#### JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER | UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH





Between Sundays Reverend Edward Dunn

You are invited to join me this summer for a midweek reading and discussion gathering I'm calling "Between Sundays." We will meet Wednesdays beginning at 10:30a.m. to share reading and conversation about the passages of scripture that fill in the story we will be hearing Sundays in worship. Our focus will be on the first kings of Israel – Saul, David, and Solomon.

The primary character in these narratives is David, who is revered as Israel's great king and whom scripture calls, "a man after God's own heart." As we read his story we will uncover the faith of this servant king but we will also discover that he was a flawed man.

The following outline presents the schedule for our group meeting. I hope you will be able to join us for a discussion and time for learning "Between Sundays."

Sunday, June 2 Wednesday, June 5	I Samuel 3:1-10, 19 ISamuel 4-7:2	The story of the Ark			
Sunday, June 9 Wednesday, June 12	ISamuel 8:4-22 ISamuel 9-10:1, 13-14	Saul: the warrior king			
Sunday, June 16 Wednesday, June 19	I Samuel 15:34-16:13 NO MEETING				
Sunday, June 23 Wednesday, June 26	I Samuel 17 I Samuel 18-31	Saul and David			
Sunday, June 30 Wednesday, July 3	2 Samuel 1:1. 17-27 2 Samuel 2-4	The last of Saul's dynasty			
Sunday, July 7 Wednesday, July 10	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 2 Samuel 5	The growth of David's reign			
Sunday, July 14 Wednesday, July 17	2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-22 2 Samuel 6	The return of the Ark			
Sunday, July 21 Wednesday, July 24	2 Samuel 7:1-14a 2 Samuel 8-10	A Warrior King			
Sunday, July 28 Wednesday, July 31	2 Samuel 11:1-15 NO MEETING				
Sunday, August 4 Wednesday, August 7	2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a 2 Samuel 13-17	A Family in Crisis			
Sunday, August 11 Wednesday, August 14	2 Samuel 18 2 Samuel 19-21,24-I King	gs 1 David's life draws to a close			
Sunday, August 18 Wednesday, August 21	I Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14 I Kings 3:16-28, 4:29-7	Solomon: a new king reigns			
Sunday, August 25	I Kings 8: 1, 6, 10-11, 22-30,41-43				
Blessings, Edward					

## Kayak Day Photos





# THANK YOU

\*\*\* Reminder - There wil be no fellowship hour following worship from June - August\*\*\*



A big thank you to everyone who helped with fellowship and brought in food. We could not have done it without you!

If you would like to help in the the fall (September) please let me know!

-Gail Dickerson

Let's get together to spread God's word. Join the Fellowship & Worship Committee Today! Reach out to Gail Dickerson for more information at 941-224-1117 or email <u>gaild.pspc@gmail.com</u>

## CAA & Brooksdale Palma Sola May Events























May Session Highlights

• Approved serving communion by intinction during the summer months.

• Approved holding an Ice Cream Social fundraiser on July 21st after worship, with proceeds from a suggested \$5 donation going to the Manatee Food Bank.

• Endorsed a plan to focus the summer worship messages on David, with a Bible Study on Wednesday's at 10:30 Thank gmailam during June and July to further explore the sermon messages.

• Agreed to reschedule the June Session meeting to June 24th .

• Supported the Church Nominating Committee in their effort to fill two Deacon vacancies that have recently occurred.

• Noted that the new sound board has been received and anxiously await its installation.

• Concurred with the recommendation to maintain regular office hours during the summer months with any slowdown in activity filled from a backlog of needed projects.

• Approved an expenditure of up to \$2,000 to seal the interior roof at the base of the steeple and close the open steeple window, thereby preventing water seepage into the mezzanine area of the Sanctuary.

• Applauded the daily rental of Fellowship Hall during June and July.

• Endorsed the recommendations of the Grounds Enhancement Group for irrigation and plantings to landscape the south side exterior of Fellowship Hall.

• Noted that Pastor Dunn was elected to the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry for a three-year term.

• Endorsed the plan to offer a new magnetic United (logo) Nametag to members who wish to have one. Sign up will be in the Narthex.

## <u>3 Cents A Meal Offering</u>

With five Sundays, June is another month of opportunity to donate to the 3 Cents-A-Meal program!

#### Next Collection: June 30, 2024

Last collected on March 31 2024. Next five Sunday month is September 2024. 91 days x 3 meals a day = 273 meals.

273 meals x .03 = \$8.19. Please feel free to round up!

Offerings go to Beth-el, Mision Peniel and Our Daily Bread after each collection.



## **Mission Spotlight: STREAM**

The Outreach Team has been exploring United Presbyterian Church becoming involved with the organization STREAM, which stands for Stronger Together Reaching Equality Across Manatee. STREAM is a relatively new nonpartisan, grassroots organization of faith communities aiming to solve critical community problems in Manatee County. They are made up of 16 member congregations from all over Manatee County having diverse religious, socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds.

Most of us want to "do something" to solve community problems, but we lack an effective vehicle to do so. STREAM addresses this by working to change policies and systems.

STREAM is partnered with the Direct Action and Research Training Center, DART, which is highly effective at teaching people how to bring about social change. They emphasize 1) focusing on the critical problems that affect many -- and thus are popular, unifying, and winnable, 2) focusing on data-driven, pragmatic solutions that address root causes, and 3) how to effectively interview and persuade.

STREAM's process is characterized by 4 big events separated by smaller meetings, which enables participants to contribute on many different levels, from joining the big rallies to becoming involved in the planning, research, and or interviewing.

In the last couple of years, they tackled affordable housing and criminal justice reform, which resulted in Manatee County officials pledging to build over 200 more affordable housing units each year and implementing an arrest diversion program for minor offences like not paying your car registration.

This year their focus is the mental health of children and youth in Manatee County.

In January, to learn more about STREAM, Outreach Team members participated in STREAM's Research Kickoff Event on this topic. We found ourselves in focus groups sharing the mental health experiences of family and friends and possible helpful interventions. In April, we attended the Nehemiah Action event where this year's action was to ask the School Board of Manatee County to create a plan to address the high rates of depression and self-harm among the county's students, including increasing the number of Mental Health Support staff in our schools. Although district leaders did not agree to this action, they did agree to additional meetings with STREAM leaders to address this issue.

As we continue to determine if and how we might become involved with STREAM, the Outreach Team would like to form a group of interested church members who have a heart for this type of ministry. Please contact Andrea Harmon with any questions or if you would like to support STREAM and their initiatives in the future.

## Penetcost Sunday & Church Picnic Photos





































## June Outreach Update

The month of May always brings many celebrations, endings, and new beginnings. We are grateful for all the opportunities we have had – and continue to have, to reach out to others and share Christ's love.

#### **Recap of May Events and Programs:**

• You donated 50 packages of baby wipes supplemented by \$250 of budget funded diapers and baby formula to the food pantry at Our Daily Bread. Many families will be blessed by your kindness.

• You generously donated to Meals on Wheels of Manatee through our May Outreach Offering.

• These funds were added to our April collection to provide support for homebound seniors in our local community.

• Folks volunteered every Friday at Our Daily Bread.

• Twelve people gathered for a morning of kayaking on the water at Robinson Preserve. A lovely time in the great outdoors was had by all.

• You supported an immediate need at Turning Points by purchasing \$250 worth of men's underwear from budgeted funds.

• You shared excess fabric and sewing supplies from the Dorcas sewing closet with clients of Mision Peniel. These supplies will be used to make clothing and home furnishings benefiting farmworkers and others in their local community.

• As part of our PB & J Sandwich Ministry you made an additional 400 sandwiches for hungry clients at Our Daily Bread.

• You provided a special afternoon of fellowship and fun with residents of Brookdale Palma Sola, sharing ice cream sundaes and singing patriotic songs in celebration of Memorial Day.

• You funded the purchase of books on fire safety education for students in Manatee County.

• You attended a spring concert hosted by our campus partner, the Creative Arts Academy. What a joy it was to see young people perform and share their love of music with the community.

#### June Outreach Opportunities:

• Our DOES It (Done On Every Sunday) project for June, July, and August will be collecting nonperishable food for The Food Bank of Manatee. The Food Bank is the leading, local source of nutrition for food-insecure babies, children, families, and the elderly in Manatee County. The need in our community is great, especially now that school is out for the summer and fewer children will be receiving food at school. Canned fruits, vegetables, soups, and meats as well as boxed and bagged pasta, rice, beans, and healthy cereal and breakfast bars are always in demand. Drop your items in the yellow barrel in the Narthex or bring them to the church office all summer long!

• We also have a summer bonus DOES It to benefit children and education! In June and July, we are collecting school supplies for the Beth-El Farmworker Ministry in Wimauma and for our neighborhood school Palma Sola Elementary. Please see the list of needed items and drop your donations in the bins in the Narthex or bring them to the church office by July 28th. Thank you for helping students prepare for a great school year!

## June Outreach Update Continued

• Contribute to our 3 Cents a Meal Offering on June 30th. This month's total comes to \$8.19, but feel free to round up!

#### 2024 School Supply Wish List:

1, 3, and 5 subject notebooks Pens – blue/black/red Composition notebooks Pencil pouches or boxes Loose leaf paper – wide & college ruled Calculators – regular & scientific Reams of white copy paper Glue and glue sticks Expo markers Clorox wipes Colored pencils and crayons – 24 count White card stock Colored markers – regular and washable Scissors – regular & blunt #2 pencils

#### **Ongoing Opportunities:**

• Servers for Our Daily Bread on Fridays are always needed. Contact Dorothy Simes if you would like to volunteer.

• We continue to collect non-perishable food items in the cart in the Narthex to donate to Our Daily Bread of Bradenton. They are always in need of shelf stable items to stock the Loaves & Fishes food pantry.

• Please keep in mind our Blessing Box by the east parking lot. The Blessing Box serves as a mini food pantry for our local neighborhood, and you are welcome to add to it or take from it as needed.

• Contributions of loose change, soft money, and checks for FELT (Feeding Empty Little Tummies) are always welcome. To donate, use the envelopes in the pews or mail a check to the church office with "FELT" in the memo line.

• Join your church family in Fellowship Hall after worship each week to make PB & J sandwiches to share with the clients of Our Daily Bread. Thank you to all who have been bringing in supplies, making sandwiches, and helping SPREAD the love of Christ to your neighbors in need!

• The Holy Strollers walking group is taking a break during the heat of the summer but will make plans to meet up again in the fall.

## June Outreach Offering

Our Outreach Offering for June will go to The Food Bank of Manatee, the largest hunger relief organization in Manatee County. The Food Bank provides nutritional assistance and supportive services to individuals in need by distributing food through over 65 local non-profit partner agencies and food pantries. The Food Bank has provided over 30 million pounds of food since 1985 for local children, families, and seniors.

You may donate to The Food Bank

- during the worship service, in your offering envelope,
- by mailing a check to the church office with "Food Bank " in the memo line, or
- through <u>online giving</u>

### Summer Field Trip Series

Introducing our inaugural Summer Field Trip Series! As crowds thin during the summer, join your UPC family for a variety of field trips to celebrate local attractions. From museums to botanical parks to baseball, there are so many fun things to do close to home. Admission cost will be paid in advance by those attending, and transportation will be arranged through carpooling of the participants. Look for more information, sign-up sheets, and deadlines in the Narthex and on the church website. Friends and family are welcome – hope to see you there!

#### Saturday, June 1st 10 am

Selby Botanical Gardens Sarasota Admission: Adults \$26; children ages 5-17 \$11

#### Saturday, June 29th 10 am

Salvadore Dali Museum St. Pete Admission: Adults 18-64 \$29; Seniors \$27; children ages 13-17 \$20 and 6-12 \$12

#### Saturday, July 20th 11 am

Florida Railroad Museum and train ride in Parrish Admission: Ages 12+ \$18; children ages 3-11 \$14

#### Saturday, August 17th 4:10 pm

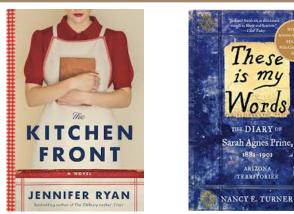
Faith Day at the Tampa Bay Rays vs. the Arizona Diamondbacks Tickets \$39 – include lower-level seat and Rays hat

### June Birthdays & Anniversaries

JUN 3	Eric Arvidson	JU
JUN 8	Darlene Haas	JUI
	Richard Pratt	JUI
<b>JUN 15</b>	Gregg and Lorrie Pead	JU
<b>JUN 16</b>	Judy Giles	JUI
	Michael "Mike" Stone	
JUN 19	Norman "Norm" Lee	

- N 20 Chibuzor "Chib" Onugha
- **IN 21** Daphne-Ann Haynes
- N 23 Harris Onugha
- **IN 24** Patricia "Pat" Byrnes
- **N 27** Anita Smith
  - Laura Rieley

### Palma Sola Book Club



JUN 10 | 1 - 2:30PM JUL 8 | 1 - 2:30PM

Join in any second Monday at 12pm in the Media Center & Zoom for fun conversation.

### 2024 READING LIST

For more information, call Vicki Schooley at (941) 518-2315.

### Men's Group



You're invited to attend the Morning Men's Group. Get to know the men you see in church. Share your story. Enjoy fellowship.

#### MEETINGS START AT 8:30A

JUN 6 - Fellowship and breakfast | Poppi's
Place Restaurant
JUN 20 - Fellowship & a discussion about
Christian Living | Fellowship Hall

Please contact Rich Wachunis <u>rwachunis@tampabay.rr.com</u>

- United Presbyterian Church | June 2024 Newsletter -

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
26	27	28	29	30	31	<b>1</b> Summer Field Trip Series - Selby Gardens 10a 9a	
2 Present Word 8:45a Worship Service 10a Communion Fellowship @11	3	4	<b>5</b> Between Sundays Disc, 10;30a	6 MEN'S GROUP 8:30a   Poppi's Renewal 6:30p	7 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	8	
9 Present Word 8:45a Worship 10a	<b>10</b> Palma Sola Book Club / 1p	11 PRAYER GROUP [] 11A Outreach / 3p	<b>12</b> Between Sundays Disc, 10;30a	<b>13</b> Finance - 3:30P	<b>14</b> Our Daily Bread 9:30a	15	
<b>16</b> <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> Present Word 8:45a Worship   10a	17	18	19 juneteenth	20 IST DAY OF SUMMER MEN'S GROUP 8:30a	21 Our Daily Bread 9:30a Jul/Aug Grapevine Deadline	22	
23 Present Word 8:45a Worship   10a	24 UPC SESSION 1p	25 PRAYER GROUP   11A	<b>26</b> Between Sundays Disc, 10;30a	27	28 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	<b>29</b> Summer Field Trip Series - Salvador Dali Museum, St. Pete   10a	
30 Present Word 8:45a Worship   10a 3 Cents A Meal	<u>Church Office Hours Monday - Thursday   9am - 4pm</u> View the online church <u>Calendar</u> for latest information about Sunday worship services, Bible study, outreach and other events. Livestreamed and recorded worship services may be viewed at <u>Online Worship</u> .						