



UNITED CHURCH
of Marco Island

June/July 2018 Newsletter

PASTOR MARK'S MESSAGE

Celebrating Freedom

On Independence Day, we celebrate America's freedom. What a blessing it is to live in a country with freedom at the heart of it's being! For God created us to be free--not just as a nation, but as individuals. As we navigate the challenges of our personal lives, our fears and our worries, can, from time to time, imprison us. Fears and worries can suffocate us, consume us, and burden us to the point at which we become enslaved to them. When this happens, God's heart aches because what God wants for us more than anything else is to be free.

Part of what is so awesome about God is that God receives our fears and worries that we turn over to God. God takes all that imprisons us and offers us the strength to walk freely into the future without fear. After all, this is why God sent us Jesus--to love us by freeing us from anything that keeps us in chains including our sin, our grief, our fears, and our worries.

In his Gettysburg Address, President Abraham Lincoln spoke these words about America: "This nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom." As you well know, a few years after Lincoln's Gettysburg address Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth at the Ford Theater in Washington D.C.. Legend has it that as Lincoln's body was taken from Washington to Springfield, Illinois (his birthplace) it passed through Albany, New York. There, as the coffin was being carried through the streets, it was reported that a proud black woman lifted her son as far as she could above the heads of the crowd and was heard to say, "Take a long look son, he died for your freedom."

The same could be said of Christ. Christ died for our freedom. What a shame it would be not to claim that freedom that God so wants for our lives today and always. If you've been fearful or worried recently; hand that worry over to a God who desires to set you free in Christ.

In Christ,

Pastor Mark

MOSES SERMON SERIES
June/July 2018 Worship at United Church

Sunday, June 3, 2018

Moses #1
Scripture: Exodus 2: 1-10
Sermon Title: "Put Your Child In A Basket"

Sunday, June 10, 2018

Moses #2
Scripture: Exodus 2: 11-15
Sermon Title: "The Blessing of Failure"

Sunday, June 17, 2018

Moses #3
Scripture: Exodus 2: 15-22 and
Deuteronomy 24:5
Sermon Title: "The Honeymoon Law"

Sunday, June 24, 2018

Moses #4
Scripture: Exodus 3: 1-6
Sermon Title: "The Bush Is Still Burning"

Sunday, July 1, 2018

Moses #5
Scripture: Exodus 6: 1-9
Sermon Title: "God Sets Us Free"

Sunday, July 8, 2018

Moses #6
Scripture: Exodus 6:28 – 7:7
Sermon Title: "Even More Stubborn"

Sunday, July 15, 2018

Scripture: TBD
Sermon Title: TBD
Theme: TBD

Sunday, July 22, 2018

Moses #7
Scripture: Exodus 14: 10-31
Sermon Title: "Look Up"

Sunday, July 29, 2018

Moses #8
Scripture: Exodus 15: 22-27
Sermon Title: "The Oasis of God"

Stewardship Reminder

If you are interested in making your gift via credit card online, simply visit our website to make a one-time gift or a recurring gift. As always, if are in need of a pledge update or would like to talk to someone about a gift to United Church in the form of an estate gift, real-estate gift or equity gift, please do not hesitate to contact the church office. Our financial assistant Stephen Tepper will help. A special thank you to all in the congregation who continue to support the mission and ministry of United Church with their giving! Click on the link for on line giving: <https://www.ucmarco.org/giving/>





STAFF NEWS

It is with significant enthusiasm that we welcome two new staff members to United Church's staff.

Susanne Golden:

Susanne will begin with United Church in the position of Children's Teaching Coordinator effective Sunday, July 1st.

A resident of Naples, Susanne recently retired from a 41-year career as a teacher and educator in Christian and Jewish schools in New York and Florida. A proud mother and grandmother, Susanne is a person of faith with a true passion for children and teaching. Susanne looks forward to growing United Church's children in the love of God.

Susanne will be with us for 5-hours a week--2 hours on Sunday mornings and three hours during the week resourcing our children's church program, preparing curriculum and crafts, communicating with parents, organizing our weekly volunteer teachers, and assisting in the expansion of our children's program into two classrooms this coming fall. I hope you will join with me in warmly welcoming Susanne into our fellowship.

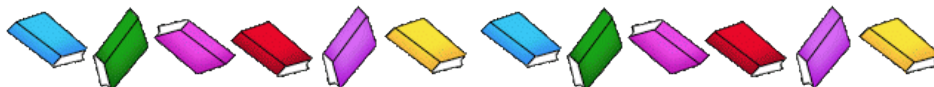
Dale Gossett:

Dale Gossett, United Church's new full-time facilities manager effective Monday, June 18th.

Dale brings to United Church and United Church's Bargain Basket numerous gifts and talents. Simply put, Dale has been a "Mr. Fix It" all his life. Throughout his professional career, Dale has worked in various different maintenance roles. Dale worked for over ten years in the heating and AC business. In previous positions, Dale also worked as a licensed plumber and electrician. Before moving to Naples, Dale oversaw the maintenance of 12 medical buildings at Washington University in St. Louis.

In addition to his experience in maintenance, Dale has tremendous expertise in the area of turf management, landscaping and irrigation. Dale comes to United Church from the Heritage Bay golf course in Naples, where he will be missed dearly as captain of their golf course fairway maintenance team. During Dale's tenure at Heritage Bay, the course won numerous state awards ranging from "best putting surface" to "best course carved within a unique environmental setting."

2018 UNITED CHURCH SUMMER READING AND DISCUSSION



June Book: *The Magnolia Story* by Chip and Joanna Gaines

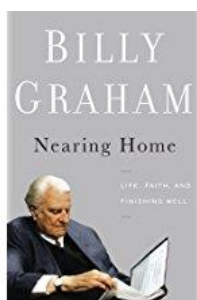
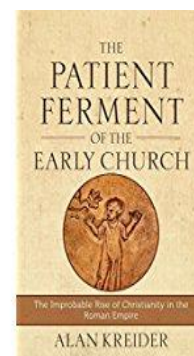
The Magnolia Story is the first book from Chip and Joanna Gaines, offering their fans a detailed look at their life together. From the very first renovation project they ever tackled together, to the project that nearly cost them everything; from the childhood memories that shaped them, to the twists and turns that led them to the life they share on the farm today.

Discussion: Tuesday, June 26 @10AM with Mark Williams and Sam Kopren

July Book: *The Patient Ferment of the Early Church* by Alan Kreider

How and why did the early church grow in the first four hundred years despite disincentives, harassment, and occasional persecution? In this unique historical study, veteran scholar Alan Kreider delivers the fruit of a lifetime of study as he tells the amazing story of the spread of Christianity in the Roman Empire. Challenging traditional understandings, Kreider contends the church grew because the virtue of patience was of central importance in the life and witness of the early Christians. They wrote about patience, not evangelism, and reflected on prayer, catechesis, and worship, yet the church grew--not by specific strategies but by patient ferment.

Discussion: Tuesday, July 31st @10AM



August: *Nearing Home* by Billy Graham

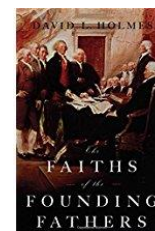
Nearing Home, written by Billy Graham in his nineties, explores the challenges of aging while gleaning foundational truths from Scripture. Billy Graham invites us to journey with him as he considers the golden years while anticipating the hope of being reunited with his wife, Ruth, in his heavenly home that eclipses this world.

Discussion: August 28th @10AM

September: *The Faiths of the Founding Fathers* by David Holmes

In this great book, David L. Holmes offers a clear, concise and illuminating look at the spiritual beliefs of our founding fathers. He begins with an informative account of the religious culture of the late colonial era, surveying the religious groups in each colony. In particular, he sheds light on the various forms of Deism that flourished in America, highlighting the profound influence this intellectual movement had on the founding generation.

Discussion: September 25th @10AM



- Some books are available at the local library. All books are available used and new on Amazon. United Church's office will also loan out copies of books.
- Up north? No problem. Call in on the discussion date: Dial 1-866-866-2244 – When prompted dial the following access code followed by the #sign Access code: 5218829



Bargain Basket

Hello!

The Bargain Basket is looking forward to a summer of progress. We are already off to a great start with a new roof courtesy of Joyce Construction. We also worked with V Image Design, a local design agency, to get our logo updated to reflect a more modern appearance with our mission and faith in mind. Our fitting rooms have gotten a nice face lift as well with a new coat of cooling blue paint and we are continuously working on our lengthy summer to-do list which will have the Bargain Basket looking brand new in time for the busy season!

We are also looking forward to adding another friendly face to The Bargain Basket staff in early June. Reese Jones, a student at Marco Island Academy, will be interning with The United Church of Marco Island and The Bargain Basket during her summer vacation. Reese is an academic scholar and we are so happy to have her helping us as we work to serve our local community this summer!

We plan to continue our Thrifty Thursday promotions throughout the summer as it seems to be well-liked by all of our locals. Shoppers should also stop by on Flag Day, June 14th, for a "find the flag" challenge. Winners will receive \$5.00 off their purchase. That following Saturday, June 16th, we celebrate Dad with 50% off all men's clothing and accessories! And to start the summer off right, we're hosting a 50% off entire store sale on the first day of summer, June 21st. If you haven't already, be sure to visit the Bargain Basket section of the ucmarco.org website and sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletters. That way you'll be one of the first to know about all of the July promotions!

Throughout all of the fun it is important to remember that although customer count and donations have slowed, the need for volunteers is always apparent. So if you're looking to fill the slow summer days with something meaningful be sure to stop by and see me, I am positive we have the right position to fit your talents and schedule! And current volunteers take some time to check out our new online volunteer calendars, courtesy of Kate Joyce and available on the Bargain Basket section of the ucmarco.org website. You can now easily see where we have a need right from the comfort of your own home!

In the meantime, I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer start!

Sincerely,

Samantha Kopren
Bargain Basket Manager

Bargain Basket Mortgage Burning Ceremony



Save the date! **Friday August 31st at 10AM**--Join us in the front parking lot of the Bargain Basket where United Church Pastor Mark Williams and Bargain Basket staff will officiate a Burning of the Mortgage Ceremony as we celebrate our soon to be debt-free building! Following the ceremony, the Bargain Basket Committee will host a reception in the store for all who attend. If you're up north, consider spending Labor Day weekend on Marco and making this ceremony part of your plans! "Having paid all indebtedness on this building, let us dedicate this building to God and to the ministry of God, rejoicing in it's holy use."

Children's Fun Night June 24TH



On Sunday June 24th from 4:30-6:30 PM in Disseler Hall, United Church Education Committee will be hosting a children's fun night. The evening will include a simple service project, a delicious pizza supper, and a Bible- themed treasure hunt. If you are interested in helping with this event, please email Emily Williams: emily.williams22@gmail.com

Lunch, Fun & Fellowship

Calling all friends over 60. Join us for a free lunch the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Family Church on Winterberry. This is a collaboration between the Marco Island YMCA and Our Daily Bread Food Pantry. With the support of local restaurants, businesses and certain individuals, a luncheon (free of charge) is open to all area residents "60 or better". Each monthly event includes a time for networking, lunch, a program, and door prizes. We also offer rides to and from.

Our next luncheon is June 21st beginning at 11:00AM. At the Family Church on Winterberry. We hope you can join us, just contact Nancy Kot to let her know you can join us 706-566-8532.



MESSAGE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

In June, Karen Hearn will be our soloist on the 3rd. Earl Witten will be singing on Father's Day, June 17th.



July will be "favorite hymn month." The signup sheet will be in the narthex beginning June 10th. Please let us know what songs you would like. The songs do not need to be in the hymnbook. If you have a favorite, perhaps a song that you knew as a child, we'll be glad to do it!

LuWayne Arnold
Director of Music

“LADIES WHO LUNCH” Join the ladies of UCMI for lunch on the first Thursday of every month at 1pm. This is a great time to get to know other women at UCMI that you are not acquainted with and grow in Christian love together. Please call Lois Kenyon at 239-248-0154 if you plan to attend. **NEXT LUNCHEON IS THIS THURSDAY, PHILLYgrille.**



MEN’S BREAKFAST: All men in the parish are invited to join us every third Wednesday at 9 a.m. at Hoot’s. Come join us as we jokingly discuss the economy and other world affairs or any other subject that suits your fancy. Bring a friend or neighbor and join in the fellowship with other men of the church. **Next breakfasts are Wednesday, June 20th and July 18th at Red Rooster.**



SOCIAL EVENTS

The social events committee is looking for you! Grab a friend and lend a hand on Sunday morning for fellowship hour following worship. Simple tasks such as serving by picking up a snack of cookies, doughnuts, or whatever else you may choose, making coffee, setting up and cleaning up-it’s quick and easy.

Sunday , June 10 th	Mary Ann Schmenkel and Linda Fox
Sunday , June 17 th Birthday Sunday	Claudia Foster,Dave and Deanna Yates
Sunday , June 24 th	Judy Daye
Sunday , July 1 st	July BBQ-Everyone is invited-signup in the narthex
Sunday , July 8 th	Available please sign up
Sunday, July 15 th Birthday Sunday	Available please sign up
Sunday, July 22 nd	Walt and Linda Fox
Sunday, July 29 th	Available please sign up



Memorial Service for William Berry: The memorial service for William(Bill) Berry will be held on Saturday, June 23rd at 11AM in the Sanctuary.



PRAYER LIST

MEMBERS: Berry Family, Don Fraser, Ralph Kolstoe, Dave Tschantz, Jeanne Uhl, Ruth Diebler, Louise Burns and Barbara Sutton. **United Church's Children:** Grayson, Tafara, Ian, Preston, Ethan, Dylan, Nolan, Marie, Zoe, Charlie, Lauren

FRIENDS and FAMILY

Virginia Johnson
Carson Family
Daniel Jackson
Eileen Fisher
Jon D. Moore
Kendall Paris
Linda Ponce
Lilly Sennie
Alison Strawmyer
Geoffrey Wieland
Fred Coleman
Don Kenyon
Jerry Nelson
Barbara Bishop
Portia Caruso
Betty Eckels
Tim Grimes

Pat Bell
Heather Dam
Kendall
Lemuel Stewart
Phyllis Mueller
Michael Penso
Jeffrey Robinson
Emerson Smith
Bonnie Tobey
Bob Whitted
Carolyn Eiselman
Jacob Bonner
Barbara Daumit
Scottie
Bob Clemente
Harry Eckels
Neil Eskelin

Linda & Dan Billette
Ray David
Alison Koch
Angela Haunschild
Chrissy Nourtsis
Dawn Poinsett
Harry Robinson
The Shudes Family
Alice Wheeler
Sharon Hunt
Zechariah Acosta
Linda Crockett
Anderson Family
Duwayne Russell
Mariah Caruso
Charles C. Allen

Prayer request cards are available at the information table. You may complete the blue card and place it in the offering plate or call the church office.



SUNDAY FLOWERS

JUNE

June 3rd	Yvonne Hall	<i>In loving memory of Don Hall</i>
June 10th	Mark and Emily Williams	<i>In honor of their 5th year of ministry starting today at United Church</i>
June 17th	Dick and Karen Hearn	<i>In loving memory of Richard A. Hearn, Jr.</i>
June 24th	Roger and Louise Burns	<i>Thanking God for 60 years together</i>

JULY

July 1st	Available	
July 8th	Rapp Family	Celebrating a family reunion in Michigan
July 15th	Available	
July 22nd	Paul and Jean O'Neill	In memory of Dorothy and Boyd Mullan
July 29th	Russ and Pat Rainey	In honor of their 62nd wedding anniversary

If you would like to sign up for a memorial or a celebration on any of the open dates, see the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can e-mail the church office with your information.





Independence Day BBQ Celebration Sunday, July 1st 2018

**Following worship on Sunday, July 1st, United Church's Social Events Committee will be hosting an Independence Day picnic under a tent. A delicious summer spread of food is being planned—chicken, pulled pork, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, and more!
If you have family or friends visiting for the holiday—
be sure to invite them!**

**All are invited and children are especially welcome!
Sign up if you want to bring your favorite dessert. Sign up sheets are in
the narthex.**

**Prior to the picnic, folks are encouraged to wear their patriotic best to
Sunday service. Music Director Luwayne Arnold and Pastor Mark are
planning a music and worship celebration of God and Country.
Put this event on your calendar today!**



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/01 Molly Clark
6/01 John Newcomer
6/03 Pat Kaufman
6/07 Ron Scherer
6/11 Paul O'Neill
6/12 Marilyn Montgomery
6/13 Barbara Rassler
6/13 Fred Ganter
6/14 Cheryl Axelson
6/15 Linda Gillespie
6/16 Jean Duling
6/16 Dolores Laug
6/18 Al Saunders
6/20 Barbara Ganter
6/20 Dottie Jeggle
6/21 Rich Kostecka
6/23 Gordon Timmerman
6/23 John Foster
6/24 Linda James
6/25 June Gulumian
6/26 M.P. Rines
6/26 Rita Clark
6/29 Margo Kostecka
6/30 Kathy Eckels

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/05 Carol Litchfield
7/05 Joanne Becker
7/05 Craig Fenton
7/08 Pam Shudes
7/08 MaryAnn Kunkel
7/10 Linda Zsidai
7/18 Harold Bach
7/19 Michele Griswold
7/20 Karen Zwergal
7/21 Elysee Marshall
7/22 Bob Gandre
7/25 Henry Hill
7/25 Lois Kenyon
7/28 Curt Gillespie
7/30 Dale Histan



Join us for coffee and fellowship every third Sunday of the month after worship, as the Social Events Committee celebrates **everyone's birthday!**

Oops! Did we miss your birthday? If we did, it is because it is not recorded in our records.

Just call Wanda in the church office at 239.394.6572.

Information received will keep our files current. Thank you!

