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Contact: Mollie Page, (239) 455-6727
mollic@printpageusa.com

THE OLDEST THRIFT STORE IN NAPLES HOSTS 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

NAPLES, FL (October 17, 2014) – Naples United Church of Christ (NUCC) is pleased to announce the 40th Anniversary of its mission thrift store the Bargain Box. Founded in 1975, the Bargain Box is the oldest operating thrift store in Naples. To commemorate the special 40-year milestone, the store will host an Anniversary Open House at its 153 Tenth Street South store location in downtown Naples on Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Guests of the event will enjoy 40 percent off all merchandise.

Store volunteers and friends of Bargain Box are invited to attend a City of Naples proclamation on February 18th at 8:00am where Mayor John Sorey will recognize the store and its 40 years of contributions to the community. Long-time Bargain Box volunteer Doty Gridley will accept the proclamation on behalf of the community.

Guests of the Open House will enjoy a dedication by NUCC Reverend Dr. Dawson Taylor at 1:00pm followed by a live performance by the Naples United Church of Christ (NUCC) choir led by Dr. Becky Reese. Refreshments will also be served.

“The Bargain Box serves the greater Naples community at the intersection between compassion and conservation. Through the efforts of our volunteers, used clothing and household goods find a new home—often with people of limited means—and 100 percent of the money raised is then given to caring organizations that serve the needs of people,” said NUCC Senior Pastor Dr. Ronald M. Patterson. “The Bargain Box embodies all that is best about the mission I believe people of faith are called to live.”

Bargain Box has grown tremendously since its first year in 1975, where gross receipts

were under \$19,000. Over the past 40 years, Bargain Box has contributed over \$2 million to the church's community outreach efforts in Collier County.

“With our revenue, the church contributes to 50 mission partners each year,” said Sandy Goldstein, Bargain Box manager. “Selling quality donated merchandise at very affordable prices is making a valuable impact on the lives of those in need in Collier County. We work closely with local agencies like Baby Basics, Golisano Children's Hospital, Neighborhood Health Clinic, Harry Chapin Food Bank, and Grace Place for Children and Families.”

ABOUT THE BARGAIN BOX

Located in the heart of downtown Naples, the Bargain Box thrift store is the longest operating community thrift store in Collier County. The store was established in 1975 by women leaders in the community including members of the Naples Women's Club and Women's Fellowship at Naples United Church of Christ. Merchandise at the Bargain Box is obtained through 100 percent community donations, and all revenue generated from sales goes back into the community. Over 100 volunteers from Naples United Church of Christ and Naples community assist in store operations. The Bargain Box is open year round and includes several departments such as furniture, housewares, jewelry, electronics, linens, books, a ladies boutique, and men's and women's clothing. The Bargain Box is located at 153 Tenth Street South, www.bargainboxnaples.com, (239) 262-3802.