

“Never place a period where God has placed a comma.”
Gracie Allen

The United Voice VaLENTine!



The United Church of Christ • 203 Washington Street • New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168-7042
 Our Website: www.uccnsb.org • Email: newsmyrnabeachucc@gmail.com • Telephone: (386) 428-2352
Rev. Dr. Diane Langworthy • Cell: 386-847-0883 • Email: mytoadhill@hotmail.com



Our mission is to do justice, seek peace and love all as Christ loves.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Message	1-2
Celebration of life: Randall Runyon	2
Lent	3
New! Sunday Morning Worship Beginning	3
Council Meeting Minutes	4
Worship Committee Minutes	5
Membership Minutes	6
Children's Time	6
Miracles are all around us	7
500 Kids for Christmas	8
Pastor's Purse	9
Epiphany Caroling	10
Thrift Shop Bag Sale	11
The Curious Giraffe Shoe	11
ONA Movie Nights & Potluck Dinner	12
Welcome: Fran Webber	13
UCC St. Johns Regional Meeting	14
February Event Calendar	15
February: One Year Bible Readings	16
Adult Coloring Art	17
Children's Coloring Page	18
Sunday Morning Bible Study	19
February Birthdays	19
Reserving Event Space	19
Submission Date for <i>The United Voice</i>	19
Caring for Each Other	19
Our Silent Hero	20
Find Us on Facebook	20
We Care	20
Worship Schedule	21



The United Voice is published monthly by the United Church of Christ, New Smyrna Beach, FL

Deadline is 2/23/18 for March submissions

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Diane Langworthy
 Ministers: All members of the congregation
 Minister in 4-way Covenant: Rev. Vonshelle Beneby
 Moderator: Sammie Hartwell

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Ones,

Valentine's Day, or as Sandi Blackmer our newsletter editor puts it, **VaLENTine's** Day can have extra meaning for us this year. The love holiday has an even stronger love message this year since February 14th is bringing us a cosmic alignment of Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day. Apparently the last time that happened was in 1945 so many of us can't remember it! But, God willing, many of us will be able to revisit this special confluence of love themes in 2024 AND 2029. Many of us have, in our hearts, that famous passage from John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life." God LOVES us... you and me... I'm holding onto that this Lent.

It can be easy to turn Lent into a "self-improvement" project. We can give up sweets or wine because we think we need to lose weight. We can add service projects because we "need" to do more to become "better people". We can add prayer and Bible study in accordance with this "self-improvement" theme. But God's Truth is that we never have to "become better" to be loved by God. It's too late... our Creator is already smitten.

Those of us who are blessed with beginning to sense God's Love can follow the call during Lent to sense *more*, to *experience the kind of closeness that makes all things possible*. That is the real call of Lent, not to "improve", but to take notice of our relationship with God... to BE in that relationship and RESPOND as best we can... so that we grow into our true selves as the One Who knows and loves us best guides the way.

One way I am able to sense that God loves me is through the blessing of our church family! How on EARTH did God manage to nudge my heart to move to Florida??? This was certainly never part of a plan Ron or I had. It was an odd combination of circumstances that helped me find this church home and discover how my heart sings in this place with you!

Pastor's Message continued...

Pastor's Message continued...

In this place I am able to use the gifts I have and my life continually comes up against other lives where I see God alive and reaching out! And I thank God that the bazillion gifts I lack continually bubble up and express themselves in our fellowship!

During this special Love-Lent, I am dedicating myself to experiencing, with joy and gratitude, all the ways that I am able to notice God reaching me with reminders of Love. I had a GIANT reminder on Epiphany of God's ability to reach me with love through others!! So many of you participated in a gift of money in a special "pastor's purse" that Cecelia made that when I got home from worship that day and finally looked inside I was stunned! Folks had given the purse to Ron for safe keeping because I was in my typical running around mode after worship and I thought the purse was the gift. I didn't understand that the gift was INSIDE the purse as well. So I visited with folks at church and had a hospital and nursing home visits after church... when I finally got home to Ron and he gave me the purse, he told me I needed to look inside. I was floored because there was \$800 in there! I hadn't looked. There was a couple of hundred dollar bills, some twenties, but tens, fives and ones too so when I pulled it out and set it on the kitchen counter, it took my breath away. I had never seen that much money stacked up before! Wow! I told Ron that I just wanted to look at it for a while. It was a lot of money and that was certainly cool (I know I showed you the amazing Bible commentaries I bought with it!), but the main thing was thinking about the stack of people who cared that were represented by that stack of money... all the folks who had taken their time and resources to make a gift to me... to touch me with a reminder that I was loved. The love stacked up way higher than even that amazing gift. Thank you!

Recently, my son James and granddaughter Madeline were visiting and Madeline was able to see a bunch of manatees at Blue Springs. She was impressed! In our family we "toast" things at dinner time (or even snack time!) and we can use milk or tea or ice water or wine depending on the occasion and kids or adults say, "To _____" and they name something they appreciate. Two year old Madeline kept inviting us to join in toasts of, "To manatees!" It is a reminder that God has new experiences and joys in store in ways we could never imagine until God gets us to just the right place. It was wicked hard to leave my friends and family in Maine to come to distant Florida, but there are so many signs that God understood the joys inherent in this place at this time. "To manatees!" is a new cry of delight in my family. Madeline would have missed the manatees if her grandparents had never gotten here! My prayer for all of us this Lent is that we find ways to draw close to love and experience shared joy.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Diane

Celebration of Life for Randall Runyon



As you know, our dear brother in Christ, Randall Runyon, passed away last week. Randy has been a faithful worker in our thrift store and until recently health problems prevented it, Randy was always present in worship. This Tuesday, February 6, at 10 AM there will be a viewing for Randy at our church followed by a worship service at 11 AM to celebrate the gift he has been among us. Immediately after the church service we will be having a time of fellowship in community hall to continue our sharing and to provide an opportunity for us to visit with Randy's former partner and dear friend, Ron. Church members are asked to bring simple refreshments to share at this time. If anyone is able to help with set up and clean up for this time we would be *most* grateful.

LENT!

This year Lent begins on Valentine's day! We will be preparing in worship for Lent at our 6 PM Tuesday evening Simple Worship time. **So, we will have a February 13th Ash Wednesday EVE service.** The reason we go with the night before Ash Wednesday for our service is because many of us go to work or attend school and would be unable to make an early morning service. We want as many people as can possibly come to attend this worship time which prepares us for a meaningful spiritual journey to Easter morning.

The liturgical color for Lent, which you may have guessed, is purple. You will notice this color change as a visual reminder of the season in our sanctuary. Lent is a forty-day period from Ash Wednesday to Easter, which this year is April 1... no fooling! If you count the days from the February 14 to April 1, you will think I am making a mistake, BUT subtract the Sundays and you will find forty days left. Sundays are never counted in the season of Lent because each Sunday is a mini-celebration of Easter triumph! The forty days are symbolic of Jesus' forty days in the desert after His baptism and preceding His active ministry.

We make a special effort to remember all that Jesus sacrificed to bring us a clear teaching about God's love. And we are mindful that we, like Jesus, have ministry we are called to be about. Ideally, we rededicate ourselves to ministry (all of us!) every Easter. Lent is intended to be spiritual preparation for on-going ministry.... a quiet, self-sacrificing building up of spiritual strength and skills so that we are better prepared to follow Jesus and reach out in the name of Christ. And, truly, if we let the Holy Spirit guide us, these forty days can be a power-filled source of strength and renewal. Stay tuned to hear about the importance of the last week of Lent, Holy Week, in our spiritual journey to Easter Sunday. Look for the Holy Week article in your March newsletter!



A NEW Beginning!

There will be a new beginning to worship this Sunday! Instead of preceding worship with announcements, we will be joining our choir in some praise songs before worship. About 10 minutes before worship begins, our choir director, Cindy Gardner and her singing angels will help us learn and share praise music! This will be such a blessing to help center our hearts and minds on the One Who calls us to worship.

This will mean that we are giving up a chance to make announcements aloud before the beginning of worship, but that will solve two current difficulties. First, some of you leave your bulletins in the pews. That is messy and makes more work for our ushers... NOW you really will be better off (not just respectful of the sanctuary and your brothers and sisters who have been cleaning up after you) because you will be able to refer to the announcements in the bulletin you have brought home! The other difficulty is that some of us have SO ENJOYED chatting it up with folks who sit beside us that we didn't quiet down when the announcements were spoken so folks who had hoped to hear them couldn't. This way we will all just look to our bulletins for announcements.

Will people just continue to talk and disrupt the praise music? We don't think this is likely. The praise music will tug on your heart and invite you into worship! What about late-breaking announcements? We will send out emails and/or invite your attention to these matters during coffee fellowship. How will we like this change? Let's see what God will make of it!

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2018

Attending: Sammie Hartwell, Rev. Diane Langworthy, Betty Bowne, Cindy Casey, Doreen Massin, George Smith, Gerie Spencer, Vern Whittenburg, Diane Babe.

Gerie Spencer opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 pm.

A motion was made and passed to accept the November Minutes. (Spencer/Smith)

Pastor's Report: Reverend Diane discussed the need to not cross boundary lines, particularly concerning the homeless.

Moderator's Report: Sammie stressed the importance of communication.

Finance: Betty reported that we came out about \$3,000 to the good for 2017. She discussed the budget for 2018. Sammie suggested that Betty get the budget approved by Finance before presenting to Council for approval. Council should have a budget for approval within two weeks. A special council meeting will be held 1/31 at 6:30 pm. The congregational meeting will be scheduled for 2/18.

Property: George revised the minutes of the property meeting. Property has a lot of items ahead of them for 2018 and they are tackling them one at a time based on importance and finances.

Membership: Doreen reported that membership is planning several upcoming events. There will be a program on 2/17 aimed at kids and families and features Dorothy Cresswell performing. On 3/3, there will be an Alice Ott Mystery Show. Dusty Miller (author of the Alice Ott mystery series) has created a script and is casting UCC members for this show. Doreen is also trying to schedule a SEV community choir concert in April. Doreen reported that she still has t-shirts for sale in all sizes.

Worship: Vern provided detailed minutes of the worship meeting. He also reported we will be having an Ash Wednesday eve service. Preparations are being made for Lent and Easter.

Outreach: Gerie reported that Room At the Inn has been held for four nights so far, serving 27 people.

ONA: Cindy reported that a 90-minute docu-film Gen Silent about the elderly LGBT population will be held on January 28 at 4:30 pm followed by a pot luck. February is Black History month and we will have some documentaries and movies.

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm with prayer by Pastor Diane.

Special council meeting will be 1/31 at 6:30 pm.

Next regular council meeting will be 2/21 at 6:30 pm.

Congregation meeting is planned for February 18 after worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Babe, Secretary

Worship Committee Minutes

January 8, 2018

ATTENDING: Chair Vern Whittenburg, Vice Chair Greg Young, Pastor Diane Langworthy, Sammie Hartwell, Cindy Gardner, Debbie Jackson, Gerie Spencer, Marilyn Bader, Cindy Casey.

Vern opened the meeting with a Welcome and Prayer at 6:05 p.m.

ADVENT WRAPUP

The choir's Christmas play received many compliments. They are a lot of work for our Music Director, but the congregation seems to enjoy our plays/musicals/cantatas at Christmas and Easter.

Blue Christmas wasn't as well attended as it has been in the past. Suggestions were to make sure it is posted on our outdoor sign and schedule it earlier in the month.

Christmas Eve Service overall excellent, loved the children's parts, enjoyed special musical although more Christmas carols for the congregation to sing along would be nice. Must inform folks where to place the plastic candle holders after services (maybe station 2 people at both exists).

Christmas caroling: We missed doing it before Christmas this year due to many things going on during the weeks before Christmas. Pastor Diane encouraged the committee and choir members present to join her and others for caroling on Epiphany (Jan. 6). Cindy Gardner will announce to choir. Pastor Diane will invite congregation.

De-greening of the Sanctuary will be 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 13

NEW BUSINESS

Choir seating: Cindy Gardner has come up with a couple of seating designs to make the choir loft more accessible and easier to get around. There was a discussion about buying choir chairs. The committee agreed the brown folding chairs are ugly. But there was differing opinions on the kinds of chairs and the necessity of that kind of expense. A subcommittee of Greg Young, Cindy Gardner, Vern Whittenburg and Debbie Jackson was formed to look further into possibility.

Martin Luther King Sunday, Jan. 14: ONA Committee will show docufilm, "The Martin Luther King Story: A historical perspective," 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary with potluck dinner and discussion to follow in Community Hall. Cindy Casey will get notices out of local publications, will send announcement for bulletin, web and Facebook. Need it posted on our sign.

Ash Wednesday Eve: Tuesday service has been well attended in the past and will continue it this year. Ash Wednesday to be celebrated 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13.

One Great Hour of Sharing: Material expected from UCC for end of February. Gerie Spencer will do Mission Moment.

Music Director: Cindy Gardener is working on pulling together the Easter music. The committee gave special thanks and accolades to Cindy Gardner and her hard work on the Christmas musical.

CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor Diane closed the meeting in prayer at 8:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7

Respectfully submitted: Cindy Casey

Membership Minutes

Jan 6, 2018

Attendees: Doreen Massin, Cindy Casey, Sammie Hartwell, Diane Langworthy

Also Present: Warren Gavil, Dorothy Creswell, Dusty Miller

1. Membership is planning several up-coming events:

Curious Giraffe Show on Feb 17th @ 10:30am in Sanctuary. The program is for kids, families and people of all ages and features Dorothy Creswell who will perform songs from her award winning television program. The program is free, will last about 45 minutes and is open to all in the community.

Alice Ott Mystery Show on March 3rd @ 5pm in Sanctuary

Dusty Miller, author of the Alice Ott Mystery Series, has created a script and is casting UCC members to read and bring to life various parts of her published novels. Dusty will also speak about how she approaches mystery writing and hold a question and answer forum with her audience. This event will be free and open to all in the community.

SEV Community Choir Concert (April)

2. UCC T-Shirts Status

Doreen reported that sales from the "Love Knows No Limits" T-shirts has netted \$418 for 2017 for UCC.

The last order placed for the Volusia Pride event was \$316, and as of Jan 6, \$151 was deposited back to UCC. Doreen is holding \$15 to make change. There are currently 46 shirts in our inventory for sale. Membership discussed letting membership know that shirts are available, continue selling them at various events like the UCC booth at the up-coming Home Show, and offer them to new members and visitors who may wish to purchase a T-shirt.

3. Small groups: Pastor Diane is working on two small groups events: One Year Bible Conversation to be held after Simple Worship on Tuesday evenings and another small group activity in conjunction with Lent.

4. Next meeting is scheduled for Feb 3 (Saturday) 9:30am

CHILDREN'S TIME: EPIPHANY

Pastor Diane is surrounded by children as she explains what the Epiphany is all about and why we celebrate the three kings making their way to Bethlehem during Children's Time at the Jan. 7th worship service. In what has become a UCCNSB tradition, the children help Pastor Diane demonstrate the three kings' long journey through the desert as they followed the bright new star to Jesus' manger.



Miracles Are All Around us

On Saturday, November 4, I was in Boston, Massachusetts. I am going through cancer for the fifth time and I was there for biopsy's that went well.

On that day I was the on the T, Boston's subway, going to the airport. While riding I passed out and started to throw up. Someone called 911 and the ambulance met me at Copley, the next stop which happens to be in the middle of the hospital district of Boston.

In the ambulance the paramedic hooked me up to an EKG. I remember hearing, "Its 100%, go, go, go." They took me to Massachusetts General Hospital. There is something when you have a heart attack called "the Golden Hour". It means that they have 60 minutes to assemble a team.

In a hospital that is ranked 3rd in the nation, they just happened to assign me a surgeon that is a hospital superstar- even in that orbit.

When you are going through chemotherapy, which I am, your hemoglobin and platelets are extremely low. I also am very allergic to iodine, and my heart procedure used a cat scan that required iodine contrast. And yet in the midst of all this, with 100% blockage and all the odds stacked against him, the surgeon pulled out a large clot, put in a stent, and I opened my eyes.

The surgeon came by to visit me in the hospital and asked where I was going on the T. I told him I was heading to the airport to go home. He said had I made it to the airport, which was farther from the hospital, I would not have lived. It is only because I got off at Copley, just 5 minutes away, that I survived.

I started to cry. I knew that he was telling me that this was not just a heart attack, it was a miracle. With hemoglobin and platelets so low, an iodine allergy, and 100% blockage, I should have never survived a heart attack or the even the surgery. Yet somehow, when it happened, I was within 5 minutes of one of the best cardiac hospitals in the country and an incredible surgeon.

I know that most of us will never see the parting of the red sea or water turning to wine. But we will see a life with miracles all around us.

It might be a child that went the wrong way and then suddenly turns around, health that inexplicably improves, or friends that have been out of our lives for so long and now are there when we need them most.

My battle with cancer started in 1998. This isn't the first miracle I have seen, in both my health or in other cancer patients. We all have them, all the time. They tell us that we are Gods children and he is showing his love in many ways, each and every day.

Cindy Carlin

500 Kids for Christmas

How would you accomplish providing 500 children in need, including teens with Christmas gifts?

First of all it couldn't ever be done alone. This program is almost a year round project. We start with volunteers who are willing to give of their time. And you have donors with HUGE hearts for children and families who have less than they do. The generosity in South East Volusia County is astounding, actually there really isn't a word to describe it. It is the countless hours of soooo many volunteers, from picking up toys for the program throughout the year to giving them out at Christmas time and the numerous donations through many, many organizations, churches and private donors. We are truly blessed and humbled that the Gifts of Love Community Coalition has so many friends.

The hardest part of this program has always been finding a place to hold this program. I will always be indebted to the UCC of NSB for giving up their space for the week leading up to giving out the gifts. We have been in airplane hangars, automotive shops, storage units and used car dealerships to name a few. Most of the time without electricity, heat or air. You honestly have no idea how much it means to all of the volunteers working this program to be able to work in this environment. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Which made me start thinking of many of the people I know, or read about, who say "I don't need to go to church to find God". Well, here is a surprise, I don't need to worship with a community of people to be spiritually fed either. I can feed myself quite nicely thank you, but I do need community to try and leave this world a little better place than I found it. And to find it with like believers as myself is such an inspiration to do more. I can offer the world so much more with a little help from my friends. We are a Social Justice church here in NSB and if we can just get the word out just think of how much we could accomplish.

Where the Gifts of Love started as an idea was right here in our own church by Marilyn Bader. Do you know who was cheering her on and making it possible? The then Pastor Tinus Reikert who was serving here at the time. With a handful of people from our congregation and a handful of people in and around the community Gifts of Love grew into what it is now. Up to 200 bags of food can go out our door in a given week, 60 children are provided food through Chisholm Elementary with the Hi-5 weekend program, we are delivering 20 Hi 5 packages to Oak Hill, Coronado Methodist donates 150 Easter Baskets, we do a backpack program for children going back to school, with the help of a newly formed program in Southeast Volusia 700 families were supplied food baskets at Thanksgiving. Gifts of Love is both ecumenical and community driven, but no one can tell me God wasn't leading us down this path.

The next time someone tells you they don't go to church because they can get all the spirituality they need at home, ask them if they can accomplish all of this. We can do so much more if we work together. Working together through Jesus Christ in a church setting with prayers and guidance makes the journey that much more alive!

From all of us at Gifts of Love a very heartfelt thank you and may many blessings come your way in 2018.

With Love and Gratitude,
Sammie Hartwell
Coordinator, Gifts of Love Community Coalition

Our dilemma: What do you get a pastor for Christmas?

As we turned Community Hall into a toy warehouse for the Gifts of Love Christmas gift distribution to needy families in Southeast Volusia County, many of us began talking about our Christmas gifts to our beloved pastor.

We shared stories about gifts we gave Pastor Diane in the four years she's been with us. We recognized that she probably has a room filled with these well-meaning gifts. We also laughed imagining there is a secret pastors' exchange of well-meaning gifts from their congregations.

Someone recalled how much Pastor Diane cherished the gift card we gave her for her installation so she and Ron could have dinner at a very expensive restaurant in New Smyrna Beach. She had remarked to a few people that she would never have splurged on dinner like that themselves.

So, we came up with the idea that we would quietly let the congregation know that we were collecting money to give Pastor Diane and Ron a Pastor's Purse for Christmas. The idea was to give her a "purse" that she could use however she wanted.

We decided to give her the Pastor's Purse at our Epiphany Sunday service – our surprise to our beloved pastor. She was visibly surprised and moved to receive the gift, but it wasn't until after service when she was at home that she discovered the "ridiculously large amount of money" in the purse.

Two weeks later she had her son, James, bring a very heavy carton up to the chancel steps as she began her children's Lesson, called "A Good Book?" She asked the kids to look in the box and tell us what they saw. "Books!" they said. "Lots of big books!"

And with that, Pastor Diane began taking out one big heavy book at a time and setting them on the steps next to each other. She explained that she had received a "ridiculous amount of money" and decided to use it to buy something she always wanted... a complete 10-volume set of The New Interpreter's Bible Commentary.

It made us feel so good to know this was one Christmas gift that wasn't going to end up in the secret pastors' exchange.



Epiphany Caroling Joy

Busy schedules, Christmas play rehearsals, Blue Christmas service and early onset of flu cases prevented us from getting out to our shut-ins for our annual evening of Christmas caroling.

But the season just didn't seem right without caroling so Pastor Diane convinced the choir and other Christmas-spirited members to join her for an evening of Epiphany caroling. The unFlorida-like chilly weather also gave her an excuse to ply us with hot chocolate and cookies following our adventure.

So, a group of about 15 carolers set out on a wintry Epiphany, Jan. 6, day and traversed New Smyrna Beach – from beachside to the mainland – to surprise some folks with our Christmas/Epiphany carols. First stop was to Maynard Kern, then to Judy Lawson and finally to Ethel Bianchi. We also gave a couple of impromptu performances for a tenant at the Captain Quarters and several residents at Fairgreen Assisted Living.

It was a fun evening – especially knowing that we brought cheer and joy to some wonderful people. Maynard, Judy and Ethel all showed their appreciation by singing along with us and applauding our efforts.

Pastor Diane treated us to hot chocolate and cookies back at Community Hall, as promised. We left feeling full of joy for the good deeds we just completed.

We have a very smart pastor. Always teaching... always caring... always loving.



Thrift Shop's



\$5 BAG SALE

9:30 am – 3 pm
Fri., Feb. 2
Sat., Feb. 3

United Church of Christ
203 Washington Street, New Smyrna Beach



The Curious Giraffe Show

10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17

United Church of Christ
203 Washington St., New Smyrna Beach

Pack up the kids and join us for this award-winning musical family show in the sanctuary. Dorothy Cresswell and Katie Tolles perform their curious songs for curious kids!

ONA Movie & Potluck Dinner nights

The ONA Committee started 2018 with two Movie & Potluck Dinner nights that seems to be a hit with our church members and folks in the community – some traveling from Daytona Beach.

The first Movie & Potluck Dinner featured a tribute to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King showing a documentary about his life, "The Martin Luther King Story: A historical perspective," in recognition of the national holiday that marks his birthday. Forty-eight people enjoyed a wide variety of delicious dishes and lively discussion following the movie.

Two weeks later, 26 people attended the second Movie & Potluck Dinner. This one was a compilation of You Tube clips dealing with the aging LGBT population. It featured two clips about the critically acclaimed 2011 documentary, Gen Silent. We heard an informative narration from Gen Silent director Stu Maddox about the film and the people featured in it. That was followed by a story from the Gen Silent documentary about the last months of a transgender woman's life. We finished up with some clips from different areas of the country where groups were trying to resolve eldercare issues.

Following another plentiful potluck dinner, the Rev. Vonshelle Beneby, who is a member of the UCC Florida ONA Board and a chaplain with VITAS Healthcare, led the discussion.

February's Movie & Potluck Dinner nights will include several movies and documentaries focusing on Black History Month. Our UCCNSB church family has overwhelmingly requested we show the movie, "Hidden Figures." We won't compete with the Super Bowl on Feb. 4, so mark your calendars for the Feb. 11 showing of "Hidden Figures" at 4 p.m.



Many thanks to everyone who has pitched in to help with set-up and clean-up and a special thank you to Pastor Diane for her continued support of the committee's efforts.

Join us for movies in the sanctuary



Coming Sunday, Feb. 11, 4:30 p.m.



FREE!
PLUS
Potluck
Dinner

Welcome New Member!!!

FRAN WEBBER



**325 North Causeway
Unit A103
NSB FL 32169**

386-423-2743



Fran was born at home in a blizzard in Bar Harbor, Maine on January 20th, 1931. At the age of 10, she set her heart on being a nurse. After graduating high school, she worked in a research lab for genetics & cancer in bacteriology for two years. Then she joined the Navy. After Boot Camp and Corpsman School, she was assigned to the San Diego Naval Hospital to clinics and the emergency room and then the Naval Air Station in San Diego. After her four years in the Navy were up, Fran attended the Delaware Hospital School for Nursing. After graduating, she accepted a position at Huntington Hospital in Long Island, New York where she worked her way up the ranks starting from floor nurse, charge nurse, emergency, head nurse and finally to Supervisor in the Nursing Office. Fran also found time to become Suffolk County Bowling Champion.

After a 41-year career at Huntington Hospital, Fran retired to the Florida Keys to live and relax for eight years. While there, she met a friend, Ginny, who lived in Ocala on a 6-acre farm, home to Ginny's horse and dog. Ginny & Fran became close friends and travel companions taking sailing, fishing & boating trips to various Caribbean Islands and Hawaii. In fact, they even sailed on The Brigantine, the same boat used in the film Hawaii. Fran & Ginny shared a wonderful friendship until the day Ginny got sick and died after a 4-month hospitalization.

Fran moved to NSB in 2005, she loves being close to the sea and her home has a lovely view of the Intracoastal and boats, even a fishing dock. Fran found UCC and Pastor Diane after Ginny's death in 2017 when she needed help to complete Ginny's request to be buried at sea. She found the support she needed, and "so much more when she found Pastor Diane and her loving and friendly parishioners and now feels so proud & happy to be a member of this family."

Fran volunteers when and anywhere she is needed. Currently she is working on Wednesdays in the Thrift Store, Hot Meals and is pictured above 'manning' the UCC Booth at the Pride Event holding Judy Ebert's new puppy, Winston.

45 attend UCC St. Johns Regional meeting

Gerie Spencer welcomed about 45 women from the UCC St. Johns Region to the semi-annual Regional Meeting on Saturday, Jan. 20, at UCCNSB.

The meeting began with registration and continental breakfast followed by introductions of the St. Johns Women's board and opening prayer by the Rev. Dr. Diane Langworthy, UCCNSB pastor.

The highlight of the meeting were two presentations by the Rev. Vonshelle Beneby, spiritual care chairperson, and a member of Florida UCC Women and a minister in four-way covenant with UCCNSB. Her first program was titled, "Faith and Sensitivity: Becoming a Welcoming & Inclusive Church Community." Following a short break and business meeting, Rev. Vonshelle's second program was "Grief and Loss: Ways to Cope, Heal and Care for Yourself."

Before adjourning and lunch provided by the women of UCCNSB, Pastor Diane wrapped everything up with a short worship service that included Communion and a duet performed by Dorothy Cresswell and Dusty Miller, UCCNSB members.



St. Johns Region Women's chair Gerie Spencer opens the annual breakfast and program held Saturday, Jan. 20, at UCCNSB.



The Rev. Vonshelle Beneby makes a point during her program about diversity in our churches and communities.



Dorothy Cresswell and Dusty Miller closed the worship service with two beautiful songs: "Prayer," a traditional Navajo song and "Breaths" by Ysaye M. Barnwell.

UCC Current Events, Rental Calendar

Feb 2018 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Bible Study 10am - Worship/F 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 6pm - Prayer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 3pm - Teens In 6pm - Worship - 6:30pm - Bible 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 6pm - Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 7pm - Cruisers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir Practice @ 12pm - AA Noon Grp 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Bible Study 10am - Worship/F 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Men's 12pm - AA Noon Grp 6pm - Prayer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 3pm - Teens In 6pm - Worship - 6:30pm - Bible 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 7pm - PELAG @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir Practice @ 12pm - AA Noon Grp 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Bible Study 10am - Worship/F 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 pm Finance 12pm - AA Noon Grp 6pm - Prayer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 3pm - Teens In 6pm - Worship - 6:30pm - Bible 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 pm Council 12pm - AA Noon Grp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir Practice @ 12pm - AA Noon Grp 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HOLD - Children's 12pm - AA Noon Grp
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Bible Study 10am - Worship/F 6:30pm - Dist 20 AA 7pm - Dist. 20 AA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 6pm - Prayer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 3pm - Teens In 6pm - Worship - 6:30pm - Bible 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir Practice @ 12pm - AA Noon Grp 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 6pm - HOLD -
25	26	27	28	1	2	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HOLD - Fundraiser 9am - Bible Study 10am - Worship/F 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 6pm - Prayer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 3pm - Teens In 6pm - Worship - 6:30pm - Bible 7pm - AA Group @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm - AA Noon Grp 7pm - Volusia Pride 			

ONE-YEAR BIBLE READING for FEBRUARY

February 1

Exodus 13:17-15:18
Matthew 21:23-46
Psalm 26:1-12
Proverbs 6:16-19

February 2

Exodus 15:19-17:7
Matthew 22:1-33
Psalm 27:1-6
Proverbs 6:20-26

February 3

Exodus 17:8-19:15
Matthew 22:34-23:12
Psalm 27:7-14
Proverbs 6:27-35

February 4

Exodus 19:16-21:21
Matthew 23:13-39
Psalm 28:1-9
Proverbs 7:1-5

February 5

Exodus 21:22-23:13
Matthew 24:1-28
Psalm 29:1-11
Proverbs 7:6-23

February 6

Exodus 23:14-25:40
Matthew 24:29-51
Psalm 30:1-12
Proverbs 7:24-27

February 7

Exodus 26:1-27:21
Matthew 25:1-30
Psalm 31:1-8
Proverbs 8:1-11

February 8

Exodus 28:1-43
Matthew 25:31-26:13
Psalm 31:9-18
Proverbs 8:12-13

February 9

Exodus 29:1-30:10
Matthew 26:14-46
Psalm 31:19-24
Proverbs 8:14-26

February 10

Exodus 30:11-31:18
Matthew 26:47-68
Psalm 32:1-11
Proverbs 8:27-32

February 11

Exodus 32:1-33:23
Matthew 26:69-27:14
Psalm 33:1-11
Proverbs 8:33-36

February 12

Exodus 34:1-35:9
Matthew 27:15-31
Psalm 33:12-22
Proverbs 9:1-6

February 13

Exodus 35:10-36:38
Matthew 27:32-66
Psalm 34:1-10
Proverbs 9:7-8

February 14

Exodus 37:1-38:31
Matthew 28:1-20
Psalm 34:11-22
Proverbs 9:9-10

February 15

Exodus 39:1-40:38
Mark 1:1-28
Psalm 35:1-16
Proverbs 9:11-12

February 16

Leviticus 1:1-3:17
Mark 1:29-2:12
Psalm 35:17-28
Proverbs 9:13-18

February 17

Leviticus 4:1-5:19
Mark 2:13-3:6
Psalm 36:1-12
Proverbs 10:1-2

February 18

Leviticus 6:1-7:27
Mark 3:7-30
Psalm 37:1-11
Proverbs 10:3-4

February 19

Leviticus 7:28-9:6
Mark 3:31-4:25
Psalm 37:12-29
Proverbs 10:5

February 20

Leviticus 9:7-10:20
Mark 4:26-5:20
Psalm 37:30-40
Proverbs 10:6-7

February 21

Leviticus 11:1-12:8
Mark 5:21-43
Psalm 38:1-22
Proverbs 10:8-9

February 22

Leviticus 13:1-59
Mark 6:1-29
Psalm 39:1-13
Proverbs 10:10

February 23

Leviticus 14:1-57
Mark 6:30-56
Psalm 40:1-10
Proverbs 10:11-12

February 24

Leviticus 15:1-16:28
Mark 7:1-23
Psalm 40:11-17
Proverbs 10:13-14

February 25

Leviticus 16:29-18:30
Mark 7:24-8:10
Psalm 41:1-13
Proverbs 10:15-16

February 26

Leviticus 19:1-20:21
Mark 8:11-38
Psalm 42:1-11
Proverbs 10:17

February 27

Leviticus 20:22-22:16
Mark 9:1-29
Psalm 43:1-5
Proverbs 10:18

February 28

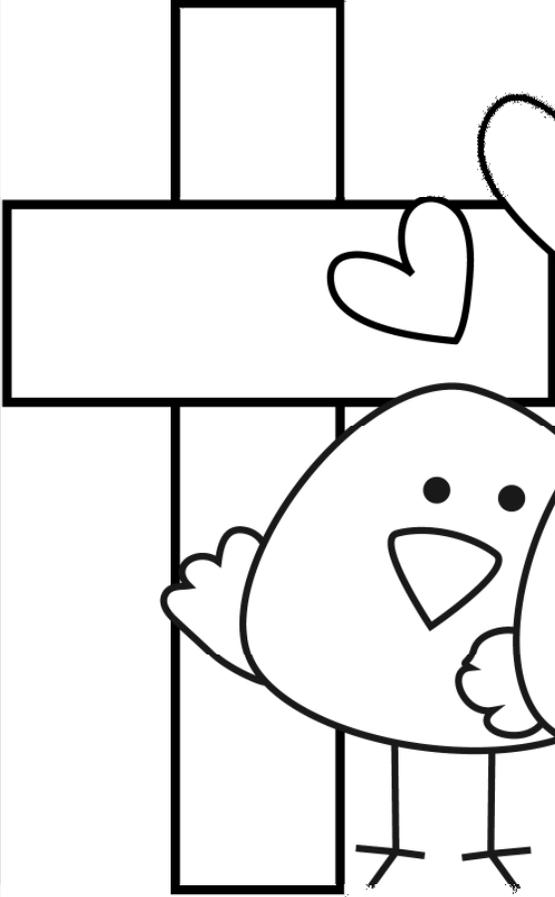
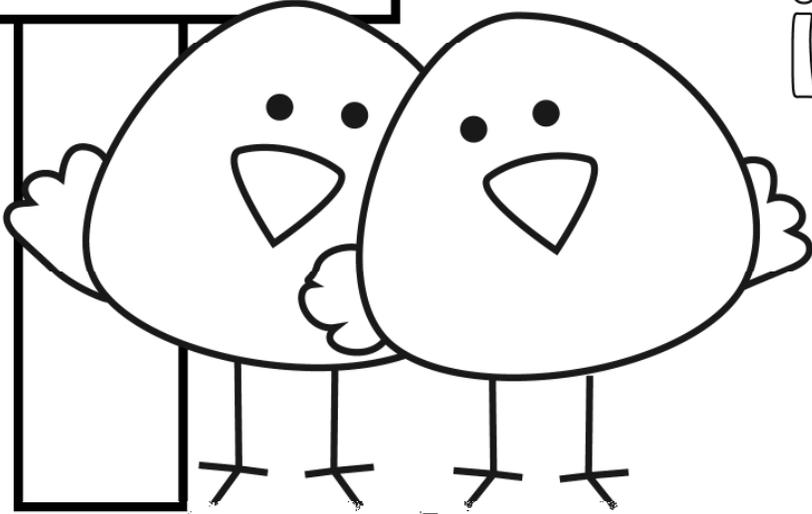
Leviticus 22:17-23:44
Mark 9:30-10:12
Psalm 44:1-8
Proverbs 10:19

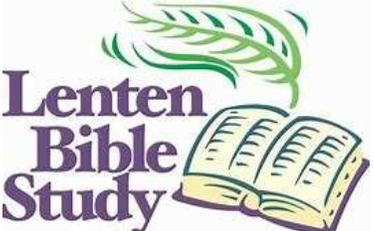
COLORING ART OF BIBLE BLESSINGS

I am
THE WAY
the TRUTH,
and the
LIFE.
No one comes to
the FATHER
except through
ME.

JOHN 14:6

Beloved, let us
LOVE one 
 another,
 for  
 love
 is from
 God,
 and
 whoever loves
 is born of God, and
 knows God.

Lenten Bible Study

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
9:00 am!!

Come join our Sunday Morning Bible Study Group in the conference room!
Cecelia McKinney



February 14th




BIRTHDAYS

2/1	Lilly Diana Williams
2/5	Nancy Purdy
2/11	Cindy Casey
2/15	Betty Bowne
2/19	Maggie Arndt
2/19	Tammy Cote
2/20	Jennifer Coady
2/21	Debby Hughes
2/22	Cecelia McKinney
2/24	David Babe
2/26	Donna Stoddard
2/28	Wendy Baker

HOW TO RESERVE SPACE FOR MEETINGS AND EVENTS

When planning a meeting or an event at UCC, PLEASE, notify the office to check on availability for the conference room, sanctuary or community hall.

Ronnie Sciuolo, Office Manager

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE VOICE

Please submit your articles ON or BEFORE the 23rd of each month via my email which is sblackmer@cfl.rr.com Preferred format would be as an attachment using Word (.doc) or in pdf. Also I can copy & paste from the body of an email. Call me: 386-679-8762 if in doubt.

Sandi Blackmer, *The United Voice* Production Editor

CARING FOR EACH OTHER

- To request a get well, sympathy or thinking of you card be sent by the Card Ministry, email Sandi Blackmer at sblackmer@cfl.rr.com
- To inform the church about an illness, surgery, or hospitalization, contact Pastor Diane Langworthy office: (386) 428-2352 or cell: (386) 847-0883
- To submit your prayer requests to the UCC Prayer Chain, email Gerie Spencer at jspencer7@cfl.rr.com
- To arrange for transportation, contact Judy Ebert at 386-409-8810
- To make a gift to the church, contact Bill Cox (802) 777-7450
- To reach the Pastor, contact Pastor Diane Langworthy office: (386) 428-2352 or cell: (386) 847-0883
- To receive home-bound communion or pastoral visit, contact Pastor Diane Langworthy office: (386) 428-2352 or cell: (386) 847-0883
- To arrange for a baptism, wedding ceremony, renewal of vows, or memorials, contact Pastor Diane Langworthy office: (386) 428-2352 or cell: (386) 847-0883

"Our Silent Hero"



Pastor Diane laughs it up with Roc Williams after surprising her with the first Silent Hero gift certificate during Concerns, Joys and Sightings of the Holy Spirit at the Jan. 28 worship service. Roc diligently – and quietly – handles the video/audio and sound system during our worship services most every week. As a token of her dedication and hard work, Pastor Diane presented her with a gift certificate for anything she wants in the Thrift Shop.



**Be sure to friend
Pastor Diane on Facebook!!!**



www.facebook.com/TheUnitedChurchofChristofNewSmyrnaBeach

WE CARE

PRAYERS FOR PEACE AND HEALING

- Cindy Carlin**, 1310 Palmetto St., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Oliver Chiapco, 1703 Frogs Leap Ct., Port Orange, FL 32128
Lyn Helppie, 11102 Limestone Ct., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Maynard Kern, 830 E 22nd Ave, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
Germaine Lambert, 2031 Porto Blvd, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Judy Lawson, 101 N. Riverside Dr., #310, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Debbie Smith, P.O. Rehab Center, Rm 171, 5600 Victoria Gardens Blvd, Port Orange, FL 32127
Gladys Starkey, 2100 N. Peninsula #110A, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
Marjorie Straborny, Regency Eldercare, 1511 Mango Tree St., Edgewater, FL 32132

We remember all caregivers as well!

Note: People who are touched by illness, deaths, hospitalizations & shut-ins are listed here monthly





The United Church of Christ
203 Washington Street
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168-7042

Our mission is to do justice, seek peace, and love all as Christ loves.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.
Youth Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. service
Nursery available

Bible Study at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room
Communion: Every Sunday

Simple Worship Every Tuesday in Sanctuary 6:00-6:30 p.m.
Conversation about One Year Bible Every Tuesday 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Prayer Group Meets Every Monday in Pastor's Office 6:00-7:00 p.m.

We are an Open and Affirming Church. We welcome all into the full life and ministries of the church irrespective of race, gender, age, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socio-economic status, and mental and physical disabilities. We celebrate the image of God in every person.