



336 South Halifax Drive
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NOVEMBER 2023



For the season of Advent, we will go on a journey of exploration of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. What does it mean that Jesus is fully human and fully divine? What does it mean in the great Christmas hymn by Charles Wesley, "Hark the Herald's Sing," *"veiled in the flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity, pleased with us in the flesh to dwell, Jesus our Immanuel?"*

When the early church began to celebrate the birth of Jesus in the Fourth Century, they also struggled with those questions. As a result, they crafted "The Nicene Creed."

This statement of Christian faith dates back to that time, providing a rich and timeless framework to help us understand the profound truth of Jesus' incarnation.

As we move through Advent, we will let the Nicene Creed guide us as we travel to discover "Who Jesus Is?"

As we move into the heart of the Nicene Creed, we proclaim our faith in Jesus' incarnation with the words: *"and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man."* These words encapsulate the miracle of the Christmas story, where the eternal Word becomes flesh, dwelling among us.

As we light the Advent candles each week, let us be reminded of the profound humility and love that led God to take on human form, entering into our broken world to bring redemption and salvation.

Our sermons for this Christmas Season are:

December 3
Lord Jesus Christ
Revelation 19:16, Philippians 2:9-11, Matthew 16:15-16

December 10
Flesh and Blood
John 1:14, Philippians 2:7-8

December 17
True God
Colossians 1:15-20

December 24 Morning
Light of the World
John 1:4-9

Grace and Peace,
Scott



Let's make it "Count" this Thanksgiving

"Count it all joy" ([James 1:2](#)).
Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses.
Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes.
Count your smiles instead of your tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears.
Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
Count your health instead of your wealth;



No, they're not getting ready to pray... they are getting ready to judge the chili samples.



Chili Cook-Off Sunday, November 5th



Sara Keen's chili was the overall prize winner.



Delicious desserts were also available.



More than 30 pots of chili



Outdoor dining in the church courtyard.



THE EIGHT DECADES CLUB

We are highlighting those wonderful seniors in our church that have reached that young age of 80 or over. Send them a card, or if you see them, wish them a Happy Birthday.

Nov 23—Bob Hayek—1130 Live Oak Ave, Daytona Beach FL 32114-3912

Nov 23—Cary Holland—52 N St. Andrews Dr, Ormond Beach FL 32174-3839

Nov 24—Linda Sherm—124 Sandpiper Ridge Dr, Ormond Beach FL 32176-2244

Nov 26—Corrine Ives—1328 Antrim Cir, Ormond Beach FL 32174-2835

Dec 2—Tom Millen—7 Dartmouth Trace, Ormond Beach FL 32174-2473

Dec 3—Don Gill—42 Humming Bird Hill, Black Mountain NC 28711-8629

Dec 5—Joe Snyder—225 Chippewa Circle, Ormond Beach FL 32174

Dec 6—Jan Reece—11 Chippingwood Lane, Ormond Beach FL 32176

Dec 6—Lee Mitchell—2545 S Atlantic Ave Apt 2004, Daytona Beach Shores FL 32118-5544

Dec 10—Mona Reid—659 Southlake Dr, Ormond Beach FL 32174-1515

Dec 19—Peggy Triantafellu—Brookdale, 550 Wilmette Ave., #220, Ormond Beach FL 32174

Dec 28—Stu Oleson—111 Brown Crane Ct, South Daytona FL 32119-8725

Dec 28—Nancy Town—202 Bear Foot Trail, Ormond Beach Trail FL 32174

Dec 30—Carolyn Greene—1115 Northside Dr, Ormond Beach FL 32174

If you know of a name that should be on the list, or if a correction is needed, please let Frank Johnston know at :

fjohnston@firstunited.org



Proposed church building addition—looking at the front—on Halifax Avenue

Congregational concerns with our existing buildings on the Halifax

campus : (the team is working within the framework of the comments received)

- Lack of security in all of the buildings
- Extra maintenance expense as the office/ministry building is old
- Restrooms are small and outdated
- Our facilities lack current technology for audio/video
- Our facilities are not fully handicap-accessible
- Parking for large events is inadequate
- Our two main buildings (sanctuary and office/ministry) need to be joined together (currently separates parents from children, also there is a sense of “distance” between them)

Plan to attend one of the informational meetings:

November 29 (Wed.) at 6 p.m.

December 4 (Mon.) at 6 p.m.

December 6 (Wed.) at 6 p.m. (virtual only meeting)

January 7 (Sun.) at 10:15 a.m.

Each meeting will have the same information



Proposed church building addition — looking at the back

Pastor Amy and The Gathering Place congregation moved out onto the grass for a Blessing of Pets on Sunday, November 12th.



Scott Smith, Senior Pastor
First United Methodist Church
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Phone 386/677-3581
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We need your help in providing suggestions for our newsletter. We will be publishing it each month and we need your help in writing articles and news stories. Contact Will McLaughlin, <willmcla@gmail.com>