



# THE LINK

to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home

Vol 30 . No. 12

December 2021

### Deadline for 2021 Church Giving Donations

We are incredibly grateful for your generosity to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home during the Advent and Christmas seasons. You make this ministry possible, and we certainly would not be able to care for the children and families we do without your support! In order for the timely close of our 2021 financial books, please ensure that **all 2021 gifts are postmarked no later than January 3, 2022**. This will allow us to quickly prepare and publicize the 2021 Church Giving Report, as well as close out our 2021 financial records. All gifts sent to us that are postmarked after January 3<sup>rd</sup> will be counted with your church's 2022 giving. Especially this year, we encourage you to consider shipping delays as you send in your contributions. If you are at all concerned about your donation reaching us in time, perhaps consider making your church's gift online at <https://www.fumch.org/making-a-difference/make-a-donation/>. For any questions, please contact our Development department at 386.668.4774 ext. 2295. Thank you for your continued support of the Children's Home!

### Winter LCR Workshops Planned for Early 2022

This Winter, we will plan to hold in-person workshops for LCRs which will take place in the North Central, North East, and North West Districts. LCRs are invited to attend these workshops, whether or not they are held in your particular district. The identical workshops will include an overview of the ministry of the Children's Home, as well as an overview of the role of the LCR. There will be an opportunity to learn about the various resources we have available to support our Representatives. \*Workshops are tentative and dependent upon current COVID case numbers and safety protocols. All in-person attendees will need to adhere to the respective site's COVID/mask policies, which are indicated below. Additionally, attendees should not come if they are not feeling well or are displaying any COVID symptoms. **Host churches reserve the right to adjust their COVID policies in the event of any change in pandemic status or official guidance.** \* There will be virtual Workshops available in March as well, which will be advertised in subsequent LINKs. RSVP's should be made to Elisabeth Gadd at [elisabeth.gadd@fumch.org](mailto:elisabeth.gadd@fumch.org), or 386.753.2066.

#### North East District

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

\*RSVP by 1/4/2022

Shores UMC, 10am-noon

St Augustine

Masks required for unvaccinated

Riverside Park UMC, 3pm-5pm

Jacksonville 3pm-5pm

#### North Central District

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

\*RSVP by 1/7/2022

Lake Deaton UMC, 10am-noon

Wildwood

Masks encouraged for unvaccinated

Southside UMC, 3pm-5pm

Gainesville

Masks required indoors

#### North West District

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

\*RSVP by 2/18/2022

Madison Youth Ranch, 10am-noon

Pinetta

Masks/on-site questionnaire required

Killearn UMC, 3pm-5pm

Tallahassee

Masks encouraged

### Current Resident Needs

- Wash cloths
- Bath towels
- Cantu brand hair products
- Toothpaste
- Female liquid body wash
- AAA batteries
- New/gently used Christmas trees (6 or 8 ft)

(More on back...)

### Enterprise Celebrates Day of Service

In what has become a beloved tradition, children and staff of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home's Enterprise campus took part in our annual Day of Service. Small groups of children and staff spread out amongst five locations in both Volusia and Seminole Counties to make a positive impact in the community. The work projects included:

**All Saints Episcopal Church, Enterprise** – Our youth pulled weeds and trimmed trees around the sanctuary and other buildings. Linda Eardman, Junior Warden, had this to say about her group, "The children were so very polite, courteous, well-mannered, just as they've always been. I was hard-pressed keeping up with them – they kept coming back and asking what was next on the list."

**Enterprise Preservation Society, Enterprise** – There were multiple tasks performed by our youth that included trimming trees and bushes, raking, and cleaning the front of the building. "The children were very engaged, and one actually asked if he could come back and become a volunteer! They took directions well and paid a lot of attention to detail," said Ed Sullivan, Board Chairman.

**Lakeside United Methodist Church, Sanford** – Youth assisted with bringing the church's Christmas decorations from an outbuilding to the sanctuary, as well as moving boxes into an upstairs storage area. Marilyn Walls, Ministry Coordinator said, "They all worked so hard and worked great as a team together. Thank you for allowing them to help us and believe me it was a HUGE help."

**Osteen United Methodist Church, Osteen** – Youth did a lot of weeding and cleared trash and debris around the buildings.

**First United Methodist Church of Sanford** – Some light landscaping and weeding was done as well as cleaning windows and doors.

A Day of Service began back in 2019 and is usually done a couple of times a year. It has become an anticipated event for those at the Children's Home. Thank you for helping to enable this ministry, which has a huge impact on its surrounding community!

### Christmas Poem From an Alumnus

Here comes a time of the year, it's just another day coming up.  
But it holds a meaning to many. Not all the same meanings:  
It's a time that people hate sometimes, because someone hurt them during that time,  
Or someone they lost very special to them.  
Someone asks you to marry them at the time.  
It is wonderful because you are close to your family, and they decide to leave the past in the past.  
Some people say it is a gift you get. Those things are part of it for some.  
But the true meaning is that a baby boy was born to Mary in the hay under a star.  
This child had a lot in him.  
He had the power to forgive anyone for anything, if they ask for forgiveness of their sins.  
And then came people who were told about this child, and they saw him – Jesus.

That time is coming up—an anniversary of when the child was born.  
Not all presents. And all this is the meaning now.  
*-Former resident, age 17*

### End of Year Benefits

As the end of the year approaches, you may be looking for ways to save on taxes and end the year well. The following strategies can provide you with tax savings and allow you to make a significant gift to support the Children's Home this year:

- **Outright gifts of appreciated assets**
- **Life insurance gifts**
- **Charitable life income plans**

To learn more, contact Elisabeth Gadd, Chief Development Officer, at 386.753.2066, or at [plannedgiving@fumch.org](mailto:plannedgiving@fumch.org). You can also visit [www.fumchlegacy.org](http://www.fumchlegacy.org) for more tax saving ideas. 386.753.2066, or at [plannedgiving@FUMCH.org](mailto:plannedgiving@FUMCH.org). You can also visit [www.fumchlegacy.org](http://www.fumchlegacy.org).