

October 2021

Monthly Publication



"A STORY OF FORGIVENESS"

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. – Colossians 3:13

Stories of forgiveness abound but one has caught my ear recently that I think bears repeating here. It's about the late Alabama Governor George Wallace.

Steve Beard, Editor of Good News Magazine, this month wrote an article that reminds us (or ALERTS us) to how "dug-in" views CAN be turned around in his essay, "Bright Light In Montgomery." I offer a portion of that essay here for us at EUMC. May it bless you as it did me!

In 1972, there were a dozen Democratic candidates running in the primaries for a race that would eventually pit Richard Nixon against George McGovern. During a campaign stop in Maryland, Wallace was shot five times by an assassin. The attack would leave him permanently paralyzed.

Shortly after his brush with death, convalescing at the Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Wallace received a most unlikely visitor.

"Shirley Chisholm! What are you doing here?" Wallace asked from his bed. Chisholm was refined, dignified, and decent. She was the first black woman elected to the U.S. Congress and in 1972 became the first African American to run for U.S. President, as well as the first woman to run for the office.

No one was more surprised than Wallace – and her staff – that she suspended her campaign and immediately went to visit her rival. "What will your people say?" Wallace asked. Chisholm responded, "I know what they are going to say. But I wouldn't want what happened to you to happen to anyone."

In so many ways, they represented polar opposites fifty years ago. While Wallace was the standard bearer for the Old South and segregation, Chisholm (1924-2005) was a champion of integration, women's rights, refugees, Native Americans, and the working poor. There were few things they had in common, other than their humanity – and they were both United Methodists. They held hands and prayed together.

Wallace wept.

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The medical staff asked her to end their visit because Wallace was very weak. "He held on to my hand so tightly," Chisholm recalled, "he didn't want me to go."

Congresswoman Barbara Lee was a young and idealistic campaign worker for Chisholm in 1972. She was confused and upset about the Wallace visit. In a recent interview with the Washington Post she recollected how Chisholm told her, "Sometimes we have to remember we're all human beings, and I may be able to teach him something, to help him regain his humanity, to maybe make him open his eyes to make him see something that he has not seen."

Chisholm also said, "You always have to be optimistic that people can change, and that you can change, and that one act of kindness may make all the difference in the world."

Chisholm understood that people were angry – very angry – but she believed "you have to rise to the occasion if you're a leader, and you have to try to break through and you have to try and open and enlighten other people who may hate you."

In a speech a year after the hospital visit, Chisholm, a member of Janes United Methodist Church in Brooklyn, asked, "Are we ready to learn to deal with others as God has dealt with us? God gave us life at the risk of our rebellion and paid for reconciliation at the price of the cross."

Back in Montgomery, Wallace arrived at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church on a Sunday morning in 1979 unannounced and unexpected. Without fanfare, an attendant rolled his wheelchair to the front of the sanctuary. "I've learned what suffering means in a way that was impossible," he told the African American congregation. "I think I can understand something of the pain that black people have come to endure. I know I contributed to

that pain and I can only ask for your forgiveness." As he left the sanctuary, the congregation sang "Amazing Grace."

More than twenty years before Wallace found himself before the Dexter Avenue congregation, it was the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. who said in 1957: "Forgiveness does not mean ignoring what has been done or putting a false label on an evil act. It means, rather, that the evil act no longer remains as a barrier to the relationship. ...While abhorring segregation, we shall love the segregationist. This is the only way to create the beloved community."

Shirley Chisholm did not have to approve of George Wallace's politics in order for her to refuse to allow a barrier or a bullet to stand between them. Her faith would not allow it. A whirlwind of change took place in the man whose whole purpose was to maintain segregation in the south. The news reel footage and the bitter words would never paint the whole story. Wallace was a four-term governor who sought forgiveness and ended up winning 90 percent of the African American vote during his last campaign.

Upon Wallace's death, civil rights legend John Lewis wrote a moving essay in the New York Times. "With all his failings, Mr. Wallace deserves recognition for seeking redemption for his mistakes," he wrote, "for his willingness to change and to set things right with those he harmed and with his God." Perhaps one of the most poignant of illustrations of Wallace's transformed life was the attendance of Vivian Malone and James Hood, the two black students Wallace tried to bar from the University of Alabama in 1963, at his funeral.

You are Loved!

Pastor Vic

A WORD FROM PASTOR BO....

BEFORE THE WINTER ARRIVES

Have you heard of the “*But First*” syndrome? Neither have I until this moment. The one-day life of a woman, her story we all can relate will give us an understanding of the meaning of “*But First*” and its lessons.

A woman is about to do her laundry; she passes by the kitchen table and walks towards the washing machine. On the table, she sees a scattered newspaper. She was on her way to do laundry, *but first*, she decided to put the newspaper away. So she reaches for the paper, but as she does so, she sees a stack of bills that she had not yet taken care of. She was just about to clean up the newspaper, *but first*, she will take care of the bills that needed to be paid.

So the woman takes out her checkbook to pay her bills. But she sees her baby’s milk bottle rolling around on the kitchen floor! She would write the check to pay bills, *but first*, she decided to put the bottle in the sink. As she was walking towards the sink, she saw the TV remote on the floor. She was about to put the bottle in the sink, *but first*, she decided to put the remote control away.

So as she walks into her living room to put the remote away, she sees her cat. And her cat is crying of hunger. She was about to put the remote away, *but first*, she decided to feed her cat.

So her vicious cycle of the *But-First* event continues. So what happened, you may ask...

At the end of the day:

The LAUNDRY is not done, NEWSPAPER is still scattered on the kitchen table,

The BOTTLE is still not in the sink, The BILLS are not paid,

And the CAT is gnawing on the TV remote...

She kept putting off things that needed to be done first. We now know this is called the “*BUT-FIRST*” Syndrome! The woman was busy throughout the day, going back and forth and discovering a chain of things she needed to do. At the end of the day, she did not get anything done because of the *But-First*.

That got me thinking. Before the winter season arrives in the twilight of our lives, we need to go back to our Lord. We must not procrastinate as the *But-First* has never been the prerequisite. That also means that we must not give some far-fetched excuses and delay our return to Jesus. Just as Paul wanted to see Timothy before winter, Jesus wants us to return to Him before “the Winter” sets in.

Our lives are just too busy to be making the excuse. We have spent the most critical seasons of our lives taking care of and tending to our secular matters and affairs. The winter is not far away. It is closer than you think. The snow, the ice, the freezing temperature, and the scouring winds are right in front of us. We must all return to our Lord before the winter arrives! Our Lord wants us to do His work before the winter sets in.

*Blessings,
Pastor Bo*

“Do your best to come before winter.” (2 Timothy 4: 21)



Ms. Amy's Adventures

Three years ago, we were on the search for a Mental Health consultant. We were so happy when we found the wonderful, Ms. Chris Thompson from Take my Hand Counseling. Ms. Chris would come and visit with our children once or twice a week. She was such a blessing to our school and helped so many of the children not only grow and learn but to help them be successful in our school. Thanks to some of our wonderful donors we were able to help the parents with this cost as well. Unfortunately, Ms. Chris is really needed in the hospitals due to COVID and has had to end her services with us. We are back in search of a mental health consultant to help us guide our children in the right direction when they struggle with trauma or behavior issues. If you are someone who thinks you might be able to help us, please reach out to the school. We would love to hear from you.

We had some of our wonderful donors and grandparents come in and visit us for Grandparents' Day. We always enjoy seeing the joy on the kids and adults faces during these events. We are looking forward to welcoming our volunteers back very soon. Stay tuned!

We are into fall mode and cannot wait for all the fun fall activities we have planned. We will be having our Halloween Parade on Oct. 29th. The children love to dress up and parade around the church

Thank you all for your love and prayers.

Love,

Amy, Heather and our Amazing Team



Guide Team Corner....

We will be using this forum to keep you abreast of actions that the EUMC Guide Team takes on behalf of the church. At its September meeting, the Guide Team discussed and/or acted on the following:



- Grading for the Rummage Sale storage building is done. The foundation will be going in as soon as possible. We are in the rainy season and the exact timing for pouring the foundation is dependent upon the weather.
- Because of all the construction going on in Florida, it is taking a lot longer to get bids for the installation of the fire hydrant which is required by the Sarasota County Fire Marshall for the Helping Hand and Rummage Sale facilities.
- EUMC's Foundations Preschool just completed its annual State of Florida inspection that is required. The school passed this inspection with a score of 100! Kudos to all the teachers, staff, and new director Amy Cloutier.
- The results of the Contemporary Service survey have been received and a taskforce has been setup to review and address the concerns from this survey.
- At this time the front desk in the Church office is being staffed by volunteers. We appreciate all of those who are assisting in welcoming those that come into the office. Thank you.
- Planning continues for the starting of Wednesday night dinners and Saturday Country Breakfasts. Because of Covid-19, the guidelines for food handling and food service must be updated.
- The Town Hall meeting is expected to take place on Monday night, October 25th at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. This will be an in-person and livestreaming meeting.

Please let me know if you have questions or need additional information.

Beth Harrison

Business Administrator



At Home

Janet Albrecht
 Jenny Chastain
 Joe Croce
 Phyllis Eastlund
 Shirley Grayson
 Lori Ierardi
 Howard & Nan Jackson
 Deborah Larsen
 Betty Madison
 Geri Meneely
 Roger & Barb Molendyke
 Jackie Morton
 Ruth Runyon
 Wanda Staneszewski
 David & Val Stevens
 Adele Stewart
 Mary Thompson
 Bob & Lorraine Turner
 Helen Williams
 Gina Willis

At Nursing Home or Assisted Living

Fran Altman—*Sunset Lakes*
 Joan Bentson—*Tuscan Gardens on Venetia Bay*
 Alice Buck—*Gardens of Venice*
 Margaret Cypher—*Life Care in Punta Gorda*
 Ruth Davidson—*Bay Breeze*
 Maude Drinks—*Grand Villa*
 Sandra Dussault—*Heritage Oaks*
 Doris Finn—*Grand Villa*
 Marjorie Fitzgerald—*Family Affair*
 Dorothy Hill—*Liana Memory Care*
 Charles Lindberg—*Heritage Oaks*
 Sam & Thelma Lloyd—*Heritage Oaks*
 Audrey MacEhiney-Rogers—*Towers of Venice*
 Carolyn McCallum—*Grand Villa*
 Loraine Melnichok—*Grand Villa*
 Jim Roch—*Brookdale—Venice*
 Jeanne Sawyer—*Inglenook*
 Doris Scott—*Heritage Oaks*
 Marilyn Smith—*Summerfield—Bradenton*
 Audrey Volz—*Drury Lane*
 Janet Wilson—*Heritage Oaks*
 Millie Wischnowsky—*Heritage Oaks*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Do you live alone? In need of company? Would you like someone to visit, enjoy your company and pray with you? Congregational Care Ministers are on hand to visit with you on a monthly basis, sharing their ministry through prayer and communion.

Please call Pastor Don at 941-474-5588, ext. 252
to request a CCM minister.



FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

Family Ministry is in FULL SWING! Events and activities are in the works for all generations! Look at what we have planned for this month!

- ♦ Fall session of Sunday School began September 12th. We have new curriculum, new classes, new Teachers!
- ♦ Children's Moment during the 9:30 service returns in November. Families watch your emails in October for information on the new Sunday School schedule that will begin at this time as well!
- ♦ Jesus and Pizza is going great! Children ages 4years-5th grade are welcome to join Ms. Deb and her great volunteers every Wednesday starting at 5:30 for fellowship, music, and faith building fun! We have a new time of 5:30-6:30, and whole new schedule for the evening! Come see what it is all about!
- ♦ Youth are planning an outing for October. Date will be announced once the votes are counted for either Sky Zone or and Escape room! If you have a student looking to engage at church, IG-NITE is the place! Sundays from 3-5 are filled with a lot of laughter, great new games, and real talk about real life issues and how our faith ties into it all!

ALL CONGREGATION EVENT TRUNK OR TREAT! Sunday, October 24, 2021, 5pm-7pm



Children from the church, preschool, and community are invited to come trick or treating at our safe Trunk or Treat event. There will be music, food, and great trunks to visit!

We would like the whole congregation to participate! You can decorate your trunk super fancy or just bring some chairs and a big bowl of candy to pass out to the children. We suggest at least enough for 500 kiddos. Children and families will vote for their favorite decorated trunks! Prizes will be awarded for FIRST, SECOND and THIRD PLACE!

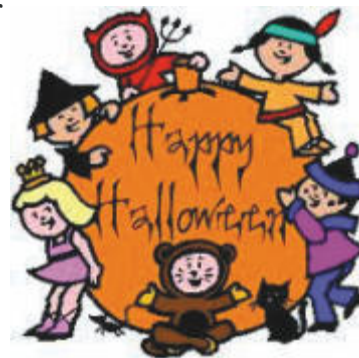
I will be available in the Narthex after the 8:00am & 11:00am and in Fellowship Hall after the 9:30am service on October 3, 10, and 17 to sign up your trunk. You can pick your parking spot and your number! You won't be able to miss me, I will have a GIANT sign up board!

Looking forward to a great time! If you have any questions or would like to chat, feel free to email or call me at 941-474-5588 ext. ! My office hours are normally Monday-Thursday 7:45-3:45.

If you would like to help set up, decorate, or clean up, please email me at: bethann@englewoodumc.net! We welcome all help!

See you in the Spirit filled Space!

Beth Ann Smolinski.



Memorial Gifts

Non-Designated Giving

In Memory of: Vera Thomas, Dick Howell
& Tommy Briggs

Given by: Janet E. Campbell

In Memory of: Charlotte Harris

Given by: Helen Graves

In Memory of: Rod Bentson

Given by: Mac Burke, Judi Anderson,
Susan Anguall & Lincoln Burke

Helping Hands

In Memory of: Rod Bentson

Given by: Copple & Associates
Edward & Susan Mitchell
Patty Thompson
The ILaria Family
Jacquelyn Bode
Rick & Joan Stegmeyer
Sharon Hughes & Family
Thomas & Nancy Miller
Barbara Mallek
Larry & Bonnie Bookless
James Martin



Women's Monday Bible Study

Twelve Women of the Bible
(Continued)

Mondays, October 4– November 8

10:00am or 6:30pm

Fellowship Hall 1 & 2

In the spring we studied 6 Biblical ladies and now we will finish with the other 6. You do not have to have taken the first class to take this class.

You may register by calling the church office or on the church's website under, Discipleship.

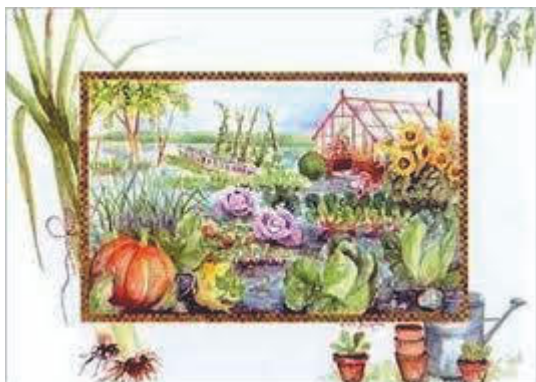
Englewoodumc.net

Memorial Corner

8/18 Rodney Bentson

8/26 Richard Ziegler

9/06 Helen Funk



Comparative Financial Operations/Performance For the 8 month period ending August 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Tithes & Offerings	\$1,053,583	\$1,278,678
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$ - 989,115</u>	<u>\$ - 986,164</u>
Tithes & Offerings		
Less Expenditures	\$ 64,468	\$ 292,514



Help make Halloween fun AND safe for the little ghosts and goblins of Englewood!

Olde Dearborn St. Association is holding the
Safewalk
on Dearborn Street Sunday, October 31st.
Time and walking route
to be announced at a later date.

We are collecting wrapped candy with no nuts
until Thursday, October 28th.
Please drop off at the Church office.



WANTED!

NEEDED for RUMMAGE SALE

"Parking, Traffic & Shuttle"
Subcommittee Chair and Co-Chair
 Please contact Annette Noren 303-915-2690
 Guidelines and position duties
 will be explained.

Use of at least two
8' or longer utility trailers.
 With driver/s would be a plus.

Please contact Stan Nordlund
 434-962-7639

EUMW "Thanks" & Meeting

Many thanks to all of you who participated in our cookie project by donating cookies or a monetary contribution. One hundred and fifty (150) dozen were donated and delivered to Meals on Wheels.

Guests at our September 2nd Unit Meeting were seven women from the Old and New Testament. Dressed in biblical attire, they blessed us with their stories of faith and courage, reminding us women today that we must choose to follow our God as they did, no matter how difficult our life circumstances.

Please join us for our October 7th Unit Meeting. Dan Christopherson, Chris Sherrod (from Ft Myers), and Carole Storch will be presenting a program on Cuba, our sister churches, and preschool. You will be blessed by the stories of the strong, hopeful people of Cuba.

The meeting will be in Fellowship Hall, 10am—12 noon. All women are invited! If you have been vaccinated, masks are optional. If you have not been vaccinated, we ask you to wear a mask to protect yourself and others.



Thank you for your generous love offering that was taken for the ministry on July 4th.
We are truly blessed to be part of the church family at EUMC.
Your gifts have helped us to be able to serve and be a blessing to others in Kenya.

In His Service,
Dave and Sue Whitlock

Ripe for Harvest World Outreach
Serving in Kenya

**** 90 (or over) Years Young!**

10/02 Bill Ford **

10/06 AnnMarie Stenhouse

10/07 Larry Derrah

10/08 Bill Shipley **

10/10 Earle Bretz

10/14 Ray Wallasky **

10/25 Lili Molineux **

10/29 Howard Kosnick **



October Super Senior Birthdays

Super Senior Birthday Registration

Name _____

Birth Date ____/____/____
Month Day Year

Are you a Super Senior of four score years or more? We have the names and birth dates of many of our 80 (or more) years old, but we want to recognize ALL of these honored members. Please register your birthday if you haven't done so already. Just call the church office or send in the registration form.

The Super Senior birthdays are listed each month in the Messenger. Help them celebrate their super birthday by congratulating them on their special day.

THE HUGE RUMMAGE SALE

FELLOWSHIP HALL ~ FULL INSIDE & OUT!

Thursday, Feb. 24 ~ 3 - 6 pm

EARLY BIRD SALE!

\$5 for Shop Early Admission

~ Special 1 day Only ~

REGULAR SALE ~ FREE ENTRY:

Friday, Feb. 25 ~ 9 am - 3 pm

Saturday, Feb. 26 ~ 9 am - Noon

Information Paul 941/451-4611 ~ Large Pick-Ups Stan 434/962-7639

AS ANNOUNCED & until FURTHER NOTICE

Currently DONATE ONLY:

Clothes & Small Items

VOLUNTEER Sign Up Please!

By Feb. 7

Call Annette 303/915-2690



Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child gift boxes will be available for you to pick up on Sunday, October 17th. See the information inside the box for suggestions of what to pack and what NOT to pack. Boxes will be in both main sanctuary entries, office lobby and Fellowship Hall.

Collection Sunday will be on November 14th. Bring your filled box to the church service that you attend. All boxes must be returned by that date for the 2021 shipment to reach the far corners of the world.

This project is sponsored by the EUMC Mission Committee.

If you have any questions call Jan Christopher-son, 941-474-5588 ext. 106.



"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send the workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:37-38 NIV

One of the most important outreach ministries is the ability to teach school children about Jesus. Very often, this is the only contact they have with their Savior. It's a phenomenal chance to be the Hands and Feet of Jesus in a community setting. EUMC partners with Children's Evangelism Fellowship in Punta Gorda, an organization that allows us access to Vine-land and Myakka River Schools through the Good News Club!

If you love children, and want them to learn how Jesus can help them and guide them through their life, then this is your calling!

For more information please contact:

Deb Parascondola

Interim Children's Ministry Director
941-474-5588 ext. 257

Save the Date!
NOVEMBER 20th
EUMW
Creative Workshop
Christmas Bazaar
8:00am — 1:00pm
In
Fellowship Hall



Englewood
United Methodist
Men
Country Breakfast
NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The first breakfast will be held on November 13th.

If you are able to help please contact:
Rick Nelson
941-473-7978





TIME FOR HARVEST!

Many fun fall happenings take place in October. Youth will have opportunities to lead and serve during our EUMC Trunk-or-Treat event and the SafeWalk on Dearborn. Community events like these can make a big difference in another person's life...maybe even one that brings someone to know Christ!

"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'"

Matthew 9:35-38 NIV



When I was a child, my family would head out to Grandpa's farm each fall. I thought it was just a social visit, but my dad and uncles would head out to the fields for harvest. Sometimes I would help Grandma pick berries, or maybe even get to ride on the tractor or on the hay bales! What I thought was so much fun, was hard work and a rich and valuable harvest in the eyes of the adults.

Let's encourage each other to get out there and "Harvest". What we do, flows out of who we are. And who we are is GOD'S PEOPLE. As Christians, we help people go to Heaven. So, let's say "Yes!" to God and make a difference for Him by serving others!

If you want to dive into "*Harvesting*" for Jesus, or need a good devotional for fall, I recommend "*HARVEST: Difference Makers*" from the YouVersion Bible app. You can also find this, and many other great studies, by going to www.bible.com. Let me know what you think!

In Christ,

Chrissy Church

chrissy@englewoodumc.net

Book Buzz

I hope many of you have had a chance to do a little traveling around the USA!



And I hope you snowbirds have stayed safe health wise and are ready to come back to Englewood. We miss you and are always happy to see you again!

Traveling can be an education on some startling facts about places around our beautiful country. Let's see if you have experienced some of these places and facts in your jaunts.

More people live in NYC than in 40 of the 50 states.

There is enough water in Lake Superior to cover all of North and South America in one foot of liquid.

There is a town in Washington State with treetop bridges made specifically to help squirrels cross the street.

Western Michigan is home to a giant labyrinth so big you can see it on Google Earth.

It would take you more than 400 years to spend a night in all of Las Vegas' hotel rooms.

There's enough concrete in the Hoover Dam to build a highway from San Francisco to NYC.

Kansas produces enough wheat to feed everyone in the world for two weeks.

In 1922, a man built a house and all his furniture entirely out of 100,000 newspapers. The structure still stands today in Rockport, Massachusetts. Have you seen it?

The entire Denver International Airport is twice the size of Manhattan.

The number of bourbon barrels in Kentucky outnumbers the state's population by more than two million.

A highway in Lancaster CA plays the "William Tell Overture" as you drive over it, thanks to some well placed grooves in the road. That would be a fun drive!

Well, enough of that. By the way, I bought a Snapple drink the other day and when I opened it and looked at the inside of the cap, this is what it said: "A male cricket's ear is located on the tibia of its leg". Interesting!

Take care, be safe, come to your church library and pick out a good book!

Pam Heady,

Your Church Librarian

EUMC

"Town Hall" Meeting

Monday, October 25, 2021

6:30pm

In the Sanctuary

Please attend!

**Meeting will be available via
"livestreaming"**

**YouTube: EUMC Church TV
Channel**

Facebook Live

Website:

www.Englewoodumc.net

PRAYER, IN HIS PRESENCE

Prayer, In His Presence is the name of the intercessory prayer group at EUMC. We are a group of 13+ people, including our Pastors, who have been called by God to pray.

Who do we pray for? We pray for those who are sick, those who are depressed, for people who seek salvation, for those who are lost or lonely. We pray for our church, for our country, and for world peace. In other words we pray for what ever is asked of us; by you, friends, and by the Holy Spirit.



Prayer is a privilege given to us by God. Many years ago believers were in such awe and reverence of God, they wouldn't say His name. We, as believers have been given the privilege of not only calling God by His name, but to have a conversation with Him. This is called prayer.

Scripture tells us God wants us to communicate with Him. He wants us to tell Him everything, not just ask for things. He already knows our needs. Yes, He wants you to seek His will through prayer, by seeking the well-being of persons who are in need of healing; be it from surgery, illness, and relationships. He also wants you to praise Him, to thank Him, to share with Him the wonders of His love in your life; how you enjoy a sun rise or sunset, the awesome ways our minds and bodies function, and how amazing it is that each person has been give their own personality; only samplings of His many blessings toward us.

Praying is for everyone and anyone. We prayer "warriors" have a stirring in our hearts, a calling from God, to pray for others. It is a big job, and even greater responsibility. Great sensitivity and confidentiality are needed and practiced. We need to free our minds from self, to concentrate on others. Some of us are even available 24 hours a day to pray for urgent needs; life and death situations.

Prayer, In His Presence needs you. Please prayerfully consider joining us to pray. You don't have to pray out loud, you don't have to be eloquent with words; just be willing to pray as if you are having a conversation with a friend, because you are! Jesus has called us friends. He wants you to pray.

Prayer, In His Presence meets every Thursday morning at 10am in Doan Chapel. Call Barbara Ierardi 941-429-1141



Pastor's Wednesday Night Bible Study

"Begin Again" by Max Lucado

October 13—November 10

6:30 Doan Chapel

Teacher: Pastor Bo Sim

Are you struggling with sadness, pain or disappointment? If so, take heart. This book is packed with encouragement to help you rely on God's love and protection, hold on to enduring hope, and trust that Jesus is the author of fresh starts- including yours.

It is recommended that those taking the class purchase their own book by October 1st and have first 5 chapters read by October 13th. Links for the book on Amazon.com and Christianbook.com are on the church's website under Discipleship. You can register for the class and purchase your book at Englwoodumc.net, under "Discipleship." Please contact Joyce in the church office if you need assistance.

HELP NEEDED!

**Helpers are need for
Children's Sunday School**

&

The Nursery on Sunday morning.

**Contact: Debbie Parascondola,
Interim Children's Ministry
Director 941-474-5588 ext. 257**



HELPING OUR RETURNING NEIGHBORS

Helping our Returning Neighbors (HORN) is a new 501(c)3 charitable organization with a mission to empower men and women whose lives have been impacted by crime with the necessary essentials needed to have a successful transition in to becoming law abiding, productive citizens that follow Jesus Christ and are assets to our communities. HORN is focusing efforts on southwest Florida and has been approved by the Southwest District of the Florida United Methodist Conference.

Did you know?

- ♦ The Florida Department of Corrections has an annual budget of \$2.5 billion dollars.
- ♦ There will be 30,000+ prisoners released in Florida annually and typically 7,500+ or 25% of those released will return to prison within 3 years.
- ♦ There will be 1,600-2,500 potential HORN program participants released in the southwest Florida area from 4 prisons in the region.

How can you support this effort?

- ♦ Prayer for our mission and the Holy Spirit's movement in our lives and those of the participants.
- ♦ Mentoring. Mentors work one on one or in small groups to help with spiritual and social development providing encouragement and assistance.
- ♦ Pen Pal Program volunteers to write letters to our candidates while they are still incarcerated to prepare them for the next season of their lives.
- ♦ Financial support. Funding is needed to make a difference in the lives of our returning neighbors.

To volunteer or receive more information, please speak to one of our HORN board members who attend EUMC: Dale Dear, Lisa Glenn, Tyler Glenn, or Steve Kennedy. We need your prayers and assistance.

Steve Kennedy
941-809-2191

Full Throttle Men's Rally

Awaken The Warrior Within You!

October 23rd

8:30am to 12:30pm

3240 Airfield Drive E, Lakeland, FL

Program:

Lt. Col. Oliver North—Keynote speaker

Jonnie W—Musician, vocalist & comedian

Jonathan Rios—Author, coach & psychotherapist

General admission—\$50

Our communities are desperate for men to step up to the role that God has appointed to them – to be the spiritual leaders within their homes and their jobs, having Kingdom impact on their entire community. Are you ready to awaken the Warrior in you for God's Kingdom?

Mark your calendar for October 23, 2021 from 8:30am until 12:30pm, for an awesome half-day rally of God's men. We will worship, pray, encourage, laugh, and begin building new relationships as we keep the fire of the Holy Spirit burning in us.

Don't miss this awesome opportunity to gather with your "other brothers" and experience a powerful movement of the Holy Spirit.

To sign-up or for more information please contact:

Joe Chirillo 941-468-1113

or

Vic Berger 941-445-3899



THE SIXTIES

During the years 1963-65, Addison Hardee and his wife, Anne, served the charge, to be followed by Dr. Ira Williams in 1965-66. The pastor's salary was up to \$4800 plus \$600 expenses, though pledges were low; and so, the pastor, the treasurer, and the financial secretary were to call on non-pledging members to raise the \$18,705 budget.

Membership increased by 80 new persons on the rolls during the year of Dr. Williams' pastorate. Many of them are still actively participating in 1990, their twenty-fifth anniversary.

Homecoming Day set for Sunday, April 18, 1966, with the WSCS ladies buying and preparing meat for the celebration meal. Previous ministers who returned and took part in the worship services were Rev. Edgar Stauffer, Rev. Ralph Jones, and Rev. Hubert odd. A plaque was dedicated honoring Rev. Dodd and Bert Anger, who had been instrumental in building our first church home, known by that time as the Lampp Youth Center.

In June a new pastor arrives, and this Personals ad appeared in the Englewood paper: ***"WANTED—all persons who do not have a regular church home! Come and help the Methodist members give our new minister and his family a hearty and warm welcome to Englewood this and every Sunday. This ad sponsored by your Friendly Western Auto Store."*** Hugh Doan the stores owner and a member since 1960. The congregation did give a warm welcome to the Rev. Bob Soka, his wife Grace and their daughters Chris and Mary, who would serve here to the end of the decade.

UNITED WE STAND

Three lots on Green Street, diagonally across from the church, were cleared for parking as the number of worshippers grew, and parking assistants were recruited. Church business required the hiring of Calla Mae Burgan as a part-time secretary. Route 41 was a channel from the north and Midwest for the rapidly increasing stream of retirees, attracted in many cases by a travel booklet which extolled the low cost and charms of a little-known paradise on Lemon Bay—Englewood.

During 1968 our name became Englewood United Methodist Church as nationally the Methodist Church joined with the Evangelical United Brethren. A new Discipline was issued, the Official Board became the Administrative Board, and the fiscal year became the calendar year as we instituted United Methodist changes. Nationally, the Women's Society of Christian Service was recharted as the United Methodist Women.

For Easter 1969, Rev. Soka enlisted Altar Chairman Helen Hamor and her helpful husband, Jerry to assemble a beautiful floral cross, a church tradition ever since.

SWINGING INTO THE SEVENTIES

A tidy balance of \$660 was on hand on January 1, 1970, as we sent out letters about the budget of \$26,092. The church had vote a \$1000 scholarship for Roger Ward to study for the ministry. Our organist, Helen Hamor Ficks, and choir director, Norma Sawn, were each paid \$15 per Sunday.

When the Rev. John Whitehead and Lucy, Marilyn, John Jr. and James arrived in June 1970, the church was ready to pay off its \$58,000 debt on the education wing and to plan dedication of its new facilities.

In August we voted that "meat will be provided, and Don Browning will prepare it" for Family Night. Who would have guessed that he would have the job for the next 10 years? And what roast beef that was!

What would our pioneer settlers of 1886 think of Englewood and EUMC today?

Englewood United Methodist Church
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October 2021

THE MESSENGER

A SERVANT CHURCH

*Following the example
Of Jesus Christ,
The Englewood United
Methodist Church
Shall strive to make God
And His Kingdom
More real through our
Caring, worship, study
Fellowship & outreach.
To this end, as a
Servant Church,
We offer ourselves
And our facilities
For the Christian growth
Of all persons.*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Adopted 1978 Revised 1989

