The Bulletin Board

October 28, 2026

First Congregational UCC
PO Box 135
Lake Helen, FL 32744

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Please take note that the Church Council Meeting, Book Club and one of the Sound Bath sessions are moving this month .

- Council will meet on the **FIRST** Thursday
- Book Club will meet on the third **TUESDAY** Book Club is reading *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir
- The second Sound Bath will take place on fourth **TUESDAY**.

There will be Workshops to make Christmas Ornaments on the first two Friday afternoon and a Thanksgiving Potluck on Wednesday the 18th.

Monthly Happenings

- Litte Crafted Heroes crochet group 1:30 pm in the Parish House 1st & 3rd Tuesday
- Line Dancing is taking a break for the month of October and part of November
- Bible Study every Wednesday 11:00-Noon
- Church Council meets at 10:00 am the 2nd Thursday
- Tai Chi at 4 pm in the church the 1st and 3rd Thursday
- Crystal Bowl Sound Bath at 4 pm the 2nd Thursday
- Crystal Bowl Sound Bath 6:30 pm in the church 2nd and 4th Thursday

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Save the Date
Saturday, November 28 ~ 1:00 pm

Decorate the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas

Many hands make light work. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend if you are able.

Prayer Requests

Jan Batchelder
(Christy's friend)
Jordan Chavez
Jack Fielding
Chuck Fossler
(Pat 's brother)

Anna Haskins
Tina & Martina Habick
Laura (Greta's daughter)
Donald L.
(Ray & Rafi's friend)
Carol Rambo (Blakes wife)

Ed Raymond
(Fran's brother)
Ellen & Jim Robinson
Sebastian Ruiz
Earl Smith
(Rafi's grandson)

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Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

Ralph DeMattia, November 7
Shirley Hotze, November 10
Betty Doherty, November 12
Ray Arroyo, November 27
Blake Rambo, November 27

Happy Anniversary to:

Steve & Christy Martin, November 1
Peggy & Dick Mooers, November 24

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Can you help?

Just like families and businesses, our church is feeling the effects of inflation. Faced with rising costs, we have two ways to deal with the issue: find ways to bring in more money and/or find ways to reduce expenses.

As Pastor Kathleen has shared with the congregation, the church council has been working hard to reduce expenses for the coming year. There are rising costs we cannot control, but we are making every effort to present you with a 2027 budget that is as lean as we can possibly make it and still meet the needs of a growing and vibrant church.

For example, we are exploring alternatives to our current building and liability insurance, which is one of our largest operating expenses. We are also looking at new bids for such recurring services as lawn maintenance and pest control.

And we are asking you to help out with maintenance expenses by joining a cleaning team. We are hoping to create four teams of two to four members each. Each team will be responsible for routine cleaning once a month: vacuuming both buildings, emptying trash cans, and cleaning bathrooms. Floors should be mopped twice a month, so this extra duty would be rotated among the teams. We have asked Parish of the Incarnation to provide one of the teams. Together, we can keep our church beautifully welcoming.

Thank you to several people who have already let us know they are willing to help! Many hands make light work. Let Pastor Kathleen know if you are willing and able to pitch in.

And if you have other ideas for cost control, let us know!

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There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Nov. 15, 2026 in the sanctuary immediately after the worship service

The purpose of this meeting is

1. to elect leaders for 2027, and
2. to approve the operating budget for 2027.

According to our Bylaws,

- all active members shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the Church. An active member is a member who has attended worship and/or contributed to the church during the past twelve months.
- Roberts Rules of Order shall be observed in the conduct of all meetings and
- a quorum shall consist of 33% of the active members.

Please mark your calendar and plan to be present for this important meeting.

Copies of the proposed budget and slate of officers will be available following worship on Sunday, November 8.

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Cookie Walk and Christmas Ornaments

The **ANNUAL COOKIE WALK FUNDRAISER** will be held on Saturday, December 5 starting at 9 AM until cookies are gone. The round tables in the fellowship room will be filled with a variety of cookies made by all of us. A variety of sizes and shapes of containers will be available in the Parlor of the Parish House. Along with the container, participants are provided a glove so they are able to fill the container with cookies of their choice. Containers are priced individually according to the volume they hold.

Everyone is invited to make cookies! Please sign up to let us know what kind you plan to bake. You can bring your cookies to the Parish House on Friday the 4th (time to be announced) and a member of the team will be available to receive them.

In addition to needing lots of different varieties of Christmas cookies, we're asking all crafters to make some of their favorite **CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS** for us to sell at the Cookie Walk. A tin of home baked cookies with a hand-crafted ornament makes a great Christmas gift! Will you make a few ornaments? Let Ray, or Suzy, or Vicky know. Or, come to the Workshops on November 6 & 13 at 3 pm and we'll make ornaments together. Bring your own to work on or join the "class" (supplies provided) and make something new.

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **10:30 Worship All Saints Sunday & Communion** 2-3 pm Mass in Sanctuary	2 6:30-8:30 pm AA in Parish House	3 **1:30-2:30 pm Crochet Group** 7-9 pm – PH NARANON	4 **11-12 Bible Study** **Church Office Open 9 am – 3 pm**	5 **10 am Council** **4-5 Tai Chi in the Sanctuary** 5:30-6:30 PH Catholic Bible Study	6 **3 pm Workshop to make Christmas Ornaments.**	7 8-10 am PH Sat Morning AA
8 **10:30 Worship** 2-3 pm Mass in Sanctuary	9 6:30-8:30 pm AA in Parish House	10 7-9 pm – PH NARANON	11 **11-12 Bible Study** **Church Office Open 9 am – 3 pm**	12 **4:00-5:00 Church Sound Bowls** 5:30-6:30 PH Catholic Bible Study **6:30-7:30 Church Sound Bowls**	13 **3 pm Workshop to make Christmas Ornaments.**	14 8-10 am PH Sat Morning AA
15 **10:30 Worship Congregational Meeting** 2-3 pm Mass in Sanctuary	16 6:30-8:30 pm AA in Parish House	17 **1:30-2:30 pm Crochet Group** **3 pm Book Club** 7-9 pm – PH NARANON	18 **Church Office Open 9 am – 3 pm** **Thanksgiving Potluck 5-7 PM**	19 **4-5 Tai Chi in the Sanctuary** 5:30-6:30 PH Catholic Bible Study	20	21 8-10 am PH Sat Morning AA
22 **10:30 Worship** 2-3 pm Mass in Sanctuary	23 6:30-8:30 pm AA in Parish House	24 **6:30-7:30 Church Sound Bowls** 7-9 pm – PH NARANON	25 **Church Office Open 9 am – 3 pm**	26 **Thanksgiving Day**	27	28 8-10 am PH Sat Morning AA **Decorate Church for Advent 1pm**
29 **Breakfast Church 10:30** **1st Sunday in Advent** 2-3 pm Mass in Sanctuary	30 6:30-8:30 pm AA in Parish House	**YELLOW BOLD = Church sponsored event** PLAIN TYPE = OUTSIDE GROUP				