

Curlew United Methodist Church

*where everyone is welcome and
where all can make a difference!*

Curlew UMC proudly celebrates 150 years of ministry.

Our Mission:

To Know, Love and Serve Jesus Christ by the grace of God through the Holy Spirit

Our Purpose:

Be the Body of Christ gathered in love. Worship God and Preach the gospel so that others may know the power of God's love through a personal relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ. Grow in faith, knowledge and strength in order to do God's work in the community and in the world.

For more information, please contact us.
Office Open: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
727.784.3424

Website: www.CurlewUMC.org
E-Mail: curlewumc@verizon.net
Facebook: Curlew UMC



*Open hearts
Open minds
Open doors*



Contact Information

2210 Cathedral Drive
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Phone: 727.784.3424
Fax: 727.771.1449

Email:
CurlewUMC@verizon.net

Website:
www.CurlewUMC.org

Facebook:
Curlew UMC



Sunday Morning

10:15 Organ Selections
10:30 Morning Worship



Rev. Rachel Hughes
Senior Pastor

E-mail:
CurlewUMC@verizon.net

727.488.3570



THE COURIER NEWSLETTER

A monthly publication of Curlew United Methodist Church

SEPTEMBER 2020

From Pastor Rachel ...

Hello Curlew Family,

Can you believe what a year we have had so far in 2020 and fall is almost here? Well, our weather here won't change much until winter season. I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy some type of relaxation this summer. I enjoyed being in the mountains of East Tennessee and seeing my family.

The rise of COVID-19 has created a challenge for me, and the leadership team of Curlew. Do we continue to gather for worship and dramatically modify what we do before, during, and after worship? Do we have worship, but not include Holy Communion? Do we cancel our worship services? If we cancel, for how long? Who decides? How do we decide?

Lots of questions to be answered about when to resume worship service here at Curlew. Hopefully, and I say that with caution, we can come back to live worship by the end of the month. Please remember that your and our safety is the utmost concern when we are making these decisions.

I love all of you and miss worshiping and our fellowship together. I hope the Praise Band has helped keep you connected to Curlew and I am looking forward to seeing you in the pews soon. Love, grace and peace be with you.

*In Christ's Love,
Pastor Rachel*

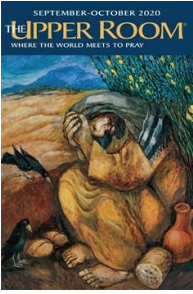


Curlew United Methodist Church
2210 Cathedral Drive
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The People of The United Methodist Church



Forwarding Service Requested



The Upper Room, September-October Edition

We have received both the regular and large-print editions of The Upper Room, September-October Edition. If you would like one, please stop by the church office any day between 10:00-3:00. If that is not possible, just call the church office (784.3424) and we'd be happy to mail you one!



Currently, the Curlew United Methodist Men have no plans to meet for breakfast during the month of September. A few of us continue to meet via ZOOM every Saturday morning at 8:00 am. Six of us were on this past week, and if anyone would like to join us, the ID sign-in code is: **714 5751 1391**. The password when prompted is: **umm**.

Election of new officers is coming up in October, so please consider serving in office next year.

No plans for future Spaghetti Dinners have been made due to the continuing restrictions on social distancing and gatherings of 10 or more.

Stay healthy and God bless! Winn

9/03 Shirley Appell	9/18 Ron Shank
9/03 Jahn Lawson	9/20 Linda Melvin
9/14 Fred Appell	9/25 Marlin Taylor
9/15 Katie Rowe-Ventrucci	9/25 Mary Hoffman
9/16 Helen Akin	9/27 Ben Winkler
9/17 Verda Woods	

9/05 Tom & Donna Gibbs



(If you want to send a birthday or anniversary card, please call the church office if you need an address for any of the folks listed here.)

Bible Trivia Answers

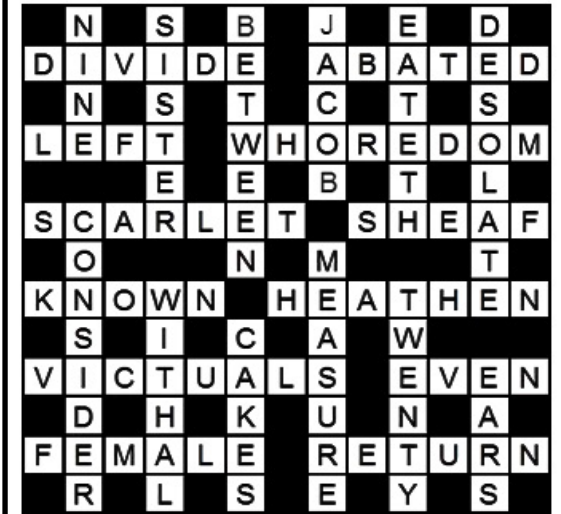
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Malta | 6. Miriam |
| 2. John | 7. Methuselah |
| 3. Cana of Galilee | 8. Mount Ararat |
| 4. 39 | 9. Coat |
| 5. Tarsus | 10. The Sanhedrin |



How many did you get right?

Book of Leviticus

Bible Crossword Answer Key



Be sure to go online to: members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and register to use our online directory. Only those in the directory can register, and then you'll have access to our most up-to-date information!

If you need information or assistance, call ...

The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

A program of the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc.

The ADRC provides access to information and resources for:

- Adult Day Care ♦ Caregiver Support ♦ Food Resources/Meals on Wheels ♦ Housing Options ♦ Incontinence Supplies ♦ Legal Services ♦ Medicaid/Medicare ♦ Nursing Home and Assisted Living Placement ♦ Prescription Assistance ♦ and more!

Helpline: 1-800-963-5337 or 727-217-8111, 8 am - 5 pm; Online: www.AgingCareFL.org



"Remember when we could count our blessings without a spreadsheet program?"



"If you don't stop asking for things, God's going to change channels."



Options for Online Worship through Gulf Central District UMC Churches

Aldersgate, Seminole (Sun 10:30) <http://aldersgate.com/watch/>

Anona, Largo (Sun 9:30, 11) <http://live.anona.com/>

Community, Oldsmar (Sun 10) <https://www.facebook.com/pg/GrowWithCommunity/videos/>

East Lake, Palm Harbor (Sun 10:25, 11:35) <https://www.myeastlake.church/watch-live/>

First, Clearwater (Sun 9:45) <https://www.fumc-clw.com/>

First, Lakeland (Sun 8:15, 9:30, 11, 11:20) <https://www.firstumc.org/worship-now/>

First, St. Petersburg (Sun 8, 9:30, 11) <https://www.facebook.com/StPeteFirst/>

Heritage, Clearwater (Sun 9, 10:30) <https://heritageumc.com/watch-listen/>

Hyde Park, Tampa (Sun 8:30, 9:30 11) <http://hydeparkumc.org/watch-live>

New Hope, Brandon (Sun 9:30, 11) <https://www.findnewhope.com/watch-live-1>

Skycrest, Clearwater (Sun 9:45) www.facebook.com/skycrestumc

St. Paul, Largo (Sun 9, 10:30) <http://stpaulumc.sermon.net/Live/live/20007062>

Sun City Center (Sun 10, 11) <https://www.sccumc.com/services>

* Covenant UMC, Port Orange - Pastor B.J. Foster's church (Sun 10:30) www.jesusatcovenant.org

* Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, KS (largest American UMC church, Pastor Adam Hamilton)
(Sun 10:15 am; 12:00 & 6:00 pm) www.cor.org

People Needing Prayer

As the Body of Christ, we are called to pray for each other. What a privilege we have to go to God for the needs of our brothers and sisters!

As of the printing of this newsletter, we are in prayer for:

Ernie Bear, Janice Boorse, Sandy Fika, Richard & Linda Hicks, Betty Johnson, Helen Kamp, JR Melvin, Mark & Mary Smiech, your Church Family and Church Leaders, the United Methodist Church, our country, and those across the globe fighting the coronavirus pandemic.



We are aware of several church families in need of prayer for loved ones, so please lift them up in prayer as well.

Let us help! **Please** be sure to call the Church Office when you or someone you know is in need of prayer. We want to know when someone is in the hospital or is in need of prayer for any reason, so please be sure to call the church office. If it's after hours, just leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as possible!

Pray for our Shut-ins

Esther Besch - 2851 Tampa Road, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 (Manor Care, 787-4777)

Mary DeDea - 2655 Nebraska Avenue, #1002, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 (St. Mark, 785-2576)

Eileen Huntington - 2655 Nebraska Avenue, #1022, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 (St. Mark, 785-2576)

Barbara Bardua - 1212 Lanyard Street, Palm Harbor, FL 34685 (789-4313)

Evelyn Ralston - 2340 Grecian Way, Unit 20, Clearwater FL 33763



When We're Stuck in a Mess

by Lysa Terkeurst

copied from www.proverbs31.org

"Then the LORD said to me, 'You have made your way around this hill country long enough; now turn north.'" Deuteronomy 2:2-3 (NIV)

We all have messes in our lives. Financial messes. Relationship messes. Health messes. Home messes. Business messes.

Messes that leave us feeling stuck. Like we may be stranded in this place of upheaval and unrest forever.

I'm sure that's how the people of Israel felt as they were wandering through the desert. Stuck in a mess with no end in sight.

You've probably read or heard this story found in the book of Exodus. God had miraculously set the Israelites free from the oppression and bondage of slavery in Egypt. But their unwillingness to fully trust Him and their blatant refusal to take possession of the Promised Land left them in quite a mess. A 40-year, desert-wandering mess.

Thankfully, in the book of Deuteronomy, we discover their story isn't over. Change is coming. The children of the Israelites, originally released from Pharaoh's tyranny, are finally about to take possession of the land God said was theirs all along.

But before they move forward, Moses has everyone pause to look back. He knows he won't be going with them, so he wants to be sure to cement in their minds the faithfulness of God along their journey.

Moses reminds them of a time when they'd been stuck circling the same mountain for too long. God spoke into their wandering and let them know it was time to head in a new direction.

"Then the LORD said to me, 'You have made your way around this hill country long enough; now turn north'" (Deuteronomy 2:2-3).

It was a pivotal moment for them to remember. One where they had faced a life-changing choice. They could stay stuck, endlessly circling the same old place, or they could choose hope and head in a new direction with the Lord.

They could turn north.

I think this is the perfect time to pause and ask God if there's anywhere we need to "turn north" in our lives. *Have we been circling the same messes for years and years, with no end in sight? Are there areas we know we need to change — but feel like it will require too much sacrifice?*

Here's a question we can ask ourselves right in the midst of our messes ...

Am I letting this mess define me or refine me?

The answer to this question is crucial.

If I let a mess define me, I will feel hopeless.

If I let a mess refine me, I will be hopeful.

When We're Stuck in a Mess

continued from page 3

If the Israelites had looked at their 40-year track record of aimless wandering and defined themselves as rebellious failures, they would have lost all hope and kept right on circling.

But because they embraced the correction and redirection of the Lord, they were able to turn around and move toward His promises with hope firmly planted in their hearts.

It's time for our messes to stop defining us.

It's time to embrace the refining process and turn north.

So how do we begin to turn north? We replace our old thoughts with empowering truths from God's Word.

I call them "Go-To Scripts." In other words, these statements can become our new patterns of thought. And these new patterns of thought will empower us for a new way of living.

May we hear the Father's voice, filled with grace and free from any hint of condemnation, declaring over us today, "It's time to turn north, beloved." And may we be found turning toward Him and moving forward with Him.

Dear Lord, thank You for offering me hope. I'm choosing to believe today that I don't have to stay stuck in my messes, even if they are messes of my own making. I'm tuning my ear to Your voice today. I'm filling my heart and mind with the Truth of Your Word. And now, I'm heading in a new direction with You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Bible Trivia

1. Paul was shipwrecked on what island? _____
2. Who wrote the book of Revelation? _____
3. What is the name of the village where Christ turned water into wine?

4. How many books are in the Old Testament? _____
5. What is the city of Paul's birthplace? _____
6. What was the name of Moses' sister? _____
7. Who is the oldest man in the Bible? _____
8. Where did the ark come to rest after the flood?

9. What piece of clothing made Joseph's brothers jealous? _____
10. Which group was the ruling council of the Jews who plotted to kill Jesus?



Look for the answers to these trivia questions in the back of the Courier.



Hello everyone! Hope everyone is doing well.

I am writing to thank you all for your prayers, encouragement and assistance in the ministry process I have been a part of. Today, Thursday, August 27, I was approved by the Gulf Central DCOM as a Certified Lay Minister. Praise God and thank you Curlew UMC for being a big part in my spiritual growth.

Love and Blessings to all,
RoseMarie Ash



A few minutes before the services started, the townspeople were sitting in their pews and talking. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate.

Soon everyone had exited the church except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seeming oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence. So Satan walked up to the old man and said, "Don't you know who I am?"

The man replied, "Yep, sure do."

"Aren't you afraid of me?" Satan asked.

"Nope, sure ain't," said the man.

"Don't you realize I can kill you with a word?" asked Satan.

"Don't doubt it for a minute," returned the old man, in an even tone.

"Did you know that I could cause you profound, horrifying, physical AGONY... for all eternity?" persisted Satan.

"Yep," was the calm reply.

"And you're still not afraid?" asked Satan.

"Nope."

More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for the last 48 years."



Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

James 1:2-3



**Thanks
for Your
Support!**

Many, many thanks to those of you who continue to support our church with your tithes and offerings. All our financial obligations are current thanks to your faithful generosity!

Once again, thank you, thank you, thank you!



Anchor Deep

During the challenging times we are facing and the isolation caused by the Corona Virus pandemic, I have been amazed and encouraged by the creativity of churches, businesses and most especially families as they seek to provide opportunities for us to be together and to find a “New Normal.” While this is a positive approach to an unprecedented situation, it is also a time to “be still and know that I am God - “I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth” - Psalms 46:10.

While people are seeking ways to create a common thread, it is right here and always has been. With more time available, it is the perfect time to seek a deeper more meaningful relationship with Christ. Prayer, Bible reading/study. When the storms come, a good sailor knows to “Anchor Deep.” Lovingly I tell you, it is time for us to anchor deep. In his book, **Six Hours One Friday**, Max Lucado gives us some anchor points, our lives are not futile, our failures are not fatal, our deaths are not final - all because of Jesus!

Be not dismayed or discouraged, but instead anchor deep in God’s word- Joshua 1:9, “this is my commandment-be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go”. I leave you with this reminder via a poem I wrote last September.

It is called **Safe Harbor**:

Where is my safe harbor, where did it go? It’s gone and I am alone - disappeared into the night like a ship lost at sea. The roaring ocean - cold and unrelenting - the unexpected sandbars and unseen dangers all around!

In the darkness I am lost, I cannot see, where is the Lighthouse - the beacon that shines forth and brings me to the light, bright and sweet - it is Jesus my beacon of hope ever more - my safe harbor that always endures.

Anchor deep, say a prayer and hold on to Jesus!

Helen Hershman, Lay Leader

DON’T FORGET THAT THE THRIFTY SPIRIT IS CLOSED FOR THE SUMMER!

THEY WILL REOPEN ON OCTOBER 10TH.

PLEASE CALL JERRY NAHRWOLD AT 260.348.5559 IF YOU HAVE ANY DONATIONS.



If conditions continue to improve (as they seem to be doing at this point), we are planning to reopen the church for worship on **Sunday, September 20**. We will still observe all the protocols that have been put in place due to COVID-19. Masks must be worn and social distancing rules must be followed. Please stay home if you are not feeling well or have a temperature.

We look forward to seeing everyone on September 20th! Please call the church office the week prior to the 20th to make sure that we are still on track to open.



The church office will be closed on **Monday, September 7**, in observation of the Labor Day holiday. We hope you have a happy and safe Labor Day! Let’s say a special prayer this year for the health professionals and first responders that have been dealing with the coronavirus on a daily basis for many months.

TWO EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH!

Rada Cutlery has all kinds of kitchen gadgets , food mixes and cookbooks available for purchase. In order to see what’s available, go to :

www.Radafundraising.com

Once you’re on the page, it will ask you to select a fundraising group by putting in the city, state and zip code. Once you enter the info, our church should “pop up”. Just click on that and you’re all set!



WE’RE SELLING RADA CUTLERY

If you don’t have a computer, we have catalogs available in the church office. Pick one up, or we can mail it to you ... then keep it and whenever you want to order something, just call the church office and we’ll order it so that it can be credited to the church!



iGive.com is an online site that donates a percentage of your purchase to a designated charity. They have over 2,400 participating stores and are approved by the United Methodist Church. Just go to their site and sign up. Then when you visit a store online, if they participate you will see an “iGive” logo in the bottom right corner of your screen. Click on it and they will automatically make your donation. Some examples: Cokesbury, 7.2%; L.L. Bean: 3.2%; FTD: 8%; Lane Bryant: 3.2%; Personalization Mall: 8%. Questions? Call the church office.

Dear Curlew Family,

As all of us are very aware, the past several months have been a challenge to all of our lives as we work through each and every day living with this pandemic. It has also been very hard for the Florida United Methodist Children's Home as they continue to provide shelter, education, and (most important) love and the Word of God to the residents.



During this time, we have not only been unable to gather together to hear the Word, but we have also been unable to celebrate 3 of our 5th Sundays when we honor the Children's Home. So we would like to remember the wonderful work that is being done by the staff as they not only provide the basic needs for the children, but also strive to keep them safe during these uncertain times. We know that love, a good education, and seeing the love of Jesus each and every day is very important to all of us as God's children, but especially so to these wonderful children in their care.

We would like to set aside the month of September to honor the Children's Home by not only our giving but by keeping them in our prayers. If you are able, please give a little extra this month for the Children's Home when you send in your offering ... just remember to indicate what portion of your offering should be set aside for the Children's Home. Our last 5th Sunday in 2020 will be in November.

As always Bob and I appreciate your support for this important mission and the support you show to us as your representatives.

All God's Blessings to Everyone,
Bob and Linda Floyd

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Virginia Worsham, who passed away on August 10.

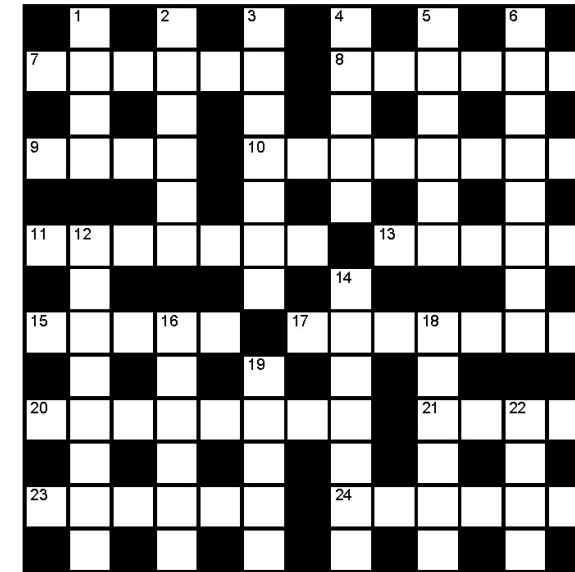
Virginia was a long-time member of Curlew, and was well-loved by many in our church family.

Virginia's service was held here on Saturday, August 29.

Please continue to keep her family and friends in your prayers.



Book of Leviticus Bible Crossword (King James Version)



Across

- 7 "And he shall bring them unto the priest, who shall offer that which is for the sin offering first, and wring off his head from his neck, but shall not _____ it asunder." Lev 5:8 (6)
- 8 A word that means lessened. Lev 27:18 (6)
- 9 The priest poured oil into the palm of this hand. Lev 14:26 (4)
- 10 Leviticus warns the Israelites not to prostitute their daughters "lest the land fall into _____," Lev 19:29 (8)
- 11 One of the items taken for the leper who was to be cleansed; also a color. Lev 14:4 (7)
- 13 "And he shall wave the _____ before the LORD, to be accepted for you." Lev 23:11 (5)
- 15 "When the sin, which they have sinned against it, is _____, then the congregation shall offer a young bullock for the sin," Lev 4:14 (5)
- 17 God warned Israel that if they despised his statutes, he would "scatter [them] among the _____," Lev 26:33 (7)

Down

- 1 "And the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and _____ years." Lev 25:8 (4)
- 2 Opposite of brother. Lev 20:19 (6)
- 3 The LORD made statutes, judgments and laws _____ himself and the children of Israel. Lev 26:46 (7)
- 4 Isaac's son. Lev 26:42 (5)

5 "But the soul that _____ of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, ... even that soul shall be cut off from his people." Lev 7:20 (6)

- 6 Israel's land would become _____ if they despised God's statutes. Lev 26:33 (8)
- 12 "Then the priest shall _____: and, behold, if the leprosy have covered all his flesh, he shall pronounce him clean that hath the plague." Lev 13:13 (8)
- 14 "Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in _____." Lev 19:35 (7)
- 16 "Yet these may ye eat of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon all four, which have legs above their feet, to leap _____ upon the earth;" Lev 11:21 (6)
- 18 Starting age in Lev 27:3. (6)

- 19 These were offered along with leavened bread. Lev 7:13 (5)
- 22 The meat offering of firstfruits should include green _____ of corn. Lev 2:14 (4)