



The Lighthouse

March 2018



From the Pastor's Desk:

In the 60's Jackie DeShannon sang a song entitled "What the World Needs Now is Love Sweet Love" and in those same years, Joan Baez wrote and sang a song called "Love is Just a Four-lettered Word". In the lyrics she tries to show that although the word has only four letters and thought by some to be a simple concept; it is in reality a very complex idea.

The ancient Greeks realized that love was indeed a complicated idea. Among the gifts the Greeks gave to our society was the science of philosophy, the science of thought. The Greeks used three words to describe the nature of love. The first word was "phileo", the love between friends and family members. The second form of love is "eros", which is romantic love. This type of love is pointed inward. The third and highest form of love is "agapao", which is commonly called agape. Its not an emotional response. It is a commitment. It loves regardless. It is a choice.

Agape is the love that God has for his children, you and me. It I'm good, he won't love me more and if I'm bad, he won't love me any less. He loves me unconditionally. John Newton wrote a song that perfectly describes this love. It is "Amazing Grace". That is the message of Easter. The unmerit love of God for humanity. When we accept his grace, we in turn are called upon to offer that same grace (agape) to others. "Dear Friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God", John 4:7.

Love is when the other persons happiness is more important than your own. H. Jackson Brown Jr.



Matecumbe United Methodist Church

81831 Overseas Highway
Islamorada, Fl 33036

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 905
Islamorada, Fl 33036

Worship Service

Sunday - 11:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School

Every Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Center

Office

Phone - (305) 664-3661

E-mail - matumc@bellsouth.net

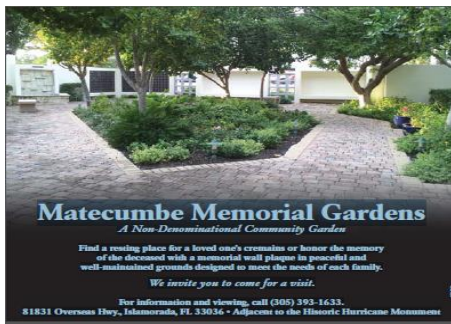
Website - matecumbeumc.org

Hours – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday &
Friday

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

MATECUMBE MEMORIAL GARDENS:

A place of remembrance for loved ones



Matecumbe Memorial Gardens is a non-denominational place of rest and remembrance for loved ones. You can choose to purchase a two person cremation niche for \$3000.00 with perpetual care or a memorial plaque for \$500.00 in remembrance of a loved one.

Since Hurricane Irma, lots of work has been done to replace or remove broken pavers & planters & trees. We want a beautiful place to remember loved ones. Also, the Garden is a beautiful place outside for prayer.

For more information and to visit the Garden, please contact Donna at 305-393-1633 or Debbie at the church office.



WORSHIP TEAM

The worship team is currently preparing music for Easter. Join us for practice Wednesdays at 7PM! Snowbirds are welcome.



Children's Home – Thank you! In 2017 we gave \$3,137.00 to help the kids. Remember to help out by placing donations in the envelopes on the fifth Sunday or by dropping coins in our collection jar.



MUSIKGARTEN: is held Mondays at 10:00AM in the Fellowship Hall and taught by Jan Grewe. MUSIKGARTEN is a musical playtime for babies through 5. The class fosters mental, social, and emotional development.

It is so exciting to see all the babies and small children walking, being carried or strolled into the Fellowship Hall on Mondays. Thanks, Jan!

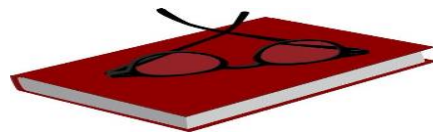


Stained Glass Update

The windows in the classrooms and office have been replaced with hurricane glass as well as the remaining sanctuary doors! This actually happened the week after Irma.

The stained glass groupies are hard at work on the 3 panel window in the Narthex by our remodeled bathrooms (last year). There are many people working on this project and others and it is so much fun to see what beautiful projects they have in line.

Donations for sponsorship of the new windows are still being accepted. Contact Judy Winstel at 305-304-4945 if you are interested.



BOOK CLUB: Our next meeting will be on April 11th, when we will review "Peace Like a River" by Leif Ender and "A Dog's Purpose" by W. Bruce Cameron. Books are available on the front pew.



Hurricane Irma Update

Since Hurricane Irma impacted our community on Sept. 10, 2017, we have been extremely busy repairing, replacing and rebuilding. The Fellowship Hall roof and overhang were repaired by the Nomads (see following photos) that came for 3 weeks in January and gave us their time and skills.

Jim Winstel battled the insurance company for months to finally get us a settlement that will actually help our church and parsonage. His full time efforts and ability to work with inspectors and adjustors, etc. was and is remarkable. Thank you, Jim.

All of those who worked on the parsonage, Rich Russell & family, Lanny & Dawn, Peter, John, Chuck, April, Ed, Jack, Phil Keck, Jesse Sanders, Jennifer Leak, Joy Griffith, Camden Pavey, Hannah McKinney, and Dan Eddy. All your hard work is so appreciated, not only by Pastor Bob & Marcia, but by the entire church.

Also, thanks to everyone who gave to the Hurricane relief fund. Since the insurance didn't meet 100% (Jim did his best) everyone stepped up. Thanks to Toni Kenworthy who secured a grant through the Community Foundation of the Florida Keys. Every penny given is greatly appreciated and will help make both the parsonage and the church both functioning and beautiful again.

Hopefully, we will not have another hurricane for a long time and won't have to rebuild, repair or replace and we can spend more time praising God and having fun and fellowship. Alma has seen her quota of hurricanes.



Thanks Nomads and Stained Glass Group for making this piece to thank them.

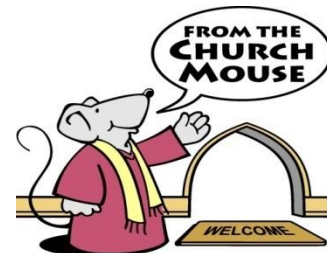


Nomads on the Roof



OFFICE REPORT: Debbie Williams

It has been almost two years since I became a part of the MUMC team and family. I am so spoiled by the members & visitors to MUMC. Office hours have been extended to Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 8am to 2pm.



If you have any church appropriate jokes, funny stories, etc., please give them to Debbie and they might make it in the bulletin from The Church Mouse.



Cruise for Pastor Bob & Marcia

In order to thank Pastor Bob & Marcia and to help them recover from all the mayhem and busyness that surrounded them since Irma, we sent them away... On a much needed spiritual Gaither Cruise.

Thanks to all who contributed for this special cause.

Happy Birthday

April, May, June, July, August & September

Birthdays:

04/03 – Donna Lindback
04/11 – Joy Russell
04/22 – Alma Dalton
04/23 – Vicki Cochrane & Toni Kenworthy
04/24 – Arlene Martin
04/27 – Claude Allen
05/04 – Carol Majors
05/24 – Debbie Williams
05/25 – Joan Byrd
06/06 – Carol Schweitzer & Victoria Kattel
06/08 – Judith Sunderland
06/11 – Borden Makepeace
06/27 – Jeanne Munro
06/28 – Paul Grewe
07/08 – RJ Lindback
07/18 – Alibeth Wilson
07/24 – Chuck Dugger
07/25 – Mary Russell
07/26 – Donna Cockerham
07/27 – Linda Quinn
08/04 – Capt. Ronald Wagner
08/15 – Makena Woollet-Stockton
08/30 – Daniel Cockerham

Anniversaries

05/01 – Linda & Larry Balog
05/25 – Cale & Margie Smith
06/09 – Annette & Robert Pali
06/14 – Jack & Jean Munro
06/16 – Bob & Linda Quinn
06/21 – April & Chuck Dugger
08/15 – Jim & Judy Winstel
09/24 – Carl & Marlene Lindback



Easter 2018

March 29 – Maunday Thursday Meal at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a sandwich plate or pot of soup to share.

March 30 – Community Good Friday Service at noon.

April 1, Easter Sunrise Service – at 7am at Cheeca & Spa.

Regular Sunday Service – 11am – bring a flower for our cross, followed by brunch in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share.



Remembrance of

Juanita Russell Knudsen & Carl Lindback

Thanks for all the donations given on their behalf. Donations from Juanita will go for our new sound system.

Carl & Juanita will be greatly missed by the Matecumbe United Methodist Church Family



Trustee's Report – Jim trying to fish a bird off the roof.

As I write this, our parsonage is just about to be occupied by its rightful occupants! They being Bob and Marcia Pavey. Much remains on the exterior though and we've ordered the high impact windows but some time remains for the completion of these items. A reason for these delays remains a shortage of both materials and specialists needed to install them. Secondly to that is the arduous permitting process which I have been trying to manage. Some good news though is that we've received more of our insurance claim payments. Therefore we do now have most of the monies necessary to complete this list of needs. Praise the Lord!

Lannie & Dawn continue to do the majority of the work as well as directing those of you who have and continue to volunteer. We're deeply appreciative of all of your efforts. There's no doubt though that there is an extensive list of specific tasks that need completing. PLEASE call Lanny if you think you can help. I'm sure that your call will be welcomed. His #is 571-214-8180.

In addition to our parsonage, we have items on our fellowship hall that need to be redone or completed. Some specific skills are needed to complete these. Please call me on these specifics. Thank you.

Jim Winstel