

# Beacon

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### Special points of interest in May

- First Friday Fish Fry May 4
- Youth Group Sundays 3 pm SGR
- Potluck May 16, 6 pm

### Message from Bill Messersmith

I am the Atlantic Central District Lay Leader and I am inviting all laity in this area to a Share Group meeting.

- Have you organized or participated in serving your congregation and your community?
- Are you looking for ways to make a difference?

Join us as we meet to celebrate the successes, analyze the failures, and network with other laity who have done both.

This is an opportunity for (and by) all laity to discover new and better ways to “Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!”

You don’t need to be a committee member or hold any position in your congregation, just need to be interested in serving God.

- When: Saturday, May 5, 2018. 10:00AM – 2:00 PM
- Where: FUMC Port St. Lucie (260 SW Prima Vista Blvd I-95 exit 121, go east 4 miles)
- Who: ALL interested and committed laity
- What: A meeting by and for laity

Please let me know if you have any questions. Bill Messersmith 772-538-2712

Lunch will be provided (pizza, drinks, and snacks)

Sponsored/hosted by: Bill Messersmith, Atlantic Central District Lay Leader and FUMC Port St. Lucie

RSVP: billmess@att.net or 772-538-2712

Note: if this meeting is too far away, I am hoping to schedule additional meetings closer to you soon.



Dear Ones in Christ Jesus,

Connie and I are delighted and privileged to be reappointed by Bishop Carter to serve Sebastian through our church for the new Conference Year beginning July 1, 2018. Notably for me, during this next conference year, I will mark the 50th year of my ordination as a United Methodist minister! That anniversary is hard for me to believe!

As we look toward the “new year,” here are some of the areas where I consider our church’s forward movement continuing to grow.

1. **Worship and prayer** will continue to be the bedrock foundations of all of our efforts to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and world. Here at Sebastian UMC music is the hub that provides a sure center for both elements of congregational life. Cultivating and nurturing active prayer-lives both within and beyond our Ministry Teams, in our sanctuary, in small groups, and in our homes positively impacts the quality, character, and “reach” of our Church as we move forward.
2. **Encouraging lives of stewardship** will always be a close-to-top priority. As a congregation we are discovering the multiple dimensions of stewardship (time, talents, energies, commitment, engagement, finances) that can, with God’s grace, become lifestyles for each of us. We know that stewardship is a spiritual as well as theological component of our life together as Christians. It’s not limited to “percentages!”
3. **Growing leaders** will be an increasingly important responsibility for folks in each Ministry Team. Training-up folks to guide our ministry teams and incorporating new members can be an exciting goal within each team because Sebastian is a multi-talented congregation year-round. Pray that someone in our midst will step forward and register willingness to guide our Congregational Nurture and Care Team! The Leadership and Nominations Team will be an important partner in this challenge in each area of our congregational life.
4. **Together we must, with prayerful “dreaming,” cast a vision for future ministry** – even just a five year horizon of future. We’re in the earliest stages of vision-casting which must become a priority in the year ahead. Our Administrative Council is the appropriate setting in which to cultivate and broaden this process to include reflections and dreams of members across our congregation.
5. **Growing our congregation**” spiritually and numerically is directly linked to our vision of who God is calling us to become. Our Administrative Council has clearly affirmed this challenge as volunteer-led. To this end we seek a person experienced in community cultivation and willing to lead other volunteers in goal-setting, communication materials development, “cold-call visiting” and implementing simple strategies that take news of Sebastian UMC and words of welcome to new residents and unchurched families of our community.
6. **Our new Youth Ministry efforts are filled with potential!** No doubt you have witnessed new energy at Sebastian UMC as planning by our youth ministry leaders, our young people, and their families “take root” and grow in visibility. Positive experiences with young people become magnets for shaping young faith. As we’re already discovering, Summer Camp opportunities provide a broad range of imagination that translates into support for growing young disciples.
7. **Incorporating new members** into the life of the church beyond worship on Sundays. Small groups are the keys to this goal. Clearly, we need more leaders for Small Groups! Typically small-group leaders emerge from participants in existing groups. As such “spin-offs” emerge, new groups grow, mature and replicate themselves with new participants
8. We are already finding creative ways **“telling our stories,”** stories of faith emerging from relationships our current “beyond and within the walls” ministries have made possible. You know the settings! Welcome Table, Small Groups, Coffee Hour, our Thrift Shop, our multiple music ensembles and programs, Music Camps, UMW, UMM, Tuesday Men’s Out to Lunch Bunch, Youth Ministry, our 12-Step Programs. Each potentially generates life-changing impacts and inspiring personal stories. Through them we touch the lives of hundreds of folks with God’s Good News each month.

9. The new year presents new opportunities to join in ministry with our sister UM congregations in Roseland and Wabasso. I hope other groups at Sebastian will follow the lead of our UMW in this area.

Notably we will soon celebrate having nine or more of our members attend the 2018 Florida UM Annual Conference in Lakeland, June 6-9! This awesome but thoroughly reflective of the depth of leadership and commitment resident in our congregation!.

I hope each of you will “catch the excitement” of Christian service that marks the life of our congregation as we end the 2017-18 Conference Year and begin the new! Blessings and peace in Christ Jesus.  
See you in worship on Sunday!

## Will

### Happy Anniversary

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Jan & Edward Ertel       | May 2  |
| Janice & Brad Marx       | May 2  |
| Yvonne & Ed Oleksy       | May 2  |
| Pat & Harold Banta       | May 7  |
| Marlene & Lee Kalsch     | May 9  |
| Barbara & Ron Farrington | May 30 |

### Happy Birthday

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Muriel Douglas | May 4  |
| Churk Benjamin | May 5  |
| Sherry Hunter  | May 11 |
| Alan Hulse     | May 12 |
| Harold Banta   | May 28 |
| Carol Pheneger | May 28 |

### United Methodist Men First Friday Fish Fry

May 4, 2018  
SUMC Fellowship Hall



Fish & chips Dinner, includes coleslaw, beans  
\$7

and for a \$1 more ADD HUSH PUPPIES!

Serving starts at 5 pm

Last dinner out at 6:45 pm

**LAST DINNER BEFORE SUMMER BREAK**

### Sunday May 6

#### Grace in Action (Discretionary Fund)

We traditionally take a special collection for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund on the first Sunday of the month. We are trying to help as many individuals as possible, so if you are able to make a do-nation in addition to your regular gift, please mark your envelope, use a pew envelope and mark Discretionary Fund or give online

[www.sebastianumc.com](http://www.sebastianumc.com)



*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.*

“Sometimes hymns and songs with few, simple lyrics can a greater impact on our ability to worship than hymns with several stanzas that express deep theological truths. The brevity of these songs allow us to become fully immersed in the one idea they express. “Spirit of the Living God” is one of those hymns for me. When one sings the text the ideas are very straight forward. The author is asking the Spirit of God to come new into his/her life. The new experience of the Spirit is one that allows the singer to be molded and used in a new way. It allows the singer to shed all of the things that have built up that inhibit or distract from a relationship with God. I can imagine that some of the persons present when the Holy Spirit was sent down experienced some of these feelings. Jesus has been with the disciples after the resurrection. He tells them not to leave Jerusalem until God gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus then ascends into heaven. Acts does not tell us how long they waited for the day of Pentecost but I can image they were anxiously waiting. Finally the day comes and there is a great wind and tongues of fire. Truly a moment that formed all those present.

Some of the moments that change our lives are great and grand like the day of Pentecost. Some of the moments that change our lives are small and ordinary. Someone taking the time to ask how we are doing. Someone doing something small to show

their love for us. As we approach the celebration of Pentecost, look for those small things you can do each day to help transform the life of those you encounter.

Also remember to wear **RED** on May 20 as we celebrate Pentecost together!



*Wear Red for  
Pentecost*

**Fellowship Potluck**  
**Wednesday, May 16, 6PM**

Hosts: Bill & Kathy Messersmith

Hosts provide dessert and beverages



**Basic and Advanced Classes**

- Cost: \$25 per course,
- Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided
- Scholarships are available
- 

**Mary Lou Rothfuss, Atlantic Central District Director of Lay Servant Ministries**

For further information see Mary Lou Rothfuss or call her at 321-3397.

*Sign Up*  
**Popular Class**

*For Sebastian UMC Class in June*

Call Mary Lou

772-321-3397

**June 29th & 30th**

Sebastian UMC will host the June training

Basic Lay Servant—Sharon Johnson

Advance Class—Social Principals of United Methodist Church—Bill Messersmith

**Books available [Cokebury.com](http://Cokebury.com)**

**Next training October 5th & 6th**

First UMC, Port St. Lucie.

Classes led by: Kathy Mergele, First UMC and the second to be announced.

**Mark Your Calendar**

The 26th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is on Saturday, **May 12 2018**. It is held at the Sebastian Post Office on Main St.

This food drive is the largest one-day food drive in the United States. Just place a bag (or bags) of non-perishable food items by your mailbox before your regular mail pickup--your mail carrier will pick up. You can also deliver to the post office.



**Celebrate National Nurses Week**

MAY 6-12, 2018

Remember to thank a Nurse!

Irene Strever Inez Fielding Sue Shepper Melissa Rothfuss



## 'The Tree of Life

'Our Tree is located in the Fellowship Hall and leaves can be purchased in honor of someone, to celebrate a special person or event, as a tribute, a memorial or any way you care to give. All of the proceeds from the sale of the leaves will go into the church's future ministries fund as "Tree of Life" The leaves can be purchased at anytime, forms & envelopes are in the church office, Narthex or Fellowship Hall'



### Tree of Life Donation form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Inscription for leaf up to three lines 14, 21, 14 characters maximum

\_\_\_\_\_ 14

\_\_\_\_\_ 21

\_\_\_\_\_ 14

**Donation Ranges and colors of leaves:** (circle your choice) Each leaf is a one time donation

Shades of Green Up to \$100 donation

Yellow \$101 to \$150 donation

Red/Orange \$151 to \$250 donation

Silver \$250 to \$500 donation

Gold \$501 and up

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please place this form in the envelope marked**



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

**Last United Methodist Women's meeting before summer break**  
**Annual spring luncheon, May 18, 2018, 11 am at Captain Butcher's,**  
1730 Indian River Dr, Sebastian, FL 32958. If you did not sign up at the meeting, please contact Mary Schultz. All women invited but sign-up needed for reservations.

Mary and I continue to attend UMW meetings at Christ by the Sea and Roseland.

We have 2 new projects: **Collecting Stamps** -we invited all the congregation to share in this project, bring cancelled or new stamps to the church office (old one's are the best stamps)

**Crocheting Sleeping Mats for the homeless**--we ask congregations for plastic grocery sack for making the mats. Drop off in the office.

At the April 20th UMW meeting -We honored Sally Lambert with flowers for all her years of volunteering at Sunrise Elementary --she was Senior Volunteer of Year at Sunrise Elementary School.

There is a trip to the Florida Methodist Children's Home in the works for this summer.

We have a mission study at St. Paul's UMC in Melbourne, FL. on Saturday May 5th 2018. A group from Sebastian and Roseland will be going.

Ann and Mary.

# May 2018

## Weekly Room Use Groups

Alanon meets Tue & Thurs 7:30 pm LCR

AA Closed Session Tue 6:30 FH

AA Step Group Wed 6 pm LCR Closed Session

ACA Step Group Wed 6:30 pm SGR Closed Session

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue   | Wed   | Thu  | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|
|   |  | <b>1</b><br>Aphasia 10 am FH<br>Out to Lunch<br>Bunch 12 pm<br>Child Choir 4:30<br>Flute 7 pm             | <b>2</b><br>Bible Study<br>10 am FH<br>Beginner<br>Handbells 3 pm<br>Girl Scouts 6:30 CCR<br>Handbells 7 pm                           | <b>3</b><br>Sm Group 10 am<br>LCR<br>Exercise 1:30 FH<br>Choir 7 pm                              | <b>4</b><br>First Friday fish<br>Fry<br>5-7 pm FH         | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b><br>Worship 10 am<br>After Worship<br>Fellowship 11 am<br>Youth Group 3 pm  | <b>7</b><br>Ecumenical Cnc<br>4 pm LCR<br><br>Child Chime<br>5 pm<br>SPR 7 pm CO | <b>8</b><br>Stroke of Hope<br>9:30 am FH<br>Out to Lunch<br>Bunch 12 pm<br>Child Choir 4:30<br>Flute 7 pm | <b>9</b><br>Bible Study 10 am<br>FH<br>Beginner Handbells<br>3 pm<br>Sm Group 6 pm CO<br>Handbells 7 pm                               | <b>10S</b><br>Sm Group 9:30 am<br>SGR<br>Sm Group 10 am<br>LCR<br>Exercise 1:30 FH<br>Choir 7 pm | <b>11</b>   | <b>12</b><br>UMM 8 am meet<br>at church   |
| <b>13</b><br>Worship 10 am<br>After Worship<br>Fellowship 11 am<br>Youth Group 3 pm | <b>14</b><br>Child Chime 5 pm<br>Trustee 7 pm CO                                 | <b>15</b><br>Aphasia 10 am FH<br>Out to Lunch<br>Bunch 12 pm<br>Child Choir 4:30<br>Flute 7 pm            | <b>16</b><br>Bible Study<br>10 am FH<br>Beginner Handbells<br>3 pm<br><b>Potluck FH 6pm</b><br>Girl Scouts 6:30 CCR<br>Handbells 7 pm | <b>17</b><br>Sm Group 10 am<br>LCR<br>Exercise 1:30 FH<br>Choir 7 pm                             | <b>18</b><br>United Methodist<br>Women<br>Annual Luncheon | <b>19</b>   |
| <b>20</b><br>Worship 10 am<br>After Worship<br>Fellowship 11 am<br>Youth Group 3 pm | <b>21</b><br>Child Chime 5 pm<br><br>Finance Meeting<br>7 pm FH                  | <b>22</b><br>Out to Lunch<br>Bunch 12 pm<br>Child Choir 4:30<br>Admin Cnc 6 pm<br>CO<br>Flute 7 pm        | <b>23</b><br>Bible Study 10 am<br>FH<br>Beginner Handbell<br>3 pm<br>Sm Group 6 pm CO<br>Handbells 7 pm                               | <b>24</b><br>Sm Group 9:30 am<br>SGR<br>Sm Group 10 am<br>LCR<br>Exercise 1:30 FH<br>Choir 7 pm  | <b>25</b><br>Welcome Table<br>FH All Day                  | <b>26</b><br>Youth Group<br>clean-up park &<br>Kayak trip<br>8 am Riverview<br>Park |
| <b>27</b><br>Worship 10 am<br>After Worship<br>Fellowship 11 am<br>Youth Group 3 pm | <b>28</b><br>Office Closed<br>Happy Memorial<br>Day                              | <b>29</b><br>Out to Lunch<br>Bunch 12 pm<br>Child Choir 4:30<br>Flute 7 pm                                | <b>30</b><br>Bible Study 10 am<br>FH<br>Beginner Handbells<br>3 pm<br>Handbells 7 pm  | <b>31</b><br>Sm Group 10 am<br>LCR<br>Exercise 1:30 FH<br>Choir 7 pm                             |   |   |

## Sebastian United Methodist Church Memberships

**Profession of Faith** - If you presently have no church home, we would be happy to baptize you, if you have not already been baptized, and receive you into our congregation. We believe age is not a factor concerning the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. No one is too young or too old to receive God's grace.

**Transfer of letter from another United Methodist Church** - If you are presently a member of another United Methodist Church, you may transfer your membership to Sebastian United Methodist Church.

**Transfer of membership from another Christian church or denomination** - We welcome you and accept your baptism as valid.

**Affiliate Membership** - If you are presently a member of another United Methodist Church and desire to retain membership in that congregation, we invite you to become an affiliate member of our congregation.

**Associate Membership** - If you are presently a member of another Christian church or denomination and desire to retain that membership, we invite you to become an associate member of our congregation.



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