



MESSSENGER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TITUSVILLE
206 S. HOPKINS AVE, TITUSVILLE, FL 32796
DECEMBER 2022

The Christmas Conference: 10 days that started a church

By Joe Iovino

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-christmas-conference-10-days-that-started-a-church>

For many of us Christmas morning means lounging in our pajamas, eating delicious food and slowly opening gifts. For those who started the Methodist church in America, their Christmas Eve in 1784 was the first of ten days of serious church business. In the end, their gift to us was the formation of a new denomination that would change history.

The decision to meet

When Thomas Coke bumped into [Francis Asbury](#) after a worship service at [Barratt's Chapel](#) in Frederica, Delaware, he shared important news. [John Wesley](#) had sent him to ordain Asbury and appoint him superintendent of a new, Methodist church in the

United States.

This had been a long time in coming. Church of England priests serving in America returned to England during the American Revolutionary War, leaving no one to administer the sacraments to the Methodists. Lay preachers kept the societies going with meetings and [love feasts](#), but they needed ordained clergy.

When the Church of England continued to refuse Wesley's requests to ordain some of his Methodist preachers and send them across the Atlantic, he took matters into his own hands. Wesley ordained two Methodist lay preachers to serve in the U.S., and appointed Coke a general superintendent.

After worship at Barratt's Chapel on that November Sunday, Asbury and Coke decided to call a special conference for all the Methodist preachers in the United States. They would meet at Lovely Lane

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Chapel beginning December 24, 1784, to found and organize a new church. The 10 days they spent together would later become known as [the Christmas Conference](#).

With the conference beginning in just 40 days, they needed to get the word out immediately. Freeborn Garrettson, leader of the society at Barratt's Chapel, mounted a horse and set out. The Paul Revere of Methodism would later [write in his journal](#), "My dear Master enabled me to ride about twelve hundred miles in about six weeks."

The Conference

Garrettson was effective with this monumental task. According to Coke, 81 people met at Lovely Lane. "Nearly 60 of them" were "American Preachers," he notes, "most of them young."

As the conference to found the Methodist Episcopal Church began, only Coke, Richard Whatcoat, and Thomas Vasey—the two Wesley had ordained in England a few weeks earlier—were [clergy](#). All other members of the Christmas Conference, including Asbury, were [lay preachers](#). Coke would soon rectify that.

Beginning on Christmas Day, Francis Asbury was ordained a deacon, ordained an elder, and consecrated as a general superintendent on three consecutive days—a record that will never be broken.

Asbury, who had served as the de facto leader of the Methodists in America for years, refused to accept the role of superintendent solely by Wesley's appointment. He insisted the preachers elect him to serve in that capacity.

Soon after the Christmas Conference, Methodists began to refer to Coke and Asbury as bishops, despite Wesley's objections to the term. The United Methodist Church still elects our bishops today.

Asbury's ordination contained another bit of foreshadowing. [Philip Otterbein](#), a pastor in the German Reformed Church, participated in Asbury's ordination. Otterbein would later help found the [United Brethren](#), another [predecessor denomination of The United Methodist Church](#).

No minutes of the Christmas Conference survive, but based on the journals of those present and [the Discipline](#) they produced, historians can piece together much of what happened. Twelve lay preachers were elected and ordained as elders (clergy). The Sunday

Service John Wesley sent with Coke was approved for use in the new church—a forerunner of today's [Book of Worship](#). The conference also talked about forming Cokesbury College, and made a host of other decisions necessary for the formation of the new denomination.

When the conference was concluded and the church born, Asbury journaled about all this activity in his typically understated way. "We spent the whole week in conference, debating freely, and determining all things by a majority of votes," he explained. "We were in great haste, and did much business in a little time" ([The Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury](#), December 18, 1784, p 939).

That is not the way many of us would choose to spend our Christmas vacation, but as descendants of these forebears in the faith, we're sure glad they did.

*[Joe Iovino](#) works for UMC.org at [United Methodist Communications](#). Contact him by [email](#).

This story was published Dec. 12, 2017.

THE ORDINATION OF FRANCIS ASBURY



Philip Otterbein (second from left) participated in the ordination of Francis Asbury. Image courtesy United Methodist General Commission on Archives and History.

October Budget Spending Summary

The Finance Committee appreciates your contributions and donations. With your support we will be able to continue sharing God's love with those around us.

Income

Total Income:	\$32,925
<u>Monthly Budgeted Goal:</u>	<u>\$39,459</u>
<i>Income Under Goal:</i>	<i>\$6,534</i>

Expenses

Church Programs:	\$240
Finance:	\$0
Church Administration:	\$626
Facility Maintenance:	\$6,843
Personnel:	\$19,820
<u>Conference Apportionments:</u>	<u>\$3,598</u>
<i>Total Expenses:</i>	<i>\$31,127</i>

Income Over Expenses: \$1,798

The budget for 2022 is **\$473,502** which, divided evenly, makes each month's goal \$39,459 rather than being weighted differently throughout the year. Although we have begun trying to cut expenses where we reasonably can, we are still feeling the financial pinch from the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are able to still contribute during these lean times, please help us to maintain our regular operating costs as you find you are able. Only with the generosity of our congregation have we been able to weather the storms of the past and even the current storm we are in.

Thank you for your loving generosity in keeping this church operating!



December Birthdays

5 Gay Hammond
6 Paul Harvey
7 C.B. Till
7 David Hanson
7 Hudson Haile
7 Jessica Johnson

11 Jim Winn
15 Evelyn Hooks
15 Pascale Daniel
16 Dot Cameron
22 Carl Breznik

December Anniversaries

16 Bob & Margaret Yerkes
17 Jim & Carolyn Winn
21 Tom & Gay Hammond

24 Michael & Glenda Waring
27 Joe & Gloria Kendall
29 Billy & Amy Grimes

How to Buy Medicines Safely from an Online Pharmacy

<https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/how-buy-medicines-safely-online-pharmacy>

Have you ever been tempted to buy your medicines from an online pharmacy or another website?

You can protect yourself and your family by being cautious when buying medicine online. Some pharmacy websites operate legally and offer convenience, privacy, cost savings, and safeguards for purchasing medicines.

Not all websites are the same. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration warns that there are many unsafe online pharmacies that claim to sell prescription drugs at deeply discounted prices, often without requiring a prescription. These internet-based pharmacies often sell unapproved, counterfeit, or otherwise unsafe medicines outside the safeguards followed by licensed pharmacies.

Many unsafe online pharmacies use fake “storefronts” to mimic licensed pharmacies or to make you think their medicines come from countries with high safety standards. But the medicines they sell could have been made anywhere, with little care or concern for safety and effectiveness. Also, these drugs could be fake, expired, or otherwise unsafe for you and your family.

How can you tell if an online pharmacy is operating legally? The [FDA’s BeSafeRx](#) page has resources and tools to help you make safer and more informed decisions when buying prescription medicines online.

Warning Signs of an Unsafe Online Pharmacy

- Beware of online pharmacies that:
- Do not require a doctor’s prescription.
- Are not licensed in the U.S. and by your state board of pharmacy.
- Do not have a licensed pharmacist on staff to answer your questions.
- Send medicine that looks different than what you receive at your usual pharmacy, or arrives in packaging that is broken, damaged, in a foreign language, has no expiration date, or is expired.
- Offer deep discounts or prices that seem too good to be true.
- Charge you for products you never ordered or received.
- Do not provide clear written protections of your personal and financial information.
- Sell your information to other websites.

These pharmacies often sell medicines that can be dangerous because they may:

- Have too much or too little of the active ingredient you need to treat your disease or condition.
- Not contain the right active ingredient.
- Contain the wrong ingredients or other harmful substances.

The active ingredient of an approved drug product is what makes the medicine effective for the illness or condition it is intended to treat. If a medicine has unknown active ingredients, it could fail to have the intended effect, could have an unexpected interaction with other medicines you are taking, could cause dangerous side effects, or could cause other serious health problems, such as serious allergic reactions.

Also, these drugs may not have been stored properly, such as in a warehouse without necessary temperature controls, which may cause the medicine to be ineffective in treating your condition.

Know the Signs of a Safe Online Pharmacy

There are ways you can identify a safe online pharmacy. These pharmacies:

- Always require a doctor’s prescription.
- Provide a physical address and telephone number in the U.S.
- Have a licensed pharmacist on staff to answer your questions.
- Are licensed with a state board of pharmacy.

Another way to help ensure you are using a safe and legal online pharmacy is to check the pharmacy’s license in the state’s board of pharmacy license database by using the [location tool](#) on the FDA’s BeSafeRx website. If your online pharmacy is not listed, don’t use that pharmacy.

Resources to Shop Safely Online

- Learn more about the [risks of buying prescription medicine from unsafe online pharmacies](#).
- [Report sales of medicine on the internet](#) by unsafe online pharmacies to the FDA.
- [Report adverse effects](#) caused by any medicine to the FDA’s MedWatch program.
- Visit the FDA’s web page on [counterfeit medicine](#) for more information.

Celtic Christmas

Sat., Dec. 10th @ 7pm

St. Andrew

United Methodist Church

Sun., Dec. 11th @ 3pm

1st United Methodist Church

FREE
ADMISSION



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TITUSVILLE
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN:

HOLIDAY HYGIENE DRIVE

FOR HOMELESS & LOW INCOME TEENS IN NORTH BREVARD PUBLIC MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

MOST NEEDED SUPPLIES:

FEMININE HYGIENE ~ TOOTHBRUSHES ~ TOOTHPASTE ~ ETHNIC HAIR PRODUCTS

DROP OFF IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY OR IN THE CHURCH LOBBY

DECEMBER 1-25TH



FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST
CHILDREN'S HOME

ESTABLISHED 1908

children to Walmart or Wendy's, McDonalds or Burger King restaurants. Blank cards will also be near the tub, if you wish to place the Gift Card in a Christmas card and write a short sentiment. This drive will end Monday, December 12, 2022.

United Women of Faith has been asked to lead the drive for the Children's' Home this Christmas. A tub will be placed in the back of the sanctuary to collect "BATTERIES (sizes 2A and 3A)" for the children to replenish the batteries used by their

Christmas Gifts this year and "Gift Cards" for the



United
Women
in Faith



CHRISTMAS STORE

Saturday,
Dec. 10th

December 2022

First United Methodist Church

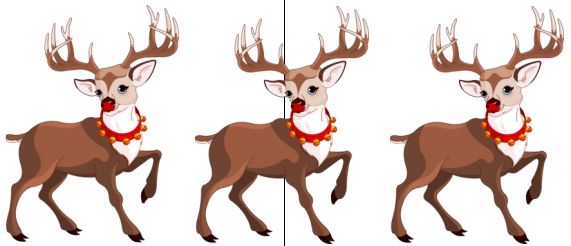

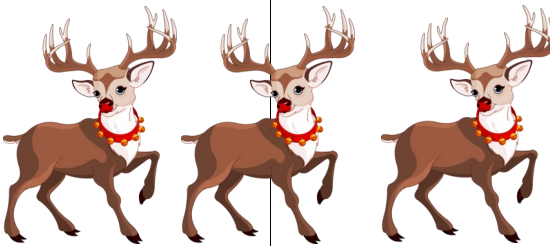




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30am PEO Meeting 11am Ladies Day Out 6:30pm Celtic Xmas Rehearsal	2 1-3pm Food Pantry	3 7:30am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 11:00am Moonlight Quilters
4 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	5	6 2:30pm Sit & Fit 6:30pm Soliloquy 8:00pm Broadstreet	7 9:00am Patchwork Friends 3:30pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal 4:30pm Chancel Choir 5:30pm Vivos Voco Rehearsal 6:30pm CrossPointe	8 10:30am Retired Teachers Mtg 6:30pm Celtic Xmas Rehearsal	9 1-3pm Food Pantry	10 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 10:00am Christmas Store 7:00pm Celtic Christmas @ St. Andrew UMC
11 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 3:00pm Celtic Christmas @ 1st UMC	12 10:00am Sara Fernandez Bible Study	13 2:30pm Sit & Fit 6:30pm Soliloquy 8:00pm Broadstreet	14 10:00am ADK Meeting 3:30pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal 4:30pm Chancel Choir 5:30pm Vivos Voco Rehearsal 6:30pm CrossPointe	15 9:30am PEO Mtg 4:00pm Leadership Team Mtg 6:00pm Connection Kids Event	16 1-3pm Food Pantry	17 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
18 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	19	20 2:30pm Sit & Fit 6:30pm Broadstreet	21 10:00am ADK Meeting 3:30pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal 4:30pm Chancel Choir 5:30pm Vivos Voco Rehearsal	22	23 1-3pm Food Pantry	24 Christmas Eve 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 6:30pm Christmas Eve Svc 
25 Christmas Day 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 	26 — OFFICE CLOSED —	27 — OFFICE CLOSED —	28 — OFFICE CLOSED —	29 — OFFICE CLOSED —	30 — OFFICE CLOSED — 1-3pm Food Pantry	31 New Year's Eve 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 

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FUMC Staff

Reception Desk	Ext 201
Rev. Wayne Cook - Pastor	Ext 202
Mario Davis - Administrative Assistant	Ext 203
Glenda Waring - Membership Secretary	Ext. 204
Leah Patterson - Finance Secretary	Ext. 204
Lauren Good - Family Ministries	Ext. 205
Tom Mosier - Facilities Manager	Ext. 206
Leah Patterson - Custodian	Ext. 206
Carol Henn - Music Director	
J.D. Daniel - Organist	
Steve Rossi - Sound Tech	
Josh Huss - Lights and Visuals	
Dr. Bob Titus - Pastor Emeritus	

First United Methodist Church

206 S. Hopkins Ave
Titusville, FL 32796

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Services: 10:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours: 8am – 4pm, Monday - Friday
Closed from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Phone: (321) 269-7631

Fax: (321) 269-8359

E-mail Address: office@fumctitusville.com

Website: www.fumctitusville.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/682694095204027

Twitter Handle: [@MethodistFirst](https://twitter.com/MethodistFirst)

Instagram Handle: [@UnitedChurch321](https://www.instagram.com/UnitedChurch321)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHscOcLDe-wGkXHftvzGX9Q>

[UCHscOcLDe-wGkXHftvzGX9Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHscOcLDe-wGkXHftvzGX9Q)

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