

## A Message from our Pastor

Greetings:

I am sure that you all are familiar with the special called general conference on Feb. 23-26th in Missouri regarding the LGBTQIA. We are called to be in prayer for those who will make decisions on behalf of the denomination. I encourage and solicit your prayers on whatever the LORD has placed on your heart.

*Gratefully yours,*

*Avis D. Smith, Pastor*

## Church Cleanup

All those who have special talents with brooms, hedge trimmers, tree trimming skills and many more specialized skills are needed to help clean the church and churchyard on 23 March 2019.

When Jesus cleaned the church in His day he used a cat of nine tails, all He is asking you to use is a saw or broom. The fun begins at 7:30am. Don't be late to get the job done.

## Community

How many people in your community know Christ? Don't know? Then why don't you ask. How can we know how many more need to be saved without us asking? To allow one soul to be lost is not acceptable.

Go out into your community, one neighbor at a time and talk to them about Christ. Just a simple conversation will give you the answer you need. God doesn't ask you to canvas the neighborhood, just speak to one neighbor at a time.

## Prayer 101

**John 14:13 (NKJV)**

*And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*

There are many people who don't know how to pray. These are the believers who know God, but have no relationship with Him. Jesus made it easy to get this relationship started without having to go to others for help or use a bunch of visual aids.

*James 5:15* tells us that it is not the preacher or any visual aids that make our prayers work - it is the condition of our heart. Unless our heart is right with God, our prayers for ourselves and others will not be successful. It is only through the study of God's word that we become righteous and able to pray. Study God's Word Today!!

## Quotable Quote

*Never give up on something*

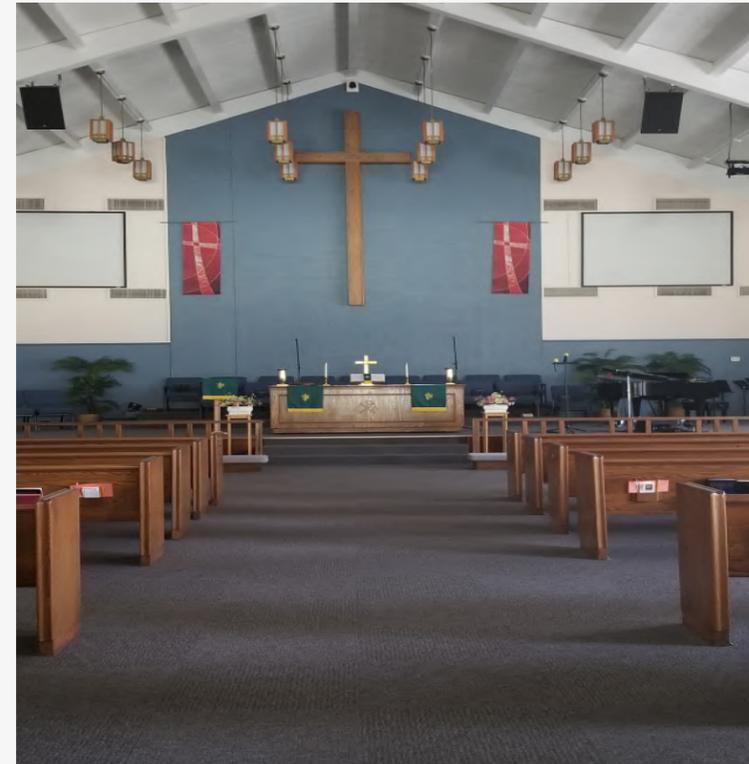
*you can't go one day*

*without thinking about.*



# Seminole United Methodist Church

## Newsletter



***Celebrating 128 Years***  
***“Living our Lives in the Spirit”***

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

**Youth Sunday School at 9am**

Sunday Morning

**Worship Service 10 am**

Fellowship at 11am

**Rev. Avis Smith, Pastor**

(727) 391-9781

[www.seminoleUMC.org](http://www.seminoleUMC.org)

## Irish Breakfast Youth Fundraiser

**March 17 after Services**



Our youth need your help. Each year we have fund raisers to send the youth to summer camp. Over the past couple of years the youth have struggled to raise enough money.

This money is to help ALL the children who want to go to camp! These children have enough faith that they are willing to sacrifice their time to raise this money - so please try to have an equal amount of faith. This summer camp will help shape the minds and souls of these children. Please contribute to the future of these children by using the time and determination of these children wisely.



**“Romeo”** Men's Group meets Mondays at 8am at Mama's Kitchen, 5885 Seminole Blvd, join us!

**“Thrift Shoppes”** The thrift Shoppes are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday. Come on out and bring both your money and your helpful nature. Every person who helps with the Thrift stores will receive a special reward in accordance with *Matthew 25:31-46*.

## From the Desk of Pastor Avis

Over the past few years, and even recently we have experienced mass shootings within the schools, religious institutions, and local businesses. According to law enforcement, this is what they would consider a "soft target." A person or thing which is relatively unprotected or vulnerable, especially to military or terrorist attack. These tragedies which unfortunately are transpiring all too often, may be attributed to mental health issues, feelings of being isolated, animosity, chemical imbalance, and discrimination.

Given our vulnerability, and the number of entrances to Seminole UMC, and in consultation with the church council, it was unanimously decided to secure the doors at 10:10 a.m. This is not to imply that people are not welcomed into the house of worship. We are simply living in times where the enemy desires to create havoc, confusion, pain and destruction within our society and the local church.

We are not living with a spirit of fear, but being vigilant, attentive and cognizant of our surroundings at all times.

At Seminole UMC all that we do is done with a Spirit of Love. Still loving God, ourselves and our neighbors with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Shalom  
Pastor Avis

### *Ephesians 4:1-6 (NRSV)*

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.



## God and Our Church Needs Your Help

Throughout the church there are many openings for services that need to be filled. God gives Christians many different gifts and we would like for you to share these gifts with the church.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. The sign up sheets are in the get involved section. If there are no sheets out just ask Craig Sims to help you and he will get one for you.

In the 12th chapter of 1 Corinthians, when Paul named some of the Gifts of the Spirit, he named several by name and then he called one "Helps." When you read this section of the scriptures you will find that Paul put as much emphasis on the word "helps: as he did all the other things he named.

Please join all the other members of the church and sign up today.. The following positions are crucial and need to be filled immediately; Usher (*see Bob Mohr*), Greeter (*see Ted or Carol Snyder*), Acolyte (*see Marie Burnison*), Liturgist (*use sign up sheet in Narthex.*) and Sunday fellowship hosts (*use sign up sheet in Narthex.*) There are other ways that God will give you both the gift and the knowledge to succeed. These gifts are called hobbies/crafts. Do you know how to sew; paint; write; clean; park cars; etc. Thank you in advance for your service to God and our church.



## Be God's Valentine

My wife and I have a very Valentine Romance in our marriage. We have had that romance in our marriage for more than 42 years. All of our married life, we have done everything together. We have tried to focus on our marriage so we can be happy.

There is another love I have acquired, as my wife has always had - we have the love that Jesus talked about in *John 3:16*.

This love comes from God and we are supposed to use this love with our brothers and sister in Christ. This is the same love that Jesus gave to people when He was among us.

On April 21, we will celebrate the love that God gave us through His Son on the cross of Calvary. On this day we will have a special service to celebrate that love.



My wife and I would like to extend a challenge to each and every brother and sister in Christ. We would like for you to join us on this special day and celebrate.

Take a good look at your heart and if you don't have that love the way we do, just listen to our pastor and she will tell you how you too can have this love.

Agape love comes from God and is only given to us for us to give to others.

*Have a very  
Happy Easter.*

## Grow Groups

**Wednesday Evening:** Grow Group meets at 6:30pm. in the multi-purpose room. The group leader is Pastor Avis. Group begins after Soup and Soul

**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 Lauracuenta, the school also offers Prekindergarten Education (VPK). In Florida, your child is eligible to participate for free.

## Our Homeless Ministry

On the second Saturday of each month at 9 a.m., our Homeless Ministry gathers to help those who suffer in our community. Our goal is to help those who are down but not out.

Each time we gather we make PB&J sandwiches to be distributed in St. Petersburg later that day. The items needed for this ministry include peanut butter, jelly, bread, small fruits (apples, oranges), bottled water, and brown paper lunch bags. The final item that is needed is your hearts. Without your heart, the sandwich is no good. AMEN!