

SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

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## *A Message From Pastor Joe*

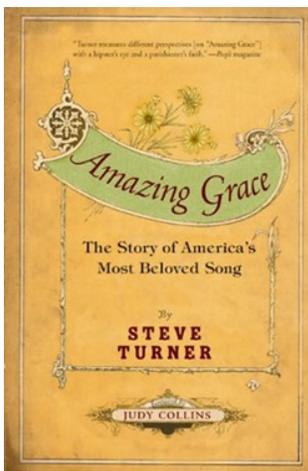
Greetings Church Family and Friends,

**I have been reflecting on this idea of God’s Amazing Grace.**

*Eph 2 (RSV)8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God— 9 not because of works, lest any man should boast.*

Happy Fall. Cooler temperatures are coming. Those up north are coming back to TV. However, with the season change I am reminded that God’s grace is always made anew in every season for each of us. Hands down one of the most beloved church songs is Amazing Grace. What church has not sung this song? It has appeared in over 11,000 albums worldwide with over 10,000 million performances—even Elvis Presley performed it with a county style and President Obama broke out in a powerful rendition of Amazing Grace in his 2015 speech. And who is not moved to the bagpipe rendition of Amazing Grace? The song is an also-known anthem of the civil rights movement as it was sung at many Martin Luther King Jr. rallies by Mahalia Jackson. Ironically, the original text was written by a former slave trader, John Newton.

There is an even a book called, “Amazing Grace: The Story of America’s Most Beloved Song” and a movie and a Broadway musical called, “Amazing Grace”. Why is it so popular? Maybe the universal message of hope, forgiveness, grace, mercy and redemption or perhaps the catchy and comfortable tune? What you might not know is that it was not well received when it first came out. It was first called, “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Not very catchy and sounds more like a sermon than a song! Besides, the tune we are most familiar with was added to the song 60 years later and became popular during the Second Awakening tent revival meetings. This “new” song was known to have been inspired by a bar tune and it went through some revisions. For example, in 1852, when Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote the song into “Uncle Tom’s Cabin,” she included a few verses that weren’t in Newton’s original text — such as the one beginning, “When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright shining like the sun.” Most of our familiar songs we sing today were once considered new. Do not discount new or contemporary songs, and revisions of older songs for some may become the next Amazing Grace and will speak to a new generation. Scripture tells us to “sing new songs” because God’s grace is to be sung anew in every season and every generation.



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**This whole idea of “Amazing Grace” is infectious.** Let us get swept-up by God’s grace and share it with others. Especially in these times when egos are flying high, patience is running thin, and people are dividing over just about everything. According to Ephesians grace is a “gift of God”. Give the gift of grace to someone this week. We are conduits of God’s grace not hoarders. As a Church we have a gift of grace to offer our community and each other. We can offer the reminder that no one is alone—that we are here as a community that cares and that God who is Love is with us all at this moment and will be in the next. We have come this far by faith, and the Spirit has been at work helping us to care for each other and reach out with “grace in action” in many ways. Reflect on the idea of grace this month and what it means to you and to our church. As Goethe put it, “It is the nature of grace always to fill spaces that been empty.”

In His Grace,

Pastor Joe



Pastor Joe concludes his sermon series: "In These Times." As he explains, "Stress, change, pandemics, health concerns, and political polarization are sure to challenge our lives and faith. These are the times we are living in so how can we live whole lives and build a better faith?" Come to worship this Sunday and hear a message relevant to

our lives today. Can't make it to church this week? You can watch our service live streamed at 10am or even later on the recorded version. Just go to our website at [www.Villages\\_UCC.org](http://www.Villages_UCC.org), or to our [Facebook Page](#) or to our [YouTube channel](#) and click the link for worship!



**Follow us on  
facebook**

Why should you follow us on Facebook? Go to our page at UCC at the Villages and you'll see inspirational postings, photos, and a live link to our worship service every Sunday. Don't forget to "like" our page so you won't miss out on a thing!

**Members, mark your calendars!**  
**There will be a Congregational Meeting after worship on Sunday, October 10.**

**Learn about the current and future plans for your church!**





**Billie Navojosky**  
Moderator

## *Message From Our Moderator*

Welcome Fall. As we prepare to head south, we can't help but to take one last look at the beginning of the color changes in the forest around us. The smell of campfires wafting in the air and the yellow jackets' appearances are increasing with an unspoken urgency. We look forward to the return of all "snowbird" members whom we have missed seeing these past months. Despite the distance between us much has been accomplished by many this past summer. Yes, we all have struggled with stepping back to wearing masks inside and we have temporarily suspended fellowship after service, but in spite of these challenges our congregation is growing. New members will be introduced in covenant to the congregation in October.

The Music Vision team has been meeting weekly and is near completion of their vision statement. Each Ministry Team has been meeting monthly virtually, keeping our church on a steady open track. The Administration Team has continued to groom the gardens, wash the exterior walkways and meet with maintenance contractors along with handling emergency breakdowns of equipment. Finance Ministry has worked diligently to keep our budget in focus and healthy. Diaconate has worked tirelessly to provide for safe weekly services. And Missions Team has kept our focus on issues of both justice and peace along with National UCC missions.

Issues and concerns tabled these past 18 months, due to Covid, have once again been a focus of your Governing Board. These include review of the Bylaws and Emergency Response Manual, planning for Stewardship, painting of the church exterior and future projects to name just a few.

Planning for the upcoming Congregational Meeting (Sunday, October 10), I have continued to be in awe of the unconditional giving of time, talents, and resources of our members to serve our church family. From answering alarms all hours of the night, increased financial giving (which has helped a great deal), meeting contractors, delivering food and clothing to the shelters, hours of meetings, singing, bookkeeping, gardening, cleaning and just being available to solve any problem. We are a very blessed church community! I look forward to seeing you at the congregational meeting and sharing more information, hearing your opinions, and voting on issues of concern. Perhaps, with the availability of booster shots and a continued decrease in covid infections we will be in fellowship together soon.

With Gratitude, Billie Navojosky, Moderator



## *A Fresh Start*

We will begin our 2022 Stewardship Campaign soon. It is important that we each search our minds and hearts to assess what we might be able to pledge next year. Please remember that we began the last three years with a negative budget. We have been fortunate each year to do better than our budget, primarily due to external forces such as not using our building for most of 2020 due to Covid-19. (

We have improved our worship delivery with streaming video and YouTube recordings. We want to continue to expend our interface via Social Media with our congregation. There are great plans coming for future development. Pledges may be made via our website, [www.VillagesUCC.org](http://www.VillagesUCC.org). Click on the image (as shown above) on our web's front page. The form is private and secure. You may also request a pledge card by calling our office.

This feels like a new beginning for our church. We are back to face-to-face worship which helps give us a real sense of community. We have a new Pastor who brings new energy and vision to our church. Accordingly, the theme for our campaign should be "Fresh Start." (by Jack Chandler, Finance & Stewardship Chair)



You've probably been hearing about the resurgence of COVID due to the Delta variant. Here in Florida, the infection rate has reached 19.8%. ([FloridahealthCOVID19.gov](http://FloridahealthCOVID19.gov)) Because of a desire to protect our most vulnerable congregants, particularly those who cannot take the vaccine, we are re-

enforcing some COVID protocols. Please be mindful and adhere to the following:

1. Please wear a mask when entering the building and during your time inside the church. If you arrive and forgot your mask, please ask an usher for one.
2. Please maintain social-distancing. When we are dismissing the congregation at the end of our service, please do not crowd the aisles. The ushers will dismiss one row at a time. Do not leave until your row is dismissed. Do not stand in the aisle but move out while maintaining distance from those in front of you. We know this will require some patience, but this is done to protect us all.
3. We will not be passing the collection plate. You may place your donations in the box in the Narthex or use our online donations app at our website, [www.VillagesUCC.org](http://www.VillagesUCC.org).
4. Fellowship Hour has been temporarily halted. If you want to socialize, please do so in the parking lot or plan a lunch with your friends after worship.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this difficult time for us all. And, if you are able, please consider getting vaccinated. It could save your life or that of a loved one.



Did we miss your birthday or your anniversary? Help us update our files by emailing us the information or by calling the church office.

***Happy Birthday To:***

- Joyce Christie (4)
- Mick Robinette (10)
- Dave Dill (12)
- Joe Lefevre (12)
- Lyn Echard (14)
- Pam Smith (16)
- Glenn Kramer (18)
- Margarita Romo (18)
- Kaye Phelan (24)
- Dorothy Felson (25)
- Bea Hester (25)
- Becky Dunning (29)
- Chris Janis (31)

***Happy Anniversary To:***

- Jean Christopher & Billie Navojokey (1)
- Jerry & Anna Darr (1)
- Jim Stephens & Louise Tallman (1)
- Pete & Carole Winnen (11)
- Larry & Rachel Beam (17)
- Keith Milan & Mary Lund (19)
- Dave & Dianne Dill (24)
- Jim & Judie Schnitker (26)



***Nancy Boyer Receives Recognition***

One of our past members just received an invitation for a special "Honor Flight." The Honor Flight out of Chicago will take place on Oct 6 and go to Washington D.C. It is the first all female flight for Vietnam era veterans. Nancy was a long time UCC at The Villages member but moved away to be closer to her family a couple of years ago.

## *Administration Team*

Your Admin Team met virtually on September 14th. Present were Cherie Harrold, Nancy White, Chris Janis, Bill Richter, Pete Winnen, Tim Phelan, Moderator Billie Navajosky and Pastor Joe. Missing was Jerry Fabian who is still recovering from back surgery.



**Cherie Harrold,  
Admin Chair**

### **IN PROGRESS**

Ceiling Fan for Pastor's Office: Still waiting. All necessary parts including the fan have arrived at the electrician's business but they now have more work than available staffing. Admin is in touch with the general manager who promises to have it installed as soon as workload allows.

Exterior Painting of UCC: From five painting companies contacted, the Admin Team received two written quotes for painting UCC's exterior. Three other companies came to look but failed to submit a quote for the job. Admin Team discussed the two received bids - which were about \$5K apart in cost with the same work - and agreed on the company with the lower bid. This local company was highly recommended by a valued UCC member who has used them as well as others she knows. The two company owners impressed three Admin Team members with their knowledge and professionalism. With Governing Board approval, we will contact this company and a date - after love bug and hurricane season - will be selected that works for all.

Updated Disaster Manual: Chris Janis and Rhea Singsen did a fantastic job on updating this manual. Admin Team members are reviewing and sending Chris any suggestions and/or edits. It will soon go before the Governing Board for edits and approval.

Room Requests/Rentals: Admin is sending Chris Janis suggestions/changes/edits to both the room request and facilities use request forms. Wording was added to both forms stating IF health conditions warrant it, (such as Covid 19), or if the church is closed for some unavoidable reason, use of the room space will be cancelled until such time as things improve. At this point in time, UCCATV is going month by month - and keeping a close eye on the virus, variant and percentages. Health of members/visitors and safety concerns are our top priorities.

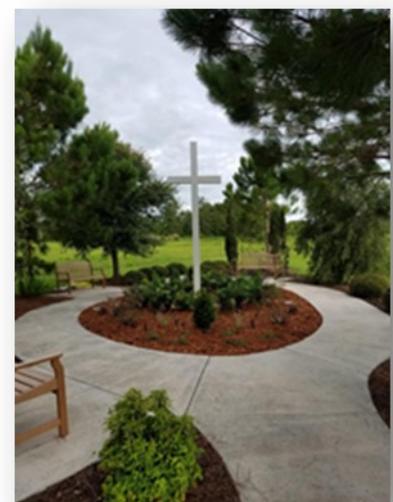
Constitution and By-Laws: Admin Team reviews these every three years. Team members are reviewing them now and making suggestions/edits. This will be reviewed by the Governing Board.

Building Use Request Forms/Facility Use Details Form/Fees for Weddings and Funerals: These three forms are available for members and non-members who ask permission to use one or more of our rooms for an activity or meeting. New wording has been added so the user knows, in case of a health event or emergency or if the church has to suddenly close, UCC reserves the right to cancel that meeting. Admin Team reviews these forms every year and makes recommendations.

Memorial Garden/Scattering Garden Areas: Michael Fenimore worked with Admin on September 17th to trim long branches on the Yupon Holly trees, trim the low branches off all the pine trees and remove the three cedar trees that were in poor condition. Shrubs was trimmed, also. Vegetation growing through the bricks in that area will be treated with weed killer and Pete Winnen will power wash the area. The large pile of branches and yard waste behind the dumpster area will be dealt with soon.

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*Have you visited our Memorial Garden? It is a quiet place to sit, remember, reflect, and pray!*



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## REPAIRS

Air Conditioner #2 that cools the Fellowship Hall: On September 16th, Del Air was called because water was dripping through the ceiling in the Narthex hallway, steadily in 4 places. The floor had large puddles. Wastebaskets were placed under the drips to contain water, that AC was shut off, and the floor was mopped. Thank you Sandy Lynch for your help with mopping.

Bill Richter climbed into the attic and found both drip pans - internal and external - filled with water (from pipe condensation). The external one leaked over the sides to the attic floor and leaking through the ceiling to below. Normally with AC's, the drip pan condensation flows through the drain tube to outside the building but that was not happening and the water rose. Normally the water level sensor shuts off the AC with rising water in the pan but that did not happen. And the AC compressor was still running, creating more water. It was immediately turned off. Bill brought his wet/dry vacuum to UCC plus his system of home-made rope pulleys: the vacuum sucked up the water in the overflowing external drip pan; the rope/pulley lowered the bucket to the kitchen where the water was dumped. With the dripping water source gone and the unit shut off completely off, the leaking ceiling had a chance to dry out. There was no damage to the floor as it is waterproof. The ceiling shows a bit of damage but nothing severe.

DelAir came September 17th and determined the relay switch to the water level sensor had failed AND the drain hose to the outside was clogged, preventing the condensation water from flowing from those pans properly. That was cleared, plenty of hot water was run through it and the AC drains now work well. But after the AC was put back together, it was discovered the thermostat would not turn on the unit as it should. The DelAir tech took apart the air handler and checked all wiring connected to the thermostat - tedious process. Finally the one loose wire was found and appropriately repaired. Voila! - cool air once again via the thermostat and no leaking water from above. Total cost was \$370.60 of which most was for the new condensation water level sensor that was installed.

However - a time delay switch on the outside compressor for that AC was found to not be working properly in a consistent manner. A new one has been ordered and will be installed on September 29th for \$354. Our full quarterly maintenance will be done at that time including all filter changes.

### Well Water:

A member of the Community Garden let Chris Janis know they had no water from the hose used by the Community Garden. They are connected to our well water for their needs as is our in-ground sprinkler system. No well water meant the sprinklers were not working either. Earl's Well was called for service. Cost for this fix was \$595: it needed a new control box and pressure gauge and nozzle cleaning.

## TO BE DONE

External Audit: Chris will coordinate with Penny and then contact the accounting firm for their availability.

Equipment Video: For insurance purposes, we plan to video all the church's equipment, including all electronics, including serial numbers, models, etc. This will be stored in the safe and/or out of the church.

Landscaping: Rock Solid has been contacted for our palm tree maintenance and we are on their schedule. Garden Days will be planned again in the fall for church's help in spreading mulch, weeding, etc.

## REQUEST

If you notice something broken or not right either inside or outside the church, please mention it to a member of the Admin Team. The responsibilities for this team are numerous and any help we have to not overlook something is welcome. And we are always happy to have members join our team; there's enough responsibilities to go around!!!





## UCC Landscaping & Gardening

Between the heat, the humidity and summer frequent rains, the gardens are filling up with weeds, the grass sometimes is taller than usual, the shrubs need trimming, the trees need lower branches removed, and more mulch needs spreading.

If you have a few spare minutes, particularly in the early morning when it's the coolest, please consider pulling a few weeds in the gardens at the church.



## Missions

The Missions Committee began a campaign last week for money to buy Church World Services Disaster buckets. While taking the collection bucket to church, Sandy Lynch, Chair of Missions and Cherie Harrold, Administrative Committee, discovered the ceiling was dripping in several places from a leak in the air conditioner's overflow valve. The first use of the disaster bucket was to catch drips from the ceiling! (Luckily before we had a real disaster.)



Sandy Lynch  
Missions Chair

## Neighbors In Need

NIN is one of 5 national church offerings to which UCCTV regularly contributes. The NIN offering is usually taken on World Communion Sunday, Oct.3<sup>rd</sup>.

1/3 of this offering goes to CAIM (Council of American Indian Ministries) and 2/3 goes to JWM (Justice and Witness Ministries.) These ministries provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects in their communities.

This year's theme is 'Unfailing Love' and focuses on homelessness concerns. Projects serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities will be highlighted.

We will be accepting donations to Neighbors In Need on Sunday, October 3. Please mark your check's memo line for "Neighbors In Need" or write that on your donation envelope. You may also make a donation through our website at [www.VillagesUCC.com](http://www.VillagesUCC.com).



## *I Go To The Garden*

Jo Posillico and Lyn Echard spent a little time working in our Memorial Gardens recently. While there, Jo took some photos of the flora and fauna they discovered!



Lyn Echard works near the cross.



A frog hangs onto a branch



Praying Mantis shown above and below



**Joanne LeFevre**  
Co-Chair

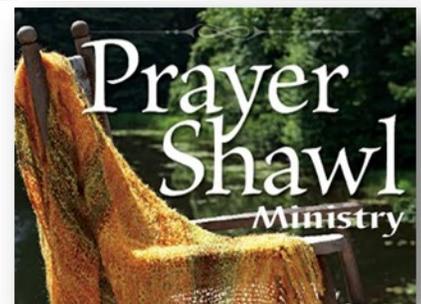
The Diaconate Committee met virtually on Tuesday, September 14, 9:30am.

Pastor Joe reported that there are approximately 12 new people who want to become members of the church. Welcome packages are being sent out to them. The official ceremony is expected to happen in October. The Shepherds and Pastor had a buy month meeting with member of the congregation.

Mike reported that the plans for music programs in October have not been confirmed with Administration. Due to the resurgence of COVID, it is expected that these events will be cancelled. There is a temporary accompanist coming on board the beginning of October. Mike says he will need additional rehearsal time from the pianist..

The church will continue to use the sign in sheets and communion cup sets until further notice. Masks for those people who are vaccinated along with those not vaccinated are still expected to be worn.

Prayer shawls are free for anyone to take. Just sign the book and help yourself. A prayer shawl is the perfect gift for anyone who is ill, grieving, moving, had a baby or anyone who just needs a hug! Shawls are located in the Narthex in the wall unit under the TV. The knit and crochet group will resume meeting in October. Hope to see you there for refreshment, conversation, and fellowship (and a little needlework also). Questions? Contact Kaye Phelan, [ktygrl123@aol.com](mailto:ktygrl123@aol.com)



## Amazon Smile



Are you an Amazon shopper? If so, you can make a free donation to your church when you make a purchase through Amazon! To activate charitable giving through Amazon, you can either go directly to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://Smile.Amazon.com) and choose United Church of Christ at The Villages as your charity OR you can click on the link at the bottom of our website, [www.VillagesUCC.org](http://www.VillagesUCC.org) and it will take you to Amazon Smile. A small portion of your purchase will be donated to your church for participating products. This is at NO cost to you! We've already begun to receive these donations!!

## August 2021 Financial Report



	Current Month	Year to Date	Per Cent of Annual Budget
<b>Total Income</b>	\$12,118	\$208,776	76%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$21,367	\$183,488	58%

Please remember that while our church is holding online worship for the safety of our congregation and community, our expenses are continuing. We still have to pay our mortgage, utilities, payroll, missions, etc. There are a variety of ways to make a donation:

1. You may continue supporting your church by sending in your pledges/offerings to our mailing address:  
**United Church of Christ at The Villages, PO Box 194, Oxford FL 34484**
2. You can pay through our online donation system on our website, [www.VillagesUCC.org](http://www.VillagesUCC.org). Make a one-time or recurring donation to the fund of your choice.
3. You can use your own bank/credit union's Bill Pay systems which are usually free and easy to use! If you aren't using one, call your bank/cu for information.



## NEWEST ROYAL CARIBBEAN SHIP - A MUST CRUISE!

Doreen Rafacz has blocked 10 rooms for UCC at The Villages on Royal Caribbean's newest ship—Wonder of the Seas. **If you would like to take advantage of this special cruise, you MUST sign up within the next 10 days.**

Destination: Eastern Caribbean 7 day cruise

Prices: Ocean View Balcony: \$1189.85  
 Ocean View (window): \$1079.85  
 Inside Room: \$ 949.85

(Prices include port & US taxes. Based on per person, two people to a room. Prices do NOT include gratuities, travel insurance, cruise tours)

Round trip bus transportation: \$110 per person

Questions: Contact Doreen Rafaca, 352-268-3213 Tour company: Expedia contact Mary Beth: 1-800-834-5183, ext. 152 or cell 352-801-0196





Rev. Kathy Peters

## *Women's Spirituality Group*

The Women's Spirituality Group will have its first in person gathering of the Fall on Wednesday November 3 from 2:30 to 4 under the front portico of the church. This is the plan and the HOPE (in consultation with church leadership) if Covid numbers continue to decrease and as more of us can get our third vaccine shot. In the meantime please continue to look for How Is it with Your Soul? emails. If you are not on our email list send your information to Kathy Peters at [revkathyp@comcast.net](mailto:revkathyp@comcast.net). All women are welcome to join this group. Keeping each other in prayer always!

## *Men's Saturday Morning Study*

The Men's Breakfast group meets on Saturday mornings inside the Fellowship Hall at 8am for breakfast, study and fellowship. A small fee is appreciated to cover the expense of breakfast (usually \$3-\$5)

Contact Denny Lawson, [dennylawsosn@hotmail.com](mailto:dennylawsosn@hotmail.com) if you'd like to join them and he will inform you of the book they are currently discussing.



The next WISE meets each Monday at 2pm via Zoom. Their topics include those dealing with a variety of mental health and wellness issues. If you would like information about the meeting or the group, please contact Becky Dunning, 612-281-1811.

**WISE**

## *UCC Golf Group*

The UCC Golf Group plays golf on Friday mornings. All levels of golfers are welcome! For more information on how you can participate, please contact Doug Bates at 515-291-7772.



## *Men's Fellowship Breakfast*

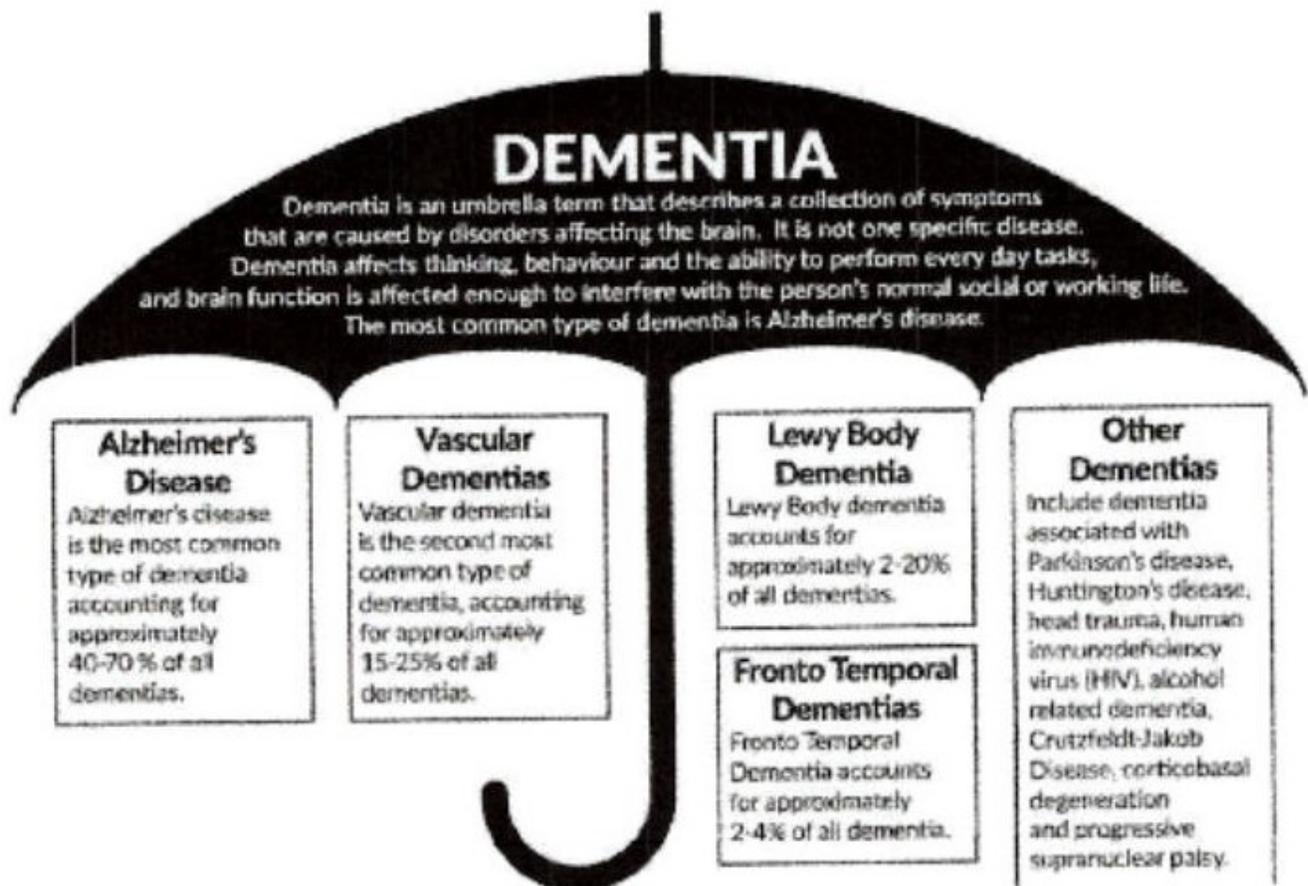
The Men's monthly fellowship breakfast will be starting up once again in November, allowing for people to get their booster shots. **We're MOVING to a NEW Day: Second Thursday** (11/11 is first time) We're starting at a new later time: 8:30 am. The location will continue to be at Perkins restaurant. For information, please contact Glenn Kramer, 608.320.4535

## *An Alzheimer's Resource Guide (WISE report)*

*\*Dementia graphic*

*\*Dementia report*

*\*Alzheimer's graphic*



## Dementia Resource Guide

We at The UCC at The Villages are open to everyone and closed to none. We are a W.I.S.E. church (welcoming, inclusive, supportive and engaged). We have met the criteria for a dementia friendly church. Because one of the most concerning issues affecting our seniors today in our church and in our community is dementia, the W.I.S.E. Spiritual Support Group created this brief resource guide. Dementia is defined as the decline in mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life and Alzheimer's is the most common type that presents in 60-80% of dementia cases. According to the Alzheimer's Association, 1 out of every 3 individuals over the age of 65 will die of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia.

### 10 Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's or dementia

- Memory loss that disrupts daily life
- Challenges in planning or solving problems
- Difficulty in completing familiar tasks
- Confusion with time or place
- Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships
- New problems with words in speaking or writing
- Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps
- Decreased or poor judgement
- Withdrawal from work or social activities
- Changes in mood and personality

The following list is a guide to communication with someone with any dementia.

### 10 Essential Dementia Communication ideas

- Never ARGUE: Instead AGREE:
- Never REASON: Instead DIVERT
- Never SHAME: instead DISTRACT
- Never say YOU CAN'T: Instead DO WHAT YOU CAN
- Never COMMAND or DEMAND: Instead ASK or MODEL
- Never CONDESCEND: instead ENCOURAGE and PRAISE
- Never say REMEMBER: Instead REMINISCE
- Never say I TOLD YOU: Instead REPEAT
- Never LECTURE: Instead REASSURE
- Never FORCE: Instead REINFORCE

### Resources

- United Church of Christ at The Villages. 352.748.1999. [www.uccatvoffice@gmail.com](mailto:www.uccatvoffice@gmail.com).
- Alzheimer's Association – [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) – local contact- Connie Storms at Alzheimer's Association in central and north Florida. Phone 352.448.0875 or 1.800.272.3900
- Alzheimer's Family Group -local contact Debbie Salsavage at 352.422.3663 or visit the website [www.coping.today](http://www.coping.today).
- Byrd Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute of USF Health- dedicated to the prevention, treatment and cure of Alzheimer's disease and other related disorders.  
[Health.usf.edu/medicine/byrd/caregivers/support-groups](http://Health.usf.edu/medicine/byrd/caregivers/support-groups)

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#### Online support groups:

- Tuesday at 1pm to 3 pm and Wednesday at 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Go to [deb@coping.today](mailto:deb@coping.today) for meeting links.
- Byrd Institute on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday from 2-4 pm - [Health.usf.edu/medicine/byrd/caregivers/support-groups](http://Health.usf.edu/medicine/byrd/caregivers/support-groups)

Free E-classes- 13 topics from [AlzProgramsAnytime.org](http://AlzProgramsAnytime.org)

#### Movies and videos

- “Here Today.” 1hour 33 minutes- Rent or buy- Written and directed by Billy Crystal about a writer facing dementia
- “Awakening from Alzheimer’s ” is a video series interviewing doctors and experts on preventing and reversing Alzheimer’s
- “Robin’s Wish.” 1 hour17 minutes. Rent or buy. An intimate portrait of Robin Williams and his invaluable spirit. Robin’s wish is the story of one of the greatest entertainers of all time.
- “The Father” with Anthony Hopkins. 1 hour 37 minutes. Rent or buy. Having scared off his recent caregiver, Anthony, an ailing octogenarian Londoner gradually succumbing to dementia, feels abandoned when concerned Anne, his daughter tells him she is moving to Paris
- “Away from Her” by Sarah Polley. Rent only. 2006. Grant and Fiona Anderson have been married for 44 years. Their marriage has been generally a happy and loving one although not perfect due to some indiscretions when Grant was working as a college professor.
- “Still Alice” with Alec Baldwin and Julianne Moore. A successful Columbia Linguistics professor struggles to maintain her mind and self after being diagnosed with early Alzheimer’s. Julianne Moore won an Oscar for her performance.
- “The Notebook.” 2004. From a Nichols Sparks novel. A love story about Allie and Noah in flashbacks. As an old helpful woman, Allie suffers from Alzheimer’s disease and Noah read their life’s story to her, trying to revive those memories in her mind.
- Movement and Music. Program is helpful for body strengthening, communication and engagement. [www.careandcompliance.com](http://www.careandcompliance.com).
- I remember better when I paint; treating Alzheimer’s through the creative arts. 2009. Eric Elena & Berna Heubner. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)
- Alzheimer’s on demand. Video series 1.800.272.3900

#### Books

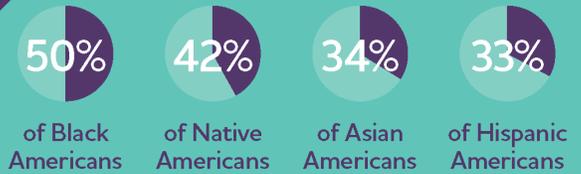
- “The 36-Hour Day” by Nancy Mace. 2017. \$17.99. A family guide to caring for people with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.
- “Loving Someone Who Has Dementia.” \$11.00. 2011. By Pauline Boss.
- “Help is Here.” Written by Marion O. Hodges. Written for family caregivers. Both a notebook and a guide. Help is Here provides practical problem solving techniques as well as vital information about dementia that would benefit both the patient and the caregiver.
- “What the wind showed to me.”2015. \$11.99. Written by Emma Rose Sparrow for patients with dementia.
- “Memory Lane.” 2018. \$11.99. Photo prompts to trigger Memories. Written by Margaret Wacker.

September 2021. Becky Dunning

# 2021 ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE FACTS AND FIGURES

## DISCRIMINATION

is a barrier to Alzheimer's and dementia care. These populations reported discrimination when seeking health care:



### 1 IN 3

seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia

### MORE THAN 6 MILLION

Americans are living with Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's and dementia deaths have increased

### 16%

during the COVID-19 pandemic



### OVER 11 MILLION

Americans provide unpaid care for people with Alzheimer's or other dementias



These caregivers provided an estimated 15.3 billion hours valued at nearly

### \$257 BILLION

It kills more than

BREAST CANCER



PROSTATE CANCER

### COMBINED

Between 2000 and 2019, deaths from heart disease have

### DECREASED

### 7.3%

while deaths from Alzheimer's disease have

### INCREASED

### 145%

In 2021, Alzheimer's and other dementias will cost the nation

### \$355 BILLION



By 2050, these costs could rise to more than

### \$1.1 TRILLION

## Mental Illness Awareness Week

Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental health condition. However, mental illness affects everyone directly or indirectly through family, friends or coworkers. That is why each year during the first week of October, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and participants across the country raise awareness of mental illness, fight discrimination and provide support through Mental Illness Awareness Week (MIAW).

It is a NAMI belief and also a belief of our WISE Spiritual Support Group that mental health conditions are important to discuss year-round, but highlighting them during MIAW provides a dedicated time for mental health advocates across the country to come together as one unified voice. Since 1990, when Congress officially established the first full week of October as MIAW, advocates have worked together to sponsor activities, large or small to educate the public about mental illness.

This year's MIAW is centered around our new awareness campaign, "Together for Mental Health," where the focus is on the importance of advocating for better care for people with serious mental illness (SMI). Each day throughout the first week in October, people living with their experiences of SMI will be heard. The need for improved crisis response and mental health care will be voiced. NAMI.com shares more information about the daily activities.

For example:

1. Tuesday, Oct 5, is National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding.
2. Thursday, Oct.7, is National Depression Screening Day.
3. Saturday, Oct. 8, is NAMI United Day of Hope.
4. Sunday, Oct. 10, is World Mental Health Day.

Some facts everyone needs to know:

- According to the Surgeon General, one in every five Americans experiences a mental disorder in any given year and half of all Americans have such disorders at some time in their lives.
- These illnesses of the brain affect all people, regardless of age, gender, economic status or ethnicity.
- About one in 17 lives with a serious mental illness such as schizophrenia, major depression or bipolar disorder.
- One in 5 U.S. service members who served in Iraq or Afghanistan suffers from major depression or combat stress (PTSD).
- Fewer than 1/3 of adults and 1/2 of children who live with mental health needs receive any level of treatment in any one year.
- Twenty-six percent of the homeless population lives with a severe mental illness.
- About 25% of incarcerated people live with serious mental illness.
- One in four persons sitting in our pews has a family member struggling with a mental health issue.
- Many individuals with a mental health issue go first to a spiritual leader for help.
- We lose one life to suicide every 15 minutes. The suicide rate for older adults is 50 % higher than the national rate as a whole.
- Our Faith communities can be a caring congregation for persons living with mental illness and their family members.

People with mental problems are our neighbors. They are members of our congregations, members of our families; they are everywhere in this country. If we ignore their cries for help, we will be continuing to participate in the anguish from which those cries come. A problem of this magnitude will not go away. Because it will not be compelled to take action go away, and because of our spiritual commitments, we are compelled to take action. (Roselynn Carter)

Materials for this article were summarized from NAMI and UCC-mental health network websites



## *Member Only Website Pages*

We now have Member-Only access pages on our website. It includes a photo membership directory and the Annual Report. So, how do you access it?

### **YOU HAVE TO BE A CHURCH MEMBER**

Only church members will have access to the Membership Page. That means you should not share your registration with anyone else. This is private information for your use only. Each registration must be approved

before access is granted.

### **YOU MUST REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE**

- Go to our website, [www.VillagesUCC.org](http://www.VillagesUCC.org) and click on the **Registration/Log In** tab at the top of the page.
- When you click on the registration tab, a box will appear that will allow you to register. Fill in your name, email address, and a password that you can remember. Please note: we will not know your password and cannot retrieve it for you if you forget it. If that happens, you will have to retrieve the password on the site itself by re-entering information.
- Once you register, our administrator will have to give approval. This might take a couple of days, depending on when you register.

### **LOG IN TO SEE YOUR PRIVATE PAGES**

- Once approved, you can “log in” to the site. At that time, a box will appear showing you the private pages to which you have access. Click on the page you wish to view and it will appear.
- The Membership Directory can be accessed two ways. If you want a printable non-photo directory, click on the title “Membership Directory” at the top of the page and a pdf of the directory will appear. You can print this page. If you want to view the photo directory, it is listed in an accordion-style menu on the Membership page. Just click on the letter of the last name of the person you would like to see and all last names beginning with that letter will appear in a list.

### **KEEP IT PRIVATE**

Please remember that the information listed on these pages is for your personal use only. It is not to be used for any kind of solicitation, other than church business. Your password is yours only, so please do not share it with anyone else.

### **PROOF YOUR INFORMATION**

Don't forget to look at your own information in the membership directory to make sure it is correct. If anything needs to be changed or you have any questions, please contact our church office at [uccatvoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uccatvoffice@gmail.com)



## *Member Photos*

Jo Posillico and her little dog, Bella, enjoyed kayaking during their time in Pennsylvania this summer. Bella especially loved the wind in her face!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

12514 CR 101  
PO Box 194  
Oxford FL 34484

Phone: 352-748-9199  
Email: [uccatvoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uccatvoffice@gmail.com)

**We're on the Web!**

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

**MAILING TO UCC?**

If you need to mail your contributions/pledges or anything else to us, please remember to mail it to our **PO BOX**. Our mailing address is: PO Box 194, Oxford, FL 34484. **DO NOT MAIL** us at our physical location address. We want your contributions and communications to be safe. Thank you!

**2021 UCC at The Villages Officers, Assistants & Chairs**

Moderator.....	Billie Navojosky
Vice Moderator.....	Charlotte Davis
Secretary.....	Jo Posillico
Recorder.....	Jeff Osterman
Asst. Recorder.....	Kathy Frey
Treasurer.....	Jean Doyle
Asst. Treasurer.....	Glenn Kramer
Membership Clerk.....	Kaye Phelan
Administration Chair.....	Cherie Harrold
Diaconate.....	Alex Mariano & Joanne LeFevre
Mission.....	Sandy Lynch
Finance/Stewardship.....	Jack Chandler & Donna Herbert



*Prayer Requests*

Prayer Requests may be submitted to our Pastor through our website [www.VillagesUCC.org](http://www.VillagesUCC.org) . Prayers are held for one month only. If you need prayers to continue, please resubmit your request each month. To ensure we're not violating confidentiality, if you're submitting a prayer request for someone other than yourself, please ensure you have their permission to do so. Prayer recipients will be announced during our Sunday worship service.

*Discretionary Fund*

The first Sunday of every month, we collect donations for the Discretionary Fund. This is a fund which our church uses to help local families in need who come to our church door. 100% of your donations go to aid those in need in our own community. This fund has become low due to the increased needs of our neighbors during COVID-19. If you are able, please consider giving to this important fund. Thank you for your continued support! ***Whether at our door or in our pews, this fund helps all those of our "beloved community!" You can make donations through our online giving on our website or mail your donations—just write "discretionary fund" on the memo line of your check. If mailing, make sure you only use our PO Box 194, Oxford FL 34484 address.***

