



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 66 No. 1
January 2025

“Man Proposes, God Disposes”

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah 29:11

There is an 1864 oil-on-canvas painting by Edwin Landseer entitled “Man Proposes, God Disposes.” Admittedly, the artwork looks really gruesome. Motivated by the loss of Sir John Franklin's expedition to explore the Northwest Passage (1845), which disappeared in the Arctic, the painting depicts two polar bears wreaking havoc on the scattered wreckage of the expedition. It is housed in the collection of Royal Holloway, University of London.

The title “Man Proposes, God Disposes” illustrates the fragility of human plans which easily succumb to natural disasters, adversity, or ultimately to God’s will. We can dream or make many plans, but it is God who in the end is in control. This is similar to the message given in James 4:13-16, which urges us to be humble and not to boast about tomorrow: “Now listen, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.’¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, ‘If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.’¹⁶ As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.” It is better to be humble and to seek God’s will for our future than to make arrogant plans.

For those who seek God’s will, however, and humble themselves before the Lord, the motto “Man proposes, God disposes” takes on a rather positive meaning: God blesses us more abundantly than we can ever imagine. The Prophet Jeremiah tells us that God’s plans are “to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (Jeremiah 29:11). This is our heritage when we call on the Lord and pray to Him; we find God when we truly seek Him with our whole heart! In the interpretation of the Apostle Paul, “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”—the things God has prepared for those who love him—these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 2:9-10)

As we start 2025, I would like for this to be the mindset that guides our church. God will do greater things than we can ever imagine. Let us seek the Lord, humble ourselves, and rededicate our lives to the proclamation of the greatness of the Lord’s Name.

We are making plans to celebrate our 65th Church Anniversary in 2025. I just look forward in anticipation to the many blessings God has prepared for us. Let us set our heart on God’s will and righteousness. May God’s passion for the least, last and lost propel our church to Christian service and witnessing.

Happy and blessed 2025!

Pastor Armando and Icel



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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

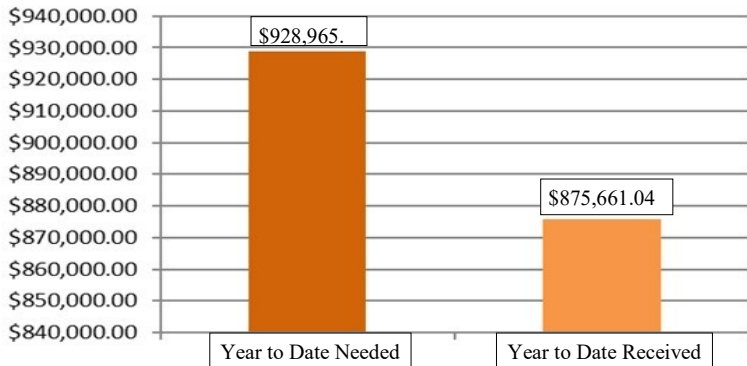
Sunday Morning Worship
8:00a Traditional Worship
9:30a Contemporary Worship
11:00a Traditional Worship
11:30a Spanish Worship
Worship with us online at
Facebook Live
9:30a & 11:00a

Record of Our Faithful Attendance

	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
8:00 am	88	73	93	70	70
9:30 am	88	85	87	96	97
11:00 am	136	125	166	119	97
11:30 am (Hispanic)	89	105	80	100	97
Sunday School	65	42	62	48	41

Budget

In the month of December we received \$100,034.17 toward our amended monthly need of \$125,040. Your financial dedication is greatly appreciated.



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.

Memorial Gifts

Given in memory of

Gill Hanlon

by Kim Nelson, EW Matthews,
Barry & Ruth Noffze, Cheryl Anacker,
Betty & Al Boyer, Chuck & Diane Hanlon.

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

Carol Gary January 12
5018 Heskett Lane, Keystone Heights, FL 32656



Katherine Christopher, daughter of Joe and Judith Frederick, wife of Brian Christopher, just won the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for her services to the community in our Florida state. This award was granted by President Joe Biden and Vice-President

Kamala Harris. Our deepest congratulations to Mrs. Christopher and her family. We are also grateful for her steadfast service as member of our church.

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



Heinz Altenburger 16921 NE 176 St,
Woodinville, WA 98070

Kathleen Banks Black 2830 SE Cabana Lane, PSL, 34952

Desmond & Phyllis Brice 401 SE Starflower Ave, PSL, 34983

Ruth Cooke Watercrest Assisted Living, 279 NW California Blvd, PSL 34986

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

Wayne Habermehl Heavenly Adult Care ALF, 3934 SW Kakopo St, PSL, 34953

Kenneth Haight Discovery Village, Room 302, 2625 SE Cove Rd. Stuart, FL 34997

Betty Grace Heaton Wickshire Assisted Living Room 210 9825 S US Hwy 1, PSL, 34952

Marie Montag 407 SW Magnolia Cove, PSL, 34986

Marge Owens 1600 Petroglyph Point Dr, #310, Prescott, AZ 86301

Doris Rebert 418 SE Verada Ave, PSL, 34983

Evelyn Reis Savannas Park Health & Rehab. Center, Room 303, 1655 SE Walton Rd, PSL, 34952

Paul Wade Hidden Lake Senior Community, Room 11D, 1006 33rd St., Vero Beach, 32960

Martha Watson Harbor Place Room 340, 3700 SE Jennings Rd. PSL, 34952

Patricia Whiddon Freedom Plaza, Apt 510, 1010 American Eagle Blvd., Sun City, FL 33575

Kati White Palm Gardens, Room 120, 1751 SE Hillmoor Dr. PSL, FL 34952

Helen Williams Edgewood Park Place, Room 108, 1930 E 12th St., Casper, WY 82607

LET US WORSHIP
BY SEAN FEUCHT

NEW YEARS EVE*
TUES, DEC 31
9PM-MIDNIGHT

**CLOVER PARK
PORT ST. LUCIE
FREE EVENT**

Call Pastor Rich @ (301) 395-2427 if you are interested in attending as a group.

**CHURCH
OFFICE
CLOSED**

Tuesday,
December 31st
@ noon

Wednesday,
January 1st

New Offering Envelopes

2025 Offering Envelopes are available in the BLC Lobby. If you have physical limitations and are unable to go over to the BLC, please ask an usher to get them for you. For those who watch us live on Sunday, please stop by during normal working hours to pick yours up. Please note that the first envelope in the box is to help us recoup the cost of purchasing the envelopes. A \$5.00 donation is requested for this purpose. Some envelope numbers have changed so please do not use envelopes from previous years. If you currently do not have envelopes and would like some please contact the church office and we will provide you with a box. If you use easy title or bill pay and do not need your envelopes please let us know that as well.
Thank you, The Finance Committee

SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Mary, despite dangers, fears, risks, and unopened dreams, "magnified the Lord and rejoiced in God." She did this with the help of Elizabeth and with her own willingness to trust that God was working in and through her to accomplish his purposes. Joy is at work and is a choice we make when we look at our present circumstances through the eyes of faith, trusting that God is at work.

- Pastor Adam Hamilton

Upper Room Devotionals

January - February
Available in the Narthex

The regular size is \$1.50, while the large print is \$2.00. Please deposit your donation in the box provided to help defray the cost.

FOOD PANTRY
Current Needs

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

An Equal Opportunity Provider

WALL OF HONOR

Lawrence Bach	Torey Griffith
Hugh Ballard	Lily Hamel
Kaitlyn Barber	Zacchary T. McClure
"Wit" Darvill	Jeremiah Megerle
Tyler Ewald	Zachary Michel
Ethan Fink	Johnna Moody
Douglas T. Gifford	Judi Moody
Ezra Gordon	Carole 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.

In the month of December, 242 individuals visited our Food Pantry, providing meals for 932. Hope's Corner served 71 people this month.

We are making a difference together!
We are looking for additional volunteers for Tuesday mornings. Please call Jackie at (917) 669-9336.

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 secretary@pslfumc.com and we'll add you to the list!

SUBSCRIBE

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.

Breakfast with Santa

was a huge success with over 100 children

THANKS to all the volunteers who helped with the event and a SPECIAL THANK YOU to the youth for helping out!!



Installation of Leaders

January 12th

11 am - Sanctuary

- * All UWF members should attend!
- * Meet our new slate of officers!



January Unit Meeting

January 15th

1 pm - Room 101, BLC



Guest Speaker: Pastor Armando
Topic: "Women Working to get Children to Church"

Refreshments to follow

EXCITING NEWS!

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

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

Contact the church office to get your individualized code for accessing our new FUMC APP.

20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

FEATURING PRAYERS, AFFIRMATIONS, & STUDY GUIDE

THE BAIT OF SATAN

LIVING FREE FROM THE DEADLY TRAP OF OFFENSE

JOHN BEVERE

OVER ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD WORLDWIDE

"LIVING FREE FROM OFFENSE"

This 6-week study exposes one of the most deceptive snares Satan uses to get believers out of the will of God: offense. Most of the people ensnared by offense don't even realize it. Being offended is inevitable in our daily living. If offense is handled correctly, you will become stronger rather than bitter.

Join facilitator Jim Kolts every Tues. evening at 6:30 pm beginning January 14th in Room 103 of the BLC. There is no cost for this study; books are provided free! (The book is *The Bait of Satan* by John Bevere.)

Please call the church office to sign up for this spiritually enriching class.

HONOR AND REMEMBER WITH ALTAR FLOWERS

Order 2025 Flowers Now

The new chart is in the Narthex lobby. Forms are available in the Narthex or the church office. Please complete the dedication form and make payment when you put your name on the chart.

Good Grief

January 6th

Anyone who has lost a loved one is invited to join us. We meet the first Monday of every month at noon in Room 101 of the BLC.

Bring a brown bag lunch!

YOUTH GROUP

WEDNESDAYS & SUNDAYS

6:30-8:00 PM

6th-12th Grade

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

wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 for children in Kindergarten through fifth grade. We will be learning about Jesus, singing worship music, playing games, and having fun together.

Lighthouse Kids

HOPE'S CORNER

Hope's Corner is a clothes pantry that distributes clothing to those in need. We serve the people that visit our Food Pantry every Tuesday from 10am till noon.

Please help us by donating your unwanted or outgrown gently used seasonal clothing items for men, women and children of all sizes.

Thank you!

LIGHTHOUSE QUILTERS

We meet every Thursday, 9-11 am in Room 101 of the BLC!

WON'T YOU JOIN US?

prayer shawl ministry
knit-crochet-pray

Crochet? Knit?
Want to learn?

We meet every Monday, 1 pm
In Room 102 of the BLC.

Join us for fellowship, fun and sharing!

CAREGIVER Support Group

Next Meeting: January 14th

While caregiving can be a very rewarding experience, it also places additional stress on the caregivers' life. If you are a caregiver, please come to this open and compassionate group where you can discuss concerns, stressors and topics only caregivers understand. Learn new ways to handle everyday caregiver issues and receive information on supportive resources.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Meeting at FUMC every 2nd & 4th Tuesday 1-2:30 pm in Room 105, BLC
For more information call Cathi Habermehl @ (215) 280-8075