

LIVING LOVE
Spread School Cheer

BIBLE STUDIES
Opportunities to Grow

WORSHIP ARTS
Creativity for Christ

GOSPEL

Gazette

AUG 2021



A Season of Learning

Opportunities ahead to listen,
grow, and discover.



Mount Dora

First United Methodist Church

GOSPEL GAZETTE CONTRIBUTORS

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SERVICE TIMES

Early Traditional 8:00am
Contemporary 9:30am
Late Traditional 11:00am

OFFICE HOURS

Mon–Thu 8:00am–4:30pm
Fri 8:00am–12:00pm
Sat–Sun Closed

CONTACT

352-383-2005
URGENT AFTER-HOURS: DIAL 2
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Mount Dora, FL 32757

STAY IN TOUCH!

If you have new contact information, if you have become hospitalized or ill, if there is something you need prayer for, or if you have any questions, please contact us at any time by phone or email.

SOCIAL MEDIA

 @FirstUMCMountDora
 @FirstUMCMtDora
 @FirstUMCMtDora
 FUMC MtDora

August is a time of growth and learning.

On August 10, students return to school. We pray for their safety in the upcoming school year. Though we hoped the pandemic would be behind us by now, it still lingers to a certain extent. We will closely monitor CDC guidance to ensure your health and safety. As a reminder, our online campus remains a viable option if you do not feel comfortable worshipping in person. Our online presence on YouTube and Facebook will be an ongoing part of our ministries into the foreseeable future.

Our Barefoot (youth) and Footprints (children) ministries begin again on August 18. We will support our students and provide them with a safe, nurturing environment to encounter Christ. I believe it's important to keep these programs going as long as possible. Our children thrive in their faith when they have fellowship in the name of Jesus.

As we grow and learn together, I am looking forward to exploring *The Chosen* television series in the next couple of months. *The Chosen* is the first-ever multi-season show about the life of Jesus and allows viewers to see Jesus through the eyes of those who knew him.

Beginning August 11, I will lead a new Bible study based on the series (see page 6). The whole congregation will get to follow along as well during the sermon series which will begin August 15.

I encourage you to pray about inviting people who do not yet know Christ to watch *The Chosen* with you, and even to host "watch parties" through the App. They will encounter Jesus in a very meaningful way through this television series.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor David Averill



We will support our students and provide them with a safe, nurturing environment to encounter Christ. Our children thrive in their faith when they have fellowship in the name of Jesus.



THANK YOU



for another great year of VBS!

God's Wonder Lab brought the story of Jesus to children throughout the community! Thank you to all our members who volunteered, donated, chaperoned, made music, and prayed for our students. Together, we have made an incredible difference!



Living Love Opportunities

Students, teachers, and parents are preparing for another year of learning. Our church is a part of several back-to-school activities in the community, and we need your help to spread the love of Jesus as far as we can. Here are two ways to be Living Love:

Back-to-School Carnival Games

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7 / 3-7PM / MOUNT DORA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mount Dora Middle will be hosting a back-to-school event the weekend before the school year. We will be running some of the carnival games. Contact Janet if you'd like to help or donate candy or school supplies.

Pray at Mount Dora High School

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8 / 7PM

Churches throughout the county have committed to praying for every school at the same time. Meet us by the MDHS sign to join.

*“Children are the hands
by which we take hold
of heaven.”*

—Henry Ward Beecher



BAREFOOT STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATES

We're Back on Wednesdays!

August 18th is the start of our Hangout program, as well as our first Wonderful Wednesday of the school year. We hope to see you there!

Something New for Parents

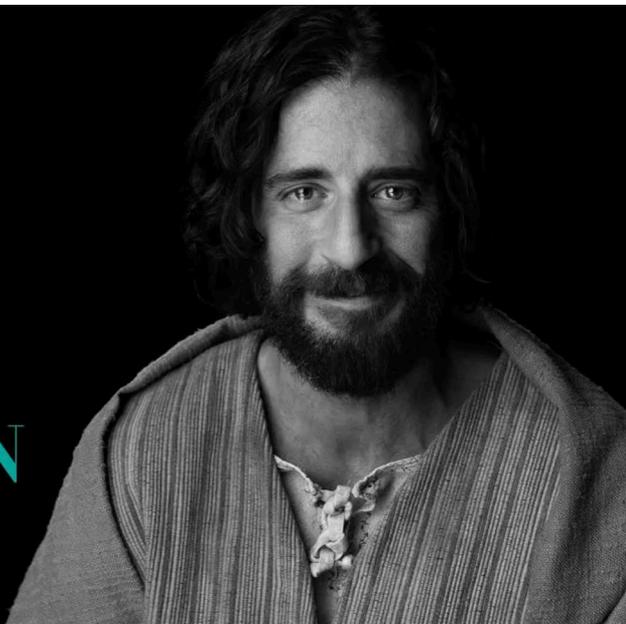
This fall, we will be unveiling our "Barefoot Preview" night, which is designed especially for parents of our Barefoot students. More information will be available soon.

Student Leadership

If anyone is interested in serving as a small group leader this school year please let Dylan or Linda know! We have openings for multiple male and female leader spots.

For the latest information, signups and more, be sure to check barefootstudents.churchcenter.com

The CHOSEN



Study Hall

A look at the month's upcoming Bible studies

The Chosen: *Study and Sermon Series*

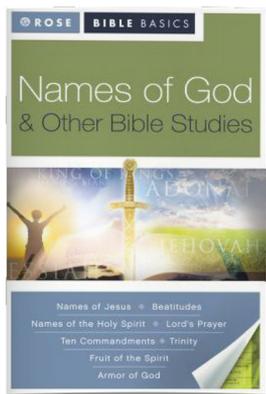
WEDNESDAYS

VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM & FACEBOOK / 3:30PM

IN-PERSON IN THE CHAPEL / 6:30PM

The Chosen is the first-ever multi-season show about the life of Jesus and allows viewers to see Jesus through the eyes of those who knew him. This 8-week study starts August 11 and will be offered on Zoom and Facebook Live as well as in-person. The study pairs with a sermon series beginning August 15.

Download *The Chosen App* (iOS or Android) for free to watch the series on your own time. Visit www.thechosen.tv for more info.



Names of God and Other Bible Studies

WEDNESDAYS FROM AUGUST 18

9:30–11:30AM / CHAPEL

Janet Westlake will lead a weekly Bible study beginning August 18 following the studies in the book *Names of God and Other Bible Studies*. Participants can pick up the book in the church office for \$10. Daily homework is expected.

Worship MINISTRY MEETS



Are you feeling called to use your creativity to glorify God? Autumn brings new opportunities to serve our Lord through music and other arts. Consider joining any of these worship groups:

Celebration Choir

WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM / SANCTUARY / **STARTING AUGUST 18**

Perform hymns and other beautiful arrangements at the Late Traditional service.

Handbell Choir

SUNDAYS AT 5PM / SANCTUARY / **STARTING SEPTEMBER 8**

Learn handbell arrangements to perform during Sunday worship and special programs.

Praise Team

THURSDAYS AT 7PM / SANCTUARY

Perform contemporary Christian songs with a live band during the Contemporary service.

Children's Worship Arts

WEDNESDAYS 6:15-7PM / PREK-GRADE 5 / **STARTING AUGUST 18**

Children will learn songs and dances to perform monthly on Sunday mornings and during our Christmas and Spring programs.

Upcoming Programs

Drama / Come be a part of this exciting new worship venue used to enhance our services periodically throughout the year.

Visual Arts / This is a great opportunity to create backdrops, banners, and other visuals to enhance worship.

Audio/Video / Assist in worship services by running the computer media used to run, broadcast, and enhance our services. Training provided.

Youth Music & Drama
Contact Scott for more info on how middle and high school students can get involved.

To learn more about worship opportunities, contact Scott Spradlin.



MAKING A COMEBACK

School isn't the only thing that's back in session this month.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS: BACK AUGUST 18

The best night of the week for children ages PreK–Fifth Grade. Worship Arts* is from 6:15–7pm, followed by Footprints Fun-omenon from 7–8pm. Get ready for crafts, games, and fun Bible study!

*See page 7 for more information.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: BACK NOW!

Join us at 9am for coffee fellowship in the Conference Room behind the sanctuary.

2021 Charge Conference

Our district's annual charge conference will be October 10, 4pm at First UMC of Deland.

Thrift Shoppe

We will soon be accepting donations again—especially for furniture. Look for our next announcement!

2022 Offering Envelopes

If you would like offering envelopes made for next year, please email the office.

Exercise Classes MON, WED, FRI / 8AM

Our free exercise class has been moved to Friendship Hall. See you there!



VOLUNTEER WITH US

To learn more about these and other volunteer opportunities, contact Janet Westlake.

LOVE TO COOK?

Consider cooking and serving dinners during Wonderful Wednesdays this fall.

LOVE CHILDREN?

Our nursery needs volunteers to play with preschool children on Sunday mornings.

LOVE SERVING OTHERS?

Consider helping us deliver communion to our homebound members.

LOVE MEETING PEOPLE?

Our Welcome Center is in need of volunteers on Sunday mornings.



4 *Simple Ways to Give*

1 Online

Visit mtdorafumc.org/donate to access our quick and easy-to-use giving portal

2 In Person

Drop your envelope in our offering box at the front of the sanctuary on Sunday morning or mail/deliver your offering to the church office.

3 GivePlus App

Download the GivePlus app on the App Store or Google Play

4 Giving Your Time

We value volunteers in our community, those who use their gifts and resources toward the glory of God. Contact Janet Westlake to learn how to volunteer with us.