

Upcoming Events for Troop 340 B:

Mar 26 - Troop Meeting 7pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
* - Mar 29 - Pack 188 Crossover 6pm @ Nitram Lodge #188 4275 78th St N, St. Petersburg, FL
* - Mar 30 - Madiera Beach Fish Fry 12pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
Apr 02 - Troop Meeting 7pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
Apr 09 - Troop Meeting 7pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
Apr 16 - Troop Meeting 7pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
Apr 23 - Committee Meeting 7:30pm @ Seminole UMC(Parents - Your are welcome/encouraged to attend to learn about opportunities to help)
Apr 23 - PLC Meeting 7:30pm @ Seminole UMC
Apr 26-28 - Jay B. Starkey 6pm
Apr 30 - Troop Meeting 7pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
May 07 - Troop Meeting 7pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
May 14 - Troop Meeting 7pm @ Boy Scout Cabin
May 15 - Committee Meeting 7:30pm @ Seminole UMC
May 17-19 - Peace River State Forest 6pm @ Arcadia, FL
May 21 - PLC Meeting 7:30pm @ Seminole UMC
* - May 25 - Memorial Day Flag Planting at Bay Pines @ Bay Pines Nat'l Cemetery

Marriage

Genesis 2:22 (NIV2011)

Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

My wife has been tolerating me for over 42 years. The "EROS" love we have could never be any better, however, we also have the "Agape" love that comes from God in our lives. There has never been a desire to compete and find out which of us was better at anything (*although she might be a better cook*).

Our colleges teach our young people that they must "climb the corporate ladder" to be successful in life. But Sandy and I found that the only ladder we had to climb was to change a light bulb. What really matters to God is the condition of your heart.

On TV you hear men telling women that they need to take the next logical step. Logic has no place in a marriage. The love a man and woman has for each other determines the longevity of a marriage and will determine the forgiveness needed from both of them. I firmly feel that, when proposing, the man should say, "I love you, are you dumb enough to marry me?" That would probably get the marriage off on the correct foot. God's Love is the key in any marriage, without it 9 of 10 marriages fail. Is God a part of your marriage?



Seminole United Methodist Church

Newsletter

April 2019



We are a community of dedicated disciples of Jesus Christ seeking to share the love of God in Seminole Florida and around the world (*Matt. 28:18-20*). See our Web page for a map and directions to our church.

Youth Sunday School at 9 am

Sunday Morning

Worship Service 10 am

Fellowship at 11am

Rev. Avis Smith, Pastor

(727) 391-9781

www.SeminoleUMC.org

[Facebook.com/SeminoleUMC/](https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleUMC/)

Celebrating 128 Years

2019 Stewardship Commitment Card

At the local church it may not be financially feasible to give monetary support. We are aware of this at Seminole United Methodist Church. Giving is not always from a financial perspective.

When we received God's gift of salvation, we did not have to use money to purchase animals for sacrifices. God's gift of salvation, is given to us because of his son who died on the cross for us. Because of the Trinity, Jesus is son of the Godhead. God gave of Himself.

If God can give Himself, maybe we could do the same. In doing this, there are many opportunities in which you can serve at Seminole United Methodist Church. We can use your help!

To date, we have received 40 stewardship pledges versus in 2018, there was a total of 49. It is still not too late!

From the Desk of Pastor Avis

Journeying Together

Friends on this Christian journey, sometimes we feel as Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 "We are pressed on all sides, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed." This is due to our steadfastness and connection to a source greater than ours. We are thus victorious in relationships, confidence, self-esteem, and etc.

During this Season of Lent, I vow to journey with you as your pastor, confidant and sister in Christ, as we move forward in our relationship with Christ and each other.

I compare our journeying together with the lyrics by Hezekiah Walker:

I need you, you need me. We're all a part of God's body. Stand with me, agree with me. We're all a part of God's body. It is his will, that every need be supplied. You are important to me, I need you to survive.

You are important to me, I need you to survive. I pray for you, You pray for me. I love you, I need you to survive. I won't harm you with words from my mouth. I love you, I need you to survive. It is his will, that every need be supplied. You are important to me, I need you to survive.



We are in it to win it as we sojourn together.

Ushers and Greeters Needed

In order for us to present a happy and welcoming face to the public, we must have happy and welcoming people greeting them when they enter our doors. We are not able to do this with a short and overworked staff of people like we have now.

The people who currently compose our staff of Greeters and Ushers are the best and under better circumstances would be very welcoming, however, they can't be at their best because they are spread too thin.

Most people don't realize the full picture of just what a Greeter or Usher's position entails. They are not just someone who smiles and shakes someone's hand and says "Good Morning." They have a more important job than that. The Ushers don't just take people's money and smile at them, they do much more.

The positions of the Usher and Greeter are as follows: they are the welcoming and nurturing people in the congregation. They are the first to see the new people and welcome them to our congregation. In many cases they are the deciding factor on which a new person bases their return to our church.

We need more Ushers and Greeters. People with welcoming personalities. I know that almost everyone in our church fits that description. Please contact the church secretary if you can meet the challenge.



Purpose: The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We are faith, hope and love in action.

FAITH

Thousands of women participate in our reading programs and educational opportunities annually to grow spiritually, become more deeply rooted in Christ and put faith into action.

HOPE

Our national mission institutions empower women, care for children, educate and equip youth, care for the neglected, advocate for social justice issues, create economic opportunities and strengthen neighborhoods.

LOVE

Our members give out of their love for the world and provide financial support for national mission institutions, higher education scholarships for international students, and 121 programs taking place in 110 countries.

ACTION

United Methodist Women members' voices are heard around the world as they call for justice on issues such as immigration, human trafficking, domestic violence, health care and the environment.

Seminole UMW works hard to fulfil the promise contained in this purpose. Whether through the PBJ ministry to the homeless of St. Petersburg, or through the Thrift Shop, we work with quiet dignity and grace to help spread the gospel. Currently we are looking into supporting new missions and will report on those endeavors after arrangements have been finalized.

Sandra Sims,

Vice President, SUMW

Mary Grace Circle Meeting

Mary Grace Circle will meet Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., April 25th at the home of Doloris Thompson. This will be our Annual Auction so please bring a "White Elephant" or a new item to be auctioned off. Wrap your item - part of the fun is not knowing what we're bidding on. Proceeds will be donated to a local couple (Nick and Heidi Griffiths) who will be going to Africa to help provide clean water and medical care while sharing the gospel and empowering local church leadership. For carpool please meet at the church at 9:20. All ladies are welcome. Questions—call Karen - 391-6052.

The sign says "Thrift Shop" open 9-3 on Tuesday.

"The Ladies Group"

Come, and you will see tables and tables outside filled with shoes, purses, plastics, frames, toys, stuffed animals and "odds and ends". There are also racks of clothing in every size and color you can imagine. Pictures lean against the wall. How does it all get here? Early morning volunteers! Open the door and you will see more racks of clothes, dishes, glasses, pots and pans, and every kitchen gadget you can think of. You will also find books on every subject imaginable. There are many more "odds and ends" displayed to catch the eye of our many thrift shop bargain hunters. Just across the driveway is the "cottage" which also offers treasures of linens, craft items, luggage and baby care items.

How did this all get arranged? The real work happens on Monday morning when volunteers sort, clean, price and find the perfect spot to display the many weekly donations we receive.

Back to the sign, "Thrift Shop" 9-3 on Tuesdays. Volunteers are available to assist our new and many loyal shoppers. They also have to restock racks and shelves.

At 3 o'clock, as if by magic, everything outside is brought inside - again by volunteers. The profits are recorded and used for necessities in our church and to spread the love of God through.

In May, after closing for the summer, all items remaining are donated to another charity. The shops are thoroughly cleaned, and we start all over again with the many donations which keep coming all summer. However the Monday morning routine continues.

Did you catch the important word in this report? "Volunteers!" People who are willing to give of their time, talents, strength and desire to help this church continue to function. Care to join us? What else would we do on Monday and Tuesday?

We pray for Fanny Taylor and await the day she is able to walk through the door and be with us again.

"The Men's Group"

The Seminole United Men operate the hardware, electrical and furniture section of the Thrift Shop. The men give the proceeds from their sales to the church and it's ministries. Some of these missions include the youth ministries, Boy Scouts, Methodist United Cooperative Ministries, United Methodist Children's Home, UMCOR, Jim Russo Prison Ministry and others.

We strongly believe that the Seminole United Methodist Men shall continually be creative and supportive of the men who seek to know Christ Jesus, to grow spiritually and to seek daily God's will. Our purpose will continually be to declare the centrality of Christ Jesus in the lives of men and their families.

We feel our purpose will continue to have fellowship with our brothers and sisters and to continue to learn and grow in our Christians lives. We will continue to support our local church in its missions and ministries by active participation in the church.

The Men's group are always looking to welcome new volunteers to our group. Please look at your calendar and see if you can spare a few hours on Tuesday to lend a helping hand (*Matt. 25:31-46*).



On February 23, 2019
Jo Ewers and Jim Small
were married in a private ceremony

Please join us in celebrating at a reception on Sunday, April 14th 11:00 a.m. in SUMC fellowship hall following the Palm Sunday service.

If there is anyone who doesn't know this couple, you really should. Jo has been the Music Director as long as I have been worshipping at Seminole UMC. On Wednesday's she arrives around 4 p.m. to gather the music for the choir. From 7 to 8 p.m. she rehearses with the choir. After the choir leaves, she goes home to a man that is very patient and caring.

We should give our unending support to this couple because of their unending support of the church.

May God always bless this marriage.



John 15:7-11



(NRSV)



If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

Grow Groups

Wednesday Evening: Pastor Avis hosts a grow group at 6:15 p.m. in Pat's Place following our Wednesday night dinner.

Thursday Evening: Joan Moore is hosting a grow group in Pat's Place at 7pm.

Thursday Evening: O.J. Brundage is hosting a grow group in his home at 7pm.

Friday Morning: At 10am Jane Mohr is hosting a grow group in Pat's Place.

SUMA Pre-School

SUMA provides a loving and stimulating program for children ages 2 -5 years of age.

Under the guidance of the director, Jennie Lauracuate, the school also offers Prekindergarten Education (VPK). In Florida, your child is eligible to participate for free.

Up Coming Events

Jayden's Gang	7th
PB&J Ministry	13th
Children's Sleep Over	18th
Spring Fest	20th
Easter	21st



Did You Know?

Genesis 7:4 (NKJV)

For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made."

You must remember that many generations of people had lived between Adam and Noah. During all this time the vegetation was watered by a heavy mist (fog) each day. This fog provided enough moisture for every manner of plant life and it gathered in pools to water the living creatures and provide water for the people who lived.

From the time God told Noah to build the ark, to the time the floods came was about 100 years. (*No, contrary to popular belief, I was not there to witness.*) Noah continuously told everyone who would listen what was about to happen, they laughed at him. They laughed at Noah because it had never rained before. No water had ever fell from the sky.

They figured he had developed some sort of mental condition from all the hard work he was doing. Why was this man so determined to build this giant boat so far from any large amount of water? It was no wonder they didn't believe him.

The people of the earth had another type of warning when the animals started showing up and Noah let them onboard. As soon as the animals were aboard, the water started falling from the sky, just as Noah had told them. Can you imagine the scene outside the Ark? I'm sure there were people beating on the outside of the Ark. Many would have been headed for the high ground as the waters began to rise.

By this time, the rain was coming down hard and the waters from within the earth were also coming out to help lift the large boat off the ground. Panic was the order of the day and many were asking God to help them, but in vain. Why? Why did they not listen to Noah? Why was God doing this thing? Why was Noah and his family saved and not them? What did they do to deserve this? I am sure there were many other questions being asked, just as there will be at the second coming.

Even today, many people listen to the preachers talk about the second coming and what will happen, only to say the same thing they people said in Noah's day. This can't happen because it has never happened before.

Why would anyone doubt the bible? Because it interferes with their fun! Today we go about making our money, then we spend it on things we want for ourselves, and what God wants will have to wait. After all, someone who receives salvation 3 minutes before they die will go to Heaven just the same as someone who works for God all their lives. The problem is we don't know how to say for sure when the last 3 minutes are going to be.

David tells us in *Psalms 90:10* that our days are 70 years. However, in those days they didn't have cars that can cut your life short in the blink of an eye. They didn't have guns that can send a bullet through a wall and accidentally kill someone in their childhood.

To sum this up, there is no way we can predict how long we can live. This goes for your loved ones also. If they are not Christians, it is your obligation to talk to them, don't neglect them. The same is true for that person you call your best friend. What kind of a friend would let someone they love like family go to any place but heaven?

How can you talk to them? The first thing you do is study the bible, then open your heart to them, and the most important is that you have to open your mouth for God.

Interfaith Food Pantry News

Interfaith provides a full Easter Meal for the families they serve. A Gift of \$20.00 would cover the cost to give the blessing of a true "Family Meal." You can support this mission by sending a contribution to:

*Interfaith Food pantry, Inc.
P.O. Box 7071
Seminole, FL. 33775*

Help to Stamp out Hunger

Volunteers are needed to work during this vital community ministry scheduled for May 11, 2019. Interfaith Food Pantry is located at Aldersgate United Methodist Church at 9530 Starkey Road in Seminole. The drive will take place Saturday May 11, 2019.

One hour or more of your time is all being asked of you to help unload and sort food received from the mail carriers during that 1 day. Age doesn't matter.

If you are willing to join in the fellowship and commitment of this ministry, please sign the volunteer sheet located in the fellowship hall bulletin board by April 28th.

More information is available with the signup sheet. Hope to see you there on May 11th. Skip the gym and get your body and your heart in shape helping those less fortunate than you.



Little Known Fact

According to the USDA, chicken has more cholesterol content than any other meat. Chicken contains 87gr. of cholesterol, while turkey and beef each have 85gr. and pork (when properly trimmed) only has 84gr.

Don't listen to the ads with the black and white cows, don't listen to the doctors trying to sell you a bad product to make money. Go to the USDA web page and find out the truth concerning what you should and should not eat.

It was on the third day that God created all the herbs and other things herbal on the earth. On the fifth day God created every animal on the earth and the end of the day God said it was good (*Gen, 1:1-13*). Then He made man. I think God know more about what he created for man to eat than science. What does God say about man (*Romans 3:9-18*)?