

SPRING 2023



# ANONA

United Methodist Church





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## Back to the Basics

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15.7

As we enter the season of Spring, I'm reminded that churches go through seasons as well. We have the annual Christian calendar that kicks off with Advent and Christmas before heading for Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. However, there are other types of seasons as well. There are even seasons we would rather not remember such as World War II, Vietnam, and 9/11. Fresh in our memory is one of the tougher seasons in Anona's history as we wrestled with the COVID pandemic.

Tough seasons provide the opportunity for "Spring" renewals. By the grace of God we came through this challenging time quite well. Our church is currently in a better place financially than we were when we entered COVID. We reduced our budget, seeking to live within our means, and our reserves carried us through long enough for us to regain balance. Not only that, but we also came out ready to celebrate our 150th Anniversary and even added a brand-new community playground thanks to a very generous donor. The church has been painted, the parking lot has been resurfaced, and we are in the process of refurbishing Anona's original chapel.

All of that is wonderful, but the season of Easter is upon us. One of the things this season always reminds me of is Jesus' last words to his disciples in the Gospel of Matthew, "Go and make disciples of all nations..." Those words are the basics for

every person that has embraced Christ as Lord and in this season of Anona's history, I would like us all to go back to the basics. What do the basics look like today? Inviting and welcoming others. It is that simple, and it is why I'm inviting all of us to go back to the basics, the "Jesus Follower 101" version of our faith.

Spring is here...Easter is coming! It is the perfect time for us to live into our 2023 goal of inviting and welcoming as Christ invited and welcomed. We are creating opportunities for you to extend invitations to worship, grow, and serve with us. We have teams for you to join to ensure every person walking through the doors of Anona experiences the love of Christ. You have claimed Christ and now is the time to proclaim him with your words (invite) and actions (welcome). As we come into our next season of being the church, let's all get back to the simple Easter basics of living Christ's call to "go make disciples."

Yours in the Journey,

*Richard Landon*

Join us each Sunday online at 8:15, 9:30, and 11:00 am:  
[live.anona.com](https://live.anona.com) or on the app.

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If you are seeking private prayer, contact our Stephen Ministry Team by calling the church office: 727.595.2581 x408 or option 6 and a Stephen Minister will return your call as soon as possible.



## It's Time to Listen

*Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2).*



Throughout history, when God called his people to ministry, they have been commissioned to continue carrying on God's work. On October 30, 2022, this tradition was continued with the seven who responded to God's call to become a Stephen Minister.

Each Stephen Minister has completed substantial weekly training for a period of five months to be equipped for the ministry.

Stephen Ministers are men and women who are dedicated, talented, compassionate, spirit-filled servants of God. They are comfortable with emptying themselves and putting their faith in God as the care giver while they act as caregivers.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life. Some come from professional backgrounds; some have raised their families. Some come from a place where they have had to address their own grief from loss. Some come from broken families and broken hearts. Stephen Ministers are just like everyone else. They were hurt or broken and found healing so that they could extend their hands to others to offer Christian care.

Stephen Ministers are frequently called on by our pastors to provide

needed one-on-one ministry to people in the congregation and community who are experiencing divorce, grief, unemployment, hospitalization, a terminal illness, relocation, loneliness, a spiritual crisis or life's other difficulties, or to be a good and confidential listener for someone who needs encouragement.

Our new Stephen Ministers are Tammy Cox, Karen Creamer, Jo Gorissen, Dolly Jamieson, Lee McAuliffe, Irma Porterfield, and Ann Sills. The new class will join the previously commissioned, Sally Berthy, Evelyn Brown, Kathy Freeburg, Judi Gerhard, Theresa Haverkamp, Susan Hotho, Bette Ravey, Becky Klinger, Linda Koser, Ginny LaBrant, Charmaine Lennox, Maureen Livers, Rae Newman, Sandy O'Bryant, Clara Wehrfritz Rogers, Karen Schmutz, Vivian Smith, Larry Cottrell, Steve Livers, Paul Patenaude, Dave Rogers and Mike Zagorac, to total 30 active Stephen Ministers at Anona, who together meet twice a month for peer review and continuing education.

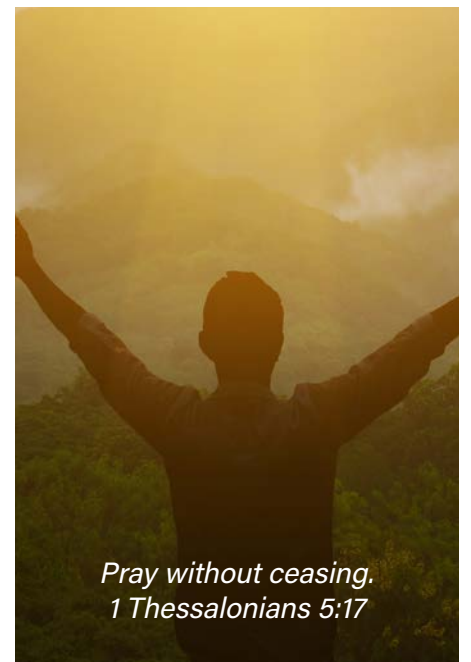
We invite you to reach out to a Stephen Minister if you are hurting, or call 727-595-2581 ext. 408 and

leave a private message. You don't have to make the walk alone.

Clara Wehrfritz Rogers

Stephen Ministry is available to you. If you need a confidential, caring person to walk through a difficult period, call upon Stephen Ministry. We are excellent listeners.

**PRAYER CHAIN:** To submit a prayer request, go to [anona.com/prayer](http://anona.com/prayer).



*Pray without ceasing.  
1 Thessalonians 5:17*

## VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT



### Meet Judi!

Judi volunteers at the front desk during the week and as a counter.

#### *How did you find out about volunteering at the front desk?*

In 2012, my husband and I decided to join Anona. At that time we were required to attend classes before we became members. At one of the classes, staff members introduced themselves talked about their jobs and the volunteers they needed to assist them. The office manager said she needed someone at the reception desk to greet people and to answer the phone. Twenty-years later, I'm still at the reception desk and answering the phone!

#### *How did you find out about volunteering to be a counter?*

One day as I was working, I was asked to be a sub on the money counter's team. Asking what it involved, I was told counting money and checks from Sunday's offering. I enjoyed it so much that I became a regular.

#### *What would you say to encourage people who have the heart to serve, but think "I don't know where to start"?*

Being a sub is a good way to volunteer if you are not certain when you have time. No matter what your talent or how much time you have to give, Anona has a spot for you to volunteer.

## Why Volunteer?

Did you know that our church runs on volunteers? Without you, we could not make all the different groups run the way that they do without volunteers, people just like you. All of our departments, from Anona Kids, Youth, Young Adults, Sunday Mornings, Missions, Small Groups, and more, they all run on volunteers like you.

Currently, we do not have enough volunteers across any of our programs for them to run without strain on the current volunteers. We are asking for people to look at their schedules and places they might be interested in serving and commit to one hour a month. We are inviting you to continue to grow with us and be an active part of helping Anona to continue on for another one hundred and fifty years.

### **A Few Ways to Volunteer:**

- Small group leaders
- Hospitality
- Tech booth
- On stage- Bible story tellers

### **Need other reasons to consider volunteering?**

**Volunteering is a good way to build confidence, make a difference, meet people, be a part of a community, learn new skills, take on new challenges, so much more!**

If you are interested in learning more about opportunities to connect and volunteer, please email Casey@anona.com to find out how to you can become a part of our amazing volunteers!

# Anona Little Kids

Jen Bryant | [nursery@anona.com](mailto:nursery@anona.com) | [anona.com/infantandpreschool](http://anona.com/infantandpreschool)

CHECK OUT WHAT'S COMING THIS SPRING!



## February:

During Jesus' time on earth, He showed us how He loves. Jesus loved children and wanted to be with them. Jesus loved His friends and spent time with them. Jesus loved people by helping them. Jesus loved people no matter what they had done and forgave them. And His love for us is the same. The greatest love is to give one's life for someone else. And that's what Jesus did for all people. He died for us. But that's not the best part of the story. What happened after Jesus died is what changed everything. Jesus came back! Jesus is ALIVE, today, and He wants us to follow Him!

**CORE INSIGHT: TRUTH**

**BOTTOM LINE: JESUS LOVES ME. "How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." Ephesians 3:18, NIV**



## March:

Jesus showed us how to love each other while He was on earth. We can love others by praying for them. We can love others by being kind to them. We can love others by sharing with them. And Jesus was very clear about who "them" is - "them" is everyone.

**CORE INSIGHT: TRANSFORMATION**

**BOTTOM LINE: I CAN LOVE LIKE JESUS. "A friend loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17, NIV**



## April:

The greatest love is to give one's life for someone else. And that's what Jesus did for all people. He died for us. But that's not the best part of the story. What happened after Jesus died is what changed everything. Jesus came back! Jesus is ALIVE, today, and He wants us to follow Him

**CORE INSIGHT: TRUTH**

**BOTTOM LINE: JESUS IS ALIVE. "I am alive for ever and ever!" Revelation 1:18, NIV**

## THREE RELATIONAL MOTIVES

Move kids to LOVE GOD by inciting WONDER

Move kids to LOVE LIFE by provoking DISCOVERY

Move kids to LOVE OTHERS by fueling PASSION

**Our Little Kids ministry is growing and we need your help to love, nurture and remind God's children how wonderfully made they are.**

**Contact Jen Bryant for information on serving in the Little Kids ministry.**

# Anona Kids

Bonnie Barrow | [bonnie@anona.com](mailto:bonnie@anona.com) | [anona.com/elementary](http://anona.com/elementary)



Join us in Anona Kids at 9AM the first Sunday of every month for Breakfast Club! Intentional time for families to be together with other families, to connect, eat breakfast, and have fun before Church!



In Anona Kids, we have an incredible team of leaders who show up on Sunday to make a difference for our kids! We are continuing to build our team and we could always use help making sure our kids know they are welcome, safe and loved here at Anona. Consider making an impact in the faith journey of our students by serving in Anona Kids one Sunday a month!

- Volunteer at 9:15 AM welcoming families and getting students checked into their small groups
- Help during the week, preparing supplies for small group
- Connect with families on the playground or during special events
- Lead group activities and crafts during Anona Kids small group

## Interview with one of our Incredible Small Group Leaders:

Anna Hilleary, grew up in Anona Kids, was an FX dancer and leader, served as Children's Ministry Intern, and made a huge difference for our students as our 3rd-5th grade small group leader. Anna is now studying at FSU.

### 1. Why do you enjoy serving in Anona Kids?

Because it's a lot of fun and I enjoy getting to see the kids learning about God. My favorite part is getting to know the kids.

### 2. Why is it so important to pour into elementary age kids?

Because I think it's important for kids to know that they are loved and have a community around them.

### 3. What is one thing that you wish every kid in Anona Kids would walk away knowing? What do you think!?

That they are loved by God!



# In Service to the Community

Jackie Evans | [jackie@anona.com](mailto:jackie@anona.com) | [anona.com/missions](http://anona.com/missions)

*“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”  
Philippians 2:4*

## LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!

Spring to me is always a season of action! It is a verb as well as a season after all. Newness, flowers blooming, rebirth. So it seems appropriate that we focus on the season of HOPE transforming into the action of HELP as we look at serving and missions for Spring.

In Galatians 6:2, we are asked to ‘Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.’ This is not necessarily an easy task when we look around at the need in our community and even more so globally. At times it can be overwhelming, who do we support? What are best uses of our resources and time etc. This is where we look at hope, how can we give someone the hope to continue when they struggle? Is the kindness of a stranger buying Christmas gifts for your children enough? Will a veteran receiving toiletry supplies feel hope? Is attending and supporting MLK events enough to give us hope of unity, of realizing Dr King’s dream?

Later in Galatians 6:9, we are told ‘ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up’. I have often questioned that verse, on the surface appears to say do good and you receive a reward. However, I believe it to refer to the harvest of hope, the more good we do, the more we are encouraged and the more the receiver is encouraged.

A few of us recently helped with a food distribution in Ridgcrest and one of the folks came early before we were

ready, she offered to help while she waited. She ended up staying until we were finished with our project and we all had fun chatting and joking as we worked. The more we all talked and welcomed her help, the more she opened and relaxed. I felt blessed to get to know her for an hour and I believe she felt good about helping and feeling accepted (she said “I may volunteer next time!). It was a moment of sharing someone else’s burden, not just that they needed the food but also some hope felt in dignity and community. So perhaps the task is easier than we thought, and a series of small helping actions verses something large or grand. I’m so excited about spring, 2023 and where we may get called to action. My hope is you are also and we will not get weary but find joy in carrying each other’s burden.



## Pinellas African American Heritage Celebration at Heritage Village.

Join us Saturday, February 25th 9am to 2pm. We hope you will come out and enjoy this amazing event supporting the arts, by attending and/or volunteering (sign up online).

We will join the Ridgcrest faith community in sponsoring the children’s area at this years’ Pinellas African American Heritage Celebration, hosted at Botanical Gardens, Heritage village and Creative Pinellas! Witness

the amazing talent of professional performers, local artists and budding talent of local school children.

## FUMCH

Save the date Saturday, March 25th-We will have an in person Day on Campus for the United Methodist Children’s Home-It is an amazing uplifting trip! Look for signups coming soon. Contact Dave Gerald our local representative for more information [dsgerald@hotmail.com](mailto:dsgerald@hotmail.com)



## MARY FELLOWSHIP

Recently I was invited to sit in on this small group that has regrouped and relaunched. What a positive and uplifting experience! Are you wanting a place to get to know some wonderful female friends, grow in your faith and support organizations helping young women? Mary fellowship is the perfect place to start!

A typical meeting involves prayer and a short devotional time. Twenty-minute program /guest speaker. Fellowship time, light snack lunch and ‘getting to know each’ other conversations or questions. Missions focus is currently for Women on the Way (WOW) a support program of St. Pete College. Many of these women are the first in the family to go to college, and work as



well as take classes. Community is so important, however, having a missional purpose deepens those relationships and our faith journey!

Mary Fellowship meets in the youth room on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 12 noon. They are a devoted group of ladies joined by faith, caring for each other and service to young women in the community.

Contact for the group is June Palmer  
junep062@gmail.com



### SOUPER BOWL

February we will be collecting food all month as part of our 'SOUPER Bowl' drive to support the food pantry. Look for collection barrels all over campus!



### TUNNELS TO TOWERS

This past November we sponsored a small team of runners/walkers in the 'Tunnels to Towers' run in Clearwater. This was to honor first responders for 9/11. I wanted to share how impactful that was for the team. Sue Patenaude (who heads up our Anona troops ministry) was our team leader. She shared how meaningful it was, to be given a picture of a fallen firefighter (to attached to your shirt) as a reminder of who you were running for. Heidi Beaman and her family experienced the event together, she commented on how it was such a good reminder of what firefighters do daily, when you see them walking in their full gear! The organization was great for such a large event, yet it felt so personal and meaningful to hear the individual names of those who died or were injured. They also described exactly what the funds raised were used for, to help surviving families. Hoping to see our team grow in 2023.



### SEW FOR KIDS

Hope you can join us to continue our mission making dresses and shorts. These will be given to kids locally and overseas.

Workshops will be 2nd Tuesdays of the Month, 6pm to 8pm and following day (Wednesday) 1-3pm

We need people to:

- Iron fabric
- Cut out dresses and shorts using patterns
- Measure and cut elastic
- Measure and cut bias tape
- Assemble dress and shorts kits
- Sew dresses and/or shorts from kits (can be done in workshop or at home)

Dates for Spring 2023:

Feb 14th & 15th

March 14th & 15th

April 11th & 12th

Hope you'll join us! Call me or email if you have questions or need more information.

Molly  
727-709-0595  
mfschaaf@aol.com

**Make sure you continue to follow us online, on the app, or on Facebook as we announce ways to get involved.**

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

## MONDAYS

**CAFFEINE AND CONVERSATION**  
10:00am-11:30am

**STAND UP WITH ANONA**  
1st & 3rd Mondays  
6:30pm-8:00pm

**KING'S RINGERS**  
7:00pm-8:00pm

## TUESDAYS

**MEN'S GROUP**  
8:00am-9:00am

**ANONA KIDS DANCE REHEARSAL**  
5:00pm-5:45pm

**INTERGENERATIONAL CHOIR**  
6:00pm-6:30pm

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**  
7:00pm-8:30pm

**ORCHESTRA**  
7:00pm-9:00pm

**EMPTY NESTERS SMALL GROUP**  
2nd Tuesday  
7:00pm-8:00pm

## WEDNESDAYS

**SEW N SEWS**  
9:30am-12:00pm

**PASTORS BIBLE STUDY**  
10:30am-12:00pm

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**  
2:00pm-3:00pm

**CLASSICAL CHOIR**  
6:00pm-7:00pm

**SANCTUARY CHOIR**  
7:00pm-8:00pm

**IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN'S GROUP**  
7:00pm-9:00pm

## THURSDAYS

**PRAISE CHOIR**  
7:00pm-9:00pm

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**  
10:00am-11:30am

**TRADITIONAL SERVICE**  
8:15am

**FAST CROWD**  
9:30am-10:30am

**CONTEMPORARY SERVICE**  
9:30am

**ANONA KIDS & LITTLE KIDS**  
9:30am

**TRADITIONAL SERVICE**  
11:00am

**YOUTH GROUP**  
5:00pm

**ANONA YOUNG ADULTS**  
7:30pm  
1st & 3rd Sundays

## SUPPORT GROUPS

AA Wednesdays 6pm

Al Anon Fridays 8pm

*Our schedule may vary around holidays. Check [anona.com](http://anona.com) or social media for updates.*

## Thank You from the Hope Group!

The Anona Hope Cancer Support Group would like to thank everyone for donating to our "Hope Bags" throughout the month of November. We were able to deliver another 20 bags to the Bardmoor Cancer Center. These bags go to people going through their first chemo treatment. Hopefully, a matter where you are in your journey, we are here to listen and help. We will be meeting January 19th, February 16th and March 16th. The Hope Group meets every 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30. We will be meeting on 1/19, 2/16 and 3/16. Please call the church office for further details.

# Young Adult Group

casey@anona.com | anona.com/youngadults



There are several adjectives that could be used to describe the year in review for Anona's Young Adult Ministry. For example, it was *exciting* to experience the Young Adult band during worship over the summer. It was *humbling* to share life with new and familiar friends this year whether it was a catching up during a super late dinner at Chili's or celebrating a strike on Mega Monday. It was also quite *satisfying* to dive into a pool, dive into an ice cream bar, and dive deeper into scripture during different bible studies throughout the year. These are all great and appropriate descriptors, but the one adjective that best summarizes our past year, *connectional*. The seed was planted, and the garden is growing!

**Peer relationships continue to be strengthened.** Life is precious and not always easy but having others to do life with makes it even better! School work, new ventures, jobs, and the cost of rent and gas have all been discussed over monthly coffee after church. The Young Adults frequently lift each other up in prayer and have the heart of Jesus as they model love, acceptance, and kindness through service, discipleship, and leadership.

**Intergenerational connections/relationships are being nurtured.** The Fast Crowd demonstrated their love and support for the Young Adults through pool parties, game nights, prayers, and snacks. Young adults at Anona represent a blend of the youngest of Generation Y (Millennials) and the oldest of Generation Z (iGeneration). Conversely, Anona Young Adults have poured out to young children demonstrating that same type of love and support. An intergenerational community at church benefits everyone. It represents acceptance, honoring another's value/worth, casting aside judgments, and stepping outside of ourselves. It provides us opportunities to listen, to love, and to learn.

**Personal relationships with God are maturing.** At a time when so many young people leave church, Anona provides a safe space, resources, opportunities, and support for this young and growing ministry. Individuals are growing in their relationship with God in their way and in their time. We look forward to what will spring up for these individuals this year and how God will work through them. Stay tuned! Thank you for your continued support and prayers. We thank our Church family!



# Youth

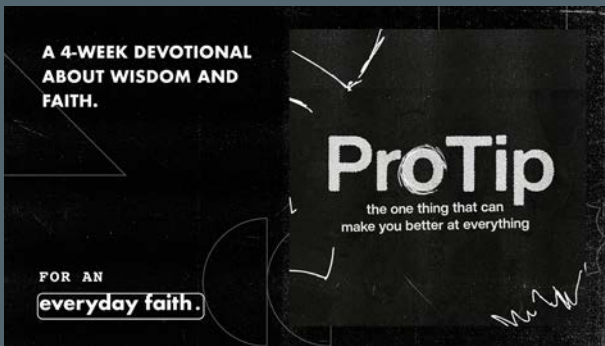
anona.com/youth | Megan Trunzo | megan@anona.com



6TH-12TH GRADE

## New Year, New Beginnings

Over here at Anona Youth, we're really excited about a new year! It's always our favorite to look ahead at all the ways our students will have opportunities to grow in community with each other, God, and the world around them. One of the many ways we do that, is through our talk times on Sunday nights. We're starting off our year with a series about wisdom and faith called Pro Tip!



## Pro Tip

Have you ever searched YouTube for advice on how to do...anything? If you have, you know exactly how helpful a pro tip can be. In this series, we're going to look to one of the wisest people ever to live for some pro tips about life. We'll spend a few weeks in the book of Proverbs, discovering the one thing that can make us better at everything. In the

end, students will learn how to develop the wisdom it takes to be better at life now and in the future.

Remember this: Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track - PROVERBS 3:5-6 MSG



To learn more, email the Student Ministry Director, Megan Trunzo (megan@anona.com).



Staying Connected With Us!

Like us on Facebook: *Anona Student Ministry* or Instagram: *AnonaYouth*

# Anona Child Development Center

Marion Denton, Director | [anona.com/acdc](http://anona.com/acdc) | 727-593-KIDS

## 1972 TO 2022 - EXCITING YEARS MEETING NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

As we look back at the 50 years ACDC has already served as a ministry to the community, meeting the needs of the community, we embrace the current year with many new opportunities and celebrations! Our preschool 1 year old program is now 1 year old, and we see the opportunity to meet the needs of a growing waitlist! Similarly, this year we opened an additional two year old classroom and both classes are fully enrolled and a waitlist continues to grow.

We also celebrate that this year we are back in person for all classes and loving it! Parents and volunteers are in classroom activities, attending Chapel, joining in special family events and it is exciting!

In celebration of ACDC's 50th Anniversary of ministry to young children and their families, we are holding an Anniversary Event with a Big, Huge Backyard Birthday Bash on Sunday, April 30th following 9:30 worship. This event is for all. Food trucks and Kona Ice. Bounce houses. Yard games and cake. The momentum is strong as we return to in person experiences, and we look forward to the challenges and opportunities awaiting us as we strive to serve in the early childhood education ministry meeting community needs.



## Academy of the Arts | Spring 2023

Sandy Ross | [anona.com/academy](http://anona.com/academy)

**OPEN ENROLLMENT:** The Academy offers individual music lessons to children, youth and adults of all ages, in person at the church or via Zoom, on piano, guitar, ukulele, bass, violin, and music theory and composition. Please register on-line at [anona.com](http://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. **WELCOME NEW STUDENTS:** Brett Donarski (Bass); Leasa Flannigan (Piano); Lorenz DiGebe (Piano); Carrera DiGebe (Piano); Leonarda DiGebe (Piano). **VIRTUAL LESSONS AVAILABLE:** Virtual lessons on Zoom are available. If you would prefer virtual lessons instead of in person lessons at the church. Zoom is easy to download and use. Please email or call Sandy if you wish to participate in Zoom lessons and we will work out a day/time that works with your schedule. **DONATIONS:** The Academy gladly accepts donations of pianos, guitars, basses, violins, musical equipment, amplifiers, books and accessories. Tax receipt given upon request. We are particularly in need of keyboards at this time.

**RECITAL 2023:** Academy students will spend the Spring working on their recital pieces in addition to their regular studies. Recital will be held on Friday, May 19, 2023 in the Contemporary Sanctuary. Admission is free and refreshments are served at intermission and after the Recital. Come out and support our talented students!

In this issue we are highlighting former Academy students who continue to use the musical skills they learned as Academy students in their adult lives. Brianna Patenaude graduated college with a degree in Social Work, and is now employed as a mental health social worker at the Veteran's Hospital in Tampa. She leads group therapy for veterans with diagnoses of serious mental illness. She has been working to integrate music into the program. She also does individual music sessions with some veterans, and has seen tremendous positive outcomes from this work. She hopes to continue to integrate the arts and music into her clinical practice, as it has strong therapeutic benefits and encourages creativity, healthy emotional expression, and perseverance. In her personal life, Brianna is writing and recording original songs and hopes to one day release an EP of her songs. Alex Joyner is a senior at the University of Florida, majoring in marketing. Since his sophomore year at UF, he has played keys each week in the worship band at his campus ministry, Gator Wesley. This past semester he had also played keys on Sunday mornings for a local church in the Gainesville community. This past summer, as part of the Young Adult group at Anona, Alex played keyboards for the Sunday Contemporary Service. Thanks to these outstanding young adults for sharing their inspiring stories and may music continue to play an important part in their lives.

# F.U.M.C.H.

## Florida United Methodist Children's Home

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH) recovered well from two storms that passed thru this summer/fall. with only moderate damage to cottages and property and no injuries.

Volunteers and Vendors jumped in to get the Campus up and running quickly. the Legacy Academy opened it's doors to On Campus students while the majority of the kids headed off to their Public School classrooms.

Anona, of course, stepped up to support FUMCH as we always do. 2022 Giving through the end of October is \$ 198,500, helping support FUMCH's Mission, helping our kids to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Put Saturday March 25th on your To Do List, as we will be taking a bus(s) to FUMCH for it's annual Day On Campus Tour, where you'll get to witness and interact with the FUMCH kids, staff, teachers, alumni and learn how FUMCH empowers the young lives who reside there.

It's a long day, leaving Anona about 7:30 AM; and returning about 5:00PM. Watch the Kids perform on stage, listen to Kids, Alumni and staff talk about life on Campus. Enjoy lunch with 1000+ other Methodists from around the state, visit the kids and House Parents in their cottages, Tour the Chapel, grounds, and the Gift Shop.

Then come home drained and fulfilled. Registration information will come out in January.

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## Habitat

Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco continually is reamping up the number of new homes being built in our area. Habitat is now building about 75 affordable homes each year. Since Habitat reopened volunteer opportunities in October, 2021 Anona has been on 11 Build days, with 21 members of Anona volunteering.

On December 12th, Anona hosted Habitat's Annual Homeowner Candidate Christmas Party, with over 300 in attendance. Each person/family who has been accepted into the Homeowner Program, enjoyed dinner, entertainment, craft tables for the Children, and of course a visit from Santa. Each Homeowner/family brings a gift that is donated to another nonprofit organization, as a way of paying forward.

If you'd like to volunteer on future Habitat Builds, please reach out to Dave Gerald at 727-365-2800, or dsgerald@hotmail.com Anona normally goes on Habitat Build sites the 2nd Saturday of each month.

NO CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED.

## SonSeekers

The SonSeekers are the Anona Snowbird social/fellowship group that gets together a couple of Friday's every month during Snowbird season, usually November through March. The SonSeekers have many activities throughout the season that include potluck lunches, group outings and other social activities. If you are a Snowbird, have been a Snowbird, know a Snowbird or ever wanted to be a Snowbird please join us for some of our activities. For more information about SonSeekers and a copy of our current calendar please contact Bill McGill at wnmcgill@gmail.com or 804-814-7173.

# Grow Faith

Casey McKinney | [casey@anona.com](mailto:casey@anona.com) | (727) 585-2581

One of my favorite parts of my job is getting to visit with so many of our small groups, classes, and Bible studies here at Anona. Each group is different, with unique personalities, stories and experiences all meshing together to create something beautiful. And each group reminds me of how important this aspect of our faith truly is. They remind me why we do what we do. You remind me why we do what we do.

*Because we need each other.*

Recently, I got to watch as members of our Anona family from all ages came together to share a meal and explore the Christmas story during our second Intergenerational Bible Study (check out the pictures here!). Kids heard Bible stories, learned to sign "Silent Night" in American Sign Language, and grew their faith through crafts, games and activities. Our Youth dove into what the coming of Emmanuel means for them, in their incredibly important Middle and High School years. And our adults asked profound questions, opened up about real life, and found comfort in the story of God incarnate. Once a week throughout the chaotic holiday season, our people carved out time to connect- with God, with themselves and with each other.

This is the story among each and every one of our groups and classes here at Anona- people pausing from the hustle of the day to share life with each other; to celebrate the joys and seek comfort in the pain. To talk about our hopes and our worries. To breathe in the stories of our faith; the stories that ground us, the stories that reconnect us to the grand story we are each a part of. And we can't do it alone.

*We need each other.*

We need each other's differing perspectives and opinions on passages of Scripture. We need each other's varying stories and life experiences that open us up to new ways of thinking. We need each other's laughter, tears, prayers, support and friendship.

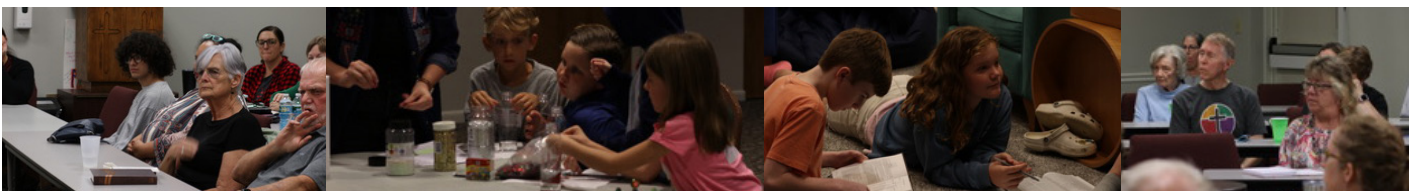
*We need each other. We need you.*

If you are not currently connected to a group of people where you can find this kind of caring, consistent community; where you can explore your faith, get real and honest, ask the tough questions, and grow, then I invite you to give me a call or reach out through email. From golf outings to weekly Bible studies to book clubs, there is a variety of places to get connected at Anona, and I would love to help you find your people.

Plus, with Lent coming up, we will have another Intergenerational Dinner and Bible Study on Wednesday nights from March 1-March 29 from 5:30-7:30pm! We also have a study on Jesus and Women on Thursdays beginning on February 2nd at 6:30pm on Zoom, as well as many other groups and classes that meet throughout the week. Check the website for details. We'd love to have you with us!

This year, in 2023, you don't have to do life alone. You can explore the ups and downs of life and faith with some pretty great people by your side. Let's find a place for you. And if you already have a place...think of who you can invite to join you!

*Remember...we need each other.*



# Small Groups, Activities, and Fellowship

Groups are beginning to meet on-campus while others are continuing to meet online. Contact the church office to find out how you can get involved: [info@anona.com](mailto:info@anona.com) or 727-595-2581.

**BOOK CLUB, 4TH SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, 6:30 PM - ZOOM:** Love to read? Join our group for a fun ZOOM discussion of February-The President's Daughter by Bill Clinton and Joseph Patterson, March-Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles, April-The Plot by Jean Korelitz.

## **F.A.S.T CROWD, SUNDAYS 9:30 AM**

The F.A.S.T. (Fellowship And Service Together) Crowd meets live in room 110 and via Zoom. We are a large class that includes singles and couples in their fifties up through retirees but all are welcome. Together we enjoy fellowship and Bible study based on scripture with class discussion to help bring our faith to life in light of today's world. We have a strong focus on connection with each other, our staff, the younger generations in our church, guest speakers and missions. Looking for a family? Come and be welcomed.

## **PARENTS GROUP, 1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS, 10:30 AM**

### **EMPTY NESTERS, 2ND TUESDAYS, 7 PM**

Join a group of others in your same life stage! We check in with each other, praying together, then diving into a Bible/book study followed by discussion as we all navigate the phase of life most relevant to you.

## **MEN'S SHARING GROUP, TUESDAYS, 8:00 AM**

Men of all ages are welcome to this group. We share our joys, hardships, faith-journey, and more each week. Contact the church office for more information on any of the men's ministry groups.

## **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY, WEDNESDAYS, 2-3 PM**

All men who are seeking to live a life dedicated to God are welcome to this group and any other men's ministry group. In Bible study we will read the Bible and discuss prophets, scripture, and more.

## **WALK 15® WITH MOLLY, WEDNESDAYS 9 AM & THURSDAYS 6 PM IN WORSHIP CENTER**

A heart-pumping, calorie torching cardio 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 in the Wesley Hall Wednesdays at 9AM and in the Chapel Conference Room Thursdays at 6PM.

**HOPE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** - No matter where you are in your journey, we are here to help. Caregivers are also welcome. We are continuing to find ways to connect, please don't hesitate to contact the leaders of this group to learn more about Hope Cancer Support at Anona.

**GENTLE STRETCHING** - Every Wednesday at 9:30 AM, meets in the Worship Center. **MEDITATION** with full body workout that is easy to follow.





## Women's Ministries

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Eve.7-8:15 or Thursday Morning 10-11:15

What is Women's Bible Study? (WBS) Of course, these two groups meet to learn what God's Word says to us personally. But WBS is so much more.

It is a community of women who care about, pray for, encourage and laugh with each other. And we are enriched. Why not join a group and find your own life strengthened, too? Questions? Call Charmaine @727-242-4520

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Anona UMW meets the third Thursday of the month at 1 pm. All women are welcome to join. We participate in spiritual enrichment, social awareness, and provide support for mission programs.

### MARY FELLOWSHIP

Meetings of the Mary Fellowship will resume November 8 at noon in the Anona youth room. The Mary Fellowship is a devoted group of ladies joined by faith, fellowship and service. Meetings have a devotion followed by a program and lively discussion. Food is always served. We contribute to the Women on the Way program at St. Petersburg college. Meetings will be held the second Tuesday of the month at noon. Anyone interested in joining us or who would like to know more can contact June Palmer at 765-421-5540. Look forward to hearing from you!

### Small Groups:

If you are interested in connecting in consistent community over time, remember that our Anona family meets in a variety of Small Groups throughout the year! Contact [casey@anona.com](mailto:casey@anona.com) for more information on finding a group that fits for you!



## ANONA Counseling Center

I have had the privilege to be a part of the Anona Family for 14 years now. I followed a long history of professional counselors at Anona, my predecessor was Jim Noble, and he was a friend and colleague in "The Network of Christian Counselors".

Throughout my life I have been involved in development and transitions, so I thought I would take the opportunity to update everyone on some of these developments that have taken place.

The Anona Counseling Center developed the first multi counselor center in the "Network" to provide multi-disciplined counselors in one office. Since 2012 we have had 4 counselor's working from this model. Dina Meitner, Trina Carroll Hauck, Maria Gustin, and myself.

If you want to be a part of something that will bless yourself and other's just e-mail me or give me a call, there is always room at the table for more eyes, ears, and hands to help those who are going through a crisis.

Blessings!! and if you or someone you know is going through crises please call.

*Terry L Collier Ed.D*  
[www.anona.com/counselingcenter](http://www.anona.com/counselingcenter)

# Our Members

For a list of birthdays,  
please call the church office  
at 727-595-2581

## Anniversaries

02/04 Jack & Kay Rivers	67 yrs.	04/01 Al & Kathy Bouchard	54 yrs.
02/05 John & Jennifer Harry	29 yrs.	04/02 Bill & Lisa Stiffler	29 yrs.
02/08 Tom & Monique Cook	26 yrs.	04/04 Harry Lynn Jones	36 yrs.
02/10 Glen & Denise Nagel	33 yrs.	Tim & Ruth McGee	36 yrs.
02/11 Chet & Becky Klinger	29 yrs.	04/05 Jack & Jan Johnson	54 yrs.
02/14 Dean & Debbie Moentman	42 yrs.	Bill & Winnie McGill	53 yrs.
Paul & Viola Parrish	70 yrs.	04/06 Ron & Linda Cinnamon	55 yrs.
Brooks & Suzie Walker	53 yrs.	04/09 John & Theresa Leinbach	40 yrs.
02/16 John & Linda Carroll	43 yrs.	04/12 Mike & Linda Wood	36 yrs.
02/17 Jeff & Cynthia Underwood	34 yrs.	04/14 Steve & Karen Horning	43 yrs.
02/21 Tim & Terri McKenna	36 yrs.	04/18 Jim & Beth Allen	25 yrs.
02/27 Mike & Phyllis Ringheisen	25 yrs.	John & Rose Schultz	31 yrs.
03/03 Tom & Molly Schaaf	39 yrs.	Garry & Mary Watson	53 yrs.
03/04 Ian & Chris Collinson	56 yrs.	04/19 Herb & Mary Leslie	75 yrs.
03/06 Tony & Mary Colletti	28 yrs.	04/20 Rowe & Helen Hudson	56 yrs.
03/07 Mike & Linda Zagorac	53 yrs.	04/22 David & Mary Halliday	45 yrs.
03/09 Doug & Cindy Hoover	43 yrs.	Don & Pat Morrison	68 yrs.
Bill & Nancy Kelsey	38 yrs.	04/23 Jon & Sherry Harms	40 yrs.
03/14 David & Ann Sills	25 yrs.	Chris & Susie Moritz	57 yrs.
03/15 David Shearer & Bonnie Sullivan	33 yrs.	04/24 Gary & Lori Beese	47 yrs.
03/17 David & Cynthia Tollon	50 yrs.	Michael & Susan Nagy	42 yrs.
03/18 Michael & Carol Fagin	55 yrs.	04/25 John Linda Murphy	31 yrs.
03/21 Phil & Jamie Merritt	31 yrs.	Thomas & Paige Rapson	53 yrs.
03/22 Bob & Wendy Selleck	26 yrs.	04/26 Will & Ginny LaBrant	54 yrs.
03/23 Jim & Jacky Saeger	38 yrs.	04/27 Tom & Pat Blandford	66 yrs.
03/25 Jim & Sheila Olliver	45 yrs.	Rick & Lavern Flannigan	49 yrs.
03/28 Mike & Karen Silvernail	59 yrs.	Rick & Trish McFall	27 yrs.
Russell & Danielle Welsh	31 yrs.	Paul & Sue Patenaude	27 yrs.
03/29 George & Patricia Smith	55 yrs.	04/29 Frank & Barbara Burkett	67 yrs.
03/30 Dan & Mari French	51 yrs.	Ralph & Nancy Pearsall	35 yrs.
Sam & Pat Lester	48 yrs.	04/30 John & Priscilla Shykove	57 yrs.
Kevin & Kim Morgan	32 yrs.		
03/31 Jeff & Lisa Wittman	33 yrs.		

## Births

Cole Keaton Schomp – Parents  
Cory & Victoria Schomp

## Baptisms

Dane Ryan Scott  
Zoe Olivia Lintz

## New Members

Matthew & Amanda Drake

## Deaths

Michael Lester  
Clarence (Chuck) Lutton  
William (Bill) Perkins  
Clarence Ruppel

An **In Memoriam** page is on the Anona website ([anona.com/inmemoriam](http://anona.com/inmemoriam)) so that we can remember those of our church family that has died in the last two months and support the families and friends left behind. Please keep these families in your prayers during their journey of grief. The In Memoriam page will be updated weekly.

# Our Church

## ANONA SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

**8:15 AM:** Traditional in Traditional Sanctuary

**9:30 AM:** Contemporary in Worship Center

**9:30 AM:** Anona Kids (k-5th) & Little Kids

**11:00 AM:** Traditional in Traditional Sanctuary

Youth  
**5-7:30 PM** Middle & High School

**JOIN US FOR ONLINE SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

**8:15, 9:30, 11:00**  
**LIVE.ANONA.COM**

## IMPORTANT DATES

**MARCH 12 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS**  
Remember to set your clocks forward.

**OFFICES CLOSED**

**APRIL 10**  
**EASTER MONDAY**

## OFFICE HOURS/PHONE

Monday-Thursday: 9 AM - 4 PM  
Friday: 9 AM - 2 PM  
727-595-2581 | anona.com

# Our Staff

## PASTORS

Richard Landon	Senior Minister	richard@anona.com	243
Jeremy Herrington	Executive Minister	jeremy@anona.com	236
Casey McKinney	Minister of Discipleship	casey@anona.com	298

## STAFF

Gideon Alfred	Associate Director of Technical Arts	gideon@anona.com	
Bonnie Barrow	Director of Kids Ministry	bonnie@anona.com	230
Jean Berry	Office Admin Assistant	jeanb@anona.com	288
Christina Brooks	Director of Communications	christina@anona.com	228
Jen Bryant	Interim Director of Infant & Preschool Ministry	nursery@anona.com	
Terry Collier	Anona Christian Counselor	terry@anona.com	284
Jonathan Dennison	Director of Technological Arts	jonathan@anona.com	226
Marion Denton	Dir of Anona Child Dev Center	dentonm@anona.com	249
Jackie Evans	Director of Missions	jackie@anona.com	409
Penny Kolba	Admin Assistant-Worship Arts	penny@anona.com	237
Nate Leonard	Director of Traditional Worship	nate@anona.com	222
Scott Magness	Director of Facilities, Health and Safety	scott@anona.com	227
Megan Trunzo	Director of Student Ministry	megan@anona.com	300
Erin Padgett	Financial Giving	erin@anona.com	244
Alisa Rushing	Church Administrator	alisa@anona.com	229

ANONA UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
A MULTI-SITE Community  
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