



# THE LINK

to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home

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August 2021

## August Has a Fifth Sunday!

Did you know that the Fifth Sunday Offering is actually older than the Florida United Methodist Children's Home itself? Two years before the Home was founded, the Methodist Episcopal Church South (early predecessor to the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church) asked all its Florida churches to take up a special offering to help fund the future Florida Methodist Orphanage. Can you guess when that offering took place? You guessed it – the offerings were taken up on the occasion of fifth Sundays.

August has a fifth Sunday and we ask you to continue in this vital tradition and please take up a special Fifth Sunday Offering on August 29<sup>th</sup>. In the coming weeks, you will be receiving a special video to help promote the offering. We couldn't do what we do without your support, and we want you to know that your giving makes a difference!

## Register Now for Children's Home Educational Session: Planned Giving 101 and Beyond

Reserve your attendance now for *Planned Giving 101 & Beyond*, the second in a series of virtual educational sessions put on by the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. The virtual session will take place at noon on August 24<sup>th</sup>, and will explore various scenarios that will help you determine the best opportunities of giving to your favorite charities as well as providing for family. We invite you to join Elisabeth Gadd, our Chief Development Officer, as she shares a range of planned giving options. To RSVP for this session, please contact Mark Cobia at 386.668.4774 extension 2359, or [mark.cobia@fumch.org](mailto:mark.cobia@fumch.org).

## Camp 'Rona 2021 Is In the Books!

A week at the Warren W. Willis Camp has always been a summer highlight for the children at the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. However, for the second year in a row, safety concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic kept the children at the Children's Home from attending the camp. Also for the second year in a row, however, we created an opportunity for them to attend summer camp from within the confines of our ministry.

In its second year, the children enjoyed the alternative camp experience known as "Camp Rona." The camp was designed by our Spiritual Life and Recreation departments, and it provided a week-long summer camp experience for the children at the Children's Home. It took place the last week in July and consisted of themed days, with games, activities, and challenges pertaining to the particular theme of each day. Some highlights included bounce houses and inflatable slides, a talent show, a dance, and a cookout by the pool. Children from the Madison Youth Ranch joined us in Enterprise for the week of activities.

"The kids really had a great time," said Marie Mazzula, Campus Life Administrator at the Children's Home. "Summer camp gives the children a chance to do something different. Camp Rona is a way we were able to continue to do that, even though we couldn't go to traditional camp." Camp Rona once again gave our children and staff a safe way to reset before school starts in August. We continue to be grateful for your prayers and support as we provide opportunities for children to experience God's love in new and fun ways.

(More on back...)

### **Mims Mullet Festival Golf Tournament 10th Year**

The Mims Mullet Festival Annual Golf Tournament has attracted golfers from around the state to support our ministry to children and families in need. The 10<sup>th</sup> annual tournament will take place on October 2nd, 2021 at the Indian River Preserve Golf Club. Check-in begins at 7:00am, followed by a shotgun start at 8:30am.

Proceeds for the tournament will be given to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home and the One More Child. The individual player fee is \$70 or \$280 for a foursome. The fees include a round of golf, participation in the luncheon, and much more. There are sponsorship opportunities available as well that allow you to advertise your business or even honor an individual. Not only do these allow people to support the mission, but they also accommodate those who are unable to attend the event. Please spread the word to any golfers you know, as well as anyone who wants to support ministries to children/youth in need. Please see the attached registration form. The Mullet Festival Facebook page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/MimsMulletFestival/>. For advance tournament registration or more information, please contact Sid Champagne, Tournament Director, at [mulletgolf@rocketmail.com](mailto:mulletgolf@rocketmail.com).

### **Testimonial From an Alumnus**

The Children's Home gave me hope, peace, love and happiness. This is my home and it always will be. In my heart every single person that comes through is my brother and sister. When the Children's Home hurts I hurt. The staff at the Home are selfless, loving, caring, and God-fearing. I can't tell you how many times a staff member stayed up late holding me while I cried and made me feel loved and safe. That's what family does. I spent my whole childhood here and I am so thankful so blessed that I did. I learned to love God, love myself, I was taught responsibilities, and I was taught what a family is. Thank you for caring, loving, teaching, and nurturing children like me.

### **Current Resident Needs**

- Wash cloths
- Bath towels
- Cantu brand hair products
- Toothpaste
- Male deodorant
- Male conditioner
- Male body wash
- Men's boxer shorts, sizes S and M
- Batteries (AA and AAA)
- Swim trunks, sizes boys XL, adult S & M
- Clock radios

## **ENDOWING OUR FUTURE. It is Easier Than You think.**

- CHARITABLE LIFE ESTATES
- BEQUESTS
- CHARITABLE LIFE INCOME PLANS
- BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

**WHY GIVE TO OUR ENDOWMENT?** The purpose of an endowment fund is to financially sustain the mission and work of the Children's Home. The principal of an endowment is kept intact and only the annual earnings, typically income and a portion of the capital growth, are used to fund current needs. The Children's Home has established its endowment so that we can continue to carry on our important work in the years to come. You can make a significant contribution to further our mission...and it's easier than you might think.

Please contact Elisabeth Gadd, Chief Development Officer at (386) 753-2066 or at [plannedgiving@fumch.org](mailto:plannedgiving@fumch.org) to learn how you can provide for the people and the causes you care the most. You can also visit <https://www.fumch.org/making-a-difference/planned-giving/> learn more about planned giving options.