



Friends,

I trust your week has been fruitful and productive for God, for you, and for your family. I pray that you have been blessed and that you know God's love is real and at work in your life.

This past weekend we began a new sermon series called the "The Chronicles of Elijah." Elijah was a prophet sent by God to confront the evil of his day, King Ahab. God prepared Elijah by taking him through some times of testing and teaching in order to prepare him for serving in ministry. As a follower of Jesus, you too need to prepare so you might serve God more effectively.

Last weekend's lessons from "The Chronicles of Elijah" offer several ways in which God can prepare you to serve.

First Lesson: Through your Faithful Profession that you are a follower of Jesus. Your profession of faith is a witness to the world. Your ability to speak words of encouragement and to confess Jesus is Lord in your life gives witness to your faith in Christ. Through both your words and your actions, you give witness to your faith. People need to know that Jesus is Lord, but they also need to see that faith in action. Your profession of faith is important in how it makes a difference in your life and in the world.

Second Lesson: Depending Completely on God. We say we depend on God, but often we hedge our bets. Depending is not about sitting back and doing nothing for yourself. Depending is trusting in God to lead and direct your steps. You have to "Do," but you have to "Do" by seeking after God to guide you. Dependence is letting God lead your life. The struggle comes in submitting your "will" to God's "will." Complete Dependence is submitting to God's will and guidance in your life.

Third Lesson: Unconditional Obedience. How does that work? Unconditional means to take God at his word and follow. It is a "Trust" issue. It is not easy always to trust. To be Obedient is to Trust, and to Trust is to be Obedient. This is an on-going process. It is taking one step at a time that confirms your ability to trust in God's ways; that then helps you to become more obedient in taking the next step. Not easy, but God never said it would be. Elijah found that out, and in the end, he came to learn, just as you and I can learn if we will trust and obey.

WEEKEND WORSHIP

We will continue this weekend with Elijah. This week we will be challenged to make a decision. The people were asked, "How Long Will You Waver?" Will you choose God or Baal? What are the Baals in

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your Life? What idols do you place in front of serving the "True God" versus the false gods in your life? Good questions to consider, which leads back to last week's lessons in how God teaches us to serve. Join me as we continue in this series. Invite friends and family by sharing the promo video on facebook. You can find the promo video at <https://www.facebook.com/CrystalRiverUnitedMethodistChurch/>

NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR COUNCIL MEETING.

Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 7th at 6:30pm, not Monday the 5th. Please mark your calendar and join us for this time of review and celebration of our work together as The Body of Christ.

Thank you for your faithfulness to God and His Kingdom and especially to this Missional Outpost called Crystal River UMC. The Nomads come in this week. Still looking for servants who can supply a noon meal for the Nomad Team.

Be blessed and be a blessing in someone's life this week.

Pastor David

Celebrate Recovery



9:00 A.M.
Traditional Service

10:30 A.M.
Contemporary Service



Remember to stop by and sign the prayer cards on Sunday morning. Then if you would, take the time and write a personal note of encouragement to these persons as well. The Care Notes are available at the table on Sundays. Thanks for serving and caring together as the CRUMC family of faith.

Catherine McDonald
Ben Bospain
Bill Surrick

2018 JANUARY						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

ALL MEETINGS ARE PUBLIC WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SPRC

FRIDAY- JANUARY 26, 2018
Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery (S)

SATURDAY- JANUARY 27, 2018
Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SUNDAY - JANUARY 28, 2017
9:00 a.m. Traditional Service (S)
9:15 a.m. Upper Room (RM 8)
10:30 a.m. Contemporary (S)
10:30 a.m. Kennedy Disc (RM 8)
6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 415 (T)

MONDAY - JANUARY 29 2018
11:00 a.m. Discovery Group
Presentation on Croatia
by Judy Fowler
7:00 p.m. Bell Choir (S)

TUESDAY - JANUARY 30, 2018
9:00 a.m. Worship Design (RM 16)
6:00 p.m. Praise Team (Sanctuary)
6:30 p.m. Cubs Pack 415 (T)

WEDNESDAY- JANUARY 31, 2018
Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
2:30 p.m. UMW Board (RM 13)
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (RM 20)

THURSDAY - February 1, 2018
Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
9:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels (K)

FEBRUARY 7TH @ 6:30

church council
MEETING

IN THE CHOIR ROOM



Our Nomads will be returning on January 29th for three weeks. If you would like to show your appreciation for all that they do.... there will be a sign up sheet for lunches at the connection point. Thank you for all you do to support our Nomads!!!

9:30 a.m. Stitches For God (RM 16)
6:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)

FRIDAY- February 2, 2018
Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery (S)

SATURDAY- February 3, 2018
Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
9:00 a.m. Our Father's Table
(St Anne's)

if you have a change or cancellation of a regularly scheduled meeting/Bible Study, please be sure to call the front office with your information so that our calendars remain current. Thank You!

Sanctuary- (S)
Bethel Chapel- (BC)
Choir Room- (C)
Tabernacle- (T)
Kitchen- (K)



Church
Office Hours

Mon. 9am - 3pm
Tues. 9am - 3pm
Wed. 9am - 12pm
Thurs. 9am - 3pm
Fri. 9am - 12pm

First Annual Citrus Empty Bowls

Benefiting the Community Food Bank

Saturday, February 3rd • Open 11 am - 2 pm
First Baptist Church of Crystal River
700 N. Citrus Ave.

Tickets: \$15 per person

Roll 10 and make FREE.
Purchase tickets at CitrusEmptyBowls.eventbrite.com
or at the door



1 in 4 children and 1 in 6 adults are in
need of food in Citrus County. This
is why the Community Food Bank
needs your help in our mission to
End Hunger and Nourish Hope

Your donation includes soup and a hand-crafted ceramic
bowl from the Locust High School art museum.

Our Major Sponsors:
The Citrus County Chronicle
Ted Williams Museum
Crystal Automotive

Featuring Soups From:
• Amy's on the Avenue
• Highlander Cafe
• McLeod's Bistro

• Cattle Dog Coffee Roasters
• Katch Twenty-Two
• River Ranch Bar & Grill



January 26

Ann Hansen
David Hensel
Mary Lyons

January 28

Tanner McClure

January 29

Matthew Olsen

If we have missed your
Birthday, please contact the
Care Team at

careteam@crumc.com

CRUMC is currently

looking for



Vocalists



Instrumentalists

For both services

Contact the front office @ 795-3148
or EMAIL officestaff@crumc.com



January 8

Chris & Don Dial

January 17

Irene & George Neitz



**North Central District
Lay Servants Training Event
February 24th, 2018**

**Location:
FUMC of Spring Hill
9344 Spring Hill Drive
Spring Hill, FL 34608**

**Applications can be obtained
in the front office.**

January 23

Cindy & Frank Pifer

If we have missed your anniversary, please contact the Care Team at

careteam@crumc.com



Stephen Ministry is an ongoing ministry to meet the needs of persons going through a crisis or in need of care.

Stephen Ministers provide one-on-one confidential Christian Care giving to those in need. To refer yourself or someone else, call Judy Leavitt @ 352-746-7716.

Stephen Ministers meet every fourth Thursday of each month for continuing education and supervision.



Well, what a Christmas busyness we have had! We are finally back to reaching out to you, our church family, about the thrift store.

The winter residents are back and shopping with us. The store looks great and we continue to be blessed with many donations of quality goods. I am always so grateful for the dedication of our staff of volunteers, both the ones the customers see and the back room folks that process every day. It is a joy to be there and see folks working and visiting and taking pride in their jobs, big or small, that make the store run so well.

Remember the flea market at the store last Feb? It's in the works again.



***Do you love discussing
Scripture
and offering your
thoughts on it?***

Then we have the perfect class for you!

9:15 a.m.-Upper Room Jesus Fellowship (Room 8)

10:30 a.m.- Kennedy Discussion Class (Room 8)

We can't wait to see you there!

and, when all the right people have signed off on it, I will give you the facts so you can be gathering your goods and praying for good weather!

The storage container we have been waiting for is tagged with our name on it and should be arriving in a few days. We will have a big job moving into it but it is the right thing to do to own rather than rent one. We are excited about this long-awaited step.

The sale this week is clothing and shoes BOGO. Next week is fabric and crafts and linens.

We hope you visit often and recommend us to your friends and neighbors AND are always watching for the opportunity to help your neighbors find the perfect place for their no-longer-needed nice items.

Blessings to all,
Your Thrift Store Board

<https://www.facebook.com/Divinelyuniquethriftstore>



CONGREGATIONAL
CARE

Our Congregational Care Team helps to connect people in the congregation through visitation, phone calls, emails, & correspondence. If you have a need, please call the office @ 352-795-3148 or email careteam@crumc.com

January 29th Discovery Group



On January 29th @ 11 AM we will meet in the CRUMC Sanctuary for a special presentation of Croatia by Judy Fowler. Please bring a lunch and, if you are able, a dessert to pass. Drinks will be provided. Please sign up @ the Connection Point

LIFEGROUPS

Please Contact
The Church
Office for a
Listing at 795-
3148



Bright Beginnings Preschool

Infants through VPK
Hours are
6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Enrolling for VPK

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Call 352-795-1240
Lic# C05C10049

Follow us on Facebook



The Annual Bell Ringer appreciation

breakfast will be February 16th @ 8AM
at the Homosassa United Methodist
Church

please Click to like
(click banner below)

facebook

Registering now for
2018-2019
Kindergarten and First Grade



Crystal River United Methodist Church
4801 N. Citrus Ave
Crystal River, FL. 34428

January 31st @ 6:30 p.m.

Bright Beginnings Learning Academy will be
having an informational/pre-registration
meeting for the 2018-2019 Kindergarten and
First Grade school year. BBLA provides low
classroom ratios, accredited teachers and a rich
academic program in a faith based environment.

Scholarships are available.

Please call 795-1240 for further information.



Join us every Friday night
for Celebrate Recovery.

Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

Worship follows shortly
after at 7 p.m.
following with small
groups

All are welcome to
attend.

*Free child care is available
- please call the church
office to make
arrangements!*

Click to like
(Click banner below)



[To view the best version of the message, please click here](#)

4801 N Citrus Ave, Crystal River, FL 34428



352-795-3148

<http://www.crumc.com>