

DECEMBER

Shorelines 2024



Email your prayer
concerns to the
church office

shoresumc@bellsouth.net

Online Giving is available for contributions to the Budget or Apportionments. Visit www.shoresumc.org and click "Donate" top right



Pastor Carolyn's Conundrums

This stewardship season we have been celebrating Shores UMC. You have been asked what you are thankful for, why the church is important, and has it made a difference. I have loved reading through these. There is a lot of love here and clearly, we are making a difference. I am going to share with you some of the responses. I do this to let you know how much you mean, the church means, and how much it means to serve God. We have much in common with each other. God uses us despite our differences, not just in each other's lives but in the lives of those in our community and around the world. May we be willing to continue to grow as Christians and be transformed by God's grace! Always remember, you are loved beyond measure!!

"The mission/vision statement is lived out through the saints of the church. The church saints give their time, tithes, sweat, love and support for each other and anyone who needs it. No one is better than the other. All work for the true reason, the love of the Lord."

"It fills an emptiness and void I had in my life."

"The church has given me the opportunity to be involved with outreach projects, Bible study, and choir. I've met so many very nice people, which is important to me."

"It has brought me closer to God. I prayed for months before moving to Saint Augustine Shores that God would help us find the right home and He did!"

"I feel a part of something that is special."

"Shores recharges my battery each week with love, so I can share God's light and love with others."

"Shores has programs that permit us to show God's love to others, such as the Afterschool Program, Backpacks, Meals for Port in the Storm, Rise Against Hunger, and the Food Pantry."

"I always thought church was full of grumpy old people, but I have found out it is full of delightful people."

"I love the church and pastor who feeds my spirit. Each worship service brings renewed energy! Especially the music."

"I have met many new people in our church since we moved to St. Augustine ... so many are an inspiration to me. Pastor Carolyn's messages, the love I feel, Sunday School class, and opportunities to be involved in our church, help me to strive to be a better person and Christian and to show more love to others."

"Our wonderful pastor, the prayer team & all the answers to prayer, and we have a great group of ushers."

"This church provides a solid foundation for me ... my spiritual, earthly, and eternal lives. I am thankful for Shores UMC because of the impact it has on the lives of others – besides me."

"Shores is a group of wonderful, caring, and friendly people who practice what Jesus preached, 'Love the Lord with all of your heart...' and 'Love thy neighbor.'"

"I could not survive without church and the activities and people. We have had good ministers that preach the Bible with life related events so we can connect and understand it better."

"I am thankful for Shores UMC because, the members and congregation are always there for me, when I am going through something."



Leading Ladies—December 17th

We are the widows support group of the church. We meet monthly, usually for lunch, and we discuss the issues many have faced. We all handle emotions of grief, loneliness, sadness in different ways. As life continues it is often just knowing we face each day with hope and confidence, that we are not alone. God is with us every step of the way. Having Christian friends to contact for a phone call or a walk can also be very comforting. If you are widowed we are here for you. Nancy Williby 904-797-4416.



United Methodist Men

December 9th at 11:00am UMM Meeting will be held in the Weaver Room of the church. All men are welcome to attend. Purpose—"Whoever wants to be great must become a servant." Matthew 20:25-26

Mission Statement-Meetings are to serve God through Christian Fellowship, create and assist at Church Functions.



United Methodist Women

The UMW annual holiday luncheon will be held on 12/14/24 at 1:00pm at Romano's Restaurant off US1. Reservations need to be made ahead of time. Call Carolyn Batwinis at 904-471-4664 so she can take your entrée choice. Please also, call Carolyn, **If you made a reservation and need to cancel (by 12/2/24).** All women of the church are invited. Join us for a wonderful fellowship and holiday celebration.

Thank you from UMW for all who helped with the Christmas Market. We made over \$3,000.00 and will distribute that to charities we sponsor. It was a huge success and we are so blessed and thankful! God is good.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



4th

Rev. Jay Turner

8th

Tracy Trezza

11th

Brenda Smith

12th

Kathy Reim

18th

Diane Dombi

26th

Dorothy Head-Bringman

31st

Rev. Carolyn Westlake

Worship Attendance

Date	8:45am	11:00am	Online
11/3	51	30	346
11/10	49	32	133
11/17	52	37	194
11/24	47	31	101

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee would like to invite you to join together in prayer. Please pray at 8am and 8pm for Shores United Methodist Church. Pray for the finances. Pray that God would open wide the doors and bring people in and give us the courage to invite people. If those times don't work for you, you are welcome to choose your own. If you are at work you can say a short silent prayer. We believe it is important for us to pray in unity with one another.

Pastor at Panera

Pastor Carolyn has office hours in the community every Wednesday. She will be at Panera from 9:00am-10:00am. These office hours are open to anyone who would like to stop by during those hours. This is also an opportunity for her to be visible and approachable within the community. You are invited to join her for coffee and conversation.



**Trunk or
Treat
brought 66
children, 67
adults and 5
dogs to
Shores UMC
Parking Lot.
Thank you to
all who par-
ticipated.**

Finance Update, Vicki Hall, Chair

Merry Christmas from your Finance Committee. Although it has been a challenging year with our church budget, we continue to thank the Lord for the blessings He has given to us. We continue to ask Him to breakthrough at Shores United Methodist Church.

After years of trimming our budget it has become sadly clear that we must address salaries which make up nearly 70% of our expenditures. We previously eliminated unfilled positions and have not provided salary increases for current staff in several years. As this newsletter goes to print, the Church Council and Staff Parish Relations Committee are scheduled to meet in early December to make some very difficult decisions. Please be in prayer for members of those committees and the Worship Committee as well. We are grateful to all of our staff and the extraordinary service they provide to our church and to our Lord.

Stewardship Sunday has come and gone, yet we will gladly continue to accept pledge cards. Pledges are the only way we can remotely predict our annual income and even that is situational. God Bless us, everyone!

Finance/Church Council

Next scheduled meetings are December 16th. Finance meeting is at 5pm and Church Council Meeting is at 6pm in the CEB.

Helpers needed for Youth Program

We are very excited that Shelbi Baker has volunteered to head up an afternoon/evening program for Middle and High School students on Thursdays, from 5-7 pm, starting on January 9, 2025, in the Christian Education Building. We are looking for adult helpers who can help out once every month or 6-weeks rotation. Responsibilities would be helping get the meal out, kitchen clean up, and assisting Shelbi and Pastor Carolyn as needed. If you can help, please contact the church office, Shelbi Baker, or Vicki Hall. If there is a middle or high school youth in your life or neighborhood, consider inviting them to this new program. Also, please keep Shelbi and all these youth and their families in your prayers as this walk with the Lord begins in the new year!

Church Office Closed

Church Office is closed December 25th, 26th and 27th. The staff at Shores UMC wishes you a joyous and peaceful Christmas with your family and friends.



Dear Lord,

As we prepare for your coming,
let us reflect on the journey your
earthly parents took.

They were tired and alone,
yet there was no room for them at the inn.
There was no one to lend a helping hand.

Lord, help us to recognize those who may
need our help or love this Christmas.
Let us pray for those who have none.
We pray that those without loved ones
will still share in the season's blessings.
We especially pray for those who feel
forgotten and unloved.

Lord, break our hearts for what breaks yours.
Help us to see with your eyes,
serve with your hands, and to give of the
talents and treasures you have blessed us with.

We implore you, O Lord, to stretch forth
your paternal arms to anyone feeling the
sting of loneliness or pangs of sadness
this Christmas season. Please bring them
into your love and peace.

Amen.



Children's Home Christmas Gift Cards

We were able to send \$580.00 in gift cards to Residing Hope for Christmas.
Residing Hope is thankful for your support.

Mobility In Motion, LLC *John 3:16*

Mobility in Motion, LLC is proud to offer Zumba Gold, a low intensity, fun and uplifting way to exercise. Specifically designed for any fitness level or a beginner with easy to follow choreography to Christian Music. Classes are focused on balance, range of motion and coordination for older adults which improve activities of daily living through: Cardiovascular Fitness, Muscular Conditioning, Flexibility, Balance and Physical Well Being. Regular exercise is shown to increase overall health, physically and psychologically. Let us work together to improve daily living for older adults through mobility in motion. Certified Group Fitness Instructor Melissa Doughty will be teaching a class at St. Augustine Shores United Methodist Church (Christian Education Building) every Tuesday from 5:30pm-6:30pm. There is no cost to take the class but donations to Melissa are welcomed. For more information you can contact Melissa at 904-484-4932.

Fairy Hair Christmas Party

Held in the Christian Education Building. Cost is \$20.00. Please call the church office if you are planning on attending at 904-797-4416. Please bring your favorite snack or dish to share for lunch.



Wanted

Men or women desiring to serve the Lord our God. You were given talents. Use them for God's benefit. If wishing to service contact the church office at shoresumc@bellsouth.net.

Holiday Celebration



December 22nd at 12:00 noon in the Christian Education Building. Open to congregation and congregation family and friends. Reservations required and a sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Please bring a dish/dessert to share.

Scripture/Message

12/1/24

1st Sunday of Advent Guest Speaker: Vicki Hall

12/8/24

2nd Sunday of Advent, Communion Sunday Scripture Malachi 3:1-4; Sanctification

12/15/24

3rd Sunday of Advent Isaiah 12:2-6; Draw the deep waters

12/22/24

4th Sunday of Advent Luke 1:39-45; The Gift

12/29/24

1st Sunday after Christmas Day Psalm 148-UMH 861 w/response; Praise





Worship With Us

Online Services visit: www.shoresumc.org

Sunday Worship Services

8:45am Traditional Worship Service

Music led by Roger Woods & Soloists

11:00am Contemporary Worship Service



Join us for Christmas Eve

Worship Service

4:00pm Traditional Candlelight

Worship Service

6:00pm Contemporary Candlelight

Worship Service

(Please feel free to share the full page invitation in this newsletter with a friend or neighbor.)



CELEBRATE GOD'S GIFT!

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN ...
AND HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED
WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD,
EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.

ISAIAH 9:6, ESV





POINSETTIA FOR THE ALTAR

If you are interested in having a Poinsettia placed on the altar, please place your order by December 8th.

Checks are to be made payable to the St. Augustine

Shores United Methodist Church. The cost of one Poinsettia is \$10.00.

Please fill out the remainder of this form so that it can be placed in the bulletin on December 24th. You may take your Poinsettia home with you after the second service Christmas Eve.

NAME: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number Ordered: _____

Placed By: _____

In Memory Of: _____

In Honor Of: _____



JOIN US FOR
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

4:00pm Traditional Candlelight Worship Service

6:00pm Contemporary Candlelight Worship Service

St. Augustine Shores United Methodist Church

724 Shores Boulevard, St. Augustine, FL 32086

www.shoresumc.org



December 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 10:00am & 6:00pm Advent Bible Study 5:30pm Mobility in Motion	4 9:00am Pastor at Panera 9:00am Weight Watchers 1:50pm After School 6:30pm Praise Band	5 1:00pm-4:00pm Shores UMC at Food Pantry 6:30pm Chancel Choir	6	7 8:30am Weight Watchers
8 Communion Sunday 12:00 SPRC	9 11:00am UMM	10 10:00am & 6:00pm Advent Bible Study 5:30pm Mobility in Motion	11 9:00am Pastor at Panera 9:00am Weight Watchers 1:50pm After School 6:30pm Praise Band	12 6:30pm Chancel choir	13	14 8:30am Weight Watchers 12:00pm UMW Holiday Luncheon
15 12:00pm Christmas Fairy Hair Party	16 5:00pm Finance Com- mittee 6:00pm Church Council	17 10:00am & 6:00pm Advent Bible Study 11:30am Lead- ing Ladies 5:30pm Mobil- ity in Motion	18 9:00am Pastor at Panera 9:00am Weight Watchers 1:50pm After School 6:30pm Praise Band	19 1:00pm-4:00pm Shores UMC at Food Pantry 6:30pm Chancel Choir	20	21 8:30am Weight Watchers
22 12:00pm Holiday Celebration	23	24 4:00pm Tradi- tional Can- dlelight Ser- vice 6:00pm Con- temporary Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed 6:30pm Chancel Choir	27 Church Office Closed	28 8:30am Weight Watchers
29	30	31 New Year's Eve 5:30pm Mobility in Motion				



St. Augustine Shores United Methodist Church

724 Shores Boulevard
St. Augustine, FL 32086
(904) 797-4416

Rev. Carolyn Westlake
cdjofrash@gmail.com
507-208-5842
www.shoresumc.org
shoresumc@bellsouth.net

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:45 am
Traditional Worship Service

10:00 am Adult Sunday School

10:00 am Sunday School
Ages 5-12

11:00 am
Contemporary Worship

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

4:00pm Traditional Worship Service
6:00pm Contemporary Worship Service

Advertise Your Business Card

Members/Friends of our church may place a business card size ad in our monthly newsletter for \$10.00 per month. Please contact the church office if you would like your business card put in the newsletter.



Carole Vrana

Independent Sales Representative
St. Augustine, FL Phone: 904-806-1500

Email: carolevrana@hotmail.com
Web Site: cvrana.avonrepresentative.com

United Methodist Men

Meet 2nd Monday of the Month 11:00am
Weaver Room

Purpose: "Whoever wants to be great must become a servant." Matthew 20:25-26

Mission Statement: Meetings are to serve God through Christian Fellowship, create and assist at Church Functions.