



MESSENGER

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

JUNE 2021



“Brother, let me be your servant. Let me be as Christ to you. Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.” These lyrics written by Richard Gillard in 1977, (*The Servant Song*, CCLI 72673) are a wonderful statement of the Gospel message of Christ. We are called to be Christ’s servants by serving each other. I notice there is an underlying message of serving all others not just our family and friends. Additionally, we understand serving as supporting and helping others who are in need. But, our culture continues to teach that serving others puts the servant in the position of weakness and being used. Strength culture teaches us is in having our way, demanding our rights, and winning (whatever winning is) in every situation. The Christian faith however views servanthood and winning in the manner of the lyrics, “let me be your servant”.

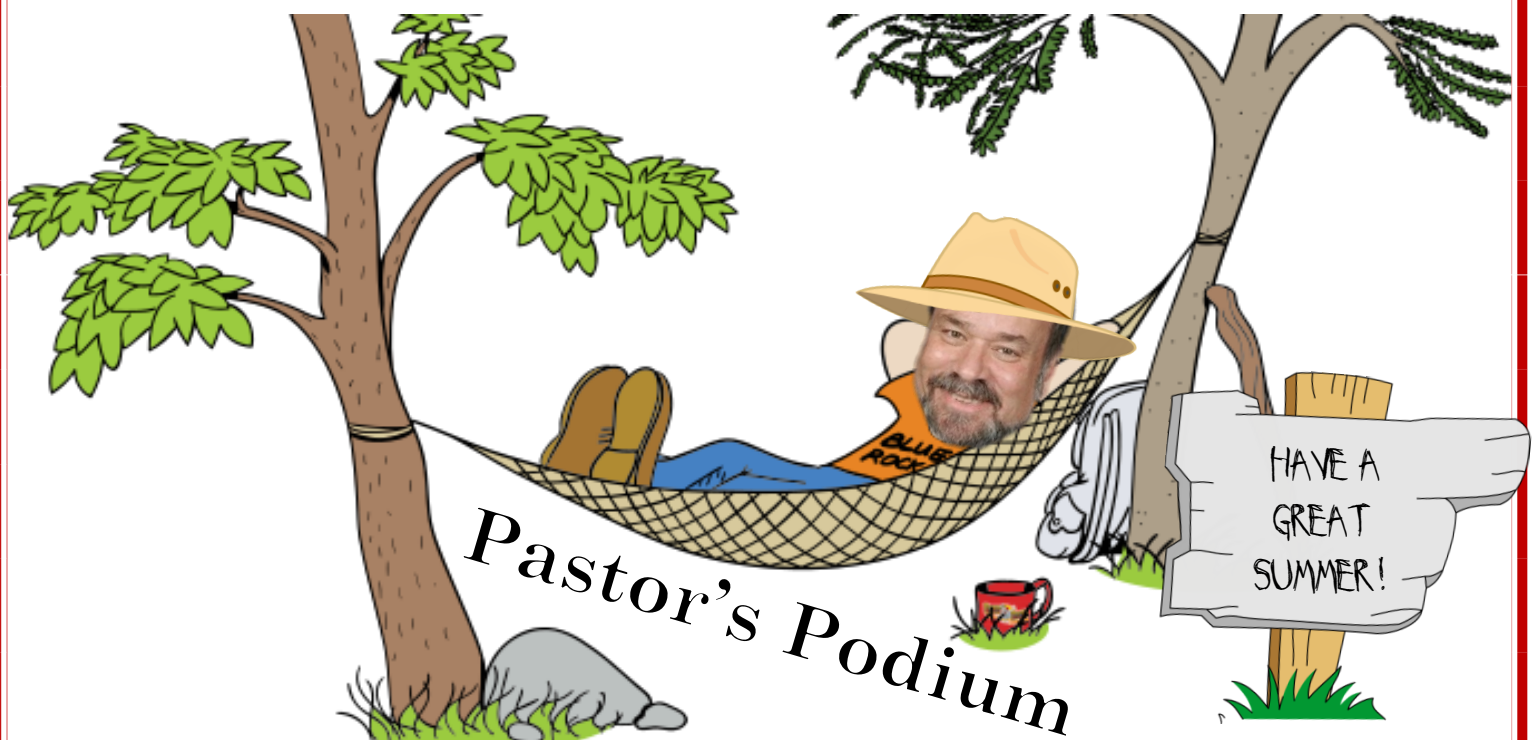
In Philippians 2:5-8, Paul gives us a pointed statement of how we should be like Christ as Christians. “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being

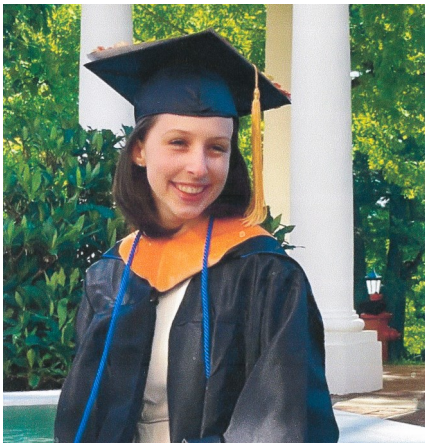
found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.” (NRSV) Paul is telling us we should be like Christ, we should think, and act like Christ and give up our rights to things what we are or that are owed to us in order to be the servant of others.

Christ came in the person of Jesus, who, being fully divine, was entitled to be worshipped and followed as the leader of all humanity without question, yet Jesus not only condescended to come to Earth in person but to come to Earth bound by the same laws of nature that bind all human beings. While we say that Jesus was fully human and fully divine, I notice we often lose the understanding that Jesus was worthy of worship yet lived not being worshipped. Instead, he was followed by a ragtag bunch of folks who never really understood that his mission was to give his life away so that all sinners would have the ability to learn to live better lives and to live together in peace—not only in heaven but in the here and now.

Jesus himself told his followers, “For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life

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Amy Springfield, granddaughter of Ruth Alman and the late Tom Alman, former member of First United Methodist Church of Titusville, graduated on May 21, 2021 from the University of Virginia. Amy received her Master's Degree in Nursing/Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) and will begin work at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, VA this Summer.

Volcano eruption in Congo hits church, homes

By Philippe Kituka Lolonga
May 24, 2021 | GOMA, Congo

<https://www.umnews.org/en/news/volcano-eruption-in-congo-hits-church-homes>



Residents of the Buhene neighborhood of Goma, Congo, survey the damage to their homes after the Mount Nyiragongo volcano erupted, killing at least 15 people. Photo by Philippe Kituka Lolonga, UM News.

The eruption of the Mount Nyiragongo volcano May 22 resulted in the deaths of at least 15 people and left many homes and a United Methodist church buried under lava.

Of the people who were killed in the May 22 eruption, nine died in a traffic accident, four died trying to escape from Munzenze central prison, and two others were charred by lava, according to a report by Patrick Muyaya, the minister of Communication and Media for the Democratic Republic of Congo. Many people are missing, possibly including 170 children, [the BBC reported](#), citing UNICEF.

Majengo United Methodist Church and the eight blocks around it were damaged, along with more than 100 houses of United Methodist members, according to the Rev. Henry Jean Robert Kasongo Numbize, Goma

District superintendent. There were also several cases of theft of United Methodist property in Goma, as local authorities ordered people to evacuate, he said.

Pastor Valentin Amsini said Majengo Church had been swept away. The United Methodist congregation had more than 800 members, but with COVID-19, its worship attendance was averaging 350.



Majengo United Methodist Church in Goma, Congo, was destroyed in the eruption of the Mount Nyiragongo volcano. Photo by Philippe Kituka Lolonga, UM News.

He said he was convinced that one day the congregation would have another building where the people could pray to God.

After [sending an alert through United Methodist Communications](#), Bishop Gabriel Yemba Unda said he thanks everyone for the prayer support and the calls of encouragement that he has received. Bishop Unda oversees the Kivu Annual Conference, which includes Goma.

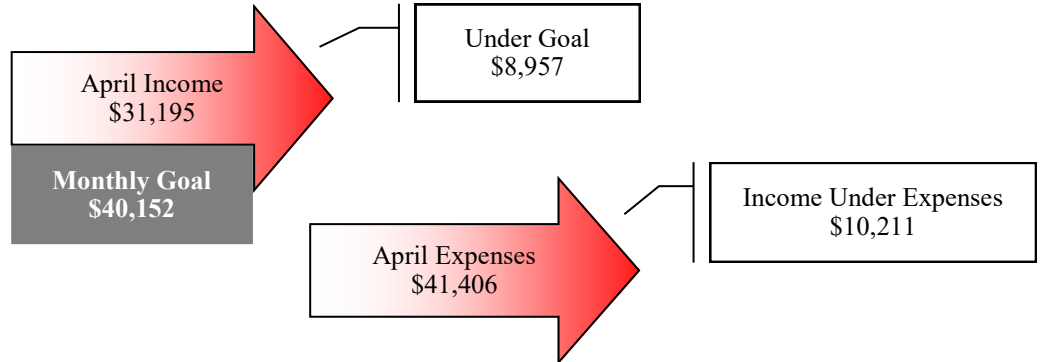
The bishop said he is asking all faithful United

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The Church's Budgeted Finances

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.



The budget for 2021 is **\$481,820** which, divided evenly, makes each month's goal \$40,152 rather than being weighted differently throughout the year. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are all feeling the financial pinch. 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!

June Birthdays

3 Ingrid Patterson
9 Michael Evans
10 Fred Henn
12 W.O. Brown
15 Ed Grimes
18 Charlotte Rinehart
18 Lois Garnett

21 Fran Nolan
23 Ralph Howington
24 Herb Brown
26 Enis Nathaniel
29 Laurilee Thompson
29 Libby Cooke

June Anniversaries

9 Frank & Linda Russell
9 Roy & Sue Whitson
16 Wayne & Janet Cook
17 Rich & Linda Wilson

21 Truman & Barbara Scarborough
23 Mike & Judy Brooks
26 Jan & Fay Kikta
30 Jake & Debbie Huether

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Methodists and the population of Goma to be vigilant and to follow the official communications and directions of the response plan set by the authorities.

The lava stopped short of the most populated areas of Goma, a city of 670,000, the BBC reported.

When the volcano erupted May 22, people fled Goma to Sake Village and South Kivu, and also to the neighboring country of Rwanda. Many of them left without taking anything and returned on May 23 to find their houses covered with lava, Pastor Amsini said.

Mirindi Shamavu, a member of Majengo Church, is now homeless “because my house and all my belongings were transformed into lava. I thank God because I am alive.”

After fleeing to Rwanda, Bijoux Mwamini returned to Goma to find that she had no home.

Mwamini, secretary of Majengo Church, said she could no longer identify her plot because everything had turned into lava.



Children share a meal at the United Methodist orphanage in Goma, Congo, in 2015. Current residents of the orphanage were evacuated following the May 22, 2021, eruption of the Mount Nyiragongo volcano. File photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

Charles Monga, the evangelist in the Buhene Block of Majengo Church, said he had lost four children but found them Sunday after searching for them in Sake Village. Even if he has no home or property, he said, he is alive and knows that God will help.

Leonard Shako, a registered nurse at the Majengo United Methodist Health Center in Goma, said more than five nurses and 20 patients also lost their homes and property. The repeated earthquakes in the city of Goma have caused cracks in the walls of the hospital, adding to the risk, Shako said.

On the recommendation of the Goma health authorities, Shako said he is transferring all the patients affected by the eruption to general hospitals in the area. As of Sunday, he said he had already transferred more than 60 patients who had burns and trauma.

Okako Okenge Adolphine, head of the United Methodist Orphanage of Goma, said she evacuated all of the orphans to Sake. She said she is currently experiencing several problems, especially with obtaining food, since she lives in another place, she said.



Okako Okenge Adolphine, known as "Maman Olela," stands in the doorway of the United Methodist orphanage in Goma, Congo, in 2015. She was able to safely evacuate the children in her care following the May 22, 2021, eruption of the Mount Nyiragongo volcano. File photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

Jean Tshomba, coordinator of the Emergency Office in East Congo, said he is working with the United Methodist Committee on Relief on arranging emergency aid. UMCOR has confirmed that it is working on a solidarity grant.

“During this past quadrennium, UMCOR provided training and equipment for a new disaster management office in East Congo, which has responded to a number of emergency situations across the region,” said Roland Fernandes, top staff executive of UMCOR and its parent agency, the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries. “We will continue to accompany East Congo United Methodists as they seek to provide humanitarian relief for volcano survivors and people displaced by the recent eruptions.”

The Mount Nyiragongo volcano, which is about 10 kilometers from Goma, last erupted in 2002, killing 250 people and leaving 120,000 homeless, according to the BBC.

Philippe Kituka Lolonga is a Communicator in the Kivu Conference.

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a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45, NRSV) He didn’t come to be worshipped or to rule over others but to serve them, to teach them, and to give his life for them. We need to notice what he didn’t say: nothing about ruling or controlling only offering himself. Jesus came as the anointed of God to give himself to those who were living in ways that were contrary to the love of God and the love of neighbor, which he says is the meaning of the law and the prophets.

So how do we serve? We come to realize that following Jesus is not about the reward of heaven when you die but about loving and caring for people while you live. It’s about giving yourself to those who will use you, curse you, and hate you, not *because* they do those things but *despite* them. It’s about realizing that Jesus died for all humans, not just a select few, and that His grace is available to all. We have become a people so

divided and hung up on celebrity culture that we fail to see the real answer to life’s problems is not found in the government (it has its place), in denominations, in theological and doctrinal statements, but in the love of Christ in our hearts and shared with those in need.

So, “Brother, let me be your servant. Let me be as Christ to you”

Blessings

Pastor Wayne

CHOIR IS BACK!

Choir rehearsals have resumed on Wednesdays @ 7:00pm
in the sanctuary.



Note from Ed & Debbie Grimes

Ed & Debbie Grimes would like to thank everyone who sent cards and prayers for Ed’s recent back surgery. Recovery is ongoing; thank you for continued support.

Ladies Day Out

Thursday, June 3rd @ 11:30am—Location for lunch TBD.



CELEBRATE WITH US

4TH OF JULY BLOCK PARTY

CAR SHOW BOUNCE HOUSE
MUSIC FOOD TRUCKS
& MORE!

JULY 4TH 2021 | 11:30 A.M.- 4 P.M.

*FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF
TITUSVILLE*

206 S HOPKINS AVE, TITUSVILLE FL 32796

*Come meet your neighbors and enjoy the fun!
For more information, find us on Facebook or on our website
www.fumctitusville.com*

We're celebrating our neighborhood and our nation after our worship service on July 4th in the courtyard and in the lot across the street. Come to church in your favorite patriotic casual clothes for a car show, games for the kids, music, and food trucks.

But we need your help! *We are asking for volunteers to set up and tear down, cook & distribute hot dogs, assist with the registration table, and more. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the sanctuary and on the church [website](#).*

*For more information on how you can participate,
contact Lauren Good at lpeterson@fumctitusville.com or 321-269-7631, ext. 205.*

June 2021

First United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:15am Rotary Club Meeting 10:00am Joyful Noise Rehearsal	2 9:30am Patchwork Friends 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	3 11:30am Ladies Day Out	4 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 1-3:00pm Food Pantry	5 7:30am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
6 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	7 11:00am Virus-Side Chat	8 7:15am Rotary Club Meeting 10:00am Joyful Noise Rehearsal 1:00pm Staff Meeting	9 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10 10:00am Retired Teachers Mtg.	11 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 1-3:00pm Food Pantry	12 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
13 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	14 10:00am Sara Fernandez Bible Study 11:00am Virus-Side Chat	15 7:15am Rotary Club Meeting 10:00am Joyful Noise Rehearsal	16 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 7:00pm pm Choir Rehearsal	17 5:30pm Leadership Team Mtg.	18 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 1-3:00pm Food Pantry	19 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
20 Father's Day 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 	21 11:00am Virus-Side Chat	22 7:15am Rotary Club Meeting 10:00am Joyful Noise Rehearsal	23 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 7:00pm pm Choir Rehearsal	24	25 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 1-3:00pm Food Pantry	26 7:30am UMM Breakfast 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
27 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	28 11:00am Virus-Side Chat	29 7:15am Rotary Club Meeting 10:00am Joyful Noise Rehearsal	30 11:00am Virus-Side Chat 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal			

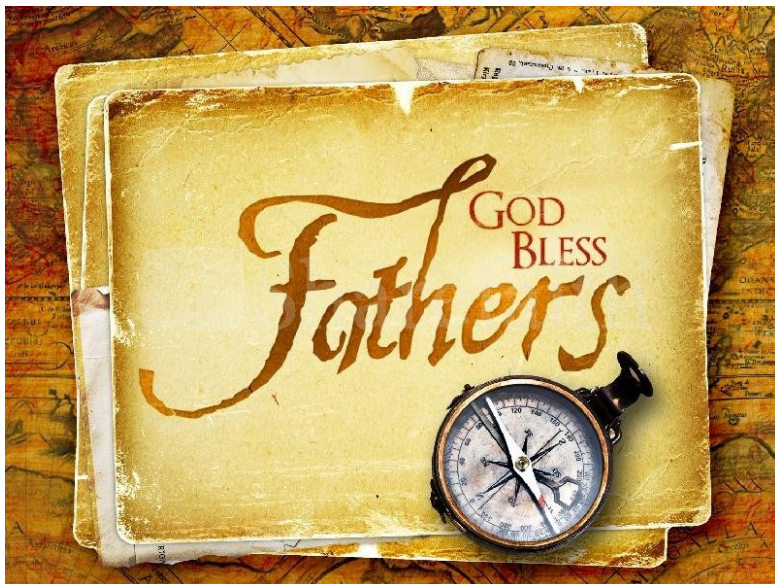


FUMC Staff

Reception Desk..... Ext. 201
 Rev. Wayne Cook - Pastor Ext. 202
 Mario Davis - Administrative Assistant..... Ext. 203
 Glenda Waring - Membership Secretary..... Ext. 204
 Rayelynn Henderson - Finance Secretary Ext. 204
 Lisa Mick - Dir. of Children's Min. Ext. 205
 Lauren Peterson - Student & Adult Min. Ext. 205
 Tom Mosier - Facilities Manager..... Ext. 206
 Carol Henn - Music Director
 J.D. Daniel - Organist
 Steve Rossi - Sound Tech
 Josh Huss - Lights and Visuals
 Dr. Bob Titus - Pastor Emeritus

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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/FUMCTitusville

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

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

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

