

# The Rev. Luis A. Perez

(Please stand at points\* if you are able)

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

PRELUDE

*Wade in the Water*

WELCOME

CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

Rev. Marcelino Rivera

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand at points\* if you are able)

Stephen Minister  
Angela Bednarek

(Today's Call to Worship is slightly modified from the worship resources of our own United Church of Christ.)

One: If you are able, please stand for the Call to Worship...God of the Sahara and the Amazon...Maker of dry places and wetlands...Creator of heaven and earth...

**All: We come before you with parched hearts made so by living in both the beauty and challenges of this world.**

One: Holy One, your ability to renew us is unmatched.

**All: And you renew us from within and without to make us whole.**

One: Ancient of Days, you held us in the beginning, and you are holding us now.

**All: Therefore, we reach out to you and draw as close as we can...and we do so especially during the start of this Lenten season in the name of Jesus our Brother and our Redeemer. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Chris Stumpf

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

*There Is a Name I Love to Hear (#52)*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Stephens Minister  
Angela Bednarek

(Today's Offertory Prayer is resourced and modified from our own United Church of Christ worship resources.)

Leader: Please join me in unison in our Offertory Prayer: Friends, the peace of Christ be with you!

**People: And also, with you!**

Leader: Let us pray together...

**All: Divine One, we are thankful for the restoration that is found in you alone. Your presence is welcomed here. We delight in knowing that you want to be wherever we are, and for that we are grateful. Remind us through your Spirit that you are the source of all good things. You truly quench our souls! May what we share today be used to testify to your goodness. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

OFFERTORY & SONG OF PRAISE

*Love God Love People*

\*DOXOLOGY (Please stand at points\* if you are able)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON & GOOD NEWS

Exodus 3:1-6 (NRSV)  
**"An Invitation Into Holiness"**

Rev. Lizette Acosta, Ph.D.

BENEDICTION

Rev. David Houseal

POSTLUDE

Scan for W.U.C Giving



General Giving



Shepherd's Fund



Birthdays Are Great and We Want to Celebrate with You!

Please contact **Ann Green, ggreen7@cfl.rr.com** or 407-293-8892 with those special dates for all your family members so we can recognize and wish one and all a Happy Birthday.

February 28 Steve Berwick  
February 28 Fred Engelking  
March 1 Kevin Cochrane  
March 5 Connie Whiteside  
March 5 Martha Kilmer  
March 6 David Houseal  
March 8 Danny Snow  
March 10 Bob Minnick



March 13 Nancy Wheeler  
March 16 Susan Savard  
March 19 Marie Rizzo  
March 24 Linda Houseal  
March 24 Alden Harak  
March 26 John Kummery  
March 31 Gerry Picard

Upcoming Ushers for March

March 5 - Becky Neaman

March 12 - Kathy Coleman and Provi Estrada

March 19 - Mary Ellen Nattans and Nancy Wheeler

March 26 - Peggy Goehring and Connie Lawton

## Announcements

**New 4-Part Adult Sunday School Series** – You're invited to join the new 4-part series (with 3 Sundays remaining: 2/29, 3/5 and 3/12) highlighting the challenges of the LGBTQIA+ community. This 4-part series will be the first of, hopefully, many more sessions to come in the future focusing on the broader UCC goals of accepting all persons of racial, ethnic and sexual diversity. Additionally, topics such as social, legal, and environmental justice will be woven into our weekly discussions. The series will be facilitated by Ralph Nattans, Walter Monroe, and Todd LaFlame.

**Art Group** – The Art Group meets on Wednesday mornings in the church narthex 10am -noon. Bring your current project, painting, crocheting, etc. and enjoy fellowship with one another as you create. For more information contact Doreen Tomasulo at 352-432-3072.

**Inspirational Wednesdays** – Meets Wednesdays at 11:00 AM via Zoom. This is a small group exploring faith formation through in-depth study. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sharon Kieper at skieper@yahoo.com.

**Lunch Bunch** – If you haven't come to a "potluckish" Lunch Bunch you don't know what you're missing!!! The next fun and fellowship is scheduled for Wednesdays, March 15th at 12 Noon. For further information, please contact Chris Stumpf at happyheart.chris@gmail.com. All are welcomed!

**Local Homeless Persons in Need of Toiletries** – Our ministry to local homeless persons continues. We are currently collecting personal toiletries. Some of the items needed include toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, Q-Tips, washcloths, 1-gallon zip lock bags (to keep things dry), feminine products, and small rolls of toilet paper. For more information, please contact Ken Johns at kenjohns32@gmail.com.

**Post-Worship Refreshment Donations** – Would you'd like to support the effort of fellowship after service. Please feel free to add your name to the volunteer/donation sign-up sheet. You can check with Chris at happyheart.chris@gmail.com and she'll be thrilled to make the list available to you.

**The "Silly Sock Sunday" Campaign** – As has been a tradition for a few years in memory and honor of our precious Marge Nagle's birthday, we'll be celebrating "Silly Sock Sunday" on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> - but with a slight twist. Starting Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, we'll be challenging everyone to buy a pair of new socks (to raise awareness of the needs in our community. Bring them to church through the next upcoming Sundays or on Marth 26<sup>th</sup>. Options we'll have available after Silly Sock Sunday may include sharing the socks with a local benevolent organization, supporting Ken John's ministry to the homeless, or share with a local children hospital. The sky's the limit! So, let's get silly and share the love with others. As Allan, and Staff agreed - Marge would've been delighted! Let's do it!

**Small Group** – Will gather at the home of Connie Lawton on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact Martha Harriman at harrimanfamily2@gmail.com.

**Wednesday Evening "Prayer Team"** – The Pastor and our Stephen Ministers (partners in congregational care) now meet by Zoom/Phone weekly to pray for those on our prayer list. If you know of someone (family, friend, member, etc.) who needs prayer, please reach out to Pastor Luis or any of our Stephen Ministers and we'll ensure the need is added to our prayer list (and, if welcomed, provide follow-up care).

**Turkey and Syria Earthquake** – The news continues to unfold about the devastating earthquake on the border of Turkey and Syria. It is hard to tell what other areas are affected or the extent of the damage from this seismic event. Amid this current uncertainty, you can be certain that with your financial support the United Church of Christ will be there helping those in need. You may give towards the relief and long-term recovery through text at UCCDISASTER to 41444 or at [www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/](http://www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/).



# WINDERMERE Union Church United Church of Christ

Provoking thought. Inspiring spirit. Accepting all.

10710 Park Ridge-Gotha Road, Windermere, Florida 34786  
Phone: 407-876-2112

## Bulletin & Announcements February 26, 2023



### Ushers

#### Peggy Goehring and Connie Lawton

Rev. Luis A. Perez, Intentional Interim Pastor - [luis@luisaperez.com](mailto:luis@luisaperez.com)

Rev. Marcelino Rivera, Assistant Minister - [pastormarcelino@windermereunion.org](mailto:pastormarcelino@windermereunion.org)

Chris Stumpf Coordinator of Children's Ministry - [happyheart.chris@gmail.com](mailto:happyheart.chris@gmail.com)

Troy Dolendo, Music Director - [Troy@windermereunion.org](mailto:Troy@windermereunion.org)

Sarah Larenas Rinsch, Office Manager - [office@windermereunion.org](mailto:office@windermereunion.org)