

F.H. & L.

Faith, Hope and Love, and the Greatest of These is Love

A Mini-Newsletter From Your Family at Oakhurst United Methodist Church



OAKHURST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

13400 Park Blvd., Seminole, FL 33776
www.oakhurstumc.com

727-391-4769
Find us on Facebook

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, LOVING LIFE

**Our Mission is to make disciples, nurture disciples,
and spread the Kingdom of Christ.**

Dr. Tim Ehrlich, Co-Pastor
tehrlich@aol.com

Rev. Nathan Carlson, Co-Pastor
ncarlson@oakhurstumc.com

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Hello to our Friends and Family,

How many times have you heard the phrase, "There but for the grace of God go I"? John Wesley defined grace as God's "bounty, or favor; His free, undeserved favor."

In a ResourceUMC.org article by Kenneth L. Carder, Bishop Carder states, "Wherever God is present, there is grace." What a concept!

God's grace gives us every breath we take. It even gives us the free will to accept or reject God. Think about all the ways you experience God's grace every waking (and sleeping) moment. Happiness seeing the butterfly in your yard... Smiles brought by hearing the laughter of the children at the playground... The contentment of sharing a cup of coffee and a little silence with your spouse. These are all moments of God's grace. The bounty of experiences we enjoy in every moment of every day is grace.

God's grace is even with us through the bad times. With everything that is going on today (Covid-19, protesting, political strife) He still bestows his favor on us.

Sometimes all you must do is ask and He will show you His grace all around you. If you are sick, His grace may show in the doctors and nurses around you. Or it may be in the neighbor who brings soup to your door. Are you in mourning? Look for His grace in those who love and support you through the times when your grief is overwhelming.

Grace, it is in the smile of the homeless man on the corner. That same man that made you say, "There but for the grace of God...." It is in the young girl proudly showing off her skill on her new crutches. It is in the 90-year-old veteran who proudly stands to salute the flag as it marches by in a parade.

Grace is not something we have earned. As John Wesley said, it is "His free, undeserved favor." Thank you, God, that "Wherever God is present, there is grace."

In His Joy,
Your Pastors and Staff

In His Words

⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Ephesians 2:4-10



Spotlight

Cuba: Provide financial, provisions and spiritual support to our sister church in Colon, Cuba. Two mission trips per year

Food Pantry: Provide food items for those in need through the interfaith Food Pantry at Aldersgate UMC. Assist with Postal Food Drive one Saturday in May. Provide one bag of groceries to "drop-ins" at the church.



Oakhurst UMW is participating in Gulf Central District UMW Literacy Book Drive during the month of August. We are asking members of Oakhurst to contribute gently handled books. The books will go to Cornerstone Family Ministries, which will distribute them to 150 child care centers in the Tampa Bay Area. In the past, books and snacks were distributed to child care centers in Seminole and Largo. We will collect books for children 1-12 years old. There is a box by the church office if you wish to drop books off. Lynda is in the office from 9:00 to 12:30 to receive them. For additional information, please call Lorraine at 398-7098.

DRIVE-THROUGH FOOD DRIVE

The Oakhurst United Methodist Church
is sponsoring a Touchless Food Drive on

Saturday, August 15, 2020

From 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

at

Oakhurst United Methodist Church

13400 Park Blvd

Seminole, FL 33776

If you drive through and pop your trunk
we will pull out your donations.

You don't even have to leave your car!



**The Food Drive benefits our local
food pantries.**



Food Pantries in Need

- ☞ Aldersgate--10-1 beginning August 6th -- drive through donations accepted M,T,W 10-1 no donations on Thursdays. 9530 Starkey Rd., Seminole FL, 33777
- ☞ Good Samaritan Food Pantry -- M, T, Th 9- noon. 6085 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. FL 33781
- ☞ RCS M-Fr 12:30-3:30, Th 12:30-6:45. 700 Druid Rd., Clearwater, FL 33756

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

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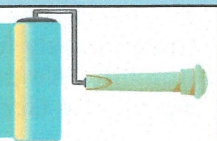


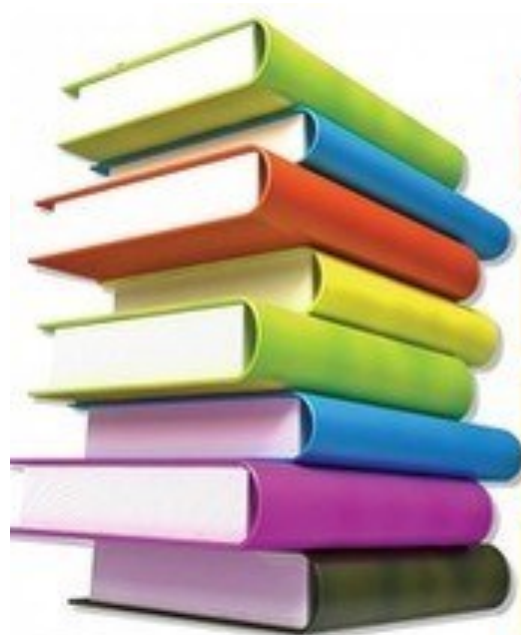
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GCD UMW LITERACY BOOK DRIVE & ACTION DAY EVENT



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH HOPE LOVE IN ACTION

Social Distancing Approved!

Start collecting gently used
Children's books from:
August 1-August 24th

Help Us Distribute The Books
at Cornerstone's Childcare
Heroes' Parade
September 8, @ 12:30pm

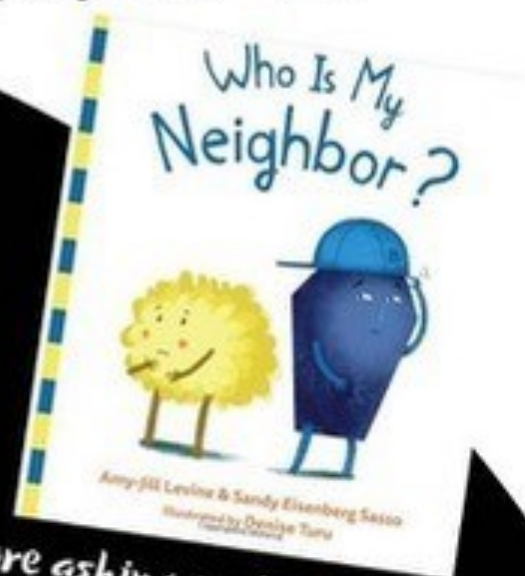
This parade will take place outside at
Cornerstone's Wolff Center location in Ybor City
(2801 N 17th Street) and will be an opportunity
for all of the nearly 150 Centers sponsored by
Cornerstone to drive by during their lunch break
and be appreciated for the work they do all year
feeding and teaching children.

They will receive awards, prizes, and pick up the
books we have collected. (Note: these are the
same centers who received the masks made by
UMW units). Special safety measures will be
taken during this event to practice social
distancing

Cornerstone

DROP-OFF: N. 17th St. Tampa, FL

PICK-UP: Contact jhordgesmith@cornerstonefm.org by August 15th to arrange
for a pick-up on August 24th.



*We are asking each unit to buy
this book for the giveaway!*

Virtual Reading

Record a video one person from your
church or unit reading one short book
from the books collected.
Videos are to be sent to Jeanette at
jhordgesmith@cornerstonefm.org any
time, August 1st-30th.

HIS GRACE IS ENOUGH: Central Truth:
God's grace is greater than our weakness--
He will see us through.

2 Cor. 12:7b-10, 13:2-8. Memory Verse: 12:9; But He said to me "My Grace is sufficient for you for my power is perfected in weakness." Therefore, I will gladly boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may shield me.

[illegible]

AFFLICTIONS

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HUMBLE

MOTIVE

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