

GENESIS

FEBRUARY 2009 ~ VOLUME 13 ~ ISSUE 2



For more than 20 years now the church has been working toward this time. For 20 years now we have pursued a vision of what the church should be and in what ministries we can be involved. For 20 years now the church has worked hard and sacrificed much to bring it all together. For 20 years we have waited and now we stand in awe of what can yet be.

Now it is time to CELEBRATE!

By early February we will be completing Phase III of the building program and moving into our new fellowship hall. It will be a place where we can reach out to our community as well as care for our members. It is a place where we gather to eat and learn and grow in Christian love. It is a place where Jesus Christ is lifted up and made known to all who share in this calling. We plan to celebrate in two ways:

On Sunday February 22nd ~

- We will have three morning worship services with our District Superintendent John Powers as our guest speaker. The services will focus on all that God has accomplished in the church over the last 20 years. We could have done none of it without the presence and power of God.
- 12:00 noon: The people in the sanctuary will join all those who have come back from the earlier services and proceed to the west door of the Fellowship Hall where the ribbon will be cut and the building opened for God's ministry. Gathering inside, we will form a circle as a symbol of God's eternal presence, and have a Service of Consecration, giving this building to God to be used for His glory..
- We will then join together for a catered luncheon provided by Oysters Restaurant.
- Finally – we are hoping to have some VERY special entertainment to conclude the morning. (More about that once we confirm it.)

On Saturday March 7th ~

From 10AM to 2PM the entire community is invited to share our excitement.

- Inflatable games for the children.
- Fire, Police and EMS demonstrating their equipment.
- Free hot dogs and Cokes for everyone.
- Arts and Crafts/Hobbies Fair.
- Mission Fair.
- Tours of the building.

That evening at 7PM we will have a concert that will be open to the entire community. The program includes Luke Menard of "American Idol" fame as well as the Sunshine Sound Quartet, Jim and Jeannine Love's Broadway Excerpts, Tuned To Revival, Annie and Tim's United Bluegrass Gospel Band, and the Mary Kay Trio.

(See Jim Potts article on page 4)

Saturday, March 7th promises to be a great evening, and we hope hundreds of people from the church and the community will come and be part of the celebration.

The luncheon on February 22nd will be \$12.

The concert on March 7th will be \$5, so it will be affordable to all.

Share the good news! Let everyone know!

Come and CELEBRATE with us as we move into the second 100 years of worship, wonder, and work in the name of Jesus Christ.

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.

Church Office

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Website

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Senior Pastor

Rev. Mark Whittaker

Administrator

Theresa Weber

Bookkeeper

Sandy Dewart

Christian Education

Patience Nave

Music Department

Mary Kay Messenger

Joy Potts

Dayna Middlebrooks

Parish Nurse &

Visitation

Sharon E. Smith

Parish Visitor

Peggy Benson

Sunday School

Superintendent &

Nursery Supervisor

Sandra Tam

Youth Coordinator

Neretta Brobst

Sound Technician

Sharon Cooley

Night Security

Michael Rodgers

Custodian

Dale Evans

That I may know him



Philippians 3:10, KJV

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)

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

AI-Anon

After-school Tutoring

Girl Scouts

Hospice

GED Tutoring

Kiwanis Breakfast

Isaiah's Place

FCAT Tutoring

Wise Discipleship

Living as an Expectant Disciple

True believing is always characterized by a sense of expectancy. We see this exemplified through the lives of people involved in the first coming of Jesus.

- Joseph and Mary *believed* the angels' messages and *anticipated* (although they didn't understand) the supernatural birth of the Messiah-baby.

Matthew tells us Joseph's response to his angelic dream: "...he did what the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave _____. And he gave him the name _____." (Matthew 1:24-25)

- Shepherds, working in the fields, *believed* the angels. They went to Bethlehem, *expecting* to find the described scene - "a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a _____." (Luke 2:12)

After finding the babe, they returned to the fields, praising God for all they had seen, which were "just _____." (Luke 2:20b)

- The wise men (or Magi, astrologers) believed the new star would lead them to the King of the Jews that they might _____ him. They followed the star *expectantly* and were able to find the _____ where the _____ lived. (Matthew 29-11)

- Simeon lived in expectancy. He was waiting for the consolation of _____, and the _____ was upon him. Because the Holy Spirit had told him he would not die before seeing the Lord's Christ, Simeon had more of a definitive time period for his *believing* and *expecting*.

The day came when the Holy Spirit led him to the temple, and Simeon held in his arms the one whom he had *believed* and *expected* would come. (Luke 2:25-32)

Anna lived her daily life *believing* and *expecting* because of her continual communion with God. Out of the intimacy of her relationship with God, it was a spiritually natural thing for her to _____ and give thanks to God for the baby Jesus when she saw him. (Luke 2:36-38)

Jesus talked to his disciples about the day when he would come a second time. They asked him what would be the sign of his coming. At the begin-

ning of his answer, he used the word that is part of an expectant disciple's assignment - "Watch out that no one deceives you...." (Matthew 24:4)

A disciple is one Satan will attempt to deceive as we believe and live in the expectancy of Jesus' second coming.

Jesus concludes his explanation to the disciples by telling them that no one knows the _____ or the _____ of his return except the Father.

Jesus warns, "Therefore keep _____, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come....so you also must be _____, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." (Matthew 24:36-44)

A daily, living relationship with Jesus Christ, nourished by the Holy Spirit, will cause the disciple of Christ to be both *watchful* and *expectant*.

Like Anna, whose daily communication with God kept her prepared for each day's happenings, so our communication with the Father will insure our preparation for the time when watching and expecting culminate in fulfillment.

Paul writes of the Lord's coming as like that of a thief in the night. Those who are not watching and waiting will be caught by surprise as were the religious Jews when Jesus came the first time.

He came in a way they did not expect, in a role they had not learned to anticipate, and at a time when many of their hearts had grown cold toward the Lord their God.

Then Paul adds, "But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.

"You are all sons of the light and sons of the day...So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be _____ and self-controlled." (1 Thess. 5:4-9)

If we are walking with the Lord each day, alert, watchful and anticipating his coming, we will not be taken by surprise. Like Simeon and Anna, we will be waiting and ready to receive his coming with great joy.

THINK ABOUT IT:

- At Jesus' first coming, in God's fullness of time, all the prophecies and promises, even the smallest details, were fulfilled just as the Scriptures said.

At Jesus' second coming, in the fullness of God's time, will he not again fulfill all the prophecies and promises given in the Scriptures about his return?

Are we as excited in the anticipation of his coming again as we are about looking back to celebrate his first coming?

AS A DISCIPLE, ARE YOU BELIEVING AND EXPECTING?

Celebration Day Excitement

National TV Celebrity To Appear On Stage

at First United Methodist Church of Homosassa



Luke Menard, former "American Idol" top 16 finalist, will headline the March 7 celebration program marking the opening of our new addition and Fellowship Hall.

Luke, a devout Christian young man with a beautiful tenor voice, has thrilled millions of TV viewers in addition to making personal tour appearances as a soloist. For several years, Luke, as lead singer of Chapter 6, an all-male a capella group, has toured internationally and has made various recordings with that group.

Joining Luke on stage, singing both as soloist and duo, is his wife Lara. Another professional, she has toured internationally as well, performing in such musicals as *CATS*, *A Chorus Line*, *West Side Story*, and others. In addition, she has appeared in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular with the Radio City Rockettes.



Having considered what "name" person or group might be available for the event, we turned to one of our own members, Theresa McCracken, Luke's grandmother, for an introduction to him. Theresa, a "snowbird," helps in our Sunday School and is a past member of our choir. Thank you, Theresa, for the assist.

Sharing the spot lights on stage on that Saturday evening will be two new groups to FUMCH - The Annie and Tim's United Bluegrass Gospel Band and the Mary Kay Trio. A reprise from the Haiti Benefit last July will be the Sunshine Sound Quartet, Jim and Jeannine Love's Broadway Excerpts, and Tuned To Revival.

What a show package this will be. You will not want to miss it. Tickets will go on sale shortly for \$5.00 each, and seats will be filled on a first come basis. 1UMC congregants will have early access before sales are opened to the community. We expect a "sell out" so make early arrangements for Saturday, March 7, at 7:00 P.M.

Jim Potts

New Fellowship Center

Nearing Completion

By the time you read this newsletter, construction of our new fellowship center should be nearly complete. Right now, the place is a bee-hive of activity. Workers representing many different sub-contractors are busy touching up walls, painting the interior and exterior, making final electrical and plumbing connections, making final AC connections and installing grills, installing lights, installing sinks and toilets, installing ceiling tile, floor tile, and carpet, installing sound systems, stage lighting, and projection equipment, laying the stage floor, staining and varnishing woodwork, connecting and testing sewer lines, installing a wheel-chair lift for the stage, installing a fitting room for the thrift shop, installing and connecting all of the new kitchen equipment, and the list goes on.

One wonders how they stay out of each other's way, and the truth is, they don't always. The photos on page 5 will provide just a glimpse of some of the activity currently underway.

Soon it will be our turn to add some finishing touches. By the end of January and early in February, we will be looking for your help as we move all the furniture and equipment that has been in storage back into the building and unpack and assemble new desks, bookcases, cabinets and seating. We will need to build shelving in the thrift shop and numerous storage rooms, hang bulletin boards and window treatments, and complete numerous other tasks not covered by our contract with the builder. **Please watch for announcements of these activities, and plan to lend a hand** and enjoy some fellowship as we prepare for occupancy of our new facilities.



Dave Marquis, Chairman
Building for Tomorrow Committee

Ceiling & Floor Tile



Acoustic ceiling tile being placed in Fellowship Hall.



Vinyl floor tile being laid in several rooms adjacent to the stage and Fellowship Hall.

Woodwork - Doors, Trim, and Stage Floor



Workers apply stain to wood doors and casings in the new Fellowship Center.



Southern yellow pine flooring installation is underway in Fellowship Hall.

Plumbing



Plumbers are making final connections and testing all water lines.



Faucets are being installed on the sink at the beverage counter in the entrance to Fellowship Hall.



A utility sink is being assembled for installation in the dishwashing area of the new kitchen.

Outside Painting



Outside painting is nearing completion, and contrasting trim color is being applied to highlight the architectural features of the Fellowship Center structure.



The end result is apparent. A new flame and cross emblem will soon be added to the end wall to complete the outside appearance.



Landscaping has been completed adjacent to the new fellowship center, and around the perimeter of the property in the area of the new Fellowship Center.



United Methodist Women of Homosassa



INSTALLATION OF 2009 OFFICERS

L to R, Top Row: Becky Bard, Installing Officer; Jackie LaMountain, Treasurer; Judith Huffer, Publicity Chairperson; Helen Dresback, Membership, Outreach and Nurture Coordinator; Helen LeFave, Secretary of Program Resources; Debbi Tomberlin, Spiritual Growth Coordinator;

Kay Bast, Chairman of Committee on Nominations; Carol MacKenzie, Secretary.

Seated: Donna Ludwick, Vice President; Kim Bennett, President; Nancy Pearo, Education & Interpretation Coord.; Maureen Samstag, Historian.

Statement of Purpose

“...a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportative fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”

Affirmation of The Purpose

“Rooting Compassion in Prayer”

“While Jesus and three of his disciples were on the mountain immersed in transfiguring prayer, the rest of the disciples were in the valley trying unsuccessfully to heal a little boy with epilepsy. (Mark 9) Jesus healed the boy when he rejoined them. They asked Jesus, ‘Why were we unable...?’ to which Jesus responded (in Mark’s version), ‘This kind can come out only by prayers.’

“In Matthew’s version Jesus says, ‘Because you have so little faith.’

“Eugene Peterson, in *The Message* captures the essence of both in his paraphrase, ‘Because you still aren’t taking God seriously.’

“The secret of Jesus’ fruitfulness in ministry is His at-

tention to God and to the living connection between ministry and prayer. Jesus isn’t just doing good things; He is doing what He sees His Father doing, saying what He hears His Father say.

“The deep truth here is that when we set out to live and serve boldly in Jesus’ name, we will face God-sized challenges that test and far exceed our human abilities to love and to help. To live and serve as Jesus did requires increasing reliance on God and God’s infinite resources.

“That is why Jesus ‘took Peter, James, and John, and les them up on a high mountain where they were all alone,’ (Mark 9:2, NIV) and could share in Jesus’ communion with God. Jesus knew that without a deeper inward assurance of who he was and a more personal experience of God, the disciples wouldn’t make it; they would not be able to persevere through the trials that lay ahead.

“At some point, if we would persevere in faith, mature in love, and truly bear fruit as Christ-followers, we must allow Jesus to lead us not only into a more productive active life, but into a deepening prayer life and a sustaining communion with God. It all begins with keeping your appointment with God.”

Stephen D. Bryant

Jan./Feb. 2009 Guidepost

February 2009 Meetings and Events:

Monday, February 9th: Executive Board Meeting at 10:00 for ALL Officers, Mission Coordinators and Circle Leaders. Contact Kim Bennett for information.

Tuesday, February 10th: Faith Hope Circle at 9:30 (Contact Nancy Pearo for information); & Helping Hand Circle at 9:30 (Contact Kay Bast for information) and Dorcas Circle (Contact Myrna Evans for information) at 1:00.

Thursday, February 12th: Ruth Circle at 9:15. (Contact Debbie Tomberlin for information.)

All women of FUMC are welcomed to attend any Circle group or to try different circles to see where you feel most comfortable. We would love to have you join us. We are still hoping to start an evening circle group. Call Kim Bennett at 382-3941 if you are interested and an evening circle would fit your schedule better.

January 22, 2009 - UMW Report

A Service of Installation for the 2009 UMW Officers was performed December 16, 2008, by Becky Bard from FUMC in Hudson. Becky is the District Coordinator for Mission of Membership, Nurture and Outreach, and we were very happy to have her perform this installation. A delicious potluck luncheon followed the ceremony with the Dorcas Circle as our hostesses. It was a wonderful day for all.

Four Unit Officers attended the yearly training program on Saturday, January 10, 2009. This was held at St. Paul UMC in Largo. This gave me the chance to reach out to several area UMW Presidents such as Crystal River, Spring Hill and others. I have already received a call from Mariner UMC regarding mission studies. There will be an update when I have more details.

The first UMW Executive Meeting was held on Monday, January 12, 2009. Thirteen of the sixteen members were in attendance, and we are looking forward to an exciting new year. We have set high goals for our unit and are confident that we can achieve them to the purpose and glory of Jesus Christ.

The Dorcas Circle held their "Dumbo Auction" on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, with our very own unique Auctioneer, Carol MacKenzie with her "Tinkerbell star-wand" and aided by her faithful assistant/baker, Karen Kline.



The circle raised \$265.00 toward our circle's yearly mission of Haiti. Everyone got some great bargains, some beautiful gifts, a lot of fun and much laughter.

Kim Bennett – UMW President

Evangelism Report

The children of EBADOC Discipleship Academy are rocking-on in their evangelism efforts. They continue to bring friends and relatives to visit our new program to see what it's like. The children are to be commended for their bravery (that some of us adults don't have) on extending invitations to others to learn about Jesus Christ. On Sunday, January 11, 2009, we had three more youth (Jr. & Sr. High) come to our class.

On October 12, 2008, the children raised \$249.00 in their bake sale to help the Haiti children. My kitchen is still standing, and all is well there.

I continue my "in-the-community" evangelism. When I am able to initiate a conversation with someone new (not a problem for me) the Holy Spirit leads me as to how to approach that individual with information about FUMC, our programs, our loving congregation, our various programs, and how to offer any help that they might need. My "FUMC business cards", a.k.a. "Evangelism Cards" are almost already gone. Theresa started me with about 50 cards. Refill time.

Neretta Brobst, Jill Wickliffe and I plan to set up a display for VBS 2009 at the Grand Opening Celebration of our new addition. Jill Wickliffe and Theresa Weber have been designing a great "give-away hook" for the children who come by. I truly appreciate all the help I have been getting from everyone.

Kim Bennett,
Evangelism

**Helping Hand Circle
Tour of
Camp E-Ninni-Hassee
Tuesday, December 9, 2008**



We provide monthly birthday cakes for the 70 girls there, and "adopted" 8 for Christmas. It was a very informative visit. We were all very impressed with the work they do and with their success rate.

Kay Bast,
Helping Hand Circle Co-leader

**A letter From
Our
Past-
President,
Pat Blake**



Since my final and fifth year as President of the UMW has come to a close, it is now time for me to give a special thank you to our Heavenly Father for allowing me the privilege of serving these five years.

I would like to say I am very proud of the things accomplished during that time.

Our bazaars were very successful (a lot of work but also fun).

The yard sales were very profitable (also a lot of work), but thanks to Kay Bast's leadership we made it work.

The Christmas Cookie Sale was fun, and to all the bakers it proved to be enjoyable. Everything we do is work, but we have a lot of fun also.

I was very fortunate to have a team of officers that were exceptional leaders and extremely helpful. Without them our rewards would not have been so beneficial.

Our local mission projects and our conference obligations were all met in full.

We have not had the Thrift Shop this past year and have had to fill in with other projects. We look forward to a new shop shortly. Marge Davis and Claudette Kirby will be co-chairs for this project.

To my officers a very special Thank You, and to all the members of the UMW I say many thanks and may God bless each of you in a special way to enable you to continue the mission work of the unit.

Good Luck, Kim, and God Bless you as you take on this responsibility.

Sincerely,
Pat

Education and Ministries

Patience Nave

As I write these words, my mind is swirling with things to come. Paul says that we should put the past behind us and press on to the future. Last year was full and had, I think, great purpose for this church. However, now it's time to think about what is coming up - and there is *much* coming up.

✠ February 12, twelve people, sponsored by this church, will leave Florida to work on a huge project in Carrenage, Haiti. Six of the 12 are from our church, six are from elsewhere; six are men, and six are women.

Last year at this time, most of us seldom, if ever, thought of Haiti. The team to Haiti in March, led by our own Sharon Smith, awakened us to the needs of people just a few miles from Florida's borders.

Many have sewed, baked, prayed, and given to this ministry. We still have children to feed there and work to be done.

Ted Weiser has taken the training for team leadership, and the next team (how's that for focusing on the future?) will go to Haiti under his leadership to continue the work we have begun. If you would like to contribute further to this project, you may do so by contribution to the church, designated a "VIM" (Volunteers in Missions).

Our work is known in the community, and total strangers have given us money to fulfill our commitment of helping the helpless in Haiti. The team thanks you, and I cannot thank you enough for your incredible support of this project.

✠ Last year at this time we were just beginning our EBADOC Academy for the children. Now our Academy and its program have become a model for the Methodist Church in Crystal River. Our numbers on Sunday morning have grown, but more important is the spiritual growth that we see in our children. I thank Kim Bennett and her team for their faithfulness and great love for the children. She, the team, and I thank *you* for your support.

✠ Our Celebration as we open our new facility for service is coming together well, and we pray that this will be both a

joyful time of thanking our great God for his generosity and of reaching out to the community to invite others to join. We are grateful for the work being done by Chuck Dixon and his committee to bring this Celebration to fruition, and we are already thanking God for his faithfulness to us and for your faithfulness to him.

✠ Every week dozens of people are involved in ministry to those outside our church, as evidenced by the "Salty Service" cards you continue to place on the altar. The "Intentional Disciplining" cards show that many continue to grow in their discipleship through group Bible study. God is helping us to live out our purpose statement: "Everyone Becoming A Disciple Of Christ."

✠ The response to the Advent Devotional was so positive, and I am working - sometimes steadily, sometimes feverishly - to complete one for the full 40 days of Lent. Thank you for your encouragement and for allowing me to devote this time to study and writing.

✠ The Financial Peace University class went well. To a person, all agreed that the class is excellent and should be offered again to the church.

I should stress that it is not *just for the young* who have much to learn about being financially prudent. The format has much to offer *everyone*.

Dick Evans and I facilitated the class, but the videos by Dave Ramsey were the most significant part of the entire program. He is bright, informed, and funny - a great combination! I think I am a pretty frugal person, but I have changed many things about how I use/don't use my money, thanks to the class.

Dick and I encourage you to attend the preview of the class if you can. Then sign up and be prepared to have your financial ideas altered and your bank account enhanced.

The cost of the 13-week class is \$100 per person or per couple. (Dave Ramsey encourages couples to take the course together.) It will be \$100 well spent.

This is the greatest church I have ever belonged to. I am so grateful to be here, to be on your staff, to be a part of God's ministry in this place. I praise him for that privilege, and I thank you for letting me do what I *love* to do.

HARDENING OF THE HEART

In the book of Exodus throughout Chapters 7-12, we hear repeatedly how the Pharaoh's heart was hardened by his own will and, on occasion, at God's behest. His anger and spitefulness toward the Israelites cost him dearly in land, water, crops, livestock, citizens, his army, and even his child.

For a number of years, scientists have been studying the role of inflammation in the development of heart disease. We have known for a while that those people who are under a great deal of stress and/or who were chronically anxious had an increased likelihood of developing heart disease - in fact, we attach the label of *Type A Personality* to them.

The word inflammation conjures up images of healing wounds, sore throats, or arthritic joints - not heart disease. However, there is increasing evidence that chronic inflammation of the lining of blood vessels has a great deal of influence on whether or not patients develop atherosclerosis, perhaps better known as "hardening of the arteries."

There is much more that science has yet to learn about the inflammation process. In the mean-time, there are some concrete things you can do to lessen the effects of chronic inflammation on your body, including:

- Stop smoking and eliminate second hand smoke.
- Maintain an appropriate weight.
- Get moving. Exercise!
- Know your numbers - blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar.
- Take care of your teeth and gums with regular brushing and regular exams.
- Make necessary dietary changes.

And finally, as in the case of Pharaoh - reduce your stress (often self-imposed) and reign in anger and hostility by participating in programs in the church, such as Bible study, prayer groups, support groups and/or Stephen Ministers.

Wishing you a Happy, Healthy, Heart Month!

Your Parish Nurse
Sharon E. Smith

A Gift That Never Runs Out

"Lola could not believe how many trips her grandson, Andy, was making to the holiday dinner buffet. He had already been back twice when she saw him getting up to get more. And he even had his eye on the pie for the next trip! Everyone laughed about how a slim second grader could hold so much food. But, he did. No matter how often he went back to the buffet, there was plenty more.

"After everyone polished off the last of the pie, Lola couldn't wait to share some good news with the family. She told them all about a new charitable gift annuity she had signed with her favorite non-profit organization. Because she had not known until recently what a gift annuity was, she was not surprised when no one in her family knew what one was either.

"She explained how she funded a gift annuity for her favorite cause, and in exchange the charity agreed to pay her back at a fixed rate for as long as she lives. The payment rate was based on her age. In addition to the fixed payments for life, she also receives an income tax deduction this year. She used cash this time, but will probably use stock to fund her next one to take advantage of the capital gains benefits. Best of all, after a lifetime of payments to her, any money remaining in the annuity is used to further the charity's mission.

"Andy, whose shirt and belt had been loosened much earlier in the afternoon, asked her if the gift annuity was like a holiday dinner. 'How?' she asked. 'Well it seems like you get a check every three months when you go to your mailbox; and then you go back three months later and there's another check for you. Your gift annuity never runs out!' Lola laughed. She realized that just like the bountiful meal they had just shared, the benefits of a gift annuity are always there. They never run out."

(Reprinted from *Gift Legacy eNewsletter* of UMFNE/ Copyright by Crescendo Interactive, Inc.)

If you would like to join the feast of gift annuity benefits, please call the church office or me (563-5833). Through the United Methodist Foundation of Florida, we can help you set the table on a lifetime of fulfillment with a Charitable Gift Annuity naming FUMCH as beneficiary.

--Rev. Richard Evans

Walk Today Where Jesus Walked

You really can walk where Jesus walked - along with a group of church friends led by Pastor Mark and Iris Whittaker. *The Lands of the Bible Cruise* is scheduled for Nov. 11-22, 2009.

You will walk in the actual places Jesus walked, taught, and healed around the Lake of Galilee. You will stand on the Mt. of Beatitudes where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount. You will see the place where Jesus fed the 5,000. And you will walk the streets of Capernaum where he called his first disciples.

Stand upon the Mount of Olives to view the city of Jerusalem as Jesus did, and then walk among the olive trees in the Garden of Gethsemane. Walk the streets of the old city and visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Stand in the Upper Room and visit the house of Caiaphas, the high priest.

In Egypt you will see the great Pyramids at Giza and the many treasures at the Egypt Museum. There you will remember how Moses brought his people out of Egypt and how Mary and Joseph traveled from Bethlehem to Egypt to escape the wrath of King Herod.

In Greece you will see the wonders of ancient Athens and stand, as the apostle Paul did, at Mars Hill in the shadow of the Acropolis. You will walk the streets of Corinth where Paul preached and taught. On the Isle of Rhodes you will remember the apostle's visit there on his way to Jerusalem. And in Ephesus you will walk the same streets as Paul did during 3 years of his ministry in that magnificent city.

This is a journey of a lifetime and, truly, you will see the Bible come to life before your eyes. Those memories will bring new meaning to your Bible reading for the rest of your life. So far we have about 12 in our travel group - a good biblical number, but we will welcome more.

If you are interested, and have not yet registered, now is the time.

If you want more information, pick up a brochure at the church office.

Call Rev. Richard Evans (563-5833) or Pastor Mark if you have questions. Then mail your registration to Educational Opportunities Tours in Lakeland. Or call them, toll free, and register over the phone.

Money Management Workshop - February 14

Smart Money Management in a Sagging Economy is the theme of a special Workshop scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 14, from 9 am to Noon. Panelists will include a Financial Planner and Estate Planner, a Registered Investment Advisor Representative and Financial Advisor, and a Certified Public Accountant and Financial Counselor. The panel will be moderated by Rev. Richard Evans, who chairs the Permanent Endowment Committee.

Panel participants will share some good ideas and useful advice on how to live through the current economic recession. Are you finding that you have too much month left at the end of the money? Are you overburdened with debt? Even when you try to "cut back," do you find your expenses still running out of control? Are you worried about your investments (and your well-being) as you watch their value decline? These are just some of the questions and issues that the Workshop will address.

The Bible has much to say in times like these, and we will look at what God may have to say to us through His Word. The morning will include a brief preview video of Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University*. Find out how that program, sponsored by our church, can change the way you relate to money and can change your entire life!

And the Workshop will also address "smart estate planning," including possibilities for charitable giving from accumulated assets. You will learn about Wills and Trusts, Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts, and other opportunities for planned and deferred giving.

The Workshop is designed to benefit adults of all ages who are affected - in any way - by present economic conditions. There is no cost for the program, but registration is necessary. Call the church office today so that we will be expecting you.

Then come to Room 114 on Saturday, Feb. 14, for an informative morning. A continental breakfast will be served from 8:30 am, and the program will begin promptly at 9:00 am.

The Workshop is planned and sponsored by our Permanent Endowment Committee.

Walking on the Path

Patience Nave

"I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me."

John 14:30-31

Sometimes the words in Our Book just overwhelm my brain and my heart. I am challenged and awed by the verses above.

It is so easy for us to sing, "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." That's true, and I'm glad. But is that the reason that Jesus willingly went to the cross? Was it only so that little children and children-grown-to-be-old could sing that song with absolute assurance of its truth? I'm not so sure.

In the verse above, Jesus is having one last, intimate conversation with his very own disciples, whom he loved greatly and into whom he had poured himself for three years. He seemed to be cramming these last moments with things he wanted them never to forget. Yet in these verses, he does not tell them that he is going to the cross because he loves **them**. He tells them that he is going to the cross because he loves **his Father**.

Earlier, John has told us that God loved the world and gave Jesus for that world (3:16). Putting this thought with the verses above, we recognize two great truths: God loved *the world* enough to buy it back - at great cost - from its sin and separation from him, and Jesus loved *his Father* enough to be willing to complete that purchase. Jesus knew exactly what he was going to allow men to do to him. Only a few minutes later he went into Gethsemane and poured out his heart to his Father - according to one text even sweating blood in his anxiety. (Luke 22:43-44) But his love for his Father was so great that even his fear of what was to come would not prevent him from being obedient - obedient even to subjecting himself to death on the cross.

I remember standing in the great Coliseum in Rome, looking down at the place where Christians had been fed to the lions, and wondering if I could have faced those lions, if I loved God enough to die for him. Jesus did. Yes, he loved us, but he could not bear to see his Father suffer from our separation from him, so he died to end that separation!

Prayer: *Father, we say so glibly that we love you. We mouthe words too great for us to comprehend. Teach us to really love you, to really want to please you, to long to bring joy to you by our actions—even if those actions require sacrifice on our part. Amen.*

Passionate Spirituality
Lent and the Spiritual Disciplines

Lent can be a time to focus our attention on our Savior and our relationship with Him. Using some of the spiritual disciplines during Lent would be a particularly good way to accomplish this.

Many people think of Lent as a time to give up something, like chocolate or something else we probably shouldn't have or do in the first place. Unless what we do is a personal sacrifice and unless we use it as a way to focus on Jesus, it doesn't produce the appropriate result. Instead we can DO something that will draw us closer to our Savior, like **meditating** on God's Word or spending some time in **silence**.

Often the spiritual disciplines which are the least familiar and therefore the least comfortable are the ones which reap the deepest results (learned from personal experience). If we are familiar with prayer, then spending time in prayer is good, but it probably won't stretch us like spending some time being silent before the Lord would. Yes, it may be uncomfortable at first because it's not as familiar. But as you experience the closeness which happens in your openness to the Lord through a new spiritual discipline, you are likely to become eager to develop formerly unfamiliar spiritual discipline. Like anything else, the practice of a new discipline will become more comfortable with time.

We can ask for **guidance** about which new spiritual discipline the Lord would have us add. We can make this a **sacrifice** and do it in **secrecy** (refraining from drawing attention to ourselves). These three spiritual disciplines were described in the January Genesis.

So let's resolve to take up a **NEW** spiritual discipline during Lent, or, better yet, explore several. We may find a spiritual discipline which we might want to continue practicing after Lent. If I can be of help to you with any of these spiritual disciplines, please let me know.

During Lent, descriptions of the spiritual disciplines and scriptural references will be available in the narthex and on bulletin boards.

Marilyn Watson

SPRING BIBLE STUDY**"Walking With the Master"****Thursdays, February 5th through April 30****10:00 to 11:30AM, Room 114**

"A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher." (Luke 6:40 NSRB)

As the disciples of Jesus walked with him through the circumstances of everyday life, they watched what he did, listened to what he taught and developed a personal relationship with him that would change their lives.

In these weeks, as we move with the Master through his days and listen to his teachings, our purpose will be to develop a deeper personal relationship with him - a relationship that will change our lives.

You are invited to join us as we learn discipleship from the Master.

Call the church or Jan Wise (382-5799) to sign up for the class.

**2009 COUPLES' RETREAT
MARCH 20 - 22**

We invite you to join us for fun, food, fellowship, and spiritual growth at the 2009 couples' retreat in Leesburg. The keynote speaker, John Riley, always has something new and inspirational to share.

The serenity and beauty of the facilities and grounds offers enhancement that is unsurpassed. This is your opportunity to experience spiritual growth no matter where you are in your walk with the Lord. Whether you desire fun and fellowship or silence and solitude, you can find it all at the life enrichment center during the course of the weekend.

Complete information is available on bulletin boards in the narthex and the administration building, as well as on line at www.ummflumc.org. To register contact Jim Stoneman, Retreat Coordinator, at jbstone@infionline.net or 422-0169. Registrations will be sent in together so every effort can be made to place us all in the same building.

It is, therefore, important that you get your applications and checks to me as soon as possible. If you can't connect with me, please give them to Theresa in the church office.

PRAYER CORNER

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ✠ Our pastor and staff -- daily.
- ✠ For the women who are participating in the Leesburg Women's Retreats February 20-22.
- ✠ Those couples whom the Holy Spirit is prompting to attend the retreat March 20-22.
- ✠ Our mission to Haiti, for all the details, safety, openness to the leading of His Holy Spirit, our mission team, and the people at Carrenage.
- ✠ Last minute details surrounding our new building as well as the service and the celebration to reach out to the community and invite them to celebrate with us.
- ✠ All of us to seek to become better disciples of Jesus Christ.
- ✠ All committee members as they seek to know God's will for this, His church.

**Grand Opening
Arts/Crafts/Hobby Show**

Saturday, March 7th
From 10 am to 2 pm.

As part of our Grand Opening Celebration we are planning a Arts/Crafts/Hobbies Show and inviting all the members of the Church to bring their talents and show them to the community.

We are looking for people who do woodworking, quilting, bonsai, photography, glass, (anything really) or have any collections that they would like to display to the community.

If you have a talent for making or love to collect something I would love to talk to you about being part of our celebration. Let your imagination run wild, and come and help us celebrate this new building and how we can use it to reach out to our community.

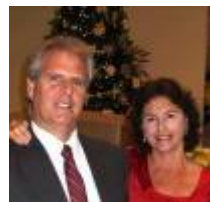
Please call me at the church and let me know that you are interested in being involved.

Pastor Mark – 628-4083

**WELCOME!
NEW MEMBERS DECEMBER 2008**



Dorothy Atwell
4 Cypress Run, 45C
Homosassa FL 34446
352-382-3434
from: New Port Richey
UMC



Rosalie & Wayne
Haynes
11315 W. Ft Island Tr
Crystal River
FL 34429
352-546-0082
from: Keansburgh NJ



Richard Paul Lucas
7258 S. Sorrell Avenue
Homosassa FL 34446
352-621-5194

**COMING TO THE CHURCH
FEBRUARY 22**

Show your appreciation to our
Armed Forces in Iraq & Afghanistan
by joining "Hugs for Our Soldiers"



in...
**OPERATION
TASTE OF HOME 2009**

Girl Scout Cookies continue to be one of the most requested items by Soldiers. This is your opportunity to show your support for our Soldiers so far away from home.

Girl Scout Cookies will be available again this year for purchase at the church on February 22.

Please plan to show your support of our Soldiers by purchasing an additional \$3.50 box so that our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan can enjoy a little "Taste of Home."

A Soldier serving in Iraq wrote:
"Back at home, Girl Scout cookies are a once-a-year event that one might miss if they didn't go to Target on the right weekend, or if a co-worker wasn't helping a daughter sign people up for some boxes.

"Here though, in a world that has none of the comforts of home, your simple box becomes so much more than just cookies. They become a way for the battle-hardened and battle-weary Soldiers in my Company to not be completely disconnected with home."

**Satisfy your own
sweet tooth and
send a little
"Taste of Home"
to our troops!**



(Hugs for Our Soldiers, Inc. is a non-profit organization; 501©(3). Your donation is tax deductible. Please visit us at www.hugsforoursoldiers.org to learn more about how you can support our troops.)

**HAVE BUS...WILL TRAVEL !
Thursday, March 12, 2009**

HERITAGE VILLAGE &
BOTANNICAL GARDENS.
Largo, Florida

PUT ON YOUR WALKING SHOES
AND TRAVEL THRU SOME OF OLD
FLORIDA HISTORY.

Price will be \$20.00 per person to include bus transportation, admission and guided tour. Afternoon lunch will be at each person's expense. Please bring a snack along to hold you over until we have a late lunch.

We will depart the church lot at 8:15 a.m.

For your reservation,
please call Bill Brobst at 621-3736.



Laura and Kevin
January 17 & 18, 2009

Community Development Projects
"The Big Vision"
"Windows For Warmth" Project.
"Workshop In The Willage"
Teaching trades to promote employment.



SATURDAY EVENING POT LUCK

**Thrift Shoppe
Update**

PLEASE BE PATIENT!

There are a lot of us, who due to out-and-out loyalty to *OUR* Thrift Shop, have been hanging onto articles the whole year the shop has been closed and under construction. Articles usually donated during Spring and/or Fall cleanings, downsizing, moving, or the need for space after replacement of household items, etc..

The bags and boxes are piling up, and we are anxious to get these objects out of our homes and into the nice new Thrift Shop.

A couple of UMW have been taking items into their homes, but they have run out of room. And take a peek into Room 207. You will see those storage limits have been exhausted, along with other FUMCH areas.

Please bear with us...just a little while longer! We are expecting our Permit of Occupancy **ANY DAY NOW.**

We all are anxious to get this new Thrift Shop set-up, open, and operational. Hang in there, with us, will you please?

Marge Davis, Co-Chairman
Claudette Kirby, Co-Chairman
United Methodist Women's Thrift Shop



S H A R E

The Basic Package has a retail value of \$36 or more, you pay only \$18! The monthly Basic Package contains five frozen meat selections, plus a variety of seven fresh fruits and vegetables.

You may purchase as much food as you wish over the minimum \$6 purchase. Produce packs are \$6 and basic packages are \$18. Meat Boxes are available as well. Specialty packages and Select items are priced separately. All orders must be placed with local Host Site.

SHARE newspapers, with the February selections, will be in the Administration lobby soon.

Due to market conditions food items may be subject to last minute changes.



2009 SHARE Schedule							
Month	Wed.	Sat.	D-Day	Month	Wed.	Sat.	D-Day
JANUARY PAST				July	8th	11th	25th
Feb.	4th	7th	21st	Aug.	5th	8th	22nd
Mar.	11th	14th	28th	Sept.	9th	12th	26th
Apr.	8th	11th	25th	Oct.	7th	10th	24th
May	13th	16th	30th	Nov.	4th	7th	21st
June	10th	13th	27th	Dec.	2nd	5th	19th

Dear Praying Friends,

We had a very busy but enjoyable Christmas season as we had quite a few celebrations, including our quiet one at home on the 25th. Now, it's back to school and work as the New Year begins. May the Lord bless you abundantly in 2009, and don't forgot this New Year's advice from Paul: *"One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus"* (Phil. 3:13b-14).

Praises:

✠ Cool Shade of Life Church held its **third baptism service** in 25 months of existence Sunday, with five members being baptized.



Praise God! It has been such an encouragement to see the Lord steadily leading people to Him through this small church. That makes 10 baptisms in two years.

✠ The church held numerous **Christmas outreach events** in December, which allowed members to invite unsaved friends and family to hear the true story of Christmas. Most Thais think Christmas is a foreign holiday that is either an extended New Year's celebration, a gift-giving day, or the day the Christian religion began. It's always exciting to share how it is not any of those things but rather the day that God came to live among us in order to bring us back into a right relationship with Him.

Elaine had large roles in planning all three major church events. She hosted and planned the women's outreach, directed the children's play as part of the church Christmas outreach service, and handed out gift bags that were sent by the Helping Hands Circle of First United Methodist Church in Homosassa, Fla., as part of the children's party. Praise God that all three events went well and were valuable opportunities to share the Good News!



"Women's Party"



"Children's Play"



"Children's Party"

This month's **cultural photo** is "Prithvi." During last month's parliament vote for a prime minister in Thailand, the victorious Democrat Party changed the color of the hair bun on the Hindu deity statue at its headquarters from black to red to bring good luck. *Prithvi*, the Hindu earth and mother goddess, is a symbol of the Democrat Party in Thailand; a statue of the deity sits in front of the party's head office in Bangkok. Not only is *Prithvi* the personification of the earth and/or the earth's mother in Hindu traditions, but she is also said by some Buddhists to be the one who drove away the temptation demon *Mara* by attesting to Buddha's worthiness to attain enlightenment. She is associated with the cow, hence this mosaic image.



Prayers:

✠ Please continue to pray for wisdom in the **formation of our new mission team** as Joe makes progress on numerous paperwork issues. Pray also that the Lord would begin to prepare specific people for the task of working alongside Thai partners in opening new churches.

✠ Please pray for **Brittany's college application process** as we send in the final essay to Columbia International University (in the capital of South Carolina). School officials will then review her application and let us know their final decision this month. Brittany would begin to attend there in August if she is accepted.

✠ **Thailand's political struggle** has heated back up as a new government was formed by the former minority side, which has led former pro-government supporters to protest against the new government. Got that?!? What it means is that thousands of demonstrators are back on the street demanding new elections so that their voice can again be heard via the ballot box. Please pray for a peaceful and (hopefully) permanent resolution to this protracted problem. (Some, including us, would say the problem has roots that go back hundreds of years, but that's another story altogether!)

✠ The **second half of the school year** at Grace International School begins Monday. Please pray for wisdom for Elaine as she prepares lessons and teaches her 2nd grade class, and pray for the children to do their best work every day. Pray especially for Brittany as she wraps up her senior year and for Justin as he needs to focus a bit more on homework!

Be sure to check out **Cool Shade of Life Church's Web site** when you get a chance (<http://www.ourchurch.com/member/h/HenryThailand/>). It has lots of updated photos and info, particularly from the recent Christmas events and baptism!

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



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 John Hoadley Karen Kline Syble Little Harold Marvin Gini Slusher	4 Phyllis Grofjahn	5 Neretta Brobst Carolyn Roth Arlene Stohrer	6 Neill Lent Marjorie Ottman	7 Roberta Little Allen Stone	8 Hilda Theriault Marilyn Watson	9 Bill Barton Dylan Patton Wanda Wheeler	10 Pam Milat	11 Bud Ludwick Barbara Smith	12 Audrey Hite	14 Pam Bailey Pamela Patton Hendrik Pouderoyn
15 David Brightman Bill Jahn Harold Slusher	16 Judy Lipovetz Judy O'Gorman	17 Marilyn McKown Delmar Meeves Bunny Wade	18 Audrey Gregory Alice Hurley	20 Candy McFarland Patricia Urzen	21 Pat Layman Neil Kline	22 Jack Radabaugh	25 Jim Roth	26 Marguerite McClain	27 Maureen Samstag	28 Richard Evans

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

<u>1</u> Olive & Alex Stevens ~ 58 years ~	<u>2</u> Sharon & James Haskell ~ 45 years ~	<u>3</u> Ann & John Sandstrom ~ 44 years ~	<u>6</u> Eve & Thomas Walsh ~ 6 years ~	<u>13</u> Alice & Robert Yusko ~ 1 year ~	<u>14</u> Diane & John Gibbs ~ 46 years ~	<u>16</u> Beulah & Glenn Seiler ~ 57 years ~
<u>17</u> Althea & Arthur Stuckey ~ 45 years ~	<u>19</u> Loretta & Alan Burcaw ~ 19 years ~	<u>23</u> Dorothea & Waldo Shellenberg ~ 52 years ~	<u>25</u> Janet & Jerry Tanner ~ 32 years ~	<u>26</u> Ina & Joe Ryder ~ 9 years ~	<u>27</u> Gail & Richard English ~ 40 years ~	

TO MY CHURCH FAMILY:

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, phone calls, and prayers that I received when I had my surgery.
I also want to thank Peggy Benson for her visit.
Thanks again,
Helen Scheetz

PERSONS RESIDING IN LONG-TERM CARE (As of January 8, 2008)

<u>CYPRESS COVE</u> Eita Whilden	<u>AVANTE</u> Annie Preston
<u>DIAMOND RIDGE</u> Jean Buzby Betty Duncan Helen Hudson	<u>BARRINGTON</u> Ken McGuire Dolly Scott
<u>SUGARMILL</u> <u>MANOR</u> Shirley Hart Grace Payne Eleanor Smith Charlie Walker	<u>BRENTWOOD</u> Evelyn Bash Teresa Davis
<u>WILLISTON</u> Bill Marquis	<u>CEDAR CREEK</u> Bill Willis Ruth Willis Bud Jenks
	<u>CRYSTAL RIVER</u> <u>HEALTH & REHAB</u> Betty Farewell Robert Smith

A Heartfelt Thank You

Dear Friends in FUMC,
These past weeks have been a struggle for us; our family, and close friends. We have held on to each other as we've struggled to understand the tragic loss of our daughter/mother/sister/friend. Beth Weingarten Evans brought joy into every room she entered. She was funny, loyal, a great mother and a delight to her family. We miss her so much. The visit of Pastor Mark and Irs, the calls, the prayers, and the cards have let us know that we are not alone. We pray for understanding of this tragedy. I find solace in the Gospel of John. One of my favorites is John 14:1-6. Please continue to keep all of us in your prayers as we move into the challenging role of "parent" of our teenage granddaughter Molly.

IN MEMORIAM

Paul Huffstutler
7/29/1928
TO
12/13/2008

IN MEMORIAM

Frances "Fran" Hughes
1927
TO
12/28/2008

The deadline for the March 2009 issue of Genesis is 10 AM, Friday, February 6, 2009



F E B R U A R Y 2 0 0 9

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 COMMUNION SUNDAY Stephen Ministry Sunday 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 6 PM Prayer Meeting 4th Sunday after Epiphany	2 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Committee 9:30 Visitation Committee 11:00 Exercise 6:30 Stephen Ministry	3 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Stephen Ministries 3:00 Serendipity Bible Study 3:00 Stephen Ministry	4 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 10:00 SHARE Sign-Up 10:00 Lamountain Bible St 3:00 VBS 2009 Meeting 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 7:00 Choir	5 10:00 Walking w/ Master 1:00 Fibromyalgia Support 4:00 Hospice 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 Creative Worship 7:00 Disciple IV 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	6 GENESIS DEADLINE 9:30 Disciple II 10:00 Wise Bible Study	7 8:00 Saturday Sisters 10:00 SHARE Sign-Up 10:30 Bereavement Group 10:30 God's Clouds
8 DISCRETIONARY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 6 PM Prayer Meeting 5th Sunday after Epiphany	9 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Committee 9:30 Visitation Committee 10:00 UMW Exec. Business 11:00 Exercise 7:00 Building For Tomorrow	10 9:30 Faith Hope Circle 9:30 Helping Hand Circle 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Dorcas Circle 2:00 Stewardship 3:00 Serendipity Bible Study	11 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 10:00 Lamountain Bible St 11:00 Diabetes Support 1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 7:00 Choir	12 9:15 Ruth Circle 10:00 Walking w/ Master 4:00 Hospice 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 Disciple IV 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	13 9:30 Disciple II 10:00 Wise Bible Study	14 HAPPY VALENTINES DAY 8:00 Saturday Sisters 8:30: Sound Money Mngt. 10:30 Bereavement Group
15 PANTRY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship 6:00 Prayer Meeting Haiti Mission Trip 2/12-2/18 6th Sunday after Epiphany	16 PRESIDENT'S DAY Church Office Closed 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Committee 9:30 Visitation Committee 11:00 Exercise 6:30 Stephen Ministry 7:00 Strategic Church Dev Haiti Mission Trip 2/12-2/18	17 1:30 Stephen Ministry 3:00 Serendipity Bible Study 3:00 Stephen Ministry 3:30 Finance Committee	18 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:00 Safe Driving 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 10:00 Lamountain Bible St 3:30 SPRC 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 7:00 Choir	19 9:00 Safe Driving 10:00 Walking w/ Master 1:00 Fibromyalgia Support 3:00 Missions Committee 3:30 Trustees 4:00 Hospice 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 Creative Worship 7:00 Disciple IV 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	20 COUNCIL REPORTS DUE 9:30 Disciple II 10:00 Wise Bible Study	21 8:00 Saturday Sisters 10:00 SHARE Pick-Up 10:30 Bereavement Group
22 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY Girl Scout Cookie Drive 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 Traditional Worship 12:00 Ribbon Cutting, Consecration & Celebration Luncheon 6:00 Prayer Meeting Ladies Retreat 2/20 - 2/23 Transfiguration of Our Lord	23 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Committee 9:30 Visitation Committee 11:00 Exercise Haiti Mission Trip 2/12-2/18	24 10:00 Staff Meeting 3:00 Stephen Ministry 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.	25 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 10:00 Ash Wed. Service 10:00 Siegel Bible Study 10:00 Lamountain Bible St 1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 7:00 Choir	26 10:00 Walking w/ Master 4:00 Hospice 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 COUNCIL 7:00 Disciple IV 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	27 9:30 Disciple II 10:00 Wise Bible Study	28 8:00 Saturday Sisters 10:30 Bereavement Group

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

Forwarding Service Requested

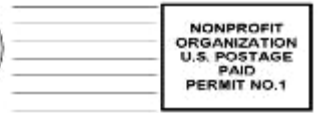


Photo by Carole Crystal, Photo-journalist

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"

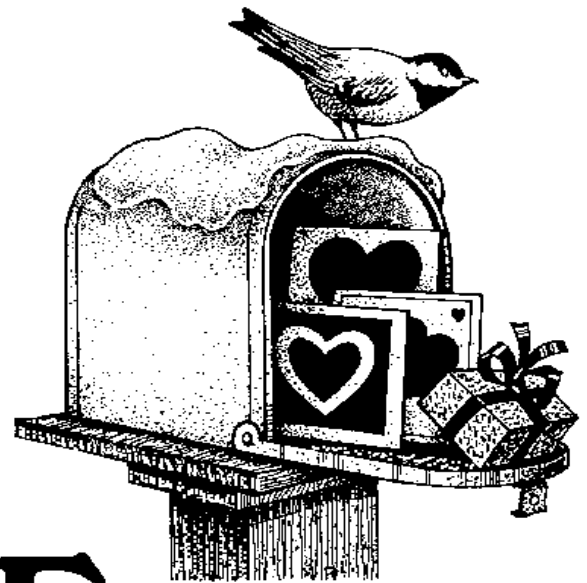
Rev. Mark Whittaker
Pastor

Sunday Schedule

Morning Worship: 8, 9:30 and 11AM
Nursery at all services
Sunday School for all ages: 9:30AM
Methodist Youth Fellowship: 12-2PM

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

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Soli Deo Gloria



FEBRUARY
2009