



Ash Wednesday
February 14

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CHANGE
THEWORLD

February Worship at Anona

Jack Stephenson

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As we approach Lent, preparing for Easter, Christians worldwide use this time for spiritual development, giving something up, starting new disciplines, going deeper, or higher, or just waking up to a new world view.

Lent is preparation for a New Life in Christ. Usually that is not an easy thing or we wouldn't devote 40 days of transformation to it. Think big. What would transform your life. Where are you tripping yourself up? Where are you weak? What are your strengths? Are you using your God given gifts? These are good Lenten questions.

As I chose the scriptures preparing us to begin Lent, I chose challenging, inspirational texts that will urge us on and empower us with faith to undergird our discipline. This month will be an encouraging, uplifting set of sermons to make the 40 days a time of turn around for us all.

God bless you on the journey.

Preparation for Lent

February 4 Increased

Luke 2:52

Sermon by: Dr. John M. Stephenson

It's a verb. Jesus increased. It was the word for beating and heating metal to lengthen it. He kept hammering out the impurities. He kept shaping. Do we? John Dewey father of modern education said, "Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." Lao Tzu in poem 19 tells us to "embrace the uncarved block", meaning to remain unfinished. As we prepare for the season of Lent are we finished "increasing" or can we still follow the master at any age?

February 11 Therefore I Run

1 Corinthians 9:26

Sermon by: Dr. John M. Stephenson

Paul, in explaining freedom, explains discipline. Christians are free (in his example, to eat meat offered to idols). In verse 9 he says "Take heed lest this liberty becomes a stumbling block". A balance of freedom and discipline can lead us into Lent. We "can" do lots of things. We, being free in Christ, will choose an abundant life (a disciplined life).

February 14 Ash Wednesday

7pm in Traditional Sanctuary

February 18 I Can't Help Myself

Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon by: Rev. Jeremy Herrington

Many of us fail to reign ourselves in as much as we would like in at least some areas of our lives. Remember those New Year's Resolutions? How's the diet doing versus stuffed crust pizza? How's your budget against the iPhone X? What about that exercise routine facing off against Netflix? Temptation is hard...from where does our strength come?

February 25 I lift up my eyes

Psalms 121

Sermon by: Dr. John M. Stephenson

We are programmed to go where we are looking, sometimes more than watching where we're going (a little cynical humor). Looking up to God and expecting help along that way is faith. God doesn't help us backslide. God is a very present help in times of trouble. As we prepare for lent, to expect God; to look for God; to lift up our eyes will put us in the right frame of mind.

See You Sunday,



Remember that you are dust...and that you are loved

It has been the topic of several conversations that I've had with people recently.

"Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day on the same day?? How odd!" As I reflect on both events though, I find myself drawn more and more into the beauty of both.

This Ash Wednesday, the phrase "remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" is shared as the ashes are placed on our foreheads or hands. I've also spoken those same words on numerous occasions for internment services for loved ones as well. Yet, this year I find myself drawn closer to that phrase, and the reality behind it that we all experience seasons in our life. Just as Ecclesiastes 3 tells us that there is a time to be born, and also a time to die (something I was reflecting on quite a bit while hospitalized over Christmas), that could cause one to lose hope in their particular season of life. Yet, the good news is that the story doesn't end there.

And yes, while Valentine's Day is not a holiday we typically celebrate in worship, but the general theme of love is something we cherish greatly in our faith tradition. The struggle of our own mortality finds balance in knowing that we have a Savior in Christ who cherishes and loves us, so much, that he was willing to go to the cross for you and me. So this Lent, I invite you to take time for your own personal journey of exploration. Remembering that we are dust.. but, more importantly...that we are also loved.

Rev. Jeremy

Throughout the Old Testament, kindness is a trait that the Lord encourages of the faithful. Micah 6:8: "and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Zechariah 7:9: "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another." And Proverbs 21:21: "Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life and honor." Neither Egyptian nor Canaanites believed their Gods loved them or were inclined towards good promises or covenants with them. Instead, they tried to offer sacrifices to appease their fickle gods. Moses showed a God that loved his people and cared for them, wanting the best for them. In return, the people should be loyal to God and show kindness not to just one another, but to those who were foreigners in their land.

Jesus lived a life of kindness toward both the religious and the nominally religious of his day. He gave two commandments that summarized the laws of Moses, to Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and to love you neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22: 36-40). Jesus was often criticized for mingling with sinners, and yet it was his kindness and sincerity, his concern for the marginalized, his love that attracted the following of the people. The Apostle Paul lifted up Kindness as one of the 9 fruits of the spirit (Galatians 5: 22-23). Kindness seems to becoming a lost trait in much of our society. Yet through the years, many of the world's religious leaders and secular leaders have spoken of its importance. Aesop said "No Act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted". Lao Tzu said "Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love". Mark Twain said "Kindness is the language that deaf people can hear and the blind can see".

During the month of February, let's practice so much kindness that even the most pessimistic and down hearted will have their spirits lifted and maybe even show a smile on their face. Blessings!

Pastor Gary

February 2nd: Game Night
February 3rd: Pancake Breakfast, \$4
Thrift Store Hours: Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday 9a - noon

\$4 Breakfast benefits St. Mark's Missions

Join us from 8-10:00am on the 1st Saturday of each month for our \$4 Breakfast to benefit various missions. Includes: eggs, pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee.

It's right about New Year's Day as I write this...time to take down the Christmas tree. With our recent down-sizing to a townhome with no garage, no artificial tree for us. We went with a live tree and to make sure we got into the Christmas spirit, we brought it home right before Thanksgiving. That's a miracle for the Landon home. Looking at the tree today, however, I'm wondering, "Why do we call it a live tree?"

Our "live" tree barely made it to Christmas! It had a sort of fall-like (help, I'm dying) brown hue by the time we hit Christmas morning. As I was removing some of the ornaments, the thing shed needles wherever I touched, bumped or breathed on it. Yes, we did water it regularly, but it still died...early. The poinsettias, on the other hand, are fine. They might shed a leaf or two, but new ones come in to replace them. It ain't rocket science, the Christmas tree (now renamed "fire hazard") isn't really connected to a source for life in the way that the poinsettias are in their pretty foil-wrapped pots.

It's the same for us. Where are our roots and how deep do they go? What if we are actually living our faith as if we were a tree chopped down and placed in water to preserve us a bit longer rather than rooted in soil? We might look at people that fail to or only irregularly attend church and feel like we're doing pretty well, but the needles might soon be falling off the tree that represents our lives.

Many of Jesus' parable speak of seeds, plants, and growth. He wanted us to understand the importance of full connection (rooting) to God and one another. That means going past worship (for Jesus, it meant going past the temple). His disciples followed him, learned from him, and went out into the world to bring healing through and in his name. Worship was only a piece of the faith story. Growth ("teach us how to pray") and mission ("he sent them two-by-two") are also critical to being rooted.

We'll be offering two new opportunities to learn and grow together this month...to get rooted. We'll be offering an immersive look at the Gospel of Matthew for the season leading up to Easter, which is called Lent. Our teaching series for worship will be tied to this opportunity. We'll also be offering Financial Peace University for those seeking to get out from the burden of debt.

Take your faith beyond being like the base of a chopped down tree placed in a tree stand with filled with water. Visit anona.com and click the "Connect" tab to find out more about these and other opportunities to go past worship and be more deeply rooted in God with others. Go green...get rooted!



February 4

Far From Perfect

Romans 2:1-4

It isn't just that we can tend to hate and judge, we are also sometimes the subject of other people's hate and judgment. This week we turn away from how we look at others to see how we view ourselves. If we aren't supposed to hate and judge others, we shouldn't hate and judge ourselves.

February 11

Short Term or Long Haul

Romans 12:9-10

Relationships can be tricky...from the moment of asking or going out on the first date to maintaining a healthy marriage. One thing I can promise is that moving from friends to more than friends will be a challenge...and an ongoing one at that. Let's look at the foundation for great "more than friends" relationships.

February 18

I Can't Help Myself

Matthew 4:1-11

Many of us fail to reign ourselves in as much as we would like in at least some areas of our lives. Remember those New Year's Resolutions? How's the diet doing versus stuffed crust pizza? How's your budget against the iPhone X? What about that exercise routine facing off against Netflix? Temptation is hard...from where does our strength come?

February 25

Scripture tbd

Sunday
Modern Worship
360 United Service
11AM in Anona Theater at Wesley Hall

Cory Osborne (Youth Director)
727-595-2581 ex.292
cory@anona.com



Wednesdays 5:30-6:30pm - Middle School & High School Bible Study

Middle school and high school students meet in separate groups to learn more about how to interpret and apply God's Word found in scripture. This is an opportunity for students to dive a little deeper into scripture than they would normally find on Sunday Nights. (Doors open at 4:30 for Cafe)

Sundays 5:00-7:30pm - Sunday Night Youth Program

Join us for a time to hang out in a safe environment, play some crazy group games, share a meal together, and worship with our youth band. Also, we break into grade specific small groups and dive into relevant topics in dialogue with each other led by a great team of Adult Small Group Leaders. Bring your friends and we'll see you Sunday!



Confirmation Class

Begins February 4, 2018

Confirmation is a great way for students to learn about what we believe, why we believe it, and how to apply it to our daily lives. We will discuss United Methodist theology along with other basic Christian beliefs to begin to lay the foundation for students to develop a personal faith of their own by the time they graduate high school.

We will spend 12 weeks together in whole. Some will be in the classroom setting, while others will be travel days to visit other denominations and take a retreat weekend.

Go to anona.com/confirmation for more information



Fundraising Events

We need your help! This summer is our biggest summer ever. We have 3 mission trips and 1 week at Camp with the most students attending ever!

Please be on the lookout for special fundraising events announced online and in church services.

Come out and support our students. See you there!!

Youth Sermon Series - "Haters"

It's intrinsic to our nature and culture to judge others, for better or for worse. But judgment isn't our job. We're neither equipped for it, nor are we called to do it. We'll talk about a time you were judged unfairly, how it made you feel, how it shaped your self-perception, and how you handled it.

"People don't change." We hear this all the time, and yet the Bible is full of contradictory examples. We should be careful not to put people—including ourselves—into permanent moral categories. This week, is there something about ourselves we want to change, but don't know where to start. We'll start by thinking of a few steps we can take toward making a change.

It's counterintuitive to invite someone's judgment. But, when we actively seek accountability, that's essentially what we're doing. Do we have someone we can share our struggles with? Someone who isn't a parent? If your answer is no, let's talk about the qualities of a person that you look up to would need to have, and brainstorm a list of potential candidates.



Connect With Us



Check us out online: anona.com/students
Like us on Facebook: "Anona Student Ministry"
Follow us on Instagram: AnonaYouth



February

Movie

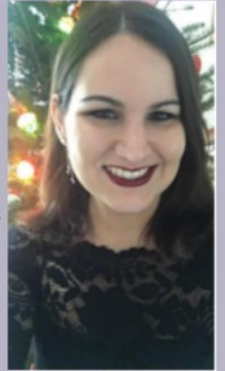
Parents Night Out

February 16th
6pm-9pm

\$15 for the first kid and \$5 for each additional. Register online at www.anona.com/kidsevents

Games and Crafts

JAMIE SPRECHER



We are very excited to welcome Jamie Sprecher as our new Director of Family Experience at Anona! Jamie has been a part of our Anona family since she was baptized as an infant. Jamie has grown up as an active participant and leader in our Worship Arts ministries at Anona for many years. Jamie is a graduate of USF, and has served as our director of Children's Choirs, chimes, and handbells for several years, and is gifted in numerous musical talents. Jamie has also been a strong part of our FX team, and now steps in to serve as our Director of FX as we start the new year, and we are glad to have her on board with us! So be sure to welcome her to the Anona family, and don't forget to come see her teams in action on Sunday mornings, 9:30 in FX!

FX

FAMILY FUN with a PURPOSE

9:30 am in the Anona Theater

The Family Experience (FX) is a worship experience that is centered on a KEY monthly Bible verse. The weekly message is taught through *Media, Creative Drama, Engaging Characters and Worship time.*

The GOAL of FX is to provide a consistent environment where leaders, parents and kids are learning. This helps families to connect what they hear at church with what is happening at home.

SPIRIT NIGHT

5-9 PM

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH
Mark your Calendars!

Village Inn.

FRIENDS & FAMILY FUN!
A great time to RELAX & RECONNECT

GAMES
Board Games Galore!

Jesus personified kindness in the way He lived and interacted with the people He met. But, as we read the Gospels, we find that Jesus didn't just model kindness. He commanded it. By treating others the way we want to be treated, we live out the way Jesus taught us to live.

REWIND

Kindness deserves a replay

Do to others as you want them to do to you.

Luke 6:31, NIV



Facebook.com/AnonaFX

@anonafox



Children's Sunday School is available for kids K-5th grade, preschool, and nursery during the 11:00am Sunday services. Kids will explore stories from the Bible, play some games, and enjoy time with friends. Enter through the orange door in the breezeway near the Anona Theater lobby. This program is in addition to our FX Family Service at 9:30am when we also offer pre-school and nursery care.



Pam Reeder - Director of Anona Child Development Center
Phone: 727.593.5437 · Website: anona.com/acdc

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.
~ 1 Corinthians 3:6

What seeds do we want to plant in the fertile hearts of God's children? What skills do we want them to learn so they can manage their upsets, build respectful relationships, and become strong, considerate adults for tomorrow? Composure... Kindness... Compassion... Assertiveness... Empathy...? How do we begin to plant the seeds so the skills can grow and develop?

Here at Anona, we use the skill based Conscious Discipline® program to model and teach what we want to see in the children as they grow. Think of a yellow highlighter. Are we highlighting the positive traits we see or are we highlighting the traits we don't want to see? Conscious Discipline teaches us that what we focus on, we get more of. Where is our focus? When we focus on what we want, we encourage children to continue to develop the characteristics we desire to see in them.

We begin with connection. Taking the time to genuinely greet and acknowledge a child, just the way they are, is the first step to letting them know they are valued. Valued by us. Valued by God. Connections, in a compassionate environment, establishes the feeling of safety where children are encouraged to explore, make mistakes and learn how to handle upsets and conflicts. They are a valued part of something bigger than themselves. We are all more likely to be helpful, caring and patient when we are truly connected with the others involved. We begin to see through the eyes of another, a perspective different than our own, developing a willingness to offer compassion and understanding.



During February, the children at Anona Child Development Center will be developing their skill of Empathy. We will be creating Community Connections by making Valentines for Shut-Ins in the Anona community. We will spend time learning about the importance of caring for those who are alone and offering our expressions of love with Valentines as a means to lift the spirit of another person. Their work will be blessed in Chapel and given to the Pastoral Care Committee to distribute to Anona members. Empathy for one who is alone – love shared when life is seen through the eyes of others – and it is valued and blessed.

Stop by and visit your Preschool and see Conscious Discipline® in action – we welcome our Church Family.



The first stage of Family Trek is Discover:
where children under 5 learn to discover
God for themselves.

The next stage of Family Trek is Explore:
where children Pre-K to 5th grade
explore their relationship with God.

February

Jesus loves everyone is the sweetest news we will ever share with our Discover friends so get your sweet tooth – and your heart – ready for a super sweet month filled with the good news that JESUS LOVES EVERYONE? It's going to be one, huge, sugar overload, not because of candy but because Jesus' love is just that big and sweet!

Nursery, for 6 weeks – 2 year old children available for both the 9:30 am, 11:00 am and 11:10 am service:

- Please label all bags and belongings upon arrival
- No food or drink in the nursery
- 6 weeks – 1 year: children play & interact with children their own age feeling safe and loved
- 2 year olds: Children discover different bible themes through story, craft & song.

Godly Play, for 3 – 4 year old children: available at the 9:30 am service

- A creative, imaginative approach to spiritual guidance for children that lets them explore their faith through play, stories, and parables from the bible.

Preschool–5th grade students: available at the 11:00 am & 11:10 am services:

- Age appropriate discovery and exploration of bible stories through story, craft & song.

Announcements: PMO has been suspended briefly.
For more information, please contact: April Maitner at
727-742-8171 or email: nursery@anona.com.

Volunteers needed for programming above

Find us online:
www.anona.com/kidsprograms



Have questions, suggestions, or interested in leading a small group?
Contact Gary Thomas:
gary@anona.com or 595-2581 x225

If you are interested in attending any of the below classes, please visit the Connection Point desk in our Church fellowship area or go online: <http://www.anona.com/adultgroups> to register.

LENT Study

We invite you to join us, as we set aside time to connect with God and other class members during the season of Lent. This year's study is *Lent for Everyone* by N.T. Wright. In his devotional, the author provides his own Scripture translation, brief reflection, and a prayer for each day of the season from Ash Wednesday through the week after Easter. By the end of our study, we will have journeyed in a spirit of discovery and growth through the entirety of Matthew, along with Psalm readings for each Sunday.

Wednesdays, February 7th – March 28th

6:30 – 8:00pm in Room 110

Facilitators: Richard Landon and Kathy Freeburg

Class Materials: Devotional materials and schedule is available online: www.anona.com/len



Sunday, February 11th:
Kick Off/Orientation Date with Pizza! at 5:00pm

2 classes to choose from:
Sundays, Feb 18 - April 22 Time: 5:30 - 7pm
Wednesdays, Feb 21- April 27 Time: 5:30 - 7pm

Facilitators: Michelle Alfred and Karen Gonzalez
Class materials: \$90, Scholarships available

Financial Peace University is a nine-lesson, money-management class designed by Dave Ramsey. This class will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more. What if you knew where all of your money was going each month? What if you were debt-free, investing and making wise spending decisions? With Financial Peace University, you CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future.

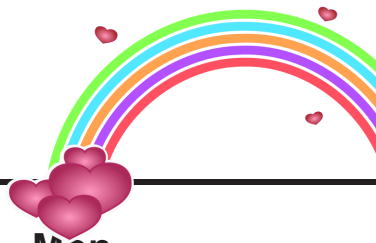


So- just how are those New Year's resolutions working out for you? One thing that's never too late to do is to spend quiet time with God. With the constant noise from our digital universe, that sometimes can be a tall order!

If you want to slow down for even just ½ hour, join us at 10:45 on Sunday mornings in the historic Anona Chapel for quiet worship, acoustic music, and prayer. We are a small group of worshippers that have grown together as "family"; we are always eager to welcome new comers. Join us after worship for coffee and conversation as we prepare to head back into "busy-ness" renewed & refreshed. Questions, contact Bert & Judy Crossman: bert.crossman@tampabay.rr.com



LIKE us on FACEBOOK at Anona Simply Worship.



February

Sun

Mon

Tue

W

4 Blood Pressure Screening 5:00 PM Youth Group	5 10:00 AM UMW Board 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, King's Ringers, Worship Committee	6 6:45 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Disciple Fast NT 11:00 AM Choraliers 5:30 PM Hands of Praise 6:00 PM Sign Language Class, Sew Much Fun 6:30 PM Methodism 101 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Gospel Chordsmen, Orchestra	7 9:00 AM Walk15@ w 9:30 AM Qi Gong 10:00 AM Sew 'n Sev 10:30 AM Pastors Stu 5:30 PM MS & HS B 6:30 PM AA, Mission Lenten Stu 7:00 PM Sanctuary
11 Blood Mobile 5:00 PM Youth Group, Financial Peace Kick Off	12 5:00 PM Anona Spirit Night @ Village Inn 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, King's Ringers	13 6:45 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Disciple Fast NT 11:00 AM Choraliers 12:00 PM Priscilla Circle (Glenwood) 5:30 PM Hands of Praise 6:00 PM Sign Language Class, Sew Much Fun 6:30 PM Methodism 101 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Gospel Chordsmen, Orchestra	14 Ash Wedn 9:00 AM Walk15@ w 9:30 AM Qi Gong 10:00 AM Sew 'n Sev 10:30 AM Pastors Stu 5:30 PM MS & HS B 6:30 PM AA 6:45 PM Lenten Stu 7:00 PM Ash Wedne Service
18 1st Sunday in Lent 5:00 PM Youth Group, Financial Peace	19 8:00 AM Church Council 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, King's Ringers	20 6:45 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Disciple Fast NT 11:00 AM Choraliers 5:30 PM Hands of Praise 6:00 PM Sign Language Class, Sew Much Fun 6:30 PM Methodism 101 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Gospel Chordsmen, Orchestra	21 9:00 AM Walk15@ w 9:30 AM Qi Gong 10:00 AM Sew 'n Sev 10:30 AM Pastors Stu 4:00 PM Financial P 5:30 PM MS & HS B 6:30 PM AA, Lenten 7:00 PM Sanctuary
25 5:00 PM Youth Group, Financial Peace 6:30 PM Book Club	26 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, King's Ringers	27 6:45 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Disciple Fast NT 11:00 AM Choraliers 5:30 PM Hands of Praise, Finance 6:00 PM Sign Language Class, Sew Much Fun 6:30 PM Methodism 101 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Gospel Chordsmen, Orchestra	28 9:00 AM Walk15@ w 9:30 AM Qi Gong 10:00 AM Sew 'n Sev 10:30 AM Pastors Stu 4:00 PM Financial P 5:30 PM MS & HS B 6:30 PM AA, Lenten 7:00 PM Sanctuary

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ed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>7:00 AM Lawn Crew 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Outbound Team 7:00 PM Half Truths 7:00 PM Praise Choir, Hope Support</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters 2:30 PM Golf Fellowship - Largo Golf Course 8:00 PM AI Anon</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 AM St Mark's Breakfast</p>
<p>with Molly</p> <p>vs</p> <p>udy</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>ns Meeting</p> <p>dy</p> <p>Choir</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 AM Lawn Crew 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 1:00 PM Rachel Circle, Mary Fellowship 7:00 PM Half Truths 7:00 PM Praise Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters 2:30 PM Golf Fellowship - Largo Golf Course 8:00 PM AI Anon</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00 AM Habitat for Humanity 8:30 AM Hospital Visitation Team</p>
<p>nesday</p> <p>with Molly</p> <p>vs</p> <p>udy</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>dy (meet in Sanctuary)</p> <p>nesday Traditional</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>7:00 AM Lawn Crew 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Half Truths 7:00 PM Praise Choir, Hope Support</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters 2:30 PM Golf Fellowship - Largo Golf Course 6:00 PM Parents Night Out 8:00 PM AI Anon</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>with Molly</p> <p>vs</p> <p>udy</p> <p>Peace Youth</p> <p>Bible, Financial Peace</p> <p>Study</p> <p>Choir</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00 AM Lawn Crew 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Praise Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters 11:00 AM Son Seekers Luncheon 2:30 PM Golf Fellowship - Largo Golf Course 8:00 PM AI Anon</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>with Molly</p> <p>vs</p> <p>udy</p> <p>Peace Youth</p> <p>Bible, Financial Peace</p> <p>Study</p> <p>Choir</p>			

Anona Family Life Counseling Ministry

727.422.9654

2081 Indian Rocks Road Largo, FL 33774

anona.com/counseling

Dr. Terry L. Collier,
Clinical Director

Dina Meitner,
LCSW

Trina Carroll-Houk, Educator

The A Simple Lesson in How to Live a Better Life

Be kind. That's the lesson. I did not need 300 words to impart great wisdom. You didn't need to read volumes of information. Being kind changes everything.

How to be kind starts every day with the man or woman in the mirror. How you treat yourself has a direct correlation with how you are able to treat others. To improve your relationships, first improve the one you have with yourself. Treating yourself like you would want others to treat you may cause you to act kindly to others in a profoundly loving way. The reason is because goodness expands.



Your chances of being kind is directly connected with how you feel at any given moment. How you feel is connected to how well you care for yourself in terms of healthy or poor food, drink and other lifestyle choices. Old wounds need to be healed and released because kindness is much harder filtered through dark spots. How to be kind starts with kindness to self and then leads to kindness of deeds.

This could be your year to clear up old habits and embark on the ship of kindness. If you want to have a beautiful experience, be the person that makes everyone else feel special. Your actions could become the reason that someone else believes in the goodness of others. At the end of your days, you will look back at your actions, words, and thoughts unspoken. Here's your chance now to create a beautiful movie as your life flashes past. That's why to be kind. Your life, and the lives of people around you, is better lived with kindness in the heart. Jesus showed us the way.



From my kind heart to yours,

Dina Meitner, LCSW

Academy of the Arts

Sandy Ross
Director

caseychev@aol.com
727.430.1316

OPEN ENROLLMENT: The Academy offers individual music lessons to children, youth and adults of all ages on piano, guitar, bass, drums, violin, voice, and music theory. Please register on-line at anona.com, "Worship", "Worship Ministries", "Academy of Arts", or contact Director Sandy Ross at the above number/email. Beginning to advanced students welcome. We will work with your schedule whenever possible.

DONATIONS: Do you have an unused instrument taking up space or sheet music or books that you are not using? The Academy gladly accepts donations of pianos, musical equipment, amplifiers, books and accessories. Tax receipt given upon request. Thank you.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE: Thanks to our generous donors, scholarship lessons will be available for the foreseeable future. If you or your child wishes to take music lessons but you do not have the financial means to do so, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above phone/email.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS: THANK YOU SO MUCH for the donations made to the Academy Scholarship Fund through the Christmas Missions Tree. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and will be used to provide lessons to students who otherwise could not afford them. A special thanks to Janice Dean for her work on the Missions Tree.

Please consider making a donation to help train up the next generation of Christian musicians. Tax receipt available upon request. You can make a donation by check made out to Anona UMC with "Academy Donation" marked in the memo space. Please place in Sunday offering plate or leave in the Sandy Ross/Academy In Box (bottom row near entrance to Wesley Hall/FX). Thank you!!

REMINDER: Twenty-four hour notice to the teacher is required to cancel lessons without payment, unless in case of emergency, so please make sure you/your child's lessons are noted in your calendar.

MUSIC HISTORY: The Romantic era in music history (1820-1900) grew out of the social and political upheavals which followed the French and American Revolutions, and the Industrial Revolution. Composers strived to make their instruments "sing", and to create harmonies that were highly emotional and expressive. Music became more dissonant and chromatic – more sharps and flats in order to express this emotional approach.

Missions/Outreach

Mission Expo—March 4, 9AM-12:30PM

Come out and join us for the Mission Expo, Sunday, March 4th from 9am – 12:30pm in the Fellowship Area. There will be opportunities to meet many of our new Mission Partners as well as those we have faithfully supported throughout the years. Want a preview? Head over to anona.com/missions starting Feb 4th to find a map of the Expo as well as a vendor list with links to their websites! When you visit the Expo, pick up a passport and stop by each mission table to get a stamp. Enter your completed passport in a drawing to win a prize. Grand prize will include a \$500 donation to the Mission Partner of your choice! Need not be present to win. Stop by the Mission Team table, talk to one of the many members of the Anona Mission Team, pick up the latest mission brochure, and visit our prayer station. Many Mission Partners will have volunteer opportunities available at their tables. Sign up to volunteer at Habitat for Humanity, sort food with Stamp out Hunger (RCS), read to a child through Panther Pals reading program, just to name a few. Interested in what goes on behind the scenes? Talk to one of our Youth and find out how they are growing with the church through missions. Think you are too young/old, don't have enough time for missions? There is a place for you! For more information or to find out how to sign up to participate in the Expo, please contact a mission team member at missions@anona.com or sign up at Connection Point. Space is limited!

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY, February 4

Bring in pantry food items to benefit Pinellas RCS food pantry. FX families will be collecting food items prior to services on February 4th. Your generous food donations help those who are currently facing financial struggles. Avoid glass items and check for expiration dates.

Change the Game...Change the World!



Box Top Summary 2017

Happy New Year to all Box Top Collectors and those wanna be box top collectors!!!!

The final donation/collection figures for 2017 is \$354, which compares to the 2016 figure of \$378. You can see our donations are down by \$24.00. We could blame Irma, but what ever the reason, that is the facts. Remember, it takes 10 box tops for each dollar, so we did collect 3,540, but we can do better in 2018!

Girls in Pearls, and Boys to Leaders at Ridgecrest Elementary School are the benefactors of the dollars we raise by our collecting Box Tops. Both of these small groups of girls and boys (4th and 5th grades) learn life experiences that will promote leadership, cooperation and respect. They have monthly meetings, and usually have special speakers, or do an event outside of school property. These events range from going to the theater, concerts, eating at a restaurant, or simply visiting the local jail. Without this support group some of these young people could end up on the wrong side of the street, but with this support they will know who to turn to in the event they encounter trouble in their lives, and don't know which way is the right way.

Just a reminder, Box Tops, can be found on the following products, and they have added two new sponsors. (Annie's and Boise Paper Products). The items that you are most familiar seeing the labels are most General Mills products, Ziploc, Pillsbury, some Betty Crocker, Kleenex, Scott bathroom tissue and paper towels, Green Giant vegetables, and Reynolds products. In the event you have forgotten where you will find the box top collection boxes at Anona, they are located in the choir room, FX, and at the Connection Point.

In summary, this is such an easy way to make a difference in a child's life. Each box top represents 10 cents. We all grocery shop often, so take the extra time to look for the box top, cut them out of the package, and drop them in the collection box. Ridgecrest Elementary School will thank-you, and so will the children that benefit from your donation.

Thank-you again for a great year, and keep up the good work.

Nancy L Dowd
Box Top Coordinator



NEXT BUILD is: Feb. 10th
8:00AM - 12:00PM

Sign up at the Connection Desk or contact Dave Gerald at 365-2800, email dsgerald@hotmail.com. No construction experience required.

CHANGE 4 CHANGE
February 11th



The 11th grade small group will be collecting your spare change to support a number of mission projects in our community and beyond. Thank you!

FRIENDS IN FELLOWSHIP SMALL GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Walk15 with Molly

A heart-pumping, calorie torching, aerobic workout, Walk15® is the group exercise version of Leslie Sansone's "Walk at Home" video programs. Easy to follow, adaptable to all levels of fitness, our 30 minute workout is equivalent to a 2 mile walk. Those 15 minute miles add up to an effective workout for "all walks of life"! Dress comfortably with athletic shoes, bring your water bottle, and join us Wednesdays at 9AM. Molly Schaaf 595-7428 walklivewithmolly@gmail.com

Mary Fellowship—2nd Thursday of each Month (Feb. 8)

Mary Fellowship, an Anona small group, meets the second Thursday of each month. We have an inspirational devotional and an interesting program presented by either one of our members or an invited guest. We always begin our meetings with prayer, followed by refreshments, Christian fellowship, and sharing our concerns. We also help "Women on the Way" at St Petersburg College. New recruits are always welcome. We will meet 1pm on Feb 8 at The Fountains of Largo Clubhouse 13125 Wilcox Rd. Contact Judy Crossman, 727-595-6872.

Hands of Praise—Tuesdays at 5:30pm

The Hands of Praise choir provides people with a visual opportunity to feel new depths in the messages of Contemporary and Traditional songs during worship. The vision of Hands of Praise is three-fold: loving God by praising God with our hands; loving one another as we accept diversity within our church and the world; and serving others as we go into the community sharing the love of God through the songs. Our Scripture is taken from Psalm 63:4, "I will praise You as long as I live, and in Your Name I will lift up my hands." Contact Nancy Wooten, 727-804-1375, for more information.

Sign Language Class—Tuesdays at 6pm

Have you ever wanted to learn another language? Well, now is your opportunity! A new class of American Sign Language started this year! The instructors are Shayla and Nancy. They are so excited to offer a free class in a small group setting! Are you interested in learning simple signs to communicate with those who are hard of hearing or deaf? Or perhaps you just want to learn to communicate with someone across the room! Then this is the class for you! It meets Tuesdays, 6 to 7:00 p.m. in Room 110. For more information or to register call Nancy Wooten, 727-804-1375.



T'ai Chi qi gong, Wednesdays at 9:30am in Worship Center

This mind-body practice has value in treating or prevention many health problems. GET STARTED EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT IN SHAPE, LOW-IMPACT - SLOW MOTION EXERCISE.

Fibromyalgia Support Group—Second Saturday of each Month

If you or someone you know is impacted, you are invited to attend this support group, the 2nd Saturday of each month, 11am, at Palms of Largo complex (Imperial locations on Alt. Keene Rd—East Rec Room). There is no cost to you! Next Meeting is: February 10th, 11am. Call Joel Christie, support group leader, for more info: 727-365-2764.

Sonseekers/Seasonal Residents (SSR's) is a small group who meets for fellowship and activities. The group's mission is to welcome and help seasonal residents get acquainted, make new friends, learn more about Anona UMC, and grow spiritually. SSR's meet from October through March. If interested in participating sign-up at the Connection Point for the following:

- February 9: Group luncheon out...location to be confirmed. Please watch for your email or check with the sign-up sheet at the Connection Point.
- February 23: Join the SSR's in Wesley's Hall @ 11:00 a.m. for a catered luncheon. Cost is \$7.00 at the door. Bring your table service. Shawn Thomas Anona's Organist/Assistant Music Director will provide an interesting detailed description of the sanctuary's pipe organ, it's history and demonstrate it's capabilities.

Come join us...we look forward to growing together. Contact Ted Pinkerton 513-739-9796 with questions.

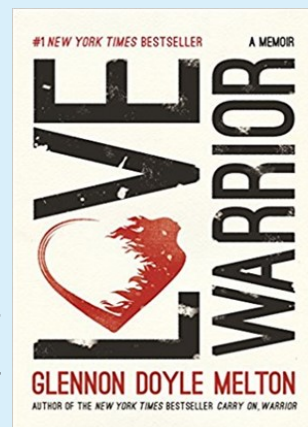


Welcome to Anona Book Club: Feb 25

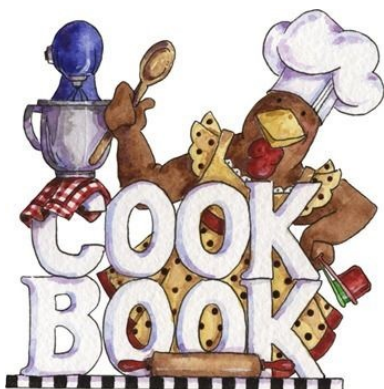
February's book: "Love Warrior"
Discussion on February 25th @ 6:30 PM

"Love Warrior is a gorgeous and inspiring account of how we are born to be warriors: strong, powerful, and brave; able to confront the pain and claim the love that exists for us all. This chronicle of a beautiful, brutal journey speaks to anyone who yearns for deeper, truer relationships and a more abundant, authentic life" (Amazon.com). Next month's book is The Final Summit by Andy Andrews.

As always, our discussions are open to all Anona guests and members. Meetings are typically held the 4th Sunday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Bride's Room, located in the back of the Sanctuary. Consider joining a fun group of happy readers for friendly discussions and on-going learning. Questions? Contact Deanna Comingore, deannacom@att.net, for directions and details



Anona UMW wishes to thank everyone who ordered RADA cutlery during our 2017 fundraiser. If you missed it, you may order online...this year using a new website that is much more user friendly. You don't have to remember a username or password; just go to <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=907174.69c74> and click on "Shop now." Thank you for supporting our missions!



Attention all great (or just middling) COOKS! Become famous for your culinary talent!

This month, we are excited to announce that we are accepting your most delicious recipes for a first-ever Anona Cookbook! You can give us recipes in any category and in any form, such as a recipe card, an email to karen.creamer@tampabay.rr.com, or even a scribbled recipe on a scrap of paper. We will do the typing! Please be sure to note details such as oven temp, number of servings, etc., and include your NAME so we can give you credit in the book! We will be collecting recipes in the Marketplace during January and February (watch the bulletin for exact dates) and cookbooks will hopefully be on sale before Easter.

Rachel Circle meets in the church Library at 1:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of months September-May

Priscilla Circle meets at Noon on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Glenwood Estates recreation center, 12501 Ulmerton Road, Largo. Call Karen Creamer 765-265-9406 for directions.

UMW membership is open to any woman, Anona member or not. Email karen.creamer@tampabay.rr.com for more info.

Florida's bishop writes about a plan, a method Methodists can use to become more disciplined, more intentional about being disciples of Jesus Christ. A plan, a method that he himself is using. A plan/method that anyone can use – as is, or anyway an individual wants to modify it. In his writing, Bishop Carter states, "Having an intentional process for growth and discipleship is important. And having a built-in framework for accountability is essential...I am writing to United Methodists who want to discover a more faithful and disciplined life in the new year. If Methodism is to be a vital and meaningful movement in the coming decades, it will be the result of many women and men who seek and practice a method in their Christian lives."



"I am also writing to people who are formed (disciplined) by the media that we consume. In a politically-polarized culture that feeds on cycles of violence and retaliation, even followers of Jesus can be shaped by our environment. A method of discipleship is essential if we are to avoid being "conformed to the world" and instead if we might be "transformed by the renewing of our minds" (Romans 12)." "So, as we begin a new year, what spiritual exercises might become a part of your life?" "My prayer for you is that you will see the glory of God in your daily life, and a path will unfold for you, to follow Jesus in the year ahead."

Bishop Ken Carter serves the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Bishop Carter's plan/method appears on the UMM Florida Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ummflorida>

The key word here is "intentional". If every person, every church every entity within the church were intentional about engaging men in the life of the church, in a daily walk with Jesus in prayer, in a daily encounter with Scriptures proclaiming God's grace and holiness. Being intentional about engaging men in service within the church and around the church campus, engaging men in the mission and outreach of the church, intentional about engaging men in fellowship with each other, in training and education to be better disciples and teachers, intentional about protecting the church and its community during good times and bad, and intentional about supporting the United Methodist Men at all levels, at the church level, within the district, at the Conference, Jurisdictional, national and global level, more men would feel welcomed at becoming Methodist followers of Jesus Christ.

Coming April 28, Iron-Sharpens-Iron Men's Equipping Seminar at 1550 S Belcher Rd, Largo, FL <http://www.ironsharpensiron.net/>



Membership

Membership at Anona is about worshipping, growing, serving and living life together in community. We believe that discipleship is a life-long journey of self-examination and continuous growth, leading to a Christ-like life that serves others and furthers God's Kingdom.

Simply, does worship here connect you with God? Is this a place where you can grow spiritually? Finally, are you moved to make a difference in the world with a servant heart? There are no mandatory classes. There are no minimums in attendance or giving. It is a community of the willing. Saying you want to be a member is like walking through the front door of a house you want to live in.

Membership vows are usually "corporate" in nature where those wishing to join, come forward during worship and vow together with the witness and support of the congregation. For those who do not want to be in front of people in such a public way, vows can be taken privately. Some individuals and families prefer private baptism as well. We are willing to do what is most comfortable for you as you make your commitment to Christ and Christ's church.

We invite our seasonal residents into Affiliate and Associate membership at Anona! Affiliates are members of another United Methodist Church who wish to connect with the life, ministry, and watch-care of our congregation. Associates are members of another Christian denomination who wish to connect with us while retaining their current denominational affiliation.

What is "Insight to Anona?"

We offer "Insight to Anona" classes to those wishing to join or just seeking more information about our church. We meet for an informal time of getting to know each other, while learning more about Anona's history, mission and culture. People leave knowing more about our Bible study classes, book studies, small groups, mission partners and service opportunities, both inside and outside the walls of our church. In summary, it helps you see where you want to get connected as we worship, grow, serve and live life together in Christ!

Insight usually lasts 1-2 hours depending on the number of people and how we move through the tour. If those dates aren't convenient, Sandy Drugash is happy to meet privately at a time that's good for you. **Our next Insight to Anona is Wednesday, Feb. 7th at 10:30am OR Sunday, Feb. 11th at 12:30 pm in the Front Office** (off of the Fellowship Area). Our next Membership Sunday is March 25th at all of our worship services. Sandy is looking forward to hearing from you! sandy@anona.com or phone 595-2581 x 228.

Anona's Memorial Garden

If you haven't seen the Memorial Garden lately, or didn't know we have one, take a moment sometime to stop by and reflect in this hallowed ground of Anona. There are over 100 Anona members whose ashes have been scattered in the garden over the years. A memorial tree, inside the east entrance to the Traditional Sanctuary, list the names of those whose final resting place is in the garden. The tree was dedicated on May 6, 1990, but the garden itself has been on the west side of the Traditional Sanctuary building for many years. No one knows for sure when the garden was created, but there are a number of memorial tree "leaves" that indicate the earliest Anona members were interred there in the 1970's. One year the garden was severely damaged by a tree that fell during a storm, but the garden and grounds were lovingly restored. Several Anona members have maintained the garden over the years, many donating their time and materials to keep the garden beautiful. Lately, June Berry has been the driving force behind the maintenance of the garden. Next time you see June, give her a big "thanks" for what she has done to keep our garden sacred and beautiful.



Our Members

Birthdays 80th and Above

02/01	Dorothy Gagne
02/03	Hal PirkI
02/06	Howard Ammeter
02/08	Joan Humphreville
02/10	Buddy McGowan
02/11	Martha Gibson Margaret Ponder Julie Mann
02/12	Linda Sessions
02/13	Phyllis Backstrom Marion Liswith
02/14	Jack Rivers Phyllis Robertson
02/15	Darrell Clark Herb Hummer
02/19	Bill Kniesly
02/20	Shirley Gentry
02/21	Bob Walker
02/22	Marge Horne Herb James Bob Van Winkle
02/23	Bill Henry
02/24	Doris Dalack
02/25	Rose Redlin Helen Smith
02/26	Ed Ballas
02/27	Marie Krampert
02/28	Dot Wachob
02/29	Sandy Hammock Helen Wilcox

Anniversaries 25th and Above

02/02	Phil & Margie Marshall	49 yrs.
02/03	Roy & Catherine Finke	40 yrs.
02/04	Don & Pat Baragry Jack & Kay Rivers	68 yrs. 62 yrs.
02/10	Glen & Denise Nagel	28 yrs.
02/11	Tye & Laura Gruss	29 yrs.
02/12	Alex & Debbie Clarke	29 yrs.
02/14	Dean & Debbie Moentman Brooks & Suzie Walker	37 yrs. 48 yrs.
02/16	John & Linda Carroll	38 yrs.
02/17	Gene & Dorothy Gagne	66 yrs.
02/18	Herb & Jan Hummer	57 yrs.
02/20	Parker Robinson & Susan Pulling Robinson	26 yrs.
02/21	Tim & Terri McKenna	31 yrs.
02/25	Larry & Betsy Bomar	34 yrs.



Printed copies of the complete Birthday and Anniversary lists are available at the Connection Point desk in the Anona Fellowship Area.

Welcome to the Anona Family!

Baptisms:

Landen William Mellot
Ella Catherine Mellot
Hunter Joseph Perez

Please be in Prayer for:

The Family of Robert Shearer, who joined in 2015.
The Family of Jeannie Vida, who joined in 2017.
The Family of Marion Gullick, who joined in 1983.
The Family of Mary Cookson, who joined in 1996.



Join a Stephen Minister
in the prayer room after
Sunday Services
or call 595-2581 x408

Stephen Ministry at Anona



Jesus taught his disciples to “love one another as I have loved you” (John 13:34). That’s a tall order for a human being! Jesus’ love is a selfless, pure love that Stephen ministers and all Christians strive to imitate. It was His love that first listened and cared for people like the woman at the well, grieving Martha, and guilt-ridden Peter. That love then pointed them to Jesus, the One who forgives, redeems, transforms, comforts, and renews.

Today, providing the selfless attention and care Jesus modeled continues to bless others. When applied, Stephen Ministry training and experience changed the way I communicate the love of my Lord and Savior to all the people with whom I interact. As a Stephen minister, I know that my role is a caregiver but God alone is the cure giver—the principle emphasized during every training session. When I encounter a person struggling with grief, divorce, disease, disability, job loss, guilt, a life transition, family issues, or a faith crisis, I no longer assume responsibility for solving the problem or offering advice. Instead, my focus is on being a conduit for the true Savior’s love and care. I pray for my care receivers as well as with them if they ask. I listen, encourage, and support. Ideally, my loving care points them to the only One who can meet the deepest needs and longings in a time of crisis.

Every Stephen minister is trained to be a skilled, non-judgmental listener; a trustworthy, compassionate caregiver; and a faithful friend. One of the men or women in the Anona Stephen ministry can walk with you through a difficult time. If you think you might benefit from the confidential, one-to-one care and support of a Stephen minister, or if you want more information about Stephen ministry in general, call 727-595-2581 extension 408.



Caring for our Anona Congregation

by Gary Thomas – Director of Pastoral Care; 585-2581 ext 225

The Memorial Tree was established in 1990 and located in the Narthex of the Traditional Sanctuary as a way to provide a visible way to remember a loved one. A second Memorial Tree was added in 2015 to continue the tradition. A donation of \$100 will reserve a leaf on the tree.

Forms are available in the church office. For questions, contact Gary Thomas in the Congregation Care Office at 595-2581, ext 225 or gary@anona.com.

Heath Care Team—Your Cardiovascular Health

MORE THAN
1 IN 3
ADULTS
HAS SOME FORM OF
CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

For this month the Anona Healthcare Team has chosen to support the American Heart Association with education on Cardiovascular Health as our focus. So we invite you to take this month and make Cardiac Care your priority to follow through on your personal Care. Please stop by 2/4/18 and get a B/P check following the worship services and take innovative information provided by American College of Cardiology, American Heart association and other accredited sources. This information can be preventative, diagnostic or therapeutic to supplement your normal health care provider’s information. - Provided by Anona Healthcare Team



Upcoming Support Groups

Hope - Cancer support group. **Thursday, Feb 1 and 15**, 7:00 pm, in the Fellowship Area.

No matter where you are in your journey, we are here to help. Caregivers are also welcome. Contact Joanie Pickens: johnjoanie74702@yahoo.com.

Anona Family Life Counseling Center offers counseling and training services to individuals, couples and families for adults and adolescents for a fee. Also available are therapy groups, personal growth groups, seminars, workshops and presentations on multiple topics. Phone: 727.422.9654. Website: www.anona.com/counselingcenter/



Anona Sunday Worship Services

8:15 - Traditional in Sanctuary
 9:30 - Contemporary in Worship Center
 9:30 - FX Family Service in Anona Theater
 11:00 - 360 United in Anona Theater
 11:10 - Traditional in Sanctuary

*Nursery for 6 weeks old—Preschool children
 is available 9:15am-12:15pm

Anona United Methodist Church A Multi-Site Community

Phone: 727.595.2581

Website: www.anona.com

Fax: 727.593.7269

Monday-Thursday: 9AM - 4PM

Friday: 9AM - 2PM

Multi-Site Sunday Worship Services

10:00 A.M. St. Mark's Campus
 6801 38th Ave N, St Petersburg

3:00 P.M. Brookdale Pinecrest
 1150 8th Ave SW, Largo

Highlighted Dates!!

New Classes
are beginning in February
 Check out the Grow page
 for details: pg. 9

Souper Bowl
 February 4—Bring in pantry food items
 to be donated to RCS food pantry

Ash Wednesday—Feb. 14
 Self-Service ashes available in chapel all day
 Ash Wednesday Traditional Service—7pm

		Position	E-mail Address	Phone Ext.
Pastors	Jack Stephenson	Senior Pastor	jack@anona.com	224
	Richard Landon	Multi-Site Minister	richard@anona.com	243
	Jeremy Herrington	Worship Arts Minister	jeremy@anona.com	236
	Gary Thomas	St. Mark's Minister	gary@anona.com	225
Staff	Jean Berry	Office Admin Assistant	jeanb@anona.com	288
	Terry Collier	Anona Christian Counselor	tlcdivot@gmail.com	727-463-6181
	Sandy Drugash	Dir of New Member Ministry	sandy@anona.com	228
	Penny Kolba	Admin Ass't-Worship Arts	kolbap@anona.com	237
	Cory Osborne	Dir of Student Ministries	cory@anona.com	292
	Erin Padgett	Director of Communications	erin@anona.com	244
	Pam Reeder	Dir of Anona Child Dev Ctr	pam@anona.com	297
	Jamie Sprecher	Director of FX—Family Experience	jamie@anona.com	tbd
	Casey McKinney	Assistant Student Ministry Dir.	casey@anona.com	298
	Alisa Rushing	Church Administrator	alisa@anona.com	229
	Steve Livers	Multi-site Facilities Manager	steve@anona.com	227
	Jonathan Dennison	Director of Technological Arts	jonathan@anona.com	226
	Shawn Thomas	Organist/Asst Director of Worship	shawn@anona.com	222

Anona United Methodist Church

A Multi-Site Community
13233 Indian Rocks Road
Largo, FL 33774

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VOLUME 2018
ISSUE 2
February

Thank you everyone in our Anona Family who were so faithful in signing Veterans Day and Christmas cards for the 23 men and women who are presently serving on active duty in the USA and around the globe. They are special and dear to our hearts. May 19 will be Armed Forces Day thanking our present active duty military members and Memorial Day is May 28 when we honor those who gave their life for our freedom as Americans. It is a day of solemn gratitude for their sacrifice and their members who also mourn their loss. **At the Missions Expo, March 4, we will have cards for you to sign; look for the "Red, White and Blue" table.** If you have family members on Active Duty, the Anona Military Appreciation Team will send a card of gratitude; as well as pledging our solemn remembrance on Memorial Day. PLEASE SHARE your family member's name, rank and military branch of service, along with your name, email and phone with the church office or with Linda Hawthorne 235-2059 or Nick Fritsch 230-0108. Please advise us if your military family member's address has changed.

ARMED FORCES DAY Third Saturday in May

The day to appreciate Americans currently serving in uniform.

VETERANS DAY November 11

The day to honor Americans who once served in uniform.

MEMORIAL DAY Last Monday in May

The day to remember Americans who never got to take the uniform off.