



The Lighthouse

Matecumbe United Methodist Church
"Bringing the Light of Jesus Christ to Our Islands"



Matecumbe United Methodist Church

81831 Overseas Highway

Islamorada, Fl 33036

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 905

Islamorada, Fl 33036

Office Phone - (305) 664-3661

E-mail - matumc@bellsouth.net

Website – matecumbeumc.org

Office hours – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday



Worship Service Sunday - 11:00 am

YouTube Services

Don't miss any of the weekly services. [Click here](#) to select the Sermon you would like to hear.

November 2021



Imagine a large ballroom filled with thousands of people from various backgrounds with various problems. Some are eating, some are drinking, some are dancing as the band plays. Some energetic while others sit in the corner brooding. But everyone is ignorant of one thing. The building is on

fire. Even now the roof is gutted and ready to cave-in.

You decide to enter the ballroom to help them one by one to escape the inferno. Everyone seems to be oblivious of the danger. The first person you see offers you a drink. He tells you about his troubled marriage and you try to advise him and encourage him but you can't neglect the more urgent matter of getting him out of the building. If you fail, all your good counsel will not help him in the grave.

One by one you move people across the floor arousing

those who will listen and escorting them toward the door. The fire is hotter than it was a few minutes earlier. But you press on. Each person you meet seizes the opportunity to tell you their problems. Their failing business, should they tell their spouse about the affair, can a person lose their salvation, where do the dinosaurs fit into the Bible view of creation?

None of this will matter the day after they die. But they want to talk about it now and while you're discussing it with them and trying to offer real solutions to the problems you must never forget that your real agenda is to get them out of danger. To be sure you want to do more than this but you must never do less.

It is Christ's passion that we care for people wherever there is a need, but as we care for one another, Christ's greater agenda is that we bring the "Good News" to a lost world.

"Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." Hebrews 6:10

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Not just a Church, It's Family

The value in having a church family is not only in receiving love from folks

who genuinely care, enduring lighter burdens, learning to be a better person, and having help to overcome troubles. The opportunity to give these same things to others brings us great joy.

Read about how **Gail Gargano** feels about the importance of our church family on the next page.

There is so much more to the Matecumbe United Methodist Church than a worship service on Sunday. With much help from Pastor Bob and Marcia, we have become a loving family. A family with members that know they can count on each other through good times and troubles.

There are lots of things to do together as a church family and opportunities to get to know some wonderful members of the church!

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Stained Glass: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Men's Breakfast – Thursday 7:30 a.m. at Lorelei.

Movie Mondays: Please join us to watch the series *The Chosen* @ 6:30 p.m. It is an amazing series about the life of Jesus. You can bring your dinner if you like. And popcorn is served.

On Tuesdays the sanctuary is open for prayer. 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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The Book Club will have its monthly meeting November 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come join the discussion of favorite books enjoyed by members of the book club. And then some of the group loves to go out for lunch together. Bring a guest!

Bible Study: Thursdays at 7 pm with Rob Kolb in Fellowship Hall. Bring your Bible.

Faith: Hebrews- October - Dec 2021

Hope: Romans - January - March 2022

Love: John - April - June 2022



We have been getting really good reports about the Bible Study time—from those who are Bible experts and those wanting to learn more.

Nursing Home Boutique:

One day shopping spree for residents

Nanette Inches has planned a shopping day for residents of the local nursing home on Plantation Key. You can help! If you have either men's or women's clothing, shoes, slippers, or blankets that you'd like to donate, bring them to Fellowship Hall. They will be taken to the nursing home so that residents can have a shopping day in mid-November. Many residents of the nursing home have so little. Being able to pick out a new outfit will mean the world to them. The clothes should be age appropriate. Does not need to be new but in good shape. What a great way to provide a smile to someone who would love the extra pants, shirt, blouse or bathrobe you haven't worn in ages. For questions call Nanette Inches at 412-310-5001 or email Nlemmon54@gmail.com.

Monthly Lunch after Church Service

It is just about time to resume those wonderful cover dish meals after church that Methodists are so famous for. Watch for announcements.

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Gail Gargano

A Special Member of the Church Family



Gail Gargano was born and raised in the Bronx in New York City, living in a tall brick structure with three apartments: one for her grandparents, one for her uncle and one where she lived with her parents and her older brother. Her parents sent Gail and her brother to a Catholic School, elementary through high school, certain the two would benefit from the discipline provided by the nuns.

Then it was on to the City University, the huge public university system of New York City. The university counts thirteen Nobel Prize winners and twenty-four MacArthur Fellows among its alumni. But here in Islamorada, the alum we love best is Gail Gargano, who graduated with a degree in math.

After graduation, Gail moved with her parents to Boca Raton in 1973. She spent two years as bookkeeper for a group of doctors, then joined an accountant and learned public accounting over the next few years.

Eventually Gail got a job as an accountant for the small city of Margate in Broward County. As Margate

grew, so did Gail's responsibilities. Before she knew it, she was the Director of Finance for the city. And that's where Gail stayed until she retired with 35 years of service with Margate.

Gail was a young retiree and having devoted so much of her life to her municipal job, she had developed few outside interests but had many plans for life after retirement. Her parents had died years before and so she had only her brother, his wife and their daughters as family.

Well not really. She had an adopted family who lived in Islamorada, as Chris Zeher and her kids and grand-kids were like family to Gail. Gail and Chris met back in 1969 at college and had remained close friends for decades.

Gail rented a home for two months in Port Antigua just to try out the Florida Keys. The house was right next door to Arlene Martin. Arlene introduced Gail to the Matecumbe Methodist stain glass group. And Gail loved the comradarie. She was hooked. Soon she bought a condo in Islamorada where she met up with a new neighbor, Barbara Haudenschild, who insisted Gail accompany her to Sunday church services.

It hadn't taken long at all for Gail's family list to grow by leaps and bounds. She now had a wonderful church family that meant the world to her.

Shortly after moving to Islamorada, Gail was diagnosed with kidney cancer. One of the most memorable events of her life was standing with church members in a circle as they prayed for Gail, giving her strength and allowing her to understand the importance of her new found family of church friends.

A church family that dearly loves Gail Gargano!

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Prayer List

Our prayer list is not just a notation of strangers with troubles. Each name on the list is someone loved deeply by someone in our church family.

For years **Borden Makepeace** stood greeting us with a smile as we entered church each Sunday. Now he is in a wheelchair. His plan to move to Tennessee to be with his son and family took a turn when his son died a few weeks ago. Our prayers are for Borden and family!



Mary Jo Parker has been scheduled for surgery this week. She and her husband, Norm, moved into a senior citizen community last year and are loving the enjoyment of making new friends. Their address is 5200 SW 25 th Blvd., apt. 4206, Gainesville, FL 32608.



Lin Balog sends her "thank you's" for our prayers as she suffered a broken shoulder, surgery, and then radiation for breast cancer. Lin reports being recovered from it all. She and husband, Larry, plan to see us in January.



If you've been a member at MUMC for a long time, you'll remember the many years that **Joan Larouche** served as church secretary and fondly kept us organized. She has various health problems at her senior citizen residence. Her address is Southern Lifestyle, 1297 US Highway 27, Lake Placid, NY, 33852.



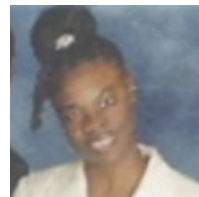
Paul Grewe almost made it to the men's prayer breakfast last week, but sadly, had a bad fall in the Lorelei parking lot, returning home with a cracked jaw, loose teeth, and a "bloody face". His wife Jan has been diligent in keeping us informed of people needing our prayers. Now it is her sweet husband!



Please keep the **Baad** family in your prayers. **Randy Baad**, a long time local attorney here, has had a difficult struggle with cancer. Our prayers are with Randy's parents, Bob and Shirley, and the entire Baad family.



Esther Dieujuste and her mother can use our prayers. Esther spends so much of her life helping others. Now it's time for us to keep Esther and her mother in our thoughts and prayers.



Jeannie Munro had a partial knee replacement recently. The surgery was successful, but she developed complications from an ongoing health issue. She is recuperating from both. She and Jack are hoping to see us in January. Their address: 4090 Arvick Rd. SE, Port Orchard, WA, 98366.



These are just a few of the special people in our church family that are struggling. Please remember them and so many others that need our help and prayers.

PRAYER LIST –Please add to your prayers: Mark Cockerham, Borden's family, Sue Gustafson, Tom Okoniewski, Mary Jo Parker, Esther's mom, Pat, Larry Rail, Eugen, Randy Baad and Family, Mary Boyce, Lin Balog, Judy Nicholson, Russ, Jim Reynolds, Dasha Dmitrievna, Emma Kuchynskaya, Slava, Larisa, Marlene & Ray Law, Joan Larouche, Craig Lindback, Carl Lindback III, Matt Hendel & Linda Whitman, Terry & Marvin Snow, Jean Kiffer, Jeanne, Art Bain, and Danny Collins.

PLEASE NOTE: Please update the names on the prayer list.

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October Has a Fifth Sunday!

Two years before the Home was founded in 1908, Florida churches were asked to take up a special offering to help fund the future Florida Methodist Orphanage. The offerings were taken up on fifth Sundays. And this vital tradition of fifth Sunday contributions to the Children's Home continues.

Since there is a fifth Sunday, October 31, our church will be taking up a special Fifth Sunday Offering for the children's home. Our contributions are extremely important. We can make a difference in the lives of these children.

[Click here](#) to watch Millie's Story, a video we watched at church Sunday about a woman who lived at the Children's Home as a child and now works there.

Congratulations Corley!



Coral Shores swimmer Corley Smith placed fifth overall in the annual Swim for Alligator Lighthouse, an 8 mile open-water challenge. Her clock time was 3 hours, 30 minutes for a second-place finish among solo females. She was just behind top female finisher Brooke Bennett, 41, of Clearwater, who finished the race in 3 hours and 19 minutes. But

consider this—Bennett is a three time Olympic Gold Medal winner! Corley is pictured above with her dad Cale Smith who was her kayak escort.

Email Addresses: Do you know someone who would like to receive emails from the church with our newsletters and with links to Pastor Bob's sermons each week. Send us their email.

October: Reasons to Celebrate



Bob and Marcia celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary October 24 while Bob was in Islamorada and Marcia was in Georgia!



In Marcia's absence, Bob sang a favorite love song to the congregation, wishing Marcia was present.



Ron and Carol Wagner celebrate their 55th anniversary together October 29 enjoying a grand weeklong trip to Jekyll Island Georgia.

Refrigerator in Fellowship Hall

Following Chuck McCarthy's recent death, his brother Dan, donated a refrigerator from Chuck's condo on Lower Matecumbe to the church. In honor of Chuck's kindness, the family wanted no payment but rather to "pay it forward" to someone who needs a helping hand! \$100 was donated to the

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Faye Harding

At a recent Sunday church service, Faye Harding inspired those in attendance by singing a song she composed. It ended up as a regular sing-along as everyone joined in. Pastor Bob was especially excited that he was mentioned by name in Faye's song.



Thank you Faye!

Our God can do anything
Our God can do anything
Our God can do anything
and yes He loves me.
He made the sun and the moon way up in the sky;
The wind and the rain and that big ole loud thunder;
So come sit in the shade of the tree He provides;
He will come alongside and call you Beloved.
Yah... call you Beloved.

Our God can do anything
Our God can do anything
Our God can do anything
and yes He loves me.
Pastor Bob and Marcia and Joy Griffin would say;
Our God can do anything and yes He loves me;
So just cast all your cares on Jesus today;
He'll call out your name and call you Beloved;
Yah... call you Beloved.

Fall Fest at the Nursing Home



Volunteers had a fabulous time with residents of the local nursing home for **Fall Fest** on Friday, October 15.

Thank you Nanette Inches for organizing the event and to all who participated. What a great day it was!

Did You Know?

When our church was built back in 1957, members "bought" the pews to help with costs. They got plaques that were placed on the pew to honor a loved one. The last pew in the very back of the church has a plaque from Joseph Pinder Jr., (Mayor Buddy Pinder's father) in memory of Ida E. Pinder, his mother, who died when he was just 18 months old.



For years now, Marlene Lindback has been sitting in that back pew nearly every Sunday, often with other Lindback family members.

Marlene claims that she is a very good Christian ... except if someone tries to take her seat in that last pew back!

October Fest Lunch

After the church service on October 10, the Fellowship committee put on quite a feast. And there were numerous requests for the recipes so some are on the last page of the newsletter. Enjoy!



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Our Photo Album



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Our Recipes

Cabbage Noodle Bake

By Sue Miller

1 medium cabbage, shredded
8 ounces noodles
½ pound bacon, well done, crumbled
1 can cream of chicken soup
½ cup butter
2 cups Swiss cheese, grated

Directions:

Boil cabbage and noodles
Combine first five ingredients
Top with Swiss cheese
Bake at 350 degrees until the cheese is melted.

Braised Red Cabbage with Bacon & Apple

By Barbara Haudenshield

1/2 red cabbage, (about 1 lb.), thinly sliced
1 tart apple, chopped,
1/2 small red onion, chopped
2 slices of smoked bacon (and maybe T. of oil if need-
ed)
3/4 t. sea salt
1/8 t. pepper
3 T. cider vinegar
1 1/2 T. brown sugar

Directions: Brown diced bacon in a 3 qt. stain-
less steel pot or enameled cast iron pot. (Others will
discolor cabbage).

Add apples and onions, then stir in cabbage.

Finally add rest of ingredients, stir, and simmer 1
hour.

Mini Apple Dumplings

By Barbara Haudenshield

4 L. Apples (Granny Smith, Gala, etc.)
2 tubes of Crescent rolls
1 1/2 cups of sugar
2 sticks of butter
1 t. vanilla
1 t. cinnamon
12 oz. of Mountain Dew

Directions: Make a syrup of sugar, butter, vanilla, and
cinnamon by melting in a pan on stove.

Peel, core, and quarter each apple.

Spread out rolls, then wrap each apple in one roll.

Place in a 9x13 baking dish., with fat side of apple, up.

Spread syrup over the apples. (can be refrigerated
and finished the next day.)

Just before baking, pour the Mountain Dew over the
apples.

Bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes, or till nicely
browned.

Serve with vanilla ice cream, whipped topping, or
milk.

German Potato Salad

By Betty Pfeifer

Click for this fabulous recipe!

[THE BEST Warm German Potato Salad {with Bacon} • FIVEheartHOME](#)