



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. 10
October 2026

“Behind the Scenes’: Christian Stewardship and Church Work”

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 9:37-38

What does it take to keep a church running? How many persons are necessary to fulfill God’s mission for the church? How can we be sure that we are a vibrant community that ministers to all in need?

Matthew 9:35-37 tells us of Jesus’ compassion for the multitudes as he was visiting the towns and villages in Galilee. He saw that they were “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd” (9:36). Consequently, Jesus instructed the disciples to pray for more workers to be sent into the “harvest field” (9:38). Jesus and his close followers were not enough. The disciples were to make new disciples who in turn would also be commissioned with the task of making new disciples of Jesus. By definition, the disciples were expected to work together for the transformation of the world.

It takes the entire congregation to fulfill our mission. A trait of vibrant churches is that members and constituents work together as disciples of Christ. Most responsibilities are carried out “behind the scenes,” by anonymous volunteers who devote part of their precious time to serve the Lord. As a few examples, think about the communion elements on the altar table; who gets them ready? When you come to worship, the pews are supposed to be clean from last Sunday’s bulletins and supplied with hymnbooks, Bibles, prayer request cards, offering envelopes, pencils, and much more; who prepares all this? When you look at information boards, you expect them to be updated and relevant to your questions; who gathers this information and posts it? When someone misses a few Sundays without coming to church, who is best suited to notice the absences and inquire about the person’s health and minister to any needs? Each and every one of you is needed so that these and many other responsibilities can be fulfilled. In reality, there are enough tasks to be performed in any church so as to utilize every single member and constituent.

First UMC PSL will be emphasizing Christian stewardship during the months of October-November. We will be asking one main question: Have you found the place (s) where you can best serve God in our church? Are you aware of your gifts, and are you cultivating them and placing them at God’s disposal? Are you listening to God’s call to financially support our mission? Things don’t just happen automatically around here. There are plenty of committees, serving opportunities, or simple tasks for which your talent might be especially useful. God gifted you in a way that makes you the ideal person to accomplish something for His glory in our midst. Generous giving is that which is rooted in the heart. Have you found how God is calling you to serve and contribute in our church?

May we, the church, provide you with plenty of opportunities to be a fruitful Christian; and may you, as part of the body of Christ, make our church vibrant through the exercise of your gifts.

In Jesus’ love,

Pastor Armando

Church Staff

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Rev. Armando Rodríguez
pastorarod@outlook.com

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redwards1629@gmail.com

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Director of Children’s Ministries

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musicbyjulie@gmail.com
Cindy Forbes
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josuespanishworship@gmail.com
Heather Barber
hwmusicbox@gmail.com

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 & Youtube
9:30a & 11:00a

October
is
Pastor Appreciation Month

Thank you to our Pastors
for your faithful leadership,
your prayers, your guidance,
and your unwavering love for
or God's people.

*Thank
you*

"Give honor to whom honor is due."
— Romans 13:7

PUMPKIN DELIVERY

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

October 8th & 22nd @ 4 pm

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

PORT ST. LUCIE
Community Band
DR. JOHN K. SOUTHWALL
MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

PRESENTS
**★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SPIRIT
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
OF
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
AMERICA**

A CONCERT CELEBRATING THE HEART AND HERITAGE OF OUR NATION

Join us for an inspiring afternoon of patriotic favorites,
timeless classics, and powerful music that honors
the stories, sacrifices, and spirit that make
America extraordinary.

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 10, 2026
★ 2:00 PM ★

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
260 SW Prima Vista Blvd
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983

A \$10.00 DONATION
UPON ARRIVAL IS
APPRECIATED TO
SUPPORT OUR MISSION.
Thank you for supporting
live music in our community!

★ LIVE MUSIC. COMMUNITY SPIRIT. AMERICA TOGETHER. ★

PORT ST. LUCIE COMMUNITY BAND
www.pslcommunityband.org | pslcommunityband@gmail.com | Port St. Lucie Community Band

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Community Band
DR. JOHN K. SOUTHWALL
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PRESENTS
**★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SPIRIT
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
OF
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
AMERICA**

A Concert Celebrating the Heart and Heritage of Our Nation

An inspiring afternoon of patriotic favorites, timeless classics, and powerful music that honors the stories, sacrifices, and spirit that make America extraordinary.

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 10, 2026
2:00 PM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
260 SW Prima Vista Blvd
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983

A \$10.00 DONATION UPON ARRIVAL IS APPRECIATED TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION. Thank you for supporting live music in our community!

Live Music. Community Spirit. America Together.

FUMC Witness Team presents

**Trunk
Treat**

October 24th 5 PM to 7:30 PM

We are looking for individuals, church committees or teams to sponsor trunks and provide treats to pass out. For more information, contact Janet Pederson (772) 370-0183. We will need a lot of trunks, so we encourage EVERYONE to participate. It will be "Trunk" Loads of FUN!!!

United Women
in Faith

Bake Sale

October 11th
8 am - Noon

in the Lobby of the
Beacon Life Center

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

Thursday evenings
from 6:00-7:30 for
children in
Kindergarten through
fifth grade. We learn
about Jesus, sing
worship songs, play
games, and have fun
together.

Lighthouse Kids

**YOUTH
GROUP**

THURSDAYS & SUNDAYS
6:00-7:30 PM

6th-12th Grade

A gathering to meet fellow
Christian students, to experience
the life of the Church, and to
learn more about Jesus!

Prayer
Shawl
Ministry

Prayer Shawl

These ladies (and sometimes gentleman) meet to crochet or knit prayer shawls, hats, baby blankets, afghans, etc. Some shawls are donated to the church for shut-ins, those who are ill, or to outside agencies like Hospice or to a Veteran's Nursing Home in Port St. Lucie. This group also partners with the New Baby Ministry by providing baby blankets to new mothers. You do not have to have experience to join. All are welcome. They meet Mondays at 1 pm in Room 102 of the Beacon Life Center.

Lighthouse
Quilters

Lighthouse Quilters

This group fellowships together while working on quilted and sewing projects. Quilts have been made for our shut-ins, veterans, and Mustard Seed Ministries. They have sewn pillowcases for Hibiscus Children's Center in Jensen Beach, and pillowcases, laundry bags, and Christmas stockings for Residing Hope. You do not have to be an experienced quilter or sewer to join in. All are welcome. They meet Thursdays at 9 am in Room 101 of the Beacon Life Center.

**SPiritual Food
FOR THOUGHT**

At the point when we begin to think of God as being anything other than holy is the moment we are imagining a completely different god altogether.
(Jackie Hill Perry)



GATHER G2G GROW

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

Our next Gathering will be
**Sunday, 10/11
5:30 - 7:00 pm**

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

It's Flocking Season



Want to help a loved one celebrate a special event in an unusual way? Try Yard Flocking- the Missions Team's new fundraiser! We will provide yard flamingos and we will place them and take them down for a fee. \$75 for 25, \$100 for 50 or \$125 for 75 birds.

Reservation form can be printed at pslfumc.com!

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

Marge Owens 10/15
Highgate Senior Living
1600 Petroglyph Point Dr #103,
Prescott, AZ 86301

Betty Grace Heaton 10/19
Colliers Assisted Living
Room 210, 9825 S US Hwy 1, PSL, 34952

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
PRAYER 6:30-7:30 pm
Room 101**

Join us as we seek God together!



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 this month: tuna fish, peanut butter, pasta sauce, rice, toilet paper and empty bags (reusable & plastic). We also offer clothing through **Hope's Corner**. Clean, gently used clothing is accepted.

In the month of August, 231 individuals visited the pantry, providing meals for 885 family members. Hope's Corner had 87 patrons offering 1,230 pieces of 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.

WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



Hope's Corner had a fantastic September of providing men's, women's and children's clothing to the community. 153 shoppers left the Closet with 2300 items for their families. The eight Ladies of Hope work every week as Jesus' hands and feet to fulfill our mission of serving those in our community that are in need of clothing.

Thank you to all that provide clothing to our mission. We are open Tuesdays, 9:30 - 11:30 am. We are currently in need of gently used women's clothing and shoes in all size ranges.



Church Family,

I am thankful for the opportunity to preach the message **"When God Interrupts Our Plans"** to our English congregation. Preaching in English takes me outside of my comfort zone, (and Pastor Armando keeps inviting me) but I am learning that sometimes God interrupts our plans and calls us to step into places we never expected.

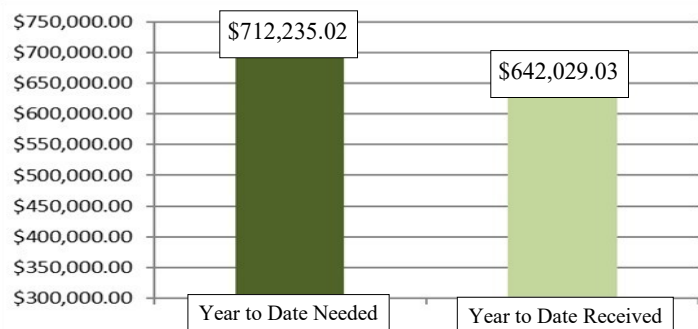
I am very grateful for all the kind and encouraging comments I received. Knowing that the message touched your hearts and that you would like me to preach again means a lot to me. If God calls me to do it, I will step out in faith and do it. After all, it is not about our ability, but about being willing to say **yes to God**.

I also want to share something very special. I preached the same sermon in Spanish, and **seven people surrendered their lives to Christ**. That reminded me once again that God can use the same message in different languages, different settings, and different hearts. The power is not in us. **The power is in His Word and in the Holy Spirit.**

Thank You, Lord, for interrupting my plans and allowing me to be part of Yours.

Blessings, Rev. Barbara D. Martinez
Hispanic Ministry, El Aposento Alto - FUMC

Record of Our Faithful Attendance



Budget

In the month of September we received \$59,571.78 toward our monthly need of \$79,137. Your financial dedication is appreciated.

	9/6	9/13	9/20	9/27
8:00 am	72	69	72	50
9:30 am	91	94	85	77
11:00 am	132	131	108	110
11:30 am	62	80	88	84
Sunday School	56	54	57	47

Memorial Gifts

Given in memory of
Dudley Marsh
by Amy Brown

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



Kaitlyn Barber
Chris Barber
Andrew Ryan Connow
Robert Davis
Tyler Ewald
Douglas Gifford
Ezra Gordon
Torey Griffith
Lily Hamel

Sara Hume
Lorena Barbara Martinez
Zacchary T. McClure
Jeremiah Megerle
Zachary Michel
Carole Moody
Johnna Moody
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.



FUMC APP

Available in the very near future! Contact the church office by email at secretary@pslfumc.com to receive your individualized code for downloading and accessing the app.

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



30 DAY BIKE RIDE

Carol Wellons (and Sampson), participated in a 300 mile bike ride during the month of August. Thanks to her generous sponsors she has raised

\$1482.00

so far to help the budget short fall.

THANK YOU Carol for your willingness to help the church in this way.



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.