



Christmas Gratitude

We want to express our sincere gratitude for your support of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home at Christmas. I was completely overwhelmed by the amazing outpouring in response to our Christmas gift card drive, as well as those who brought gifts and provided financial support during my first Christmas here at the Home. Thanks to you, our children woke up on Christmas morning to find toys and gift cards under the tree. Additionally, each cottage at the Children's Home celebrated a home-cooked Christmas meal with hot chocolate and delicious cookies. These were just some of the many ways that you helped the children to celebrate gift giving in honor of the greatest gift ever received. Thank you for your tireless support of our children and families!

LCR Records Update

The Local Church Representative (LCR) plays a vital part in connecting the Children's Home with the local church, and we want to make sure our records are accurate. If there has been a change of LCR at your church, we ask that you contact us to confirm. Please give us a call so that we can ensure the right person gets the current information about this ministry! You can contact Rev. Brian Carr at brian.carr@fumch.org or 386.668.4774 ext. 2222. Thank you!

January Is A Fifth Sunday Month!

As 2023 provides a fresh start, we are excited to start the new year with a Fifth Sunday Offering. The Fifth Sunday Offering began in 1906 as a way to raise funds to build an orphanage and continues to show the deep connection between the Children's Home and local churches around the state. The Fifth Sunday Offering remains the backbone of all the support we receive here at the Children's Home. As we slowly move beyond the global pandemic, we rely on the generosity of churches and individuals even more to continue the ministry of the Children's Home as we seek to serve those who have experienced a variety of traumatic events.

We ask that you promote the January Fifth Sunday Offering within your church's worship service. Whether you received printed supplies, electronic supplies, or a combination of the two, you can use these resources to help highlight the wonderful ministry of the Children's Home that your church continues to make possible. The January Fifth Sunday poster and insert can be found on our website at www.fumch.org under the tab "Making a Difference" then "Church Relations." We will also have a Fifth Sunday video available to you soon, as another tool to help celebrate the Children's Home. Thank you for your continued partnership, and we are excited to see how God uses your support to change more lives in 2023!

Conference-Wide LCR Training

In order to help new Local Church Representatives (LCR) acclimate themselves to the role, as well as to connect with seasoned LCRs and share updates about the ministry, the Florida United Methodist Children's Home typically holds a number of in-person LCR Workshops at the beginning of the year. We will begin this year by participating with the Florida Annual Conference church-wide training on ZOOM. Our Chief Development Officer, Elisabeth Gadd and Director of Church Relations, Brian Carr will lead training for Local Church Representatives (LCRs) on three different ZOOM events: Thursday, February 9th at 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. and on Saturday, February 11th at 9:00 a.m.

You will need to register on the Florida Annual Conference's web page to participate in this training. Here is the link to the event on flumc.org: <https://www.flumc.org/local-church-training> (you will need to copy and paste this link to your server.) Everyone will receive the Zoom link the day before the session. We look forward to sharing together with you and learning from you during these training sessions.

Day On Campus Save The Date

One of the most special days in the life of the Children's Home is our annual Day on Campus. Each year, it provides us with the opportunity to both thank our faithful churches and ministry partners as well as highlight all of the wonderful things God is doing. The global pandemic changed the way that churches and ministries do their work. This also required us to cancel our in-person Day on Campus events in 2020 – 2022 and have virtual visits instead. During this time, we were remained laser focused on our mission of caring for the children and families in need across this state.

I am happy to share that we will be returning to an in-person Day on Campus event this spring! Please save the date of **March 25**, as we invite ALL to visit our campus. Our especially invited Districts this year include East Central, Atlantic Central and South East Districts.

Campus Needs List

We currently have the need for:

- Laundry baskets
- Shower liners
- Twin size mattress protectors
- Dish cloths
- Plastic cereal bowls
- Soap holders
- Toothpaste holders

For more information on donations, volunteering, contact Volunteer Manager, Lynn Bellomy
lynn.bellomy@fumch.org
386.668.4774 ext. 2321.

For more information on campus tours, contact Crystal St. Julien at crystal.st.julien@fumch.org

Be sure to like and share us on social media!