

February 7, 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



What Can We Do?

"At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem in a ministry to the saints; for Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share their resources with the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. They were pleased to do this."

(Romans 15:25-27)

The devastation from the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria yesterday could cause up to 10,000 fatalities and many more injured. Initial damages could result in one billion dollars in loss. Many people in the war-ravaged area of the earthquake were suffering from not having enough before this natural disaster.

Paul wrote to the Romans that before he visited them, he had to go to Jerusalem to take the money he had collected in what is today Macedonia and Greece to help the poor in Jerusalem. Christians have been helping others across international boundaries since the beginning.

What can we do? First, we can pray for the victims and those helping. Second, we can give. The United Methodist Committee on Relief will be working to help the people in that region through their international connections there. To give online go to umcmission.org/advance-project/982450/ or you may give through the church to UMCOR by writing "Earthquake" on your check or when you give online at firstsrq.com, click give. Thank you for helping

others.

Dr. Sam

First Church Leaders

Here is a list of your church leaders as of January 1, 2023. We thank them for their willingness to serve God's call at First Church.

Church Council Chair - **Kara Altice-Montes** kaltice@altez.com

Lay Leader - **Tony Kenworthy** kenworthy83@gmail.com

Senior Pastor - **Rev. Dr. Sam Wright** swright@firstsrq.com

Associate Pastor - **Rev. Robert (Woody) Woodward**
wwoodward@firstsrq.com

Staff-Parish Committee Chair - **Terry Neeley** tbn828@aol.com

Board of Trustees Chair - **Sally Altman** sgaltman1@aol.com

Finance Committee Chair - **Paul Goedecke** paul@goedecke-cpa.com

Treasurer - **Tom Pruitt** tjpruitt@comcast.net

Worship Representatives - **Donna Shane** donna-shane@comcast.net
(8:30 a.m.); **Jan Via** cjvia2007@yahoo.com (11 a.m.)

Missions Chair - **Peggy Hite** hitep@indiana.edu

Council Recording Secretary - **Jayne Cory** lcjc38@gmail.com

Music Representative - **Paul Goedecke** paul@goedecke-cpa.com

Children and Youth Representative - **John and Amy Warren**

johnwarren17@yahoo.com ; amy_warren27@yahoo.com

At-Large Member - **Bill Grimes** ewg_2nd@msn.com

Music and Dance at First Church February 19



Two To TANGO

Margot Zarzycka
Michael Stuart

Sunday, February 19
4:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
104 S. Pineapple Ave. ♦ Sarasota

Tickets not required. Open to the public. Invite your friends!

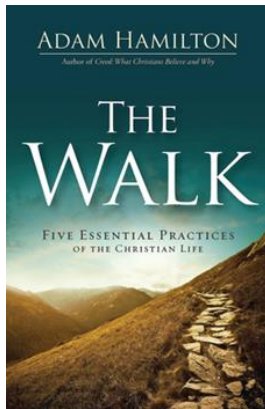
Ukraine Night at First Church

**UKRAINE NIGHT AT FIRST CHURCH
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 ~ 5 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**Ukrainian food, entertainment,
AND program by Pastor Sergey of Kyiv**

**Let us know how many in your party on Sunday Attendance Form
or call 941-955-0935.**

Women's Spiritual Growth Group



**Tuesdays ! 2:30 p.m. - Room 104 and Zoom
New Study ~ February 28 - April 4**

The Walk by Adam Hamilton

Examine the 5 essential principles rooted in Jesus' walk with God and now for our daily living and growing together in worship. Suggested donation \$15.

Contact Susan Quigley (susanq1@verizon.net) for more information.

First's Book Club - February Selection

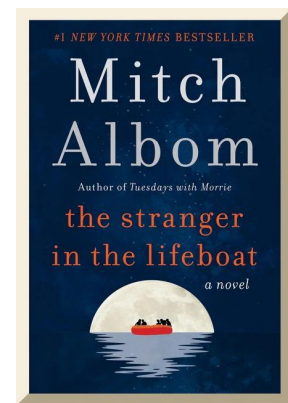
Monday, February 27 ~ 10 a.m.

Room 104 and Zoom

***The Stranger in the Lifeboat* – Mitch Albom**

What would happen if we called on God for help and God actually appeared?

Leah Pittard (rockpitt38@gmail.com; 941-586-0185)



Room Needed

A young Christian women, working her 2nd year of law school in Virginia Beach at Regent University, is moving to Sarasota to work with the Sarasota County Justice Center, going back and forth between that office and the one in Bradenton. She's looking for a place - even a room to rent - from May 8 to August 8. If you know of a place, please contact Dr. Sam (swright@firstsrq.com). Thank you.

Read the Bible In One Year

Join the 5-day reading plan at www.FiveDayBibleReading.com.

Readings for Week 6

- Day 1: Exodus 16-18, *Ephesians 4*
- Day 2: Exodus 19-21; Psalm 33; *Ephesians 5*
- Day 3: Exodus 22-24; Psalm 109; *Ephesians 6*
- Day 4: Exodus 25-27; Psalm 90; *Philippians 1*
- Day 5: Exodus 28-31; *Philippians 2*

Family Respite Hub Needed

Family Promise of Sarasota-Manatee NEEDS a Family Respite Hub (FP Lost Use of Its Francis House)

Space for 2 to 3 families with overnight rooms, shower, laundry, family room, parking as the demand is growing, especially for mothers with a newborn. If you know of such space in our community [to rent, buy, or renovate], please contact Judy McGrath, First Church's Board Representative judy.mcgrath19@gmail.com.

Resurrection House – Downtown Mission

Resurrection House (507 Kumquat Ct.) helps persons with daily life and moves them to self-sufficiency by offering showers, laundry, medical services, food, counseling, and more. Volunteers are needed 3-4 hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. Contact First Church member Ralph Blincoe who also serves on the Resurrection House Board for full information (rbinsman@verizon.net).

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

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