



THE LINK

to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home

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Rev. Brian Carr Joins the Children's Home

We are excited to announce that Rev. Brian Carr will be joining our Leadership Team as the new Director of Church Relations. Rev. Carr currently serves at the First United Methodist Church in Port St. Lucie. He has been an ardent supporter of the Children's Home in his capacity as a United Methodist minister and has generously served on our Board of Trustees. Rev. Carr will be resigning from his Board position to join us as of July 1st and retiring from the Florida United Methodist Conference as of June 30th. While on our Board he has been a part of the Church Relations subcommittee, a part of the strategic planning process, and also has active with our Development Committee.



Originally from Mullens, West Virginia, Rev. Carr grew up in a loving, faith-filled, often-laughing family. He received his B.A. degree from Marshall University in Spanish. "The best thing that happened in college was a personal encounter with Jesus Christ which left me forever altered," he says. He has served much of his life in the service of Christ: three years as a missionary in Mexico, four years as a Youth Director and is now in his twenty-fourth year of Ordained Ministry with the United Methodist Church after graduating from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky.

After the huge privilege and blessing of serving on the Board of Trustees of the Children's Home where he got an inside view of the tremendous work done here in ever-challenging times, Rev. Carr said, "I'm delighted and honored to even be considered to serve with the beloved Florida United Methodist Children's Home." Once Rev. Carr is onboard July 1st, you can contact him at brian.carr@fumch.org or 386.668.4774, extension 2222.

Support the Children's Home Through Your Church's VBS

As summer approaches, many of you are planning your church's Vacation Bible School (VBS). This tradition often includes opportunities to learn about God through Bible stories, songs, games, and shared meals. If your church is holding a VBS this year, we know that this promises to be a fruitful time of learning for the children as well as an opportunity for many of the children to give back.

Here at the Children's Home, funds and donated items play a huge role in the ministry we offer to children and families. From toiletries and clothing to school supplies and diapers, in-kind donations go a long way toward supporting the various ministries of the Children's Home. Candies, lip gloss, silly putty, puzzles, and other small items can also be used in our incentives store for the children.

If you are looking for a particular mission partner for your VBS, we would be honored if you would consider the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. In addition to providing you with a needs list, we also have videos and other resources available to communicate the mission and ministry of the Children's Home. Please contact Mark Cobia, Director of Marketing & Communications, at mark.cobia@fumch.org for more information.

(More on back)

Month of Prayer

The first Thursday of May (the 5th) was designated as National Day of Prayer by the United States Congress in 1952, when people are asked “to turn to God in prayer and meditation.” So in recognition of the National Day of Prayer, we’re making the month of May the official Children’s Home Month of Prayer. We’ve included a guide with daily prayer requests and verses. Please share with your congregation and others. We can also email the guide to members upon request.

Current Resident Needs

- Wash cloths
- Bath towels
- Cantu brand hair products
- Boys hairbrushes
- Female liquid body wash
- AAA batteries
- Boys deodorant (non-aerosol)

Testimonial From an Alumnus

“I was a resident at the Children’s Home on a couple of occasions: first in 6th grade, and then again in 7th and 8th grade. I am 28 years old now and living in Pennsylvania with my husband, who was also a resident at the Children’s Home. We have 3 beautiful children. Our two daughters are A honor roll students, and are involved in the band at school. Our son is 2, and is in perpetual motion. My husband has a good job, which brought us to Pennsylvania, allowing me to stay home with the children. Both of our lives faced difficult times after leaving the Children’s Home, but we pulled it together. We have both mended relationships with our family, especially our mothers. As we have grown older, we have grown closer. I wanted to write this letter because I often think of the houseparents and staff that had an influence on my life.”

Back To School Drive

Education remains a vital need for the children we serve, and a substantial way we are able to keep meeting this need is to ensure we have the supplies necessary at the beginning of the school year. Donations are an important part of this preparation, so we are announcing the **2022-2023 Back To School** supply drive. We have put together a list of our school needs and ask that you and your church host a drive. A great way to participate in this is to incorporate it into your church’s VBS or other special summer ministries. For any questions, please contact our Volunteer Manager, Lynn Bellomy at lynn.bellomy@fumch.org or 386.668.4774, ext. 2321.

Build Your Legacy With Many Happy Returns

Our charitable gift annuity gives you payments every year for as long as you live.

When you fund a charitable gift annuity, we agree to send you a check each year for as long as you live, based on your funding amount and your age at the time of funding. The payment amount never changes.

In addition, you may also receive:

- An income tax deduction this year for part of the funding amount.
- If you fund it by transferring stock, some of your capital gains are eliminated, some spread over a number of years.
- After a lifetime of payments to you, any remaining funds automatically support our mission in your name.

Call or email to learn what your payment rate and tax benefits will be. Be sure to ask about deferred charitable gift annuities and other options that may give you greater payments and tax benefits. If you would like to learn more, please contact Elisabeth Gadd, Chief Development Officer, at (386) 753-2066 or at plannedgiving@fumch.org. You can also visit www.fumchlegacy.org for more tax savings ideas.