



THE LINK
to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home

Holy Week and Easter Celebration

Holy week began on Palm Sunday with everyone gathering first at the regular chapel and then walking together to the outdoor chapel waving palm branches and shouting Hosanna all the way out back remembering and reliving Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem!

An escape room was created for both staff, our youth and children which included different, historic moments of Holy Week: Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the events of Maundy Thursday, the crucifixion on Good Friday and an escape from the Tomb. The escape rooms featured matching puzzles, hula hoops, and a "laser" maze (made out of string) giving palpable reminders of this last week in Jesus' life.

Holy Week culminated with a glorious worship service on Easter morning with an inspiring message calling for living in and living out of the freedom Jesus bought and paid for on the cross. As I watched this worship service online after the fact I was deeply moved, inspired and convicted myself to live in to and out of the freedom bought for me long ago. Every aspect of Easter worship proclaimed the Risen Christ! It was so moving to hear the energetic participation of our youth and children. Christ is Risen! He is risen, indeed!

May Is National Foster Care Month



May is National Foster Care Month, a time to acknowledge families and professionals who help children and youth in care find permanent homes and connections. There are over 391,000 children and youth in foster care in the United States.

Please consider how you may thank those families and professionals in your local area who work to provide foster care for our children and youth. May is the perfect time to promote the Foster Care program of the Children's Home through special collections. We served more than 240 children and youth in Foster Care in 2022 throughout Volusia, Flagler, Broward and Palm Beach counties, including two Foster Care Cottages on our Enterprise Campus with plans for future expansion.

Madison Youth Ranch Update

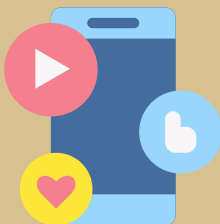
We would like to bid a fond farewell to Ms. Mica Renfro who served as our Administrator of the Madison Youth Ranch for several years. Mica has recently taken a similar job in Georgia leading the teams of the Methodist Home in Valdosta and St. Mary's, Georgia. Thank you Mica for all you did to make MYR such a wonderful, blessed place. We will miss you!

Recent happenings at MYR include: Really big academic successes this year, as our 6th grader won the school spelling bee and competed in the district spelling bee; our 5th grade resident has maintained A&B's on her report card for the first 3 nine week grading periods, and is expected to do that for this last grading cycle; and we have a resident with recent success on the SAT and ACT who no longer wants to drop out of school. Instead, she has a plan in place to graduate on time next school year!

The biggest success at the Madison Youth Ranch so far this year is that we had five young ladies make professions of faith and were baptized on Sunday, April 23rd. In addition, two of those five residents completed confirmation classes and were confirmed on the same Sunday!

Vacation Bible School

As we move farther away from the Covid pandemic, it is exciting to see more and more churches planning Vacation Bible School for this summer. Many churches connect a mission emphasis to their VBS. If your church hasn't chosen a mission emphasis for this summer, please consider the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. We can send you a brief video or Rev. Brian Carr would be glad to come and briefly share the ministry at the Children's Home with your children. Supply drives and offerings are always welcome as well. Please contact Brian at brian.carr@fumch.org or 386.561.3153 if you are interested. We would be delighted to partner with you during VBS this year!



Be sure to like and share us on social media!

School Needs List

As school winds down this month, we are making plans for the start of school in August. We always need school supplies and invite you to promote this need with your church. It could be an emphasis for your children during Vacation Bible School or a Summer Mission Emphasis for the entire church.

Highest priority needs include:

- Copy/printer paper
- Poster board
- Disinfecting wipes
- Computer towels
- Tissue boxes
- Flash drives

Other needs include:

- File folders
- Art supplies (acrylic and water color paint, air dry clay, plasticine clay, gesso, washi tape & paint brushes)
- Highlighters
- Compositions books (8.5"x11")
- Binder clips
- Rubber bands

For more information on school needs, including a complete list, please contact Volunteer Manager, Lynn Bellomy
lynn.bellomy@fumch.org
386.668.4774 ext. 2321.