

# ***SERVE!*** *at First United Methodist Church of Brandon*

When we talk about how to serve Jesus through the local church, you will often hear us focus on five main areas: passionate worship, risk-taking mission, intentional faith development, radical hospitality, and extravagant generosity. We have developed this guide to service inside and outside the church using those five core values.

If you have any other questions about First UMC Brandon, please don't hesitate to contact Rev. Vicki Harrison, [vicki@brandonchurch.com](mailto:vicki@brandonchurch.com), 813-689-4161.



## ***Ways to Serve in Worship***

*Passionate worship describes those times we gather specifically seeking to encounter God in Christ.*

Technical Arts	Operate sound, computer, lighting and video on Sunday mornings & evenings, and during the week for various programs.	Stuart Mackey	689-4161	<a href="mailto:stuart@brandonchurch.com">stuart@brandonchurch.com</a>
Choir	Rehearse Wed. evening; sing Sunday mornings & special events.	Jeff Brant	689-4161	<a href="mailto:jeff@brandonchurch.com">jeff@brandonchurch.com</a>
Orchestra	Rehearse Wed. evening; play Sunday mornings & special events.	Jeff Brant	689-4161	<a href="mailto:jeff@brandonchurch.com">jeff@brandonchurch.com</a>
Praise Team	Rehearse Wed. evening; sing Sunday mornings & special events.	Jeff Brant	689-4161	<a href="mailto:jeff@brandonchurch.com">jeff@brandonchurch.com</a>
Hand Bells	Rehearse Tues evening; play 2nd Sunday of each month.	John Matheny	689-4161	
Music Volunteers	Sorting, filing, light clerical work for annual golf fundraiser and to help Music Assistant on weekday mornings (M-TH)	Desiree Palmer	689-4161	<a href="mailto:desi@brandonchurch.com">desi@brandonchurch.com</a>
Ushers	Teams rotate Sunday morning duties.	Joe Kuebler	689-4161	<a href="mailto:rjkuebler@aol.com">rjkuebler@aol.com</a>
Worship & Communion Team	Preparation of the sanctuary for worship and communion.	Pam Bartow	690-5628	<a href="mailto:pambartow@hotmail.com">pambartow@hotmail.com</a>
Children's Ministry Praise Team and/or Worship Leaders	People with musical talent and a love for children and tweens are always welcome at Children's Ministries various worship opportunities (Backyard – for Preschool, Treehouse - for Elementary, and Club 56 - for Grades 5&6).	Julie Robaus	689-4161	<a href="mailto:julie@brandonchurch.com">julie@brandonchurch.com</a>
TABLE music team or tech volunteers	Our Wednesday night service always welcomes talented musicians and tech help.	Ricc Connor	689-4161	<a href="mailto:ricc@brandonchurch.com">ricc@brandonchurch.com</a>

## **Ways to Serve in Intentional Faith Development**

*Intentional faith development refers to all the ministries that help us grow in faith outside of weekly worship. These include prayer, bible reading, and participation in small community for all ages.*

<b>Adults</b>				
<b>Adult Teacher</b>	Teach/lead Bible Studies on Sunday mornings and various times throughout the week.	Dan Palmer	689-4161	dan@brandonchurch.com
<b>Adult Small Group Host</b>	Lead a small group on campus or in-home.	Dan Palmer	689-4161	dan@brandonchurch.com
<b>Prayer Team</b>	Cover our church and programs in prayer before services, during the week via prayer chain, at special services.	Laurine Richardson	653-0566	laurwell@verizon.net
<b>United Methodist Men</b>	Connect men by participation in breakfasts, studies, projects.	Steve Mitchell	689-4161	smitchell1108@aol.com
<b>United Methodist Women</b>	Unite women with a heart for missions and fellowship.	Mary Baker	689-4161	coolcats4@verizon.net
<b>Student Ministry</b>				
<b>Student Ministries Group Leader</b>	Lead one of our high school (9th-12th grades) small groups that gather Sunday mornings.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>Student Ministries Small Group Leader</b>	Lead one of our middle or high school (7th-12th grades) small groups that gather together during the week.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>Confirmation Coaches</b>	Assist with our yearly 6th grade Confirmation activities on Sunday nights during the school year. This is an 18-week commitment.	Ricc Connor	689-4161	ricc@brandonchurch.com
<b>Children's Ministry</b>				
<b>Nursery Volunteer</b>	Help paid staff care for children ages infant through 2 years old.	Shelly Wilson	689-4161	shelly@brandonchurch.com
<b>Preschool Large or Small Group Leader (The Backyard)</b>	Person with a heart for preschool-aged kids and Jesus to present the Bible lesson in a unique way using object lessons and games in a large group setting on Sunday mornings; small group leaders (middle school age through adults) needed to help a small group of preschoolers apply the lesson through games, crafts, prayers, etc.	Lynn Bruner	689-4161	lynn@brandonchurch.com
<b>Elementary Large or Small Group Leader (The Treehouse)</b>	Person with a heart for elementary-aged kids and Jesus to present the Bible lesson in a unique way using object lessons and games in a large group setting on Sunday mornings; small group leaders (middle school age through adults) needed to help a small group of kids apply the lesson through games, crafts, prayers, etc.	Julie Robaus	689-4161	julie@brandonchurch.com
<b>Elementary or Preschool Grade Level Mentor</b>	Middle & high school students who are willing to mentor a small group of kids on Sunday mornings by interacting, playing, encouraging participation, discouraging interruptions, and assisting where needed.	Julie Robaus	689-4161	julie@brandonchurch.com
<b>One on One</b>	Middle school student through adult who is willing to be a friend to someone with special needs on Sunday mornings. You will need to be at this person's side at all times, helping to keep them focused and assisting with some tasks.	Julie Robaus	689-4161	julie@brandonchurch.com

## *Ways to Serve in Mission*

*Risk-taking mission and service involves the efforts to alleviate suffering and injustice to improve the lives of others in the name of Christ. It is a core part of who we are as Christ-followers. The risk-taking element means we are pushed out of our comfort zone and exposed to people and situations that we wouldn't normally encounter apart from our deliberate intention to serve Jesus Christ.*

<b>Community Initiatives –</b> <b>Outreach to our community, operated within First UMC Brandon</b> <b>Contact Rev. Vicki Harrison, 689-4161, or vicki@brandonchurch.com to serve.</b>				
<b>Adopting McLane Middle School</b>	Help with landscaping workdays, gifts for teachers, providing needed supplies, or mentoring at our adopted school (just two blocks north of the church.)			
<b>Food Cooperative</b>	The food cooperative is a group of people who gather to receive healthy food while also receiving education on various topics and spiritual support. Volunteers are always needed to help with set-up, distribution, educational sessions, and spiritual support.			
<b>Men's Resource Center</b>	The MRC provides job assistance, life skills training, and spiritual support to men from the community who are struggling with a variety of issues. Male mentors are always needed – only requirement is being a Christ-follower and having a heart for men in need.			
<b>Local Mission Partners</b>				
<b>Brandon Outreach Clinic</b>	Offers free medical care to those who work but have no health insurance. Seeking volunteer medical professionals.	Suzy Watts	681-3474	suzy@brandonoutreach.org
<b>E.C.H.O.</b>	Provides food and clothing assistance to individuals and families in crisis.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonoutreach.com
<b>Family Promise</b>	A community program to provide shelter, meals, and comprehensive services, Family Promise helps families achieve lasting self-sufficiency.	Carolyn Bass	689-4161	carolynbas@aol.com
<b>Giving Hope Through Faith</b>	Provide financial and spiritual support to families devastated by a cancer diagnosis, especially pediatric cancer. Serves local families.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>IMPACT</b>	Promotes healthy living and relationships to teens, parents, and teachers through classroom education and summer programs.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>LifeCare Network</b>	Offers support and varied services to women with unplanned pregnancies. Also programs for birth fathers, post-abortion support services, and prevention programs.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>Many Hands</b>	Assist with repair or needed maintenance on home or automobile for individuals that are experiencing financial difficulties or who are disabled.	Debbie D'Errico	679-1365	deb@many-hands.org
<b>Meals on Wheels</b>	Well-balanced hot meals to those who are elderly and/or disabled; prepared by church members and delivered to homes every Friday.	Elaine Christopher Barbara Brooks	689-3275 689-7016	bjbrooks@tampabay.rr.com
<b>Women's Resource Center</b>	Provide employment and educational assistance, emergency food & clothing help, housing & legal assistance, other resources	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com

## Regional & Global Mission Partners

<b>Compassion International</b>	Church-based program at our sister church in Holeta Ethiopia provides sponsored children with food and clean water, medical care, education and life-skills training.	Mike Bass	689-4161	mbass33511@aol.com
<b>C.O.P.A. Dominican Republic Ministry</b>	We support a UMC missionary, Connie DiLeo, and the operation of schools and clinics in the villages of LaHoya & Bombita. We send a mission trip to one of the villages each summer.	Frankie Cross	662-9724	frankiecross@allstate.com
<b>Florida United Methodist Children's Home</b>	Residential care and treatment for children coming from abusive and/or destructive family situations. Children come because of sexual abuse, other physical abuse, abandonment, or as a result of family breakdown.	Keith & Becky Johnson Joe & Sharon Kuebler	661-6943 689-4161	sharon@brandonchurch.com
<b>Message Ministries, Peru</b>	Opportunities exist for future mission trips and other ways of supporting this mission in the slum best outside Lima.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>Methodists United in Prayer (MUIP)</b>	A partnership between the Florida Conference of the UMC and the Cuba Conference, we have two sister churches in Cuba through MUIP. Opportunities exist for future mission trips.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com

## Seasonal Mission Partners

<b>Greater Brandon Gift of Hope</b>	Partnering with other local churches to help needy families in our community at Thanksgiving and Christmas.	Carolyn Bass	689-4161	carolynbas@aol.com
<b>Feed the Bay</b>	Joining with other churches throughout the Bay Area, helping restock local foodbanks at critical times during the year.	Carolyn Bass	689-4161	carolynbas@aol.com
<b>Military Care Packages</b>	Send care packages several times a year to military men & women serving overseas, and cards to those serving in U.S..	John Dukes	643-4463	jndukes@tampabay.rr.com

## Care Ministries

<b>Friendly Visitor's Program</b>	Lay people develop relationships with our shut-ins and minister to them through short, weekly visits.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>Stephen's Ministry</b>	Christian caregiving ministry (currently on hiatus)			

## ***Ways to Serve in Hospitality***

*Radical hospitality means offering the utmost of ourselves and our abilities to offer the gracious invitation and welcome of Christ to others.*

<b>First Time Guest Team</b>	Greet guests after worship at the Guest Table.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>Flower Ministry</b>	Prepares altar flowers for hospitals & shut-ins, meets on Sunday afternoon or Monday mornings.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>Front desk</b>	Answer phones for 3-4 hours one day a week.	Tara Prather	689-4161	tara@brandonchurch.com
<b>Bulletin &amp; Newsletter Stuffers</b>	Assembles church bulletins and mailings.	Dan Palmer	689-4161	dan@brandonchurch.com
<b>Hospitality</b>	Set-up and serve refreshments between services Sunday mornings.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com
<b>TABLE hospitality</b>	Help with food prep on Wednesday nights, greeting guests, etc.	Shelly Wilson	689-4161	shelly@brandonchurch.com
<b>Welcome Table</b>	Greet, direct, answer questions of first time visitors on Sunday mornings.	Vicki Harrison	689-4161	vicki@brandonchurch.com

## ***Ways to Serve in Generosity***

*Generosity refers to the Christian's unselfish willingness to give in order to make a positive difference for the purposes of Christ. You will frequently hear us talk about extravagant generosity, which is the practice of sharing and giving that exceeds all expectations and extends to unexpected measures. We encourage all of our members and regular attenders to be extravagantly generous with their time, talents, and resources in a way that reflects God's generosity toward us.*