

[jbccucc.org](http://jbccucc.org)

# The Tower Chimes

Fall 2020 Edition



Photo Credit: Danny Nocito

Hello Church,

Where to begin. First, let me say Thank You! The love and support of our church family during these times have been felt near and far. During our campus closure we were able to stay connected virtually via online worship, video calls and of course our Sunday phone calls from our Deacons; for that we are grateful. We returned to in-person worship on Sundays @ 10 AM, with safety guidelines and protocols in place; we have had an average attendance of 30 participants. We still have many in our congregation who are not able to return to in-person worship at this time and others who have not returned from out of state. There is so much love and respect for each person as they make decisions on what works best for them and their family. Please know you are loved and missed. As we continue to move forward, we are making plans for Advent and Christmas services. Look for additional information inside this edition of the Tower Chimes for service and Advent Study opportunities.

One bright spot during the closure was that many of our seasonal members were able to join us for virtual worship. In addition, we gained some newcomers along the way who look forward to joining us in worship in the future. Thanks to a grant from the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ and matching funds from members of the congregation we will be investing in new technology to live-stream our Sunday morning service. Our new equipment should be arriving soon. Please be patient as there will be a learning curve, but we hope to be back online for those unable to join us in person. In addition, if you are interested in helping with our new technology services, please contact the office as this venture does require additional volunteers.

(Continued)

Reopening has not been without challenges as cleaning and safety protocols required several changes in some of our programs. Especially noted for our preschool, as building access has been limited to staff and students at this time. Thankfully, we are blessed with our amazing Preschool Director, Sue Trimarco and her staff who have risen to every challenge over these months. We are blessed that nearly 60% of our families have returned to school at this time.

Thank you to our Administrative Assistant Jessica Merk, who also jumped in with anything that she could do to assist with our communications during the closure. Both of us were able to work virtually and when we returned to the office safety protocols were in place to work as safely as possible. The Church Office has seen an increase in families using our food pantry and we have seen an increase in requests for assistance from our Shepherd's Fund. The Thrift Shop has also returned to regular operating hours. Thank you to our Manager's Victoria Boyd and Nancy Winks and the countless numbers of volunteers who keep us operating to serve the community.

I continue to be in awe of how God shows up during all this uncertainty. You will notice that financially we are doing better than expected. In addition, thanks to our Leadership and Finance team, we were able to maintain our staffing levels during the initial closure and bring our staff back to work when we reopened. We remain strong as a church, reaching into the community to share God's love. We continue to be a presence in the community even when we can't be together in the way we used to be. We are still answering the call to BE THE CHURCH and for that we are grateful.

My list of Thank You's would not be complete without acknowledging other key support staff: Sharon Hare for being flexible as we learn virtual worship together. Julie Meher for keeping us financially informed as we navigate new adventures.

And to our Leadership Ministry Team. This team met virtually every two weeks for months during our closure. None of us were handed a book about running a church during a pandemic, but together as a team they have accepted the challenge. Thank you to Victoria Boyd, Kelly Bryant, Dave Delaine, Kay Fenton, Joanne Fisher, Susan Gloeckner, Dennis McManus, Jody Miller, Nancy Winks for all your hard work and dedication, you are truly examples of what it means to Be The Church.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."- Romans 15:13. This passage has been on my heart recently as I am constantly reminded that we serve a God of hope and while we navigate these uncertain times, we are continually filled with the hope found in the spirit. I have so much gratitude for this congregation and our staff, as we continue to walk this journey together. May we continue to be filled with joy and peace and may our faith be forever strengthened in hope.

Love and Light,  
Pastor Michelle

## Advent and Christmas Opportunities “Tis A Gift to be Simple”

### Dec 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6 PM --Blue Christmas Service

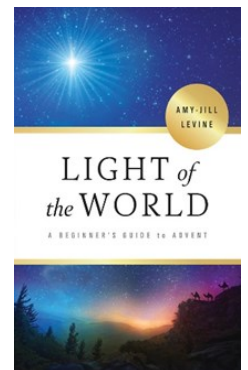
2020 has been a challenging year for so many of us and made especially difficult as we navigate the pandemic and the events that have transpired in our nation. Many have lost loved ones or grieve those that are no longer here to celebrate this traditionally joyous season. We have been in a major transition for most of the year. This service is meant to recognize that in the midst of all the Christmas joy, many are hurting and grieving.

This service is an opportunity to share our joys and our losses through reflective prayer, support and compassion. May this Christmas season be a time of seeking wholeness and healing while acknowledging our honest feelings of loneliness or sadness. The service will be held in the sanctuary with the same safety protocols that we use on Sunday morning. Please join us on December 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6 PM for this special service.

### Advent Study- Light of the World by Amy-Jill Levine

Dive deep into the history of the birth of Christ.

Advent is not only the perfect time to read the story of the birth of Jesus; it's also a great time to dive deeper into the biblical texts that surround the event. In *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine shows how the Gospel narratives connect to the Old Testament; highlights the role of women in first-century Jewish culture; and emphasizes the importance of Mary's visitation, the census, the stable, the star of Bethlehem, and the flight to Egypt. A rich and challenging learning experience for the individual reader, the book also makes a wonderful, four-week Advent group study.



This study will be offered on Wednesday's at 1 PM beginning December 2 for four weeks. There will be two options to participate. Option 1 is with social distancing and safety protocols in place in the sanctuary. Option 2 will be virtually via Zoom video conference. If you would like to participate in the study, please email [Revcarter@jbccucc.org](mailto:Revcarter@jbccucc.org) and let me know if you will be joining us in person or virtually. I will be sending out the Zoom link before our first meeting. If you need assistance setting up a [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) account please let me know that as well. The book is available at several online retailers if you need us to order a copy of the book for you please contact the church office.

We will meet Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 1 PM

### Christmas Eve Worship



Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 PM and 7 PM

Due to our current capacity of the Sanctuary at this time, we have decided to hold two Christmas Eve services. The services will be the same day, just 2 different times. Reservations will be requested for congregation members at a later date. Please watch for further details.

\*Please note all services and events are subject to change, based on the guidance of our Leadership Ministry Team, CDC guidelines and state and local authorities.

## LEADERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM UPDATE

Greetings Church,

The Leadership Ministry Team (LMT) has a few brief updates to share currently.

The Sanctuary opened November 1<sup>st</sup> for in-person worship services. Our average attendance has been 33. The Deacons continue their check-in phone calls for church family and friends not in attendance.

Community Outreach Ministry Team was blessed with \$1,273 in donations for Thanksgiving Dinner baskets to help feed 20 families. We continue to serve 8-10 families per week from the food pantry,

Preschool received a grant from VPK in the amount of \$7,900. Their annual Harvest Festival was held on October 31<sup>st</sup> and the children enjoyed the ponies. We have 56 students; 11 staff and the Director works extra hours.

Thrift Store hours are from 10am-4pm on Tuesday-Friday and from 10am-2pm on Saturday. We continue to donate items for Haiti and assist needy families. The Christmas Sale is at the Thrift Store this year and items are selling fast. We sold the old box truck for \$2k through Snake Road Auto Salvage.

The new traffic pattern in the parking lot has helped the Preschool car line flow smoothly. Our community has been enjoying the basketball court and riding their bicycles in a safe location.

The Church Office is open M-F from 9am-4pm, closed from 12pm-1pm for lunch. The Office Administrative Assistant is scheduled on M-W-F; volunteers help on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Buildings & Grounds needs assistance maintaining our campus. We would appreciate help with minor handyman repairs, trimming shrubs, and pressure washing sidewalks.

The Pastor is receiving more referrals for financial aid in our community. Many churches have run out of money to help with gas, rent or utilities. The discretionary Shepherd's Fund is getting low; donations would be appreciated.

We are blessed with the continued support of our church family and friends. We are grateful for your gifts that allow us to Be the Church. In God We Trust.

With Love,

Your Leadership Ministry Team

## Finance Team Update

We are grateful for the gifts we receive and are humbled to share them with our community. We continue to monitor, plan and be fiscally responsible stewards of God's kingdom.

<b>April – October 2020</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Education-PS</b>	<b>Outreach-TS</b>	<b>Total</b>
Income	62,164.	86,122.	53,123.	201,409.
Expenses	(136,265)	(124,442)	(71,640)	(332,347)
Transfer Funds	59,867.			59,867.
Transfer SBA PPP Loan	18,945.	30,989.	5,266.	55,200.
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>4,711.</b>	<b>(7,331)</b>	<b>(13,251)</b>	<b>(15,871)</b>

### Notes:

---COVID-19 mandated closures from mid-March through May.

---Received funding from the Small Business Administration Payroll Protection Program (SBA PPP) and allocated funds per guidelines.

---Re-opened Thrift Store in June and Preschool in August.

---Transferred investment earnings to fund \$8,000 for community food Outreach Ministry donations, reimburse \$23,867 for parking lot renovation costs, loan \$18,000 to self-finance Thrift Store box truck and reimburse \$10,000 for Covid-19 expenses

## Community Dinner – Virtual Goodness

In the beginning of these Safer-at-Home times, it was easy to care for ourselves and cook at home. As time went on, it became a challenge to create something new for dinner when we got tired of our usual recipes. We missed the privilege of being able to safely eat out and we missed socializing with our friends.

After a month or so, we really missed the community dinners at church. We missed being able to help feed, socialize and break bread with our neighbors in need. We missed being a community.

Pastor Michelle heard our call and answered it by hosting a virtual community dinner via Zoom. Oh, what fun this has been! It's been so nice to see everyone again. We got together on Thursday nights, just like we did for community dinner at church, brought our dinner and caught up with each other over a meal. We have broken bread together with various chicken dinners, hot dogs, hamburgers, pizza and BLT sandwiches.

We started sharing our favorite recipes with each other so we could try new things at home. It's almost as good as having a friend come over for potluck dinner, except you need to cook it yourself with their recipe. It's all good, though, since every recipe comes with a story shared by a friend. That is love. That is community.

Perhaps one day we can compile enough recipes to create our own church cookbook. Wishful thinking? Maybe. Could we do it? Sure, anything is possible with love and a bit of effort. Until that time arrives though, we can share the love now. A few of our favorite recipes are included for your enjoyment.

## COMMUNITY RECIPES

### BBQ SAUCE by Carole Roskilly

2 tbs white vinegar  
 1 tsp salt (do not double for double recipe)  
 1 tsp chili powder  
 1 tsp paprika  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup catsup  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup water  
 3 tbs light brown sugar

### SLOW COOKER PORK CHOPS by Carole Roskilly

6 boneless pork chops  
 1 can cream of chicken soup  
 1 can cream of mushroom soup  
 1 pkg ranch dressing/seasoning mix

Put pork chops in slow cooker.  
 Pour soups over chops (do not dilute).  
 Sprinkle ranch seasoning over soups.  
 Cover and cook on low heat for 6 hours (high for 4).

### TURKEY MEAT LOAF by Susan Gloeckner

1 cup crushed stuffing mix (like Pepperidge Farm corn bread or homestyle)  
 1 cup ranch dressing (liquid not powder)  
 2 lbs. ground turkey

Stir crushed stuffing and ranch salad dressing together; let rest 10 minutes.

Add ground turkey to stuffing mixture and combine thoroughly with your hands.

Form into a rough loaf (plop in baking dish and then form it).

Bake at 375 for 1 hour.

### SLOW COOKER POT ROAST by Susan Gloeckner

Any type of beef roast or thick steak  
 1 can condensed tomato soup  
 1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup  
 Potatoes, cubed or quartered  
 Carrots, baby or sliced

Put roast or thick steak in slow cooker.

Pour and spread tomato soup over meat to cover.

Pour and spread cream of mushroom soup to cover.

Place potatoes and carrots on top of soup, sprinkle with rosemary if desired.

Cover and cook on low heat for 6 hours (high for 4)

Meat will be fork tender and can be shredded; can use soups as gravy.

### CHICKEN PAPRIKASH by Carole Roskilly

2 Tbs vegetable oil  
 Chicken legs and thighs (about 3#)  
 Salt, pepper to taste  
 2 bay leaves  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  C flour  
 2 onions, sliced thin  
 1 Tbs paprika  
 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tbs salt  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp pepper  
 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 C chicken stock  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  C sour cream

Season chicken with salt and pepper. Fry chicken in oil and bay leaves for about 20 minutes until browned. Remove chicken from pan. Add flour and onions to pan and cook for 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Stir in salt, pepper, paprika, and chicken stock - mix well. Add in chicken, cover and reduce heat to medium. Simmer 25-30 minutes, or until chicken is fork tender. Remove chicken and bay leaves. Stir in sour cream and add chicken back in (either leaving chicken on the bone or cutting it off the bone and chopping it).

Serve over wide noodles, or spaetzles.

## COMMUNITY RECIPES

### COWBOY GRUB by Rachel Johns

2 lbs. lean ground meat (or turkey or venison)  
 3 cups Seasoning Blend (frozen diced onion, celery and pepper) Or 2 large onions and 3 green bell peppers chopped  
 2 cups cooked brown rice, or 2 cups parboiled instant brown rice plus 1 ¾ cups water  
 2 (14.5 oz) cans diced tomatoes, or 3 (10 oz) cans mild Rotel-style tomatoes and chilies  
 1 (15 oz) can pinto beans, rinsed and drained, or 1 ½ cups cooked pinto beans, drained  
 1 (14.5 oz) can corn kernels or 1 ½ cups frozen corn kernels (drained)  
 1 ½ tbs chili powder  
 1 ½ tsp garlic powder  
 1 ½ tsp ground cumin  
 1 ½ tsp mineral salt  
 ¼ tsp black pepper  
 ¼ tsp cayenne pepper (optional)

Brown the meat in a large skillet. Drain the fat.

Add the Seasoning Blend and stir until the peppers and onions start to tenderize, about 2 minutes.

(If using parboiled rice, add rice and water, stir, cover and simmer for 5 minutes).

Stir in the remaining ingredients. Continue to heat, stirring until all cooked and rice is tender.

Crossover: Stuff into whole grain tortilla with cheese and sour cream.

Leftovers can be thinned with chicken broth for a quick soup.

### PICADILLO by Marguerite Kniseley shared by Jann Smith

serves 6-8, can be made ahead

1 medium onion chopped  
 2 Tbs oil  
 1/2 cup chopped green pepper  
 3 large minced cloves of garlic  
 1 lb. lean ground beef  
 2 lb. can crushed tomatoes w basil  
 2/3 cup chopped pimento stuffed olives  
 1/2 cup corn kernels  
 1/3 cup raisins (original recipe used "golden")  
 2 Tbs brown sugar  
 1 1/2 Tbs white vinegar  
 1/4 tsp each cinnamon & basil  
 dash of ground cloves  
 salt & pepper to taste

In a large pot, sauté onion in oil until soft. Add green pepper & garlic, cook 3-4 minutes.

Add beef & cook until browned. Add rest of ingredients and simmer for 30 minutes or longer.

Adjust seasoning & spices to taste. Serve over rice. ENJOY!

### CHEESE CAKE by Kay Fenton

1 box yellow cake mix  
 1 stick margarine or butter  
 1 egg, beaten  
 1 (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened  
 2 eggs, beaten  
 1 box powdered sugar

Crust: Mix the cake mix, margarine and 1 egg. Press into 9x13 pan sprayed with Pam.

Mix the cream cheese, 2 eggs and powdered sugar. Pour into the crust.

Bake at 325 for 45-60 minutes. Cool and cut into squares.

## COMMUNITY RECIPES

### PEACHY CHICKEN WITH BISCUITS by Kay Fenton

Chicken breasts (skinless, boneless)  
1 large can sliced peaches  
Flour  
Salt & pepper for tasting  
3 Tbs margarine  
1 cup water  
1 Tbs Worcestershire sauce  
Biscuit dough

Drain peaches, reserving syrup.  
Roll chicken in flour, salt and pepper. Fry in margarine until well-browned.  
Place chicken in large baking dish which has been coated with cooking spray (Pam).  
Arrange peach slices around chicken.  
Brown 3 Tbs flour in skillet drippings, add peach syrup and water. Cook, stirring constantly, until thickened.  
Add Worcestershire sauce.  
Pour over chicken and peaches.  
Bake at 350 for 1 hour.  
Drop dough between the pieces of chicken, turn oven up to 425 and bake approximately 10 minutes until done.

### JOHNNY MARZETTI by Kay Fenton

1 onion, chopped  
1 lb. ground beef  
2 cans tomato soup  
2 tsp salt  
¼ tsp pepper  
1 pkg wide egg noodles  
2 cups grated American cheese

Sauté onion and meat. Drain off fat.  
Add soup and seasonings.  
Simmer for 45 minutes.  
Boil noodles according to package directions.  
Alternate layers of noodles, meat sauce and cheese in a 2 qt. casserole.  
End with meat sauce and cheese.  
Bake at 350 for 40 minutes.

### PINEAPPLE UPSIDE DOWN CAKE by Kay Fenton

¼ cup margarine  
½ cup brown sugar  
Pineapple slices and cherries  
White cake mix

Stir sugar in melted margarine until dissolved.  
Pour in 9x12 pan coated with Pam.  
Arrange pineapple with cherries in bottom of pan.  
Mix white cake mix per directions on box. Pour on top.  
Bake at 350 for 35-45 minutes.  
Cool on cooling rack for 5 minutes then turn over onto plate.

### CHOCOLATE ÉCLAIR CAKE by Kay Fenton

1 box honey graham crackers  
2 (4 oz.) boxes instant French vanilla pudding  
1 (8 oz.) tub Cool Whip (thawed)  
1 can milk chocolate frosting  
3 ½ cups milk

Spray 9x13 pan with Pam. Layer bottom of pan with graham crackers.  
Mix milk and pudding for 2 minutes. Fold in Cool Whip.  
Pour ½ of mixture over graham crackers. Add a layer of graham crackers.  
Pour the remaining pudding mixture over the crackers.  
Add another layer of graham crackers.  
Refrigerate 2 hours. Cover with frosting. Refrigerate 24 hours.



## PRESCHOOL

The preschool year has been going very well considering all the guidelines we have in place to keep everyone safe. We are still having our special events although they are being modified by not mixing classes or having parents at our campus.

Our annual Harvest Festival on October 30<sup>th</sup> was a fun celebration. The children had a great time taking turns riding the ponies, picking out pumpkins from our pumpkin patch and playing games in their classrooms. Each class wore the shirts they painted and decorated just for the special day.

November was an exciting month here at the Preschool. Native Americans, Pilgrims, turkeys, and other signs of Thanksgiving filled our classrooms. The children were terribly busy preparing for our Annual Thanksgiving Feast. They were told the story of Stone Soup, which is about three travelers who teach a village the joy and importance of sharing. Each class then prepared their own Stone Soup to share with each other at our Thanksgiving Feast.

Miss Shannon's two-three-year-old's class have been busy learning about the First Thanksgiving, Native Americans, and turkeys. Some cute crafts they made included, the Mayflower using their handprints, paper plate turkeys, painting with corn cobs and feathers. In addition, they are learning to share, and take turns. They really enjoy singing the songs Ten Little Indians and Hello Mr. Turkey!

Miss Heather and Miss Margaret's class have been busy learning and writing the letters A to J. They have made cute little turkeys with handprints and feathers, painted Indian corn, and made handprint pilgrim and Indian placemats for Thanksgiving. In addition, they are working with number sets and sorting objects from smallest to biggest. For science they really enjoyed learning about their five senses and having a sweet and sour taste test experiment.

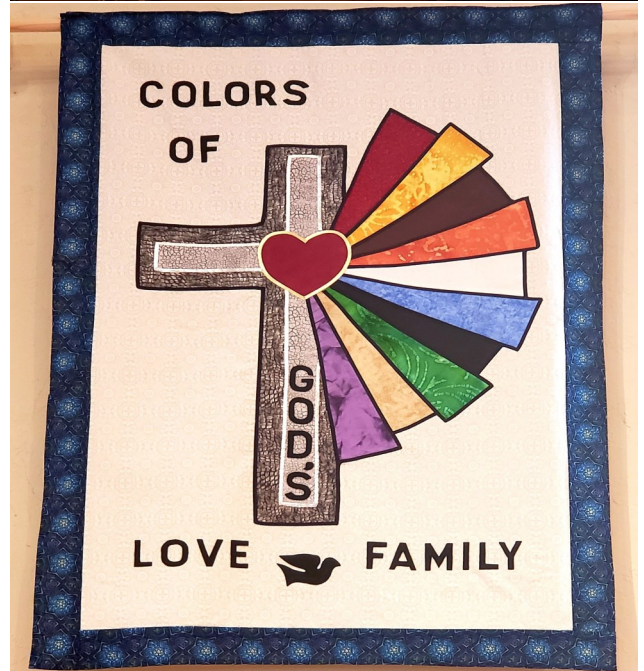
Miss Gigi and Miss Diana's VPK classes have been learning the letters Aa to Kk, and numbers 0 to 10. They are practicing blending letter sounds to make words and deletion of a first or ending sound of a word to be able to tell the sound that is left. For math they have been building patterns, counting to 100 by 1s, 5s and 10's! In addition, they are practicing subtilizing numbers on 10s frames and working on making 10 facts. VPK has been busy getting ready for the Thanksgiving Feast, making Indian headbands, and drawing turkeys.

**The Preschool would like to wish everyone a very safe & Happy Thanksgiving!!**



November 1, 2020

First in-person Worship Service since March, 2020.



Thank you, Richard Hersee, for the photograph submissions.



## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Thanks to the Jensen Beach Community Church, UCC, Scholarship Fund, 7 recipients were funded a \$2,000 award towards their education! Congratulations:

David Henderson

Summer Alyse Miller

Jakob LaBeau

Eric. J Weaver

Lauren Langley

Kelsey Nicole Langley

Payton Bryant Fowler

A Letter from David Henderson:

Hello JBCC!

I would like to thank the congregation today for all of your support in my studies. I received the annual scholarship this year, which was significant to continue my undergraduate classes at the University of Florida. With the current pandemic, the university has moved a majority of my classes to an online format; though, I still enjoy marching with the Gator Band and performing with the UF symphonic band. Your scholarship has given me the ability to pursue my degree so that I may one day attend medical school. Again, thank you so much.

-David Henderson

### FOOD PANTRY HOURS

MONDAY 10AM-12PM

WEDNESDAY 1PM-3PM

Church Directory Update: Lifetouch Photography has temporarily suspended printing church directories due to being short staffed during COVID 19. Thank you for understanding the delay.



Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, Community Outreach was able to provide 20 Thanksgiving bags feeding more than 60 people this holiday season.



# Jensen Beach Community Church UCC

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[www.jbccucc.org](http://www.jbccucc.org)

Especially Prepared For:  
 or Current Resident



## Sunday Worship 10:00am

Pastor	Rev. Michelle Carter
Organ/Piano	Sharon Hare
Admin. Assistant	Jessica Merk
Preschool Director	Sue Trimarco
Thrift Shop Manager	Victoria Boyd

The **EMBLEM** of the United Church of Christ is based on the ancient Christian symbol known as the Cross of Victory or the Cross Triumphant. The cross surmounted by the crown and all of it atop the orb signifies Christ over all the world. The orb, representing the world, is divided into three parts to signify Jesus' command to his disciples: "You shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." On the perimeter of the emblem appears both the name of the church and the scripture text: "That they may all be one."



It is the **MISSION** of our church to honor God, as known through Jesus Christ, our Savior, by fulfilling the command to make disciples of people everywhere, in all that we do.

The **VISION** of Jensen Beach Community Church is to be happily working for the increase in the love of God and neighbor through sharing, teaching, outreach, and worship, while inviting all who wish to be disciples of Jesus Christ to join us in this privileged calling.