



The Beacon

A light of information & inspiration

 **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

260 SW Prima Vista Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983
(772) 878-1155

Volume 67 No. 8
August 2026

A Devotional Based on Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and exalted, with the train of His royal robe filling the temple. (v. 1)

When a King dies: The king represented **stability, security, and leadership**. His death marked uncertainty and grief. As a church in the past years, we went thru a lot of uncertainty and grief.

The first thing #1 I noticed in the passage: Isaiah saw that means **VISION** Isaiah discovered something powerful:

When the earthly king died, the heavenly King was still on the throne.

God had not left. His presence still fills the temple. Heaven is still active. The angels are still worshipping. God is still moving.

Isaiah's eyes were lifted from his loss to the glory of God.

Sometimes we focus only on what we lost, but God invites us to see what remains:

His presence, His power, and His faithfulness.

Heaven is not in panic. God is still in his throne.

Second thing #2 Alignment — Our Words Matter (vv. 5, 6, 7)

"I am ruined, because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips."

After seeing God's holiness, Isaiah became aware of his own words.

Our words have power. In difficult seasons, we can either speak fear, doubt, and defeat, or we can align our speech with God's purpose and promises.

Instead of saying:

"Everything is falling apart," say, "God is still in control."

"I don't know what the future may bring," say, "God still has a purpose with this church."

When our words align with God, our actions begin to align too.

Third thing #3 Mission — God Still Cares About Souls (v. 8)

After Isaiah encountered God, he heard the Lord ask: "Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?" Not the angels, YOU and ME. God's heart has always been for

people. Even when we feel gloomy, God calls us to reach others.

What can we share? Our testimony. We don't need to have all the answers.

We only need to tell others what God has done in our lives.

Your story, my story may be **the very thing** that brings hope to someone else.

Closing Thought: Maybe as a church we felt shaken. But today, God wants to remind us: **His throne is not empty. His presence still fills the temple. And He is still calling His people to SEE Him, ALIGN with Him, and GO for Him.**

Let's pray:

Lord, when I feel uncertain or afraid, help me lift my eyes and see You on the throne. Align my words with Your truth and use my life to reach others. Thank You for never leaving... and for still having a purpose for us.

In Jesus' name, Amen, Pastor Barbara D. Martinez



Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Armando Rodríguez
pastorarod@outlook.com

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Rev. Rich Edwards
redwards1629@gmail.com

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Josue Martínez
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Heather Barber
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Our Vision & Mission

***"Shining the Light
of God's Love"***

Through:

***Inspiring Worship
Personal Growth
Intentional Outreach***



Church Webpage
www.pslfumc.com

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30a – 4:30p

Sunday Morning Worship

8:00a Traditional Worship
9:30a Contemporary Worship
11:00a Traditional Worship
11:30a Spanish Worship
**Worship with us online at
Facebook Live
9:30a & 11:00a**

The Alpha Course

Thursdays 6:30 – 7:45 pm
Starts August 20th
Room 101, BLC

Alpha

The Alpha course is a 15 week class that explores the basics of the Christian faith. Topics include: the identity of Jesus, faith and prayer, life's purpose, the Holy Spirit, the Bible & more!
Facilitator: Pastor Rich Edwards

**Lay Servant
Beginners
Class**

Cost for
Beginners
Class
Book:
\$10.00

**Sundays
Sept 13 –
Oct 25
9:30 am
Room 4
Outreach
Center**

Advanced Class to follow
Nov 1 – Dec 20

For more information call Cherie Portinga @ (706) 294-5915



Look....in a book!

Our FUMC Library is ready for visitors. Visit our website to view and search the titles available. Self check-out your selections at your convenience. The steps for check-out are posted in the library.



30 DAY BIKE RIDE

Carol Wellons, will be participating in a 300 mile bike ride in 30 days during the month of August again. If you would like to sponsor her with this endeavor, please note "bike ride" on your offering envelope. All funds collected will go towards our operating budget.

We appreciate Carol's willingness to help the church in this way.

Your donation is greatly appreciated.



24 weeks **DISCIPLE I**
FAST TRACK
Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

TOPICS: Genesis thru Revelation
Facilitated by Walter Robinson & Susan Mottice
Thursdays starting August 27th
6:30–8 pm ~ Room 105, BLC
Study guides needed (available from Cokesbury)
Please call Susan @ (440) 289-9051 for more information.

24 weeks **DISCIPLE II**
FAST TRACK
Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

TOPICS: Genesis & Exodus; Luke & Acts of the Apostles
Facilitated by Sue Iven Richter
Tuesdays starting September 8th
6:30 - 8 pm ~ Room 103, BLC
Study guides needed (available from Cokesbury)
Disciple I is a prerequisite
Please call Sue @ (772) 275-1972 for more information.

24 weeks **DISCIPLE III**
FAST TRACK
Remember Who You Are

TOPICS: The Prophets and the Letters of Paul
Facilitated by Gail Fritz
Thursdays starting September 10th
10-11:30 am ~ Room 105, BLC
Study guides needed (available from Cokesbury)
Disciple I is a prerequisite
Please call the Gail @ church office for more information.

32 weeks **DISCIPLE IV**
UNDER THE TREE OF LIFE

Concentrates on Old Testament Writings, the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, Jude, and Revelation. Emphasis on the Psalms as Israel's hymnbook and prayer book leads naturally to an emphasis on worship in the study.

Facilitated by Rad Orlandi
Tuesdays starting August 11th 6:30-8 pm ~ Room 101, BLC
Study guide needed (available from Cokesbury)
Prerequisite: Disciple I, II & III
Please call the church office for more information.



CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP DINNER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th • 5:30 P.M.

BEACON LIFE CENTER

LAWRENCE HALL



FOOD, FUN, & FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL AGES
ALL ARE WELCOME! Join us for an evening of connection.

DETAILS COMING SOON

Youth Mission Trip





MISSION TEAM
PASTA DINNER
TAKEOUT DINNER

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
 4:30 - 7 PM

TICKETS ON SALE IN AUGUST

TICKETS \$10

SUPPORT THE MISSION TEAM!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION! ♥



Please join our Visitation Team by wishing a **Happy Birthday** to:

Miriam Busch August 12
 8 Lake Vista Trail #105,
 PSL 34952



First United Methodist Church
 Port St. Lucie
Shining God's Light Since 1960



Residing Hope



Each month that has a fifth Sunday, the United Methodist Churches in the Florida Annual Conference are asked to receive an offering to support the ministry of Residing Hope. When you contribute to this offering, you allow them to carry on this life changing ministry. The tradition of the Fifth Sunday Offering stretches back to the very beginning in 1908.

This month has a fifth Sunday on August 30th.



hello AUGUST

United Women in Faith Dinner Out

August 15th 5 pm

Olive Garden
 ITALIAN KITCHEN

RSVP to Ricka Marsh
 (no later than August 13th)
 772-203-0290

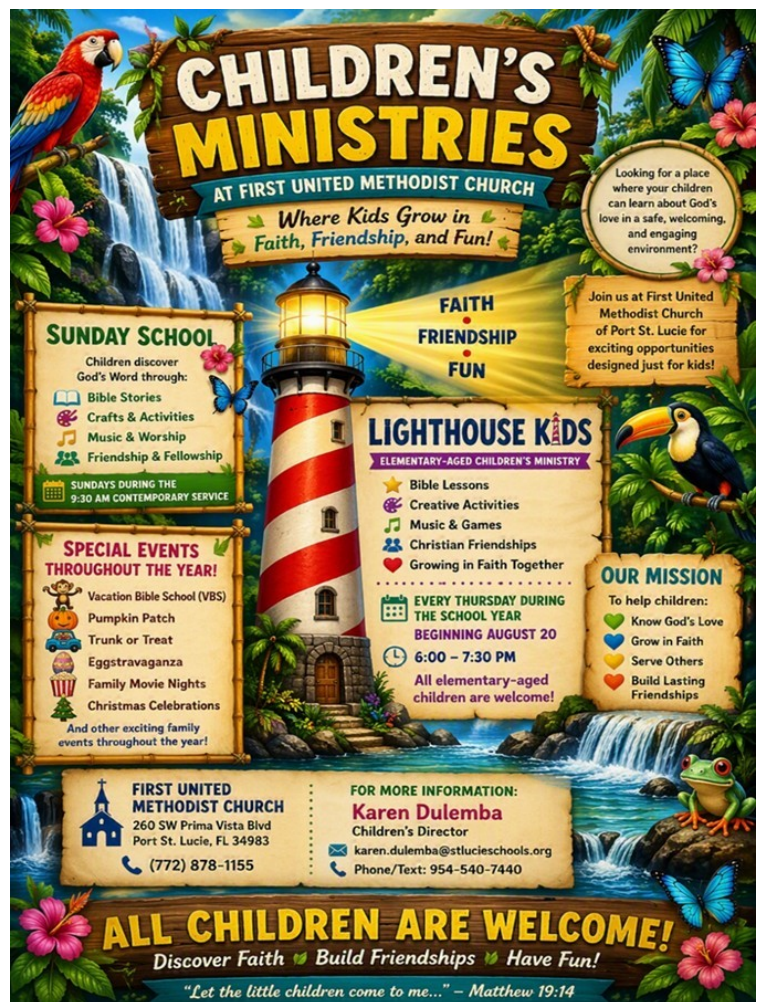
10221 SW Meeting St, Port St. Lucie, FL 34987



WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER

6:30-7:30 pm
Room 101

Join us as we seek God together!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
 AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Where Kids Grow in Faith, Friendship, and Fun!

SUNDAY SCHOOL
 Children discover God's Word through:
 Bible Stories
 Crafts & Activities
 Music & Worship
 Friendship & Fellowship
 SUNDAYS DURING THE 9:30 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

SPECIAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!
 Vacation Bible School (VBS)
 Pumpkin Patch
 Trunk or Treat
 Eggstravaganza
 Family Movie Nights
 Christmas Celebrations
 And other exciting family events throughout the year!

FAITH FRIENDSHIP FUN

LIGHTHOUSE KIDS
 ELEMENTARY-AGED CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
 Bible Lessons
 Creative Activities
 Music & Games
 Christian Friendships
 Growing in Faith Together
 EVERY THURSDAY DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR
BEGINNING AUGUST 20
 6:00 - 7:30 PM
 All elementary-aged children are welcome!

OUR MISSION
 To help children:
 Know God's Love
 Grow in Faith
 Serve Others
 Build Lasting Friendships

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 260 SW Prima Vista Blvd
 Port St. Lucie, FL 34983
 (772) 878-1155

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Karen Dulemba
 Children's Director
 karen.dulemba@stlucieschools.org
 Phone/Text: 954-540-7440

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!
 Discover Faith ♥ Build Friendships ♥ Have Fun!
"Let the little children come to me..." - Matthew 19:14

FOOD PANTRY

Current Needs

Cereal
Pasta
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Tuna
Canned Soup
Pasta Sauce
Macaroni & Cheese



An Equal Opportunity Provider

Our Food Pantry serves families in need on Tuesdays from 10 am - noon in the Outreach Center. Please bring your donations of non-perishable foods. Special needs: Toilet paper & bags (reusable & plastic). We also offer clothing through **Hope's Corner**. Clean, gently used clothing is accepted. Special needs: Men's clothing. Currently, we need additional volunteers to work on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 am - noon.

In the month of June, 304 individuals visited the pantry, providing meals for 1,149 family members. Hope's Corner had 130 patrons offering clothing for their families. Thank you to all who have donated clothes and food. A special thanks for your donations of bags and toilet paper. It's truly appreciated and helped us.

WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

FUMC FOOD PANTRY



Some Heroes Wear Crosses

Pastor Armando brought Rev. Jonathan, visiting from Japan, to tour the FUMC Food Pantry and Hope's Closet. When they heard that the Pantry was in need of workers to take clients' food to their cars, they volunteered to help for a few minutes. Minutes became two hours of helping clients select food and free items, and assisting with taking everything on carts to the clients' cars on one of the hottest days of the summer. Pastor Armando and Rev. Jonathan stepped in and helped where they saw a need. There is a beautiful phrase that says, "What we give may not always return, but what we give is always what we are." Pastor Armando and Rev. Jonathan were heroes wearing crosses at the Food Pantry that day.



DID YOU KNOW?

Have you seen the plastic jars with labels saying "It's All About Change" around out church campus? Ever wonder what they are for?

The jars are for families to take home to use for their extra change! The money collected is used to help pay down the principal on our Mortgage.

Won't you consider donating your loose change to help the church with these funds? It is amazing how quickly the change adds up. We are very grateful to all those who currently support our efforts with the change jars.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE CHANGE CAN MAKE!

EXCITING NEWS!

FUMC APP

Contact the church office by email at secretary@pslfumc.com to receive your individualized code for downloading and accessing the Church App. Please include your address & phone numbers.

Stay connected with your church community all the time, anywhere with the MyUCD App at no cost.



PRESCHOOL NOW ENROLLING

Ark Academy Preschool is now offering enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year. Please call 878-3099 with any questions.

260 SW Prima Vista Blvd., Port St Lucie

GATHER G2G GROW

A ministry where people can gather to connect and grow together in relationship with one another and with Christ.



Connect with your church family and others through conversation at the table, while enjoying a light meal.

Our next Gathering will be

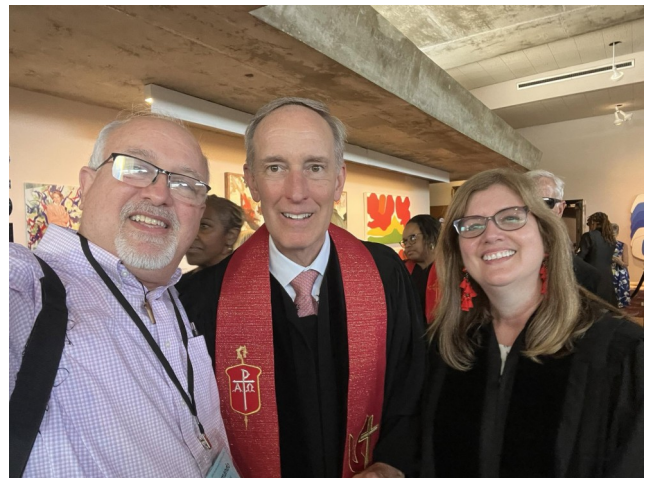
**Sunday, 8/16
5:30 - 7:00 pm**

Thanks!

- ♥All of our committee members, Praise Teams, Tech Team, Visitation Team, Worship Team, Witness Team, Missions Team, Choir, Communion Prep Team, Greeters & Ushers who work hard all year long.
- ♥Our many church family volunteers who keep the landscape weed free & beautiful.
- ♥The many, many men & women giving their time and efforts every Tuesday morning to make our food pantry & Hope's Corner run so smoothly.
- ♥Jackie Rose Bennet for managing the food pantry and Ava Guy for managing the clothes closet.
- ♥Chris Bogley, Linda Ollmann, Tom & Nancy Morando for straightening up and preparing the pews each week.
- ♥Counters for your weekly assistance.
- ♥Jenette Robarge, Kim Nelson, Laura Henry, Shirley Miller, Rae Ann Stanavich, Esther Ruppel, Susan Skinner, Denise Andrade & Sue Iven who help in the office on a weekly basis.
- ♥The Men's & Women's Prayer Groups who pray for everyone for whom prayers were requested and prepare and mail out the prayer cards.
- ♥Rita Etherington for sending greeting cards for special occasions to those being cared for in Care Centers or at home.
- ♥Dan Dolph for repairing the sidewalk outside of the church office.
- ♥Bill Eshleman for upgrading the signs in the parking lot.
- ♥Vince Stanavich for making the artificial flower arrangements for the altar in the Sanctuary.
- ♥Bill & Suzan Eshleman and John & Kim Hudgins for working so diligently at organizing the church library.
- ♥Kim Nelson, Jarmo & Elaine Toivola and Sue Allender for so lovingly taking care of our Memorial Service refreshments on an ongoing basis.
- ♥Emily Franco, Pastor Armando, Bob Preston, Amanda Sojka for helping Holley on the Youth Mission Trips this summer.
- ♥Chris Bogley, Kim Nelson & Carol Sinko for organizing the 100th birthday party for Levant Bender.

Congratulations!!! Blessings!!!

The newly licensed Rev. Barbara Martinez, now officially a pastor in The United Methodist Church as of now.



Women's Prayer Group



We're Praying!

- * for you
- * for ourselves
- * for our church
- * for our church family
- * for our nation
- * for the sick
- * for the poor
- * for the lonely
- * for EVERYONE!

Won't you join us?

Thursday Mornings at 9:30 am in the Beacon Life Center

Men's Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 6:45 am
Conference Room
Please join us!

"Where two or three are gathered in my name I am in the midst of them"
Matthew 18:20

OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS



FOR *Cuba* 

Your Unused Benefit Can
Bring Hope and Healing



Every item
you purchase
can be a blessing
to someone in
great need.

USE YOUR OTC BENEFIT – MAKE AN ETERNAL IMPACT



Many Medicare Advantage (Part C) plans include an **Over-the-Counter (OTC) benefit**, which provides a preloaded allowance to purchase approved health and wellness products.



These funds typically **do not roll over**, so they must be used within the designated monthly or quarterly benefit period.



Eligible items can be purchased at participating retailers such as **Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens**, or through approved mail-order catalogs.



OTC items may include **medications, vitamins, first aid supplies, pain relievers, allergy relief, digestive health, and much more.**

HELP OUR SISTER CHURCHES IN CUBA

If you have a Medicare Advantage (Part C) plan and are not using your OTC allowance, please consider using it to purchase over-the-counter medications and vitamins for children and adults for our sister churches in Cuba.



Your unused benefit can make a meaningful difference by helping provide essential medicines and nutritional support to those in need.



*Thank you for being
the hands and feet of Christ!* 



TOGETHER, WE CAN
BRING HOPE, HEALTH,
AND THE LOVE OF CHRIST
TO OUR BROTHERS AND
SISTERS IN CUBA.



Christians United By Amor
CUBA MINISTRY

CONNECTING HEARTS ACROSS BORDERS
THROUGH FAITH, LOVE, AND SERVICE.

Record of Our Faithful Attendance

	7/5	7/12	7/19	7/26
8:00 am	76	85	128	72
9:30 am	85	87	86	72
11:00 am	128	147	136	121
11:30 am (Hispanic)	72	88	72	87
Sunday School	32	42	49	43

Budget

In the month of July we received \$64,196.12 toward our monthly need of \$79,137. Your financial dedication is appreciated.



Kaitlyn Barber	Cody Hodder
Chris Barber	Sara Hume
Andrew Ryan Connow	Lorena Barbara Martinez
Robert Davis	Zacchary T. McClure
Tyler Ewald	Jeremiah Megerle
Douglas Gifford	Zachary Michel
Ezra Gordon	Carole Moody
Torey Griffith	Johnna Moody
Lily Hamel	Judi Moody

Please pray for our Service Personnel Please call the church office if someone should be added to the list or is no longer on active duty.

Memorial Gifts

Given in memory of
Linda Cox
by Kim Nelson

in loving memory



Our Love & Prayers Go to Our Friends with Our Visitation Team

Kathy Banks 19 S. Tallyho Dr, Springfield, MA 01118
Desmond & Phyllis Brice 401 SE Starflower Ave, PSL, 34983
Miriam Busch 8 Lake Vista Trail #105, PSL 34952
Sandy Fercho 9890 SW Coral Tree Circle, PSL, 34987
Carol Gary 5018 Heskett Lane, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
Althia Griffith 2034 SE Ellington Ter. PSL, 34952
Betty Grace Heaton Colliers Assisted Living, Room 210, 9825 S US Hwy 1, PSL, 34952
Barbara Metts 302 Rio Mar Drive, PSL, 34952
Violet Millenbruch Addington Place of Stuart, 3400 SE Aster Lane #109, Stuart, 34994
Marge Owens Highgate Senior Living, 1600 Petroglyph Point Dr #103, Prescott, AZ 86301
Fred & Deanna Stevens 418 SE Verada Ave. PSL, 34983
Paul Wade Hidden Lake Senior Community, Room 11D, 1006 33rd St., Vero Beach, 32960
Patricia Whiddon Freedom Plaza, Apt 510, 1010 American Eagle Blvd., Sun City, FL 33575
Kati White Watercrest, 279 NW California Blvd. Room 124, PSL 34986
Ginny Young The Gardens 1699 SE Lyngate Dr. Apt. 252, PSL, 34952



SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"If we don't listen to everything that the spirit of God has to say, eventually we won't hear anything."

- Mark Batterson, Pastor



If you are aware of an illness, hospitalization, or death in the family of one of our members please notify the church office. This will help us better serve you. We would rather receive several phone calls than none at all. Please do not assume that we already know.



If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter "The Beacon" in your email box and receive our daily e-prayers, just send an email to secretary@pslfumc.com and we'll add you to the list!



easyTithe™

GIVE HERE



You can make your donations at pslfumc.com by clicking on the easyTithe link, use the easyTithe app or scan this QR code.