

INSIDE

Page 2 Family Ministry

Page 3 Release: Mission Highlights

Page 4 Open House Security Corner Thank you's!

Page 5 New Disciple Study Financial Peace Class

Page 6 Day Trippers

Page 7 Birthdays Anniversaries Hospitality vs Friendliness

Page 8 January Calendar

Worship Online
Anytime at
www.christumcnb.org

Worship In-Person
Sundays
10:15 am—Traditional
or 6 pm—RampUp

22 Ways to Grow as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in 2022

1. **Pray daily** – start simple (a few minutes in the morning, or in the evening...or right now, if you don't have a practice of praying for your food... then pray for your food... start there!)
2. **Read the Gospel of John** from front to back (take 1 week...take 52 weeks).
3. **Start viewing the people around you as "favored ones of God."** Let it replace their last name (such as "Robert, favored one of God"). It's going to be tough, but give it a try.
4. **When you hear an ambulance or a firetruck around you,** pray.
5. **Read the newspaper;** treat it like a long list of prayer requests.
6. **If you encounter a homeless person, make eye contact with them and smile...**or even ask their name (even if you don't have money or food to offer them).
7. **Go on a nature walk** or a long drive through beautiful scenery. Take in the majesty of God.
8. **When you ask people "how are you doing," mean it!** And when people ask you the same question, be honest with them.
9. **Make a list of things that bring you joy;** do them regularly.
10. **Listen to music** and recognize God in the sounds (and maybe the lyrics too).
11. **Eat meals and/or spend time with people who are different than you** (racially, ethnically, religiously, age, status, sexual orientation, wealth); learn from them. Invite them into your home.

continued on page 3

Family Ministry

The youth group packed bags of supplies for the homeless on Saturday Dec 18th. We loaded the cars with all the supplies of socks, gloves, blankets and sleeping bags, jackets and warm clothes, and the supply bags and bottles of water. We headed out to find the invisible people on the beach. Homeless people are everywhere, do you notice them? The youth feel...good, happy, inspiring, and cool about the outreach that they did for the homeless.



We thank everyone that donated to our cause and as always, much thanks to the adult volunteers!

After our time blessing people, we had a hearty lunch at Denny's. Then they all said they needed a nap!



Hanna Thomas
Family ministry coordinator



From page one...

12. **Hold a baby** and recognize the miracle of life. Pray for the baby.
13. **Pay attention to modern day prophets.** If they say something that rubs you the wrong way, check yourself first before reacting.
14. **Serve your church** or local community in a new way.
15. **Forgive the people who have wronged you.** If you cannot fully forgive, move one step closer.
16. **Be generous with your financial giving** (not just to the church...but all around).
17. **Hug your loved ones regularly.**
18. **Try out the spiritual practice of fasting from food.** This will help us retrain our dependency...from being dependent on food to being dependent on Christ.
19. **Pray for governments, institutions, and leaders.**
20. **Thank a pandemic frontline worker** (hospital staff, first responders, etc.).
21. As Bishop Ken Carter (our FLUMC Bishop) often says, **"grind your own coffee beans"**.
22. **Let your heart break for the world.** Cry. Remind yourself of the brokenness around you—not to relish in brokenness, but to recognize that we serve a God who meets us in the shambles and offers new life to us...and to the world.

Release: Mission Highlights

Our Mission:

"Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, tender heart, and a humble mind."

1 Peter 3:8

Wow, December was surely a very busy month, but our hope is that you each experienced the peace of Christ during the Holy season. The Release team participated in 80 goodie bag deliveries to the residents of Pablo Hamlet, assisted our church bakers in cookie delivery to our homebound and others on our Circle of Concern, and delivered two full grocery carts of food items to BEAM. Thanks to each of you for your role, whether tangible, spiritual or financial to all these missions.

MISSION UPDATES: Our live, drive thru Nativity, saw 121 cars with families come through. This is lower than numbers in the past, but we attribute that to a very rainy afternoon. Next month, we will share the amount of donations from the drive-thru, all of which will be sent to the Madison Youth Ranch, operated by the Florida Methodist Children's Home.

Also, next month we will report on the UMCOR donation drive for tornado victims in Kentucky and beyond, as these donations continue to come in.

2022 Missions for Christ UMC

Listed below are 12 missions our church will be supporting in 2022. Additionally, we respond throughout the year to specific requests for assistance through the Florida Conference. We trust you agree that all of these local, statewide and global organizations are vital to making our world go round.

They are: BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry), Mission House through our Feed the Hungry Program, the Community Kitchen operated by Beach Church, the Beaches Boys and Girls Club, DLC (Developmental Learning Center), Campus to Wesley Foundation (CCW), Florida Methodist Children's Home, Methodist Church of Cuba, Gideons International, Wycliffe Bible Translators, UMCOR (United Methodist Commission on Relief), and Church World Services.

May God richly bless you so that we can bless each other.

Shirley Church and **Sonni McEvoy**, Release Coordinators

Security Corner

A combined CUMC leadership meeting is scheduled for January and Security Training is on the agenda. Bob Strachan will provide a brief but comprehensive training focusing on keeping CUMC a least likely target and the Run Hide Fight dynamic. There will also be time for questions.

A congregation wide Security “tune up” will take place at a time to be determined but remember Security is EACH of our business. Keep doors locked, keep your eyes and ears open and say something if the situation just doesn’t seem right.

Bob Strachan Chairperson CUMC Security Team

Stay Alert Stay Alive

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who baked, brought, bought and delivered, cookies at the Cookie Sale in December. We had over 100 dozen cookies. This year for the first time, we had People’s Choice voting for a charity which would receive a donation from the Sale proceeds. The candidates were our church’s Preschool, the Campus to City Wesley Foundation, and the Wycliff Bible Translators. And the winner was CUMC Preschool, which received a \$100 donation. In addition, cookies were delivered to 19 sick or homebound parishioners, and there were enough for after church refreshments in December. Of course, all of us who bought cookies benefitted too, because we got a great assortment of other people’s scrumptious cookies. **Well done everyone who participated!**



Thanks to all those who assisted with the drive-thru Nativity. Behind-the-scene workers were Stephanie Stuart, Diane Frank, Karen and Dan Long, Rick Terry, Chris Thompson, Nancy Rist, Virginia Sherrill, and Edith Jenkins. Playing character roles were Preschool employees: Danielle, Shane and Claire; and church affiliates Mike McEvoy, Tom Blair, Paula Weisenborn, Gracie (Wisensborn) Johnson and Mariah (Muratore) Bogins. And of course, big thank you’s to Pastor Nelson, Mary Muratore and Laura Spanfelner for their gracious administrative roles. **You all were great!**

NEW YEARS OPEN HOUSE
December 31st — 3:00pm -7:00pm

Join Pastor Nelson and his family for a New Year’s Eve celebration at the Christ UMC Parsonage (2897 Discovery Way, 32224). This is a drop-in event. Please stop by for a little while between the hours of 3pm and 7pm for food, beverages, and merriment. All of the food will be provided; bring nothing other than yourself!

No need to RSVP—we’ll see you there.

NEW DISCIPLE STUDY

The Letters of Paul will be the focus of the Monday night Bible study which will begin January 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor. This 12-week study, led by Pastor Carmen, will be informative, inspirational, and a good opportunity to bond with others who are interested in Bible study. If you are not already a participant in this group, you can register by contacting the church office as soon as possible so materials can be ordered. The books are \$16 for those who wish to contribute. Come find out what new messages God has in store for you!

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power. May we walk gently. May we speak only after we have listened well. Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose. May we regard the world with tenderness. May we honor rather than destroy. Lower of all souls, help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come. May we welcome your lavish love. In this new year, may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead.

— Vinita Hampton Wright

FINANCIAL PEACE University

FINANCIAL PEACE CLASSES

Financial Peace University is a series of nine 1-hour classes designed to help participants pay debt quickly, develop a savings plan, manage money wisely, and give generously. The classes are based on Dave Ramsey's commonsense, biblical money principles.

We will offer these classes, led by Richard Adams and Michelle Forwood, on Thursday nights 7:00-8:15 in the parlor beginning January 20. The fee set by the sponsoring organization is \$100 per person (or couple). We will offer scholarships of up to \$75 per person (or couple) for those who apply for the scholarship. Since this will make such a positive difference in your financial management, it will be worth every penny!

To register and to receive a scholarship application, contact the church office at 904-249-5370.

WANTED:

Christmas Items you no longer need

Although there is no regular rummage sale planned at this time the UMW will have their annual Christmas Rummage at the Patch Sale.

Please bring any Christmas items you care to donate to Wilson Hall during January. We will take care of storing them.



Day Trippers

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Faith United Methodist Church
4000 Spring Park Road, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Faith UMC acts as the home base for NOMADS projects in the Jacksonville area. In addition to housing NOMADS, Faith UMC is also home to Beyond 90, a refugee ministry.

Please join us for a tour of Faith's campus and lunch with the NOMADS in Wesley Hall. After lunch, Lori Chelf, from Beyond 90 will be giving us an update and tour of its ministry.

If you would like to come or need more information, call Shirley Van Duzer, (904) 855-7982.

Pictures from the Day Tripper's Nite of Lights Cruise to St Augustine on December 17th.

We chartered the whole boat on a beautiful night that started out with sunset, and moved to darkness and a full moon. Temperatures were in the 70's and the bay could not have been any calmer. God blessed us with a beautiful night and beautiful lights. After the cruise 16 of us went to Beaches Restaurant, right next to where the boat docked, and had dinner.



Shirley Van Deuzer and Bob Strachan



The Great Cross at Mission Nombre de Dios



Ponce De Leon Hotel/Flagler College



Hospitality

The Gift that causes a believer to joyfully welcome and receive guests and those in need of food and lodging.

Biblical References: Romans 12:13, Romans 16:23a, Luke 10:38.



- 3 Vida McCullough
- 5 David Crockett
Jessica Conover
- 8 Carolyn Galphin
- 9 Lio Berry
- 12 George Pringle
- 13 Landyn Santacrose
- 14 Rosie Tallent
- 18 Claudia Cornwall
- 21 Whitney Heer
- 23 Jacquie Berry
- 27 Heather Wood
- 30 Krista Wood

Hospitality vs Friendliness

Most Churches consider themselves friendly. But a look at the gift of hospitality challenges us to think beyond friendliness, because hospitality is different from friendliness. Friendliness is greeting people during the “welcome moment” in the service.

Hospitality is offering to sit with them. Friendliness is asking about a person to make conversation. Hospitality is finding out about someone because you want to know and so that you can connect them with someone else. Friendliness is politely asking a teen to take off his hat in church. Hospitality is welcoming him without mentioning the hat.

Friendliness is giving directions to the restroom or nursery. Hospitality is taking someone there. Friendliness is mentioning to someone that you have a fellowship time. Hospitality is getting them a cup of coffee and introducing them around. Friendly congregations might be good at greeting someone, but they sometimes expect the newcomer to learn to fit in. An attitude of hospitality begins when we decide that we want others to meet the God we know and that our church is a great place to do that. **It begins here and now, with you and me.**



- 3 Richard and Ann DeVane
- 4 Fred and Carol Boyd
- 26 Charles and Michelle Forwood

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2 9am Heavenly Hash 10:15am Worship in person & online 10:30 am Adventure Kids</p>	<p>3 6pm BSA/CUBS</p>	<p>4 3pm Feed the Hungry prep</p>	<p>5 10am UMM Board Mtg 10am Preschool Chapel 6pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir practice</p>	<p>6 10am Christ Quilters 5pm Chess Club</p>	<p>7 10am Christ Quilters 5pm Chess Club</p>	<p>8 22 8am Boy scouts Pine Derby</p>
<p>9 9am Heavenly Hash 10:15am Worship in person & online 10:30 am Adventure Kids 11:30am RampUp practice 5pm RampUp set up 6pm RampUp</p>	<p>10 6pm BSA/CUBS 6:30pm Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>11 10am Circle One Mtg 10am Preschool Connection 6:15 pm Ops Meeting 6:30 Freedom Cir. Mtg</p>	<p>12 10am Hope Circle 10am Preschool Chapel 6pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir practice</p>	<p>13 10am Christ Quilters 5pm Chess Club</p>	<p>14 21 6PM Boy Scouts Pine Derby Set Up</p>	<p>15 22 8am Boy scouts Pine Derby</p>
<p>16 9am Heavenly Hash 10:15am Worship in person & online 10:30 am Adventure Kids 11:30am RampUp practice 5pm RampUp set up 6pm RampUp</p>	<p>17 6pm BSA/CUBS 6:30pm Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>18 7pm Church Council</p>	<p>19 10am Preschool Chapel 6pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir practice</p>	<p>20 10am Christ Quilters 5pm Chess Club 7pm Financial Peace Class 1:30 pm New Year Security Meeting</p>	<p>21 21 6PM Boy Scouts Pine Derby Set Up</p>	<p>22 22 8am Boy scouts Pine Derby</p>
<p>23 9am Heavenly Hash 10:15am Worship in person & online 10:30 am Adventure Kids 11:30am RampUp practice 5pm RampUp set up 6pm RampUp</p>	<p>24 6pm BSA/CUBS 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 11:00am Congregational Care Meeting</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 10am UMW Unit Mtg 10am Preschool Chapel 6pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir practice</p>	<p>27 10am Christ Quilters 5pm Chess Club 7pm Financial Peace Class</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 9am Heavenly Hash 10:15am Worship in person & online 10:30 am Adventure Kids 11:30am RampUp practice 5pm RampUp set up 6pm RampUp</p>	<p>31 6pm BSA/CUBS 6:30pm Adult Bible Study</p>					

