

A Few Short Words...

by Pastor Phillip Short

The summer season is upon us. School is out for the vacation season. The snow-birds have all returned to their summer homes. The college students are home and looking for a summer job. The summer pattern of afternoon rainstorms has established itself. Families are gearing up for vacations. The south Florida pace-of-life has slowed even more. It is said that people just don't do much this time of year. But let me give you a glimpse of what the Stuart First United Methodist church has been up to and then let me tell you a glimpse of what we'll soon be up to.

1. As I write, over 230 kids and over 100 volunteers are presenting Vacation Bible's School's "Crocodile Dock!" The Fellowship Hall is full of buzz and excitement and young disciples are being made.
2. The Avenue "D" Boy's Choir gave us plenty to worship about on Sunday, June 14th. Not only did we hear great music and songs, but we heard testimony after testimony about how God gave hope to some formerly hopeless young men via Christ and a choir that sings about Him. They are presently on their way to Detroit. Pray for them.
3. The pastor and the lay representative, Ms. Beth Murchison, attended the Florida Annual Conference at Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach.
4. The church staff has been assembling as a strategic planning team and working on a covenant-relationship. This is a self-drafted and agreed-upon document that assures harmony.
5. The youth group will be leaving for Re-Creation just outside of Ashville, North Carolina for their annual summer mission project. They will be busy with home repairs and demonstrations of the love of Jesus Christ.
6. No sooner will they have arrived back to town then the youth and children's ministries will be taking off for the Warren W. Willis youth camp up in Leesburg, FL. This will involve a week of discipleship, worship and recreation.
7. The summer will be rounded out for the youth when the senior high take off for Bahamas for a mission trip. They will be working with Bahamas' *Habitat for Humanity*.

What may we as a church look forward to in the coming days, weeks and months?
I'm glad you asked!

1. A new member's class will be starting at the end of June. I realize that this is the July newsletter, and this class starts at the end of June. Come and join the class anyway! The class starts at 5 o'clock p.m. and it meets in the Lounge. For more information, call us at the church office at 287-6262.
2. A Grief Recovery Workshop will be offered here at the church on Thursdays beginning July 16th at 4 p.m. The course will last 7 weeks. Treasure Coast Hospice counselors will team up with Pastor Phillip Short to present this most important workshop.
3. The *Free-Grace Players*, the new drama ministry here at the Stuart First United Methodist Church will be gathering and rehearsing for a dinner theater presentation. If you would like to get involved with acting, costumes, set design, tech or lighting, please give us a call at the church office: 287-6262.
4. Of course we will be offering worship services, Sunday school and discipleship. We will continue to grow and unify as a church.

As you can see, the Stuart First United Methodist Church is a great place. It touches people who live far away. It touches people who live close to our home. It is busy. It is a place of action. It is a great place to be.

Why don't you come, bring a friend, and be part of the action as well!!!