



# Beacon

## ... guiding our walk

May 2022



***And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. - Hebrews 10:24-25***

Greetings Sebastian Church Family and Friends,  
*Pray like it depends on God, work like it depends on you...*

Boy o' boy am I excited about what God is doing at Sebastian Church. I am, even more, excited thinking about what God will be doing next here because of the work of this congregation! Is it time to dream bigger, love deeper and serve even more unconditionally? God's plan for us is perfect. God has given us a Mission: To commit to living out the Truth of the Gospel through Spirit-filled worship and study, faithful fellowship and loving service, and to impact our world as followers of Christ sharing the Gospel. Moving forward, how should we commit to that mission and impact others? What if we start by looking at each area of our Mission? *Worship. Study. Fellowship. Service.* As a congregation, we excel, especially, in each of these areas. Still, there are those of you who have not, yet, said, "Yes!"

As we enter the summer months, if you sense you want to be more involved in ministry, would you consider committing to at least one other area of our Church Mission (I assume that you are involved in one already)? This edition of the Beacon is jammed full of Opportunities for Ministry: *Music Camp; Chum Buckets; Small Group and Bible Study; Fellowship Café, a new worship series, the Thrift shop and more and more!* Read it cover to cover!

I'd love for us to work together in being on the "post-pandemic cutting edge" of ministry at Sebastian Church - to hear from each other and collaborate on future ministries. Mark your calendar for the May 7<sup>th</sup> Planning Event, 9:00 – Noon (light breakfast 8:30). Let's make plans for the Fall – January and dream and pray for the months and years to follow.

Is God speaking to you about becoming more active in this new ministry season at Sebastian? I'd welcome a call from you. Or, you can connect with Bill Messersmith, our Lay Leader.

*Pray like it depends on God, work like it depends on you.* What a truly excellent way to spend a life together in the weeks, months and years to come!

With a growing love for you all!  
Joy, Joy, Pastor Alexis

## Sunday Messages May 8 thru June 19



I love those things that are irresistible in our lives. You are probably thinking on one (or two) right now? Through June, we are going to spend time learning how to be an EVEN MORE Irresistible Church, not just to the community, but also to God. God wants to bless us our work together! You won't want to miss a Sunday.

*Thanks to Wayne Cordero for his teachings on The Irresistible Church that inspires this sermon series*

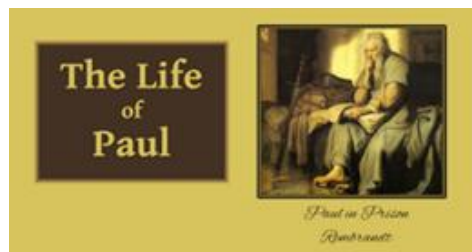
May 8 - Irresistible Church: **Hungers for the Presence of God**, Psalm 145; 2 Corinthians 4:14-16

May 15 - Irresistible Church: **Remembers**, Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Matthew 16:13-19

May 22 - Irresistible Church: **Nourishes Spiritually**, Psalm 1:1-3; John 15:5-12

MAY 29 - Irresistible Church: **Knows Her Soul**, John 3:16 – 17; Psalm 103:1-6, 20-22

***Watch in June's Beacon for scriptures and themes for The Irresistible Church through June 19.***



Pastor's Tuesday Bible Study

10:00 am – 11:30 am, Large Classroom  
(added footstep for easy access).

Out of town? ZOOM

- <https://smu.zoom.us/j/96418019824?pwd=UGRPak80dmdUcUdUR2h6VIN3RFZjZz09>

Meeting ID: 964 1801 9824 - Passcode: 389352

***Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.***

II Corinthians 11:25-27

Paul traveled over 10,000 miles proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. His journeys on land and sea took him through present day Israel, Syria, Turkey and Greece. Paul walked the roads build by the Romans. On them, there was a constant danger of bandits. In order to understand and appreciate Paul's life and to more deeply understand how he took Christianity to the nations; we will spend the month of May through June 21st traveling with him on his journeys, stopping along the way at the congregations he established.

***Some good news about Soul Café but also a challenge for the months ahead***

In March of 2020 we all took on the mission of the Soul Café. We partnered with the Salvation Army and with Roseland United Methodist. We have consistently fed an average of over 100 folks, weekly. That equates to over 10,000 meals. That is quite an undertaking for a church of our size. That work was done by less than 40 members and friends of SUMC; along with the Salvation Army supplying the food. Most of the folks we feed are seniors, living in our two senior low-income housing complexes plus a few neighboring folks that need and look forward to our Monday lunches.

In addition to the food items that we get from The Salvation Army, we get all produce needed from our local produce stand on HWY 1. Kroegels Produce as joined with us to allow for these folks to get healthier meals. Carey & her husband, Tim contacted me over a year ago and asked if they could help by donating all produce, we need for our lunches. Every week, I determine what produce is needed, send the list to Carey and then pick up produce on Saturday or Sunday afternoon. What a blessing Kroegels has been to this mission and to our community.

**So now we come to a dilemma.** I need your help to figure out what to do going forward.

The Salvation Army is going through a change in May and June. Their Captains are being moved to Tennessee in June (they function much the same as the UM do regarding moving pastors) In addition to that they have just had 2 resignations from the people we depend on to get our food. 1 who places our order and the other who delivers the food to us.

They would still be able to place our orders but they have no one who is willing or able to deliver it weekly from their location in south Vero. I have been told by Captain Amber that once they are able to hire a new person they could once again deliver food to us.

So what should we do???

We can temporarily stop doing the meals with May 9<sup>th</sup> being our last meal until The Salvation Army can continue to bring the food to us. Or, we can go to Vero to pick up the food & bring it here.

I will be sending an email to all Soul Café volunteers to see if any of them or someone they may know would take on this function. Likewise, I am asking all who read this to consider getting the food each week or letting me know if you know of someone who would want to take this on.

I pray that there can be a good outcome to this problem, please pray with me.

Blessings

Donna Osborne, Mission Chair



On behalf of the congregation, Pastor Alexis wants to THANK the Music Ministry under the stellar and extraordinary leadership of our Music Minister, **Megan Mash.**

We cannot begin to imagine (and don't want to) what the Lenten Season and Easter would be like without the Chancel Choir, the Bell Choir, The Brass Ensemble and those who make us look and sound good: Sharon, Teddy, Ed, Rob, Daniel, Alan, the Worship Team and all those who do so much more behind the scenes (you know who you are!).

Thank you, Megan and thanks to all! – Praise Be to GOD!

JOY, JOY to the risen Savior this Easter Season!



*Just a note from Megan Mash*

*Will you come and follow me if I  
but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will  
you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you  
and you in me?*

"The Summons" is one of my favorite hymns. It was written by John Bell who is a member of the Iona Community. This intentional community was founded on the remote island of Iona in western Scotland. Its roots date back to the 6th century when St. Columba used the island as a base to evangelize to all of Scotland. The Iona Community was established in the 1930's by George MacLeod (1895-1991) to train ministers to engage with poor working-class people. They also rebuilt the abandoned Benedictine Abbey. John Bell was given membership into the Iona Community in 1980. Bell has become a world-renowned leader of worship and congregational song. "The Summons" first appeared in the first musical collection produced by the Wild Goose Worship Group, *Heaven Shall Not Wait: Songs of Creation, the Incarnation, and the Life of Jesus* (1987).

Like "Here I Am Lord," the voice changes in the text. The first four stanzas we hear God speaking to us through a series of thirteen questions. In the first set of questions God asks not simply if we will follow but if we are willing to go to the hard, unknown places so that God's love may be known. The next questions start off by asking if we will put aside ourselves and "care for cruel and kind." The next question asks "Will you risk the hostile stare would your life attract or scare?" This again emphasizes that in order to follow Christ we must move beyond ourselves and place our trust in God as we are led to serve in situations that scare us. We are called to "set the prisoner free" and "kiss the leper clean." God calls us to serve and love the lost and the least. No one is unlovable in God's eyes. When you "use the faith you've found to reshape the world around" you find the courage to move beyond your fear to the places God calls. Each question always asks if we will respond if God only calls our name. This means the call will not always be clear or specific. Like Samuel, sometimes we only hear God call our name and must wait to find out the details of the call. Each question also asks if we will do these things and never be the same. As we live out God's call in our life, we are changed. The more we allow God to change us, the more we are enabled to live out God's plan for our life.

The final stanza changes to our voice and answers the previous questions.

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

## **CHUM BUCKETS – Sebastian River High School. Deliver food to the FOOD INSECURE**

On a Thursday in April, Ed from Chum Buckets, who coordinates the drivers, told Pastor Alexis that one of the regular delivery people is moving away leaving 15 boxes needing delivery. These particular boxes are for the Fellsmere area. One person with a vehicle will need about 2 hours from load to delivery.

(Two vehicles would make more sense - even three - to shorten the time needed.)

Delivery pick – ups are:

- Thursday anytime between 8 am – 10:30 am across from the R.O.T.C. building.
- The boxes are 8 – 10 lbs. each.
- Most homes do not have stairs.

SUMC folk, if you have time and energy, this ministry area is gratifying. Commit to a week or a month and see how it works for you. For more information, leave a message at the Church Office and Ann or Pastor will contact you with more details.

### **Check out this article excerpt from *The Heartbeat of the Treasure Coast*, health magazine – 2019**

*Joanne Holmes's daughter was an English teacher; besides grading papers, planning and prep-ing for the classroom, she noticed her daughter would also pack snacks. She finally asked her why she packed so many. Michele told her mom, she packed them for students to satisfy their hunger so they could concentrate better on learning. This encouraged Joanne to not only help her daughter but to also help the students at the school.*

*In September of 2015, Joann Holmes and Carol Scaramuzzi saw a need for a need pantry. Carol and Joanne approached Mr. Racine, the principal at Sebastian River High School (SRHS) with their idea to help families going through some rough times so students would not go hungry. He had just 3 "rules" that he felt needed to be met.*

*They were:*

- *The pantry had to be for SRHS Students.*
- *Food had to be delivered and picked up by volunteers- not students.*
- *No students were to be in the pantry during academic hours.*

*Joanne and Carol agreed. Michele's English class students came up with the name: "Chum Bucket" which aligns with the school's mascot which is a shark. The Chum Bucket helps approximately 60 families and their names are kept confidential.*



### **PLANNING EVENT FOR FALL MINISTRY**

**Saturday, May 7, 9:00 am – Noon**

*Calling Leadership, Staff, Members and Regular attendees!*

Mark Saturday, **May 7<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar and bring it with you as we make plans for fall 2022 and January 2023. For this event, also bring your ideas, your hopes, visions and dreams for Sebastian Church's post pandemic ministry in the fall and beyond.

Come at 8:30 for a light breakfast.



## MAIN STREET THRIFT SHOP & BOUTIQUE IN THE BAYS

April and May are a big transitional time at our Thrift Shop. Workers are going north for the summer and it is also a time we schedule our "surgeries". This is a good time to volunteer a few hours at the Thrift Shop. Pace is slower, and we can use your help. Just call the office or Ginger Horner if you would like to help out over the summer months.

Due to an issue with the signal contractor, the Main Street railroad crossing was not closed as previously scheduled and will remain open. The closure has been tentatively rescheduled for June 1st through the 15. Because the Main Street Railroad Closure has been rescheduled our closing dates will change too!

Remember, starting in May the Thrift Shop is only open Monday, Fridays, and Saturdays and the Boutique in Bays on Fridays from 10 am until 2 pm.

The painting in the "Book Nook" was finished this week. We have had a recent donation of some current books and that will be a nice addition to our Nook. Alan Hulse installed a tiffany style lamp in the room and we have found the perfect chair to place in the nook, (left the price tag on but really hoping nobody buys it)

There is a nice selection of pots and pans are going to the Boutique, Ted will be putting up hooks and they will be displayed a little differently, should be fun merchandising them. Check us out on Fridays.

We can't say enough "Thank You, Thank You, Thank You"

Sharon and Ted





Sunday, May 22, 2022

We would be delighted to welcome you into the  
Sebastian Methodist community of faith!

We receive members into our congregation in the following ways:

**Profession of Faith** – If you are interested in learning more about what it means to become a follower of Jesus Christ we would love to partner with you on that journey. It is our goal as a community of faith to help each other become more like Jesus.

**Baptism** – Holy Baptism is a Sacrament. We believe no one is too young or too old to receive God's grace. If you or your children have never received the Sacrament of Baptism we would be pleased to talk with you about that important decision.

**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.

**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.

**Transfer of membership from another Christian church or denomination** – We welcome you to our church upon your statement.

For more information on joining Sebastian United Methodist Church, Contact Pastor Alexis  
Pastor would love to have you schedule an appointment with her.

Email her at: [pastoralexistalbott@gmail.com](mailto:pastoralexistalbott@gmail.com) or call/text 786/301-4684

*If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, that means we don't have that information in our records.  
Just call the church office to add yours.*

### Happy Birthday

Muriel Douglas	May 04
Chuck Benjamin	May 05
Melodee chapin	May 05
Donna Bevington	May 09
Sherry Hunter	May 11
Alan Hulse	May 12
Garrett Gilbert	May 19
Harold Banta	May 28
Bruce Judah	May 30

### Happy Anniversary

Mark & Sue Halsbeck	May 01
♥ Ed & Janice Ertel 70 years	May 02
Brad & Janice Marx	May 02
Ed & Yvonne Oleksy	May 02
Harold & Pat Banta	May 07
Lee & Marlene Kalsch	May 09
Bob & Betty Stull	May 22
Ron & Barbara Farrington	May 30



## Follow – up on April District Training written by Lois Planeta and Pastor Alexis

Thanks to Bill Messersmith, Lay Leader; Bill Osborne, Council Chairperson, Ben Aston and Lois Planeta, Small Group Leaders; Alan Shepper, Finance Chairperson, Linda Grabis, Choir member and Pastor Alexis for attending the Thrive District Leadership Day.

It was great fun! Praise band did its job. The place was rockin'! Then came Pastor Matt Hartsfield. Wow! Energy! Energy! Right away we had to stand and use our Confidence Posture! We know it – Shoulders back; hands on hips, suck in tummy and stand tall. We're standing tall and confident in Christ. Tall and joyful! Project energy and let Christ work through us!

The day was filled with music and prayer; a greeting from our District Superintendent, Pastor Dionne Hammond; Pastor Matt Hartsfield, our Keynote Speaker and several "Break Out" groups of specialty ministries. Our challenge as congregations, as we survived the pandemic, is to look at what it means to THRIVE post-pandemic. Below is are notes about Pastor Matt's example of what is called a Confidence Quotient (CQ) and Creating a Culture of Innovation.

A large part of Pastor Matt's first message focused on the exchange when God called Moses to bring His people out of Egypt. Moses was having none of it! Five times Moses dug in his heels and five times God responded. Here is the exchange summary from Exodus:

Exodus 3:9 Go – I am sending you to Pharaoh 9

Moses' five "No's" to God and God's five responses (are we much different?)

Moses: who am I (Ex 3:11)

GOD: It's not about you

Moses: I have no credibility

GOD: I have credibility - I AM

Moses: I don't have what it takes (4:1)

GOD: I'll use what you already have

Moses: I'm not enough

GOD: I'm enough – I will instruct you

Moses: I'm the wrong person

GOD: I'll surround you w/ the right people

Just like Moses, we need to let the Lord work through us. Let God use us. Leave our impossible to Him. Don't miss God's call. Pastor Matt challenged us and assured us God will help us meet the challenges.

Pastor Matt's second talk was about *Creating an Innovative Church Spirit* using Jesus' mother, Mary as an example (Luke 1). Pastor Matt began by reminding us that BIRTH IS MESSY...and that birthing means new is here.

When the Angel speaks to Mary, she is perplexed - Completely unprepared/ill equipped. Sometimes we disqualify ourselves from **Innovative Ministry**. In ministry think of all the phrases you use to disqualify yourself. The real question is: Do we believe that we can get people connected to Jesus? Or do we say that there is no way?

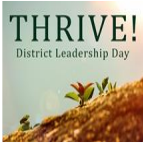
Look at the Difference between:

Luke 1: 34 ***"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"*** and

Luke 1:38 ***I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled***

Verse 34: In the life of my church how much do I hear that it can't happen; verse 38: Let's build the kingdom of God together. **The distinction between these verses is simply:** The power of the Holy Spirit will do this. We are "highly favored" just as Mary. It's not what we can do! But what God can do in us! Will you join God! ***"The power of the Holy Spirit will overshadow you."*** Verse 37: ***For nothing is impossible with God!***





Pastor Matt concluded this challenge: You do the possible – leave the impossible up to God. (Don't disqualify yourself!!!).

Hey Sebastian Church, take the **Confidence Quotient Survey**. In which of these does SUMC lack confidence. In which of these does SUMC show great confidence:

Dwelling on past setbacks and failures

Negative People surrounding you – neg. in the church (We are the product of 5 people we spend the most time with)

Negative self-talk (self-limiting/limiting ministries because we don't believe we can...)

Comparison game (Look how much "more" that church has)

Minimizing what you do have (we just can't do that because we don't have)

Maximizing (magnify – if only we had...)

Perfectionism (this is different than excellence)

Body Language – effects the way we share/show confidence

Doubting God. Identity you have in God. Do you believe God or not

Lack of gratitude – (missing the "GOOD" that God is doing around us)

### ***Mary's Circle –United Methodist Women of Faith***

Mary's Circle took a trip to "CHUM BUCKETS" (the volunteer food program at Sebastian River High School) on Wednesday, March 30th. We had a tour, prepared the FRESH VEGETABLES, and packed boxes, for delivery.



Pastor Alexis volunteered to deliver boxes on Thursday mornings. She has been delivering every Thursday--she has asked for volunteers to help--maybe take turns--if interested please call her.

Mary's Circle is going to be volunteering to pack the boxes on Wednesday mornings. We will do twice a month - every SECOND and FOURTH Wednesdays.

This is a year -round program, so Mary's Circle has committed to do this all year. We will also be collecting food-- and more information about this to follow.

Pastor Alexis hosted us on April 8th at the parsonage. After our meeting, she served a delicious lunch. We played games about the women of the UMW and women of the church in general. We learned a lot of history had a few laughs-and thoroughly enjoyed our time together.

On April 13th we took a trip to HIBISCUS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE. This was an extensive tour, which included one of the homes the children live in. We watched a video which was very heart warming. Mary's Circle will continue to support Hibiscus Children's Center as one of our mission projects and are looking forward to another visit in the fall.

April was our last general meeting until September 16th. Our annual Spring Luncheon is Friday May 13th (11a.m.) at Sebastian Saltwater Restaurant (formally Captain Bucher's)

***Please contact Mary Schultz (518-265-2769) if you want to attend.***

ALL women are invited to be a part of Mary's Circle so please feel free to join us at our May Luncheon. It is a great way to visit and meet other women of faith.

Have a HAPPY - SAFE summer --look for GOD everywhere.

HAPPINESS

Ann



**\$25 single**

**\$40 couple**

# CHRISTIAN GRANDPARENTING 2-DAY SEMINAR May 13 & 14, 2022

Hosted by .....

**Sherry Schumann**

**President, Christian Grandparenting Network**

Join other Grandparents and parents for an informative, action-packed, motivating event that will show you not only why grandparenting matters, but how you can become an intentional Christian grandparent. We must keep God's commandments by giving our grandchildren a means to find His truth and the love of Jesus Christ! As the second most influential person in their world, will YOU step up and intentionally exercise God's authority in their lives?

**REGISTER TODAY!**

<https://www.lakewoodparkumc.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/lakewoodparkumc>

**(772)-465-1187**

## UNDERSTAND

Your amazing influence and what the Bible says about Grandparents

## LEARN

How to reach the heart of your grandchild

## DISCOVER

How to overcome geographical, relational & spiritual barriers

## ACQUIRE

The best practices of Christian grandparents

## BECOME

An Intentional Christian Grandparent

### LAKESIDE PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5405 Turnpike Feeder Rd  
Fort Pierce, FL 34951

772-465-1187

May 13th 6:30-8:30pm

May 14th 9am-12pm

2022

CALENDAR YEAR

MAY

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship Café FH	02 10 am Bible Study LCR 10-1pm Soul Café FH 2 pm SPRC LCR	03 10 am Pastor's Bible Study FH 12 pm UMM Roadside Rest. 12 pm Rug Hookers FH	04 10 am Adult Bible Study ZOOM 3 pm Joyful Ringers 7 pm Handbells	05 1:30 Small Group LCR 7 pm Choir	06 9 am - 12 pm Planning Eve FH	
08 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship Café FH 1 pm Brass 3 pm LOL Youth	09 10 am Bible Study LCR 10-1pm Soul Café FH 2 pm Lois P Small Group FH 3:30 Worship CO 7 pm Trustees	10 10 am Pastor's Bible Study FH 12 pm UMM Roadside Rest. 12 pm Rug Hookers FH	11 10 am Adult Bible Study ZOOM 3 pm Joyful Ringers 7 pm Handbells	12 1:30 Small Group LCR 7 pm Choir	13 9 am - 2 pm Big Red Bus church parking lot 11 am Mary's Circle Luncheon	
15 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship Café FH 1 pm Brass 3 pm LOL Youth	16 10 am Bible Study LCR 1pm Soul Café FH pm Finance FH 6:30 pm Administrative	17 10 am Pastor's Bible Study FH 12 pm UMM Roadside Rest. 12 pm Rug Hookers FH	18 10 am Adult Bible Study ZOOM 3 pm Joyful Ringers 7 pm Handbells	19 1:30 Small Group LCR 7 pm Choir	20	
22 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship Café FH 1 pm Brass 3 pm LOL Youth	23 10 am Bible Study LCR 10-1pm Soul Café FH 2 pm Lois P Small Group FH	24 10 am Pastor's Bible Study FH 12 pm UMM Roadside Rest. 12 pm Rug Hookers FH	25 10 am Adult Bible Study ZOOM 3 pm Joyful Ringers 7 pm Handbells	26 1:30 Small Group LCR 7 pm Choir	27	
29 10 am Worship 11 am Sandwich Sunday FH 1 pm Brass 3 pm LOL Youth	30 Memorial Day	31 10 am Pastor's Bible Study FH 12 pm UMM Roadside Rest. 12 pm Rug Hookers FH	01	02	03	
05	06	07	08	09	10	

## FELLOWSHIP CAFE

**May 1** Hosts United Methodist Men, "Lunch Bunch"

**May 8** Mother's Day hosts will be Dot and Bruce Judah and Ben Ashton

**May 15** Hosts Lois Planeta 's Small Group

**May 22** Available - sign up sheet in the FH kitchen  
(no host, no Fellowship Cafe)

**May 29** Sandwich Sunday Congregation

**BRING YOUR SANDWICHES OR SALADS BEFORE WORSHIP TO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL  
KITCHEN TO SHARE AFTER SERVICE.**







**Open**

*hearts.  
minds.  
doors.*

Sebastian United Methodist Church  
1029 Main Street  
Sebastian, FL 32958

Rev. Alexis Talbott  
pastoralexistalbott@gmail.com

**Cookies always welcome!**

## **5 SUNDAY IS SANDWICH SUNDAY!**

**For fellowship after worship the congregation is asked to bring a plate of sandwiches or a salad to share with others after Sunday Service.**

**Bring your donation to the church kitchen before worship**

