

The Sanibel



SANIBEL
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED
CHURCH
OF
CHRIST

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*Seeking to love all people ... growing in
faith ...*

*working toward God's vision of justice,
healing and joy.*

*Sanibel Congregational United Church of
Christ*

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Ancient Greek lore has it that the renowned philosopher Socrates was once approached by an acquaintance who asked him if he would like to hear a story the acquaintance had just been told about a mutual friend of theirs.

In response, Socrates is said to have told the acquaintance that he would but only if the answer to each of three questions was “Yes”.

Those three questions were:

- Is it **true**?
- Is it **kind** (regarding the person the story is about)?
- Is it **necessary** (or helpful)?

If not, Socrates said, he would rather not hear what the acquaintance wanted to share...

For Socrates, all three questions are vital. But that *Three Question Review* starts with this:

Is it true?...

What reminded me that story is the response to the sermon that Episcopal Bishop Mariann Budde delivered during the Nation Prayer Service at the Washington National Cathedral the day after the Inauguration of President Trump.

During the service, with he and the Vice-President in attendance, Budde said this to the President:

“As you told the nation yesterday, you have felt the providential hand of a loving God. In the name of our God, I ask you to have mercy upon the people in our country who are scared now... they are gay, lesbian and transgender children in Democratic, Republican and Independent families, some who fear for their lives.”

Budde continued:

“The people who pick our crops and clean our office buildings; who labor in poultry farms and meatpacking plants; who wash the dishes after we eat in restaurants and work the night shifts in hospitals, they may not be citizens or have the proper documentation. But the vast majority of immigrants are not criminals. They pay taxes and are good neighbors.”...

As you are likely aware, there has been tremendous backlash to that particular part of Budde's sermon – much of it from other Christian clergy and leaders. A number of Christian clergy and leaders have criticized Budde for saying things that “don't represent Christianity” and are “unbiblical”. One even accused her of “*the sin of empathy.*”

Those responses all fail Socrates' *Three Question Review* right away because they all fail that first and most important question: ***Is it true?***

And not just fail it, but fail it *miserably*...

Because what **is true** is that the Bible is full of admonitions to care for the “aliens” – yes, that is the word used – in one's land. What **is true** is that the Bible is full of calls to care for “widows and orphans”, a phrase which is meant to encompass all those in society who are most vulnerable. Therefore, a call to *empathy*.

And as we discussed here on the Sunday which was the day before the Inauguration, and two days before Bishop Budde's comments, what **is true** is that the heart of Jesus' very first sermon - his “Inaugural Address” according to the way Luke's Gospel describes it - was words from the revered biblical prophet Isaiah. Words that are all grounded in God's call for compassion, justice and mercy for all people...

We may disagree, as many have, on whether Bishop Budde should have said what she did during that service, or instead shared those thoughts with the President privately. And as fellow citizens in a democracy we may also have quite different ideas as to what our nation's immigration policies should be, as that is a deeply complex issue.

But for Christian clergy and leaders – for any Christian and any leader – to claim that Bishop Budde said things which “don't represent Christianity” or that are “unbiblical” fails Socrates' first question. Fails it miserably.

And far more seriously, it attempts to refute what **is true** - that Bishop Budde's comments that day do, in fact, “represent Christianity” and are “clearly biblical”.

Blessings,

Mark
Rev. Dr. Mark Boyea
Senior Minister

WORSHIP NOTES

On Sunday, January 5, we welcomed in the New Year by sharing together in the Sacrament of Communion for the first time as a spiritual community in 2025.

Then, on Sunday, January 19, we remembered the life and work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the vital place of justice and equality in our spiritual tradition, as this year MLK Day coincided with Presidential Inauguration Day.

Finally, we gathered together for ***Annual Meeting Sunday*** on Sunday, January 26. After Worship that morning, we joined in reviewing our spiritual community's efforts during 2024, as well as discussed and approved the 2025 budget, the slate of lay leaders, and welcomed Kathy Carter as our new Moderator and Frank Palaia as our new Vice Moderator.

In February, we will offer our first ***Ask the Minister Sunday*** of 2025, as well as celebrate the Sacrament of Communion on Sunday, February 2.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is open Monday-Friday, from 9am-3pm.

PLEASE NOTE: The office will be closed on Monday, February 17th, in commemoration of President's Day.

Mark is normally on the campus Tuesday-Thursday pending pastoral visits or off-site meetings. Please feel free to just “drop by” or make an appointment directly with him by email: **mark@sanibelucc.org** or text/phone call: 908-477-5426.

Mackenzie Albert, our Director of Music, is normally on campus each Wednesday and some Fridays. Please make an appointment by phone or text at 203-517-5427.



SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study continues in February **10:30am on Zoom** on the following dates:

Thursday, February 6
Thursday, February 13
Thursday, February 20
Thursday, February 27

The passage(s) to be looked at each week, as well as the necessary information for joining in, will be sent by email the day before.

SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION

Our current Spiritual Exploration Unit continues in February

“Church on Sunday, Citizen on Monday”

Tuesdays: February 4, 11 and 25

7:00-8:15pm on Zoom

In conjunction with the start of a New Year as well as a time of government transition, this five-week unit will explore what it means for us to live as citizens who are Christians in a nation that is religiously and spiritually diverse.

Our sessions will be grounded in the work of Professor Emeritus of Religion and Christian ethicist Eric Mount, and will consider a variety of topics, such as economics, governance and the environment, with an emphasis on Mount’s “Three C’s” of *Covenant, Community* and the *Common Good*.

Each session will be sufficiently independent to accommodate those who are unable to participate in all of them. We hope you will consider joining in on all or any of these timely and needed discussions.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING



News From Neal Halleran, Our Outgoing Moderator

Please join in warmly welcoming Kathy Carter as our new Moderator and Frank Palaia as our Vice Moderator! Both Kathy and Frank have faithfully served our spiritual community in various capacities, and we are thrilled to have them lead us into this new chapter. Their dedication and vision will be instrumental in guiding our proposed building project, fostering growth in our spiritual community, and ensuring that we uphold the goals set forth by our covenants. With their leadership, we look forward to a renewed spirit and a season of thriving once again. Welcome, Kathy and Frank!

In addition, we extend our heartfelt gratitude and warmest welcome to our new board members and committee members. Your dedication and service are invaluable as we continue to strengthen our community and embrace a spirit of renewal and growth.



Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ
Slate for Officers, Boards and Committees -- January 26, 2025
 (**** indicates newly nominated)

	BEGINS	ENDS		BEGINS	ENDS
OFFICERS			NOMINATING COMMITTEE (2-Yr Term)		
Kathy Y. Carter, Moderator****	2025	2026	Carl Smigiel		2026
Frank Palaia, Vice Moderator****	2025	2026	Joan Burns, Deacon Rep.		2026
Janet Hurley, Treasurer		2026	Barbara Cooley, Trustee Rep.		2026
Jim Winn, Clerk		2026	Ed Hannon		2026
			Paul Roth		2026
BOARD OF TRUSTEES (3-Yr Term)			ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE (Subcommittee of Trustees)		
Tom Lisle		2026	John Ake		
Joe Burns		2027	Jim Drottleff		
Barbara Cooley		2026	Jerry Ebner		
Scott Crater		2027	Gene Hardy		
Diana Day		2027			
Jerry Ebner****	2025	2028	HEALTH MINISTRY (2-Yr Term)		
Dave Goulait****	2025	2028	Pam Rothmann-Cokes		2026
Neal Halleran****	2025	2028	Lynn Boynton		2026
Ed Hannon			Linda Convertine, Parish Nurse		
Ronald Periard****	2025	2028	Dana Crater		2026
Bob Rippe****	2025	2028	Bill Morrow		2026
Barry Tice		2027			
Cheryl Tice****	2025	2028	PASTORAL RELATIONS (2-Yr Term)		
			To Be Appointed		
BOARD OF DEACONS (3-Yr Term)			To Be Appointed, Trustee Rep.		
Shirley Akins		2027	Don Hunter		2026
Joan Burns		2026	Susan Schmitt		2026
Mary Cavendish		2027	Tom Ware		2026
Lamoyne Ebner****	2025	2028	Linda Winn, Deacon Rep.		2026
Sherry Halleran		2026			
Sharon Hannon		2027	GREEN COMMITTEE (Appointed by Council)		
Ingrid Meng		2027	Jan Van Buskirk		
Judy Palaia****	2025	2028	Janice Block Chaddock (Bat Yam)		
Jane Ramseth		2026	Jean Chandler (Advisor)		
Linda Winn		2027	Linda Convertine (Staff)		
MISSION & BENEVOLENCE (3-Yr Term)			Linda Graf		
Ric Walker		2026	Ron Graf		
Jacque Boynton		2027	Robin Krivanek		
Ed Hannon		2027	Sandy Teger (Bat Yam)		
Marilyn Hooper		2027	Cheryl Tice		
Judy Morrow		2027			
Jean Walker		2026	MUSIC COMMITTEE (3-Yr Term)		
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (2-Yr Term)			Shirley Witte		2026
Susan McCallion		2026	Mackenzie Albert, Music Director		
Bruce Cramer		2026	Suzanne Bennett	2025	2028
Noelle Cramer		2026	Bruce Findley****	2025	2028
Sherry Halleran		2026	Ellen Hoeltgen		2027
Jan MaGirl		2026	Jane Ramseth, Deacon Rep.		2027
Rev. Dr. Mark Boyea (Rep, Board of Deacons)			Paul Roth		2027
			Jane Saghir		2027

HEALTHY HAPPENINGS

The Skinny on Fat

Part 2

Last month we reviewed the history of our thinking on fat and explored some of the ways our ideas about fat were formed. This month we will endeavor to answer the following questions: What is the real truth? What is the actual scientific evidence about dietary fat? What are the different types of fat? And which ones are good for you?

Fat, along with carbohydrates and protein, is one of three critical macronutrients in the human diet. In addition to being a concentrated source of calories, fat provides essential fatty acids. The body cannot make these kinds of fat, so it's necessary to get them from food. (That's why they're called "essential.")

Fat serves multiple functions in our bodies. It is the principal way we store energy for later use. It insulates and protects our organs, and works to keep us warm in cold environments. Fat also transports and facilitates the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins, including A, D, E, and K.

In addition, fat helps food taste good, which makes sense given its importance for human biochemistry. And since it's a concentrated source of calories, it also makes sense that eating fat contributes to satiety.

Speaking of calories, our bodies do a neat trick, one primed by eons of evolutionary pressure. All excess calories that our body doesn't excrete, and that are not used by our body's cells or turned into energy, are converted into body fat.

Fat exists in animals and plants in a variety of forms. The most common fat form, in our food and in our bodies, is called triglycerides. The name refers to three fatty acids attached to glycerol, a form of the simple sugar glucose. Triglycerides are crucial to our survival, serving as our main source of long-lasting energy. And we don't just need to rely on food to supply them — our liver can manufacture triglycerides when needed.

When we eat extra calories, our liver increases its production of triglycerides, which is kind of like our body's way of saving them for a rainy day.

The trouble is that excess triglycerides in our bloodstream are not a good thing, especially in combination with high LDL (bad) cholesterol. High triglyceride levels are linked with fatty buildup within artery walls, which increases the risk of heart attack and stroke.

There are, broadly speaking, three categories of fat — saturated fat, unsaturated fat, and trans-fat.

Saturated fat can be identified by the fact that it's generally solid at room temperature. Saturated fat is found mainly in animal products like red meat, cheese, chicken, and eggs. There are also some plant foods high in saturated fat, including coconut and coconut oil, palm and palm kernel oil, and chocolate. (For the chocolate lovers of the world, I hasten to add that the saturated fat in cocoa butter, stearic acid, gets converted by our livers into a much healthier unsaturated fat.)

Unsaturated fat comes in two main varieties, polyunsaturated and monounsaturated. The term “polyunsaturated” refers to the chemical structure having at least two double bonds. Polyunsaturated fat comes in two main types, omega-3 and omega-6, depending on the position of the first double bond. People get polyunsaturated fats mainly from plant foods such as seeds and nuts; seed, nut, and vegetable oils; avocados; and certain forms of algae. For many people, fish are also a major source of the long-chain omega-3 fats.

Monounsaturated fats, such as the lesser-known omega-9s, are primarily found in plant foods like nuts, seeds, avocados, olives, and peanuts (plants typically contain more than one type of fat). They are especially high in olive, almond, and avocado oils.

Trans fats can occur naturally, though most of the trans-fat in the modern diet has been created artificially through a process called hydrogenation. This process — in which liquid vegetable oils are heated in the presence of hydrogen gas and a catalyst — makes the oils shelf-stable and also stabilizes their flavors.

This stability made trans fats an extremely lucrative ingredient in the industrial food supply, as items made with trans-fat didn't need to be refrigerated — or rushed from production onto supermarket shelves. As a result, consumers enjoyed the convenience of trans fats through the use of margarine and shortening, which could withstand repeated heating without breaking down. Thus, the modern food system became saturated with trans fats in fast food, commercial baked goods, and processed foods.

The only problem is that trans-fat is really bad for our health. So bad, in fact, that in 2015 the US Food & Drug Administration (FDA) deemed artificial trans fats “unsafe to eat ” and gave food manufacturers three years to eliminate them from all products. The World Health Organization followed suit, launching a global initiative named REPLCE, with the goal of making the global food supply free of artificial trans fats by the end of 2023.

However, in the US, the FDA has allowed trans fats to remain in the commercial food supply through a loophole — if the product contains less than half a gram of trans fat per serving, the manufacturer can “round down” to zero. The easiest way to pull off this trick is to decrease the serving size.

According to the Mayo Clinic, foods that commonly contain trans fats in “under the radar” amounts include commercial baked goods (cakes, pies, and cookies), microwave popcorn, frozen pizza, fried foods, nondairy creamer, and stick margarine, among others. Since mathematical shenanigans will hide trans-fat from the nutrition facts label, we need to scour the ingredients list for the word “hydrogenated”.

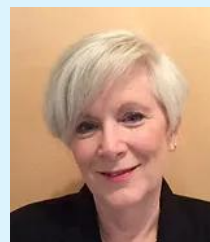
For example, Crisco, the best-known brand of shortening, pulls the “round down to zero” trick in its nutritional label, claiming to contain “0g of Trans Fat per serving,” despite the fact that its second ingredient is fully hydrogenated palm oil.

If we include any meat or dairy in our diet, we will also be exposed to some naturally occurring trans fats, which may be just as damaging to our health as the artificially created ones.

In the March issue of *The Light*, we will finish up our discussion about dietary fat, exploring how much fat we really need in our diet, debunking myths about fat, and how eating the “good” and “bad” types of fat affect our health.

Caring for you and your health,

Linda Convertine, Parish Nurse



3 John 1:2 Beloved, I pray that in all things you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers.

MEMORIAL GARDEN AND GROUNDS

We are thrilled to share our future plans to update and refresh the design of our cherished Memorial Garden. This sacred space has long been a place of reflection and remembrance, and we are committed to enhancing its beauty, accessibility, and visibility to better serve our congregation and community.



Over the past weeks, we have been carefully reviewing landscape design plans and gathering valuable insights from our members and experienced space designers. Our goal is to create a more welcoming and peaceful environment for meditation while preserving the garden's deep significance.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated team working on this project and to our trustees **Barbara Cooley and Scott Crater** for their unwavering commitment and assistance. We are also deeply thankful for the thoughtful donations we have already received from our generous members. Your support is instrumental in bringing this meaningful vision to life.

As we move forward, we look forward to continued contributions, whether through ideas, time, or donations to make this project a true reflection of our community's love and devotion. Stay tuned for more updates as we bring this vision to life!



FROM THE GREEN TEAM

Are compostable and biodegradable plastics better for the environment than regular plastics?

As consumers across the country are pushing for a reduction in the use of disposable plastics, some companies have replaced regular plastic products with products labeled "biodegradable" or "compostable." But are they better for the environment?

Many consumers are becoming aware of the problems that plastics cause to our planet and our health and are looking for alternatives. As a result, some companies have shifted to using "biobased plastics," which have been marketed as being good for the environment. The reality is, it's complicated.

Here's a quick guide to what some of these terms mean– or don't mean– and then some tips on meaningful ways we can help reduce plastic pollution:

"Biobased plastic"

Biobased plastics are plastics that are made from plant material, not fossil fuels like gas or oil. But *just because they are made from plants does not automatically mean that they can biodegrade or be composted.* In fact, they are made to have the same properties as petroleum-based plastic, and will last in the environment for the same time period, unless specifically engineered to be compostable and/or biodegradable.

Important point: Bioplastics aren't always able to be recycled alongside traditional petroleum-based plastics, so it's important to read the label to determine how to properly dispose of them at the end of use.

"Compostable"

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, "In order for a plastic to be labeled as commercially 'compostable' it must be able to be broken down by biological treatment at a commercial or industrial composting facility." If you live in an area with a commercial composting facility, you can look for **ASTM D6400 or D6868** on the label to ensure that the product can, in fact, be commercially composted. Then check and make sure the facility near you takes the product and then take the steps necessary to make sure the product gets there.

Another important note: When something is labeled “compostable,” it only refers to commercial composting. There is currently no official ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) standard test to determine if a product will decompose in a home environment. Therefore, you should not compost these plastic products at home, unless the label specifically says it’s suited for home composting.

“Biodegradable”

This label on plastic is inherently misleading and confusing because there is currently no certification process in place for “biodegradable” products in the US, and these labels typically don’t specify an environment or timeframe in which the product will biodegrade.

According to the Federal Trade Commission’s Green Guides, “It is deceptive to make an unqualified degradable claim for items entering the solid waste stream if the items do not completely decompose within one year after customary disposal. Unqualified degradable claims for items that are customarily disposed in landfills, incinerators, and recycling facilities are deceptive because these locations do not present conditions in which complete decomposition will occur within one year.”

These labels are so misleading that labeling packaging as “biodegradable” is banned in four states.

Another key detail: products that are labeled “**biodegradable**” **are not necessarily “compostable”** so be sure to check the labels before sending products labeled as biodegradable to commercial composting facilities.

Other labels to watch out for:

“Widely Recyclable”

This label is also very misleading. Just because a product has the chasing arrows symbol or says it can be recycled doesn’t mean it can be— especially when it comes to plastics. There are few rules about what can and cannot be labeled as recyclable. As a result, what label a product gets is largely left up to the plastics industry, leading to a lot of unclear and misleading claims that consumers cannot rely on.

Bottom Line: To see whether a product can be recycled in your area, check with your local jurisdiction and/or waste hauler.

Other

If you see labels that say “100% sustainable” or “Eco-friendly” or “Earth friendly” or “Made from plants” or other similar sounding labels, do some research and see if it’s tied to a particular certification from a trusted source. If not, the company probably just slapped that label on to trick consumers into believing it’s good for the environment.

Unfortunately, replacing petroleum-based plastic with bioplastic isn’t a solution to our plastic waste problem. The real solution is a reduction in all types of plastic.

Here are some quick tips on how to reduce your use of plastic:

1. Find ways to use reusable or refillable options wherever possible. Some ideas include grocery bags, water bottles, food storage containers, cutlery, beeswax wraps and more.
2. Support your local zero waste store or companies that are making efforts to reduce plastic packaging for common household items like shampoo, detergent, household cleaners, toothpaste, soap and more. You’ll be supporting a small business at the same time!
3. Find products or product packaging that is made from fiber-based materials like wood pulp, bamboo, bagasse or straw. There’s even some packaging made from mushrooms now. All products come with some environmental impact, but fiber-based materials tend to be easier to recycle or compost and cause less harm at their end of use.
4. Make your voice heard to help make bigger changes to reduce plastic pollution– from calling on companies to reduce their use of plastic packaging to passing state laws banning the most wasteful single-use plastic products. For example: following consumer demand, the State of Illinois recently passed legislation requiring hotels and motels that supply personal care toiletries to now use multi-use pump bottles vs single-use plastic containers.

A good Florida resource (and you can look up other states as well):
<https://www.litterless.com/where-to-compost/florida>

How to find refill stores near you:
<https://refill.directory/united-states>

Adapted from: BEYOND PLASTIC, JUNE 13, 2023
Celeste Meiffren-Swango, State Director, Environment Oregon
Jenn Engstrom, State Director, CALPIRG
<https://environmentamerica.org/center/articles/are-compostable-and-biodegradable-plastics-better-for-the-environment-than-regular-plastics/>

Linda Graf

Green Team Committee



Membership Team

Before our recent Worship celebration, we were blessed with a warm and inviting outdoor reception table, thoughtfully prepared by our dedicated Membership Team. This group welcomed our church members and visitors by extending an open invitation to those who wish to join and support our mission to increase membership in any capacity.

We are actively seeking to welcome new members who share our vision of growth and outreach, ensuring that our church continues to thrive both within our walls and throughout the community.

A special thank you goes to **Noelle Cramer**, **Sheri Halleran** and **Susan McCallion** for their inspiring words of encouragement before our Annual Meeting. Their insights into future plans highlighted the importance of increasing our church's visibility - both physically and through our community engagement. Their dedication and passion are truly shaping a brighter future for our congregation.

We are grateful for the love and commitment shown by our Membership Team and look forward to embracing new members as we continue our journey of faith together.



MUSIC



Our choir continues to grow and always welcomes new members. If you would like to give it a try, we encourage you to come to a rehearsal on a Wednesday at 4:30 PM. We rehearse until 6 o'clock and often go out to dinner together at a local restaurant.



If you are sitting in the congregation and you hear a piece of music which you really like that's sung by the Choir or played on the piano or organ, we would love for you to mention it to Mackenzie Albert. She is always interested in revisiting favorite pieces which the Choir or congregation particularly love.

For more information on participating in our music program by singing in the choir or playing a musical instrument, please call or text Mackenzie at 203-517-5427.



Fellowship Time

Please consider volunteering your time to serve during our Fellowship Time after Worship. It's a wonderful way to contribute to our community, connect with others, and give back to our spiritual home. If interested, please contact Mary Cavendish at 304-673-4495.

Here's how you can help:

1. **Sign Up to Serve** – Select a Sunday and mark it on your calendar! You'll find a sign-up sheet on the table at the back of Fellowship Hall. Serving is easy, and help will be available if needed.
2. **Bring a Treat** – If you love to bake or have a favorite snack to share, consider bringing it along to make our Fellowship Time even more special. Beverages are also welcome.
3. **Contribute to Fellowship Time** – If serving isn't for you, a donation is a meaningful way to support this cherished time together.

Your time, treats, or donations will be deeply appreciated, making our gatherings warm and welcoming for everyone. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve and strengthen our community!



Participation At SCUCC

Be An Artist



Join Carol Good on Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall at Noon for painting, conversation and fun. A time and space to explore your creative side.



Get Healthy

Santiva Islanders with Mahnaz Bassir for cardio & strength on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 10am – 11am in Fellowship Hall.



Gentle Yoga with Grethe

Join Grethe Christensen on Thursdays
at 10:45 in Fellowship Hall.



Book Group

A few members of the congregation have expressed interest in a book group.

Catrina Drotleff is willing to organize one, if there are enough interested people.



A meeting will be held in the Church Library on Thursday, February 6th at 11:30am to discuss this possibility.

Please contact Katrina at catrinadrotleff@yahoo.com, for details and to RSVP for the meeting.

Coming Soon

The Health Ministry is pleased to offer CPR classes this February in Fellowship Hall. Dates will be announced soon.

Each class will be approximately two hours long, and priority for sign-ups will be given to ushers. Please note that class sizes may be limited.

Stay tuned for further details, and we encourage those interested to sign up as soon as registration opens.



From the Mission & Benevolence Committee

Just a reminder, there is a food and paper products drive held monthly by the Sanibel UCC in conjunction with Bat Yam Temple. Goods are collected on the third Wednesday of every month, between the hours of 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Pull into the drive for a convenient drop at the collection table. Drop off your non-perishable food items and/or bath and kitchen paper products.

Collected donations will benefit local neighbors in need through F.I.S.H. and the Gladiolus Food Pantry. How to Volunteer:

If you are interested in assisting with this effort, please contact:

Ed Hannon, Mission and Benevolence Committee Member:

(239) 240-7524

For donations to the Food Pantry box located in the Narthex, please consider adding a manual can opener, in addition to any food items. Many homeless people do not have can openers, which limits their food selection. As always, thank you for your generosity.

If you are interested in donating to the food pantry, please make your check payable to the church and in the memo line remember to add the words Food Pantry.



Floral Invitation

We invite you to contribute to the Floral Fund.

This fund is dedicated to preserving the memory of a loved one through the vibrant and uplifting presence of flowers. If you would like to honor a loved one by dedicating flowers to a Worship Celebration, please visit or contact the office.



*Floral dedications will be featured
in the weekly bulletin.*

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY



Saturday, the 1st: Barbara Cavanaugh

Sunday, the 2nd: Sylvia Longaker

Wednesday, the 5th: Antonia Warren

Thursday, the 6th: Nan Sprague

Wednesday, the 12th: Ginny Arthuer, Betsy Foreman, Carl Smigiel

Thursday, the 13th: John Ake, Nancy Blaze

Friday, the 14th: Michael Grabill

Sunday, the 16th: Dennis Hayes

Monday, the 17th: Joe Burns, Jan Val Laer

Tuesday, the 18th: Cynthia Timm

Wednesday, the 19th: Sandy Bordiuk, Susan McCallion

Thursday, the 20th: Beth Miller

Saturday, the 22nd: Virginia Eby

Sunday, the 23rd: Randall Niehoff

Thursday, the 27th: Barb Cutler, Gary McKnight, Guy Tober



Happy Birthday Everyone!





Shell Point Men's Group February Luncheon

The Sanibel Congregational UCC Shell Point Men's Group will have its next monthly luncheon meeting on **February 11th at noon at the Palm Grill in the Woodlands Common**. Please make reservations with Bruce Findley at bruce.findley@gmail.com.

Shell Point Women's Group February Luncheon

The Sanibel Congregational UCC Shell Point Women's Group will have its next monthly luncheon meeting on **February 14th at 11:30am at the two round tables outside the double doors of the Palm Grill**. Please make reservations with Emily Kletzien at emily.kletzien@gmail.com.

Dinners for 6, 7 or 8

One of our most loved offerings are the social gatherings known as "Dinner for 6, 7 or 8". If you would like to participate, please send your names, email addresses and phone numbers to Shirley Akins at akinsteach@gmail.com.



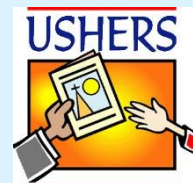
Interested in being a Liturgist?

If you are interested in being a Liturgist, dates are open for March, April and May. Please send an email to Sharon Hannon at skbhannon@aol.com, with all of the dates you are available to read . She will contact you in return.



Ushers Wanted

Please reach out to Inky Meng if you would like to be added to the contact list to help serve as an usher at Worship. She can be reached at inkymeng@hotmail.com.



Interested in Joining SCUCC???

If you are considering becoming a member of SCUCC, or would simply like to find out more about us, please let Rev. Mark know. After you and he discuss the expectations and, as the old commercial says, “the benefits of membership”, you and he can schedule a Sunday that works best for you to become an official part of the SCUCC community.



Like A Ride To Worship?

If you would like a ride to Sunday Worship from Shell Point or Cypress Cove, please contact the Church Office at office@sanibelucc.org by Noon on Thursdays.



MARCH 2025 SANIBEL LIGHT DEADLINE

Please note that the deadline for submissions to the February edition of the *Sanibel Light* is **Friday, February 21, 2024.**

Please send all submissions as a Word document to:

Jenny Chacon, Church Administrator at jenny@sanibelucc.org

AND

Tammy Flatley, Assistant Church Administrator at tammy@sanibelucc.org



YOU'VE GOT PLANS: SANIBEL & CAPTIVA



For information and tickets, please go to the Big Arts website:

<https://my.bigarts.org/>

2025 PERFORMING ARTS

ALL PERFORMANCES BEGIN AT 7:30 P.M.
COMPLIMENTARY VALET PARKING

PHAT CAT SWINGER FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Treat your valentine to a special evening with this acclaimed 11-piece American pop band, whose unique blend of swing, jazz and rock will fill you with joy that will stay with you long after the curtain falls. Style, class and charisma characterize this

high-powered group. Led by founder Marco Palos and vocalist Mark Kopitzke, *Phat Cat Swinger* brings energy and passion to every performance with reimagined musical arrangements from timeless eras, ranging from Sinatra to Bublé and everything in between. *Phat Cat Swinger* is an experience you will not soon forget!



"An authentic, one-of-a-kind experience - one that blows the roof off the place!"
- *BroadwayWorld.com*

Graciously Sponsored by
Tom and Linda Uhler



Gala Benefit Pass to All Events \$250
February 28 Private Home Cocktail Party at 6:00 pm
March 1 Gala Concert Ticket at 7:30pm and Afterglo Reception.
To order call or text 404-226-3842, or purchase online to reserve Gala Passes.
Passes limited. Expected to sell out.

For more information regarding the concert schedule and tickets, please go to their website at:

<https://sanibelmusicfestival.org/>



The Community House

SANIBEL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club Arts & Crafts Festival

Event Details

DATE: Saturday, February 15th, 2025

TIME: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

RECURS: 2/16/25

LOCATION: 2173 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957 United States

ADMISSION: For a small donation, you will be ushered into the place where fine art, island history and nature meet



Sanibel and Captiva have so much to offer, please check out their events calendar at:

<https://sanibel-island.sanibel-captiva.org/events/>



BITS & BOBS

Giving is Easy:

1. PayPal link is available from the church's homepage (www.sanibelucc.org).
2. Automatic Payment Program (ACH) is available. To sign up, please send a request by email to jenny@sanibelucc.org to receive the authorization form.
3. Checks payable to SCUCC can be mailed to:
Sanibel Congregational UCC 2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel FL 33957

Mark Boyea

mark@sanibelucc.org

239-312-8673

Jenny Chacon

jenny@sanibelucc.org

239-312-8670

Tammy Flatley

tammy@sanibelucc.org

239-472-0497

office@sanibelucc.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9:00-3:00pm

Scan QR Code
to donate
through
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