

JANUARY 2024

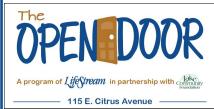




We are so grateful for everyone who was able and willing in 2023 to contribute financially in support of the vision and mission of First Eustis.

Please be in prayer that

all gifts received in 2024 will empower us to remain Christ's faithful servants in the coming year. *Thank you for your faithful & prayerful support.*



Thank you to everyone who donated to the *Christmas offering* that

was designated this year for <u>The Open Door.</u> \$555.00 was donated to help support The Open Door located at 115 E. Citrus Avenue in Eustis. If you would like to learn more about The Open Door or to volunteer please contact our Nurture/Outreach Chairperson, *Janet Thomas* (903-245-0484).

The Open Door is a drop-in center for individuals and families in Lake County who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless. The center provides a safe, compassionate and supportive environment. The center serves as a one-stop shop, linking area homeless to desperately needed amenities and services and ultimately assisting them in securing safe, affordable housing and support. Homeless individuals and families visiting the center have access to showers and laundry facilities; mailing address/phone access; food and beverages; assistance with obtaining benefits; community resources and referrals to other agencies and on-site support services.



STREAMS IN THE DESERT

Pathways to Launch New Fresh Expressions in Your Community Free Webinar

You are invited to join us for a conference-wide webinar with Bishop Tom Berlin and leadership team on January 17, 2024, from 6:00-7:30 pm, to launch new Fresh Expressions training streams across the conference. We will meet in Sturm Chapel on Wednesday, January 17 at 5:50pm for the seminar. For this week only our weekly Potluck dinner will be moved up to 5:15pm in Fellowship Hall.

Fresh Expressions Florida is a distinctly Wesleyan, Spirit-led movement of new Christian communities that serve the present age. Fresh Expressions are inclusive, accessible, transformative, and connectional communities of love and grace for people currently neglected by the church. These communities come in many forms and gather face-to-face, virtual, or hybrid.

In 2024, a team of clergy and laypeople from Fresh Expressions Florida is launching a new variety of replicable training streams for congregations to follow God's call to create new faith communities for those outside the walls of the church. Learn more about the streams.

- **1. Recovery Expressions**—Cultivate communities of healing for people in recovery who might be interested in Jesus as their higher power.
- **2. Open Table**—Join a distinctly Wesleyan movement of meal-based churches across the Florida Conference.
- **3. Queer Expressions**—Be a part of the intentional cultivation of inclusive new faith communities for LGBTQ+ persons and their allies.
- **4. Church@Play**—Create creative and fun ways for families and people of all ages and abilities to explore faith together.
- **5. Justice-Oriented Expressions**—Learn how to build community focused on interracial healing, connection, and learning from and platforming black and brown voices.
- **6.** *Expresiones de Amor*—Form multicultural, bilingual fresh expressions with Latino, Hispanic, and Latinx communities. This is a cross-conference collaboration with the Western North Carolina Conference.



We invite you to join us for in-person worship at 10:30am in Sturm Chapel on Sunday.

We recognize that not everyone is totally comfortable returning to in-person worship so we continue to offer online opportunities to attend worship. We stream the Sunday service on Facebook Live at 10:30am...

https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchEustisFlorida.

The worship services are also available for viewing at your convenience on our website and on YouTube.

http://www.fumceustis.org/worshipvideos

We look forward to worshiping with you!





WEDNESDAY NIGHT POTLUCK DINNER

& BIBLE STUDY/ Fellowship Hall Join us for a time of Fellowship and Study on Wednesday evenings in Fellowship Hall! Dinner is at 5:30pm & Bible Study begins at 6:15!

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Marsha Benson January 3 **Janet Thomas** January 8 **Patrick Thomas** January 13 Ruth Wendt January 16

January 23

January 25

January 25

Bert King

Carolyn Schnepp

Tom Raymond

Thank you to everyone that donated items for Forward Paths in December. Thank vou also to John & Ann Pearson for taking the cartful of donations to the Forward Paths offices in Leesburg. If you would like to learn more about the Forward Paths Foundation you are invited to visit the organization's web site at https://forwardpaths.org or their Facebook page at

facebook.com/ForwardPathsFoundationInc,

You may also contact the Executive Director, **Denise Burry** at (352-408-2307) for info.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you are interested in receiving offering envelopes for 2024 please contact the church office (352-357-5830) or Kay Hauserman (352-455-2680). Please also let us know the number of envelopes that you would like to receive.

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE ... Did you know that you can donate to First Eustis online through our website and Facebook page? If you are interested in finding out more information about using Vanco e-Giving please contact the church office (352-357-5830—Ext #100).



352-357-5830 Office Extension # 100

office@fumceustis.org / eustisfumc@gmail.com

http://www.fumceustis.org/

Pastor Jay Kowalski

352-357-5830 Extension # 104

727-430-7574

Pastoriay@fumceustis.org

Find & Like us on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/

FirstUnitedMethodistChurchEustisFlorida.

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-4:00pm Friday: 9:00am-12:00noon



2nd & 3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 11AM-4PM IN THE CHILDREN'S WING OF FUMC EUSTIS AT 600 S. GROVE STREET.

We offer a wide selection of free clothing and accessories from newborn to adult sizes. Donations accepted year round.

christsclosetministry@gmail.com