



# M E S S E N G E R

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TITUSVILLE  
206 S. HOPKINS AVE, TITUSVILLE, FL 32796  
NOVEMBER 2023

## Ways to share gratitude at Thanksgiving

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/easy-ways-to-share-gratitude-this-thanksgiving-2>

Thanksgiving Day elicits a bounty of wonderful memories for many people in the U.S. The crisp air. The smell of a turkey roasting and a pumpkin pie baking. The sound of a cheering crowd at a football game. All these can create warm feelings during this special time of year.

While the Thanksgiving holiday is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S., thanking God for our blessings is a spiritual discipline that should not be limited to a single day. Along with expanding our waistlines, our preparation for and celebration of the holiday can be the impetus toward growing an attitude of gratitude that will carry over into the rest of the year. In his [commentary on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#), John Wesley writes, "Thanksgiving is inseparable from true prayer; it is

almost essentially connected with it." Giving thanks is as essential to our spiritual growth as prayer, which [1 Thessalonians](#) calls us to do continually. These creative ideas will help us get started this Thanksgiving.

Fill a family Thanksgiving box. As part of your Thanksgiving preparation, create a Thanksgiving Box. Each day family members write on slips of paper something for which they are thankful that day and place them in the decorated box. The box will make a nice Thanksgiving table centerpiece, and when opened, a way to remember how blessed we are every day. You could add to it all year too of course.

† **Serve someone.** In the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, many agencies serving those in need expand their work. Food banks, churches, and other service organizations supply meals to the hungry on Thanksgiving. Ask your pastor for suggestions of places near you to serve or donate.

*(Continued on page 2)*



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- † **Take time for quiet reflection.** As the big day approaches, things get busier. Set aside some time each day to say thank you to God for all he has provided.
- † **Make a Thanksgiving frame.** As you and your family reflect on those things for which you are thankful, compile a list. A few days before Thanksgiving, neatly transfer the list onto a piece of paper you can then insert into a frame for a beautiful expression of gratitude to decorate your home.
- † **Share blessings together.** When gathered around the table, many families will ask guests to share something for which they are thankful. In Thanksgiving Celebrations for the Home, MaryJane Pierce Norton suggests creating a list together, such as foods each person enjoys. Then together offer “thanks for the Earth and all with which we are blessed in the world God created.”
- † **Send cards to those we miss.** Remember those who are not able to be with you this year. “On Thanksgiving Day,” Norton writes, “invite all who are gathered in your home to sign and/or write a note on the cards to those who are missing.” Mail them the next day to share the gratitude.
- † **Create a keepsake of thanks.** When you take that group photo around the table or in front of the fireplace, record not only the names of those in attendance, but also something for which each person is thankful. This will be a great item to revisit when everyone gathers again next year.
- † **Include children.** Involve the children celebrating with you by sharing the Child’s Thanksgiving Prayer. Use this prayer at the kids’ table as a grace or an after meal blessing, having one of the older children lead. Then encourage the kids to write their own Thanksgiving prayers, with which they could lead the adults in prayer later in the day.
- † **Voice your gratitude.** If your family is musical, consider a Thanksgiving sing-a-long, as you might do with Christmas carols. Discipleship Ministries offers Musical Thanksgiving ideas from our United Methodist Hymnal and songbooks that would be a great way to celebrate.

However you can, find ways to give thanks to God for all of his blessings throughout your celebration this year. Instill the habit of an attitude of gratitude, which will extend far beyond Thanksgiving Day.

*This story was published November 14, 2015.*

## Do United Methodists pray for the dead?

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-do-united-methodists-pray-for-the-dead>



United Methodists have confidence that our deceased loved ones are in God’s keeping. We commend them to God’s mercy at the resurrection, give thanks to God for their lives, celebrate their witness as people of faith, and pray that we learn from their example.

There are differences among different cultures about whether or how the dead are remembered in prayer.

In some congregations, the dead themselves may be remembered. In others, prayer will be offered for the families of those who have died for some period of time after the death. From Judaism, many Christians have continued a practice of remembrance throughout the first year after death, and then on the anniversary of their death after that.

And in some cultures—notably many from Africa and South and Central America—remembrance of the dead (the ancestors), as a means of honoring their memory and the ways they continue to be present to us, remains of vital importance in the prayer life of individuals and congregations. United Methodists encourage such culturally important acts of commemoration within congregations that include people of such cultures.

The United Methodist Book of Worship includes some prayers for the dead. [A Litany for the Church and for the World](#) strikes a balance on how we may remember the dead in prayer. Its petition reads:

“We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.”

On All Saints Day, many churches will read the names of church members and loved ones who have died in the past year. All Saints Day is an especially appropriate time to pray for the saints and faithful departed.

*This content was produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.*



## 2023 September Budget 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: \$35,136

### Expenses

Church Programs: \$0

Finance: \$73

Church Administration: \$1,330

Facility Maintenance: \$11,800

Personnel: \$20,688

Payables: \$2,620

Loan Payments: \$1,927

Conference Apportionments: \$4,192

*Total Expenses: \$42,630*

**Income Under Expenses: \$7,494**

The budget for 2023 is **\$489,821** which, divided evenly, makes each month's goal \$40,818 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. 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.

## November Anniversaries

13 Gary & Brenda Pittman

## November Birthdays

5 Alma Lasure

5 Ted Page

8 Roselle Hanson

9 Janet Cook

14 Jack Bouchez

16 Glenda Waring

18 Charlene Shireman

19 Lynn Coleman

28 Kay Mustard



## Do United Methodists believe in saints?

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-do-united-methodists-believe-in-saints>

United Methodists believe in saints, but not in the same manner as the Catholic Church.

We recognize Matthew, Paul, John, Luke and other early followers of Jesus as saints, and countless numbers of United Methodist churches are named after these saints.

We also recognize and celebrate All Saints' Day (Nov. 1) and "all the saints who from their labors rest." All Saints' Day is a time to remember Christians of every time and place, honoring those who lived faithfully and shared their faith with us. On All Saints' Day, many churches read the names of their members who died in the past year.

However, our denomination does not have any system whereby people are elected to sainthood. We do not pray to saints, nor do we believe they serve as mediators to God. United Methodists believe "... there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human who gave himself a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:5-6a).

United Methodists call people "saints" because they exemplified the Christian life. In this sense, every Christian

can be considered a saint.

John Wesley believed we have much to learn from the saints, but he did not encourage anyone to worship them. He expressed concern about the Church of England's focus on saints' days and said that "most of the holy days were at present answering no valuable end."

Wesley's focus was entirely on the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

*This content was produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.*

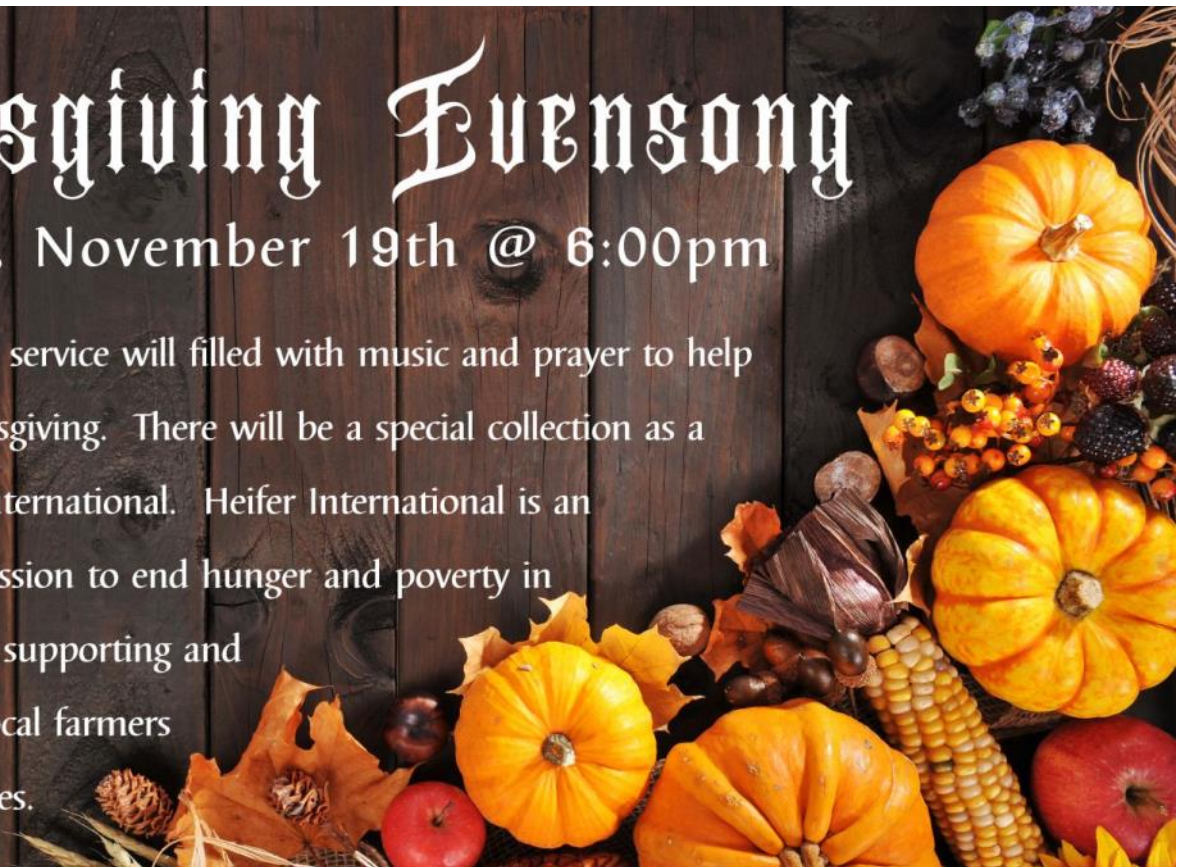


*An angel in the Recoleta Cemetery (Spanish, Cementerio de la Recoleta) located in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The cemetery is located at the church of Our Lady of Pilar (Nuestra Señora del Pilar Basilica) which was built in 1732. Photo by Godot13, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.*

# Thanksgiving Evensong

Sunday, November 19th @ 6:00pm

This evening worship service will be filled with music and prayer to help prepare us for Thanksgiving. There will be a special collection as a donation to Heifer International. Heifer International is an organization on a mission to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way by supporting and investing alongside local farmers and their communities.







# All Saints Day

## In Loving Memory

*Our prayers are with each family member and friend  
of those who have gone before us since All Saints Day 2023*

*Jerry Copeland — November 14, 2022*

*Charlotte "Ann" Kennedy — December 15, 2022*

*Ruth "Evelyn" Dickason — December 31, 2022*

*Michael Waring — January 22, 2023*

*Lynda Robertson — February 25, 2023*

*Dorothy Cameron — March 6, 2023*

*Jacqueline Mooney — May 16, 2023*

*French Johnson — July 14, 2023*

*Carole Pyles — September 9, 2023*

*Charles Caro — September 23, 2023*

*Robert Russell — October 25, 2023*

you're invited to

# Thanksgiving Service

*in the park*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26  
10AM**

**EVERYONE WELCOME FOR  
A SERVICE, FOOD, AND MUSIC**

**The Large Pavilion at Sand Point Park,  
Titusville FL 32796**







**FUMC STAFF**



**SCAVENGER HUNT**



# CELTIC CHRISTMAS 2023

Rehearsals:

Every Thursday

6pm-7pm

Starting Nov. 9th

All Singers Welcome!

Performances:

Saturday, Dec. 16th

6:30pm @ St. Andrew UMC

Sunday, Dec. 17th


6:30pm @ 1st UMC





# November 2023

## First United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1 All Saints Day</b> 9:00am Patchwork Friends 3:30pm Silver Chimes Reh. 4:30pm Chancel Choir Reh. 5:30pm We Gather 5:30pm Vivos Voco Reh. 	<b>2</b> 9:00am PEO Meeting 9:00am Ladies Day Out	<b>3</b> 1-3pm Food Pantry	<b>4</b> 7:30am Garden Club 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
<b>5</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:00am Coffee Fellowship	<b>6</b> 9:30am Kids Playtime	<b>7</b> 2:30pm Sit & Fit 6:00pm Youth 7:30pm Broadstreet	<b>8</b> 3:30pm Silver Chimes Reh. 4:30pm Chancel Choir Reh. 5:30pm Vivos Voco Reh. 6:30pm Crosspointe Reh.	<b>9</b> 10:30am Retired Teachers 6pm Celtic Christmas Reh.	<b>10</b> 1-3pm Food Pantry	<b>11 Veterans Day</b> 8:00am Comm. Breakfast 
<b>12</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>13</b> 10:00am Sara Fernandez Bible Study	<b>14</b> 2:30pm Sit & Fit 6:00pm Youth 7:30pm Broadstreet	<b>15</b> 10:00am ADK 3:30pm Silver Chimes Reh. 4:30pm Chancel Choir Reh. 5:30pm Vivos Voco Reh. 6:00pm Crosspointe Reh.	<b>16</b> 9:00am PEO Mtg. 11:30am Ladies Day Out 4:00pm Leadership Team Mtg 6pm Celtic Christmas Reh.	<b>17</b> 1-3pm Food Pantry	<b>18</b> 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
<b>19</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 6:00pm Thanksgiving Evensong	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 2:30pm Sit & Fit 6:00pm Youth 7:30pm Broadstreet	<b>22</b> 3:30pm Silver Chimes Reh. 4:30pm Chancel Choir Reh. 5:30pm Vivos Voco Reh. 6:30pm Crosspointe Reh.	<b>23 Thanksgiving</b> 	<b>24</b> 1-3pm Food Pantry	<b>25</b> 8:00am Comm. Breakfast
<b>26</b> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship @ Sand Point Park	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 2:30pm Sit & Fit 6:00pm Youth 7:30pm Broadstreet	<b>29</b> 3:30pm Silver Chimes Reh. 4:30pm Chancel Choir Reh. 5:30pm Vivos Voco Reh. 6:30pm Crosspointe Reh.	<b>30</b> 6pm Celtic Christmas Reh.		

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## THANK YOU VETERANS



### 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	

### **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.

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

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

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

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

