

# The ABC's of Serve Ministry

## **BLUE SKY COMMUNITY GARDEN**

Located near the Pinehurst Avenue entrance of SUMC, the Blue Sky Community Garden grows food to be shared with the community. Produce is given to local soup kitchens. Each year, we harvest over one thousand pounds of organic vegetables that are shared among our gardeners and people in need. The garden is open on Saturdays from 8:30am-12pm. Everyone is welcome! We have tasks for all abilities. Be sure to follow us on Facebook! Contact Karen Shea at blueskycommunitygarden@gmail.com for more information.

## **BRIGHT / JUSTICE MINISTRY**

Did you know that we are teaming up with other churches to make the world a better place? For example, we have worked with the public school system to increase literacy rates for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in Brevard County. We have an annual rhythm of listening, problem solving, bringing people together, and challenging local civic leaders to make progress on nonpartisan issues like food insecurity, affordable housing, and literacy. Each year, we have a Nehemiah Action Assembly where much of this work comes to fruition. Contact Brittany Pendergrass (brittany@thedartcenter.org) or Caitlin White (caitlin@thedartcenter.org) to get involved.

#### **COCOA TEAM**

Did you know that we have a team of people who are dedicated to sharing the love and salvation of Jesus Christ with our neighbors in the Cocoa area? Knowing that 32922 has the highest rate of poverty in Brevard County, our goal is to engage with Cocoa in a way that is healthy, sustainable, and empowers people to escape the cycle of poverty. Contact Pastor Bailey to get plugged in!

#### **CUBA MISSIONS**

Did you know that we have 2 sister churches, 5 church partnerships, and 10-12 missions in Cuba? We provide salary support for pastors, help to build churches, and provide desperately needed medications throughout the year. We also have annual mission trips to Cuba. Our next trip is being planned for January 2025, with a separate group going to help with construction efforts. This vital work is supported by the annual Cuba Missions Dinner and the generous gifts of individuals at SUMC. Contact Jim Davidson (jdavidson75@hotmail.com) to get involved!

# **DAILY BREAD**

Desmond Tutu once said, "The good news to a hungry person is bread." Are you called to feed the hungry? On the first Wednesday of each month, we send a group of servants from SUMC to serve fresh meals to the homeless in downtown Melbourne from 10:30am to 1:30pm. We dish out the food in a cafeteria-style food line in an air-conditioned building. You must be 18+ and complete a volunteer application to serve with Daily Bread. Visit SuntreeUMC.org/community and look for the "Daily Bread" tab to sign up!

## **DEVEREUX**

The mission of Devereux is to "change lives by unlocking and nurturing human potential for people living with emotional, behavioral or cognitive differences." We support them throughout the year by collecting and donating items like arts and crafts supplies, prom clothing, and more. Keep an ear out for more information!

## FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA (formerly BFP)

FPCF serves families who care for children in foster care. Three times a year, we have an event called Diapers, Donuts, and Duffels where we collect and distribute these items in a drive-thru at the church to support these foster families. These events are typically held on Saturday mornings from 9-10:30am. We also host other events for FPCP, including their Back to School Bash. Contact Jenny Murdock (jenny.e.murdock@gmail.com) for more information.

## FAMILY PROMISE OF BREVARD COUNTY

The mission of Family Promise is to end family homelessness in Brevard County. They serve thousands of people a year with shelter, case management, career skills, and other resources. SUMC is a host congregation for homeless families. Four times a year, for a week at a time, we provide food and housing for families who are struggling with homelessness. We ask people to serve as greeters, to bring meals each night, and to be overnight hosts. Contact Chris Yarbrough (cyarbrou@gmail.com) to get signed up!

#### GIFTS FROM THE HEART

This is the Christmas outreach of several nonprofit care organizations in Brevard County. Families affected by poverty can select brand new, quality gifts for their children at greatly reduced prices. This process restores some dignity and gives parents agency to thoughtfully provide a Christmas experience for their children. Keep an eye on your worship bulletin for more information!

## HARBOR CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

During the school year, each month, we get to bless the teachers at HCES with snacks and festive decorations for their teacher's lounge. The educators really appreciate this gesture of love and support! On the first Monday of each month, at 12:45pm, we go into the school, decorate the lounge, and set out some snacks for them. When you sign up, you'll work with Pastor Bailey to buy the snacks (eligible for reimbursement) and pick up the decor items. Also, if you feel called to serve inside the classroom, we have some great opportunities to read with students. Contact Pastor Bailey to help us bless the students and teachers at HCES!

## **HYMNSTIRS**

Do you love singing? Whether you have the voice of an angel or you simply enjoy making a joyful noise, the Hymnstirs would love to sing with you! We meet every Tuesday at 4:30pm in Room 109. Swing by, and we'll sing some classic and well-loved hymns together! We also visit Assisted Living Facilities to sing and bless the residents with hymns. It's time to raise your voice! Contact Cathy Jenkins at 321-446-3544 to get connected!

## SALVATION ARMY - WOMEN'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER

Each year, we partner with the Salvation Army to collect items for women who are living in the Domestic Violence Shelter. They are currently asking for size 2 baby diapers, size 5-6 pull-ups, wipes, towels, wash cloths, twin-sized sheets (fitted and flat). We will collect these items during the month of October. Servants are needed to organize and distribute the items. Keep an eye on the worship bulletin for more information!

# VIERA TEAM

Did you know that we have a team of people who are dedicated to sharing the love and salvation of Jesus Christ with our neighbors in Viera? Our goal is to "build an authentic, inclusive, intergenerational community centered on loving, grace-filled, and radically welcoming relationships that lead to growing closer to God and each other." Are you ready to help us engage more deeply with people in Viera? Contact Pastor Bailey to get started.

## **ZOE EMPOWERS**

We have a three-year partnership with ZOE Empowers (2023-2025), where we have sponsored a group of 88 children in Rwanda to empower them to become financially self-sufficient, have greater access to education, and grow in their faith. We have made several trips to Rwanda, and we are amazed to see the transformation that happens through this program. You can support our work with ZOE Empowers through the annual Christmas Bazaar, the Christmas Community Concert, and when we highlight ZOE as our Mission of the Month.

Ready to serve? Visit SuntreeUMC.org/serve or contact Pastor Bailey by email at baileys@suntreeumc.org or phone at 727-710-2493.