The Florida Conference

LAKESIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LAKESIDE LANTERN

SHARING THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR 62ND YEAR

AUGUST

A Message From Bishop Carter About COVID-19

July 20, 2021

Dear Florida Conference Clergy and Laity:

We continue to pray for you as you navigate this season.

We had all hoped we would be through this pandemic by now, but we clearly are not. Like you, the conference is monitoring the increase in new Covid-19 cases and the concerns around the Delta variant and its rapid spread, especially among those who are unvaccinated. We understand that although Florida represents only 6% of the US population, it also represents 20% of the new cases being reported. (source links: <u>ABCActionNews</u> & <u>CBSMiami</u>).

We invite you to continue to do what you have been doing. Lean into this next season of the pandemic, being aware that we are living in an in-between time that requires hybrid ministry at every level.

In this regard, we invite you to continue to follow the <u>guidance we offered on May 14th</u>, which is directly connected to the <u>CDC updated guidance from May 13th</u>:

1. Encourage unvaccinated people to wear masks while indoors. Mask wearing is optional for those who have been fully vaccinated. Fully vaccinated is defined as being two weeks after the last dose of the vaccine.

2. Extend grace to one another. Be sensitive to children under 12 years old who are not old enough to be vaccinated and those who are unable to be vaccinated because they are immune compromised. Adults who are fully vaccinated who have children or grandchildren or vulnerable persons in their household may choose to wear a mask. For this reason, some churches may choose to require masks for everyone.

3. Making masks optional requires trust. Churches should consider providing caution zones where people who want to wear masks can do so.

4. We continue to encourage people to maintain social distance and use sanitizers.

5. Continue to work as a team to monitor your local context and consult with your local health department and the CDC about the specifics to your context.

Finally, we know some of you are preparing for the opening of pre-schools later this summer. Our recommendations around pre-schools remain connected to the <u>CDC guidelines</u> (July 9th update) and the guidelines of your local context. Most pre-schools working with children who are all unable to be vaccinated due to their age require masks for children (over two years old) along with the adults who are volunteering or working with them. The Peace of the Lord, Bishop Ken Carter

Updated FL Conference COVID Guidance - July 29, 2021

July 29, 2021 FLUMC

We wrote <u>last week</u> and shared our concerns about the rising COVID-19 cases in Florida. We write again this week because of the continued increase of infections and <u>the updated</u> <u>CDC guidelines</u> related to masks. Please factor these two realities into your ongoing leader-ship conversations and decisions. We ask pastors and church leaders to take the current reality in Florida seriously and adjust your expectations for ministry as we continue to navigate this season together. We urge the use of masks in indoor settings, as an expression of our love for our neighbor and as the fulfillment of the law of Christ (Galatians 5:14).

Should you have any specific questions, please contact your District Office or you can reach the episcopal office through <u>ashanks@flumc.org</u>.

Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in <u>Response to COVID-19 Vaccination</u>.

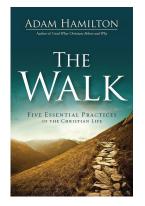
Infections happen in only a small proportion of people who are fully vaccinated, even with the Delta variant. However, preliminary evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people who do become infected with the Delta variant can spread the virus to others. To reduce their risk of becoming infected with the Delta variant and potentially spreading it to others: CDC recommends that fully vaccinated people:

- Wear a mask in public indoor settings if they are in an area of <u>substantial or high trans-</u><u>mission</u>.
- Fully vaccinated people might choose to mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised or at <u>increased risk</u> <u>for severe disease</u>, or if someone in their household is unvaccinated. People who are at increased risk for severe disease include older adults and those who have certain medical conditions, such as diabetes, overweight or obesity, and heart conditions.
- Get tested if experiencing <u>COVID-19 symptoms</u>.
- Get tested 3-5 days following a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days after exposure or until a negative test result.
- Isolate if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the prior 10 days or are experiencing <u>COVID-19 symptoms</u>.
- Follow any applicable federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations.

Last Updated July 28, 2021 Content source: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases

BIBLE STUDY STARTING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18TH AT 6 P.M.

Zoom and in person in the Fellowship Hall.



Examine five essential spiritual practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God.

How do we walk with Christ—daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him? Join Adam Hamilton in *The Walk* and discover five essential spiritual practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God. In each chapter, Hamilton's engaging teaching style will help you explore one of these practices—each of which is intended to be a part of our daily walk with Christ—its New Testament foundation, and its potential effect on our personal lives and our lives together as the church. Perfect as a standalone book or to create a six-week, churchwide study.

Starts on Wednesday, August 18th at 6 P.M. and continues on the following Wednesdays until September 22nd.



An Epic Year of Gratitude and Praise

The only way through hard times is ... well, through them. You can't go over, under or around difficult seasons. You simply plow through, one step at a time. Last year was hard. And that didn't go away because the calendar flipped to 2021. But there is still good in *the* world.

Prayer of Praise During a Pandemic

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. –

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV



God hears our prayers.

Isn't that just the coolest thing? That the God of the ENTIRE universe hears us cry out — and he answers?

Over the past several months, we've asked you to join us in praying specifically for the children and families living in poverty who have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. We've invited you to pray for health, for financial stability, for food, for safety. <u>You answered.</u>

And so did God.

Since the beginning of the global spread of the coronavirus this past spring, God has worked through people like you to provide the exact support that children, families and communities in poverty need. Children have been fed, rent has been covered, hygiene training has been provided, and so much more.

So, today we'd like to thank God.

Yes, we still need to be covering others in prayer as the world recovers from this crisis. But today, we want to lift up prayers of praise to our God who has answered our prayers — and who will never forget the hungry, the lonely or the oppressed.

A Year of Gratitude

This month, our letter of gratitude comes from Flavia, who works in our Compassion Uganda office. I hope you feel challenged and encouraged by her words!

Dear Prayer Partner,

This year, as we focus on gratitude, I cannot help but go down memory lane and reminisce about the amazing relationships God has put in my life to both influence and be influenced. For the biggest part of my work life (27 years), I have served and worked both indirectly and directly with the ministry of Compassion. I worked with the frontline church partners, and then transitioned to work with Compassion International. During that time, I also became a sponsor of a little girl.

I am so grateful to get to see the ministry from all points of view of our neighbors. As a church worker, I served the most vulnerable children. Today, they are part of the inner circles of some of the influential leaders in my country. Many are part of my inner circle of friends as well! When I see one of them, I am grateful God made me be a little part of who they became.

As a sponsor, I develop the relationship with my beloved child and am grateful that she is known, loved and protected by amazing people, divinely placed along her life's journey by God. May you be filled with gratitude as you see his hand on your life and the people around you that you can influence through love and prayers.

In Christ,

Flavia Partnership Preparation Specialist Compassion International Uganda_





United Methodist Women News

There have been so many changes in our lives during the past few months that sometimes fear, frustration and anxiety can creep in on us. We need to remember Philippians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Find a quiet place to pause and listen for God's voice (from the Upper Room).

The Bookworms Circle and Susanna Wesley Circles won't meet until whenever we can resume meeting at the church. Members will be notified of the next meeting and the meeting schedule will be discussed at that time. The book club that meets at Lakeside has had several zoom meeting for their book reviews. We do not plan to issue a new yearbook now so please use the current one for phone numbers.

Barbara, our Treasurer, has sent our pledge money to the district. Payment of our district pledge is one of the requirements for the Mission Today award. Our pledges also support many local and national projects. Even though the district payment has been made please consider completing your pledge for this year if you haven't done so. You might also consider giving an amount equal to the cost of a ticket to our luncheon that we were unable to hold this year.

Make checks payable to United Methodist Women. They can be sent to the church (1901 12 Ave. South, Lake Worth FL 33461) attention Barbara Russum/UMW.

When we do meet to make plans for a new year, we need to consider the following: What can we do to make a difference? How can we improve what we do? Your suggestions and comments would be appreciated.

Nancy Gettys, President

561-622-8309

Nancygettys13@hotmail.com





More Graduation Recognitions

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!!

Logan Lawrence Dodsworth, Larry Hatt's 2nd oldest grandson, who graduated from White Oaks Secondary School, Oakville, Ontario.

Christina Harden, who graduated from Palm Beach State College Magna Cum Laud with an AS degree.

God bless you in your future endeavors.

Book Club 2021 Selections

August Book Club will be in the choir room and on Zoom. We hope YOU will be ready to join us on AUGUST 16th at Noon.

Book Club List for 2021.

>> AUGUST: D'Ette Matthews - Finding Dorothy by Ely Letts

>> SEPTEMBER: Betty McMurchy - The Oysterville Sewing Circle by Susan Wiggs.

>> OCTOBER: Anne McCartney - Tilly and the Crazy Eights by Monique Gray Smith.

>> NOVEMBER: Planning Session for 2022 selections

>> DECEMBER: Holiday Luncheon

Keep on reading, we will need some good titles to plan our next years list.





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Hurricane Season Checklist 2021: What Floridians Need to Prepare

Hurricane season starts June 1st so it's important to stock up on all the essential items necessary to stay safe during a storm.

The last three years have seen four hurricanes make landfall in Florida and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is predicting an "above-normal" 2021 Atlantic hurricane season, with <u>13-20 named storms expected</u>.

Because of the unexpected nature of these storms, Floridians are en-couraged to have at least seven days worth of supplies on hand.

Before hurricane season begins, it is important to gather the following supplies and store them in your home. Be sure to include items that will be necessary during a pandemic.

Should you need to go to an evacuation center, pack as many items as possible into an easyto carry waterproof container such as a backpack or duffle bag, but keep in mind the 20square-foot space limitation. Here are some key items to pack:

- At least one gallon of water per day, per person for three to seven days
- Non-perishable snacks and packaged or canned food for at least three to seven days
- Manual can opener
- Change of clothing, rain gear and sturdy shoes
- Bedding for a small space
- Prescription medications
- Personal hygiene items
- Special items such as food for infants, elderly or disabled family members
- Garbage bags
- First-aid kit
- Fully charged portable electronic devices with charger
- Quiet games, toys or reading materials
- Eyeglasses, contact lenses, hearing aid with extra batteries
- Pet care items, including food and water
- Flashlight, battery-powered radio and batteries
- Extra set of car keys
- Cash
- Important documents in a waterproof container or bag
- Face coverings for every member of your household
- Hand sanitizer

In addition to having all your necessary supplies, make sure you know your <u>evacuation zone</u> and the <u>evacuation plan</u> for your area.



Matthew Meals

THERE WILL BE NO MATTHEW MEALS IN AUGUST DUE TO THE RISE IN THE COVID NUMBERS IN FLORIDA. WE WILL LET YOU KNOW WHEN WE WILL RESUME.

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

THE CROS FOOD PANTRY IS ON THE 1^{ST,} 3RD AND 5TH THURSDAY

OF EACH MONTH IN THE AFTERNOON.

Remember all you need to bring is a picture ID and something with your current address on it. The next Food Pantries will be on Thursdays, August 5th & 19th from 4 – 6 PM. We will be partnering with CROS Ministries, who will be bringing the food to pass out from their truck.

At this writing they will still be coming to give out already bagged food to people. Because the Pantry is held outside on the porch if it is raining they do not come.

Lakeside United Methodist Mission Statement

Sharing the grace of God through: Worship, Sacraments, Fellowship, Prayer, Study, Service, Witness, and Love.

Vision Statement

Be a welcoming church reaching people with God's love within our community and beyond.

Church and Mission giving– Our giving has to be modified to accommodate the new reality of not gathering in person. Electronic giving through PayPal is the best way to do this. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to do that. You can click on the giving option on our website at lakesideumchurch.org under the GIVING banner

If you prefer to make your gifts by check, you can mail it to:

Lakeside UMC, 1901 12th Avenue S. Lake Worth, FL 33461

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pastor David Police and Military personnel Health Care workers and First Responders COVID-19 deaths and illness

Cancer: Marilynne Tilley Elizabeth Merchant Lane Laubscher Denise, stage 4 cancer, daughter of Sister Chris of The Great I Am. Kathy Staszak, colon cancer

ways Praying

Other Health: Beverly Knapp June Palma **David & Marilyn VanVleet Helen Branson** Wanda Laubscher- Lupus. Selburn & Joan Dacres Carl Linderson-Meniere's Disease/vertigo **Don & Peggy Morphesis** Vinnie Manna **Beverly Engler-Manor Care Delray** Maryann Davis Albert Jordan Debby & Jim Aliff Marcia, Nanci Branson's supervisor Debby, friend of Barbara Russum Chrissy, Destiny & Monica Harden Kenny Dowry **Beverly Josefson** Ken Jarvis Bob Matthews-heart concerns. Donna Pylman Linderson pain after surgery. Beth, friend of the Friends

Ken & Linda Friend Gary Orrock Mary Ann Giel Kathy Chandler Donna Harris Dan Walsh Nanci Branson



Slow Down: Back to School Means Sharing the Road

Sharing the Road with School Buses

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

- Never pass a bus from behind or from either direction if you're on an undivided road – if it is stopped to load or unload children
- If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus

You should always stop for a school bus with its lights flashing; <u>except if</u> you are driving on a <u>divided highway</u> in the opposite direction of a bus and there is at least five feet of unpaved space, a raised median, or a physical barrier (concrete abutment) separating the roadway on which you are travelling from the roadway where a bus stopped. Only then you can continue to drive at a legal speed, but should still drive with an increased awareness that children might be around.

Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks