



"Never place a period where God has placed a comma!"
- Gracie Allen

FREEDOM!



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UCCNSB THRIFT STORE • Tue-Sat, 9:30a—3:00p • Phone: 386-427-2115

Message from Pastor Diane

Dear Ones,

As we head into another hot Florida summer with some of us stalwart folks staying in place and some of our “snowbirds” already gone to northern climes, I am grateful for Zoom. It has been a wicked uphill slog making it work for us in a blended way with some of us in the sanctuary and others of us in far flung homes. But our dedicated tech volunteers have spent countless (and I DO mean countless!) hours finetuning and re-tuning what we do. When we’ve brought in professionals for consulting, they have simply affirmed our process and choices. God has richly blessed us with folks who care deeply and are willing to put their shoulders and brains to the job of providing the best possible worship situation for all of our people. Please join me in thanking God for them in your prayers! I thank God that we have found a way to remain connected through pandemic challenges!

I also know that a key part of reaching the point where things are working better is having brothers and sisters in Christ who have not given up when we experience glitches or things are less than stellar. Thanks to all of you for going the distance in love!

Even for me Zoom plus in-person worship creates challenges I continue to work through. For example, when we were just in the sanctuary, I couldn’t forget the acolyte because that small person was standing with me in the back of the sanctuary, and we walked forward together. (That is not something I could forget!) When we were just in Zoom I had less to track, and I could look at my Zoom tiles to find the acolyte and then Tom could highlight them when I asked for the lighting of the worship candle. Now, in the sanctuary, I can’t see all the Zoom tiles because my back is to our large screen so sometimes, I start to forget we need to call on the acolyte!

One of the many things I love about our church is that invariably someone will notice something and signal me so I can fix the omission! God creates the church body out of many members and that is what keeps us strong, healthy, and moving in faith!

During children’s time last week, we were talking about the “forgive us our debts” part of the Lord’s prayer. (Remember, this was the week I’d just forgotten that my grandson, Sean was supposed to be the acolyte... but, with help from our church body, I did get to call on him.) When I asked if anyone knew what was meant by *debts* (or *trespasses* in another frequently spoken version), Will, Beth Jensen’s grandson, immediately could explain that debts or trespasses meant “mistakes...asking forgiveness for what we’ve done wrong.” I followed up with a question about

Continues on Next Page

Continued from Previous Page

what kind of people make mistakes and Will immediately said, “Everyone!” No kidding! I explained that I often make mistakes. I said I didn’t even know how many mistakes I’d made so far that very morning. Little Liam Forand, six years old and sitting right beside me on the sanctuary steps, waved a hand with five fingers outstretched! Our children are alert!

Key is that mistakes, owned and corrected in love, make the Body of Christ stronger! We are all imperfect but the One we worship IS perfect and day after day reaches us with perfect love, the kind of love that forgives and empowers us to forgive others and ourselves. Each and every moment of each and every day we are invited to become our true, beloved selves in Christ. I thank God that I am in a church family with you and all our clever, loving children!

**In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Diane**

COME! WORSHIP WITH US!

Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
in our sanctuary or online via Zoom.
Communion is celebrated every Sunday!
For information call (386) 428-2352



We are an Open and Affirming Church. We welcome all into the full life and ministries of the church irrespective of race, gender, age, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socio-economic status, and mental and physical disabilities.
We celebrate the image of God in every person.
Our mission is to do justice, seek peace, and love all as Christ loves.

SUMMER
IS TIME FOR WARM NIGHTS
WATERMELON
BARE FEET AND BARBEQUES
SWEET CORN **SUNFLOWERS**
R I P E PICNICS **CAMPFIRES**
TOMATOES **LEMONADE**
LIGHTNING STORMS LOVE



ONE-YEAR BIBLE READING for JULY

July 1

2 Kings 18:13-19:37
 Acts 21:1-17
 Psalm 149:1-9
 Proverbs 18:8

July 2

2 Kings 20:1-22:2
 Acts 21:18-36
 Psalm 150:1-6
 Proverbs 18:9-10

July 3

2 Kings 22:3-23:30
 Acts 21:37-22:16
 Psalm 1:1-6
 Proverbs 18:11-12

July 4

2 Kings 23:31-25:30
 Acts 22:17-23:10
 Psalm 2:1-12
 Proverbs 18:13

July 5

1 Chronicles 1:1-2:17
 Acts 23:11-35
 Psalm 3:1-8
 Proverbs 18:14-15

July 6

1 Chronicles 2:18-4:4
 Acts 24:1-27
 Psalm 4:1-8
 Proverbs 18:16-18

July 7

1 Chronicles 4:5-5:17
 Acts 25:1-27
 Psalm 5:1-12
 Proverbs 18:19

July 8

1 Chronicles 5:18-6:81
 Acts 26:1-32
 Psalm 6:1-10
 Proverbs 18:20-21

July 9

1 Chronicles 7:1-8:40
 Acts 27:1-20
 Psalm 7:1-17
 Proverbs 18:22

July 10

1 Chronicles 9:1-10:14
 Acts 27:21-44
 Psalm 8:1-9
 Proverbs 18:23-24

July 11

1 Chronicles 11:1-12:18
 Acts 28:1-31
 Psalm 9:1-12
 Proverbs 19:1-3

July 12

1 Chronicles 12:19-14:17
 Romans 1:1-17
 Psalm 9:13-20
 Proverbs 19:4-5

July 13

1 Chronicles 15:1-16:36
 Romans 1:18-32
 Psalm 10:1-15
 Proverbs 19:6-7

July 14

1 Chronicles 16:37-18:17
 Romans 2:1-24
 Psalm 10:16-18
 Proverbs 19:8-9

July 15

1 Chronicles 19:1-21:30
 Romans 2:25-3:8
 Psalm 11:1-7
 Proverbs 19:10-12

July 16

1 Chronicles 22:1-23:32
 Romans 3:9-31
 Psalm 12:1-8
 Proverbs 19:13-14

July 17

1 Chronicles 24:1-26:11
 Romans 4:1-12
 Psalm 13:1-6
 Proverbs 19:15-16

July 18

1 Chronicles 26:12-27:34
 Romans 4:13-5:5
 Psalm 14:1-7
 Proverbs 19:17

July 19

1 Chronicles 28:1-29:30
 Romans 5:6-21
 Psalm 15:1-5
 Proverbs 19:18-19

July 20

2 Chronicles 1:1-3:17
 Romans 6:1-23
 Psalm 16:1-11
 Proverbs 19:20-21

July 21

2 Chronicles 4:1-6:11
 Romans 7:1-13
 Psalm 17:1-15
 Proverbs 19:22-23

July 22

2 Chronicles 6:12-8:10
 Romans 7:14-8:8
 Psalm 18:1-15
 Proverbs 19:24-25

July 23

2 Chronicles 8:11-10:19
 Romans 8:9-25
 Psalm 18:16-36
 Proverbs 19:26

July 24

2 Chronicles 11:1-13:22
 Romans 8:26-39
 Psalm 18:37-50
 Proverbs 19:27-29

July 25

2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14
 Romans 9:1-24
 Psalm 19:1-14
 Proverbs 20:1

July 26

2 Chronicles 17:1-18:34
 Romans 9:25-10:13
 Psalm 20:1-9
 Proverbs 20:2-3

July 27

2 Chronicles 19:1-20:37
 Romans 10:14-11:12
 Psalm 21:1-13
 Proverbs 20:4-6

July 28

2 Chronicles 21:1-23:21
 Romans 11:13-36
 Psalm 22:1-18
 Proverbs 20:7

July 29

2 Chronicles 24:1-25:28
 Romans 12:1-21
 Psalm 22:19-31
 Proverbs 20:8-10

July 30

2 Chronicles 26:1-28:27
 Romans 13:1-14
 Psalm 23:1-6
 Proverbs 20:11

July 31

2 Chronicles 29:1-36
 Romans 14:1-23
 Psalm 24:1-10
 Proverbs 20:12

ONE-YEAR BIBLE READING for AUGUST

August 1

2 Chronicles 30:1-31:21
Romans 15:1-22
Psalm 25:1-15
Proverbs 20:13-15

August 2

2 Chronicles 32:1-33:13
Romans 15:23-16:9
Psalm 25:16-22
Proverbs 20:16-18

August 3

2 Chronicles 33:14-34:33
Romans 16:10-27
Psalm 26:1-12
Proverbs 20:19

August 4

2 Chronicles 35:1-36:23
1 Corinthians 1:1-17
Psalm 27:1-6
Proverbs 20:20-21

August 5

Ezra 1:1-2:70
1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5
Psalm 27:7-14
Proverbs 20:22-23

August 6

Ezra 3:1-4:23
1 Corinthians 2:6-3:4
Psalm 28:1-9
Proverbs 20:24-25

August 7

Ezra 4:24-6:22
1 Corinthians 3:5-23
Psalm 29:1-11
Proverbs 20:26-27

August 8

Ezra 7:1-8:20
1 Corinthians 4:1-21
Psalm 30:1-12
Proverbs 20:28-30

August 9

Ezra 8:21-9:15
1 Corinthians 5:1-13
Psalm 31:1-8
Proverbs 21:1-2

August 10

Ezra 10:1-44
1 Corinthians 6:1-20
Psalm 31:9-18
Proverbs 21:3

August 11

Nehemiah 1:1-3:14
1 Corinthians 7:1-24
Psalm 31:19-24
Proverbs 21:4

August 12

Nehemiah 3:15-5:13
1 Corinthians 7:25-40
Psalm 32:1-11
Proverbs 21:5-7

August 13

Nehemiah 5:14-7:73
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Psalm 33:1-11
Proverbs 21:8-10

August 14

Nehemiah 7:73-9:21
1 Corinthians 9:1-18
Psalm 33:12-22
Proverbs 21:11-12

August 15

Nehemiah 9:22-10:39
1 Corinthians 9:19-10:13
Psalm 34:1-10
Proverbs 21:13

August 16

Nehemiah 11:1-12:26
1 Corinthians 10:14-33
Psalm 34:11-22
Proverbs 21:14-16

August 17

Nehemiah 12:27-13:31
1 Corinthians 11:1-16
Psalm 35:1-16
Proverbs 21:17-18

August 18

Esther 1:1-3:15
1 Corinthians 11:17-34
Psalm 35:17-28
Proverbs 21:19-20

August 19

Esther 4:1-7:10
1 Corinthians 12:1-26
Psalm 36:1-12
Proverbs 21:21-22

August 20

Esther 8:1-10:3
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13
Psalm 37:1-11
Proverbs 21:23-24

August 21

Job 1:1-3:26
1 Corinthians 14:1-17
Psalm 37:12-29
Proverbs 21:25-26

August 22

Job 4:1-7:21
1 Corinthians 14:18-40
Psalm 37:30-40
Proverbs 21:27

August 23

Job 8:1-11:20
1 Corinthians 15:1-28
Psalm 38:1-22
Proverbs 21:28-29

August 24

Job 12:1-15:35
1 Corinthians 15:29-58
Psalm 39:1-13
Proverbs 21:30-31

August 25

Job 16:1-19:29
1 Corinthians 16:1-24
Psalm 40:1-10
Proverbs 22:1

August 26

Job 20:1-22:30
2 Corinthians 1:1-11
Psalm 40:11-17
Proverbs 22:2-4

August 27

Job 23:1-27:23
2 Corinthians 1:12-2:11
Psalm 41:1-13
Proverbs 22:5-6

August 28

Job 28:1-30:31
2 Corinthians 2:12-17
Psalm 42:1-11
Proverbs 22:7

August 29

Job 31:1-33:33
2 Corinthians 3:1-18
Psalm 43:1-5
Proverbs 22:8-9

August 30

Job 34:1-36:33
2 Corinthians 4:1-12
Psalm 44:1-8
Proverbs 22:10-12

August 31

Job 37:1-39:30
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:10
Psalm 44:9-26
Proverbs 22:13

IMPORTANT DATES!

WORSHIP SERVICES (recurring ZOOM meeting contact the Office)

SUNDAY Worship Service 10:00am

RECURRING COMMUNITY / SOCIAL GATHERINGS

...MONDAY COH To-Go Meal Distribution 4:00pm and

Beatitude Health Ministry

...TUESDAY Prayer Group 2:00pm (Zoom) - contact Pastor Diane

...WEDNESDAY 1-Year Bible Study 4:00pm (Zoom) - contact Pastor Diane

RECURRING MONTHLY COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

2nd Monday 11:00 am Finance Meeting (Zoom) - Tom Besaw/Hal Francis

2nd Tuesday 6:00 pm Council Meeting (Zoom) - Debby Hughes

3rd Tuesday 5:15 pm Worship Meeting (Zoom) - Alice Lewis

What is Freedom?...

"I think of a hero as someone who understands the degree of responsibility that comes with his freedom." - Bob Dylan

"The Divine Plan is one of freedom; bondage is not God-ordained. Freedom is the birthright of every living soul. All instinctively feel this. The Truth points to freedom under Law. Thus the inherent nature of [all] is forever seeking to express itself in terms of freedom. We shall do well to listen to this Inner Voice, for it tells us of a life wonderful in its scope, of a love beyond our fondest dreams, of a freedom the soul craves." - Ernest Holmes, *The Science of Mind*

"No one outside ourselves can rule us inwardly. When we know this, we become free."- The Buddha

"Life without liberty is like a body without spirit."- Kahlil Gibran

"Independence is a heady draft, and if you drink it in your youth, it can have the same effect on the brain as young wine does. It does not matter that its taste is not always appealing. It is addictive and with each drink you want more." - Maya Angelou

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prisons to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, to comfort all who mourn; to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called sturdy oaks of righteousness.—Isaiah 61: 1-3(NRSV)

Our Newest Ministry...



Beatitude Healthcare

No Cost Indigent Care

Beginning in May of this year, Beatitude Healthcare began offering free healthcare to the homeless and severely indigent without health insurance as a mission of the United Church of Christ in New Smyrna Beach. The services are available from 3 to 5 pm on Mondays at the Church.

We were able to capitalize on the number of people who are already coming to the church on Mondays for Colors of Hunger. Initially there was some skepticism as expected, but over the weeks, more and more people are coming to us on their own. We are also starting to see people who have heard about us from someone else and never visited the Church for any services in the past. The level of trust is growing at a rapid pace.

The initial investment by the church allowed us to supply a medical kit that contains the basics for primary and urgent care. With these tools, we are able to provide health screenings by taking blood pressure, blood sugar, and oxygen saturation along with the other normal vital signs of temperature and pulse. We can treat minor injuries and wounds with proper dressings, antibacterial ointment and if needed even sutures. Overall evaluations are similar to what you would receive for a basic physical at your primary care provider.

By partnering with Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, we are able to provide many with free medication and blood sugar monitors as well. So far, we have seen quite a few people with undiscovered diabetes and hypertension, two diseases that have severe health consequences if left untreated. In only the first eight weeks, through this ministry, I've written 35 prescriptions for free medication.

We also have designed handouts for the 4 chronic illnesses that lead to most deaths in the US: COPD, Hypertension, Diabetes and High Cholesterol. These handouts are specifically targeted at the homeless population to educate them on the diseases and what they can do to help control them within their limited means. We also designed a blood sugar log they can use to record their readings and bring back for better fine tuning of their medications. We would like to be able to offer testing for Cholesterol and Hemoglobin A1c to be able properly provide primary care. As we progress and grow, we will also look at the possibility of offering vaccines for illnesses, such as the flu and COVID, free of charge which the homeless community sorely needs. There are a variety of other opportunities for expansion of services in the future, including counseling and referral to other recourses. When we consider these along with what is already offered by the generosity of Colors of Hunger in terms of food, clothing and toiletries, this is amazing amount of work being done for the poor by our small congregation.

Although we have a good start, the amount of funds currently available is very limited and therefore we are applying for grants as well as looking for other means of stretching our dollars to provide the most care to the most people. However, testing options are much more expensive and will have to be on hold until we can receive some larger amounts of funds from grants or other sources.

Through our website at www.BeatitudeHealthcare.com we provide valuable information and a way for you to make donations. We have our own Facebook page where I will be posting updates and information about this ministry. Click this link and bookmark it so you'll have it: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069475754520>. This helps us when we are applying for grants and helping educate others on the mission. If anyone have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Lara Nance 757-774-1064 e-mail: larajnance@gmail.com

This is a very promising and much needed mission of the Church. We are truly reaching "the least of these." If you would like to donate to this ministry, you can do so electronically on our website, or write a check to the church and note "For Beatitude Healthcare" in the memo section.

Moderator Musings!

Greetings fellow members and friends of UCC-NSB! The work of the church continues through the sultry days which are a Florida Summer. Please remember to have your hurricane supplies on hand...be prepared!

Covid19 has prepared us for challenges, and we do face challenges. We have some major challenges ahead of us in addressing some termite damage both in the sanctuary roof through to Fellowship Hall...along with a critical need in addressing roofing issues which have been simmering on a back burner since 2012.

While this may have seemed daunting at one time, we who have survived a pandemic have learned that challenges can be met with grace and faith and trust that we will not only endure, but thrive when we are of like mind, together we can do what we cannot do alone.

People of God come together in joy and thanksgiving through worship, through community service through fellowship knowing that the Love of God connects us in family-hood.

We will continue to look for ways to be more inclusive in our worship so that we can all come together to praise and worship our Creator, the God of Second Chances, Love Incarnate.

Would you be willing to wear a mask in worship so that ALL can come to services on Sunday mornings? Let me know!

Our Music Ministry Survey has been conducted and the report of that survey is located on next page. Please check it out!

Karen Austin (Watson) is our new Membership Chair and **Castor Welsh** is Co-Chair of Education and a member of our A/V team. **Nora Jane Gillespie** had an item that she wanted to donate to the Thrift Store...**George Smith** picked it up and delivered it to the store...it brought in \$150.00! What do you have laying around that is collecting dust and not being used? **Lizzie Mollica** has been managing the sound booth and **Carolyn Cote** has run video for worship so that **Ronnie Sciuolo** could have some fun time away. **Lara Nance** has preached and **Vern Whittenburg** consecrated elements giving Pastor Diane time away to enjoy her son's wedding. **Cathy Mason**, **Tom Besaw** and **Hal Francis** are making sure that salaries are paid and bill obligations are met. **Gail Besaw** tends to the card ministry and the **Prayer Ministry** is seriously taking its privilege to carry your needs to God in prayer.

Please remember to bring non-perishable food items or toiletry items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels and feminine hygiene products to church on Sunday to fill up the little red wagon for **Gifts of Love!**

It takes a village, it really does!

Your sister in Christ,
Debby Hughes

Music Ministry Survey Results

By Debby Hughes

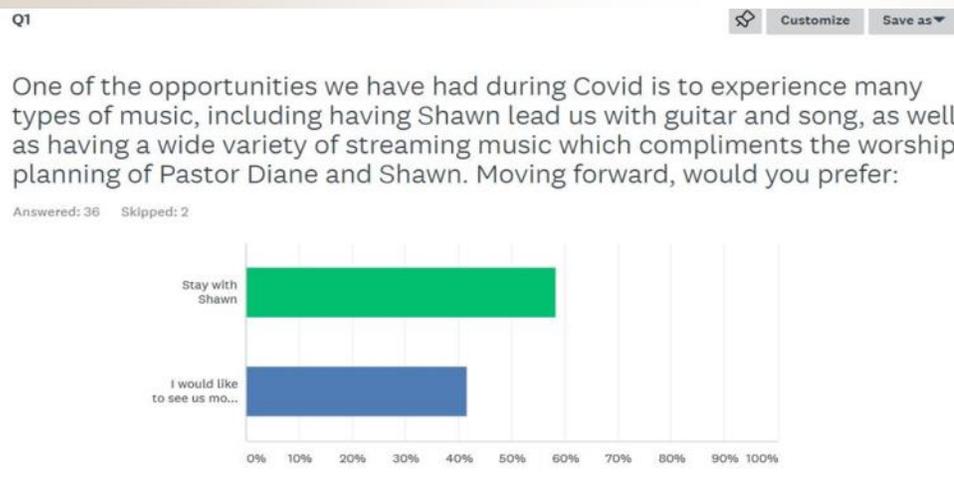
Recently we sent out a survey, via email, using the SurveyMonkey software. We received 38 responses and are happy to share the results with you here. There was a concern that the survey would be limited to 40 submittals which is a valid concern. However, this past Sunday we did announce during church services that we would be happy to provide a copy of the written questions to you if you were not able to access the on-line survey. Several people did and their inputs are included in these results. Thanks to all of you for participating.

I have found that there are challenges in obtaining information and sometimes the questions we decide to ask to more questions and some answers become fuzzier than ever! And sometimes there is just more clarity, and we know we are on a good trajectory. I need to remind myself that God will always lead if I but remember to ask God for help and allow that hand of God to lead.

Our survey gave us a sampling of where the congregation stands on several key questions. One of my key concerns was where does the congregation stand on retaining Shawn as our part time Music Director. I feel that this survey reveals there is a good deal of support for Shawn and his work with us, and that is most gratifying. For now and into the not too distant future (intentionally ambiguous), Shawn is happy to continue to support our worship experience with his musical acumen and passion for the message of Christ's overwhelming love for us.

I am including the graphics from the survey. Bear in mind when looking at these lovely colorful bars that the number of respondents is an important variable. The second question was a follow-up on to a specific answer to the first question but was answered by many who answered "yes" to Shawn, and I totally understand why they answered, and in the words of a very wise respondent, "why not have it all!"

Additionally, we've provided some comments from respondents...I love the comments, I think they are well worth reading to see where people are coming from!



"I do enjoy Sean's music especially when it is a familiar song or a song that I might sing along easily"

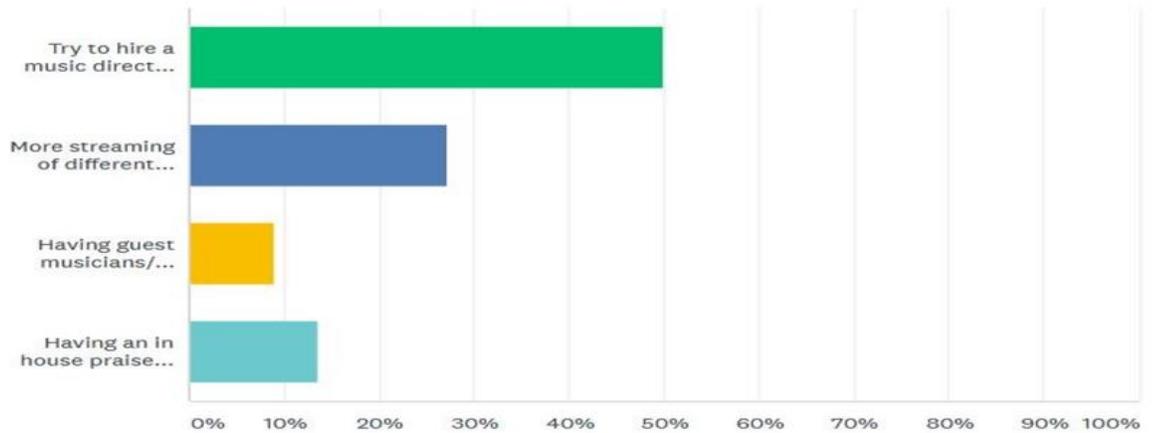
"I love music that is energetic and lifts my spirits so some of the recorded/video presentations are especially appreciated"

Q2



If you would like to move in a new direction, please choose your preferred choice from the options below.

Answered: 22 Skipped: 16

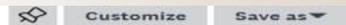


Comments:

"having guest musicians/soloists perform"

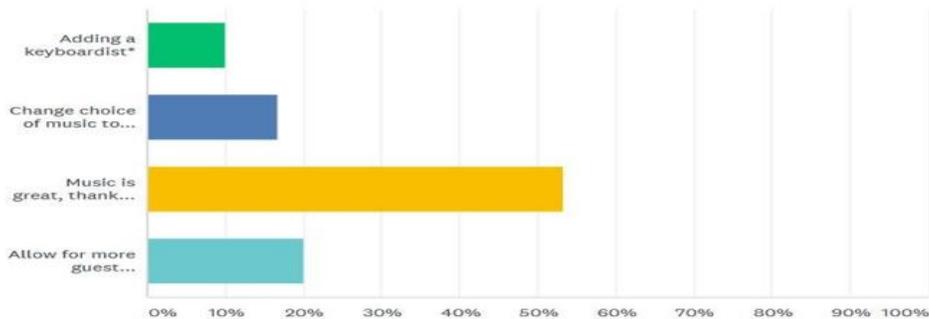
"also would like guest soloist and in-house praise band"

Q3



If you are content to stay with Shawn serving as our part time Music Director, please choose your most preferred choice from the options below.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 8



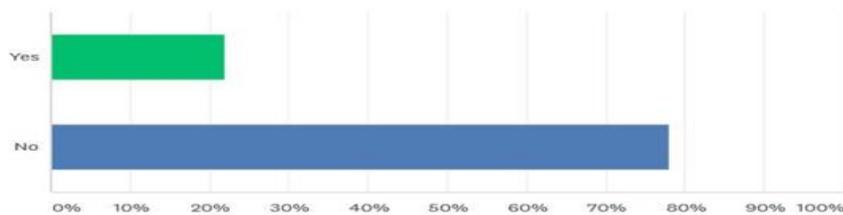
Comments:

"we love Shawn's music and talent"

"music is great, thanks Shawn"

If you are interested in finding a person with choral music skills, would you be interested in attending rehearsals and singing in the choir?

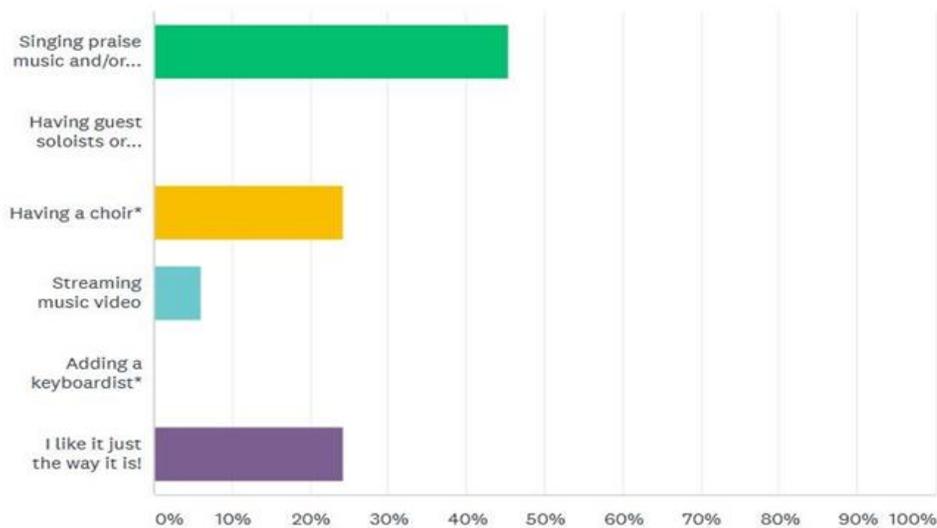
Answered: 32 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	21.88%	7
No	78.13%	25
Total Respondents: 32		

Knowing that we are a diverse congregation with many opinions on what makes a rich and meaning worship experience, please choose your most preferred choice from the options below.

Answered: 33 Skipped: 5



I have learned that there is no way that we will ever make everyone ecstatically happy with worship, where it will be that mountaintop experience Sunday after Sunday, but we all should remember that God always finds a way where there seems to be no way and through holy listening God will walk with us. Ever and all ways.

As always, please contact me if you feel you have not been heard or if you have insights which have not been shared.

THE AUTHENTIC EXPRESSION OF MY SELF

7/3/2021

The State Department announced that applicants for a U.S. passport will soon have the option to select a gender option that isn't male or female, promoting the fair treatment of LGBTQI U.S. citizens. Dana Zzyym, who advocated for the move, said "It's great news. Now we don't have to lie to get our passports. We can just be ourselves."

"The privilege of a lifetime is to become who you really are."

– Carl Jung

Affirmative prayer: Infinite Presence, at the center of my being is the pure, authentic expression of my Self. Today, I live large in Divine love, showing up as loving relationships, pure joy, and dreams fulfilled. I see a world in which all may simply be themselves. Thank you, God, forever. Amen



COUNCIL

The United Church of Christ of New Smyrna Beach, FL

Council Meeting June 7, 2021

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Debby Hughes Moderator	Diane Langworthy Pastor	Bill Peterson Vice Moderator	Ronnie Sciallo Council Secretary
Tom Besaw Finance	Alice Lewis Worship/AV	Doreen Massin Membership (Interim)	Sammie Hartwell Christian Education
Bobby Lambert (excused) Property	John Buchanan/Donnie Coleman Hospitality	Frances Baker Thrift Shop	Shawn Proctor Outreach
Lara Nance Visitor	George Smith Property		

Debby asked Pastor Diane to open the meeting with a prayer at 6:00 pm. Debby asked if anyone had any comments or changes to the May meeting minutes, having none the minutes were accepted into record.

Pastor Report: Pastor Diane mentioned that there are several members who are undergoing surgeries this week and asked that everyone please remember them in their prayers. Diane is working with the Worship committee and members of the Congregation to make the worship service in the sanctuary as safe as possible. A Simple Worship service has been added and will occur outside each Tuesday starting at 6:30 pm. This service is open to anyone who would like to attend. Diane has been working with members who have self-reported their vaccine status to determine what could be done to help them feel safe and able to attend worship services in person. Some people are not able to receive the vaccine due to underlying health conditions but have been able to attend services via Zoom. One condition that can develop over time is that some people could become so isolated that they are having a hard time coming out of the isolation. Diane asked that we all be tolerant of other people's feelings and opinions regarding the vaccine, face masks, attending service in person. It's very important to listen to others especially during situations we are currently in that have not occurred during our lifetimes. Prayer Ministry sent out 30 prayer chains in May and there were 11 cards sent out by the card ministry. Both these efforts are continuing to grow and are greatly appreciated by the recipients.

Finance Report: Tom reported that for the month of May, income exceeded expenses.

The thrift store took in \$8024. Tom and Hal will review the overall budget year to date and compare to the planned budget for 2021 and prepare a report on the overall financial health of the church. This report should be ready by late July/early August. Attendance at the weekly church services for May was approximately 60% via Zoom and 40% in person. Tom expressed interest in how we can expand participation for both the Zoom and in-person worship. There is an opportunity to do so and he asked for ideas from council. The council understands that some people will remain attending via Zoom for a variety of reasons and plan to continue Zoom services. There were no fund raising events in May but there are two pending as discussed in the Hospitality section below.

COVID discussion: The subject of how to best protect ourselves and have in person services as well as the guidelines for the customers entering the Thrift Shop was discussed in depth. Recently there has been an increase in negative actions by some of the customers visiting the Thrift Shop not wanting to adhere to the mask rule. Given the decision by the governor to eliminate the need for masks these customers have become argumentative which is upsetting to our volunteers and likely reflects the frustration that we are all feeling regarding the on-going impacts to our lives and society that we all have been dealing with for the last year and a half. Lara Nance discussed that the overall vaccination rate for the state is disappointingly low. "Herd immunity" isn't reached until around 90% of the population has been vaccinated. Frances stated that all the volunteers currently working in the Thrift Shop have been vaccinated. The "honor system" for customers to use a face mask if they have not been vaccinated can't be verified. Most stores and businesses no longer require face masks but some still do. After the extended, lively, discussion on this matter occurred a motion was made by Frances and seconded by Bill to vote on changing the face mask requirement from a mandatory one to a voluntary one. The motion was carried by a 6 to 3 vote.

Property Report: George reported there is termite damage in the sanctuary soffit outside the door exiting the north west side of the church. Massey Services was called and has treated the infestation. There are some missing soffit pieces on the soffit on the steeple that were caused by previous hurricane winds. These openings are allowing bats to enter the steeple. Repairs to both the soffit from the termite damage and replacement of the missing soffits will be performed within the next month. The estimate to perform these repairs is in the \$3000 to \$3500 range. The biggest expense will be the access equipment needed to access the steeple.

COUNCIL

Continued, Council Meeting June 7, 2021

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During the investigation into the termite damage it was discovered that the previous termite bond had expired and therefore we were not covered for the termite damage. This situation has been rectified. A new termite bond was obtained from Massey Services. First year charge for the termite bond and preventative treatments are \$1320 for the first year and \$500 per year thereafter. Once the termite and steeple damages are repaired the problem with the loose tiles/water intrusion in the narthex will be addressed. It has been determined that the problem is not ground water seeping up through the floor and is likely due to high humidity levels but that has not yet been verified. It could be from water seeping down from the open soffit areas on the steeple. This issue will be addressed after the soffit repairs are completed. Discussion with the contractor who installed the flooring in the Community Center have occurred and they are positive that they can fix the issue of the tiles popping off the floor with a very strong adhesive. George will pursue this after the soffit repairs are complete. Other maintenance items that are pending include cleaning of the gutter drains that are likely clogged with plant and tree routes. Initial estimate to clean all the gutter drains is in the \$2500 range. Problem is due to the drains being perforated and bellows construction versus solid PVC type of drains.

Hospitality Report: John is planning on two fund raising events in the near future. The first will be in either late June or early July and will be outside with up to 125 seats available. Start time is estimated to be around 6:00 pm or 6:30 pm when it should be a bit cooler than earlier in the day. Details are in development. The biggest issue with outside events is the effort to carry the food from the kitchen to the tables outside. Volunteers are needed for this event. More to follow once John has the details developed. Following this event, there will be a "Dinner Under the Oaks" sometime in August. It will be similar to the one held in the past. The council discussed restarting the coffee hour after services and decided to restart them this coming Sunday, June 13th. Coffee, water, and a hand held snack will be served in the breezeway following services. Volunteers are needed. Debby will make the announcement in church this Sunday regarding the restart of the coffee hour.

Thrift Shop: The Thrift Shop is doing well. Paper bags are also needed. Please ask for them when getting groceries. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer, contact Frances Baker, 386-871-6328.

Christian Education: Sammie reported that Castor Welsh has agreed to serve on this committee as a vice/co-chair. Welcome Castor and thank him for his support next time you see him in church!

Membership: Three people have ordered the purple tee shirts but an order of 20 is required before it can be submitted. There are still plenty of black tee shirts available in all sizes. Karen Watson Austin has graciously volunteered to assume the permanent roll of Chair for the Membership committee. Thank her for her support next time you see her in church!

Worship: Alice thanked Pastor Diane and Ron for providing Easter dinner to her and her husband as they were not able to go out during the pandemic. Alice expressed concern that in general the overall population seems to be getting angrier, being ruder, and becoming more selfish. She will be talking with a social specialist to see how we all can help calm things down when we encounter someone acting badly and immaturity. She is working with the Pastor on making it as comfortable as possible for people to return to in person services as they are able to do so. Part of this on-going effort will be to determine when it is appropriate to open the sanctuary to all who wish to attend.

Outreach: Nothing to report

Music: A discussion occurred about which direction to take the music for services in the sanctuary. A short questionnaire will be developed to survey the Congregation for their feedback on what music services they would like to see. Shawn mentioned that he is not a choir director but would continue to participate as needed once the Congregation provides feedback on the music during services. This discussion also included continuing or eliminating the choir and that will be one of the questions included in the upcoming survey.

Old Business:

Website Design: Ronnie reported after the meeting that she has seen a draft and has started to review it. She will complete the review after returning from her vacation. Progress is going well.

Update on adding a "Craft Fair" weekly event: Bill reported that on June 1st Dave met with the city permit office and presented our application for a permit to hold a weekly of event. Ronnie was unable to attend the meeting but did provide additional information to the city permit office after the meeting concluded. The committee will get back to us within 30 days with their decision. There was some discussion between Dave and the permit board that this looked like a "Flea Market" and not what we intended. Dave responded that it is exactly the same as the annual Home Show he held when he was with the Chamber of Commerce. The information provided by Ronnie to the city stated that this is a "Craft Fair" type of event.

COUNCIL

Continued, Council Meeting June 7, 2021

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New Business:

By-laws: Bill has provided a revised draft of the current By-laws to the members of the By-laws committee which consists of himself, Debby, Ronnie, and Sammie. He asked for a review and inputs after the committee members have time to review the draft revisions. Bill will set up a meeting to begin discussions of the proposed changes. The goal is to have the revised By-laws presented to the council this fall and approved by the Congregation at the next congregational meeting.

Operations Manual: Bill has started reviewing and updating the existing Operations Manual. It's extremely incomplete and will need a lot of work from most of the committees to develop. **A suggestion was made by Sammie to make this a Policies and Procedures type of manual so that things like how termite bonds are obtained and maintained can be documented and we don't get into a situation like we encountered when the termite damage was discovered.** Bill will start development of this and present a status at the next Council meeting.

Voice: The next issue of the Voice will be a combination of June and July and will be published in early July.

Pastor Diane gave a closing prayer and the meeting concluded at 7:35 pm.

Next council meeting will be at 6:00 pm on Tuesday July 13th.

Respectfully submitted: Bill Peterson

Financial Update

Provided by Hal Francis

	<u>May</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Collections and other income	29,447	126,937
Payroll and other expenses	17,313	95,214
Net Income	12,134	31,723

Fundraising none.
 Thrift Store income was \$8,024.
 Some annual/paid ahead contributions helped make
 May a good month for collections.

THANK YOU ALL
FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT
GOD BLESS US ALL !

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”

- Nelson Mandela, Long Walk to Freedom

UCC Thrift Store

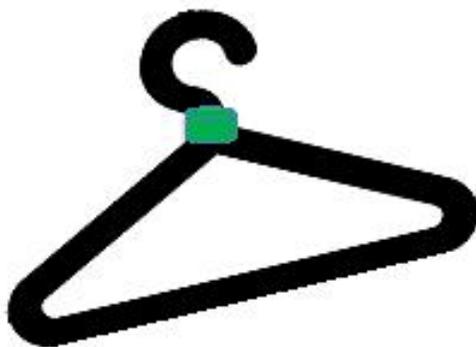
July Sales

All Artwork \$5.00 *each*

Clearance on all Children's clothes



50¢ *each*



50¢

203 Washington St, NSB

Hours Tues. – Sat 9:30am – 3:00pm

(386) 427-2115



July

<i>Phyllis Evelyn</i>	<i>July 03</i>
<i>Sandy Stasak</i>	<i>July 08</i>
<i>Ronnie Sciuлло</i>	<i>July 10</i>
<i>Elynn Clevenger</i>	<i>July 13</i>
<i>Shelby Dixon</i>	<i>July 23</i>
<i>Toni Signoretti</i>	<i>July 24</i>
<i>Maureen Muzikar</i>	<i>July 28</i>
<i>Susan Law</i>	<i>July 30</i>
<i>Beth Besaw</i>	<i>July 31</i>
<i>Tylena Williams</i>	<i>July 31</i>

August

<i>Karen Watson-Austin</i>	<i>August 01</i>
<i>Debbie Jackson</i>	<i>August 04</i>
<i>Bobby Lambert</i>	<i>August 05</i>
<i>Adam Dydak</i>	<i>August 10</i>
<i>Dustin Gothard</i>	<i>August 11</i>
<i>John Buchanan</i>	<i>August 16</i>
<i>Debbie Smith</i>	<i>August 18</i>
<i>Castor Welsh</i>	<i>August 26</i>
<i>Connie Coble</i>	<i>August 30</i>
<i>Diane Langworthy</i>	<i>August 30</i>

LITURGISTS

July 11—Ronnie Sciuлло

July 18—Gail Besaw

July 25—Sammie Hartwell

August 1—Cathy Mason

August 8—Ronnie Sciuлло

August 15—Teen

August 22—Sammie Hartwell

August 29—Debby Hughes



We Care!

Prayers for:

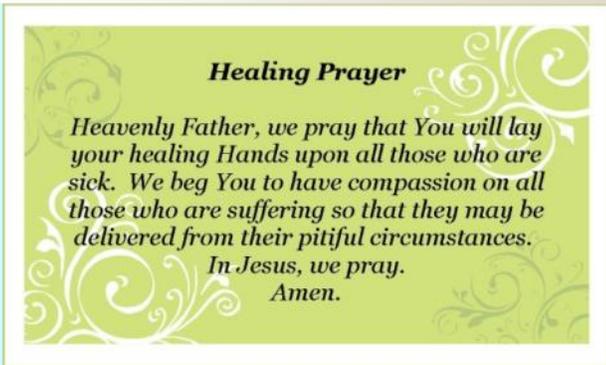
- ◆ For the well-being of our faith community
- ◆ For our church leaders, strength, courage and foresight to lead us forward
- ◆ For John and Donnie and Colors of Hunger Ministry and the volunteer foundation which allows it to thrive
- ◆ For Lara Nance and the Beatitude Health Ministry with its outreach to those in need
- ◆ For Sammie and the Gifts of Love Ministry
- ◆ For Frances and the volunteer staff which allows the Thrift Store Ministry to thrive
- ◆ Prayers of compassion and solidarity for the oppressed, the marginalized and the other
- ◆ Prayers for wisdom and strength for political leaders
- ◆ Prayers for unity amidst diversity

Prayer Requests:

Contact Pastor Diane or Debby Hughes to have your prayer added to our Prayer Group and the UCC Prayer Chain.

Send your cards of love and support to. . .

Adam Dydak	31 Sandra Circle New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Connie Cox	1203 N Atlantic Ave New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
Judy Ebert	Chateau Madeleine 205 Haroon Lane Melbourne, FL 32940
Robin Hillman	810 E 23rd Ave New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
Debbie Jackson	2100 N Peninsula #110A New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
Debbie Smith	Port Orange Rehab Center 5600 Victoria Gardens, Room 171 Port Orange, FL 32128
Walma Taylor	Country Side Lakes 941 Village Trail Port Orange, FL 32127



The United Voice is published by the United Church of Christ, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
 Pastor: Rev. Dr. Diane Langworthy
 Ministers: All members of the congregation
 Moderator: Sammie Hartwell

If your committee or group has a submission for the VOICE, please email or contact the VOICE Editor with your information.

Gifts of Love Food Bank:

Our local community foodbank continues to serve those in need in New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater and Oak Hill.

They need our help! Contact them to donate food or send contributions:
 820 W Park Avenue, Edgewater, FL 32132
 Phone: (386) 423-5257
 Open Tues and Thurs 9am–2pm



Important NSB UCC Contacts:

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