

2022 Christmas Stocking Offering

December 2, 2022

The fireplace is up and stockings are ready for us to hang! SunCoast MCC church elves have been very busy this past week!

This year, I feel a sense of relief coming into Christmas: We made it! We survived and thrived in a year of disruption, COVID and hurricanes.

Not only that, we accomplished amazing things through our Community Partnerships, and in stepping up after the hurricane to help our church and wider community. We touched the lives of more people this year than ever before! God is doing something special with and through SunCoast MCC.

Every year we invite our members and friends to remember SunCoast MCC in your holiday giving by placing a stocking on the fireplace in memory or in honor of someone you love. It is a time we invite everyone to make that **significant year-end gift to our Church** that is changing lives and history.

And, the church mice are at it again! The Board has proposed to the congregation three projects to improve our curb appeal and outreach in the coming year:



- An attractive sign on the front of our church building that offers a warm welcome, reflecting our new, contemporary look
- Reconfiguring our office building so that it can include a larger space for after church social time on Sundays, meetings, events and for welcoming our community partners
- Paving the driveway and a portion of the parking area



While we have some funds set aside for these projects, we are encouraging our members, friends and supporters to contribute this Christmas towards this effort... let's make it happen!

Second, we are reaching out to help one of our Community Partners, a local elementary school. Thirty families in this small school were left homeless by the hurricane. Through our Angel Tree program, we are helping one family have a meaningful Christmas! We have a sign up sheet at the church and you can contact us if you want to help with particular gifts, or with gift cards. The deadline for helping with this project is Sunday, December 11, 2022. Contact the church office if you can help by calling us at 941-484-7068 or emailing us at info@suncoastmcc.com.

Last but not least, we remember kids whose families are impacted by HIV/AIDS by bringing in \$25 Walmart cards for CHAPS. There will be a special container at the church for these, and you can also bring them to the office through December 15th.

I don't know about you, but supporting my church and community, and families in need is an enormous joy! **Your generosity is amazing!** In this season, let's do what we can to make a difference!!

Blessings,

Rev. Nancy Wilson, Senior Pastor,

Rev. Rick Rhen-Sosbe, Assistant Pastor,

Mary Convy, Bob Langlais, Santa Pandolfo, Sam Sinnett, Linda Staib,

Dr. David Katz and Kim Rabon-Noyce

Enclosed: Card and Return Envelope

