

First United Church of Christ, Orlando

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*January 20, 2020*



Good Monday Morning Everyone,

I hope this week brings you joy, peace, and abundant grace!!! How's that for an opening blessing 😊? Seriously, I do pray that each of you experience a glorious week and find contentment in knowing that you are a beloved child of God.

Yesterday, we convened our 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Congregational Meeting. Oh my! 60 years of doing God's work in this community. We have offered a compassionate presence to so many over the years. I have heard some of the stories and the wonderful times that this Congregation has experienced together, and my prayer is that this Church will continue and grow and prosper over the coming years. The better we get within and toward each other, the better we'll be able to serve and offer more to those who need us - spiritually, emotionally, and of course physically/financially through our myriad of outreach - Rebecca's Pantry, Thrift Shop, the Mary Marthas, offering the homeless mail service and much more.

Today, our Country celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. A day to remember one of the many persons that has made a difference in our world. He stood for what he believed in and he called for unity. Sound familiar? Let me remind you of a verse we hold dear in the United Church of Christ, the words of Jesus, "Father, may they all be one as You are in Me and I am in You; may they be in Us, for by this unity the world will believe that You sent Me. (John 17:21 The Voice Translation)."

This is something to ponder as we step firmly into our 61<sup>st</sup> year as Christ's Church and into the new decade. May 2020 be a year of clarity for each of us, in our lives and in our Church.

God bless,

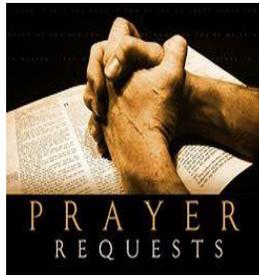
Pastor Terry

And a little something for more inspiration...

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”  
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



1/19 Jose Quintana  
1/23 Helen Yarborough  
1/25 Don Crismon



Joe, Corinne, Allen, Terry, Judy, Karen, Joni & Bonnie, Sara, Christina, Palingo Family, Joey, Dawn, Amanda, Rico, Barbara



1/22 Don & Dorothy Crismon  
1/23 Dave & Cheryl Samarjia

**Attendance 1/19/20: 50**



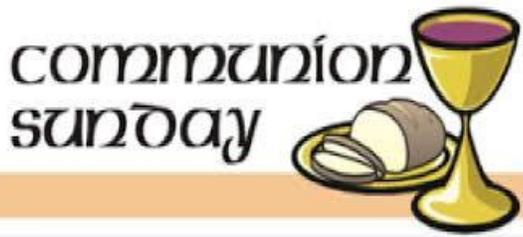
Please join us Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> for Bible Study at 5:45pm in the Pastor's Office.

Study <sup>the</sup> Bible with us

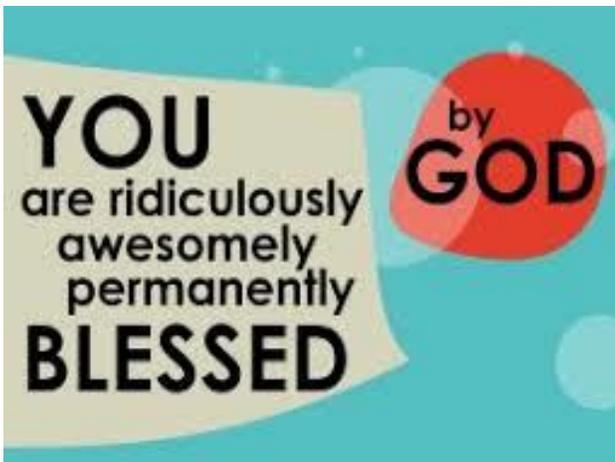
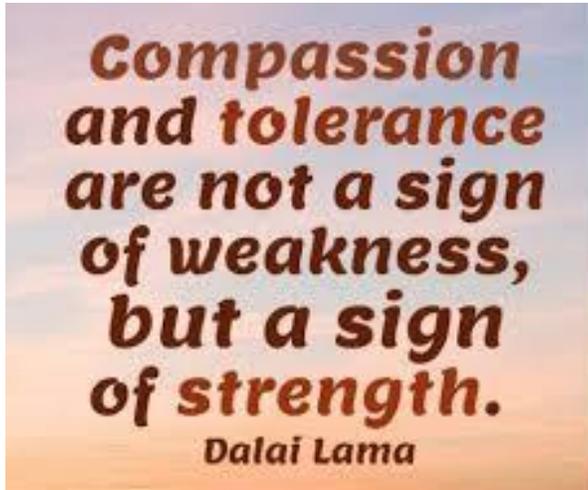


**COUNCIL MEETING**

This coming Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 6pm



Sunday, February 2, 2020



Communion Offering will go to the Russell Home for Atypical Children.

The **Russell Home for Atypical Children** in Orlando has been in continuous operation for over 60 years without any government support. The **Home** is the only private, non-profit facility of its kind for severely disabled children in Central Florida. It was the first non-profit institution in the country for brain-damaged children. Today you would find quietly hanging in the home a dusty occupational license dated Nov. 13, 1951, when Mrs. Russell opened her home to the first child to "see if it would work out." Since then, the home has opened its doors to hundreds of youngsters, sometimes after hearing pleas from desperate parents, and in more than one instance, finding them just left on the doorstep. The physical home consists of a nursery, dormitory wing, playrooms, living room areas, kitchen and large laundry room. The nursery, done up in bright colors with many posters and stuffed animals, is cheerful for the children. However, if you are ever fortunate enough to visit, bring plenty of tissue as you will find before the end of your visit you will not have a dry eye. The love that is in this home, expressed through the eyes, sounds, and smiles from the children will make you count your blessings for the simple things in life.

Thank you for your donations!!



**OPT OUT:** If you wish to no longer receive Monday Musings, please email the church at [firstuccorlando@gmail.com](mailto:firstuccorlando@gmail.com). Thank you .