

Beacon

... guiding our walk

Sebastian United Methodist Church
1029 Main Street
Sebastian, FL 32958
772-589-5230

July/August 2019



A Word from Pastor John

Transitions are never easy. When you get right down to it, most of us dislike change in our lives. We would prefer the familiar, the predictable, the status quo.

I'm sure that is the way you probably have felt about the change of pastors here at Sebastian UMC. Will and Connie have been a great blessing to this congregation. He has had a very effective ministry among you for six years. You are right to love them, and you will miss them greatly, just as we will miss our Mims friends. That is as it should be.

But change is inevitable, both in our personal lives and in the life of the church. Our God is a God on the move, and we had better be prepared to move with Him! I believe that God has called Will to serve in Big Pine Key, and called me to serve in Sebastian. As Jesus said in John 15:16, *"You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you to bear fruit..."* In His plan, He has a purpose for assigning us to our places of service.

This is a time of endings and new beginnings. As we sang in worship on Sunday (UMH #383):

*"This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
Time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.
Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what Love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings, our God is making all things new."*

Ours is a God of new beginnings. He helps us bring closure to our past, whether our past is painful or pleasant, and ushers in a new day of promise and hope. In Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians (5:17), Paul offers us words of comfort and encouragement, reminding us that our God is the God of both the past and the future. He proclaims, *"If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"*

You have said goodbye to the Finnins, and we have said goodbye to the Mims congregation. But "this is a day of new beginnings!" Our future is in God's hands! Together, let us put our trust in our God who makes all things new!

Pastor John



*This gift we now bring,
this present, this token,
these words can convey it,
the joy of this day!
When grateful we come,
remembering, rejoicing,
this song we now offer
in honor and praise!*

Both text and tune of this well-crafted hymn, "What Gift Can We Bring," are by Jane Marshall. Marshall, a graduate of Southern Methodist University, is a staple in church music. She has written many hymn tunes and anthems, many of which are considered to be part of the classic repertoire of church choirs. Marshall composed this hymn in celebration of the 25 anniversary of Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas, TX. This is where the tune, ANNIVERSARY SONG, gets its name from.

Marshall begins by asking a very important question. What can we bring that will give honor and praise to our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer? What could we possibly have that would be worthy to offer as a gift? She uses the last three stanzas to provide some answers for this question. We can start by giving thanks for those saints who went before us, who plowed the way and prepared us for the things God is calling us to. We must also give thanks for the now, the things we are doing. We give thanks for the work God is doing through the Welcome Table, the Aphasia Group, the health ministries, the Thrift Shop, and our deepening relationship with the Boys and Girls Club. We also give thanks for our worship and study through the many regular Bible study groups, small groups and musical ensembles. When we look at what is going on, we begin to see how blessed we truly are. We must also give thanks for the future. The present is an ever fading reality, always approaching on the future, calling us to prepare for what is to come next. I know the future will bring us many more opportunities to share God's love with those in this community. Our job is to be willing to seek them out and embrace them. The generosity of this congregation continues to bless me in ways beyond my worthiness. Your support of the children in this community through special offerings, music camp and lately Undies Sunday shows you take Jesus' call to bring the little children to him very seriously. We are responding to feeding the hungry through the Welcome Table. We clothe the naked through ministry at the Thrift Shop. Your generosity knows no end. Who is God calling us to minister to? The work of the hands and feet of Christ is one that never ends. The hurting of the world always need to hear the good news of Christ's love. Thank you for bringing your gifts generously to the broken in our community and world.

Have a favorite hymn you would like Megan to write about? Let her know! You can call, tell her or email her, meganmash@gmail.com.



Happy Anniversary July

David & Cara Brown	July 3
Howard & Linda Ott	July 9
Charles & Alta Benjamin	July 10
Floyd & Leigh Standley	July 10
George & Mary Schulze	July 13

Happy Birthday July

Melissa Rothfuss	July 5
Pa Banta	July 7
Katie Gowin	July 10
Inez Fielding	July 12
Beth Messersmith	July 12
Bob Young	July 12
Al Smith	July 13
Barb Danner	July 16
Barb Smith	July 16
Bill Osborne	July 20
Jim Gallagher	July 26
Joe Planeta	July 26
Ed Ertel	July 30
Richard Schumacher	July 30

Happy Anniversary August

Tom & Diann Flanigan	August 15
John & Margit Hollifield	August 21
George & Carol Decker	August 27
Wayne & Ann Marie Van House	August 29

Happy Birthday August

Connie Finnin	August 1
Dot Judah	August 9
Dave Barry	August 10
Al Conniff	August 13
John Fox	August 16
Vic Grabis	August 18
Megan Mash	August 18
Linda Grabis	August 21
Janice Ertel	August 25
Linda Ott	August 25
Peggy Dejonge	August 26
Janice Marx	August 26
Joyce Marr	August 29
Barbara Farrington	August 31

Potluck Host Schedule

July 17, 2019	Tom & Diann Flanagan, Alta & Chuck Benjamin Welcome Pastor John & Terri Gill Speaker Joe Fisher "Fellsmere Community Enrichment Program"
August 21, 2019	Ed & Sharon Johnson and Bill & Kathy Messersmith— Program LOL Mission Trip Highlights
September 18, 2019	Donna Borchsenius & Lois Planeta
October 16, 2019	Ginger & Bud Horner and Mary & George Schulze
November 18, 2019	Admin Council— Program -"Safety Readiness in your Church" Presented by Sebastian Police Dept.
December	No Dinner

***Hosts provide beverages and desserts
Bring a dish to share***



Camp August July 29– August 4

Ages 10—15

"The Sailor's Bible"

Register online at:

Sumcmusiccampaugust2019.eventbrite.com

Join the "Camp Team"

Volunteer to help during camp

See Megan Mash

Small Groups and Bible Studies,
check with your facilitator if
unsure of date or time.



Asian Rural Institute
Rural Leaders Training Center

Serving At: Asian Rural Institute (ARI) Home Country: Japan, Asia and Pacific **Jonathan McCurley & Satomi McCurley** They are missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, serving as church and community ministries coordinator at the Asian Rural Institute (ARI) in northern Japan.

The Asian Rural Institute. is an international training institute for grassroots rural leaders from developing countries, mostly in Asia and Africa, and is located in Japan. ARI training focuses on sustainable agriculture through integrated organic farming techniques, community building, and servant leadership

**Sebastian United Methodist Church has pledged to help the McCurley's in their mission.
Watch for the blue spare change tube at the back of the church**



AT A GLANCE

- Please sign the red attendance registration book every Sunday morning, all year

This is important for keeping our database updated—thank you

To keep the SUMC database current, please use the attendance registration book to let us know phone number changes, cell numbers, address changes, etc. Use as many lines as you need. thanks

- Altar Flowers** may be dedicated in memory or honor of someone, or a special event. Sign up in the narthex \$30 for two arrangements by Amazing Creations
- Recycle those old Eyeglasses** -There is a box in the church narthex for old eyeglasses. Eye glasses will be given to the Lions Club.
- 1st Sunday is Communion Sunday
- 1st Sunday is Grace in Action (Pastor's Discretionary Fund) please designate that little extra to the Grace in Action fund)
- 3rd Sunday is Noisy Offering bring your change and make a joyful noise to the Lord
- 5th Sundays are Florida UM Children's Home Sundays

Joining Sebastian UMC

Is God calling you to be part of the ministry of this congregation?

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 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.

July 2019

LOL 2019 Mission Trip



Weekly Room Use Groups

Alanon meets Tue & Thurs 7:30 pm LCR

AA Closed Session Tue 6:30 FH

Men's Lunch Bunch Tuesday 12 noon at the Roadside Cafe

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	July 4 Office Closed4	5	6
7 Worship 10 an' Coffee hour 11am	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Science Camp 8:30 – 4 pm No Group Room Use					
14 Worship 10 an' Coffee hour 11am <i>Summer Choir 9 am</i>	15 Finance 7 pm LCR	16 Administrative Council 6 pm CO Computer/Ph one circle 1 pm CO	17 Adult Bible Study 10am FH Potluck 6 pm FH Girl Scouts 6:30 CCR	18 Get Aquatinted Gathering 10 am FH Computer/Ph one Circle 10 am CO	19	20 Emilee Fucci Memorial reception 3:30 pm FH
21 Worship 10 an' Coffee hour 11am LOL 3 pm <i>Summer Choir 9 am</i>	22	23 Computer/Ph one circle 1 pm CO	24 Adult Bible Study 10am FH	25 Computer/Ph one Circle 10 am CO	26 Welcome Table FH All day	27 Get Aquatinted Gathering 3 pm
28 Worship 10 an' Coffee hour 11am LOL 3 pm	29	30	31			
	Music Camp August no group room use during this week					

August 2019

Tuesday Out to Lunch Bunch 12 pm Roadside Café

Weekly Room Use Groups

Alanon meets Tue & Thurs 7:30 pm LCR

AA Closed Session Tue 6:30 FH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
	Music Camp August no group room use this week					
4 Worship 10 am "Sailors Bible" Sandwich Sunday 11 am LOL Youth 3 pm	5 SPR 7 pm CO	6 Computer Circle 1 pm CO Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	7 Adult Bible Study 10 am FH Get Acquainted Gathering George & Mary Schulze 1 pm	8 Computer Circle 10 am CO Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	9	10
11 Summer Choir 9 am S Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am FH LOL Youth 3 pm YR	12	13 Computer Circle 1 pm CO Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	14 Adult Bible Study 10 am FH	15 Computer Circle 10 am CO Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	16	17
18 Summer Choir 9 am S Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am FH LOL Youth 3 pm YR	19 Stewardship Meeting 6 pm LCR Finance 7 pm LCR	20 Computer Circle 1 pm CO Admini Cn 6 pm CO Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	21 Adult Bible Study 10 am FH Potluck 6 pm FH Girl Scouts 6:30 pm CCR	22 Computer Circle 10 am CO Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	23	24
25 Summer Choir 9 am S Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am FH LOL Youth 3 pm YR	26	27 Computer Circle 1 pm CO Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	28 Adult Bible Study 10 am FH	29 Computer Circle 10 am CO Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Alanon 7:30 pm LCR	30 Welcome Table Fellowship Hall & Kitchen all day	31

"Let's Get Acquainted Gatherings"

Pastor John likes to begin his ministry in a new church with a number of small gatherings.

At this time we are looking for Gathering Home Hosts scattered in various locations

(Sebastian, Barefoot Bay, Clubhouse, etc)

To be a host you need to open your home to Pastor John & members.

Call the office and discuss your month, date and time with Pastor John. We will also need

Gathering Home Hosts when winter residents return.

10 am Fellowship Hall July 18

3 pm Parsonage July 27

1 pm George & Mary Schulze August 7

There is a limit to number of attendees. Please see sign-up sheet at back of church or call the church office. 772-589-5230



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Sebastian, Florida 32958

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E-mail: sebastianumc@bellsouth.net

www.sebastianumc.com

Thrift Shop Telephone: 772-388-0405