


April 18, 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



Lilies

*And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Matthew 6:28-30*

As I write this in Virginia, I'm looking at springtime with trees opening their leaves and flowers in bloom. Yesterday in Williamsburg, we visited beautiful gardens with gorgeous flowers. Jesus liked flowers. He admired their beauty, their delicate opening blossoms as they reached toward the sun, their varied and vibrant colors, and their enchanting fragrances. He was impressed with how they grew as part of God's creation. He used them as an illustration of why we humans should not worry about clothing or anything else. Our fashions cannot compare to the glory of flowers which may last only a few days. Yet, we are much more valuable to God than ephemeral lilies. So, we can trust that God will provide for us. Thanks be to God.

Dr. Sam

Baptism at First Church



Madelyn Grace Montgomery was welcomed into the family of God through her baptism by Pastor Woody. Madelyn is the daughter of Nicole and James Montgomery, the granddaughter of Chris and Julie Maier, Tom and Cathy Montgomery. Congratulations and blessings to the family!

## Team Treble



Team Treble, an auditioned ensemble directed by Music Director Michael Stuart, shared their musical talents to the 11 a.m. service. It was great to hear the students!

## Help Local Homeless

**Be a Blessing**  
of the



United  
Women  
in Faith

## Collecting for Men and Women Experiencing Homelessness.

All are invited to donate colorful T-shirts (L and XL), under garments, socks, and wrapped snacks. Collection bins will be available on Sunday, April 23 and 30, and weekdays. Thank you!

## Day4Hope Off to Great Start!



Thank you for your generous gifts to Day4Hope to help needy children be ready for school. **We have received \$6,884 towards our goal of \$23,000.** Let's work together to raise these funds for the most vulnerable children in our community.

## Women's Spiritual Growth Group Date Change

**New Study begins Tuesday, April 25, NOT April 18.**  
Questions? Contact Susan Quigley ([susanq1@verizon.net](mailto:susanq1@verizon.net))

## Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed



Volunteers needed to sub in preschool or elementary Sunday School Class.  
Contact Children's Director Alyssa Machado (954-376-9186)

## Sermon Series: Motherhood in the Bible

- April 23 - A Mother's ~~Manipulation~~ Wisdom
- April 30 - A Mother's ~~Meddling~~ Intervention
- May 7 - A Mother's Joy
- May 14 - A Mother's Presence
- May 21 - A Mother's Grief

## Read the Bible In One Year

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

Readings for Week 16

- Day 1: Ruth 1-2; *Acts 3*
- Day 2: Ruth 3-4; Psalm 37; *Acts 4*
- Day 3: 1 Samuel 1-2; Psalm 120; *Acts 5*
- Day 4: 1 Samuel 3-5; Psalm 23; *Acts 6*
- Day 5: 1 Samuel 6-8; *Acts 7*

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