

St. Augustine Shores United Methodist Church
(904) 797-4416



Email your
prayer concerns
to the church
office at
shoresumc@bellsouth.net

Online Giving is
available for
contributions to
the Church
Budget,
Apportionments
Food Pantry and
Youth. Visit
www.shoresumc.org
and click
"Donate" on the
top right.



Pastor Carolyn's Conundrums

Matthew 28:5-10 (NIV)

⁵ But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. ⁷ And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you." ⁸ So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word. ⁹ And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."

This takes place as the women arrive at the tomb. Notice that the Angel and Jesus greet the women saying, "Do not be afraid". They knew that the women would respond with fear.

Every time God calls us to do something there is often fear on our part. Sometimes that fear is debilitating. The doubts in our own abilities surround us and we just can't seem to move passed it. That got me wondering about how often we encounter being afraid as we read through the Bible. I researched the word afraid. There are 105 instances of that word in the entire Bible. For all of those times it is when people were called to trust God and do what God had asked.

I started thinking about how God responds to those times, as in our passage above. I researched "Do not be afraid" – Jesus said this phrase 21 times – it occurs in the entire Bible 100 times. After the resurrection Jesus uses the phrase "Peace be with you" 4 times and that phrase does not occur anywhere else in the Bible. That is a total of 104 times that people are told not to be afraid, with most of those being God saying them and the rest are from representatives of God, encouraging individuals to follow where God is leading in spite of their fear. Most accompanied with a reminder that God will be with them and help them.

What does all this mean for us? This past year has been a year full of changes, and this year seems to be following suit. Many of us have experience grief, isolation, frustration, weariness and the list goes on. My prayer has been that we have also experienced God in a new way through it all. Often that can be missed because of fear. It is natural to experience fear when we are called to do things that are outside our comfort zone. It also means that God recognizes that, and promises to help us, to be with us, so that we can move forward courageously. This does not mean we will move forward with the absence of fear, but with the confidence – knowing that all things are possible through Christ who strengthens us.

This Easter may we take the words of Jesus to heart and "Rejoice!" and to not be afraid follow where God leads!



Meyer, Lois

5th

Sophia Fink

6th

Pat Jilson

9th

Bet Mends

10th

Dallas Kimbrough

15th

Frank Schmidt

Paul Cote

John Hunter

19th

Doug Fallin

20th

Anndie Blaschke

Jessie Gail Atkins

21st

Deborah Hallman

23rd

Terry Lowery

Vicki Hall

26th

Lezlie Cox

27th

Pat Tracy

29th

Cynthia Avance

29th

Earle Hayford

30th

Boone Griffin

Covid Task Force Update for April 2021

We are grateful for your continued prayers, patience, and understanding as we navigate through this pandemic. Everyone we talk to is enthusiastic and encouraged by those who have already received their vaccinations. We will continue to follow the changing guidelines established by the CDC, state and federal governments, and the Florida United Methodist Church. One important benchmark for our church will be the complete vaccination of Pastor Carolyn Westlake. When the governor permits people of her age to be vaccinated, she will. Only after that can we consider dropping all current restrictions on indoor worship. A reminder that reservations are strongly suggested for the indoor service. They can be made by calling the church office between 9 am and 1 pm on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays**. This will be important especially for the Easter Sunday Service. Our maximum indoor capacity is 55, including all those who are participating in worship and ushers.

On Easter Sunday, weather permitting, those who attend the outdoor, drive-in service, will have the option of bringing a lawn chair and sitting in front of their car during the service. Masks are suggested, especially if the car next to you is parked immediately beside yours. We have decided NOT to purchase industrial fans for use in the CEB during Sunday School classes. We ask that instructors will keep outside doors open and use the fans that are provided to help circulate fresh air. We thank you for your continued support as we do what we believe is best to keep everyone at Shores UMC safe and secure.

We would like to share with you our worship attendance. Our indoor capacity is 55 people and our outdoor capacity is 100.

March 7th Inside 38 Outside 48 Online 86

March 14th Inside 23 Outside 48 Online 98

March 21st Inside 33 Outside 44 Online 60

We have plenty of room for you! Come worship with us, or continue to worship online. God Bless you and Shores UMC.

Graduation Celebration

On Sunday, May 16, 2021 we will be having a drive through celebration for our graduates. These graduates include: Sidney Baker - Pedro Menendez HS, Rylie Baker - Pedro Menendez HS, Sarah Stilwell - University of North Florida, Kyra Liedtke - Flagler College. These girls have been a part of the Shores family for years! They have worked hard to receive their diplomas and deserve our church families' congratulations! Unfortunately because of COVID still being with us, we cannot have the kind of celebration that we otherwise would have. So at the end of the first service, during the SS hour, and at the end of the second service, the girls will be at the welcoming and goodbye drive through area for you to show your congratulations by waving, shouting out "Good job" or "Congratulations" and giving a thumbs up! We're also requesting cards for the girls and possibly a small monetary gift or gift card. Please put the card and gift in separate envelopes with the girls' names on the outside. There will be a large gift box for you to drop your card into. Some suggestions for gift cards would be Walmart, Target, VISA or MasterCard, and Publix. If you will not be in attendance that Sunday, you can drop your cards by the church during the preceding week or send them through the mail to the church.

This Joyous Time of Year

May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to you and those you hold most dear. And may Christ, Our Risen Savior, always be there by your side to bless you most abundantly and be your loving guide.

Sunday, April 11, 2021

The Florida Conference Cabinet is preparing another full length worship service for use in local churches. This service is meant to give a Sabbath break to our pastors and worship leaders who have tirelessly devoted hours to creating virtual worship over the last months. Therefore we will not be having our Inside Worship Service. The full length Worship Service will be posted online for Sunday, April 11th. We will have a Drive-In Service at 9:00 am for those who would like to attend worship in person.

Drive-in Service-Come as you are and stay in your car (rain or shine)

Pastor Carolyn will be wearing a cordless microphone and there will be 4 large amplifiers placed outside. Car windows or sunroofs will need to be open to hear. Since the service will begin promptly at 9 AM, plan to arrive 15-30 minutes ahead of time so that the ushers can get you properly parked. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Cars will be parked in "every other" space. You will need to stay in your car, so masks are not required. You may want to bring your own water or coffee. Keep in mind that bathrooms will not be available. You will be able to hand in your offering at the end of the service by dropping it in a bucket as you leave. If there is need to cancel due to extreme weather it will be posted on the church's Facebook page before 7:15 AM and an email will be sent out to the Google Group list. We will continue to videotape our service and post it online Sunday afternoon. God bless you and keep you safe from all harm!

Resuming In-Person Worship at Shores UMC

The In-Person Worship Service will begin at 11:00 AM. Masks required. Reservations are required. How Should I Register for Worship? First and most importantly, no one should come to the service who has had a fever or symptoms of Covid-19 (which includes cough, shortness of breath, muscle aches, recent unexplained loss of taste or smell, or a sore throat), or have had known exposure to a Covid-19 case in the prior 14 days, or are waiting for Covid-19 test results. **Please register each week by calling the church office (904-797-4416), between 9 AM and 1 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday.**

Sanitization Information

The church Sanctuary building is being cleaned every Saturday by a Janitorial Service and on Sunday afternoons by Enviro-Master Virus Vaporizing Service (<https://enviro-master.com/commercial-cleaning-services/virus-and-germ-spraying/>). Hand sanitizer will be available at various locations.

Online Services
www.shoresumc.org

Drive-in Service
Come as you are.
Stay in your car!
9:00am
Every Sunday

In-Person
Worship
11:00am
Every Sunday
Reservations
Required



**St. Augustine Shores
United Methodist Church**
Phone (904) 797-4416

Church E-mail
shoresumc@bellsouth.net

Web Address
www.shoresumc.org

Reverend Carolyn Westlake
pastorcarolyn5199@bellsouth.net
507-208-5842 (Text or call)
904-460-2014

Google Group
Call the church office to receive periodic e-mails sent to members of our Google group.



The week of Christian observances leading to Easter Sunday. It begins with Palm Sunday and progresses through Holy or Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. It culminates with the Easter Sunday celebration.

