

GENESIS

NOVEMBER

2008
Volume 12
Issue 9

Developing Our Attitude Of Gratitude

Thanksgiving is a time to stop and think about the things for which we are grateful.

It is the custom in some places to place five kernels of corn next to one's plate as a reminder of what that first winter was like in the colony. We have much to be thankful for even in these troubled times, but often it's hard to remember to be grateful in the midst of uncertain turmoil.

Linda Douty in her book, *How Can I See the Light When It's So Dark*, suggests a number of ways to help develop our sense of gratitude. She explains that just as our physical muscles need exercise, so do our spiritual muscles. She suggests:

- Set a specific period of time (such as the 26 days of Christmas) - daily write someone a thank-you note. Think what spending a few minutes each day just saying thank you will do for your gratitude muscles.
- Gratitude rock – have a small stone or object you can keep in your pocket or purse as a visible reminder to take a moment to be thankful.
- Pay the bills – Write “Thank You” on the memo line of your check when you make it out. Think about the blessings that the phone company or the cable company bring to you. You can even say a thank you to the I.R.S. for the good things that happen with our tax dollars.
- Journaling – writing down some positive questions to ask yourself and then think through your answers. Ms. Douty suggests some questions: “Who touched or moved me today?” “What surprised me?” “What inspired me?”

Finally, my suggestion is to read some of the Psalms. Psalm 100 and Psalm 150 are two of my favorites. They sing for joy and praise the Lord for all he has done. The Psalms help us follow Paul's instruction: “*Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*” (1 Thess. 5:16-18)

We can offer our “thanks-giving” to God in so many different ways. Why not take some time during the holiday season to exercise *your* gratitude muscles?

You're Invited To Our Open House

For Iris and me, the Christmas season starts as soon as the leftovers from the Thanksgiving Turkey have been put back in the refrigerator. The first big event we get to enjoy doing is our open house.

We invite you to come and share in our celebration of the Christmas season on Sunday, November 30, from 2 to 4 pm. The parsonage is located at 8288 W. Barry Ct.

We will have all kinds of cookies and munchies so skip lunch (or at least skip your dessert) and enjoy this time of fellowship and holiday cheer with us.



Mark

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
 Fax: 352-628-9086
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 & Nurserv 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.

Lay Leadership Opportunities 2009

We are looking for people who are willing to answer Christ's call on our lives. The possibilities are almost limitless. Some of us have been called to be teachers or speakers. Some have been called to serve by sharing hospitality, and others have been called to use their skills and abilities to lead. Some are called to work together to make it happen. All are called to live by example what we say we believe.

Over the years our church has developed many different ministries and has several committees that help the church to continue to proclaim the gospel. The challenge is growing as we reach out in new ways to share the gospel with "the least of these my children."

If we are to continue these ministries of witnessing and outreach, worship and celebration, music and education, we are going to need the support and involvement of the members of the church.

This year we would like you to be able to see for yourself where your talents, skills and your spiritual gifts can be best utilized. If we are to be effective in outreach to our community and to the world, we need you to serve in the leadership of the church.

This is a listing of the positions that need to be filled if we are to change lives with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Some are centered on caring for our members, some are designed to allow us to celebrate God's presence in our lives, and some are administrative, created to help us do a good job of supporting and encouraging the different ministries of the church.

You are invited to look through the list and prayerfully consider where you can be involved. It is our hope that everyone in our church family will have an opportunity to put your God-given skills, talents and spiritual gifts to work for the Kingdom.

NUTURE:

- NURTURE AND MEMBERSHIP CARE COMMITTEE
- SPIRITUAL FORMATION
- LINDA'S LOAVES
- FEED MY SHEEP
- NEW MEMBER CULTIVATION AND ASSIMULATION
- DISCRETIONARY COMMITTEE
- CHURCH RECEPTION
- PARISH VISITATION CARE GROUP
- P.A.W.S. MINISTRY

WORSHIP:

- AUDIO/VIDEO—TAPE—SOUND COMMITTEE
- CREATIVE WORSHIP
- DRAMA GROUP
- COMMUNION STEWARDS
- USHERS
- CLOWN MINISTRY

STEWARDSHIP:

- COUNTING COMMITTEE
- FINANCE COMMITTEE
- COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE
- PERMANENT ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE
- TRUSTEES
- STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

- CHURCH COUNCIL
- LAY MEMBER TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
- ALTERNATE LAY MEMBER TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
- PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED METHODIST MEN
- SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
- DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAM
- EDUCATION COMMITTEE
- MISSION COMMITTEE
- STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE
- MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS COMMITTEE

For further information about any of these ministries feel free to call the church office at 628-4083 and talk to our church administrator, Theresa Weber. You will be directed to the right sources of information for your particular interest.

Or fill out the following Response Form, and either drop it off at the church office or put it in the Sunday Collection Plate.

Using The Talents We Have Been Given

With prayer and a joyful knowing I have been called by God to be in ministry to our church and to our world. I want to use my gifts and talents to make a difference. Here is (are) the group(s), ministries, committee(s) and/or outreach program(s) with which I would like to be involved in the church this year.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Name _____

Phone Number _____

E-Mail _____

Wise Discipleship

By Jan Wise

LIVING LIFE AS A DISCIPLE, LEARNING TO LOVE 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 my _____, if you love one another. (John 13:34-35 NIV)

When we read this verse, our tendency is to think we must have "warm, fuzzy feelings" toward every brother or sister if we are to love as Jesus did. One of the first things to learn about loving in the scriptural sense is a new definition of the word love. Try writing your sense of the kind of love Jesus is describing in this verse from John.

2) Phillip Keller writes, "Now love in a scriptural sense is not a soft, sentimental emotion. It is a deliberate act of my will." (*A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*)

He goes on to explain scriptural love as a willingness to "lay down my life, lay myself out, put myself out on behalf of another." John the disciple writes, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers." (1 John 3:16) What are some ways we might "lay down our lives, put ourselves out" for a brother or sister although we have no warm, fuzzy feeling toward that person?

3) Phillip Keller further explains that if we deliberately do something definite for God or others that costs us something, we are expressing love.

A) If I am in the midst of an unpleasant, unwelcome situation and, instead of complaining to God, I choose to offer him thanksgiving and praise, am I then expressing love? Psalm 50:23 says, "He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God." Jesus, the exact representation of the Father, said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command." (John 14:15) Though we love to "feel" loving toward the Father and the Son, what do these scriptures tell us about how we can show our love toward them?

So is it true that a sacrificial act of obedience is a way of loving Father and Son whether we feel particularly loving in the moment? _____ Explain how that can be.

B) We know that sometimes within the Body of Christ we have "enemies" - those who differ with us in understanding of the scriptures, who ignore our ideas of how the church should function, who say unkind things about us, etc. Yet they are our brothers and sisters.

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you that you may be sons of your Father in heaven."

Then Jesus asks, "If you love those who love you, what reward will you get...don't even the pagans do that?" (portions of Matthew 5:43-48)

How do you love a brother or sister who obviously does not like you, shows disgust with your ideas, talks about you unkindly, has enemy-type behavior toward you? Jesus says we are to _____ for that person.

1. To pray for a member of the Body of Christ who obviously doesn't care for me, what should I say? "Father, please make that person like me?" "Father, show him/her I'm right about this?" "Please, Father, fix our relationship so we can get along?"

One Bible teacher suggests praying for God's very best for the person exhibiting "enemy-like" behavior toward us. He suggests asking God to bless the person with all the good things and good relationships he (God) has in mind for that person. We can also ask forgiveness: "Father, forgive me for anything I do to contribute to this problem relationship and forgive my brother/sister, too." This is godly love in action. How do you feel about this way of expressing love? _____

2. How about political leaders who say they are followers of Jesus Christ, politicians who, if their claims are true, are brothers and sisters in Christ? Yet we dislike their political views so intensely that we find ourselves hating their messages and hating the messengers.

Again, if we agree to pray for them, it's often to ask God to show them where they're wrong (because we know only God can straighten them out) or asking him to keep them out of office. But, remembering that Jesus Christ died for that person just as he did for us, we can pray, "Lord, please draw him/her to yourself. Make your way clear, give your wisdom. And forgive where there is a lack of understanding of your will. Please forgive me, too, for my unloving attitude."

Why is this way of loving an example of what Jesus asks of us as disciples?

THINK ABOUT IT:

As you practice the love exercise of praying for someone for whom you have no warm "fuzzies," God may ask you to do something beyond prayer. Are you willing to be part of your prayer answer?

The Holy Spirit lives in the believer to teach us how to love and then to enable us to do it. Do we want to learn?

Jesus tells us how to love him and each other...
"If you love me, you will obey what I command."
(John 14:15)

Walking On The Path

By Patience Nave

"And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden." Genesis 3:8



The Parable of "Good Boy"

Catherine Wisheart, a member of our church, recently decided that she needed a live-in friend, so she went to the humane society to interview prospective companions. Her choices were many, but she soon chose a beautiful, smooth-haired black cat with white paws and a white bib.

Pleased with her new companion, Catherine and Fritz went home to get to know each other. To Catherine's dismay, the cat ran under the bed and refused to come out. For days he stayed there, only emerging to eat, usually when she was not around. She was *so* disappointed. She wanted to hold her cat, stroke him, talk to him, but he refused her advances. She called him "Good Boy," even though he was not. He kept hiding; she kept coaxing. Finally he emerged, unable to resist her urging. He soon realized how nice Catherine was to know and that he liked lying in her lap while she brushed his beautiful coat. Now they are friends, and he enjoys her fellowship as much as she does his. Her "live-in" friend now follows her throughout her house all day long. Catherine says Fritz is now officially "Good Boy," for the name is a perfect fit.

On hearing this story, I could not help but think how like us "Good Boy" is. God made us, chose us, and bought us for fellowship with him. But we are so frightened for him to know us as we really are that we, like "Good Boy" and Adam and Eve, run and hide from Him. All God wants is to enjoy our company and have us get to know Him well. He coaxes and gently urges us, calling us by the name that he knows we can become. But we hold out as long as we can, afraid of the one who loves us more than his own life.

"Good Boy" seems to me a modern-day parable, a current happiness in which God reminds us that he longs for a personal relationship with us. He wants us to discover the mutual joy such a shared fellowship can bring.

Prayer: Father, help us not to be like Adam and Eve, like "Good Boy." Keep calling to us as we hide from you. Help us to hear you when you call, come out of hiding, and welcome the opportunity for fellowship with you. Amen.

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING November 30, 2008



We need your support!

News from the Education Department

- Two current residents were accepted to the Early College program at Daytona State College. This program requires students to have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and pass the college placement test. Although these residents are only 11th graders in high school, they will spend part of their day attending classes at DSC to earn college credits. This two year program allows our resident to graduate high school with their High School Diploma and with an Associate Degree.

- In an effort to ensure the academic success of all the Children's Home residents, they send them to 14 different schools throughout the local community – wherever it seems the school track will serve their needs.

- 72% of the residents finish the school year with a "C" average or better.

- One recent graduating Senior has a scholarship to attend Florida Southern College.

- Many of the residents were involved in extracurricular activities at school including football, basketball, band, cheerleading and ROTC.

- A former resident and current FUMCH scholarship recipient has a summer internship in the Capitol building in Washington DC.

- A former resident, current FUMCH scholarship recipient and employee of the Home, has completed her bachelor's degree in Psychology at University of Central Florida.

- 50 residents made honor roll during the 2007-2008 year (which beats our previous yearly record of 33).

- Over 375 books have been read in the current centennial Read Challenge.

These are the wonderful gifts we have helped the Children's Home receive with our generous 5th Sunday donations. You can be very proud of your gift and how it helps the children.

~ Marsha Bader

Christian Education and Ministries

By Patience Nave

In this monthly column, I try to tell you all the opportunities open to you for Christian growth as we live out our mission statement: "Everyone becoming a disciple of Christ." Those opportunities are growing.

As the slight chill of fall energizes us in the morning, we welcome back many who summer somewhere north of here. Bible studies are beginning again, some new and some resuming after a brief summer holiday. Some meet in the morning, some in the afternoon, some in the evening. Call me and I will help you find the one that fits your needs and schedule. Perhaps you'd like to lead one yourself. Just let me know.

Disciple II has begun and would welcome newcomers. The class meets on Friday morning at 9:30 at the church. Disciple IV has resumed study for the completion of that course. You do not need to take these courses in sequence.

Financial Peace University has been meeting since early September, and those attending have high praise for the content and direction of the course as it helps us get a firm grasp on healthy management of finances. If you are interested in this course, call me. We may offer it again in the spring.

Plans are under way for a big celebration in the spring when we get into our great new facility. You will hear more about this in the next two or three months. Chuck Dixon is chair of this planning committee. Call him or me if you would like to be involved.

Some EBADOC Discipleship Academy classes on Sunday morning - for children, youth, and adult - will be moving when the new building is completed. You'll hear more about this as we reach completion of the building.

Marion Hamilton is chairing the Linda's Loaves Committee, and I appreciate her great work in organizing deliveries of bread to first-time visitors. If you are a baker and would bake an occasional loaf of bread, would you please call me. We need a few more bakers.

This month, I want to close with a word of encouragement from the scripture. It is so easy for us to fall into the trap of depression over the news of financial difficulties in the national/world markets. Banks change hands, houses don't sell, the T.V. sends frightening bad news over the air all day long! Remember these several promises that could/should/ cheer us up, brighten our day, give us hope. God says:

"I will supply all your needs *according to my riches* in glory in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19) (Italics mine)

"I will *never* leave you or forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6) (Italics mine)

"Neither the present nor the future, nor any powers . . . will be able to separate us from the love of God." (Romans 8:38)

"I am your refuge, your portion in the land of the living." (Psalm 142:5) (Italics mine.)

IN THANKSGIVING

KINDNESS: We are givers! In fact, sometimes we give so much to others that we forget to give to ourselves. But, how do we do when it comes to giving unconditionally?

When I hold the door open for a stranger or let someone pull in front of me in traffic, I expect a "thank you." Sometimes I even find myself muttering, "You're welcome!" under my breath with a twinge of resentment when I don't receive appreciation for my little "random act of kindness." Most people say "thank you" or wave their hand in appreciation, but there are always some who seem like they are in their own little world. I am not deterred by those few who do not respond, but it does make me rethink my motives.

Honestly, I hold doors open, etc., for the same reasons most of you do. It is the right thing to do, and I appreciate it when someone does it for me. Most importantly, I CAN do it, for which I am very grateful. I am grateful that I have the strength to open some of those doors! I am grateful that I have an automobile and the freedom to come and go as I choose.

I am going to focus on performing these little kindnesses UNCONDITIONALLY, without looking for or expecting a "thank you" in return. If we can begin with the "little things," the possibilities are endless! It is these everyday "little" things that prepare us for the big things the Lord may call us to do!

ABUNDANCE: *Planting Seeds of Generosity*

The most difficult time to be generous is when we ourselves are feeling poor. While some of us have experienced actually being in the red financially, there are those of us who would feel broke even if we had a million dollars in the bank. Either way, as the old adage goes, it is always in giving that we receive. One way to practice generosity is to give hope where it is needed. Giving money to a cause or person in need is one way to give such hope. Giving attention, love, or a smile to another person are other ways of giving we can offer. After all, there are people all over the world that are hungry for love, including many in our own backyard.

Sometimes, as with acts of kindness, when we practice generosity, we practice it conditionally. We might be expecting to "receive back" from the person to whom we gave. We might even become angry or resentful if that person doesn't reciprocate. However, trusting in the one who gives to us abundantly will help us practice generosity with no strings attached (unconditionally). This is the purest form of giving. Remember that what you send out will always come back to you. Selflessly help a friend in need without expecting that person to return a favor and know that you, too, will receive support from someone when you need it. We give freely because we trust in our Lord to provide our needs. Giving is an act of gratitude. Try "planting seeds of generosity" through your acts of giving, and you will experience fruits of abundance for yourself and those around you.

From the Desk of Barbara Mosser, RN, BSN

Striving to develop each of these attributes in ourselves will also help to enrich our wholeness in body, mind, and spirit.

Your Parish Nurse,
Sharon E. Smith

The Lands of the Bible

By Rev. Richard Evans

Myrna and I have been blessed with several opportunities to visit the lands of the Bible over more than two decades. We have traveled to Israel/Palestine three times and have walked where Jesus walked in Galilee and in Jerusalem. We have seen the remains of cities that flourished during the times of the kings and prophets of the Old Testament.

In Jordan we stood on a mountain where Moses stood, after leading the Israelites through the wilderness for forty years, looking across the valley to the land that God had promised. In Egypt we have seen the land from whence they came during the massive Exodus - with Pharaoh's army in hot pursuit - a land nourished by the Nile and marked with the impressive pyramid tombs of kings.

We have visited Greece three times and have stood on Mars Hill, in the shadow of the Acropolis, as we remembered the stirring sermon of the apostle Paul to the Athenians. We have walked the streets of Corinth and other cities where Paul lived and taught - none greater than Ephesus in southern Turkey.

And we spent a day on the Isle of Patmos where the apostle John was exiled and where he wrote the book of *Revelation*. Years later all of these places, and many more, are as vivid to me as they were on the days we first saw them. The Bible truly came alive in new and exciting ways as I saw for myself some the places where God led and spoke to his people - and where the Son of God was born, lived and taught, died, and rose again.

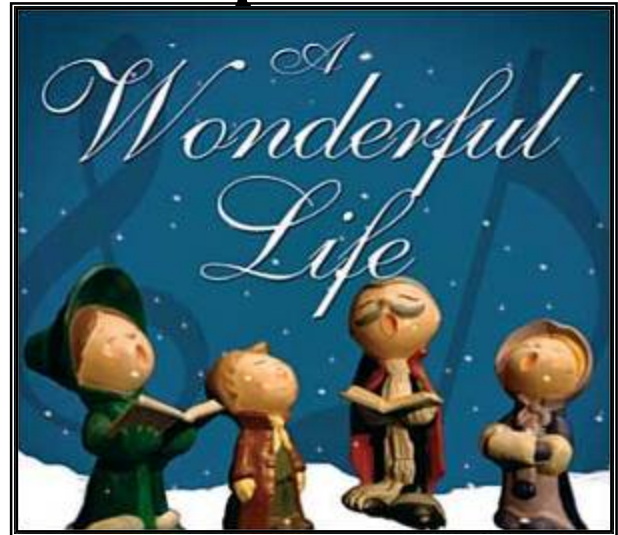
Now FUMCH is planning a spiritual adventure that will "pack" almost all of the above into one 12-day trip departing on Nov. 11, 2009. And you are invited! Pastor Mark Whittaker (and Iris) will lead the tour under the auspices of Educational Opportunities Tours of Lakeland FL. After flying from Tampa to Athens (via NYC) and one night at a hotel, the group will board the mv Cristal - a luxury cruise ship chartered by EOT.

Then unpack once - and for the rest of the tour enjoy the amenities of the ship as you move from port to port in the Mediterranean Sea. Guided shore excursions will be augmented by Bible presentations on board the ship and times of reflection and prayer at many of the biblical sites.

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

For more information see the displays in the lobby of the Worship Center and on the Travel Bulletin Board in the Administrative Center. Color brochures are available at the church office. After reading the brochure, if you have questions, call me (563-5833) or Pastor Whittaker. You may register directly with EOT (but please let the church office know so that we may keep track of "our group").

Church Trip Christmas Show



"A Wonderful Life" presented by
the Icehouse Theatre in Mount Dora.

Sunday, December 07, 2008, at 2:00 PM matinee

Cost is \$25.00 per person....this will include bus transportation and show. We will stop for dinner (at your own expense) after the show.

Departure from the FUMC parking lot will be at 12:00 noon.

Please call Bill Brobst at 621-3737 for your reservation and payment information. Please **DO NOT** leave or send your check to the church office. It will not be accepted there. Money is due with reservation, up until Nov.16.

The bus will be back on the road with qualified drivers.

HOLIDAY REMINDER! SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE



Please remember to stop either on
Sunday, November 16

or

November 23,

to sign up and pick your child
for the angel tree.
The children of Citrus County
will thank you!

Call Priscilla Frederick at 382-0422
with any questions.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Sunday, December 7, 2008

By Marsha Bader

I'm sitting at home, the beginning of October, and thinking that Christmas is just around the corner. It seems much too early, but now is the time to start making our plans. Many of you are probably busy with Christmas shopping and have a long list of people that you want to give "something special," but you don't know where to start. We are here to help solve your problem. How about giving a gift that will please the recipient, as well as help needy people in our own community, and around the world? This has been a financial worrisome year, but perhaps these gifts would be able to help someone else, and help our members to say "Merry Christmas" in a very special way.

Dec.7th we will have tables outside the church where you will be offered an opportunity to purchase gift greeting cards for your loved ones. There will be gift greeting cards for: Habitat of Citrus County, The Heifer Project and/ or The Society of St. Andrews. Instead of giving a meaningless gift or something that the recipient probably doesn't need, we can give a gift of love and help that will keep on giving and helping.

Maybe we can be a great help to you. With the Heifer International and friends like you, we can honor people with gifts of Heifer livestock and training. For more than 60 years, Heifer International and friends like you have been proving that there's no better way to help a family escape poverty and hunger than by providing them with sustainable means of supporting themselves.

The Society of St. Andrews is a national hunger relief organization that feeds hungry Americans by salvaging nutritious produce that would otherwise go to waste. Each \$12 gift donation to the Society of St. Andrews - announced with our exclusive Christmas card - helps provide about 800 servings of nourishing food, while honoring a family member or friend.

You may have seen the work in our own community done by Habitat of Citrus. They have many gifts to choose from and you can help by donating these items to help build a home for someone without a home of their own.

There are various items for your selection. Three weeks ahead of time we will have the prices printed in the bulletin on a special order blank for you to use in making your decisions.

This year you may bring a check written to our Church ("FUMCH") along with your order blank, and we will mail the order to the specified Organization.

The money given will not be shown on your Church "Offering List" as the money doesn't go to our Church but directly to the Charity.

So remember Dec.7th to bring your list and a check or cash in order to take advantage of this opportunity to get all of your (adult) shopping done with one check to one of these ministries. You will be proud of the Christmas certificates that you can send to someone for Christmas or perhaps put in their stocking. I'm sure they will love the gift and the thought that goes with it.



Please help us give some
**Holiday Cheer to
 SINGLE SOLDIERS
 With the 2nd Brigade,
 101st Airborne
 at Fort Campbell, KY
 Returning from Iraq!**

Directions:

Line the inside of a one-gallon Ziploc bag with Christmas paper. Fill it up with some goodies suggested below. Place a Christmas card in the bag from you. (Put your mailing or email address on the card if you'd like.) Zip it up and then drop it into the red box in the Narthex or Church Office.

Suggested Items:

Easy Mac and soups (in microwave bowl)
 Pudding cups, fruit cups (with pop-top lids), Salsa (12oz.), Reese's cups, Snickers, Kit-Kats, Candy canes, Oreos and chocolate chip cookies (snack size), Pop Tarts, Coke, Mountain Dew, Dr. Pepper (12oz. cans)

If you would like us to do the shopping for you, please donate \$10.00 (or whatever you can) and sign a Christmas card. We will fill a bag for you and make sure your card is in the bag, so the soldiers know who was thinking of them.

DEADLINE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

Thank you for helping these soldiers at such a special time of year. It will mean so much to them.

Contact: Pamela or Lynn DuBose at
 527-4388, Ldubose1@tampabay.rr.com
 with questions.

Please Note: Hugs For Our Soldiers is a
 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, so all
 donations are tax deductible.

Thank you.

A Unique Opportunity To Be A Blessing For Years To Come!

Greetings from Siberia,

We are anticipating another winter here as we watch the leaves change colors, yellow, red, orange; they are magnificent. For us the cold will be bearable even though we know we will reach temperatures of at least -40. We, unlike some people here, are fortunate enough to have something that most who will read this letter take for granted and that is windows. In the last months we have been working in the village and have noticed that there are several homes/apartments that have one pane of glass between them and the Siberian winter. Often the glass that is there is several pieces that have been glued/taped together.



A single pane of glass is all that keeps the frozen temperatures of the Siberian winter away from the residence of this house.

We have started a program that we are calling WOW (Windows of Warmth). Through this program, we would like to help people in this community by showing them *practically* the "warmth" of God's love by installing windows in the homes of those that are most needy of assistance. The community in former times was a farming community, but over the last 15 years jobs have all but disappeared. An income of \$200 dollars a month is considered a high paying job and is also very hard to come by.

When the cost of windows is too high, boards are put into place to keep out the cold but unfortunately this also keeps out the light.

We have found a place where we can purchase windows for around \$250 each, and then we have volunteers that are willing to help with the installation.

We realize that you get many letters each day requesting help in one way or another, but this is one instance that your help will truly be felt for years to come.



The first family we would like to help is that of a young widow whose husband was murdered last year. This is a recent picture of the girl and her 19 month old daughter. We would love to be able to help her with her new windows before the cold Siberian winter hits. We are in need of 4 windows for this family. If we get more money donated than is needed for this house, we have others that we can show the "warmth" of God's love to through WOW.

If you would like to help out with this, please send your tax-deductible donations to the following address, with WOW written in the memo line of the check.

**Solbon International
4 Lupine Circle
Albany, NY 12203**

Thank you so much for reading this and prayerfully considering how you can take part in WOW (Windows of Warmth).

Blessings,
Kevin and Laura Wooster



It's Salvation Army Bell Ringing Time and volunteers are needed to ring the bell for the needy this Christmas season. Sign-up days will be: November 2nd & November 9th between services in the Narthex.

Registration volunteers are also needed for the sign-up days. Please contact Wanda Ashley if you can help with registration at 628-2720 or 628-2335.

Youth News

by Neretta Brobst

“Building For Tomorrow” is a statement, a philosophy, a plan that can be applied to more than our bricks-and-mortar facility here at FUMCH. We also need to build toward the future in regard to our children and young people, for each of us will eventually be called to be with our Lord. We want to leave behind strong hearts, minds, and souls to preserve and improve upon what we’ve done. Therefore, we would like our soon-to-be-completed Youth Center to be a welcoming place for our youngsters, and we need to have their input and involvement.

Our future focus is to establish a social group for middle School students, the 11 to 14 year-old crowd, for whom social interactions and peer relationships are so very critical. We would like to see our Youth Center become a place in which they would feel comfortable, a place where they would want to spend time regularly and be excited to bring friends. The facility will be brand new, spacious, and well-equipped with electronics, games, work spaces, and lounge areas.

But we need KIDS to utilize these amenities, and we want to reach a target group - middle-schoolers - that are often overlooked or ignored. Ideally the YC would be a safe, secure, and pleasant fun place to gather. It would be a place where Christian behaviors and values would be practiced, and where youngsters could continue to discover their place in God’s world.

Imagine seeing youngsters working on projects, playing games, listening to music, or just hanging out. Imagine hearing youthful voices discussing issues, singing along to videos, challenging one another to excel, or just laughing with one another. Imagine the aroma of popcorn!

In the interest of getting started with a new program, we’re seeking 11 through 14-year-olds. We’ll ask them and their parents to provide us with suggestions and ideas about the kinds of programs and activities they’d like to have, and we’ll encourage them to become actively and responsibly involved in the Youth Center.

The completion date for this wonderful new facility will probably be sometime in February, but we’d like to get started with planning and preparation in November. We’ve begun contacting the children and families of whom we’re currently aware and soliciting their input.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? If you have a child or grandchild, niece or nephew, neighbor, or family friend in this age range, please let me know or ask them to contact me. We would love to have new youngsters become part of the program, to hear their ideas, and to share our ministry with them.

(And perhaps they just might invite some of the “young-at-heart” folks to enjoy the Youth Center, too!)

“Mrs. B”
Neretta Brobst
FUMCH: 628-4083
Home: 621-3736

EBADOC Discipleship Academy

There will be a presentation on the next unit Sunday, November 2, 3:00 p.m. in Room 111.

This next rotation will run from November 30 until December 21st or 28th (not sure yet.)

This new unit will be a study about the Advent season. If you would like to check it out and see if you would enjoy helping in any of the rotation areas, please join us for this presentation.

For my regular faithful teachers/helpers, I look forward to seeing you there.

Remember....I only need your help for two Sundays out of the entire rotation (unless you're having so much fun, that you want to stay around for the other Sundays!). Please call Kim Bennett at 382-3941 if you have any questions.

Your Will - A Check List

- __1. Name & Legal Residence. Have you moved or have you purchased property in another state since drafting your *will*?
- __2. Revocation of Prior Will. Do you need to revoke a misplaced *will*?
- __3. Name of Executor/Personal Representative. Is the person you have named still living and capable of representing you?
- __4. Specific Bequests. Do you wish to direct or re-direct certain amounts or items to specific individuals, organizations, or charities?
- __5. Residuary Estate. To whom have you assigned what is left after payment of administrative expenses? Possibly FUMCH or a favorite charity?
- __6. Survivor Clause. Have you designated the “presumed order of death” in the event that you and your spouse should die in a joint disaster?
- __7. Fiduciary Powers. What powers do you wish your executor or personal representative to have over the disposition of your property?
- __8. Signature, Witnesses, Notarization. What will be necessary in the state in which you make or amend your *will*?

Well, how did you do? Is it time to update your *will*? And, if you don’t have a *will* (or trust), please have one prepared ASAP! Otherwise the state in which you live at the time of your death will determine the disposition of your property.

--Submitted by the Permanent Endowment Committee



The Nature Coast Festival Singers

December 3

3 PM

HOLD THIS DATE!

You won't want to miss this!

The chorus will present the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah*, as well as other Christmas songs, in our sanctuary.

More information will be in the December "Genesis".

PRAYER CORNER

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- † Our pastor and staff -- daily.
- † All committee members as they seek the leading of the Holy Spirit and unity in all their decisions.
- † The finance committee as they work through the budgeting process following our wonderful stewardship campaign.
- † The women the Lord would have participate in the upcoming Women's Retreat to be sensitive and obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- † The building committee and all those who work with them to be strengthened, able to persevere as they continue to be led by the Holy Spirit in all their decisions. Also pray for safety of the workers and everyone else near our new facilities.
- † The men of our church who have recently returned from the Men's Retreat in Leesburg, as they put into practice what the Holy Spirit leads them to do.
- † Those involved in the music ministries as they prepare for the joyous, busy season ahead.
- † The new prayer ministries to be led by His Spirit and meet the needs of His people.
- † Our missionaries and our many mission projects.

Passionate Spirituality ~ Spiritual Disciplines ~

This is the third in a series of articles on the spiritual disciplines. This time we'll explore prayer and some of those spiritual disciplines closely related to it.

Prayer is one of those more common spiritual disciplines. Many people think they know all there is to know about prayer, while some feel inadequate because they are intimidated by the knowledge or prayers of others. All God really wants is for us to talk with Him – nothing fancy, just a two-way conversation. The Spiritual Formation Bible defines prayer as "Interactive conversation with God about what we and God are thinking and doing together." Please take a moment to think about that. Most of us tend to forget that prayer is communication *with* God. In order for there to be communication with anyone, at some point we have to be quiet long enough to hear the other speak! One of my favorite scriptures also helps me remember this, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." (1Samuel 3:9). I find it absolutely impossible to pray scripture and not listen. There are many books on prayer, so I'll move on to another means of grace.

Confession to God is usually thought of as a part of prayer. The Spiritual Formation Bible's definition of confession is "Sharing our deepest weaknesses and failures with God and trusted others, so that we may enter into God's grace and mercy and experience his ready forgiveness and healing." This definition goes a little beyond what we usually do in prayer and includes what happens in support groups, among close spiritual friends, in covenant groups, etc.

Silence is another spiritual discipline which seems related to prayer. It is "closing off our souls from 'sounds,' whether noise, music, or words, so that we may better still the inner chatter and clatter of our noisy hearts and be increasingly attentive to God." Silence helps us hear that other part of the conversation between us and God. Personally, I find it's very hard to truly hear God with the television on.

Solitude is a less familiar description than the others I've mentioned. It was practiced by many of the modern spiritual writers like Nouwen, Underhill, and Merton. Solitude is, "The creation of an open, empty space in our lives by purposefully abstaining from interaction with other human beings, so that, freed from competing loyalties, we can be found by God." Perhaps solitude has become more sought after because we are becoming more aware of how chaotic our world and our lives have become. Most of those seeking solitude do so for a short period of time.

If you would like to talk about any of the spiritual disciplines or have any questions, please feel free to give me a call. Let's practice the spiritual disciplines often and notice how God uses them in our lives. I'll be praying you experience His presence in new and exciting ways!

Marilyn Watson

With permission: Quotes from *The Renovaré Spiritual Formation Bible*, Richard J. Foster and others, eds. (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 2005), pp #515, 520, 530, and 531.

Construction Update on New Fellowship Center

As this is written, workers are putting the finishing touches on the outside of our new Fellowship Center. Roofing is complete and the building is now dry inside. Exterior surfaces have been covered with stucco, and decorative trim is in place at the front and at the side gables. Soffits and fascia are on, and roof flashing is nearing completion. Sidewalks, concrete pads for HVAC equipment, handicap ramp for the thrift shop, and fellowship hall entrance concrete pads have all been poured.

Inside, work is also progressing quickly. All of the room partitions are in place, and plumbing, electric, sprinklers, and HVAC duct work is all being installed. Plumbing, electric, and sprinklers are complete. Framing for the soffits that will provide an interesting and unusual ceiling effect in the fellowship hall are complete. Exhaust hoods for the kitchen are in place.

We have encountered some significant problems with HVAC duct work (not enough space in the truss area for the large ducts required), so the architect, engineer, and builder are all working on a solution. There is plenty of room for the ducts below the trusses, but this will put them below the roof fire wall and may require use of more expensive fire-activated dampers or relocation of the roof firewall or some combination of changes. Re-design and relocation will delay completion of the HVAC rough-in and perhaps sheet rock installation, but this should have only a minor effect on the final completion date.

Much of the low-voltage wiring rough-in is also complete – stage lighting, audio system, stage curtain, and projection mounts are all in place, and telephone, computer, and cable TV conduit and boxes are all in place. Sheet rock walls are just getting started, but some will be delayed until the HVAC problem is resolved completely. Nevertheless, rooms are taking definite shape.

The pace of all work has been surprising. Although the extensive rain and lightning storms of the previous several months resulted in quite a bit of lost time, and the HVAC duct problem has held up some work, construction is still ahead of schedule. We are looking forward to completion sometime in January, well ahead of the original projected date.

The decorating committee has been very busy of late, selecting colors and materials, and it will soon be time to order furnishings and equipment. As the rooms have taken shape and it has become 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. We have planned some tours of the new facilities for October 19, and, by the time you read this, many of you will have had a peek inside the new fellowship center.

Plans for the consecration of the new area are under way, and a committee has been formed to plan a gala celebration once we move into the new buildings. During the worship services, Sunday, February 22, 2009, there will be a special time of praise and prayer, giving thanks to God for all he has done to make the new facilities possible. Then that same Sunday there will be a service of consecration in the fellowship hall following the 11 o'clock worship service. Saturday, March 7, the gala celebration will be held. These are special times you won't want to miss.

Dave Marquis
Building For Tomorrow Committee



**WE HAVE MUCH TO BE
THANKFUL FOR!**

FINISHING TOUCHES ON THE OUTSIDE



Soffits being installed at the junction of the roof and wall throughout the new buildings.



Architectural elements are being added at the front of the new Fellowship Center. This front area will include a new lighted UMC Flame and Cross symbol.

INSTALLING AND INSULATING HVAC DUCTS



Large Air Conditioning and Heating ducts are being prepared for installation in the Fellowship Hall Ceiling.



Installed duct work is being insulated in the ceiling.

PULLING WIRE



Unbelievably large amounts of wire are required to supply electricity to the new Fellowship Center. (Left) Electricians are pulling string, then rope through the conduit.



Once the rope is in place, heavy gauge wire will be attached and pulled and pushed through the conduit using special machinery. (Left) Shown inside.



(Left) Working from the outside.

(Right) Just a few of the many large cables pulled into the building now hang in the corridor waiting to be attached to power supply boxes.



SHEETROCK ON THE INTERIOR WALLS



Stilts make it easier to reach the top of the panels. Now the finished room size and shape of the interior is readily apparent with the addition of the sheetrock.

FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP October 20, at 7 p.m. in Room 102.

A need has been expressed for a support group for individuals who live with Fibromyalgia. Several of us have talked about this for some time.

This support group will be open to the community as well as to our church family. If you know of someone who would benefit from such a group, we would be happy to welcome them. Questions may be directed to Sharon Smith, Parish Nurse at ext. 207.



We will be taking orders for Poinsettias to use for decorating the church during Christmas.

The price per plant will be \$10.

As we did at Easter, an envelope will be provided in the Narthex. Please follow the directions on the envelope and deposit it in the OFFERING PLATE.

We will be collecting on:
November 23rd, 30th and December 7th.

Plants may be picked up at the church AFTER the 11:00 PM service on Christmas Eve., or after Sunday Services on Dec. 28th.



Ida Bradley, Chairman



SEAMSTRESSES NEEDED!

to help make window treatments for our new building.
Please call
Myrna Evans (563-5833)
if you can help.

NEW MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 2008



Garrett & Irene Roelfsema
18 Hollyhock Court
Homosassa, 34446
382-3070
From Fremont, MI



Lucille Roy
1908 S Glen Eagle Terrace
Lecanto, 34461
628-6901
From: Lecanto, FL



Betty Starkey
11801 W Riverhaven Drive
Homosassa, 34448
628-2776
From: New Port Richey, FL



David & Crystal Wiseman
15 Scheffleria Court
Homosassa, 34446
503-7098
From: Warrington, PA



Jim & Joan Veronesi
79 Woodfield Circle
Homosassa, 34446
382-7193
From: Sulphur, LA

HELP SWEETEN CHRISTMAS FOR INMATES AT LANCASTER AND CITRUS COUNTY

In what has become an annual event we have been asked to provide 1000 candy bars for the inmates Christmas packages at Lancaster Correctional Institutional and 400 for Citrus County Detention Center.

The Missions Committee is asking the congregation to bring standard size (2.07 oz.) Snickers Candy bars to the church services on:



**November 30,
December 7,
and December 14.**

Officials point out it is very important that all bars be of the same kind and size to insure that everyone knows they are being treated equally.

A box in which to place the candy bars will be located in the church narthex. Cash donations are welcomed. Businesses in the area will be asked to assist.

Each candy bar will be wrapped with an appropriate Christmas message written by our pastor. Prison chaplains have stated these modest gifts are very meaningful because it shows that people on the outside do care.

**The Missions Committee would welcome
volunteers to help wrap the candy bars
at 3 p.m., Thursday, December 18.**

Jack Radabaugh
Missions Committee



FEBRUARY 20 - 22

The Women's Retreats provide women a time:

- to intentionally come away from the responsibilities of their home, children, families, and jobs;
- to set their feet on holy ground;
- to meet Jesus Christ face to face.

Keynote: Maisie Hartsfield

Music: Sue Sommer

Bible Study Leader: Crystal Barham

Devotional Leaders: Karen Rousseau

Marjorie Marie Johnson

Enrichments: Sue Sommer

Cheri Cowell

Denise Carpenter

Martha Pierce

Samantha Parrish

Hymn Sing: The Andersons

Make It Take It: Shireen Tripp

Brochures are available on the bulletin boards and in the narthex. For further information you may contact

Betty Blockus, Retreat Coordinator, at

bblockus@tampabay.rr.com or 352-621-1667,
Marilyn Watson at marilynww@netscape.com,
or the church office.

Dear Praying Friends,

With a stomach virus and various other maladies floating around Grace International School, the past month was one of stops and starts as Elaine, Brittany, Caleb and Jamie were down for days at a time with illnesses. Praise God they are all better now; perhaps we'll avoid the sickness parade this month! ("The Lord will sustain him on his sickbed and restore him from his bed of illness." – Psalm 41:3)

Praises:

✠ We are thankful to God for the opportunity to start a new church-planting team for PIONEERS in northern Thailand. Please pray especially for Joe in this process as he tackles numerous initial tasks that will prepare the spiritual soil for harvesting later on in the process.

✠ Elaine's health has improved dramatically after a month's time on a new long-term treatment plan. Praise God for this encouraging development, and please continue to pray for Elaine to feel better permanently. It makes a huge difference in her ability to do multiple ministries well.

Prayers:

✠ Please pray as Elaine works through chronological Bible stories with her church women's group and the children's Sunday School class. It is a tremendous opportunity to help these two important groups at Cool Shade of Life Church to understand the Bible and God more clearly.

✠ Our mission agency, PIONEERS, is now officially recognized by the Thai government as Pioneers International Organization in Thailand (PNT) under the Evangelical Fellowship of Thailand (which, in turn, is under the Thailand Department of Religion). The PNT board, on which Joe serves as secretary, will meet this month to discuss several important issues, including missionary visas. Please pray for wisdom and direction.

✠ The Thailand political situation continues to falter as protestors remain in control of the Thai equivalent of the White House while the party in charge now has the brother-in-law of exiled former leader Thaksin Shinawatra as prime minister. While there has been no violence lately, people in the country are discouraged and fed up with the whole struggle. Please pray for a spirit of compromise that will allow the country to move forward from political gridlock.

✠ One of the church families, who would like one day to open a church in their hometown in northeast Thailand, has asked Joe to teach the Bible one-on-one with the husband. Please pray for wisdom in making this happen and for it to be fruitful for Banjong and his family. Also, pray for healing for their daughter, Yok, who suffered third-degree burns on her shoulder and hands Saturday when a large pot of hot sugar spilled on her. (The sugar is the final ingredient of a snack they were selling at a weekend market.)

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



News
from the
Woosters
in Siberia

Giving Thanks.....For folks in America, November is the time of year when we get ready for that wonderful "feast" of Thanksgiving. Russia doesn't have such a holiday; however, we have a day where we *give thanks* for the harvest. It varies from one fellowship to another; but usually takes place the end of September or sometime in October. This year's harvest was a good one, the potato crop was very good, and the weather was extremely helpful...there were many things for which to give thanks. This is also a time of slaughtering the animals that have been "fattened" over the last year. We were again blessed with some lamb and a wonderful meal of "home grown" beef. The cabbages were huge so there will be "winter salad" well into spring. We were blessed to be a part of two such "feasts" this year and witnessed first hand how the Father has blessed our "friends" with food for the winter months.

We were also blessed to be a part of two different baptisms this year - one with the deaf/ hearing folks and one with our fellowship in the village. The oldest to be baptized was 86 years young and the youngest was 20 years old. This is a huge step in their walk in faith and we rejoice with those angels above in this public show of belief.

New Beginnings...New Life!



This couple is a sweet reminder of why we are here. This young lady was one of the first girls in our youth group seven or eight years ago. We have been privileged to watch her grow up not



only as a beautiful young lady but also grow strong spiritually. She has been a part of many outreaches to youth and young girls over the past few years, and now she and her husband are praying about serving the Lord as a couple. He has also been very much involved in the local fellowship and has been serving as a leader / elder for the last couple of years. We're excited for them both and ask you keep them in prayer as they search to do the Father's will for their lives.

Short Update: Deaf fellowship continues to have a study with families in a village about 30 min. from the city. The study is going quite well as they go through a foundational teaching of scripture about who God is and why the Bible is authentic to the good news and "final chapter" here on earth. The deaf/hearing fellowship is extremely busy with about 12 different home studies as well as a weekly women's inductive study of the Bible. For a second year, they are also offering their camp facility on Lake Baikal to families or groups. In last month's issue, we talked about the "yurts" or round tents, that had been winterized...this is open as a winter camp where you can stay any length of time for a certain price that can include a cook and someone to keep the fires going. Their hope is to make some money in the venture to use towards other outreaches in the region.

Village Life: Things continue to move slowly, at least in our thinking, but we're learning to wait on His timing and follow His direction. The ladies are busy coming up with new ideas of wool items to sell. They make great wool slippers, socks, pocketbooks, stool covers, eyeglass cases, and a variety of other small items. They continue to work out details on how best to market and sell the items in the region and eventually abroad.

We continue to press on and are so thankful for *your* notes of encouragement and faithful prayers and support in the work. We have been blessed with some funds to be back for the holidays with our boys. Our hope is to drop in and spend some time in Homosassa while we're in the US.

I (Laura) have been reading in John lately and was reminded of just how much we are so loved, the price that was paid for each of us, and our need for a relationship with the Father. John 15:5 says; *"I am the Vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."* Thank you for standing with us for such a time as this.

Serving Together,
Kevin & Laura Wooster

Dear Church Family,

We want to express our appreciation for the love you have shown us during Paul's illness.

We're thankful for your cards, calls, visits, and generous food contributions.

Most of all, we thank you for your prayers and ask you to keep praying as Paul continues to recover.

Paul & Betty Huffstutler
and family



IN MEMORIAM

Betty Jane
"BJ"
Smith


January 27, 1926
To
September 21, 2008

Blood Mobile Sundays

November 9, 2008

January 11, 2009

March 15, 2009




*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



**Food
Pantry
Needs**

SHOPPING LIST

- Canned Vegetables
 - Soups
- Canned Meats or Stews
 - Tuna
- Peanut Butter
 - Jelly
 - Pasta
 - Rice
- Canned Fruit
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Mac & Cheese
- Saltine Crackers
- Ramen Noodles
- Boxed Mashed Potatoes

The third Sunday of every month is **PANTRY SUNDAY**.

The demand for food has been quite sizable this past year. There is great need in this ministry. Please help us help those in need. All contributions are highly appreciated!

November Birthdays

1
Judy Bunting
Jan Wise

2
Robert Severance
Catherine Wischart

3
Bob Specht

4
Helen Hudson
Fred Wheeler

6
Hershel Fogleman
Tom Pearo
Frank Wais

9
Dottie Baker
Fern McWilliams
Marsella Rutter
Jo Ann Ryan

11
Jeanne Balmer
Emily Merson
Shirley Phillips
Rick Workman

12
Gunter Fahl
Gloria Megos

13
John Austin
Adam Will

14
Eleanor Smith

15
Colleen Powers Bellville
Martha Dorrell
Joan Eyster
Ann Mayles

16
Dan Nygaard

17
Wes Harris
Joan Ness

18
Beverly Calkins

19
Geraldine Frentz
Ruth Rittgers
Margrurite Seely

20
Helen West
Jeri Wrenn
Roger Kirby

22
Charles McCreery
Angie Watson
Lowanda Wells

23
Cecelia Woodward

25
Marcia Bader

26
Anna Cooley

27
Lyle Lee

28
John Dewart
Samantha McCallister

29
Helen Bachman

30
Charles McWilliams



November Anniversaries

4
Ann & Jack Fasnacht
~ 58 years ~

6
Barbara & Gene Lantz
~ 54 years ~

Dot & Jack Reed
~ 65 years ~

7
Marge & Walt Dilling
~ 50 years ~

8
Shirley & William Dunkle
~ 50 years ~

10
Ruth & Larry Healy
~ 63 years ~

11
Joan & Robert Clanfield
~ 2 years ~

13
Edythe & Richard Shaffer
~ 54 years ~

20
Jeanne & Harvey Comfort
~ 63 years ~

23
Mary Joy & Earl Speicher
~ 40 years ~

24
Elaine & Glenn Harwood
~ 43 years ~

Ann & John Mayles
~ 58 years ~

26
Anna & John Cooley
~ 55 years ~

27
Sally & Dean Moore
~ 32 years ~

Joy & Jim Potts
~ 15 years ~

30
Helen & Marvin West
~ 48 years ~

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
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

Deadline Notification

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

The deadline for the December issue of Genesis will be 10 AM, Friday, November 7, 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.

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.

Judith Huffer, Editor

November 2008

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

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



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We Are A Stephen Ministry Church

**Visit our Web Site ~ 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

Submissions to Genesis:

Judith Huffer, Editor

Jan Wise, Copy Editor

Mary Lee Millikin, Editorial Assistant

Photography: Neil Kline & Dave Marquis

Email: judithann@tampabay.rr.com

Soli Deo Gloria

Thank you,
Lord!



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