



## First United Church of Christ, Orlando

PO Box 720625, Orlando 32872-0625

[firstuccorlando@gmail.com](mailto:firstuccorlando@gmail.com)

Rev. Lynn Blevins 740-815-2329

September 26, 2022

### **“In the Shelter of the Most High”**

#### **A Message from Rev. Lynn Blevins**

Yesterday’s Psalm was No. 91 and it was particularly timely in light of the impending hurricane. Psalm 91 is a hymn of thanksgiving to God for assurance of God’s protection. Psalm 91 includes these words:

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the almighty,  
Will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God in whom I trust.”

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;  
He will cover you with his wings and under his wings you will find refuge;

His faithfulness is a shield. (vs. 1-4)

Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble,

I will rescue them, and honor them. (vs. 14-15)

At all times in our lives, but especially in a time such as this when we are imminently threatened by severe wind and rain, we need to remember that we have a shelter – a refuge. We have our faith in a God who will watch over us.

God’s shelter reminds us that although we are subject to the challenges of living in a world that includes threatening weather, we can find peace and assurance in God. We are not inoculated from the storms of life, but are given the strength to face whatever befalls us in our human existence. Psalm 91 is an affirmation of faith in a God who is with us in all aspects of our lives.

In the Psalm, God is compared to an eagle who spreads her wings and protects her young. The power in God’s wings is stronger than the power of wind and rain.

We are God’s hands and feet for others. We are called to reach out and offer support and protection to each other and to others. All of this is done in the name of God. Think about it – how empowering it is to know that not only are we watched over by a loving God, we have the opportunity to be there for others.

At a time like this, we act responsibly and prepare to keep ourselves physically safe in ways that we are instructed. But even more crucial to our survival is the assurance of God’s care which supports us and gives us strength to support others and keeps us from panic. When we open ourselves to God’s refuge, we have the gift of shalom – God’s peace, even in the face of physical danger. Our spirits remain secure. Thanks be to God!

This is my prayer for you during this challenging week: “May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you; the Lord lift up the light of His Countenance upon you and give you peace.” Amen.

## **CHURCH EVENT CHANGES**



**Food Pantry, Thrift Shop, Bible Study  
are cancelled this week due  
to impending bad weather.**



**Communion Sunday offering in October  
will go to Neighbors In Need**

Supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice and Local Church Ministries. This offering is received every October as part of World Communion Sunday.



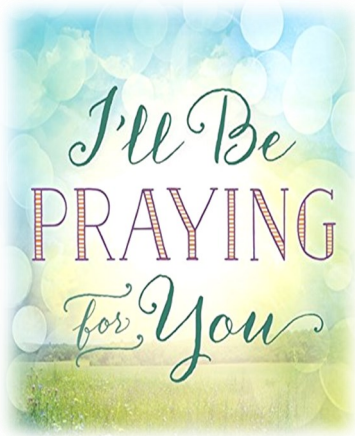
**Volunteers needed for Sunday Worship**

**Please see the sign up sheet on the  
table in the Quiet Room.**



**Ready for the next step?**

**Please give Pastor Lynn a call if  
you are interested. 740-815-2329**



*Join us on Sundays,  
as we lift prayers up during worship.*

**Would you like a prayer for yourself, or for someone else,  
or maybe for some place or issue in the world?**

**If so, please submit your requests via our website at  
[firstuccorlando.org](http://firstuccorlando.org) or email to [firstuccorlando@gmail.com](mailto:firstuccorlando@gmail.com).**

*We thank you all for your continued prayers for:*

**Bernie, Rich, Marliss, Edna, Michele, Judy, Jodi, John, Rose,  
Luis, Bonnie, Pat C., Elliot, Denise, Dorothy, Bryan, Jackie & Family,  
Miss Esther, Barbara, Ray, Claudia, Michele, Jean, Ron, Steven, Joe,  
Carlos & Nita, Tiffany & Aaron, Gail, Mrs. White, Dolores & Family, Prestine,  
Tanya, Roger, Jackie, Joyce, Carl, April, Jan, Bryn, Diane, Dayzie, Robert,  
Marie, Iris, Barbara & Karen, Ukraine, Douglas, Sarah, Bill, The World, Lee,  
Patti, Shanie, Tammie, Alan, Hannah, Sarah, Raymond, Ted, Anne,  
Antonio, Ralph, Lois, and Family of LaVerne Abel.**



**Meeting—October 4, 2022**

**7:00 in church office**



**Blessing of the Pets**

**October 15, 2022 - 1:00pm - 3:30pm**

# Count Down to Christmas Cookie Dough Sale!

Only TWO weeks until our Christmas Cookie Dough Sale begins. Start making your list, checking it twice.

Here are the Otis Spunkmeyer cookie doughs we will be selling: Oatmeal Raisin, Triple Chocolate, Butter Sugar, Strawberry shortcake and the all-time favorite Chocolate Chip. All the other goodies are for sale, too, including the Gourmet Cheesecakes, Cinnabon's Sticky Bread, Ben's Soft Pretzels and Pretzel bites.

Order forms and brochures will be distributed after church on Sunday, October 2. We will be taking orders at church on Sunday, October 9 and October 16. All orders with payments must be turned into church on Sunday October 23. Checks should be made out to First United Church of Christ with cookie sale in the memo section.

If you want to sell cookies but are unable to make it to church to pick up a sales form, please contact Debbie Yarborough at [dyarborough@att.net](mailto:dyarborough@att.net) or 407-521-2288. I will be happy to send you an order form and brochure.

Also, if you want to order cookie dough, you will be able to do so after church on Sunday, October 9 and 16. Or again, contact Debbie Yarborough and she will be happy to help you place your order.

All proceeds from our Christmas Cookie Dough Sale goes toward supporting our Capital Campaign that we started last year to repair the roof and the air conditioning system. The work has been done but we need to meet our financial commitments.

Remember the cookie dough boxes makes a great gift for those who like to have homemade cookies for the holidays but don't have the time to do all the shopping and mix all the ingredients. They just need to pop the cookie dough in the oven and soon they will be eating delicious Christmas cookies!





# Support First UCC's Community Outreach Ministries!



## **REBECCA'S PANTRY**

**Tuesday 9:30am - 11:30am**

### **Items Especially Needed:**

**Peanut Butter, Soup, Veggies  
(no corn), & plastic bags**



**Wednesday 10am - 1pm**

### **Items Especially Needed:**

**Pots & Pans, Baking Pans, Dishes,  
Silverware, Small Appliances  
(good working condition)**

*The clothing area will once again be receiving  
your donations of gently used, clean,  
stain-free clothing.*

### **September Birthdays**

**9/1 Jean Romansky, 9/3 Marliss Marchman, 9/9 Pat Coles,  
9/14 Felix Villegas, 9/22 Jackie Kuttaineh, 9/28 Katy McComas**

**In closing, here is a message from our church archives  
from our "host of witnesses", Pastor Crismon**

*"Remain prayerful, even when you are busy.  
Remain hopeful, even in illness, grief, or disappointment.  
Remain faithful, even when all around you there is chaos, confusion,  
and unfaithfulness. Remain loving, even when others are hateful.  
God bless you and may you all be a blessing to others."*