters.



Contact Florence Jackson (faj5110@gmail.com) to reserve lunch.

Food Collection for All Faith's Food Bank ~ October 1st



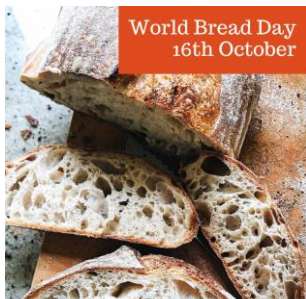
The newly established Food and Hunger Group is very pleased to be restarting the monthly collections for All Faith's Food Bank that were stopped during Covid. The **collections will start on October 1** and take place the **first Sunday of every month** thereafter.

All Faiths would appreciate any items in jars and/or cans along with items that have a long shelf life like pasta, pudding, Jello etc. The old standby items of peanut butter, jelly and spaghetti sauce are also needed. Please give what you think people will enjoy with an expiration date of mid 2024 or later. There will be a basket in the narthex labeled **ALL FAITH'S FOOD BANK**. Please place your items in the basket or next to it if the basket is full.



First Congregational UCC is a generous congregation. We thank you in advance for your donations.

**World Bread Day Celebration ~ October 15th
(After the 11:00 worship service)**



No matter how you slice it, bread is an important part of every culture and has been a significant food source for humans since prehistoric times. October 16th, World Bread Day, recognizes this important food and the creation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), created in 1945 to fight hunger worldwide, with the motto "Fiat Panis" (Let there be bread).

Please join us during Fellowship Hour as we share breads, cheeses, and other accompaniments from around the world in recognition of this important day. Come learn how we can work to end hunger.

Aloha and Mahalo!



Family Promise of Sarasota-Manatee invites you
to
"Luau on the Lawn"

Enjoy food, music, and games to support Family Promise and its programs
Wear your favorite "island/cruise" attire
50/50 Raffle

Saturday, October 14th ~ 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Pine Shores Church Community Center
6120 Crestwood Avenue, Sarasota

Tickets available at fpsmcs2023@gmail.com ~ \$35/person or \$150/table of six
To see how your organization/congregation can get involved in this most important work,
visit www.familypromisesarasota-manatee.org

Celebrate Birthdays and Support Family Promise Sunday, November 5th ~ after 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services



We will celebrate November birthdays and have a challenge to raise money for Family Promise. Tara Maffei, Executive Director and/or Cynthia Schalk, Director of Partner Outreach will be present and available to share information about the services Family Promise offers to support families facing homelessness and to answer any questions you have.

Treats will be offered after the 9 a.m. service and ice cream and cake will be provided for our traditional birthday Sunday celebration. **Our special challenge, to support Family Promise, is to donate either 25 cents, 50 cents or a dollar for each year of your life.** Regardless of what you donate, any donation is gratefully accepted and appreciated.

A basket will be at the end of the table, or you can give your donation to Ellen Marsey, Family Promise Co-Coordinator. **Thank you!**



*November fellowship is provided by the Worship Team:
Evelyn Crooks, Peggye Mezile, Jeannie Mitchell, John Ristow, Frank Hallice,
Elaine Hallice and Susan Moore, Chair
Joy Mayer and Maggie Revere, Family Promise Volunteers*

Alta Vista School Mission Update



The Mission Team thanks you for your generous response to our Alta Vista Fund Drive.

I am thrilled to announce that donations reached \$7,231.

(We passed our \$7,000 goal!)

The staff and students are grateful for your support.

Your Mission Team,
*Jan Andersen, Gretchen Friend Jones, Jan Kamm,
Nancy Taylor, Terri Crawford*



Brady
Sarasota

Welcome Back Meeting:

October 19th @ 4 p.m., Oasis Center
Sergeant Patrick Comac, Sarasota Police
Discusses Sarasota's Gun Climate

Police Night Out:

October 3rd, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Come Support Our Table at Police Night Out
Sarasota Police Headquarters, 2099 Adams Ln.
Free, Fun, Family-Friendly Event

Bayfront Rallies Begin:

Thursday's beginning **October 26th**, 4 p.m.
Join us at southern end of parking lot in
front of O'Leary's & Bayfront Park

SURE House Meeting ~ October 15th (After the 11 a.m. service)



Please stay for First Congregational UCC's annual SURE (Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity) House Meeting on **October 15th following the second service**. SURE's Lead Organizer, Mackenzie Grimes will be here. We will begin by sharing the mission and ministry of SURE, discuss issues of justice in Sarasota, and prepare for the Community Problem's Assembly on Monday, October 30th at 6 pm.

All are welcome to share in this important event.

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you enjoy knitting? Lindsey Huddleston and Carol Hagglund are hosting a Prayer Shawl Ministry Group where knitters will gather in people's homes once a month to socialize, share knitting information and knit prayer shawls. These shawls will be available to anyone for both happy and sad occasions. The Lay Visitation Group will be one of the ways the shawls are given to shut-ins, church members and members of the broader community on behalf of the congregation.

Text or call Lindsey at 630-338-9294 or Carol at 813-767-3782 for the date and location of our next meeting or for more information.

www.uccsarasota.com ~ 941-953-7044



CREATION JUSTICE NEWS

Eco-Summit ~ December 5th & 6th



The Green Team would like to let the congregation know of a wonderful opportunity coming up December 5-6, 2023, a Tuesday and Wednesday. The largest and most exciting Eco-Summit ever in Sarasota will be happening in and near the Van Wezel. For complete information, go to this URL: <https://www.scienceandenvironment.org/project/2023summit-expo/>

As the website describes it, "The Summit explores the simple idea that to preserve quality of life, we must find a new balance with nature. We must counter the increasing impacts from development, population growth, and climate change with solutions that recharge our environment and reduce our footprint. Join us for two days of Big Ideas and Solutions."

Starting December 4, 5-8 p.m. there will be a showing of the new movie, *2040* by the widely acclaimed documentarian from Australia, Damon Gameau. This will happen at Bay Park Nest. The next two days, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., experts will discuss various insights and possible solutions for environmental sustainability. These insights are crucial for protecting our way of life here on the coast.

A major highlight will occur from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on December 5 with keynote speaker, Carl Hiassen. He is a novelist and former columnist with the Miami Herald. His novels are based in his native Florida and are highly entertaining with a focus on environmental concerns.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT NEWS

COLLAGE recently hosted an informational session with Tom Edwards. We all learned a great deal about education and our children in Sarasota.

Next Luncheon will be on Oct. 8, 2023—Coming Out Sunday. We will have the opportunity to share our coming out stories with each other in small groups. Be thinking about how the church helped or hindered your coming out experience as LGBTQIA+ and/or Allies.



Make your lunch reservations with Sara Little and Barbara Shaver
sarajlittle@me.com



Tom Edwards

Upcoming plans for COLLAGE include:

- **October 13th** ~ Annual Conference, Orlando—COLLAGE Workshop/Discussion
- **October 21st** ~ Project Pride SRQ—COLLAGE Community Outreach Booth

RACIAL JUSTICE COVENANT NEWS



Sacred Conversations on Race (SCOR)

SCOR meets the **second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 3 p.m. (HYBRID)** in person at the Oasis Center or on Zoom.

October 11th

"The Real Story of Rosa Parks - And Why We Need to Confront Myths About Black History"

TED Talks by David Ikard



Professor, Vanderbilt University

October 25th

"How to Deconstruct Racism One Headline At A Time"

TED Talks by Baratunde Thurston



Writer, Activist, Comedian

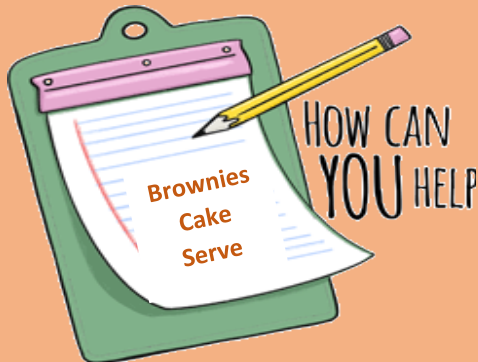
If you have any suggestions, please let Jim Crumel and Pastor Wes know. In the meantime, please know there is **ALWAYS** space and place for you to join in this conversation.

Community Meal ~ October 24th

The monthly community meal that we continue to provide at St. Paul Lutheran Church feeds those who are hungry and in need of fellowship. Our guests are treated to a Sandy Smith home cooked meal. The home-baked items provided by our church family add a sweet treat that is heartily enjoyed. What's not to like about homemade brownies/cake served with plenty of ice cream?



Our mission is to feed the hungry and offer fellowship to our guests.



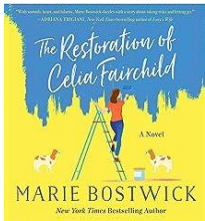
Please volunteer with on-site set-up/serving/clean-up functions at St. Paul's Fellowship Hall. We also need your **home-baked items (brownies and frosted cakes—9x13 size)**.

Please join us on **October 24th from 4-6:30 p.m.** Thank you for all you do for those in need.

Volunteer and/or inquire for more details: Carol Hagglund at carol.hagglund@gmail.com

Ready Readers ~ October 12th & November 9th

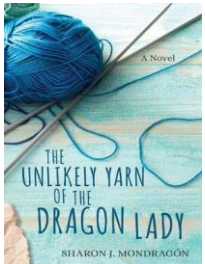
Thinking about joining a book club? We meet on the **second Thursday of every month at noon in the Oasis Center**. We welcome and encourage the participation and input of new members even if you are not able to attend every meeting. For more information and further updates, contact Sandy Smith at sandysmithvi@gmail.com or 340-227-5121.



October 12th

The Restoration of Celia Fairchild by Marie Bostwick. Celia Fairchild, known as advice columnist "Dear Calpernia", has insight into everybody's problems—except her own. Still bruised by the end of a marriage she thought was her last chance to create a family, Celia receives an unexpected answer to a "Dear Birthmother" letter.

The Restoration of Celia Fairchild is an unforgettable novel of secrets revealed, laughter released, creativity restored, and waves of wisdom.



November 9th

The Unlikely Yarn of the Dragon Lady by Sharon J. Mondragon. Margaret, Rose, Jane, and Fran had a good thing going—meeting every week in the quiet of their peaceful chapel and knitting prayer shawls. No muss, just ministry. That is, until their pastor boots them out of the church in his last-ditch effort to revive the dwindling congregation.

Uptight Margaret isn't having it. Knitting prayer shawls where people can watch is the most ridiculous idea she's ever heard of, and she's heard plenty. Prayer belongs in the church, not out among the heathen masses. How are they supposed to knit holiness into these shawls if they're constantly distracted by the public? Sharon Mondragon's debut novel is warm and delightful, full of real laughter, grief, and personality. It beautifully illustrates the power of women across generations to reach people for Christ.

Artful Prayer Resumes ~ October 12th at 2 p.m. ~ Oasis Center



Looking for ways to renew your prayer practice in fun creative ways? Artful Prayer may be for you! No art experience required.

A variety of fun one-hour sessions may include poetry, drawing, movement, or music centered around a prayer theme such as gratitude, praise, healing, or exploring your spiritual direction.

Sessions are in person and on Zoom. Supplies are provided when attending in person. Watch the newsletter and weekly messages for specific session information and supply list.

Mark your calendar now:

October 12th ~ Rev. Donna Papenhausen

November 9th ~ Lindsey Huddleston

December 14th ~ Dawn Swain

First UCC Women's Luncheon ~ October 3rd



Summer 2023 may well be remembered for Dangerous Floods and Deadly Fires, not to mention extreme heat. The scientists are telling us that the fires spread very quickly because the grasses are **invasive plants** rather than native.

Have you ever driven north on I75 and seen the vast growth of kudzu, "the weed that ate the south," on both sides of the highway? Every tree and bush and flower are covered by this invasive plant. What is the antidote to this and other plants gobbling up our world?

The First UCC Women and the Green Team have assembled an **Environmental Panel: Why we must plant native flora in our gardens and be wary of invasive plants that destroy ecologies.**

Join us on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Panelists:

Miri Hardy, Executive Director of the Friends of Myakka

Tom Heitzman, Sweet Bay Nursery

Lee Amos, Land Stewardship Manager, Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast.

After the program, members of our Green Team will show us the native plants on our campus.

Luncheon costs \$12

Sign up after either Sunday service or call the church office at 941-953-7044.

Questions? Call Lucy Hedrick, 203-561-9590, or lucy@lucyhedrick.com.

~ ~ ~

SAVE THE DATE ~ November 7th

On Tuesday, November 7, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, First UCC Women will present Donna Rae Smith speaking on behalf of School Attendance Support, Inc.



October Fellowship Hosted by ~ Staffing & Missions Teams

Staffing: Dennis Crooks, Linda Pursley, Clarence Rogers & Dick Miller, Chair

Missions Team: Jan Kamm, Gretchen Friend Jones, Terri Crawford,
Nancy Taylor, Jan Andersen, Chair



We Welcome New Member

~ Lynn Hull Ives ~

Lynn joined virtually as an associate member on September 24th from her Tennessee home after enjoying and supporting our online services for the past 3 ½ years. A lover of education, and with deep and strong roots with our church, we welcome Lynn home.



Lynn has ties to our church dating to the 1970's when both of her parents, Ruth & Bill Hull, joined our church. Lynn and her family were here when Gregg Chestnut joined as our music minister and Bill was involved in funding and bringing the pipe organ to our sanctuary. Our prayer garden is the final resting place for Lynn's parents.

For those enjoying our online services, be sure to welcome Lynn who fondly greets us each week with a warm welcome from Tennessee.



"The beautiful part, like the leaves of the vine, I don't know where one ends and another begins, they are all connected, nourished by God . . . God is the gardener still tending First UCC" ~ Pastor Wes

UUCS Arts Council presents...
BRENDA ROBINSON

OUR STORIES ARE IN OUR SCARS

SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 12 2023

OPENING RECEPTION:
SUNDAY, SEP 17
11:30 AM-12:30 PM

EVENING RECEPTION:
FRIDAY, SEP 22
5-7 PM

LEXOW GALLERY
Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota

3975 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL

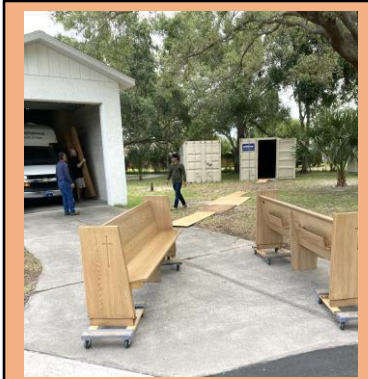
Heard on Sunday . . .

"A vine is constantly growing, constantly going in a direction, always reaching out, never static—that speaks to our faith. God, the gardener, tends and trims our lives...this wonderful web of life in which humans are one part. God continues to bless and call all creation good—to thrive, to trim and tend, to let God's voice work in our lives." ~ Pastor Wes

From Vision to Reality . . . On Time & Under Budget



Bud Rives
Project Manager



Pews Safely Stored



Piano Removed; Organ Pipes Covered, Ready for Demo



Tile Removal



Pew Cushions



T-Loop Installation



Our Beautiful Sanctuary



Pew Cushion Contributors



So Many to Thank . . .

Bud Rives ~ Outstanding leadership

Carol & Doug Fields ~ Tireless help with baseboards and upholstery, and new paraments

Don Hoy ~ Leadership and help in upholstering chairs

Roy Burns & Maggie Revere ~ Pew cushion contributions

Rob Quarles, Chris Cooper and entire Facilities & Grounds Team for their beginning-to end-support

Design Team of Greg Chestnut, Becky Rives, Marsha Knight, Carol Fields and Bud Rives

First UCC Women's Association for our new pew pads

For ALL whose assistance and loving blessings brought us to completion of this beautiful space.



Design & Delivery Team



Special thanks to Evelyn Crooks & Lindsey Huddleston for their pictures

October Birthdays



- | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|-------|--|
| 10/2 | Ann Mosher
Joshua Starcher | 10/15 | Peter Burroughs
Jeane Gomoll-Hilficker
Allyn Jones |
| 10/3 | Lynne Woodman | 10/17 | Ethan Bixby
Josh Burch |
| 10/4 | Bruce Hunter
Jeff Jones | 10/18 | Kathy Combs |
| 10/7 | Bob Procter | 10/20 | Barbara Brady
Rick Steele |
| 10/9 | Lee Brockmann
Melanie Kalisak | 10/21 | Ruth Bieber
Karen Crane
Elaine Zelows |
| 10/10 | Kathy Kulakowski | 10/22 | Gibson Mitchell |
| 10/11 | Vonda Leonard | 10/25 | Margo Light
Gregg Matthews |
| 10/12 | Jean L. Kerrigan
Sherry Mange | 10/26 | Juliana McFarlane |
| 10/13 | Lois Wilkins | | |
| 10/14 | Wes Curry | | |

October Anniversaries



- | | |
|-------|---|
| 10/9 | Michael & James Cross |
| 10/11 | Frank & Elaine Hallice
Charles Williams & Madge Potts-Williams |
| 10/12 | James & Jane Hunder |
| 10/16 | John Hilficker & Jeane Gomoll-Hilficker |
| 10/18 | Jeff & Sandy Smith |
| 10/25 | Bob & Pamela Gore-Meade |

In Loving Memory



*Nancy Gillum
Keith Johnson
Lorraine Matthews
Pat Myers*

90+ Wise Birthdays ~ Card Shower ~



**10/2 ~ Ann Mosher
10/9 ~ Lee Brockmann**

*Thank you for your sympathy and prayers upon
the death of Charles Hattendorf.
He lived a long and beautiful life.
Both Chuck and I received God's blessings.*

Scott M. Nutter

*The celebration of life for
Myron Robinson
will be Saturday, October 14th,
in the sanctuary and on Facebook.*

*Fraternities and organizations
honoring Myron at 10 a.m.*

*Worship service at 11 a.m. with
reception to follow in Syster Hall.*



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC CHURCH
 1031 Euclid Ave
 Sarasota, FL 34237
 www.uccsarasota.com



The 2023 Flower Chart is NOW ready for YOU! Do you have a special occasion coming up this year? Would you like to celebrate at an upcoming Sunday service?

Each Sunday, there is an opportunity for two bouquets. **The cost is \$40 per bouquet, payable to the church.**

Please sign up for a Sunday by emailing admin@uccsarasota.com
 We are grateful for the fresh flowers every Sunday that bring the beauty of God's creation into our worship space.

STAFF

Senior Minister Rev Dr. Wes Bixby
 Minister of Music Gregory Chestnut
 Campus Manager Mark Swain
 Media Specialist Douglas Kingsley
 Bookkeeper Pam Ganshe-Boythe
 Financial Clerk Heidie Heath
 Office Administrator Sherry Glover

OFFICERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Moderator Nancy Morris
 Vice Moderator Harold Mezile
 Past Moderator Jim Butterworth
 Co-treasurers Robin Reich & Dale Woodling
 Pastor Emeritus Dr. John Syster
 Contributing Photographer Susan Moore
 Newsletter Carol McCloud, Evelyn Crooks

We are an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ in the Florida Conference of the UCC.

Telephone: (941) 953-7044; Fax: (941) 952-5245

Email: office@uccsarasota.com; Website: www.uccsarasota.com

We are worshipping on-line via Livestream each week at 11 a. m. and the service is posted to our website for streaming by 1 p.m. each Sunday afternoon.

