

February 28, 2023

# FIRST CHURCH

A United Methodist Congregation 

*Love God. Love People. Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.*

## FIRST CHURCH Weekly News

(Be sure to scroll all the way down.)

### The Wright Stuff



#### Looking for Something

*“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.” (Matthew 13:44-46)*

“Everybody’s looking for something,” so go the lyrics to the Eurythmics song *Sweet Dreams* from 1983. We may not be aware that we are looking. We may stumble upon the treasure in the field. Or we may be desperately searching for something better than what life has given us.

Jesus teaches that whether we stumble on it or search until we find it, the greatest discovery of our lives is finding “the kingdom of heaven.” Getting caught up with what God is doing is an incredible find. According to Jesus, experiencing God’s grace and love is worth more than everything else combined.

Dr. Sam

Ukraine Night and Prayer Service



Around 100 people attended the Ukraine Night festivities on the eve of the 1 year anniversary of the war in Ukraine. Members the Roman Family plus volunteers from the NicerFL Ukrainian Discussion Groups that meet at First Church provided authentic ethnic food, music, and song. Pastor Sergiy Lysak of Kyiv showed slides and talked about what is happening in the war-torn country and how our gifts are helping. After the dinner, 75 people from the community met in the sanctuary for a candlelight prayer service. Almost \$3,500 was raised between both events to care for war victims.

We would like to raise \$4,500 to fund a new home for a displaced family in Ukraine. You can still give by sending a check to First Church or by going to [firstsrq.com](https://firstsrq.com) and clicking "Give". Please indicate with both methods the word "Ukraine".

8:30 A.M. Service Is Now Being Live Streamed



While the 11 a.m. Traditional Service has been live streaming since the first of the year, we just recently started broadcasting the Chapel Service at 8:30! Now people who are unable to be in church, or who may not be up to coming in some week, can enjoy the warmth of our early service!

## Save the Date for the Easter Egg-Stravaganza



**Sunday, March 26 ~ 12 - 2 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall**

Calling all kids and grandkids from First Church! Mark your calendar for the Annual Easter Egg-Stravaganza! Stories, food, prizes, egg hunt, and lots of fun! More details to follow.

## Read the Bible In One Year

Join the 5-day reading plan at [www.FiveDayBibleReading.com](http://www.FiveDayBibleReading.com).

### Readings for Week 9

- Day 1: Leviticus 24-25; Psalm 81; *Hebrews 9*
- Day 2: Leviticus 26-27; Psalm 112; *Hebrews 10*
- Day 3: Numbers 1-2; Psalm 64; *Hebrews 11*
- Day 4: Numbers 3-5; *Hebrews 12*
- Day 5: Numbers 6-7; *Hebrews 13*

First United Methodist Church | 104 S. Pineapple Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236

[Unsubscribe financial@firstsrq.com](mailto:unsubscribe@firstsrq.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [woodward@firstsrq.com](mailto:woodward@firstsrq.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!