

Children's Services

Children of the World Preschool



Our preschool was founded in 1988. The school is a licensed childcare facility offering VPK classes and is accredited by the National Accreditation Commission. The school serves refugee and immigrant children ages 3-5 by enhancing English language skills, teaching American culture and preparing them for Kindergarten.

pass

Producing Academically Successful Students

The program is designed to serve the needs of struggling bi-lingual elementary students. Staff and volunteers provide assistance with reading, writing, computer and math skills as well as homework help. Our current program is held at Union Street UMC serving 1st-5th graders Monday-Thursday. After school, parents of PASS students are also provided with English classes during the program.



Family Services

Families Learning Together

Families Learning Together was begun in 2004, thanks to a grant from the Florida Department of Education. It is designed to provide: 1) English language skills through ESOL classes; 2) interactive literacy activities between parents and their children; 3) training for parents on how to be the primary teacher for their children and full partners in the education of their children; 4) and parent literacy training that leads to economic self-sufficiency



MOMS, Pops and Tots

(Grupo de Juego)



Moms, Pops and Tots, or Grupo de Juego, is run by The Florida First Start program, through the Pinellas County School System, which supports parents in their roles as their children's first teacher. Professional Child Development workers encourage new bilingual parents to increase their understanding of developmental needs and how to maximize their child's physical and verbal development through play. The program works with the family until the child enters full time child care or kindergarten. UMC is proud to collaborate with First Start.

Literacy Services

ESOL Classes

We help individuals with very minimal English and literacy skills and people who are new to American culture. UMC provides free English for Speakers of Other Languages classes at multiple locations and convenient times. Childcare is also provided at select locations. UMC is affiliated with ProLiteracy Worldwide.



Locations

- Chua Phat Phap Temple
- Pinellas Park Library
- Wesley United Methodist Church
- Skycrest United Methodist Church
- Dunedin United Methodist Church
- Pasadena Community Church
- Children of The World Preschool
- Union Street United Methodist Church
- New Growth Community Education Center

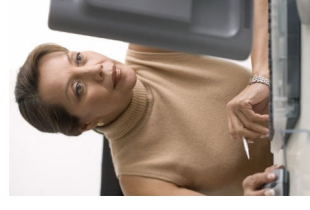


Our tutors are working with over 250 students including...

- Afghani, Laotian, Cambodian, Bosnian, Burmese, Russian, Lithuanian, Vietnamese,

Polish, Serbo-Croatian, Chinese, and Spanish speakers from nearly two dozen countries.

Online Volunteer ESOL Tutor Training



UMCM offers an online workshop for new volunteer English tutors in Pinellas County and others as space permits. It is partially funded by the Pinellas County School System-Work Force Education.

- To participate, one needs:
- Basic computer skills and DSL
 - Internet access
 - The ability to download and print out course materials
 - The commitment needed to do independent required study
 - To be willing to tutor as soon as the workshop is successfully completed

Destination Discovery Computer Labs



The Destination Discovery Labs provide the setting for the teaching of basic and advanced computer skills, ESOL, literacy skills, basic office skills and training for children, youth and adults. The labs are designed to increase self-sufficiency. Staffed by volunteers and paid staff, they are located at our Children of the World Preschool, Union Street United Methodist Church and Wesley United Methodist Church.

Outreach Programs

Street Ministry-

Homeless Services

Each evening about 300 homeless and working poor are provided a hot meal and spiritual enrichment at the St. Vincent de Paul Center in downtown St. Petersburg. Over 22 local congregations are involved in preparing and serving meals to the hungry.

Ditty Bags

Each year District United Methodist Women prepare over 3,600 Ditty Bags (draw string bags) for the Homeless and Farm Workers Children. The ditty bags are filled with personal products and are distributed to homeless, transitional living programs, domestic violence shelters and farm worker's children.



Family Support Services

Provides emergency help with **rent and utility payments** for individuals and families. Applicants are screened and provided with a maximum one-time assistance of \$30 to \$35 toward their current bill. Counseling and networking are provided to assist individuals in meeting additional financial needs.

Justice for Our Neighbors

Justice For Our Neighbors Legal Clinic is a joint program of United Methodist Committee on Relief, Faith Community UMC in Tampa and UMCM. JFON provides free, professional legal services to refugees and immigrants at a monthly clinic.



Volunteers

Volunteer Services

Each year over 500 volunteers seek to love and serve through both short-term and long-term projects. UMCM's volunteers come



from all walks of life. We are proud of our former participants who have returned to volunteer in our programs. Special needs volunteers are always welcome. Volunteer services are tailored to one's unique abilities and times. UMCM welcomes anyone as a volunteer who desires to serve and love a neighbor in need.

Ambassador Program

This new outreach opportunity is designed to build a direct connection between congregations and UMCM. An ambassador will take the initiative to communicate the goals and



mission of UMCM to the congregation as well as provide a voice for the church to UMCM. Ambassadors create a forum of collaboration necessary for the success of outreach programs.



Our History

Established in 1975 UMCM is a not-for-profit charitable, religious organization that is non-discriminatory. It is an outreach ministry of the Gulf Central District - Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church

Our Mission

To make Christ's love visible and tangible through Service, Education and Advocacy.

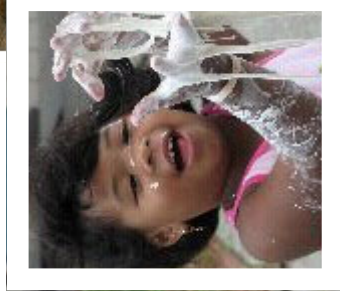
Funding Provided By:

Individuals, local congregations, Florida Methodist Conference and District, Pinellas County Schools-Workforce Development, Florida Dept. of Education, Pinellas Community Foundation, Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board, Coordinated Child Care and Foundations

For more information contact

UMCM
1625 Union St.
Clearwater, FL 33755
(727) 442-6881
Web: <http://umcm.info>
Email: umcoopm@verizon.net

United Methodist Cooperative Ministries/Suncoast, Inc. (UMCM)



About Our Ministries