

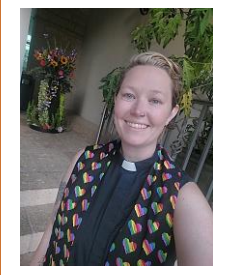
OCTOBER 2026



The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of First United Methodist Church of Pinellas Park

BRITTANY'S BITS



This October, we begin our new stewardship series, *Connected: Growing in Grace. Living Generously.* Together, we will explore how our connection to God, one another, our purpose, and the community around us shapes the way we live and give.

Stewardship is about more than financial giving. It is about recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God, that you belong, and that we are called to share God's love through our time, gifts, resources, and service.

As we journey through this series, I invite you to reflect on how God's grace is at work in your life and how you might respond with gratitude and generosity. Every prayer, every act of kindness, and every gift helps us continue sharing God's love with our neighbors through ministries like our food pantry, showers, community hot meal, thrift store, and so much more!

As we discern the future of our church and its ministries, may we remember that our greatest connections are to God, one another, and to our neighbors.



With gratitude,
Pastor Brittany Leclair

ANTIRACISM/SOCIAL JUSTICE: See more, page 3



Rosh Hashanah Interfaith Celebration with The Progressive Jewish Coalition and Heal Palestine

SAVE THE DATE!

A BETTER JOB FAIR

HOSTED BY:



FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH
PINELLAS PARK

Thursday, Oct 8, 2028

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

9025 49th St. N
Pinellas Park, FL 33782

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

We have good news! There is a Community Job Fair planned near YOU!

Better Together is partnering with First United Methodist Church Pinellas Park to host a job fair with the primary goal of connecting local businesses with a large pool of diverse job seekers. This job fair will be unique and embodies a culture of celebration! We will have various employers, resources and services onsite, in addition to on-the-spot interviews!



Text **JOBS** to (844) 987-3949 or visit
bettertogetherus.org/fumcpinellaspark

TRUSTEE NEWS

The Trustees are pleased to share that our church has reached an important milestone in the redevelopment of our campus. Following approval by the Church Conference on August 30, 2026, First United Methodist Church of Pinellas Park has signed a contract with Atlantic Pacific to move forward with the redevelopment project. Under the current plan, the church will retain our Sanctuary along with the upstairs, downstairs office spaces, and choir room, while the Fellowship Hall and other areas included in the redevelopment will be removed as the campus is redesigned for future use.

There are still several steps ahead, including required United Methodist approvals, due diligence, planning, and preparation for the eventual redevelopment and closing process. The Trustees will continue working closely with Atlantic Pacific, church leadership, and our denominational partners and will keep the congregation informed as plans progress. We are excited about the opportunities ahead as we work to create a sustainable campus that supports worship, ministry, outreach, and service to our community for generations to come.

- Mike Coate,
Trustees Chair





OCTOBER

OCTOBER MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, & EVENTS

First Monday Group: Mon., October 5th, 5:30 pm, IHOP, 4671 Park Blvd. Everyone is invited, just bring your wallet to pay for your meal!

Free Meals: Wed., 11 am, FH: October 7th, 14th, 16th, 21st, 28th

Deborah Circle: Tues., October 13th, 2:00, FH

HCH Street Medicine Clinic: Wed., October 14th, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Vietnamese Group of Tampa Bay: Sat., October 17th

Potluck Lunch: Sun., October 18th, after Worship, FH

Better Together: Fostering: FH during Potluck

Meetings: Tues., October 20th: **Finance**, 6 pm; **Ministry Council**, 7 pm

Annual Church Charge Conference: Thurs., Oct. 22nd, FH

Beyond the Wings Teater Production: Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors: Fri., Oct. 23rd, 7 pm; Sat., Oct. 24th, 7 pm; Sun., Oct. 25th, 3 pm: Lealman Exchange Community Center, 5175 – 45th St., N., St. Petersburg, FL



**Saturday,
October 31st**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

10/01	Francis Rolle
10/07	Louise Linneman Craig Wilcox
10/16	Barbara Rooney
10/19	Chris Christie
10/22	Margaret Scanlon

ANTIRACISM/SOCIAL JUSTICE



**People of Faith
Picnic in September**

A Note from Pastor Brittany

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and I want to take a moment to share how grateful I am to serve this community.

Being your pastor is a gift. I am thankful for the stories you share, the trust you place in me, and the ways you show up for one another and our neighbors. Some of the most meaningful moments of ministry happen in simple acts of kindness, shared meals, honest conversations, and the reminder that everyone deserves a place to belong.

I am continually reminded that the church is something we build together. I may not have all the answers, but I believe God is at work among us, and I am grateful to be part of that work alongside you.

Thank you for allowing me to walk with you, learn from you, and grow with you. It is a privilege to serve as your pastor, and I look forward to all the ways we will continue to share God's love with our community.

*In service together, **Pastor Brittany***

OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Book Signing	2	3 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Thrift Store (TS) Private Rental, 11 am – 3:00 pm, FH and Sanctuary, SSA and Medicare PAC
4 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (E3, E4) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc)	5 5:30 First Monday Group (IHOP, Park Blvd.)	6 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf.	7 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 10:30am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR)	8	9	10 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (TS)
11 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (E3, E4) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc) Private Rental	12	13 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf. 2:00 pm Deborah Circle, FH	14 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 10:30am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR)	15	16	17 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (TS) Vietnamese Group of Tampa Bay (Sanc)
18 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (E3, E4) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc) Potluck Lunch, FH after worship Better Together: Fostering, FH during Potluck	19	20 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf. 6:00pm Finance Committee (FH) 7:00pm Ministry Council (FH)	21 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 10:30am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR)	22 <i>Annual Church Charge Conference, FH</i>	23	24 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (TS)
25 9:30am Sunday School - Adult (E3, E4) 11:00am Worship in Person & FB (Sanc)	26	27 10:00am Ladies Prayer & Study - by Uber Conf.	28 8:30am Mulligan Food Pantry (E1, E2) 10:30am Wednesday Free Meal (FH/Kit) 6:30pm Choir Practice (PAR)			

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

A glimpse of our community partners that come to join with us on Wednesdays as we serve free lunches

Florida Dream Center



Voice of America Volunteer



The Pinellas County Health Department Street Clinic



The 49th Street location where we do one wash and dry one load of laundry for 16 people each week

MEMORIAL RECIPE EXCHANGE

As we move into a new era in our church, perhaps we should pause to reflect on those who made this church possible to begin with and on those who were active in shaping our presence in the community over the years.

TEMPTING ITALIAN TUNA MELT*

- 1 can tuna, drained and flaked
 - 1/3 cup mayonnaise
 - 1/4 cup each: chopped onion and green pepper
 - 1/2 tsp. each: dried basil and oregano
 - 2 English Muffins, split and toasted
 - 4 tomato slices
 - 4 mozzarella singles, each cut in half
- Mix tuna, dressing, onion, green pepper and seasonings. Heat broiler. Spoon tuna mixture on each muffin half; top with tomato slice. Place on cookie sheet. Broil 1 minute. Top each with 2 cheese halves, sprinkle with chopped parsley if desire. Broil until cheese begins to melt (1 to 2 minutes). Makes 4 sandwiches.

Jackie Cauthen

** From Be Our Guest, the 50th Anniversary edition cookbook of FUMC Pinellas Park United Methodist Women, 2010, page 55*

Jackie also submitted the following recipes: Cranberry Pineapple Salad, page 13; Oven Fried Chicken, page 39; Smothered Squash and Pinto Beans, page 54; Creamy Banana Pie, page 77

Clyde and Jackie Cauthen were charter members of our church and were among our most active forces for many years while they were able.

CURRENT RECIPE EXCHANGE

Look for more recipe exchanges in future issues: we'll print one or two new ones with a Thanksgiving theme for next issue.

If you would like to comment on this article, please email me at messenger9025@gmail.com.



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<http://www.fumcpp.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/fumc.pinellaspark>

https://twitter.com/#!/FUMC_PPark

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Wednesday 1 pm – 5 pm

Sunday, Monday, Friday, and Saturday: Closed

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TBA

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Joan Berriault 460-5786

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Nominations

Chair: Pastor Brittany 546-5741