



GENESIS

NOVEMBER 2009 ~ VOLUME 13 ~ ISSUE 9



~ It's All In How You Look At It ~

Times are tough right now. The world is reeling under the assault of the economic disaster that is only now beginning to abate. Things are also tough right here – where the rubber meets the road, where somehow we have yet to feel any of the “relief” and “recovery” being reported as happening in our country. We seem to be caught in a freeze, with nothing moving very fast or very far. So we wait, hoping that things will get better. There doesn't seem to be much to be thankful for this year. The reality is that prices are up, and income is flat or down. Stress and fear about the job situation and whether someone working now will still have work next month is an anxious part of life for a large percentage of people.

Perhaps though, it is all in how you look at it. Rev. Dale Schoening wrote in an article called “Ironic reasons to be Thankful”--

“I am thankful for the taxes I pay, because that means I am employed.

“I am thankful for the shadow that watches me work or play because that means I am out in the sunshine.

“I am thankful for the lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing, because it means I have a home.

“I am thankful for all the complaining I hear about the government, because that means that we have freedom of speech.

“I am thankful for clothes that fit a bit too snug, because it means I have enough to eat.

“I am thankful for the alarm that goes off in the morning, because it means that I am alive.”

Times are not good, but we still have more than enough to be thankful for if we stop looking for things to complain about and look for the things we can celebrate.

The Apostle Paul instructed, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

As Christians we have a choice—it is all in how we choose to look at it!



Pastor Mark

Special Worship Services

By Rev. Richard Evans

From November 11 through 22, Pastor Mark and Iris Whittaker will lead a Cruise Tour to the Bible lands of Israel, Egypt, Greece, and Turkey. The tour group consists of 26 members and friends of FUMCH. They will visit many of the places where Jesus lived and taught, and they will follow in some of the footsteps of the Apostle Paul.

On the two Sundays that Pastor Mark will be away, retired UM Pastor Ernie Dorrell will lead the three services of worship and I will preach the sermon at all three. Yes, Mark, it takes two of us to replace you when you are away!

On November 15 my sermon title will be “Meet the Master!” The sermon will be illustrated with a few photos I have taken of some of the places where Jesus lived, taught, died, and rose again—the same places being visited by our friends on the Bible Lands Tour.

On November 22 (Thanksgiving Sunday) my sermon title will be, “Into All the World with a Thankful Heart”—illustrated with a few photos I have taken of places in the life and journeys of the Apostle Paul.

I invite you to one of our three services of worship (8:00, 9:30, and 11:00) on those two Sundays. In solidarity with our traveling friends, we will “meet the Master” and consider what it means to “go into the world with thankful hearts.” With pictures of some actual places in the Lands of the Bible, it may just be the next best thing to being there!



~ REMINDER ~
**DAYLIGHT SAVINGSTIME
ENDS: NOVEMBER 1, 2009**

Serving Members and Friends of The First United Methodist Church of Homosassa
~ Open Hearts ~ Open Minds ~ Open Doors ~
We Are A Stephen Ministry Church

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

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Website

www.lumc.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

Shirley Exley

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



**"The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy." ~ Psalm 126:3**

Within The Church

Worship Services

Ushers

Greeters

Music Ministries:

Choirs: Children's Choir

Men & Ladies Ensembles

Handbells & Chimes

Christian Education:

5 Adult Sunday School Classes

Children's Sunday School

Youth Ministry

Communion Stewards

Lenten Soup Supers

Library

Prayer Ministry

UMW Circles

Tape Ministry

Blood Bank

Visitation Care Group

Parish Nurse Ministry

Wednesday Night Dinners

Disaster Relief Programs

Funeral Receptions

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
Thrft 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 & State Travel Groups
Welcome Bags
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)
Fibromyalgia Support Group
Saturday Sisters
Contemporary Issues
Bereavement Group
P.A.W.S.

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.

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
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

Wise Discipleship

by Jan Wise



Grace—in the Old Testament and New

We often speak of the time after Jesus' death and resurrection as the "Age of Grace." But God has always been a gracious God. David wrote, "But you, O Lord, are a _____ and _____ God, slow to _____, abounding in _____ and _____." (Psalm 86:15)

Before God drove Adam and Eve from the Garden so they could not eat of the Tree of Life and live forever as separated-from-God beings, he made garments of skin to cover their nakedness. That act is the first mention of the shedding of blood in the Bible and begins the scarlet thread of redemption. This thread runs throughout the Bible, bearing the theme, "...without the shedding of _____ there is no _____." (Hebrews 9:22)

Leviticus 17:11 gives God's explanation: "For the life of a creature is in the _____, and I have given it to you to make _____ for yourselves on the altar; it is the _____ that makes _____ for one's life."

The disciples who followed Jesus during the three years of his ministry would have been very familiar with the Old Testament shedding of blood as atonement for sin. They would have known of the daily sacrifices made in the wilderness Tabernacle and of the sacrifices being made in the Temple during their lifetime.

During the wilderness history of the Israelites, sacrifices were made continually, both for worship and for the forgiveness of sin. Each animal brought for sacrifice had to be perfect. The person bringing the sacrifice would place his hands on the head of the animal and confess his sin (s). This signified the transfer of the person's sins to the animal, which he would then kill and watch as the priest performed the placing of the blood on the altar. In this way, the priest would make atonement for him, and he would be _____. (Leviticus 4:31b) In addition to the daily sacrifices, the High Priest would enter the Holy of Holies (never without blood) once a year to place blood on the mercy seat, atoning for his personal sin and those of the people.

Because of the priests' continuous role caring for the

sacrifices of the people, there is no mention of any chairs in the furnishings of the Tabernacle—the priests were too busy offering sacrifices to sit down.

Another note of interest is the focus of the priest. He looked over each sacrifice carefully, making sure it was perfect. He focused on the suitability of the sacrifice, not on the sinfulness of the one bringing the sacrifice.

Hebrews 9:9b tells us "that the gifts and sacrifices being offered [in the O.T.] were not able to clear the _____ of the worshiper. They were only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—_____ regulations applying until the time of the _____ order." These external offerings could not deal with the conscience, with that inward sense of guilt and condemnation resulting from sin.

The O.T. offerings commanded by God were accepted as enough for those days. They pointed to the time when a perfect, once-for-all sacrifice for sin would come. The perfect Son of God would give his life for all sinners, and those who believed in him would find themselves changed both inside and out. Paul wrote, "Therefore, if _____ is in Christ, he is a _____; the old has _____, the new has _____!" (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The author of Hebrews wrote, "How much more, then, will the _____ of _____, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself _____ to God, cleanse our _____ from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!" (Hebrews 9:14) Then Paul wrote, "Therefore, there is _____ no _____ for those who are in Christ Jesus..." (Romans 8:1) Jesus' shed blood made us new creatures and freed us from guilt and condemnation, cleansing our consciences in a way that the O.T. sacrifices could not do.

THINK ABOUT IT:

- As we think about Jesus as our High Priest, what do his words, "*It is finished,*" mean?
 - Hebrews 10:12 tells us, "But when this priest [Jesus Christ] had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he *sat down* at the right hand of God." What is the significance to us of Jesus sitting down?
 - According to the O.T. pattern, when we go before God to confess a sin, what does he look at—the awfulness of our sin or the perfection of the sacrifice covering our sin?
- Do we rest in the grace provided through Jesus Christ's atonement, or do we heap guilt and condemnation on ourselves, dwelling on our sin, trying in some way to atone for what we have done by working hard, serving earnestly?

DO WE REALLY RECEIVE GOD'S UNEARNED, UNMERITED, UNDESERVED FORGIVENESS?

November 2009						
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					

~ United Methodist Women ~
Important Upcoming Events and Dates

December 2009						
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	31		

November 5 & 6 -

SET-UP for UMW Annual Bazaar.

Please consider giving some of your time to assist. Starting 8:30 AM and going on until 3 PM help is requested in the task of pricing items. Any time you could give us will be appreciated. "Many hands makes light work."

GOT TRASH AND TREASURES?

Start cleaning out your closets and garages! Ruth Circle will be collecting items at the church on Thursday and Friday

November 5th & 6th ONLY.

Please hold your items at home until then.

November 7th – UMW Annual Bazaar.

Each Circle has their responsibilities.

November 9th – UMW Executive Board Meeting at 10:00 AM in Room 114. **Key topic: Charitable Gifts;** all UMW Officers, Circle Leaders and Mission Coordinators please make every effort to attend this important meeting!

All Circles will meet in November –

- ✚ DORCAS - Study, "Confronting The Controversies."
- ✚ HELPING HAND - Study, "Walking With Jesus."
- ✚ FAITH HOPE - Study, "Changing Sudan -- Changing Us."
- ✚ RUTH CIRCLE - During this reorganization period there is no one topic of study, but event preparations are ongoing.
- ✚ SALTY CIRCLE - Selected monthly topics are studied.

Attention Circles!

"World Thank" Offerings and PLEDGE monies are due in November for the Treasurer's Annual Report.

November 14th – Post Bazaar Yard Sale.

We will open this event at the same time as the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast - 7:00 AM. See Pat Blake for details.

November 14th - Florida Conference UMW Annual Meeting at First United Methodist Church in Lakeland, FL. "Serving at the Table" Program, lunch, resource center and child care. Key-note Speaker: Marva Usher-Kerr, Executive Secretary for Mission Opportunities at Women's Division and Past President of the New York Conference United Methodist Women. Forms are available from Kim Bennett or Circle Leaders.

Saturday, December 12 - Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon at 11:30 AM.

We will have our Unit Meeting on Saturday, December 12th, to accommodate our new SALTY Circle, as well as those that will be traveling for the Christmas holiday.

Program: Installation of Officers for 2010
by Martha Dorrell

Unit Meeting Leader: Executive Committee.
Hostesses: Dorcas Circle.

Please bring your Christmas cookies to the Unit Meeting and we will have a "packing party" to prepare for our **Cookie Sale on Sunday, December 13th** (at the request of Pastor Mark.) For any questions contact Chairpersons: Ruth Oblinger and Mim Currier.

Sunday, December 13 - Annual Cookie Sale

Cookies will be sold between services in the Hospitality Center. Get there early...they go quickly!

December 14th – UMW Executive Board Meeting at 10:00 AM in Room 114.

WELCOME NURSE SHIRLEY!



Let me introduce myself - I am Shirley Exley, your new parish nurse. I graduated from Rhode Island School of Nursing in 1950 and have worked in Connecticut, Nevada, and Florida. I retired in 1998, after 51 years of nursing. When we moved to Florida in 1960, we thought we would raise rabbits. We ended up with 600 breeding does and about 50 tired bucks. This only lasted about 2 years and then I returned to nursing in hospitals, home health, as a construction site nurse at Florida Power, and with Hospice. The latter was the most gratifying experience of my career.

This is my first position as a parish nurse, and I strongly feel it has been by God's design that I am here. Here's to you, my new friends, here's to "getting to know you."

"Commit your works to the Lord and your plans will be established." *Proverb 16 - Vs.3*

What A Stephen Minister Means to Me:

This was written by the sister of one of our Stephen Ministers. These are her thoughts of what a Stephen Minister means:

God has chosen you and me to be together.

Let me walk with you as Jesus makes your journey smoother.

Let us talk that Jesus will lighten your load.

Let us pray together that our Father in heaven will show you his love and knit our hearts together.

L.A.M.



Call our Stephen Leaders:

Kay Bast 382-4908

Karen Kline 382-7263

Carol MacKenzie 382-8926

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

The decorating committee will be taking orders for poinsettias to use for decorating the church during Christmas.

The price per plant will once again be \$10.00. An envelope will be provided in the narthex. Please fill out and include cash or check made out to FUMC and place in the envelope and put in the offering plate.

**We will be collecting these on
November 29 and December 6.**

Poinsettias may be picked up at the church after the 11:00 PM Service on Christmas Eve or Sunday, December 27.

We appreciate your support to make our church look lovely for the Christmas season.

Judy Powell



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY Dinners

Wonderful Wednesdays are in full swing again.

November dates are the 4th and 18th.

Meals are served at 5:30 PM.

Registration is required by either signing up in church in the pew pad or by calling the church office no later than Monday of the week the dinner is scheduled.

New chef Bill Britland and coordinator Barbara Sayers, along with the rest of the great crew, welcome all to come and enjoy a great meal and terrific fellowship. Would you like to help out? It is lots of fun working on the "crew." We are setting up teams so that the commitment is evenly distributed. If you would like to help out, please contact Barbara Sayers at bjsfl@live.com or at 508-237-0387, or leave A message at church office.

BIG THANKS YOU!

Thanks to the energetic crew that kept our Wednesday dinners going for the past few months with the covered-dish meals. We appreciate what you all did.



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 from the Angel Tree.
The children of Citrus County will thank you!

Call Priscilla Frederick at 382-0422 with any questions!



Coffee and Fellowship

In the Hospitality Center
Between Sunday Services

B E L L -

R I N G E R

T I M E



Charlie & Bunny Wade 2008

The traditional red kettle is an integral part of the Christmas scene.

This year we will be ringing the bell at the Sugarmill Publix starting on November 20 from 9-7.

**Registration will be on
Sunday, November 1st & November 8th
in the Narthex at 9:15 and 10:30 (between services).**

Please call Wanda Ashley at 628-2720 day or 628-2335 night if you have any questions or would like to register early.



GIVE THANKS FOR OUR CHURCH LIBRARY

The books listed each month are just a sample of the many that are on the shelves of the Church Library.

You are invited to come in and browse.

When you take a book, simply date and sign the pocket card and leave it in the basket on the office desk.

Library hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Monday through Friday,
and also on Sunday morning.**

1. We have six novels by Carl Hiaasen. The locale is somewhere in Florida and all are mysteries. He is a master of the comic crime novel. The plots are quickly paced, the characters are colorful, and the author incorporates a lot of banter and humor. The titles are "**Lucky You**," "**Double Whammy**," "**Basket Case**," "**Tourist Season**," "**Native Tongue**," and "**Stormy Weather**."

2. We have a saga by Patricia Hickman. The novels are set in Australia and are incorporated under "**Land of the Far Horizon**," but are divided into five separate books. The first takes George Prentice from the foreboding jailhouses of 18th century England to the dramatic founding of the first colony in Australia. It is one of the family's stories of courage and hope in the face of insurmountable circumstances. The title is "**Voyage of the Exiles**." Follow the characters as they battle the wild Australian frontier.

Book 2 is "**Angel of the Outback**" followed by Book 3, "**The Emerald Flame**." Book 4 is "**Beyond the Wild Shores**," and Book 5 is "**The Treasure Seekers**" that takes place during the Australian Gold Rush.

3. "**A Hearth in Candlewood**" by Delia Parr is a large-print edition. It is Book 1 of the Candlewood Trilogy. The setting is Hill House, a stately boardinghouse in the canal village of Candlewood, New York. Emma Garrett finds her purpose in caring for her guests with a generous dose of wisdom and humor. Her life changes when a "runaway grandma" lands on her doorstep, and she is placed in the midst of a family feud and an uncertain future.

4. "**The Love Languages of God**" by Gary Chapman. The author states that there are five love languages and that one of them is special to you as an individual. He helps discover your Primary Love Language and your relationship with God.

5. A devotional by Thomas Kinkade entitled "**With Wings Like Eagles**" is a lovely book that pairs a daily devotional with Kinkade's nostalgic, light-infused artwork with patriotic words that create an inspiring look at our American and Christian heritage.

6. "**The Finishing Touch**" by Charles R. Swindoll, a daily devotional to help us become God's masterpiece. He challenges today's "I'm getting tired so let's just quit" mentality. We don't hear about sticking with something until it's done. The book says that God wants to touch us and be our strength in the struggle to finish well.

7. "**Travelling Light**" by Max Lucado. We all lug loads we were never intended to carry such as fear, worry, discontent. We're worn out from carrying excess baggage. With the 23rd Psalm as our guide, we can release some of the burdens from the luggage of life.

8. "**Ladies of Liberty**" by Cokie Roberts, a political commentator for ABC News and a weekly syndicated newspaper column. She fills a gap in our coverage of biographies of women of history, the women who shaped our nation. She blends biographical portraits with behind-the-scenes vignettes chronicling women's public roles and private responsibilities.

9. On the political agenda is Bob Woodward's book inside the Clinton White House titled "**The Agenda**." Woodward discovered how the Clinton White House really worked. What emerges is a group portrait of Clinton's innermost circle of advisors in action - including his wife Hillary, Vice-President Gore, Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bensen, and the economic team, etc, an extensive archive of the Clinton presidency.

10. **"The Color of Water"** by James McBride. As a boy, James knew his mother was different but when he asked, she'd say, "I'm light-skinned." When he asked if he was black or white, she said, "You're a human being." And when James asked what color God was, she said, "God is the color of water." As an adult, James finally persuaded his mother to tell her story -- the story of a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland and raised in the South, who fled to Harlem, married a black man, founded a Baptist church, and put twelve children through college. A tribute to his remarkable, eccentric, determined mother - and an eloquent exploration of what family really means.

11. **"Sam's Letter to Jennifer"** by James Patterson. Have you ever gotten a letter that changed your life completely? This novel is about that kind of drama. A woman is summoned back to the town where she grew up and, in the house where she spent her most magical years, she finds a series of letters addressed to her. Each letter is a piece of a story that will completely upend the world she thought she knew - and throw her into a love more powerful than she ever imagined could be possible. Two extraordinary love stories are entwined, full of hope, pain, and emotions.

12. Debbie Macomber has written 3 books. The first is **"Susannah's Garden."** Susannah Nelson is fifty and find herself regretting the paths not taken. Long married, a mother and teacher, she should be happy but she feels there's something missing. In returning to her parents' house, her girlhood friends and the garden she's always loved, she returns to the past and the choices she made back then. What she discovers is that things are not always as they once seemed. Some paths are dead ends, but some gardens remain beautiful.

The other two books take us to Blossom Street, a street in Seattle where you'll find what you're looking for. There's a new shop called Susannah's Garden, owned by Susannah Nelson and it's right next door to A Good Yarn. Susannah has hired Colette and they both join Lydia Goetz's new knitting class. A lot of the women have personal problems and worries, but there is a solution to every problem and usually another woman can help you find it.

Next is **"Summer on Blossom Street"** and **"Knitting and Life."** They're both about beginnings and endings. Knitting is a lot like life - dropped stitches and all. That's why it makes sense that Lydia Goetz, owner of A Good Yarn on Seattle's Blossom Street, offers a class called Knit to Quit. It's for people who want to quit something - or someone - and start a new phase of their lives. They find that life can be as complicated as a knitting pattern but when life gets difficult and your stitches are snarled, your friends can always help.

We also have AUDIO TAPES in the Library that include **"The Story Teller's Collection"** by Jerry B. Jenkins, Randy Alcorn, and more authors, bringing tales of far-a-way places. Another is **"Experiencing Spiritual Breakthroughs"** by Bruce Wilkinson and is for believers who are ready to take action for lasting life changes.

Happy Thanksgiving from your Library Staff

Helen Lefave and Barbara Jackson

(From Your Editor: Here's a coloring picture for all you church youngsters who are visiting the library on Sunday mornings.)



Education and Ministries

Patience Nave

I read the other day about several churches that have closed their doors because there is no congregation, thus nothing to warrant their continuing. How sad. How grateful we should be that our church is a thriving, busy, loving, out-reaching, and giving fellowship. I continue to be thankful for each one of you, for the generous manner in which you support our programs, for the unselfishness of your hearts that prompts you to give and give and give, for your productive brains that keep thinking up projects for us to do as we stay involved in the lives of our church and community. You surely keep me busy, but it's a good busy.

We have a lot of things happening:

- ✓ I am working on and hope to finish soon our Advent devotional. You might join me in praying that I can complete it before we leave on the Bible Lands Cruise; otherwise we may not have it ready in time for Advent.
- ✓ The team to go to Haiti next spring is growing, and I am excited about what we will do there. By the time you get this edition of Genesis, we'll have had the dinner to raise money. I spoke to a group at the Hernando UMC, and I think they are going to work with us on this project. We will have at least two of their members on the team, possibly four.
- ✓ The movies will begin shortly. They will be on Monday night, with one night dedicated to films for "grown ups" and another for the ladies. If we need a matinee, we can also have that. On both, you'll have to sign up ahead of time because of limited seating. Also, if there is a need for a sitter for the children, you'll need to let me know so that we can have someone here.
- ✓ The movies for the children will begin about the same time and be scheduled for Saturday morning, with a light snack/lunch following the film. It too will have to be by reservation due to seating capacity.
- ✓ Very shortly, you'll hear about a film in the afternoon about the Apostle Paul. I have just seen this film, lent to me by Betty Blockus. It is excellent. The areas that we read about in Paul's travels become so real and clear to us as we see them on the screen. Those traveling with Pastor Mark in November may want to see the film before going.
- ✓ A group continues to meet every Sunday evening for one hour for prayer—for our church family's needs, for our church leadership, for the community, and for the nation. We don't talk about prayer. We pray. It is a wonderful time of fellowship with each other and with the Lord. We welcome anyone who wants to join us. We begin at 6:00, sing one song, and pray. We end promptly at 7:00. We would welcome any and all who would care to join us.

I hope your Thanksgiving is filled with much joy as you contemplate how fortunate we are to be so blessed. If you are not going to go away to be with family, perhaps you can either join others here at the church for dinner or invite someone who will be alone to join you at home.

God bless you as you spend this special day in appreciation for where we are, who we are, and what God has done in our lives!

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for:

- Our pastor and staff.
- Each one of us to seek ways to grow as disciples of Christ.
- The choir as they prepare special music for Advent.
- The finance committee as they finalize the 2010 budget.
- The youth and those who work with them.
- Each person who is continuing or taking on a leadership position in our congregation.
- The ministries we've been hearing about; this month let's pray esp. for the Hospitality Ministry and find ways we can help.
- Those who have taken on the Wonderful Wednesday Ministry (Christian Fellowship is a *spiritual discipline*.)

FUMCH Thrift Shop

It's the time of year to clean out those garages, attics and closets. It's time to clean out for a good cause. So drop by to say hello and bring in your gently used items.

Opened Thursday, Friday,
and Saturday from 9:00 to 1:00.

The gals at the Thrift Shop.

26th Annual Florida Conference Women's Retreat "Be A Blessing"



God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done.

2 Corinthians 9:8
(The Message)

More details are available on the bulletin boards and in the bulletins. Any questions call Marilyn Watson. To sign up call the church office.

Cruise the Thousand Islands

Sept. 19-27, 2010

By Rev. Richard Evans

Cruising through the Thousand Islands on the St. Lawrence River, nature's northern masterpiece unfolds with each nautical mile. Within one 50-mile stretch on the world's largest river, you will find no less than 1,870 islands. In those thousand islands (birthplace of the world famous Thousand Island Dressing), you will explore intricate river channels, sumptuous greenery, and mysterious coves, nooks and crannies veiled in folklore.

Here you will see opulent summer residences including mansions and castles. These islands have been the summer homes of many of the rich and famous: the Astors, the Pullmans, Helena Rubenstein, Irving Berlin, Mary Pickford, the McNallys, and a host of others.

The autumn leaves should be brilliant, the shore excursions interesting, the food and lodging first-class, and the company charming—with more than half of the passengers on the MV Canadian Empress from FUMCH.

After flying from Tampa to Quebec City, the cruise begins there and it ends in Kingston, Ontario. After a motor coach ride back to Montreal, and overnight there, we will fly back to Tampa the following day.

All ground transportation, airfare, the cruise (with meals and lodging), shore excursions, and travel insurance are included in the \$3,575 price (double occupancy, and in US dollars).

Pick up a flyer at the church office. Call me (563-5833) with any questions. Call Jess Mackey (J & L Travel) at 382-7708 to register. The cruise line is holding 16 staterooms for our group. So don't miss out; register early!

BLOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

7:45 AM TO NOON

"The life of the flesh is in blood"

Lev. 18:11

We mortals can also minister with the precious gift of our blood.

LifeSouth Community Blood Center is desperately seeking donors in Citrus County to help make their quota required to meet the needs of both Citrus Memorial and Seven Rivers Regional Medical Center. Your donated blood is accredited to The First United Methodist Church of Homosassa, and it will be available for members of our church's congregation when needs arise.

Barbara Jackson



HOLIDAY

OPEN HOUSE

**AT THE WHITTAKER'S
NOVEMBER 29, 2009**

One of the holiday traditions that Iris and I enjoy the most is having an open house after Thanksgiving. Each year we invite the church to come and share this time with us as a way to start the Christmas Season. This year is especially important because it is our first time in our own home.

There will be cookies and fudge, pigs in a blanket, cheese and crackers and a whole lot more. You are welcome to come anytime between 2 and 4 p.m. We would consider it an honor if you could come and share a cup of punch with us in our new home.

The house is at 18 Byrsonima Ct. South in Sugarmill Woods. If you go in the main entrance off US 19, you take the fourth right (Pine St.) the first left (Byrsonima Circle) and the second right (Byrsonima Ct. S.) Our house is the first one pass the pool. Please park at the pool or on one side of the street.

Mark and Iris Whittaker

HELP SWEETEN CHRISTMAS FOR INMATES AT LANCASTER AND CITRUS COUNTY

The Missions Committee welcomes volunteers to help wrap the candy bars at 3 PM, Thursday, Dec. 17.

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 700 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 Nov. 29, Dec. 6 and Dec. 13. 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.

Walking on the Path

Patience Nave

"The choirs sang . . . and on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away."

Nehemiah 12:42b-43

Do you remember the wonderful story of Nehemiah? The Jews were enduring one of their long periods of exile. Some had returned to Jerusalem, and, under Ezra's leadership, had restored the temple, but the wall around the city was still in ruins. Nehemiah was devastated that the dwelling place of God had no protection. So he sought permission from King Artaxerxes to go to Jerusalem and restore the wall. Not only did the king grant this, but he allowed Nehemiah to use his name to make purchases, even sending troops to protect him on the journey. A miracle!

Some Jews had returned from the Babylonian exile and volunteered to help with the construction. Constantly under enemy attack, they devised ways to work together. Chapter 4 of Nehemiah tells us that the work progressed, *"for the people worked with all their heart."* I like the King James Version, which says *"for the people had the will to work."* (4:6) The story is beautiful. Spirit-filled people laid bricks and prayed, hewed stones and prayed, working together toward a common goal—restoring honor to God by building the wall to protect his temple and city.

If you haven't read this book of faith, commitment, and love of God, I hope you will spend the 45-or-so minutes required to read it. The commitment of the people and their work in these thirteen chapters should challenge us.

The verses quoted above, 12:42b-43, vividly report the rejoicing of the people when the work was done. Great choirs of men climbed the wall and sang praise to God. Down below, women and children could not resist joining the chorus. The workers, the townspeople, the children praised God for his guidance and protection during the work and for the miracle of the wall's completion.

This month we'll celebrate our first Thanksgiving since the completion of the final phase of our building. The extra rooms are often full, and having the adequate space for a large gathering of our congregation for dinners is great. Most days I have no one to join me in songs of praise, but I walk through the new building singing and saying praise to God for his gift to us of this new facility. This summer we sang when we were together at dinner. I wish we could open the windows so that *"the sound of our rejoicing could be heard far away."*

Prayer: *Father, we praise you for your generous blessings. Thank you for allowing us the necessary time and funds to build this building for your glory. This Thanksgiving season, help us to remember how blessed we are, how generous your hand has been to us. Remind us that though many worked hard because they had the will to work, you are the One who really made it happen. Amen.*

TO MY FRIENDS AT 1ST UMC

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the prayers, cards, and visits during my recent surgery and continuing recuperation.

Thank you for the many blessings.
Jean Hilger

THANK YOU for the many cards and prayers I received after my hip replacement surgery, and during my recovery.

GRETTA MARSHALL

*"Death leaves a heartache
no one can heal, love leaves
a memory no one can steal."
~From a headstone in Ire-
land*

Thank you to my wonderful church family for all their thoughts, prayers and cards during the recent loss of my beautiful blue-eyed Betty.

The love I have felt during this time of loss is overwhelming and I sincerely appreciate everyone for the love they have shown me.

~Glen Gunderson

*"At times our own light goes
out and is rekindled by a
spark from another person.
Each of us has cause to
think with deep gratitude of
those who have lighted the
flame within us."*

~ Albert Schweitzer

THANK YOU for the many cards and prayers I received after my surgery, and during my recovery.

Dorothy Atwell



*Please help us
assure a*
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
**To The Florida
United Methodist
Children's Home**

Our Church continues to uplift this Children's Home ministry. Soon the atmosphere of our church will begin to reflect the coming of the Christ Child. At your Children's Home, Christmas will also arrive as a special time for the boys and girls, who would likely otherwise not see a joyous Christmas.

The wise men sought the child of God and traveled a great distance to see this child. When they arrived, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We will today seek to find the "Christ Child" in all the faces the Children's Home serves and to bring gifts that will nourish and care for each child's needs. Frankincense and Myrrh are always pleasing, but gold puts food on the table, a roof overhead and provides loving arms reaching out to touch the lives of boys and girls.

Thank you for your prayerful assistance and may you have a blessed Christmas!

Remember
Children's Home Sunday
November 29, 2009.



- For Pantry Sunday:*
- Soups
 - Beef Stews
 - Tuna
 - Peanut Butter
 - Jelly
 - Spaghetti Sauce
 - Saltine Crackers
 - Canned Fruit
 - Spaghetti
 - Noodles
 - Rice
 - Jell-O or pudding mixes
 - Vegetable Oil

Setting New Goals

Jack and Carolyn's house is immaculate and spotless in every way except for one wall in the kitchen. It has marks on it that are part of an important pledge. For years, Jack has promised his grandson they would ride the big wooden roller coaster together as soon as the grandson met the height requirement of 46 inches.

When the boy was a toddler, Jack measured him at 46 inches on the kitchen wall and Jack tacked two tickets at exactly that height. Since then, with every visit, Jack has measured the boy's height and added a new mark to the kitchen wall showing the boy inching toward the roller coaster prize.

For Jack, making goals and moving toward them is nothing new. In fact, just beside the "grandson wall" is a drawer with important papers in it. Among them is Jack's deferred charitable gift annuity. Just as the grandson can see the roller coaster tickets and know they are just beyond the horizon, Jack is looking forward to the day when his deferred gift annuity springs into action.

Jack funded the deferred gift annuity a few years ago. In exchange for a gift to the United Methodist Foundation, he will receive fixed payments every three months for life. After payments to Jack for the rest of his life, all funds remaining in the gift annuity will go directly to his church. He chose to begin the payments five years after making the gift. In addition to the payments, which are at attractive rates based on his age, he received a handsome income tax deduction.

(Based on an article used with permission from *Gift Legacy eNewsletter* of UMFNE/ Copyright by Crescendo Interactive, Inc.)

If you want to learn more about the attractive payment rates, income tax deduction, and capital gains benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity, then call the church office for more details. We can put you in touch with a staff member at the Florida United Methodist Foundation who will explain it all and, if you decide to proceed, will help you establish a CGA.

--The Permanent Endowment Committee



NEED YARN!

We need skeins of knitting worsted yarn for the Knitting For Kids Ministry, but we will gladly accept little balls of your leftovers. (Any color except black.)

You can leave the yarn off at the Church Office, or The Thrift Shop, where the yarn will be picked up by Pat Blake.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Thanksgiving is almost here. This is the 20th year SHARE will be offering a terrific deal on the complete Thanksgiving meal.

You provide the candles, place settings and words of thanks, and we'll provide a 10-14 pound turkey, stuffing mix, gravy mix, cranberry sauce, biscuit mix and a wonderful assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables. Oh, and a pumpkin pie already baked!

Our holiday package is \$27.50

Sign up dates will be

October 24th

9:00 - 11:00 AM,

and

November 4th and 7th

10:00 - 11:00 AM.

If you are not taking advantage of this great deal, do your neighbors and friends a favor and let them in on the savings. This holiday season will be difficult for many people. Keep SHARE in mind if you are with an organization that purchases food for the holidays. Ask them to get in touch with me at 628-5945.

I hope each and every one of you has a thanks-filled holiday.

Vickie Williams, SHARE coordinator.

CHRISTMAS FOR OUR SOLDIERS



Please help us send Christmas stockings to our deployed troops who are away from their loved ones during the upcoming 2009 holiday season.

You can either make your own stocking or purchase one at a store. Fill it with some of the suggested items listed below and then put into the Hugs for Our Soldiers box in the Narthex.

Be sure to put a card in your stocking so the soldiers know who is wishing them good cheer!

Suggested Items:

- Pair of white socks (calf or boot height)
- Chap stick
- Beef Jerky
- Ramen Noodles
- Trail Mix or Dried Fruit
- Candy Canes
- Apple Cider and Hot Chocolate drink packets
- Garland (home or store bought) or other small decorations (nonbreakable)
- Holiday or other DVD (new or used)

DEADLINE IS: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH

You may also mail us a check for \$10.00 and we will do the shopping and make the stocking for you.

Please include a signed Christmas card so the soldiers know who took the time to send them good cheer. Make the check out to Hugs for Our Soldiers and mail to:

Pamela DuBose
Hugs for Our Soldiers
P O Box 547, Lecanto, FL 34461



**KIWANIS CLUB OF
HOMOSASSA SPRINGS**

**annual
Pancake Breakfast**

\$4.00

**Saturday, November 14TH
Serving 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM**

**Tickets available at the door.
Information: Mike: 206-9096/ Iris: 527-8228**

**Proceeds support scholarships,
Reading Is Fundamental, and local service projects.**

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SPIRITUAL GIFTS

SPIRITUALITY

Every believer has at least one spiritual gift, and no one has every spiritual gift. Just as God's Spirit indwells each of us, so this same Spirit gives spiritual gifts in accordance with His will. The gifts differ, but each is given by the same Spirit and none is any more important than any other. Each of these gifts is given, not for our individual use, but for use within the body of Christ. By serving in the areas where we are gifted spiritually, we will be energized by our service. Our joy will spill out onto others. We can become quickly burned out by serving only in the areas where we are not gifted rather than being uplifted by our service. For this reason it is important to find out what our spiritual gifts are and find an area to serve where our spiritual gifts can be put to use. This does NOT mean we are to quit doing what we are already doing. It will give us a way of evaluating and verifying what those gifts are and if we are serving in those areas.

Although our gift may be in a particular area, we are all taught in Scripture there are things we are each to do such as: share our faith, encourage others, intercede, give sacrificially, seek to know His word, etc. There are also areas in which we can serve even though they may not call for our particular gifting. The most obvious example of this is the area of service or helps. There are times when we can and should lend a hand, being careful to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

There are many Scriptures about spiritual gifts. Two which include lists of spiritual gifts are 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 and Romans 12:3-8. Every spiritual gifts inventory used by churches seems to vary in its list of spiritual gifts, mostly due to differences in their ministries and denominations. Although music is not listed in the Bible as a spiritual gift, it is included on most of these spiritual gifts inventories since it is such an important part of the ministry of the church. Here is a list of some spiritual gifts:

- **administration:** organizing people and ministries effectively

- **apostleship:** adapting to a different culture to do ministry or share the gospel
- **discernment:** distinguishing spiritual truth from error
- **evangelism:** sharing the gospel effectively and passionately
- **exhortation:** encouraging others as they follow Jesus
- **faith:** seeing God's plan and following it with passion
- **giving:** investing with unusual sacrifice and joy in God's Kingdom
- **healing:** passion for, belief in, and often used in prayer for healing
- **hospitality:** using your home and/or resources to help others follow Jesus
- **intercession:** praying with unusual passion and effectiveness for others
- **knowledge:** discerning and sharing the deep truths of God's word and will
- **leadership:** motivating and inspiring others to serve Jesus
- **mercy:** showing God's grace to hurting people with great passion
- **music:** sharing God's truth and love with effectiveness through music
- **prophecy:** preaching the word of God with personal passion and effectiveness
- **servicing:** meeting practical needs with unusual sacrifice and joy
- **shepherding:** helping others grow spiritually
- **teaching:** explaining God's word and truth with unusual effectiveness
- **wisdom:** relating biblical truth to practical life with great effectiveness
- **working of miracles:** passion, belief in and often unusual answers to prayer

Look for more here and on the bulletin boards about spiritual gifts. If you're interested in a class on spiritual gifts, please call the church office; they will have a list. If you've never done a spiritual gifts inventory or it's been a long time, please call the church office, and we'll get a copy of a simple spiritual gifts inventory to you.

Prayer: Together we're discovering more about prayer Wednesday afternoons at 3 p.m. Bring your Bible and come join us. For those of you who can not join us, I pray you will consider deepening your prayer journey this fall or that you will set out to discover the joy of practicing a new spiritual discipline.

Marilyn Watson

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Friday, November 27
9:00 AM

"Many hands make light work."

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS September 27, 2009



Marjorie Beaman
10271 S. Covington Terrace
Homosassa, FL 34446
352-503-6545
Transfer from:
First Methodist Church
Grove, OK



Judith Beattie
28 Douglas Street
Homosassa, FL 34446
352-382-1891
Transfer from:
First Congregational Church
Wilmington, MA



Betty & Richard Dulaney
92 Byrsonima Loop W.
Homosassa, FL 34446
352-503-7000
Transfer from:
New Hope Cumberland Presbyterian
Lebanon, TN



Delores & Homer Moore
72 Woodfield Circle
Homosassa, FL 34446
352-634-1815
Transfer from:
Cannonsburg UMC
Cannonsburg, KY

Homer Moore Entered Into The Covenant of Baptism September 27, 2009



NEED WASHING?

(Author Unknown)

A little girl had been shopping with her Mom in Target. She must have been 6 years old, this beautiful red haired, freckle faced image of innocence. It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over the top of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout. We all stood there under the awning and just inside the door of the Target.

We waited, some patiently, others irritated because nature messed up their hurried day. I am always mesmerized by rainfall. I got lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust of the world. Memories of running, splashing so carefree as a child came pouring in as a welcome reprieve from the worries of my day.

The little voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance we were all caught in "Mom let's run through the rain," she said.

"What?" Mom asked.

"Let's run through the rain!" She repeated

"No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit," Mom replied.

This young child waited about another minute and repeated: "Mom, let's run through the rain."

"We'll get soaked if we do," Mom said.

"No, we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning," the young girl said as she tugged at her Mom's arm.

"This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?"

"Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, 'If God can get us through this, he can get us through anything!'"

The entire crowd stopped dead silent. I swear you couldn't hear anything but the rain. We all stood silently. No one came or left in the next few minutes.

Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say. Now some would laugh it off and scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said. But this was a moment of affirmation in a young child's life. A time when innocent trust can be nurtured so that it will bloom into faith.

"Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If GOD let's us get wet, well maybe we just needed washing," Mom said.

Then off they ran. We all stood watching, smiling and laughing as they darted past the cars and yes, through the puddles. They held their shopping bags over their heads just in case. They got soaked. But they were followed by a few who screamed and laughed like children all the way to their cars.

And yes, I did. I ran. I got wet. I needed washing.

Circumstances or people can take away your material possessions, they can take away your money, and they can take away your health. But no one can ever take away your precious memories. So, don't forget to make time and take the opportunities to make memories everyday. To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven.

I HOPE YOU STILL TAKE THE TIME
TO RUN THROUGH THE RAIN.

GET INVOLVED!

BIBLE QUESTER'S CLASS

We live in a time and place where "Religious Faith" is becoming more and more diverse. As followers of Christ, do we really know our basic Christian beliefs? What kind of God do we believe in and where do our fundamental beliefs come from?

The Bible Quester's Class in November is beginning a study - Basic Christian Beliefs - based on the Apostles Creed. This creed is one of the oldest and shortest statements of Christian faith. Of course, the Bible is always our primary source. We hope you will join us for these informative discussions. We will meet in Room 106.

As an introduction to the unit, on October 25 at 9:30 a.m., we will be viewing an excellent DVD obtained at the Creation Museum in Cincinnati entitled - Created Cosmos. It reveals amazing facts about our universe while revealing the awesome power of our God! You won't want to miss it!

Teacher; Martha Dorrell, 352-628-5125



THE FINE ARTS COMMITTEE OF FUMC
PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE NATURE COAST FESTIVAL SINGERS

IN CONCERT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009

AT 3 P.M.

IN THE FUMC SANCTUARY.

**THIS HIGHLY ACCLAIMED
COMMUNITY CHORUS WILL
PERFORM SELECTIONS FROM
THE MESSIAH AND OTHER
SACRED AND SEASONAL
FAVORITES FOR YOUR
ENJOYMENT.**

**START YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON WITH
THIS WONDERFUL CONCERT. A FREE-
WILL OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED.**



**United Methodist Women's
Annual Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, November 7, 2009
9AM to 1PM**

**Come and shop for tempting baked
goods: Pies, Cakes, Cookies,
Pastries, and Breads.
Made just for you by
the SALTY Circle.**

Visit the Christmas Room for
Christmas Ornaments, Wreaths,
and Trees.

Crafted and Assembled just for you
by Peggy Benson, Carol MacKenzie,
and Kim Bennett.

A Gift Table with Thanksgiving
Items, Dolls, Doll Clothes, Baby
Items and Knitted Items, were
crafted just for you by
All Unit Members.

Trash and Treasures will be
collected and organized for your
treasure-hunting pleasure by
The Ruth Circle.

Re-conditioned, Second-hand
Computers will also be For Sale.

Kitchen Items will be available from
The Helping Hands Circle.

Crafts have been lovingly prepared
by The Faith Hope Circle.

**Reserve your seat for our
Hot Chicken Salad Luncheon!
Accompanied with
Molded Cranberry Salad,
Croissant, Ice Tea or Coffee,
and Desserts.**

Hosted by the Dorcas Circle

Tickets will be \$5.00 and can be
purchased from circle members,
or call the Church Office at 628-4083.
There will be three seatings,
starting at 11:30 AM.

Dear Praying Friends,

PRAISES:

Well, it seems that we are all over the (seemingly) endless negative effects of traveling around the world and fully back into life and ministry here. With birthdays and teaching and health needs and cars and Thai ministry and long-distance communication with Brittany, we could use all the prayer you can give. Thanks again for your sacrificial willingness to take our needs to the Lord.

Our biggest praise is the fact that we will celebrate **our 5th anniversary of serving in Thailand** on the 13th of this month. It's hard to believe it's been that long (or is it that short?) already, but we are so thankful to God for allowing us to serve Him here and to be a part of thriving ministries at Cool Shade of Life Church and Grace International School.

Speaking of five years, that's how long we've had our Isuzu pickup truck as our only family/ministry vehicle. Well, all that changed when **we bought a second used vehicle** last month.

Praise God! Thanks to all who have been praying with us for this need for awhile now as last month the Lord provided all the



funds we needed. It will be a HUGE help to have a new main vehicle to use for trips to school every day and especially for long survey trips to visit churches across Thailand who desire to partner with our new team. We also had a little extra vehicle cash to do some very necessary repairs to our old truck that will be a good second vehicle for the foreseeable future.

Prayers:

Our work with **The HOME Team** is progressing well. We have informed **Pastor Moses** in northern Thailand near



Burma that our team would like to partner in his work (opening a new church, a Bible school and an orphanage), and we will visit a church in Sisaket (in northeastern

Thailand near Cambodia) this month (Oct. 17-19) to discuss possible partnership with them. In addition, another intriguing possibility has cropped up for partnership closer to Chiang Mai. We also are hoping to ramp up the recruitment process with PIONEERS bases around the world as Joe seeks to personally contact recruitment coordinators to discuss the needs our team has for new missionaries. **Please pray for these specific items:** safety in travel and wisdom on our survey trip to the Sisaket church, missionaries to be recruited for our team, wisdom concerning the possible new partnership, and Joe's formulation of a team orientation program and other final team paperwork.

Please continue to pray for **Grace International School** as the administration has many tough decisions ahead. The school is appealing a court decision that says GIS must abandon the current school facility, but, realistically, it looks like the school will have to move to another temporary location beginning in August 2010 (if not sooner). School officials are also working to raise US\$10 million to purchase property and build a new, permanent, school-friendly campus. Please pray for wisdom for all those involved in these decisions and for God's generous provision for these needs. (To see a video and read a story about this matter, visit www.gisthailand.org.)

Now that the Lord has generously provided a more reliable used vehicle for ministry and family use, our final financial hurdle is **regular personal/ministry support**. We have lost a net total of 13 financial supporters as the dollar has gotten weaker and weaker during our five years in Thailand. As a result, we now have supporter pledges totaling 78% of our monthly ministry/personal budget; that means we fall short of our budget by \$1,348 per month—\$528 short of meeting what we feel is our lowest possible monthly budget. This shortfall does not need to be met with monthly contributions only; for those who don't like to send in support regularly, a once-a-year donation can be split over 12 months to help us in the same way. Please pray for God to abundantly provide for our daily living and ministry needs as our account is falling further into debt (-\$2,100 as of Sept. 30) despite our many cutbacks. Also, if you are willing to consider a one-time or annual financial donation to help get our account out of its current deficit and/or to increase our support total, please simply fill out a check to: PIONEERS, 10123 William Carey Drive, Orlando, FL 32832. Attach a note saying it is for Joe & Elaine Henry (account #110798) but don't write anything in the memo line.

Until all have heard,

Joe, Elaine, Brittany, Justin, Caleb & Jamie

~ FROM SIBERIA ~

Greetings Dear Faithful Friends!

First Men's Conference:

This month we will have a Men's work going full steam in the village. As a kick off to this work, we used a men's conference that was held in the city the first part of October. We brought in two car loads of men from the village for this daylong event. It was such an encouragement for Kevin to see so many interested in coming and spending a whole Saturday for this purpose. There were participants from many fellowships across the city, but our contingency from the village was the largest group that had driven the farthest.

Иеш Windows:

We have been able to install some more windows and are hoping for even more opportunities in the near future. One of the window projects was to put in two windows in a kitchen for a lady who is always giving to others. No matter how little she may have, if she hears of a need...she'll find a way to fill it. It was exciting to see her on the receiving end of a wonderful gift that will last a long time. (Pictures will follow in the next issue so you will have to check back next month for that.)

Шокшор:

As of this writing, the floor has been laid but half has yet to 'dry' before we can nail it down. We're working on the stations and final stages of putting in the electrical plugs and lighting needed. It will all come together this month. We had to slow down on this project to get outside work completed and the furnace ready for use before the really cold weather hit.

"One Room School" Update:

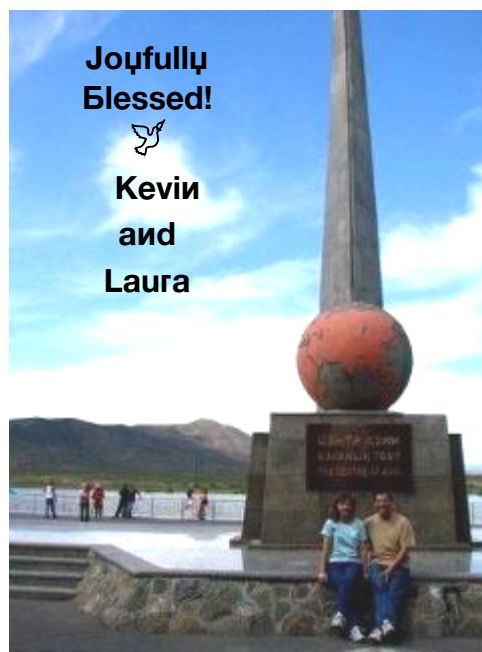
Laura's girls are well into their school year (the grades are 3rd, 4th, 8th and 9th.) We also have a helper this year that came all the way to Siberia to be a teacher's aide. Jessica is a HUGE help, especially when Laura has to turn all her attention to one of the girls. She also brings fun and helps plan parties for the classroom. (If you've ever thought you have nothing to offer in the way of serving somewhere...here's a huge need for many families around the world. No experience needed.) The girls are not only growing in knowledge, they're also growing spiritually. Laura calls them L.I.T.'s....Ladies In Training.

Training in Korea:

The fellowship in the village officially has a pastor...PTL! He's a wonderful man and has a terrific family. This past year has seen many changes in their lives as they grow in this new position. He continues to work at his "regular" job and will do so until he retires next year. This past June, he was invited to attend three weeks in S. Korea at a Bible Training Center where he was taught many aspects of being a pastor, how to be a better husband, and how to lead not only his "flock" but his family. He returned with a renewed enthusiasm to serve and has become a fine example of what it is to be a godly husband and father. Through the month of November, his wife will also have an opportunity to attend three weeks of training at this same center...covering such topics as how to be a pastor's wife and a godly wife and mother. We look forward to seeing what the Lord will do in this family's lives as they seek to serve Him and their community.

Praise & Requests:

- ✎ Continued interest in men's and ladies' studies
- ✎ Continued safe travel each week to and from the village
- ✎ Increased interest in attending services in the village
- ✎ Wisdom
- ✎ Opportunities
- ✎ Our focus to remain on the task at hand
- ✎ A more durable vehicle...at this point we need approx. \$5,000 more to buy a van-style vehicle
- ✎ Unity among fellow workers



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Judy Bunting Jan Wise	16 Velma Mason Dan Nygaard
2 Robert Severance Catherine Wisehart	17 Wes Harris Joan Ness
3 Bob Specht	18 Beverly Calkins
4 Helen Hudson Fred Wheeler	19 Geraldine Frenz Ruth Rittgers Margrurite Seely
6 Hershel Fogleman Tom Pearo Frank Wais	20 Roger Kirby Helen West Jeri Wrenn
9 Dottie Baker Fern McWilliams Jo Ann Ryan	22 Charles McCreery Angie Watson Lowanda Wells
11 Jeanne Balmer Emily Merson Shirley Phillips Rick Workman	23 Cecelia Woodward
12 Gunter Fahl Gloria Megos	25 Marcia Bader
13 John Austin Adam Will	26 Anna Cooley
14 Eleanor Smith	27 Lyle Lee
15 Colleen Powers Bell- ville Martha Dorrell Joan Eyster Ann Mayles	28 John Dewart Samantha McCallister
	29 Helen Bachman Charles McWilliams

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

4 Ann & Jack Fasnacht ~ 59 years ~	16 Pat & Jim Archer ~ 5 years ~
6 Barbara & Gene Lantz ~ 55 years ~	20 Jeanne & Harvey Comfort ~ 64 years ~
Dot & Jack Reed ~ 66 years ~	23 Mary Joy & Earl Speicher ~ 41 years ~
7 Marge & Walter Dilling ~ 51 years ~	24 Elaine & Glenn Harwood ~ 44 years ~
8 Shirley & William Dunkle ~ 51 years ~	Ann & John Mayles ~ 59 years ~
10 Ruth & Larry Healy ~ 64 years ~	26 Anna & John Cooley ~ 56 years ~
11 Joan & Robert Cianfield ~ 3 years ~	27 Sally & Dean Moore ~ 33 years ~
13 Edythe & Richard Shaffer ~ 55 years ~	Joy & Jim Potts ~ 16 years ~

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS



When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

REFRAIN:


Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God hath done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done
Johnson Oatman, Jr.

IN MEMORIAM



Betty Gunderson
4/19/1928
to
09/18/2009

IN MEMORIAM



Marsella Rutter, 87
11/7/1921
to
10/4/2009

C. Edward Wrenn
Jr., 73
Went home to his
Lord on
9/23/2009

*In Our Thoughts
And Prayers*

PERSONS RESIDING IN
LONG-TERM CARE
(As of 10/14/2009)

AVANTE
Annie Preston

ARBOR TRAIL REHAB
Tom Pearo

BRENTWOOD
Evelyn Bash
Corrine Barrio

CRYSTAL RIVER
HEALTH & REHAB
Betty Farewell
Robert Smith

CYPRESS COVE
Paul Glen

DIAMOND RIDGE
Jean Buzby
Betty Duncan
Helen Hudson
Dorothy Malek

GREEN ACRES
Bud Jenks

HUNT RESIDENCE
Bill Marquis

LIFECARE
Ginny Reese
Buck Snyder
Jean Hilger

SUGARMILL MANOR
Shirley Hart
Grace Payne

SUNFLOWER SPRINGS
Marguerite Betzer
Ruth Eaton
Ruth & Bill Willis



SUNDAY 1 COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 6:00 Prayer Meeting *2nd Sunday after Pentecost All Saints Day DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS	MONDAY 2 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 10:00 UMW Workshop 11:00 Exercise 6:00 Stephen Ministries	TUESDAY 3 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Stephen Ministries 3:00 Stephen Ministries 3:00 Serendipity Bible 6:30 Citrus Model	WEDNESDAY 4 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:00 Wonder Wednesday Prep 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 10:00 La Mountain Bible 10:00 SHARE Sign-up 12:30 Lunch Time Bible 3:00 Prayer Discovery 5:15 Music 5:30 Won Wednesday Dinner 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir 7:00 Wed. Bible Study	THURSDAY 5 8:30 Bazaar Set-up 10:00 Where are you? Bible Study 1:00 Fibromyalgia 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 Creative Worship 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	FRIDAY 6 GENESIS DEADLINE 8:30 Bazaar Set-Up 9:30 Disciple III 10:00 Wise Bible Study	SATURDAY 7 8:00 Saturday Sisters 8:00 Red Cross CPR 9:00 UMW Bazaar 10:00 SHARE Sign-up 10:30 God's Cloths
SUNDAY 8 DISCRETIONARY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 6:00 Prayer Meeting *23rd Sunday after Pentecost	MONDAY 9 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 10:00 UMW Ex. Meeting 11:00 Exercise	TUESDAY 10 9:30 Faith Hope Circle 9:30 Healing Hand Circle 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Dorcas Circle 2:00 Stewardship 3:00 Serendipity Bible 7:00 SALT Y Circle	WEDNESDAY 11 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 10:00 La Mountain Bible 12:30 Lunch Time Bible 1:00 Shawl Ministry 3:00 Prayer Discovery 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir 7:00 VETERANS DAY	THURSDAY 12 9:15 Ruth Circle 10:00 Where are you? Bible Study 4:00 Video Rehearsal 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	FRIDAY 13 9:30 Disciple III 10:00 Wise Bible Study 4:30 Pancake Set-up	SATURDAY 14 7:00 Kiwanis Pancakes 7:00 U M W Yard Sale 8:00 Saturday Sisters 10:30 Bereavement
SUNDAY 15 PANTRY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 6:00 Prayer Meeting *24th Sunday after Pentecost	MONDAY 16 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Exercise 6:00 Stephen Ministries	TUESDAY 17 9:00 Genesis Fold/Mail 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Stephen Ministries 2:00 Finance 3:00 Stephen Ministries 3:00 Serendipity Bible	WEDNESDAY 18 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:00 Wonder Wednesday Prep 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 10:00 La Mountain Bible 11:00 Diabetes Support 12:30 Lunch Time Bible 1:30 Thrift Shop Lunch 3:00 Prayer Discovery 3:30 Staff/Parish Comm. 5:15 Music 5:30 Won Wednesday Dinner 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir 7:00 Wed. Bible Study	THURSDAY 19 1:00 Fibromyalgia 3:00 Missions 3:30 Trustees 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 Creative Worship 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	FRIDAY 20 9:30 Disciple III 10:00 Wise Bible Study	SATURDAY 21 7:00 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 Saturday Sisters 8:00 Red Cross CPR 9:00 Homeless Fair 9:00 Decorate Sanctuary 9:30 SHARE Delivery 10:30 Bereavement
SUNDAY 22 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY 7:45 BLOOD MOBILE 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 6:00 Prayer Meeting CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY Last Sunday of Pentecost	MONDAY 23 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:00 Safe Driver Class 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Exercise	TUESDAY 24 9:00 Safe Driver Class 10:00 Staff Meeting 3:00 Serendipity Bible	WEDNESDAY 25 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 12:30 Lunch Time Bible 1:00 Shawl Ministry 3:00 Prayer Discovery 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir	THURSDAY 26 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 Turkey POTLUCK 4:00 Video Rehearsal 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	FRIDAY 27 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 Hanging Greens 10:00 Wise Bible Study 12:00 Our Father's Table	SATURDAY 28 8:00 Saturday Sisters 10:30 Bereavement
SUNDAY 29 CHILDREN'S HOME SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 2 to 4 Whittaker Open House 6:00 Prayer Meeting 1st Sunday of Advent UM Student Offering	MONDAY 30 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Exercise 6:00 NCS Rehearsal					



NOVEMBER 2009



AS OF:
10/15/09

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

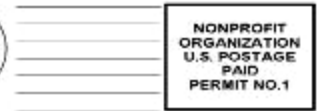


Photo by Carole Crystal, Photo-journalist

We Are A Stephen Ministry Church

Visit our Web Site: www.1umc.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
EBADOC Academy &
Sunday School for all ages: 9:30AM

Office Hours: Weekdays
8:30AM to 4:30PM
Office Telephone: 352-628-4083

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Soli Deo Gloria



November 2009