

# QUESTS

OCTOBER 2008, Volume 12, Issue 8

**CAUTION**  
Construction  
Site ahead

**PARDON OUR MESS...**  
We are getting rid of yesterday...  
To get ready for tomorrow.  
More photos on pages 12 and 13.

**Caution**  
Site  
Entrance



**A Stephen Ministry Church**

~ OPEN HEARTS ~ OPEN MINDS ~ OPEN DOORS ~

Serving Members and Friends of The First United Methodist Church of Homosassa

# E.B.A.D.O.C

## "Everyone Becoming a Disciple of Christ"

The purpose of an organization's mission statement is to give it direction, focus, and motivation.

It clearly states why an organization exists and what it intends to accomplish in the future.

This mission statement of the First United Methodist Church of Homosassa was adopted on January 27, 2005.

All of us need to memorize the mission statement and do all that we can to make it a reality in our lives.

**Church Office**

Phone: 352-628-4083

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**Website**

www.1umc.org

**Senior Pastor**

Rev. Mark Whittaker

**Administrator**

Theresa Weber

**Bookkeeper**

Sandy Dewart

**Christian Education**

Patience Nave

**Music Department**

Mary Kay Messenger

Joy Potts

Dayna Middlebrooks

**Parish Nurse &**

**Visitation**

Sharon E. Smith

**Parish Visitor**

Peggy Benson

**Sunday School**

**Superintendent &**

**Nursery Supervisor**

Sandra Tam

**Youth Coordinator**

Neretta Brobst

**Sound Technician**

Sharon Cooley

**Night Security**

Michael Rodgers

**Custodian**

Dale Evans

**Within The Church**

Worship Services

Music Ministries:

Choir

Men & Ladies

Ensembles

Children's Choir

Handbells & Chimes

Christian Education

Adult Sunday School

(5 classes)

Children's Sunday School

Youth Ministry

Lenten Soup Supers

Fine Arts Program

Prayer Ministry

UMW Circles

Tape Ministry

Blood Bank

Visitation Care Group

Parish Nurse Ministry

Wednesday Night Dinners

Disaster Relief Programs

Funeral Receptions

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Women

Stewardship

Biblical Travel Ministry

Counters

Folding & Mailing

Attendance Tracking

**Outreach Ministries**

Parish Nurse

Nursing Home Ministries

Shut-in Visitation

God's Clods (Clown Ministry)

"Tuned To Revival" Quartet

Disaster Relief & Response

Team

Thrift Shop

Linda's Loaves

Volunteers in Missions

Prison Ministry

Stephen Ministry

Prayer Blanket Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Knit For Kids Ministry

Health Related Workshops:

(Diabetes, High  
Blood Pressure)

Annual Seminar for Elder

Needs

Men's Monday Morning

"Work Detail"

Men's Wednesday Morning

Prayer Breakfast

Hugs for Soldiers

Vacation Bible School

World Travel Group

State Travel Group

Bus Ministry

Missionaries to Siberia

Missionaries to Thailand

Missionaries to Haiti

**Small Groups**

Cancer Survivor

Current Affairs

Individual Bible Study

Groups (Men,  
Women,  
and Couples)

Saturday Sisters

Contemporary Issues

Bereavement Group

P.A.W.S.

**Discipleship Classes**

Disciple I

Disciple IV

Companions in Christ

**Benevolences**

Habitat for Humanity

St. Andrews Mission  
(Feeding the hungry)

The Heifer Project

S.H.A.R.E.

(Economical food for the  
church and community)

Food Pantry with weekly  
baskets to needy

Holiday Food Baskets

Toys for Children  
(at Christmas)

Salvation Army

The Path (Help for local  
homeless)

Methodist Children's Home

C.R.O.P. Walk

Equipment for Handicapped  
(Wheel chairs,  
walkers, etc.)

**Community Outreach**

(Use of our facilities)

AA

Al-Anon

After-school Tutoring

Girl Scouts

Hospice

GED Tutoring

Kiwanis Breakfast

Isaiah's Place

FCAT Tutoring

**The Purpose of  
Genesis is to:**

+**NOTIFY** its readers of what has happened, what is happening, and what is scheduled to happen.

+**EDIFY** believers by printing material that encourages and strengthens their Christian walk.

+**GLORIFY** God by being one of His instruments of communication at FUMCH and wherever else He may choose to spread the Word through this publication.



## Tithing?

Do you know what tithing is?

The quick answer is, "Of course, it's 10% of my income." But a tithe is so much more.

A tithe is our opportunity to be obedient to God. All of creation belongs to God, and he has given it to us to enjoy.

But in his giving grace, he has set aside the tithe as his own.

The tithe is the piece of what he has given that he asks us to gift back to him. As we return the tithe to God, we acknowledge that God is God, and we celebrate the opportunity to be obedient to his will for our lives.

A tithe is our opportunity to witness to the wonder and glory of God in our lives. It is a way that the world can recognize ("bottom-line" thinking) who is really most important in our lives - for our families, our community and our world.

A tithe helps us keep our priorities in order. It is easy for the TV to present enticing arguments that make us feel as if the path to true happiness leads to the Mall.

Our tithe is a way of controlling where our money goes, what it is used for and what it says about us. It establishes our priorities, showing that God comes first and other demands second.

The tithe also enables us to be a part of God's creative power. Through our giving, we become God's hands and feet reaching to God's world.

We are God's voice sharing his love, grace and joy. We are God's heart pouring out to the world where loneliness and fear abound. By our giving, we help recreate and restore God's creation where it has been twisted and distorted.

October 19th and 26th will be our stewardship Sundays this year. It is a time to make our commitment to the church, but, more importantly, to God.

The stewardship program offers us an opportunity to show our freedom from the world's demands by establishing our priorities as we make the commitment to return God's tithe to God.

~ Pastor Mark ~

*"Do all the good you can. By all the means you can.  
In all the ways you can. In all the places you can.  
To all the people you can. As long as ever you can."*

John Wesley

## "Love and Thankfulness" Stewardship 2009

During this year's annual stewardship campaign, you'll be asked to support two equally important aspects of church life here at First United Methodist Church – Building for Tomorrow Phase 3 and the annual operating fund. Think of it as the shape and substance of our church.

Building for Tomorrow reflects our shape. Now in its third and final phase, this program – with your support and approval – has produced a tangible structure from which we can meet the spiritual needs of our current and future congregations and carry out our mission of "Everyone Becoming a Disciple of Jesus Christ."

The church operating fund reflects our substance and the true meaning of our mission. In worship services, educational programs, outreach missions, and congregational ministries, we live out our desire to draw ever closer to Jesus, surrendering more fully to his leading as we go.

Without shape, our substance shrinks. Without substance, our shape shrivels. Each is an important aspect of our church life today and in the future.

On October 19, 2008, we'll hold the first of two Stewardship Sundays. On this day, we'll celebrate our love and thankfulness for God's gifts by giving of ourselves – as He has called us – in support of the Building for Tomorrow program. The following Sunday we'll celebrate our love and thankfulness in support of the operating fund.

On each of these Sundays, you'll be asked to complete a covenant card that reflects your support of the shape and substance of this church. What you write on these cards will be your covenant with God as his steward – no more, no less.

Please seek His guidance in preparation for our celebrations of love and thankfulness.

Jim Roth  
Stewardship Chairman

## October 19th and 26th Stewardship Commitment Sundays

A contemplative prayer for the right use of God's Gifts:

*"Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess; Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

From The Common Book of Prayer

# Wise Discipleship

By Jan Wise

## LIVING LIFE AS A DISCIPLE BY LOVING AS A DISCIPLE

1) Jesus said, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this, all men will know that you are \_\_\_\_\_, if you love one another.” (John 13:34-35 NIV)

This love Jesus speaks of is not the same as our human love for one another. Jesus’ kind of love is miraculous, and only possible because of what we have become according to 2 Corinthians 5:17: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a \_\_\_\_\_ creation; the old has gone the new has come!”

As God’s new creations we are “containers” of God’s kind of love - for God himself, for our brothers and sisters in Christ and for those who do not know him. Romans 5:5b explains that “God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.”

2) Therefore, having God’s love in us through the Holy Spirit, can we then obey Jesus’ command to love one another in such a way that others will know we are his disciples. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Does this mean we can actually love those whose temperaments differ from ours, whose ways we scorn, whose lifestyles make us feel they are not deserving of being loved?

Remember, we’re not speaking of unbelievers, but of those who belong to the Body of Christ, to our church, to our circle, to that committee on which we serve.

What is your reaction to the “new command” of our Lord, telling us he expects us to love one another in such a way that others can see we are his disciples? (Remember that the “new command” is to the “new creation” where God has poured in *his* love.)

3) One of our difficulties in loving comes from trying to love out of our human love, our natural response to others.

Jesus calls us to love out of God’s love, a miracle of possibility that exists in every true believer in Christ.

Loving another with God’s love means we will want and pray for and work towards achieving God’s best for that person. What does this way of defining God’s love say to you?

What does this say about the emotional response we feel we need (that warm “fuzzy”) in order to “love” another?

4) Human love, that emotionally deep caring we have for some (while rejecting others), leads to human sympathy, which leads to the thought, “I must do something to help.”

Intertwined with the need to do something is the sense of guilt if I do not respond. And guilt says, “If you really cared, you would ....” When have you responded to a need out of guilt?

5) God’s love differs in that it responds to need with God-directed compassion. “When he [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” (Matt. 9:36)  
 “When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them....” (Matt. 14:14)  
 “Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.” (Matt. 20:34)

Oswald Chambers warned believers that every need is not the call of God. Yet how can we as Christians turn away from a need, especially if the plight of the needy one arouses our sympathy?

Jesus said, “...the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing...” (John 5:19) and “...I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me.” (John 8:28b)

Why did Jesus respond to the crowd or the blind men as he did? \_\_\_\_\_

Surely the God who led Jesus by the Holy Spirit, will lead us by that same Spirit to know who, what and how the Father wants us to express his compassion within the Body of Christ.

God’s love in a disciple responds to the needy brother or sister by asking, “Lord, what do you want to do through me in this situation?”

Responding out of God’s love will cause us to do only what God shows as best. In comparison, a human love response, determined by human assessment of need, usually does too much or too little, expects appreciation and seeks to find self-satisfaction in responding. God’s love seeks only to love another as God loves, with no determination of “deserves” or expectation of return. Remember, “**But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**” (Romans 5:8, italics mine)

**THINK ABOUT IT:**

If you are willing, there’s a way, as a disciple, to begin “practicing” God’s love.

- Make a list of those you have trouble “feeling” loving toward in the body of believers.
- Pray for each one, asking God to bring *his* very best into each life, meeting their needs *his* way.
- Thank God for loving those individuals through *his* love in you.
- Be willing to do whatever God might ask you to do as an expression of *his* love.

Remember - we are to love one another with God’s love because no human love can bear the strain or patiently endure the cost of such a non-judgmental, never-failing relationship.

“...As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”  
(John 13:34b)

## October 12, 2008 Pastor Appreciation Sunday

THANK YOU, PASTOR MARK

### Our Shepherd

The Lord gave us a shepherd,  
We're no longer in want.  
He helps us find God's green pastures,  
He leads us along still waters,  
And he is used by God to restore our souls.  
He guides us by straight pathways,  
Bringing honor to God's name.  
When we walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
We are not afraid because he walks with us.  
His teaching and correction comfort and strengthen us.  
He helps us stand strong in the face of evil.  
He is the oil of healing and health in our souls.  
Through him God has overflowed our lives with blessing.  
Goodness and mercy are sure to follow us all our days,  
And we are secure in eternal life  
Because the Lord gave us a shepherd.

A Pastor Appreciation Poem Adapted from Psalm 23 by Daniel Sherman

### Passionate Spirituality - "Spiritual Disciplines"

Last month I wrote about some of the specific "spiritual disciplines" or "means of grace," beginning with some of those which are most familiar like worship, prayer, communion, baptism, study, and service.

When studying the spiritual disciplines, I was surprised "retreats" were not included. In thinking about it, I realized how many of the spiritual disciplines we can explore, corporately or individually, while on a retreat. Therefore a retreat is not considered a spiritual discipline in and of itself. On most retreats we have **worship, prayer, celebration, and Bible study**; most also offer a time for **communion**. Often we are given the opportunity to participate in a healing service. During these various retreat offerings we also have an opportunity for confession (to God).

Most retreat centers like ours in Leesburg are wonderful settings for **meditation** on God's Word and for private **prayer**. In Leesburg, our prayer labyrinth, path of silence, outdoor chapel, and the many swings and benches overlooking Lake Griffin are all invitations to listen for His still, small voice. **Solitude** and **silence** can be found if you make the effort to find a quiet place. **Fellowship** is a part of any retreat, much of which occurs in the dining hall over tasty meals.

If you wish to learn more about the spiritual disciplines, two good resources are *The Renovaré Spiritual Formation Bible*, Richard J. Foster and others, eds. and *Celebration of Discipline*, Richard J. Foster. They are both available through Cokesbury or [www.renovare.org](http://www.renovare.org). Any time you would like to talk about any of the spiritual disciplines or have questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Let's practice the spiritual disciplines as often as we can and notice how God uses them to reveal Himself to us. I'll be praying you see Him at work.

Marilyn Watson

## S.H.A.R.E.

~ VOLUNTEERING ~

To "volunteer" means many things to many people. We recently had a new member ask why SHARE no longer required anyone to volunteer services in the community. That question prompts us to remind each of you that, even though it is no longer required, it is needed now more than ever. Each one of us, with a simple gesture, can "volunteer" our services. Here are some simple things you might consider:

◆ Ask a neighbor if they want to go with you to the grocery or drug store. It will help save on fuel cost, which we all know is high right now. And it might provide you company on a rather mundane outing.

◆ Got an extra helping of that dinner you love to make? Offer it to a neighbor. It might provide them a good meal and allows you to do a well-neighbor check.

◆ If you can do yard work, walk a dog or don't mind doing dishes (!) offer to help someone with an everyday chore. It's sometimes the small things that mean the most.

◆ If that neighbor can't get out to the store with you, offer to pick up something they need. (Chances are they'll think of you next time they go.)

◆ Food pantries and agencies are in need of non-perishable foods all year. Take advantage of the buy-one-get-one free offers and donate to the organization of your choice.

Remember, there are many ways to "volunteer" and help our community of neighbors.

### **SHARE would also like to remind you that the holidays are approaching quickly.**

Our holiday packages are a tremendous value for the cost. Both the Thanksgiving and Christmas deals will provide almost everything needed for your holiday feast... including pies.

If you have purchased our packages before you know what a time and money saver they can be. Our economic times are causing donations to food pantries to decline. If you have it within your means to purchase a holiday package of food for another family, but are not sure how to go about it, please see Tom or Nancy Pearo or call them at 382-1034. Perhaps you can afford to donate (any amount) towards a SHARE package that will be given through the church. Either way, the contribution would be greatly appreciated.

All the volunteers would like to thank each of you who participate in the savings of SHARE. Without your help spreading the word, volunteering or purchasing food, we could not continue to operate.

OCTOBER SIGN UP: 10/8 & 10/13

OCTOBER DELIVERY PICK-UP: 10/25

Pick up a SHARE newspaper in the foyer of the Administration Building for the month's grocery selections.

Vickie Williams

# RENDEZVOUS

10-Week Bible Study for Women  
 "Joy Ride Through Philipians"

Thursday afternoons beginning Thursday, October 2,  
 and ending on Thursday, December 11.  
 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM  
 Room 111

Personal Guidebooks for this 10-week tour are \$10.00  
 Call Jill Wickliffe at 382-3957 to sign up and  
 be a part of this exciting excursion  
 through the book of Philipians.

## New Bible Study in Meadowcrest!

Wednesdays  
 10 AM - 12 Noon

A new Bible study for women began on September 10th at the home of Jackie LaMountain. Our current topic is, "Religion - Rules or Relationship."

Join us at 10:00 AM on Wednesday mornings. All women are welcome. Bring your Bible and enjoy fellowship and study with your friends and neighbors.

The study is led by Jan Wise, teacher, author, and retreat leader living here in Citrus County. For more information contact Jackie at 794-0281.

## You need not pray aloud to be part of a prayer group!

If you have not yet joined a prayer group (NOT a holistic small group) and would like more information, please email Jim Roth at [jroth@tls.net](mailto:jroth@tls.net), Marilyn Watson at [marilynww@netscape.com](mailto:marilynww@netscape.com), or you may call either of us or the church office.

These small informal prayer groups will be forming on a continuous basis so if you are not in one now, there will be space available soon.

**MEN'S RETREAT**  
 October 10 – 12  
 Leesburg, FL

Rev. Scott Smith  
 Andy Searles  
 Rev. Donald Taylor  
 Rev. Larry Bergstrom  
 Higher Ground

If you have not signed up but are interested in attending, please contact Jim Stoneman, Retreat Coordinator, right away. The deadline has passed, but let Jim know in case he can find a spot for you or in case there is a cancellation. You may also contact Marilyn Watson or the church office.

# LADIES' DAY APART

Would you like a day to get away from the usual routine of your life, a day to spend with other women praising God, studying his Word and enjoying fellowship?

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Homosassa Methodist Church, Rm. 113 & 114  
**WHO:** Any woman who desires fellowship with God through worship and the study of His Word  
**WORSHIP:** Led by Carolyn Crawley

**DETAILS:** Bring your Bible and whatever you need for taking notes. Also bring a bag lunch (clearly marked with your-name). Coffee/tea/punch and dessert will be provided. Also bring a sense of expectation as we anticipate God speaking to us through worship, study and sharing.

**TOPIC:** The topic of study will be "The Riches of Poverty," taught by Jan Wise.

- James writes, "The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position." (James 1:9)
- The prophet Isaiah speaks of God's bestowing on his people "a crown of beauty instead of ashes." (Isaiah 61: 3a)
- Paul writes of God's power being made perfect in our weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

In what areas of your life are you feeling impoverished, lacking, with only "ashes" left to show for your struggles?

Join us as we learn how these are the very areas where God's greatest treasures are to be found. See how the weaknesses and failures that bring despair and heartache can become sources of God's richest blessings.

# PRAYER CORNER

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- Our pastor and staff daily.
- The men of our church as they prepare, travel and participate in the Men's Retreat in Leesburg (October 10 – 12) and as they return to put into practice what they have learned.
- Bonding within the new groups (Bible studies, DBS, CIC, etc.)
- All the new prayer ministries to be led by His Spirit and meet the needs of His children.
- The Ladies' Day Apart on October 18.
- The building committee and all those who work with them to continue to be led by the Holy Spirit in their decisions - for safety of the workers and everyone else around the site of the new building.
- All committee members to seek the leading of the Holy Spirit in their decisions.
- The stewardship campaign to be to the Lord's Glory as we seek to continue the work of our church in the community and the world.

**MISSIONS COMMITTEE ASKS FOR DONATIONS OF OLD CELL PHONES AND EYE GLASSES**

A program to assist CASA in collecting old cell phones and to help the Lions Club in obtaining unused eye glasses has been approved by the Missions Committee.

The Citrus Abused Shelter Association has been collecting cell phones and chargers since 2003. An old cell phone that is charged enables a CASA program participant to call 911 when faced with an emergency. Numerous lives have been saved through this program.

CASA will take cell phones in any condition. Phones that are inoperative or without a charger are sent to a cell phone collection program that uses them for parts and in return provides minor funding to CASA.

Virtually all types of prescription glasses are accepted by the Lions Club. Our donations will be taken to the Homosassa organization which sends them to a central location for evaluation after which the glasses are given to needy persons.

Donations may be placed in a basket located next to the Missions Bulletin board in the Narthex.

**Stamps For Veterans**

We want to say thank you to all the people who have donated stamps to the UMW to be sent to the Veterans hospitals all over the country. The recipients are very appreciative, as they have a very large club with trading and collecting between the veterans.

If you have stamps around that are not being assembled for swapping or collecting, consider donating them to the Veterans Hospital.

Leave the stamps in the "UMW" mail box, next to the staff break room in the Administration Building.  
Kay Bast

**There are openings for Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and Big Couples at Homosassa Elementary School.**

Bigs and Littles have fun together and create memories that last a lifetime. There is a powerful, positive impact Bigs can have on children's lives.

Experience the magic of Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Call 352-344-0400 or visit [www.bbbspc.org](http://www.bbbspc.org)



**Stephen Ministry**

Riding home from the nursing home, where my Dad is a hospice patient, I was struck by how our current lives seem to straddle two seasons. While we try to care for Dad, who is changing like autumn leaves as his dementia in-

creases and his body weakens, we also anticipate the "spring-like" birth of a new grandchild in early October. Sometimes it feels quite overwhelming, with sadness as Dad declines and worry for our son and daughter-in-law's high-risk pregnancy. As a couple, they have already dealt with a "vanishing twin," so family members and friends are cautiously optimistic that Stacie will carry the survivor to term and deliver a healthy Baby Cary in Texas.

Many of us are separated by long distances from those that we love the most. This can compound feelings of anxiety or loneliness or fear.

I share this with you because even though we may be Stephen Leaders, we sometimes need to reach out for support. This help may come from hospice social workers, close friends, siblings, grown children, or fellow Stephen Ministers. As you face your own challenges, please remember that it is not a sign of weakness but of strength to accept help - to receive one-on-one weekly visits and phone support from fellow members of our congregation who have been called and trained to walk beside you through your own dark valleys, whatever they may be.

Contact Diane (382-7242), Kay (382-4908), other Stephen Ministers, or the church office to learn more about this caring lay ministry.

**25<sup>th</sup> Annual Leesburg Women's Retreat  
February 20 - 22, 2009**

Keynote Speaker: Maisie Hartsfield  
Bible Study Leader: Crystal Barnham  
Music Leader: Sue Sommer

Ladies, please mark your calendars and keep these dates available. This will be "our" weekend at the Women's Retreat. More information will be available soon. We hope to have an even larger group of women avail themselves of the opportunity to take *time apart* to be refreshed and fed by the Holy Spirit. Watch for posters, brochures, and more information as soon as it is available. If you have any questions, contact Marilyn Watson at [marilynww@netscape.com](mailto:marilynww@netscape.com).

## Another Way to Give

By Rev. Richard Evans

Have you ever considered giving life insurance to the church or other charitable causes? It is a method of giving a Deferred Gift that some people find worth considering. Do you have a policy on your life that was intended to protect a spouse who will no longer need it, a child who is now a financially independent adult, or to complete payment of a mortgage already paid in full? If so you may be one of many people with somewhat obsolete life insurance.

Depending upon your situation, you might consider: (1) naming the church as primary beneficiary of a policy you no longer need, (2) naming the church as secondary beneficiary in case the primary beneficiary predeceases you, or (3) naming the church as the final beneficiary if all other beneficiaries have predeceased you.

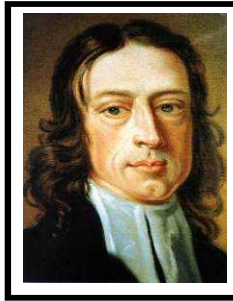
If you give the church (or other charity) a paid-up policy you already own, you can deduct an amount equal to the approximate cash value up to 50% of your AGI. If the amount is over 50% you can deduct a portion in the year of the gift and spread the rest over the next 5 years. If you give a policy on which you are still paying premiums, you may deduct each future premium payment as a charitable gift, as well as an amount equal to the cash value at the time the gift is made.

A charitable gift of life insurance is simple and immediate. The proceeds are paid in cash immediately at death and are not subject to possible shrinkage from probate costs. A change of beneficiary is made easily by contacting the life insurance company.

Example: Mr. and Mrs. U. R. Generous decided to give a life insurance policy to their church. Mr. Generous, age 72, had a whole life policy with a face value of \$65,000 on which he had been paying premiums for many years. First, he arranged for the dividends to cover all future premiums. Then he made their church the irrevocable owner and beneficiary of the policy. (Mrs. Generous and their two adult children will be well cared for through the estate that Mrs. Generous will inherit at her husband's death and that the children will inherit when both Mr. and Mrs. Generous have passed on).

Mr. and Mrs. Generous are pleased with the size of their future gift and with the ease with which they were able to make it. They also enjoyed the sizable income tax deduction they were able to take in the year of the gift, plus the amount they were able to carry forward.

For further information about giving life insurance and/or other creative ways to give, call the church office, me, or any other member of the Permanent Endowment Committee.



## Movie Tells Story of John Wesley

A perilous adventure on the high seas, a star-crossed love affair, mob violence, rioting and attempted assassination are not the elements one might expect in a film about the founder of Methodism, but the director and producer of "Wesley" believes that the dramatic and often surprising story of John Wesley will attract moviegoers of all faiths, as well as warm their hearts.

"It has all the elements that you'd want to put into a movie," said John Jackman, whose films include "Passing Moment," "Windsor Knot" and "An Uncommon Union."

The independent feature film traces the life of Wesley as an outwardly religious young man who undergoes a spiritual renewal that leads to a revolutionary ministry.

It is scheduled for release as early as October, though locations have not yet been announced. Jackman spent more than a thousand hours researching Wesley's life. The script is based largely on the journals of both John and Charles Wesley and will focus on the "core spiritual journey of Wesley."

According to Jackman, the film is not an intellectual discourse on Wesleyan theology, and it doesn't emphasize details that distinguish Methodism from other Christian movements. "I'm hoping that we're going to hit a crossover audience, that this isn't just going to be of interest to Methodists," Jackman said. "Some of the stuff that would be very sectarian also, of course, is not going to appeal to a modern audience - and probably wouldn't even appeal to modern Methodists."

Burgess Jenkins, who plays Wesley, is a method actor, and approached the role by trying, as much as possible, to become the character. "It was probably the most profound experience I've had as an actor in embodying another character - not just John's accent or his gait or his posture, but his ideology," said Jenkins, whose film credits include "The Reaping" and "Remember the Titans."

Jenkins describes Wesley as "academic in mind, a bit naïve in heart, a bit lost in soul...ultimately earnest.... But, at the core of all of that was a desire for God's will, a desire for greatness for God, and to glorify God in everything he did."

~ Jennifer Lind, *Newscope*



# “Lands of the Bible” Cruise in 2009

✝ The Bible will come alive right before your eyes on a 12-day cruise tour departing on November 11, 2009 (2 days travel/10 days on tour). In ten days you will visit Greece, Egypt, Israel, and Turkey with a luxury cruise ship as your home. After one night at a hotel in Athens, you will only unpack one more time—in your cabin aboard the mv Cristal.

✝ Richard Evans says, “I have traveled with Educational Opportunities Tours of Lakeland, FL, numerous times since 1986 and, in my opinion, they do Bible Lands Tours as well as any and better than most.” A 1,200 passenger ship has been chartered to offer a fabulous journey through the lands of the Bible which will feature key sites pertinent to both the Old and New Testaments.

✝ Here are some details:

Nov. 11 - Fly from Tampa to NYC and then to Athens, Greece.

Nov. 12 - Tour Athens, including the Acropolis, the Parthenon, Mars Hill (where Paul preached), and more before checking into your hotel.

Nov. 13 - Tour Corinth where Paul lived and taught, before boarding the cruise ship.

Nov. 14 - A day at sea enjoying the ship's amenities.

Nov. 15 - Port Said, Egypt. See the King Tut treasures in the Egypt Museum and the Great Pyramids and the Sphinx at Giza.

Nov. 16 - Port Ashdod, Israel. Travel to Jerusalem and visit the Upper Room, the House of Caiaphas, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Pool of Bethesda. Walk the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. And pray at the ancient Western Wall.

Nov. 17 - Travel to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. Visit the Shepherd's Field and the Church of the Nativity.

Nov. 18 - Port Haifa, Israel. Travel to the Sea of Galilee and visit the Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, and many other sites that were important in Jesus' ministry.

Nov. 19 - A day at sea.

Nov. 20 - Island of Patmos (Greece), where the exiled Apostle John wrote the *Book of Revelation*.

Nov. 21 - Kusadasi, Turkey. Visit the city of Ephesus where Paul spent three years of his ministry.

Nov. 22 - Disembark in Piraeus (the port for Athens) and return home to the USA.

✝ This journey of a lifetime will include roundtrip airfare, deluxe motor coaches, guided shore excursions, all entrance fees, daily meals when aboard ship, Christian entertainment, and Biblical lectures. Inclusive prices begin at about \$3,200 (double occupancy) depending upon the category of cabin selected. Not included in the price are travel insurance and tips to guides and drivers.

✝ Pastor Mark Whittaker has traveled to Israel and he is looking forward (along with Iris) to leading our group. We are starting early to form our travel group of 25 or more in order to guarantee space. And those who register early will have the best selection of cabins.

✝ Brochures are available at the church office.

✝ Call Richard Evans or Pastor Whittaker if you have questions.

✝ Register directly with EOT in Lakeland, but please let the church office know that you have registered. A \$400 deposit will hold your place, with an additional \$600 due by May 11, 2009 and the full amount due by July 11, 2009. Save up to \$80 by registering at least 11 months prior to departure. And save another \$40 by making full payment by check at least 4 months prior to departure.

You are invited to an Information Meeting at the church (Room 114) on Sunday, October 26, 2008 from 3 to 4 pm.

# Youth News

by Neretta Brobst

*"Let them wander up and down..." (Psalm 59:14)*

For many years, the Youth Sunday School class and the Youth Group were based in the Youth Room across the hall from the fellowship hall, next door to the kitchen. Then that section of the building was razed, and so began our "wandering." First, we relocated to Room 106 for Sunday School, but another class was growing larger and needed more space, so we moved to what had been the former library, Room 209. Since it had no windows, the room was a bit claustrophobic, but its size was quite adequate for us, and we could use the Break Room and/or Room 114 for lunch and Youth Group activities.

Then the floods came. The walls and carpeting got wet as water rose outside from some severe storms. While it dried out, the room was unusable, so we moved to the Break Room. The opening from 209 to the outside was eventually walled off, so we couldn't flood again, and we moved back. Then the rains came. Again the roof leaked, ceiling tiles and insulation got wet, and the walls had water coursing down them. Back down the hall we went to the Break Room for several Sundays, until the roof was repaired, the tiles replaced, and the room had sufficiently dried. Now we are back in the former library, with occasional forays to the Break Room or 114 for lunch or working on projects. We've certainly learned to monitor and adjust!

A few weeks ago, I met with Bill Gilbert and Dave Benthussen, who had kindly sought my input into furnishing and accessorizing the new Youth Center. We had an interesting discussion regarding flooring, cabinetry, electronics, and furniture. In examining the space itself, I found myself excitedly envisioning the future possibilities once this space is made available to us. The area is much larger than our previous space and will allow for multiple activity centers and the amount of storage space will be most welcomed! The plans call for the installation of speakers and television screens, so music and videos will be readily available for the kids, and the microwave and small fridge will allow us to have snacks and drinks at hand. Our Foosball, Air Hockey, and Ping Pong tables will fit nicely, and we'll also have space for lounging and for working. Being near the new fellowship hall and the kitchen means we'll also be able to return to having pancake breakfasts spaghetti dinners, and other fund raisers and events. It's all quite exciting!

I wanted to tell you all of this so you'd know that, although there have been some trials and tribulations, we know the Lord will provide for us. Even during our wanderings, He has kept us (if not our space) safe and dry. And perhaps we are being tested, just as His people were tested so often throughout Old Testament times.

Number 14:33 states, "And your children shall wander in the wilderness..." We are grateful that our wanderings have been in the Not-Quite-Wilderness.

Numbers 14:33 continues with "...For forty years..."  
We pray that our time is much shorter!

# Clean and Green

"When life hands you lemons, make lemonade!" Most of us have heard this statement often over the years, and some of us might also even admit to having said it on occasion, especially to children who were whining. "That's not fair..." But do we actually know much about lemons, their origins, their many uses? A bit of research has provided me with some interesting information which I'd like to share with you.

Lemons are widely thought to have originated in the Middle East, in what is now Iraq, and were highly valued by royalty and tradesmen. Like salt and many spices, lemons were a form of currency because they were rare. Now they are grown throughout the Mediterranean region, southern Africa, South America, the Pacific and Caribbean islands, and the southern United States, so they are more widely available. (Although recently they're becoming somewhat pricey, so perhaps we'll return to the days of only royalty having access!)

Around the house, lemons certainly are versatile. Mounded in a bowl, they make an attractive focus on a counter or table, and their scent sweetens the air. To refresh stale air throughout the house, slice a lemon and simmer it in a pot of water (no lid) for an hour or so; the scent will permeate your home.

To clean strong odors (onions, garlic, fish, or other offensive scents) from your hands, rub the cut side of a quarter lemon over the skin, or wash with a 50/50 solution of lemon juice and water. This same technique will work for berry, ink, or many other stains on your skin. For ladies with blonde, white or silver hair, a lemon juice rinse after shampooing can produce a lovely shine; just add 1-2 tablespoons of lemon juice to a quart of warm water, rinse through your hair, allow it to sit for 2-3 minutes, then rinse with clear water.

If your aluminum pots are looking a bit dull, you can restore a shine by rubbing the cut side of a lemon over the surface. Adding some salt and elbow grease to copper bottoms will restore their shine, too, without using harsh chemicals.

And let us not forget: We can always add lemon slices to water, iced tea, and other beverages; we can sprinkle lemon juice on salads, vegetables, and fish or seafood; and **WE CAN MAKE LEMONADE!**

(Since lemons are acidic, you may want to use protective gloves when working with this fruit, especially if you have sensitive skin.)

Neretta Brobst

## National Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2008

### Dedicated to increasing awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women during their lives. Breast cancer kills more women in the United States than any cancer except lung cancer. No one knows why some women get breast cancer, but there are a number of risk factors. Risks that you cannot change include:

- Age - the chance of getting breast cancer rises as a woman gets older.
- Genes - there are two genes, BRCA1 and BRCA2, that greatly increase the risk. Women who have family members with breast or ovarian cancer may wish to be tested.
- Personal factors - beginning periods before age 12 or going through menopause after age 55.

Others risks include being overweight, using hormone replacement therapy, taking birth control pills, drinking alcohol, not having children, having your first child after age 35, or having dense breasts.

#### Breast cancer prevention: Lifestyle choices and more

"Breast cancer prevention starts with your own health habits---such as staying physically active, limiting alcohol and eating right. Can healthy eating and regular exercise really contribute to breast cancer prevention? So far, the evidence says yes. What's more, if you combine these risk-reducing habits with limiting your exposure to substances that promote the disease, you'll benefit even more.

When it comes to breast cancer prevention, the risks you can't control--such as your age and genetic makeup--may loom large, but there are some breast cancer prevention steps you can always take on your own. Although these measures provide no guarantee that you won't develop the disease, they'll give you a start toward breast cancer prevention."

*Mayo Clinic*

#### Breast cancer prevention:

Lifestyle choices and more - MayoClinic.com

1/8" = Average-size lump found by a mammogram.

1/4" = Average-size lump found by a doctor's examination

1/2" = Average-size lump found by a woman who examines her breasts each month

1" = Average-size lump found by a woman who doesn't examine her breasts each month.

[familydoctor.org](http://familydoctor.org)

This is only a glimpse of the information available. More information will be supplied on request. Your Parish Nurse wants you to be healthy in all aspects of your life including your body, mind, and spirit.

Sharon E. Smith, Parish Nurse

## Walking on the Path

Patience Nave

*"And now unto Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly, above all we can think or ask, to Him be glory in the church."*

Ephesians 3:20-21a KJV

*"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."*

Romans 12:15 RSV

Many of you know that I have been overwhelmed by the upkeep - in both labor and money - for my home. Mostly, it was the yard I never seemed to be able to keep as Wallace would have wanted. After much prayer, in mid-May I decided to put the house on the market, even though everyone told me that I'd have a long wait to sell.

My realtor told me that she'd work hard to "make this happen," but I said no. "Let's don't try to make it happen," I told her, "let's let it happen." Well, 75-80 days later, it happened. There was only one catch - I had to be out in 30 days, out of the house I had lived in for 20 years.

I asked God to help me do it and agreed to the purchase. An idea came to me, and I asked my realtor to find an empty house I could rent for a month and then buy. I'd move a little at a time. One week later I signed the contract for just that type of arrangement - for a house very near my own and very near many people in our church whom I love. Two and one half weeks later, the movers came for the furniture. Not only am I moved, but I am remarkably settled.

Many helped me pack, moved things to my new house, brought me meals, and prayed for me.

As I think about all that has happened in the past weeks, the two scriptures above come to mind. Of the first I am reminded of how often I forget that God really *wants* to do in our lives "above all we can think or ask." I have seen him do it before; I have now seen him do it again. I am so grateful.

The other scripture reminds us to share in times of weeping and rejoicing. You were so good to weep with me when Wallace died. You prayed for me. You encouraged me. You assured me I would live, even though I felt everything worth living for was gone. Now, I want you to rejoice with me as I rejoice. Praise God with me for all he has done!

We serve an amazing God who will be as involved in our lives as we will allow.

*Prayer:* Father, Paul said in Romans, "to him be glory in the church." In the big picture of all you do, the dramatic move in my life is a small thing. However, you cared and orchestrated these movements, and we, your church in Homosassa, give credit and glory to you for this and for all the wonderful things you do in our lives. Amen.

# Construction Update on New Fellowship Center

As this is written, workers are putting the finishing touches on the outside of our new Fellowship Center. Roof shingles are essentially complete, and the building is now dry inside. Exterior surfaces have been covered with stucco, and decorative trim is being added at the front and at the side gables. Soffits are going on, and roof flashing is being attached.

Inside, work is also progressing quickly. All of the room partitions are in place, and plumbing, electric, sprinklers, and HVAC duct work are all nearing completion.

By mid-September, all of this infrastructure should be in place in the walls and ceiling, and dry wall will follow immediately after.

The pace of all work has been surprising. Although the extensive rain and lightning storms of the past several months resulted in quite a bit of lost time, the work is actually ahead of schedule. We are now looking forward to completion sometime in January, well ahead of the original projected date.

The decorating committee has been busy selecting colors and materials, and it will soon be time to order furnishings and equipment.

As the rooms have taken shape, making it easier to visualize the new facilities, the level of excitement has grown dramatically. It is not hard to imagine some of the new ministries and activities that will become feasible once the buildings are complete. Indeed, several groups are at work exploring such possibilities.

A committee has already been set up to plan a gala celebration once we take possession of the new buildings. This is something you will not want to miss.

Dave Marquis  
Building For Tomorrow Committee



**ENTRANCE TO FELLOWSHIP HALL**



Left: Roof trusses are installed for the entrance roof.

Below: The ceiling being framed-in under the drive-through roof, and electric conduit is being installed for lights.



Above: Workers begin to apply stucco to the roof pillars.



Below: Stucco has been nearly completed on the front of the entrance way, providing a glimpse of how the finished building will look.



**STUCCO APPLICATION**



Right: From scaffolding, workers apply stucco on the Bradshaw Street side.



Left: The first coat is heavy...

Right: ...but the final coat provides a smooth and even finish for the paint that will then be applied.



**INTERIOR FRAMING**

Partitions to divide the new building into various rooms and facilities is completed. Can you identify any of these locations?



**ROOFING**

Left: Roofing paper goes on as the first step in the process of completing the roof.

Right: Next come the roof shingles



Above left: View from Fellowship Hall toward the vestibule and kitchen.



Above right: View from the outside entrance into the vestibule; Fellowship Hall on right, kitchen on left.

In both photos above the storage loft is visible above.



Left: And the new Fellowship Center has been "dried in", as the contractors say.



Above left: View from inside the parlor classroom, looking toward the vestibule and Fellowship Hall. The stairs clearly visible in the center of the photo lead to the upper storage loft.



Above right: View from inside the parlor classroom looking toward the kitchen. Plumbing, electrical conduit, and sprinkler pipe is visible in the ceiling.

### Dear Praying Friends,

We are so thankful to know that you and others are praying regularly for us. In God's design your prayers are at least as important as the actual physical labor that goes on over here. (Romans 15:30: "I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.")

#### PRAISES:

✠ During last month's Cool Shade of Life Church leadership meeting, we officially stepped down from leadership duties. The other leaders were very kind and encouraging in their comments, and they appreciated understanding more about the transitional role of missionaries, particularly in terms of following the example of Paul in the book of Acts concerning when/how to step away from leadership. We praise God that the Thai leaders are more than capable of handling full leadership responsibilities just 20 months after the church began.

✠ At our church small group meeting last week, the son of *Dtun*, who accepted Christ as her Savior in April, said he wanted to pray to receive Christ as well. Praise God! Own is a smart young man who has seen for months how the Lord has changed the lives of the other teenagers at church. Please pray for him to grow in his newfound faith.



✠ The new school year has started well with Elaine settling into her new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom and the children enjoying (so far) their classes and friends. Elaine is especially encouraged as the PIONEERS contingent at Grace International School has exploded, providing a stable "family" alongside her.



14 PIONEERS, STAFF MEMBERS AT GIS, SPOUSES, LOTS OF CHILDREN, AND ONE TEAM MASCOT.

✠ Elaine helped to organize a special Thai Mother's Day celebration at church last month, featuring a song, flowers and a handmade card. The children enjoyed singing for their moms – except for Caleb and Jamie, who hid in the background because they didn't have enough time to memorize the Thai words, while the Thai children had cheat sheets.



✠ Thanks to a generous extra donation from dear friends of ours and several other checks making it on time in August, our mission financial account is well in the black as of August 31<sup>st</sup> and should remain stable for a long time (we pray). For those who've been following our news for awhile, you know that our finances have been a problem even since we first left as missionaries for the Philippines seven years ago with a different mission agency. Praise God for the generosity of all our supporters and for God's continued provision even when things have looked bleak on occasion.

This month's cultural photo is "food stalls." In Thailand, most people don't cook – they let others do it for them and buy their meals/snacks at stalls or at fresh markets. It's always an adventure buying at the stalls because of different cooking styles and cleanliness standards, but the good part is that it's cheap and you can always try another stall when you're physically ready for the next meal.



#### PRAYERS:

✠ After meeting again with our PIONEERS area leader, we are able to move forward on plans for a new church-planting team that will equip missionaries to work with Thai partners to open new churches. Praise God! We are excited about what God is formulating, and we would humbly ask for your prayers for wisdom as we begin to tackle the important initial tasks of setting up a team ministry approach, team handbook, etc., that will lay the groundwork for future ministry success.

✠ While we have stepped back from leadership at CSLC, our service has actually increased. Elaine is back teaching children's Sunday School weekly and still leading a bi-monthly women's meeting; Joe is handling projector duties weekly and teaching adult Sunday School once a month; Justin is playing bass guitar in the worship band weekly; and Brittany is singing in the chorus twice a month and helping Mom with the English version of the children's SS class. Please pray for us to honor the Lord in all we do at CSLC and for us to be a good example to the other members, particularly the new Christians who don't know yet what Christ-like servanthood is all about.

✠ Please continue to pray for the salvation of several new people at the church, particularly one hill tribe family that is now attending regularly. Their two children and two other neighborhood children are now regular members of Elaine's SS class as well. While those four children are not yet Christians, they are greatly enjoying the class and learning about God's love. Please pray for them to truly understand and be open to the Gospel.

✠ Some of you may have heard in the news that Thailand is in the midst of a political crisis that could boil over into violence this week. Basically, the protests that have led to the takeover of the Thai equivalent of the White House in Bangkok have been growing for years and are a direct result of the military coup that took place two years ago this month. Please pray for a peaceful solution and for the country not to abandon democracy, which the protest leaders are blaming for the problems because too much power is given to the rural majority, whom the protestors consider ill-informed and susceptible to vote buying.

✠ Many of you have continued to ask about Elaine's health, which has been a struggle for almost three years now. Well, there finally may be a light at the end of the tunnel. After working for a year with a missionary doctor, Elaine's intestinal disease is under control along with almost all of her other autoimmune-related ailments. As for the debilitating muscle/joint pain that remains as the final piece in the autoimmune disease puzzle, we have made the decision to start a long-term treatment plan that is already showing promise. Please pray for this step to be the right one and to bring relief after a year of constant pain. Pray also for wisdom and patience in handling the side-effects of this option.

✠ PIONEERS is planning its first mission conference, to be held in Orlando this year from Dec. 28-31. PIONEERS missionaries will be flying in from around the world to inform the attendees (up to 1,100 people) about what God is doing among unreached people groups. Seminars will cover everything from business as a mission to education to spiritual warfare. There also will be sessions on the world's major religious groups and how to reach them. The event is family friendly: A children's program (ages 4-12) will teach about missions, while teens through retirees are welcome in the main sessions. This is not an event featuring Christian celebrities or big bands. Instead, there will be seminars led by PIONEERS personnel who work in some of the hardest places on the planet. Regardless of what you think about missions now, you'll come away with a next step to pursue in God's global purposes. If you're interested, first

pursue in God's global purposes. If you're interested, first check out the videos, schedule, cost, etc., at [www.story08.com](http://www.story08.com) on the Web. Then, invite your small group, college ministry, or church as a whole to attend!

*For His glory,  
Joe, Elaine, Brittany, Justin, Caleb & Jamie*

Did you know...

that Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the famed Russian author who died last month, provides us with one of the greatest testimonies to the importance of Christian suffering:

"It was granted to me to carry away from my prison years on my bent back, which nearly broke beneath its load, this essential experience: how a human being becomes evil and how good.

"In the intoxication of youthful successes I had felt myself to be infallible, and I was therefore cruel. In the surfeit of power I was a murderer and an oppressor. In my most evil moments I was convinced that I was doing good, and I was well supplied with systematic arguments.

"It was only when I lay there on rotting prison straw that I sensed within myself the first stirrings of good. Gradually it was disclosed to me that the line separating good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either – but right through every human heart – and through all human hearts.

"...That is why I turn back to the years of my imprisonment and say, sometimes to the astonishment of those about me, 'Bless you, prison!' I nourished my soul there, and I say without hesitation: 'Bless you, prison, for having been in my life!'"

*(The Gulag Archipelago: 1918-1956, Vol. 2, 615-617)*

*If you are led to help, there are two ways you can do so, depending on whether your support is regular or one-time only:*

1. )To the Henry's mission agency, PIONEERS, send a check made out to PIONEERS, 10123 William Carey Drive, Orlando, FL 32832. Do not write anything in the memo line; instead, attach a note saying it is for Joe and Elaine Henry, support account #110798. This is the only way you will receive a tax deduction. *(This is the best way to give regular support to us so that we can be accountable for it. As a reminder, the agency takes 12% for service fees before distributing money.)*

2. )You can give directly to the Henrys by sending a check made payable to "Joseph Henry" to Joe's parents. They have legal authority to deposit money into our Bank of America account, from which we can withdraw support. Their address is: Mr. & Mrs. Henry, 4671 S. Sawmill Way, Homosassa, FL 34448. *(You should only use this option if you are giving a one-time gift, do not need the tax deduction, and are personally opposed to the 12% agency service fees.)*

*Thank you for your prayerful consideration.*

*~ Missions Committee ~*



## News from the Woosters in Siberia

### Siberian Greetings!

It's October and that means only one thing in Siberia...winter is almost here. We had an extremely busy summer and fall so we really haven't written much information with 'real meat' in quite a while.

May, June and part of July we spent most of our time on the road to and from the village. We were able to spend four days a week with the folks there, trying to build more relationships, working on the buildings & garden, and swimming in the river to cool off. The summer temperatures were in the high 90's, and there's no air-conditioning in Siberia yet. Village life has proven to move much slower and is another culture for us. We *love* being there and know without a doubt it's where we're supposed to be. As 'outsiders' it will take a lot of time and prayer to become more accepted.

The last weeks of July we were able to help the deaf fellowship with one of their camps. It was so wonderful to be back on Lake Baikal again and working at the camp. Laura volunteered to work in the kitchen so the ladies from the fellowship could be a part of the camp in more important ways. This camp was an outreach to new people .....we were honored to be small part of the camp, working alongside people we had reached 8 or 9 years earlier.



Laura with Sveta watching Dennis make a special rice. ( He's hiding behind the steam)



Kevin was sports/activities director...after a few days, he realized he's not in his 20's anymore. Also, for the first time (for us anyway), the campers slept in a round tent called a Yurt. The Buriat and Mongols were nomads and used this type of "home" because they're easy to pack up and move. What's even more exciting is that they can be "winterized" with heavier wool material and a stove so that people can camp by the

lake throughout the winter months. We can't wait to try it out and share our experience with you. You can find these tents everywhere in Mongolia today, which brings us to our August adventure....

Another 90 day visa had ended by the first week of August and once again we found ourselves on a bus heading south to Mon-



golia to get *another* 90 day visa. We had given papers to the local authorities for temporary residency three months earlier knowing that we might still have to make another trip out of the country. We were praying this would be our last. The trip began on a rainy day which we thought should be great. The buses usually have air conditioning but it doesn't always work well if at all...that can make a 12 hour trip a little "warm" in the summer heat. So, the trip began well - until we were about an hour outside the city when the bus blew out one of its back tires. Not such a big deal as it was the inside tire, and we knew we'd have a stop within the next hour before the border. The driver assured us it was OK, and he'd fix the problem later. We drove on that tire for the next 11 hours with people beeping and waving at us to stop. The bus rode fine, but we're sure you aren't supposed to keep driving on one less tire through the mountains of Russia and Mongolia. Thank you, prayer warriors!

We did arrive safely, and the next day we sent out our papers through DHL to the US for our new visas. (We had found this to be quicker and cheaper in the long run.) *Had* is the key word here. All was going great back in the US; five days after we had mailed our papers they were on their way back to Mongolia...so we thought. To make a very long story short...the package was mislabeled and sent to Venezuela, twice, also to Panama, twice, then back to the US where it sat for two extra days. As you can see, it took much longer than we expected (16 days), and we spent most of the month in Mongolia instead of being back in Russia.





“McDonald’s”, Mongolian style.



Laura at a Sholin Temple



Kevin at The Wall.



Our lost documents finally arrive in Mongolia....YEAH!



Ghengis Kahn at Parliment Building in Ulaan Baatar.

As Paul Harvey would say, “and now the rest of the story....” We got back to Russia and had 8 days to find another apartment. Our landlady had decided she wanted to move back home and would like to be in by the 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept. This was not a big surprise. We had talked about it in the past, but the timing was just a bit short. Again, our Provider brought us to a very nice apt. for a little less money just in time for us to move on the first. It was as empty as the last apartment was full, so we had to scramble to find a stove, kitchen cabinets, and a few other essentials.

The best news came the first week of September. We received the call that they had approved us for temporary residency in Russia. We now have visas for three years and will no longer have to leave unless we *want* or *need* to leave the country. *His* timing is perfect so we rejoice in answered prayers.

As you can see from the above, none of this could have been accomplished without your continued lifting us up to the Father. So we thank you and look forward with great anticipation to see what the next few months will hold for us.

We will be working on doing some Community Development Projects with the Nursing home located right behind our office. We will let you know in the next letter how you can become a part of helping the older and less fortunate people in this very needy home.

Also we want to develop a relationship with the orphanage in the Village for another Community Development project; the needs are simple yet enormous. *“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” James 1:27*

The work is at times overwhelming, the need for more workers is great; but we also trust that He will stir the hearts of those we meet as we share the hope and love of our precious Savior.



Joyfully Serving in Siberia, Laura and Kevin

To financially support the Wooster’s make checks payable and send to :



10123 William Carey Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32832

Write on a separate piece of paper for account # 10299

*Thank you for considering financial support.*

*FUMCH Missions Committee*

# Deadline Notification

*Please* don't wait until the last minute (or later) for items to be submitted.

**The deadline for the November issue of Genesis will be 10 AM, Friday, October 3, 2008.**

Articles can be left at the church office, put into the Newsletter Mailbox (Number 20) located to the left of Staff Break Room in the Administration Building, or emailed to the editor at [judithann@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:judithann@tampabay.rr.com).

Emailed submissions not composed in the email's body are best if attached using Microsoft WORD, Microsoft Publisher, or transposed into a PDF program. Photographs need to be submitted in JPG. or GIF. format.

Your Editor,  
Judith Huffer



*Columbarium  
and  
Memorial  
Garden...*

Located next to our beautiful Worship Center, and visible through the north window in the right rear section of the Worship Center, the columbarium and garden create a peaceful setting for some of God's faithful who "dwell in the house of the Lord forever." The fenced area has two benches available to anyone for times of prayer and meditation.

Columbarium niches are available for pre-need purchase, to insure current costs.

Please see Church Administrator, Theresa Weber, in the church office for information, details, and an available packet.

John Gibbs

## Members Residing In Long Term Care as of September 4, 2008

### NURSING CENTERS

**AVANTE**  
Annie Preston

**BARRINGTON**  
Ken McGuire

**BRENTWOOD**  
Evelyn Bash  
Teresa Davis  
Herman Kruhm

**CEDAR CREEK**  
Bud Jenks

**CRYSTAL RIVER  
HEALTH & REHAB**  
Betty Farewell  
Robert Smith

**CYPRESS COVE**  
Paul Huffstutler  
Elta Whilden

**DIAMOND RIDGE**  
Jean Buzby  
Marjorie Cook  
Helen Hudson

**NATURE COAST LODGE**  
Betty Duncan

**LIFE CARE**  
Lou Mosier

**SUGARMILL MANOR**  
Shirley Hart  
Grace Payne  
Eleanor Smith  
Charlie Walker

**HUNT HOME**  
(Williston)  
Bill Marquis

**WOODLAND TERRACE**  
Mrs. Kaufman

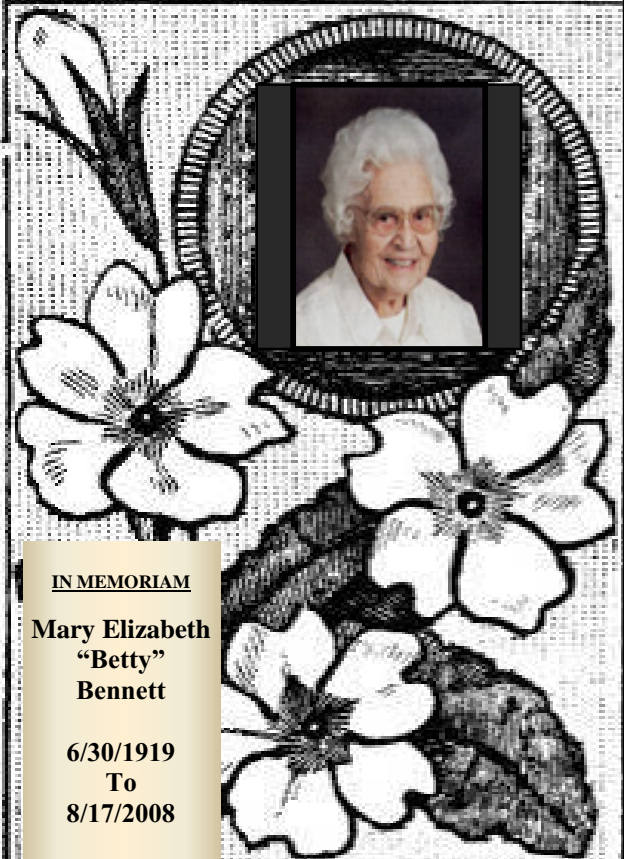


**The Yulee Drive  
Absolute AA Group  
meets every Thursday  
at 8 to 9 p.m. in Room 114.**

An open meeting for men and women of all ages who want to stop drinking or have stopped drinking. For more information call George at (352) 503-3961.

**Al-Anon (Courage Family Group)  
Meets every Thursday  
at 8 p.m. in Room 102.**

This is for spouses, relatives, and friends, whether or not your loved one is still drinking. For more information call Robbi at (352) 270-3827.



IN MEMORIAM

Mary Elizabeth  
"Betty"  
Bennett

6/30/1919  
To  
8/17/2008

| <i>Birthdays</i>  | <b>OCTOBER</b>  | <i>Anniversaries</i>   |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u><br/>Duane Geiger</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>2</u><br/>Eleanor Hittle<br/>Holli Benthusen</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>3</u><br/>Dominick Travers</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>5</u><br/>Connie Barton<br/>John Dean<br/>Robert Russell</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>6</u><br/>Larry Healy<br/>Gail Rudolph</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>7</u><br/>Carolyn Byington<br/>Sue Harris<br/>Faye Schmitt</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>8</u><br/>Elizabeth Ainsworth<br/>Don Hoes</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>9</u><br/>Loretta Burcaw</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>10</u><br/>Steven Bassler<br/>Patricia Blake<br/>John Mayles<br/>Peggy Powell</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>11</u><br/>Kenneth Dent<br/>Jerry Tanner</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>12</u><br/>Michelle Selby</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>13</u><br/>Art Carl</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>14</u><br/>William Baker</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>15</u><br/>Cynthia Allen<br/>Tom Wise<br/>Alice Yusko</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>16</u><br/>Clayton Spencer<br/>Doris Stine</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>17</u><br/>George Knerr<br/>Betty McGraw<br/>Pat Schuessler</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>18</u><br/>Bill Richner</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>19</u><br/>Lisa Specht</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>20</u><br/>Norma Geiger<br/>Mary Olson<br/>Jan Winters</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>21</u><br/>Jack Reed</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u><br/>Virginia &amp; John Hoadley<br/>~ 53 years ~<br/>Betty &amp; Paul Huffstutler<br/>~ 58 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>5</u><br/>Connie &amp; Bill Barton<br/>~ 68 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>11</u><br/>Susan &amp; John Dean<br/>~ 21 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>13</u><br/>Virginia &amp; Kenneth Will<br/>~ 29 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>16</u><br/>Katherine &amp; Terry<br/>Cornelius<br/>~ 44 years ~<br/>Barbara &amp; Hank Deppner<br/>~ 49 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>20</u><br/>Pam &amp; Cameron Cleary<br/>~ 5 years ~<br/>Alice &amp; Dan Hurley<br/>~ 40 years ~<br/>Wanda &amp; Fred Wheeler<br/>~ 60 years ~</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>23</u><br/>Eileen &amp; Roger Ferguson<br/>~ 54 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>24</u><br/>Marjorie &amp; Thomas Ottman<br/>~ 55 years ~<br/>Cecelia &amp; George<br/>Woodward<br/>~ 30 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>26</u><br/>Debbie &amp; Robert Grafton<br/>~ 28 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>28</u><br/>Geraldine &amp; George Frentz<br/>~ 19 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>29</u><br/>Nancy &amp; Tom Pearo<br/>~ 20 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>30</u><br/>Barbara &amp; James Stoneman<br/>~ 54 years ~<br/>Jan &amp; Jerry Winters<br/>~ 32 years ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>31</u><br/>Sue &amp; Howard Kuntz<br/>~ 55 years ~</p> |

# TIDBITS FROM THE PARISH NURSE

## HELP FOR CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Here are a few tips to help your child safely handle the weight of books in his/her backpack. Whenever possible, "pack light--organize the backpack to use all its compartments. Pack heavier items closest to the center of the pack. The backpack should never weigh more than 10-20% of the child's body weight." (American Academy of Pediatrics, as found online at: <http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/augschool.cfm>)

## HELPING COUPLES COMMUNICATE (OTHER THAN GOING TO THE COUPLES RETREAT IN 2009)

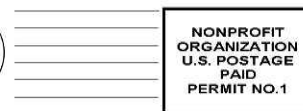
Here are a few helpful communication tips for couples (from the Relationship Research Institute):

- State your needs. Your spouse is not a mind reader, so don't blame him/her for not meeting your expectations.
- Listen to your partner's concerns. Listening and empathy are needed to move forward in a healthy relationship.
- Solve problems as they arise. Avoiding conflict only allows resentment to bubble beneath the surface, leading to anger and hard feelings.
- Learn to negotiate. Good relationships require give-and-take as people's needs change.

## HELP FOR DUST MITES

Allergic to dust mites? Replace your pillows every year. "Hair and body oils will have soaked into a pillow's fabric and stuffing after a year of nightly use, making it a breeding ground for odor-producing bacteria and allergy-triggering dust mites. Using protectors can double the life of your pillows." (Prevention, August 2008)

First United Methodist Church of Homosassa  
8831 W. Bradshaw Street  
Homosassa, FL, 34448



**We Are A Stephen Ministry Church**

**Visit our Web Site ~ [www.lumc.org](http://www.lumc.org)  
Neil Kline, Webmaster**

First United Methodist Church of Homosassa  
“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

**Rev. Mark Whittaker**  
Pastor

Sunday Schedule

Morning Worship: 8, 9:30 and 11AM

Nursery at all services

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30AM

Methodist Youth Fellowship: 12-2PM

Office Hours: Weekdays

8:30AM to 4:30PM

Office Telephone: 352-628-4083

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*Soli Deo Gloria*

