

GENESIS

Open Hearts—Open Minds—Open Doors

MAY 2011, Volume 15, Issue 5

There is a story about a Minnesota farmer from Swedish stock who, while sitting on the porch with his wife of 50 years watching the sunset on a perfect summer evening, turned to her and said, “Martha, sometimes it is all I can do to keep from telling you how much I love you.”

How often do you say “I love you” to your spouse, your children, your parents? How often do you share what you are feeling? It doesn’t even have to be a member of your family; maybe you know someone in the church or a neighbor who needs to hear that someone, somewhere loves them.

I got this off the internet a while back, author unknown:

Seven reasons “I Love You” make such a powerful impact in the family:

1. VALUE: When we say “I love you” you are telling that person he/she is important and worthwhile to you. You build up their personal worth and value.

2. BELONGING: When you say “I love you” you create in that person a sense of belonging, one of life’s most important needs.

3. SECURITY: When you say “I love you” you give a person a sense of security and acceptance without reservation, like Jesus loves us.

4. SELF IMAGE: The person often told “I love you” is able to develop a healthy self-image rather than feeling unworthy due to mistakes and failure.

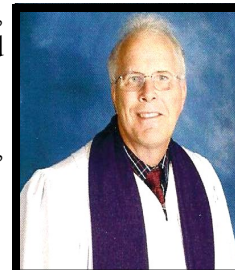
5. A LOVING PERSONALITY: Saying “I love you” creates in a child/spouse a personality which is able to express love to others. “I love you” begets “I love you.”

6. RESILIENCY: Saying “I love you” gives to a spouse or child an ability to “bounce back” from life’s hurts and disappointments. It makes them better able to cope because such an expression of love sustains them.

7. TRANQUIL HOME ATMOSPHERE: Saying “I love you” creates an atmosphere in the home which is conducive to harmony, peace and good will. It’s hard to continue to yell, argue and criticize when you constantly hear “I love you.”

Take a moment to think about why you love him/her/them, and then tell them “I love you!”

Mark
(who loves you)



“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. The mission statement of the First United Methodist Church of Homosassa was adopted on January 27, 2005. All of us need to memorize the mission statement and do all that we can to make it a reality in our lives.

CHURCH OFFICE**Phone: (352) 628-4083****Fax: (352) 628-9086****WEBSITE****www.1umc.org****PASTOR****Rev. Mark Whittaker****ADMINISTRATOR****Theresa Weber****BOOKKEEPER****Sandy Dewart****CHRISTIAN EDUCATION****Kay Bast****MUSIC DEPARTMENT****Dixie Lay****Joy Potts****Dayna Middlebrooks****PARISH NURSE****Karen Kline****PARISH VISITOR****Peggy Benson****SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT
& NURSERY SUPERVISOR****Sandra Tam****YOUTH COORDINATOR****Crystal Wiseman****SOUND TECHNICIAN****Sharon Cooley****NIGHT SECURITY****Michael Rodgers****CUSTODIAN****Dale Evans****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.





CHURCH MINISTRIES

Within the Church

Greeters
Ushers
Music Ministries
Attendance Tracking
Biblical Travel Ministry
Christian Education
Communion Stewards
Counters
Disaster Relief Programs
Flower Arranging Ministry
Folding & Mailing Committees
Funeral Receptions
Genesis Newsletter
Library
Lenten Soup Suppers
Online Picture Directory
Parish Nurse Ministry
Prayer Ministry
Stewardship
Audio-Video Ministry
UMW Circles
United Methodist Women
Visitation Care Group
Wednesday Night Dinners
Youth Ministry

Outreach Ministries

Annual Seminar for Elder Needs
Bus Ministry
Disaster Relief & Response Team
God's Clods (Clown Ministry)
Health Related Workshops
Hugs for Soldiers
Knit for Kids Ministry
Local Travel Ministry
Men's Monday Morning Work Group
Men's Wed. Morning Prayer Breakfast
Missionaries to Haiti, Siberia, and Thailand
Nursing Home Ministries
Parish Nurse
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Prison Ministry

3

Shut-In Visitation
Stephen Ministry
Tuned To Revival Quartet
Thrift Shop
Volunteers in Missions
Vacation Bible School
Welcome Bags

Small Groups

Bereavement Group
Cancer Survivors
Current Affairs
Individual Bible Study Groups
PAWS

Saturday Sisters
Men's Serendipity
Women's Serendipity

Support Groups

Alzheimer's Support
Diabetes Support
Memory Lane Respite
Stroke Support

Discipleship Classes

Companions in Christ
Disciple I & IV

Benevolences

CROP Walk
Equipment for Handicapped
Food Pantry
Habitat for Humanity
Holiday Food Baskets
Methodist Children's Home
ONEHARVEST
Salvation Army
St. Andrew's Mission
The Heifer Project
The Path
Toys for Children

Community Outreach

AA
Al-Anon
Blood Bank
Camp-E-Nini-Hassee
Hunger & Homeless Outreach
Kiwanis Breakfast
Our Father's Table.



Four Disciple classes will be coming to an end in May, two Disciple I classes, and two Disciple IV classes. Congratulations to all those who have completed the rigorous but rewarding bible study.

Sunday school continues to grow but there is always room for more chairs! Won't you consider joining a class? I would be happy to give you information on any of the classes. Also there are many opportunities for small group Bible study. The hours and days of the week vary so you can always find one to fit your schedule.

Please support the Youth group in their efforts to raise funds for summer camp. The experience can be a real awakening to the message of Jesus for them, and they need support from caring adults to sustain their spirits in this troubled world.

Thank you for your support of the gleanings of America's fields through The Society of St. Andrew during Lent. The response was heartening.

Kay



New Genesis Editor

Change is inevitable in our lives and the life of the church is no different. The Genesis newsletter is making a change also. Cyrynda Walker is unable to continue as the editor of Genesis and has handed the responsibility over to Mary Lee Millikin. A sincere thank you is in order to Cyrynda for all her hard work and effort on the Genesis while under her control.

Many of you know Mary Lee through the church as she has been a valuable receptionist in the office for several years. She and her husband Allen have been members of the church for six years and are dedicated to the work it takes to create, print, and get ready for distribution of a fresh and informative newsletter every month.

Please keep in mind that the Genesis deadline is the **first Friday of each month**. It will also make Mary Lee's job easier if you submit your Genesis articles via email using a **12 pt. Times New Roman font** to genesisfumc@tampabay.rr.com. If you are not computer savvy, you can always leave a written copy in the newsletter mailbox at the church.

Best wishes to Cyrynda,
and good luck to Mary Lee!

Theresa



Alzheimer's or Dementia?

What are they? Defined by the Alzheimer's Association; Dementia is a general term for loss of memory and other intellectual abilities serious enough to interfere with daily life. Alzheimer's is the most common form of Dementia.

The Association tells us that 5.3 million Americans have Alzheimer's. Thirteen percent of those are over 65, and almost 50% of those are 85 and older. This number is projected to reach close to 16 million by 2050! Presently, 70% of those with Alzheimer's live at home. The impact of this disease extends to millions of family members, friends and caregivers.

Memory loss is a warning sign and can be a concern. There may be many reasons for this including; depression, side effects from medications, excess use of alcohol, thyroid problems, infections, poor diet, and many others. Anyone experiencing symptoms should see their doctor as soon as possible. Early diagnosis can lead to early interventions and sources of support that can improve quality of life not only for the person involved, but for caregivers and loved ones as well. The Alzheimer's Association is a wealth of information, and is available at 1-800-272-3900 or through their website: www.alz.org. This 800 number is available 24/7 for questions or concerns.

In many cases your doctor may refer you to a specialist such as a Neurologist, Psychologist, or Psychiatrist. Since there is no single test to diagnosis Alzheimer's, a workup by your doctor and the specialists is designed to evaluate overall health and to identify conditions that could cause symptoms. In some cases symptoms may be treated or reversed if caught early.

When the diagnosis is Alzheimer's, it is important to know that there is currently no cure, and that it is life-changing for both the individual and those close to them. Learning about the disease will help families make better decisions about care, transportation, living options, and legal and financial matters.

At First United Methodist Church we have started a respite program for people with Alzheimer's or Dementia, called Memory Lane Respite. This program runs every Monday afternoon from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M., and is free to all. The first time someone comes to the program they are asked to come about a half hour early to fill out paper work. Volunteers play games, sing, read stories, and do other activities with these people. We are very blessed to have a number of volunteers in this program. One of our volunteers plays the viola, another brings in a therapy dog. Participation has produced smiles, laughter, and a sense of caring by all involved. Along with the respite group we have a support group for their caregivers that meets on the second Tuesday of every month. If you know of someone who could benefit from this program or who would like to volunteer please ask them to call the church for more information.

Where There's a *Will*, There's a Way!

Statistics have indicated that as many as one half of those who die in the US, do not have a valid *will* or *trust*. Those who die without a *will* have no say in the way their property will be distributed or about naming the person who will settle their estate. These are governed by state law.

And for a Christian, there is an additional concern. Without a *will*, state law prevents any of your estate from being distributed to your church or to other charities. So, if you do not have a *will*, consult an attorney and have one drawn up. A simple *will* usually costs no more than \$350.

Before your appointment with an attorney, make a list of all your property including cash, stocks, bonds, real estate and personal belongings. List the names and addresses of all persons you want to designate as beneficiaries.

Carefully select someone you trust to be executor. Then select a second person, in case the first cannot serve. Name a guardian for minor or dependent adult children.

Consider your church and other favorite charities as beneficiaries of a portion of your estate. You can designate that a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder of your estate be given to a church and/or other charity after making all other bequests.

Once you have made your *will* and any other estate plans, be sure to tell your family you have done so. Let them, or another trusted person, know where your important papers may be found in the event of your death. Your attorney should keep a copy of your *will*.

And remember, even if you have a *will*, it may not be up-to-date. If it was written in another state or if your life circumstances have changed, it may be time to have it reviewed and updated by a local attorney.

With a *will* you can determine how your property will be distributed. Without one, the laws of the state will determine it—regardless of your wishes and in spite of your best intentions. To learn more about *wills*, *trusts*, and other forms of estate planning, contact the church office or a member of the Permanent Endowment Committee.

"When Satan is knocking at your door , simply say,
"Jesus, could you get that for me?"

“...I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.... Be strong and courageous...do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:5b, 9)

God’s promise to Joshua as he set out to obey the Lord is also for every disciple today who is learning the ways of the kingdom.

I remember a church-camp assignment. Each camper was to pause sometime during the day and say, “God is here now.” For me the time came while sitting by the lake. I wrote in the sand, “God is here now.” Then I said it aloud:

GOD is here now.

God IS here now.

God is HERE now.

God is here NOW.

Gradually I sensed the reality of his presence, and somehow, as an 11-year-old kid, I knew God liked being recognized as present in my day.

I repeat this exercise often, confessing God’s presence in my life. It encourages me in times of stress or uncertainty when I don’t “feel” God near. Whether facing an unexpected challenge or the mundane question of what to serve for dinner, the reminder that God is in the “now” of my dilemma brings comfort and courage.

When Jesus told his followers to go and make disciples,

he ended his command with, “Surely I am with you always to the very end of the age.” As his disciples, we go as his witnesses, letting the world see and taste what it means to be his follower. Whether we touch others by our attitude in the mundane things like waiting in line, driving on Route 19, or answering an inconvenient phone call, we can practice his presence. When we do “real” spiritual outreach like teaching Bible study, visiting shut-ins or helping the homeless, our lives “go out” and touch others. However we go, Jesus has promised to be with us—always.

My challenge is simple. Once a day, take a moment to verbalize, “God is here now.” You could be waiting at the stoplight or fussing over some frustrating project. It might be as you waken and the day stretches ahead with too many tasks...or maybe the bleakness of nothing to do. Wherever, whenever, at least once during your day, take time to acknowledge God’s presence.

Father, please remind us to acknowledge your presence. Help us to be more God-conscious. In Jesus’ name, Amen.





Learning From Your Answered Prayers

We can read that title more than one way. There is a lot we can learn about prayer and about ourselves as we pray and as we see our prayers answered. Another way we can read that title is that we can learn a lot from the answers to the prayers of one another. The way I intended the title was that I am learning from your answered prayers – the ones you shared when I asked the questions, “Do you believe God answers prayer? If so, what in your life has caused you to believe God answers prayer?”

I’ve learned that you can see God at work, see the blessings, and rejoice in them although the circumstances were not particularly good or there wasn’t a TV-type miraculous outcome. Don’t think there weren’t many miracles shared in those answered prayers -- there were. I’ve learned that many of you pray about the large things and the small things knowing God cares about every aspect of our lives because He loves us so much. I’ve learned how much many of you depend upon Him on a daily basis. Sometimes the way God answers prayer for huge things teaches us to depend upon Him for all things. It also seems that depending upon Him daily and in the “little” things helps us be prepared to trust God with the things which come along which seem overwhelming.

As I was writing this, I looked back through the answers. There were a few which included a reminder that we should remember God’s answers are not always what we expect, may be according to His time not ours, and God may even say no if what we ask isn’t what’s best. They reminded me of a time when my granddaughter was five and I was thinking about how I would explain to her that sometimes God’s answers aren’t exactly what we expect. She was in the backseat at the time and started singing a song she had learned in kindergarten. It went something like this: God always answers prayer. Sometimes He says, yes. Sometimes He says, no. And sometimes He says, wait, wait, wait. God always answers prayer.” I think that sums it up pretty well.

One of the things God taught me about intercessory prayer in a way I will not forget is to thank Him in advance for His answer. Before ending this column, I must say this column has focused only on a small segment of what is involved in prayer. Prayer is so much more than asking and receiving (like communion with God, conversation, praise, adoration) – so much more that it won’t fit here! And there are so many types or kinds of prayer that I won’t even start to list them.

Just know our loving God is ever more ready to listen than we are to pray, and does not care what form our prayer takes or if it has a form at all. God just wants us to come.

~~~~~  
*Marilyn*



When I say that 'I am a Christian', I am not shouting that 'I am clean living.' I'm whispering 'I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven.'

When I say 'I am a Christian' I don't speak of this with pride.  
I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not trying to be strong.  
I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not bragging of success.  
I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not claiming to be perfect.  
My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I still feel the sting of pain.  
I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not holier than thou, I'm just a  
simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!



### **Does the Joy of Easter Seem Far Away?**

For those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time, Easter can be a time of painful loneliness and emptiness. If you are smiling on the outside, but full of pain on the inside and the joy of Easter seems far away, help is available. Your Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, and pray with and for you. Male Stephen Ministers are always matched with men, and female Stephen Ministers are matched with women. **If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about our Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders:**

Carol MacKenzie, 382-8926,  
Kay Bast, 382-4908, or  
Karen Kline 382-7263



## **WANNA BE A CLOWN??**

### **CHECK OUT THE LIBRARY CD'S & BOOKS ON CLOWNING!**

Just check them out like any other book and you'll be on  
your way to "clown world."

## **SAY THANKS TO CURVES OF HOMOSASSA!!**



Our food pantry has just been replenished by their very generous donation of 1,640 pounds of food which Curves collected during their annual March food drive. We are so thankful that our food pantry provides so much to those in need.

If you are ever in the area of the Curves location at 5392 S. Suncoast Boulevard, stop in and say hello and thank them. You may even see some of our church members there.

Third Annual  
**MIND, BODY & SOUL** HEALTH FAIR

**FREE DOOR PRIZES!  
 FREE GIFTS AND PROMOTIONAL!**

Over 50 local business & health organizations will be there providing health screenings and valuable information on services available to you in your local community, as well as several interesting cars for you to enjoy.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2011**

**9 A.M. UNTIL 12 NOON**

**1ST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HOMOSASSA  
 8831 W. Bradshaw Street, Homosassa  
 352-628-4083**

**MARK THE  
 CALENDAR**

**JUNE 4TH, 2011**

**SPAGHETTI DINNER  
 HOSTED BY MEN'S  
 SERENDIPITY**

**SUPPORTING YOUTH  
 SUMMER CAMP**

**MORE LATER**

**A BEAUTIFUL LESSON IN  
 LIFE AND LONGEVITY**



**Be nice to others because....  
 over time, it WILL make a  
 difference!**

**One day you will no longer be  
 the big dog... just the old dog!**

Through Serendipity, the Holy Spirit is doing wonderful things. This month we wish to offer special thanks to all of you who support the Serendipity pancake breakfasts. Many of you attend each month on the second Saturday. Attendance varies, so it is difficult to know who of you make it a monthly habit. Many from FUMC do, and several from the surrounding community and Crystal River show up at each event. To each and everyone, we say "Thank You" over and over again.

Do you have any idea of how much and how often you have helped? As you probably know, all profits go for assistance to those in need, in many forms, and you have made it possible. You, in the name of Serendipity, have helped, and without you nothing could have been accomplished.

Together - -

- we have fed the hungry through breakfasts, the pantry, and individual donations,
- we have supplied blankets for warmth,
- we opened an area in the fellowship hall for homeless women on very cold nights,
- we have paid electricity bills for those whose power would have been turned off,
- we have underwritten the costs for men to attend the annual Men's Retreat in Leesburg,
- we have subsidized expenses for those helping and directing efforts for individual's needs in our community,
- we have acted in support of the county homeless coalition by providing space and personnel to help in their county health fair,
- we have helped out-of-work persons to locate work, and
- we have helped to find a needy young couple a suitable home and subsidized initial costs to qualify, and the list goes on.

Each week we are asked to help in special ways, and the men of Serendipity step up quickly. You are an amazing congregation of warm and helpful friends, so we thank you all for your loving assistance.

We continue to look for new men to join with us, either in our regular 3:00 p.m. Tuesday afternoon meeting, or the new evening session on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Consider joining us in our Bible discussions and study.

For further information, call Jim Potts, 382-1842.

## MAY 2011 ANNIVERSARIES

|                                                |                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 5<br>Linda & Mel Gordy<br>~ 44 years ~         | 16<br>Lori & Stan DeClue<br>~ 13 years ~       |
| Joyce & Allen Stone<br>~ 65 years ~            | 17<br>Emily & L. Archer Walker<br>~ 64 years ~ |
| 7<br>Fern & Charles McWilliams<br>~ 45 years ~ | 22<br>Joan & Clayton Spencer<br>~ 6 years ~    |
| Joyce & Stan Zawacki<br>~ 56 years ~           | 24<br>Marilyn & Alan Shimp<br>~ 54 years ~     |
| 9<br>Sharon & Ron Seely<br>~ 52 years ~        | 25<br>Angie & Michael Watson<br>~ 9 years ~    |
| 11<br>Gretta & George Marshall<br>~ 43 years ~ | 26<br>Sue & Wes Harris<br>~ 27 years ~         |
| 12<br>Ruth & Dermot Samuda<br>~ 22 years ~     | 28<br>Brenda & Ed Loper<br>~ 6 years ~         |
| 13<br>Nancy & Branson Redding<br>~ 40 years ~  | 31<br>Melinda & Steven Bassler<br>~ 31 years ~ |
| 15<br>Jimmi & Barry Reichard<br>~ 38 years ~   |                                                |

### DEAR CARING FRIENDS,

We want to thank all of you for your many demonstrations of love—through your prayers, cards, calls, and the “healing service” for Martha in recent days. Our Loving Father has blessed us at every turn. Martha is doing wonderfully well and we are praising our Great Physician, Jesus.

With grateful hearts,  
Ernie & Martha Dorrell

### MANY THANKS!

*Lorraine Tollefson wishes to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards, and the beautiful prayer shawl during her recent illness.*

## The Lecture 13

A policeman stops an elderly man around 1 a.m. and asks him, "Where are you going at this time of night?"

The man says, "I'm going to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body."

The officer then asks, "Really? Who is giving that lecture at this time of night?"

"My wife," the man replies!

### IN OUR PRAYERS

AVANTE  
Annie Preston  
BRENTWOOD  
Evelyn Bash  
Jerry Lipovetz  
Joyce Minnicks  
CYPRESS COVE  
Connie Barton  
George Cole  
John Cole  
DIAMOND RIDGE  
Betty Duncan  
Margurite Seely  
HUNT RESIDENCE  
Bill Marquis  
LIFE CARE  
Myrna Evans  
Gene Harry  
SUGARMILL MANOR  
Shirley Hart  
Grace Payne  
SUNFLOWER SPRINGS  
Ruth Eaton  
Fran Graham  
Joanna Miller  
Abbye Jean & Bill  
Richner  
WOODLAND TERRACE  
Shirley Weber.



**Sunday 1****COMMUNION SUNDAY****8:00 Traditional Worship**

9:30 Bible Questers SS

9:30 Discovery Bible

9:30 EBADOC

9:30 Fellowship

9:30 Seekers BS

**9:30 Traditional Worship**

9:30 Young@Heart SS

10:45 New Beginnings SS

**11:00 Traditional Worship****2:30 NCC Band Concert****Monday 2**

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 Tracking Committee

9:30 Visitation Comm.

11:00 Exercise Class

1:00 Diabetes Support

1:00 Mem. Lane Respite

6:00 Stephen Ministries

**Tuesday 3**

10:00 Staff Meeting

10:00 UMW Ex. Meeting

1:30 Stephen Ministries

3:00 Serendipity Bible

3:00 Stephen Ministries

5:30 Weight Watchers

7:00 Serendipity

**Wednesday 4**

7:00 Mens Prayer Group

9:30 Weight Watchers

**10:00 ONEHARVEST**

10:00 Siegel Bible

10:00 LaMountain Bible

3:00 Benson Bible

5:15 Music

**5:30 WW DINNER**

6:00 Bells

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

**Thursday 5**

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

1:30 Serendipity Women

2:00 Disciple I

2:00 Green Team

2:00 Quartet Rehearsal

4:00 A/Video Rehearsal

6:00 Lady Comedy

7:00 Creative Worship

8:00 AA

8:00 Al-Anon

**Friday 6****GENESIS DEADLINE**

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:30 Disciple IV

**10:00 ONEHARVEST**

10:00 Wise Bible

**Saturday 7**

8:00 Saturday Sisters

8:30 Red Cross CPR

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:30 UMW

10:30 Bereavement

10:30 Gods Clods

**Sunday 8****DISCRETIONARY SUNDAY****MOTHER'S DAY****7:45 Blood Mobile****8:00 Traditional Worship**

9:30 Bible Questers SS

9:30 Discovery Bible

9:30 EBADOC

9:30 Fellowship

9:30 Seekers

**9:30 Traditional Worship**

9:30 Young@Heart SS

10:45 New Beginnings SS

**11:00 Traditional Worship****Monday 9**

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 Tracking Comm.

9:30 Visitation Comm.

11:00 Exercise Class

1:00 Alzheimer Support

1:00 Mem. Lane Respite

**Tuesday 10**

9:30 Faith Hope Circle

9:30 Helping Hands Circle

10:00 Staff Meeting

1:00 Dorcas Circle

2:00 Stewardship

3:00 Serendipity Bible

4:00 Kitchen Committee

5:30 Weight Watchers

7:00 Salty Circle

7:00 Serendipity

**Wednesday 11**

7:00 Mens Prayer Group

9:30 Weight Watchers

10:00 Siegel Bible

10:00 LaMountain Bible

1:00 Shawl Ministry

3:00 Benson Bible

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

**Thursday 12**

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:00 Back Pack

9:15 Ruth Circle

1:30 Serendipity Women

2:00 Disciple I

2:00 Quartet Rehearsal

4:00 A/Video Rehearsal

**6:00 Lady Comedy**

8:00 AA

8:00 Al-Anon

**Friday 13**

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:30 Disciple IV

10:00 Wise Bible

2:00 Cancer Support

**Saturday 14****8:00 Serendipity P/cakes**

8:00 Saturday Sisters

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

10:30 Bereavement

**Sunday 15****PANTRY SUNDAY****8:00 Traditional Worship**

9:30 Bible Questers SS

9:30 Discovery Bible

9:30 EBADOC

9:30 Fellowship

9:30 Seekers  
**9:30 Traditional Worship**  
 9:30 Young@Heart SS  
 10:45 New Beginnings SS  
**11:00 Traditional Worship**

## Monday 16

8:00 Work Crew  
 8:30 Tracking Comm.  
 9:30 Visitation Comm.  
 11:00 Exercise Class  
**1:00 Mem. Lane Respite**  
 6:00 Stephen Ministry

## Tuesday 17

10:00 Staff Meeting  
 1:30 Stephen Ministry  
 2:00 Finance Committee  
 3:00 Serendipity Bible  
 3:00 Stephen Ministry  
 5:30 Weight Watchers  
 7:00 Serendipity

## Wednesday 18

7:00 Mens Prayer Group  
 9:30 Weight Watchers  
 10:00 Siegel Bible  
 10:00 LaMountain Bible  
 2:00 New Member Class  
 3:00 Benson Bible  
 3:00 Staff/Parish RC  
 5:15 Music  
 5:30 **WW Dinner**  
 6:00 Bells  
 6:30 Youth Group  
 7:00 Choir

## Thursday 19

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)  
 9:00 Back Pack  
 9:00 FOLD MAIL  
 1:30 Serendipity Women  
 2:00 Disciple I  
 2:00 Quartet Rehearsal  
 3:00 Missions Committee  
 3:30 Trustees  
 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal  
 7:00 Creative Worship  
 8:00 AA  
 8:00 Al-Anon

## Friday 20

**COUNCIL REPORTS DUE**  
 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)  
 10:00 Wise Bible

## Saturday 21

8:00 Saturday Sisters  
 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)  
 10:30 Bereavement

## Sunday 22

### **NEW MEMBER SUNDAY**

**8:00 Traditional Worship**  
 9:30 Bible Questers SS  
 9:30 Discovery Bible  
 9:30 EBADOC  
 9:30 Fellowship  
 9:30 Seekers  
**9:30 Traditional Worship**  
 9:30 Young@Heart SS  
 10:45 New Beginnings SS

### **11:00 Traditional Worship**

## Monday 23

8:00 Work Crew  
 8:30 Tracking Committee  
 9:30 Visitation Committee  
 11:00 Exercise Class  
 12:00 PMDR  
**1:00 Mem. Lane Respite**  
 1:00 Stroke Support

## Tuesday 24

10:00 Staff Meeting  
 3:00 Serendipity Bible  
 5:30 Weight Watchers  
 7:00 Serendipity

## Wednesday 25

7:00 Mens Prayer Group  
 9:00 AARP Safe Driving  
 9:30 Weight Watchers  
 10:00 Siegel Bible  
 10:00 LaMountain Bible  
 1:00 Shawl Ministry  
 2:00 100th Anniv. Com.  
 3:00 Benson Bible  
 5:15 Music  
 6:00 Bells  
 6:30 Youth Group  
 7:00 Choir

## Thursday 26

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)  
 9:00 AARP Safe Driving  
 1:30 Serendipity Women  
 2:00 Disciple I  
 2:00 Quartet Rehearsal  
 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal  
 7:00 COUNCIL (music)  
 8:00 AA  
 8:00 Al-Anon

## Friday 27

9:00 Our Father's Table  
 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)  
 10:00 Wise Bible

## Saturday 28

8:00 Saturday Sisters  
 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)  
 10:30 Bereavement

## Sunday 29

### **CHILDREN'S HOME SUNDAY**

**8:00 Traditional Worship**  
 9:30 Bible Questers SS  
 9:30 Discovery Bible  
 9:30 EBADOC  
 9:30 Fellowship  
 9:30 Seekers  
**9:30 Traditional Worship**  
 9:30 Young@Heart SS  
 10:45 New Beginnings SS

### **11:00 Traditional Worship**

## Monday 30

### **OFFICE CLOSED**

## **Memorial Day**

8:00 Work Crew  
 8:30 Tracking Comm.  
 9:30 Visitation Comm.  
 11:00 Exercise Class  
 12:00 PMDR  
**1:00 Mem. Lane Respite**

## Tuesday 31

10:00 Staff Meeting  
 3:00 Serendipity Bible  
 5:30 Weight Watchers  
 7:00 Serendipity.

|                                                                                                                         |                                                                           |                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1<br>Joan Downs<br>Tracy Hodges<br>Gene McGee<br>Arthur Smith                                                           | 9<br>Gail English<br>Dolly Schwalbert                                     | 20<br>Nancy Redding                                          |
| 2<br>Danielle Christensen<br>Robert Christensen                                                                         | 10<br>Evelyn Bash<br>Debbie Grafton                                       | 22<br>Bill Marquis<br>Onlee Davis                            |
| 4<br>Elizabeth Evans<br>Gil Kissinger<br>Josie Reel<br>Marilyn Siegel<br>Sharon Smith<br>Alice Williamson<br>Ron Witham | 11<br>Suzanne Holmes<br>Ina Ryder<br>John Sandstrom                       | 24<br>Jack Graham<br>Eve Walsh                               |
| 5<br>Sharon Haskell                                                                                                     | 12<br>Janet Johnson                                                       | 25<br>Jack Mulder<br>Linda Ritter                            |
| 6<br>Loretta Blair<br>Ryan Blevins<br>Carolyn Crawley                                                                   | 14<br>Caroline Hay                                                        | 26<br>Ernie Dorrell<br>Jack Fasnacht                         |
| 7<br>Marge Dilling<br>Patricia Yacco                                                                                    | 16<br>Amanda Grafton<br>Howard Kuntz<br>Joyce Saxton                      | 27<br>Lillian Gorlitz                                        |
| 8<br>Henry Folsom                                                                                                       | 17<br>Dayna Middlebrooks<br>Carole Weinberger                             | 28<br>Jean Beck<br>Dolores Henry<br>Joe Henry<br>Jack Schock |
|                                                                                                                         | 18<br>Marge Davis<br>Richard English<br>Chuck Hoeffler<br>Conrad Keniston | 29<br>Marion Rodgers<br>Sandra Tam                           |
|                                                                                                                         | 19<br>Rebekah Csont                                                       | 30<br>Ruth Eaton<br>Lyn Wolf                                 |
|                                                                                                                         |                                                                           | 31<br>Barbara Lantz<br>Grace Payne                           |



The last name of new members Dennis & Tamara Borrás was misspelled in the April issue. Please note the corrected spelling.

The Editor regrets the error.

### IN MEMORIAM



BETTY JANE  
THOMPSON

8/10/1932

To

3/20/2011



### **“THE GREEN THING”**

In the line at the store, the cashier told the older woman that plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to her and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."

That's right, they didn't have the green thing in her day. Back then, they returned their milk bottles, Coke bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, using the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled and the glass was scuffed from the machines that filled and cleaned them.

But they didn't have the green thing back in her day.

In her day, they walked up stairs, because they didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. They walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time they had to go two blocks. But she's right.

They didn't have the green thing in her day.

Back then, they washed the baby's diapers because they didn't have the throw-away kind. They dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts "wind and solar power" really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing.

But that old lady is right, they didn't have the green thing back in her day.

Back then, they had one TV, or radio, in the house not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a pizza dish, not a screen the size of the state of Montana.

In the kitchen, they blended and stirred by hand because they didn't have electric machines to do everything for you.

When they packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, they used wadded up newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam, or plastic bubble wrap.

Back then, they didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. They used a push mower that ran on human power. They exercised by working so they didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right, they didn't have the green thing back then.

They drank from a fountain when they were thirsty, instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time they had a drink of water.

They refilled pens with ink, instead of buying a new pen, and they replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.

But they didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar and kids rode their bikes to school or rode the school bus, instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service.

They had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And they didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

But that old lady is right. They didn't have the green thing back in her day.

Was it your day too, or maybe your Mother's?

Dear praying friends,  
This bulletin was prepared before Joe left for the missions agency annual conference here in Thailand. Thanks again for your prayers and generosity as we continue to work through Elaine's health struggles and many other important matters at this time.

### Praises

✝ There was major progress last month concerning our **Pioneers International Foundation (PIF) visa/work permit** as Joe, on the 30<sup>th</sup>, finally received the final government approval to serve as foundation director. This is vital because he has to have legal authority to sign paperwork for other PI members to come under the foundation and its projects. Now, it turns out that the entire family will have to go to Bangkok later in April to change our visas to volunteer, and then Joe can get his work permit to finally serve officially as director. Please pray for these complicated plans to work out well and for us to be able to pay the \$1,500 that this all will cost ☹.

✝ We are very thankful for **several generous financial gifts** that we have received to help offset some of Elaine's mounting medical bills. We pray that the Lord will bless those who have given sacrificially to help us at this difficult time.

✝ Justin's varsity basketball team and Caleb's U-13 team at Grace International School (GIS) **won their conference tournaments** in March. The following picture shows Joe and Justin during the recognition of senior players.

This next picture shows 12-year-



old Caleb who is taller than even his coaches! Justin hopes to play at Columbia International University next year, while Caleb will try out for JV.



✝ In April 2010, our team set up a partnership with a **Thai couple that owns 10 Christian-based bilingual schools** in five cities across northern and central Thailand. Joe spent quite a bit of time to no avail seeking a Thai pastor for this unique ministry, which would see worship services, Bible studies and Christian living classes being held at the schools. Well, a couple months ago, we "stumbled" on a pastor who has many years of experience and has a deep heart for the lost. We recommended him to the *Garmolgomuts*, who were hesitant at first but finally called him. Praise God that he is "perfect,"



according to them! Pastor *Chatawan* and his wife already are leading services and children's programs and will move to full-time ministry in May.

Please pray for this new partnership to be blessed by God and to bear eternal fruit not just at the two *Chiang Mai* schools but eventually at all 10 locations.

✝ This month's **cultural photo** is "*Justin camp*." Justin had a unique opportunity to visit a Burmese refugee camp near the border in Thailand last



month. Of course, Justin was a popular attraction given his height. The GIS "Sports Leadership" students who went on the trip led the adults and children in games, stories, music, etc., as a way to encourage them in their difficult lives as long-term refugees. Some of these refugees fled Burma during the skirmishes following that country's recent staged election.

#### Prayers

✝ **Elaine's health** continues to sloooooowly improve, however we found out Monday that she still has infection in her spine. The doctors said there was definite improvement, but she will need to be on IV antibiotics for at least another two weeks followed by oral antibiotics at some point. Obviously, this was a disappointing development as we were hoping the

infection would be gone so that Elaine could start on the road to recovery from a long period of illness and bed rest. Please continue to pray for full healing and for patience as she has to continue on bed rest with little activity until the infection is gone to avoid any long-term spinal problems.

✝ Our **annual Pioneers SiAM Area retreat** will be held from March 31-April 9 in Cha-Am, a southern Thailand beach city. Elaine is not going to be able to go because of her health problems, so Jamie will stay with her as caretaker while Joe, Justin and Caleb will attend the retreat. Please pray for wisdom for Joe as he leads the meetings as Area Leader and for Elaine and Jamie to do well back at home and not to be discouraged by missing another important event because of health problems. Sadly, we also will not be able to attend the annual Thai church camp that takes place after our PI retreat as Joe and the boys will head home instead to care for Elaine.

✝ We thought it would be good to update you on the latest developments concerning **Grace International School**. Officials revealed last month their preliminary design plans for a new school campus on 34 acres of land that was purchased recently. So, while the lawsuit appeals still sit with no ruling, the school is moving ahead with plans to build on the new, school-friendly campus south of *Chiang Mai*. Pray for God's provision in this years-long effort. For more info, visit <http://gracefndn.org/savinggrace/>.

In His grip, Joe, Elaine,  
Brittany, Justin, Caleb, & Jamie

**Greetings Dear Friends of FUMCH!**

**9,000 miles** since January and there's a chance of another trip??? We thought the same thing; there's no way we're going to travel again before we leave the end of May. However, the possibility looks good and it will be a fast trip to PA and NC once again. Please keep this in prayer; we want this additional trip to be of Him and **not** of our desires.

**Our time** here in the U.S. will come to an end on the 28<sup>th</sup> of this month. (May) It has been an incredible journey of its own and we stand in awe at how the Lord brought us to meet *and* re-connect with so many in such a short amount of time! We have been truly blessed and encouraged....**THANK YOU!** A special and very heart-felt thanks to you folks of FUMCH for a wonderful Sunday in March. It was a huge blessing to see familiar faces and to share what has been happening in Siberia over the last three years.

It's 9 a.m. on a Saturday morning and you have the day planned out when you get a desperate call from a friend who has waited to get firewood. They have enough wood for today....Oh; it's also -30C..... With warm weather finally here the end of May; it's time to bring in manure for the gardens before the tractor tills the soil....the manure is free, however,

getting it to (your) home is another matter..... Someone in the fellowship has lost their cows. (It's happens more often than one would think) and obviously they need to be brought back to town. They have wandered 10 kilometers from town and to rent a truck will cost \$30 or more plus gas... We had a vehicle before we flew back to the U.S.

**Update from the Wooster's**

This is **not** the right vehicle for the type of work needs we have on a weekly basis. We trust the Lord to bring us something more suitable. We were able to sell our car for a very good price and at this point we have approx. \$8,000.



However, a truck like this will cost us about \$16,000...we are searching for a lower price and know that He will provide the exact amount needed in His timing.

**Spring/Summer** ...we have to admit; these two seasons are our favorites! Not only because we're now thawing out from the deep freeze of winter and the days are getting longer; but also because everyone is out and alive with a renewed energy. Much has to be done over these warmer months and the people here take advantage of each day. Planting, working in the gardens, re-modeling, building, preparing for the harvest in the fall, weddings, the list seems endless... it's just a wonderfully busy time in the lives of the Russian people. We will be working alongside the people through these months; building relationships, and working to build the fellowship.

**Praises:**

For our time with family and friends these past months.  
Safety as we travelled many miles.  
For an increase in support.

**Requests:**

Safety as we fly back to Russia.  
Our son Corey who deploys in June for Afghanistan.  
Our family...who sacrifices much allowing us to be so far away for so long.  
The people of Russia, our village.

***Working Together in Siberia,  
Kevin & Laura Wooster***



21

***“CONDUCT BECOMING  
A WOMAN”***

*A Ladies Tea presented by  
The United Methodist  
Women of Homosassa*

*Saturday, May 7, 2011*

*Time: 10:00 a.m.*

*Place: Fellowship Hall*

*Program by: Roberta Lau,  
Conference Dean, School of  
Christian Missions*

*Hostesses: The Ruth Circle*

*Please call the church  
office at 628-4083 to  
make a reservation.*

*Appropriate “tea attire” is  
encouraged (hats, gloves, etc.!!),  
but not required to have fun!*



**Many favorite authors have written new books that are available in the Church Library:**

“A Dream to Call My Own” by Tracie Peterson is a LARGE PRINT novel. It is Book 3 of the “Brides of Gallatin County”. Easy to read, it tells the story of Lacy Gallatin, the youngest of the Gallatin sisters, who is a woman with a mission – to find her father’s killer. Enter Dave Shepard, deputy sheriff for Gallatin Crossing. When they’re together, the tension crackles between them – both when they argue and when they kiss, but is it truly love?

“Ford County” by John Grisham is his first collection of short stories. Grisham takes us back to Ford County, Mississippi, the setting of his first novel, “A Time to Kill”. They feature a cast of characters you’ll never forget and bring Ford County to vivid and colorful life. Often hilarious, frequently moving and always entertaining, this collection makes it clear why Grisham is one of the most popular storytellers.

“One Simple Act” by Debbie Macomber. True stories of how simple acts of kindness can change the world. You’ll discover how giving the gifts of time, encouragement, hope, laughter, prayer, hospitality, service and even forgiveness, can have a lasting impact, not only on the recipient of such gifts but also on the giver.

“Shades of Blue” by Karen Kingsbury. Brad Cutler, 23 yrs. old, is a rising star at his New York ad agency, about to marry the girl of his dreams. Anyone would agree that he has it all – a great career, a beautiful and loving fiancée and a fairytale life ahead of him – when memories of a high school girlfriend begin to torment him. Lost innocence and one very difficult choice flood his conscience, and he is no longer sure of what the future will bring except for this: he must go back to the shores of Holden Beach in search of

his first love and a forgiveness neither of them has ever known.

“A Kiss for Cade” by Lori Copeland. Famous bounty hunter, Cade Kolby, is forced off the trail to decide the fate of his late sister’s orphaned children. He’s returning not only to his hometown and nieces and nephews but also to a fiery redhead he loved and left 15 years ago. The last person Zoe Bradshaw wants to see is Cade, but she does want to raise her best friend’s children as her own. She tries to be polite but cool, as she is determined not to let Cade get close to her heart. A tender romance that shows how even the hard law of the West doesn’t stand a chance when God’s mercy, warm friendship and true love come to reside in a lonely man’s heart.

“Redemption” by Karen Kingsbury. Kari Baxter Jacobs is furious, hurt and confused. Her husband, Tim, a respected professor of journalism, is having an affair with a student. She returns home to the Baxter family to sort things out, but when an old flame comes back into her life, she is more confused than ever. How can Kari forgive her husband? As she searches for answers, an unexpected discovery gives her hope for the future, but can she find the faith and strength she needs to move on?

“Return” by Karen Kingsbury. Luke, the Baxter family’s golden boy and only son, has walked away from everything that mattered most to him – his faith, his family and Reagan, his only love. Devastated by the events of September 11, 2001, Luke decides that life is random, faith a fraud, and God a fantasy. A baby is about to be born, but with Reagan a thousand miles away in New York City, Luke has no idea he’s the father. What will it take for Luke to return to the family who loves and aches for him? A story of tenacious love and longing for a lost son.

“The Seeker” by Ann H. Gabhart – This novel brings to life the world of the

Southern gentry, the simple Shakers and the ravages of war in 1860's Kentucky, weaving a compelling tale of love and forgiveness. Charlotte is a young woman who knows what she wants, but when the man she plans to marry joins the Shakers, a religious group that doesn't allow marriage – she is dumbfounded. And when her father brings home a new wife young enough to be her sister, it's more than she can bear. With the country - and her family – on the brink of civil war, Charlotte hatches a plan to avoid her new stepmother and win back her man by joining the Shaker community at Harmony Hill. Little does she know that this decision will lead her down a road of unforeseen consequences.

“Time to Share” , a Patchwork Mysteries story by Jo Ann Brown. Sara Hart is an expert in vintage quilt restoration and who also has a knack for piecing together mysteries. Her keen eye and gentle faith always lead her in the right direction. When Sarah decides to make a quilt depicting her favorite view from Mt. Greylock in Massachusetts, she hikes to the area, bringing her granddaughters, a sketchbook and a camera. Later, Sarah notices something odd in their footage – a man barely visible through the bushes – struggling with something on the ground. When Sarah returns to the spot, she finds an old cellar door and starts searching for answers.

“Within My Heart” by Tamera Alexander – a story of faith in the face of fear and the courage of hearts broken – and mended – by love. Determined to fulfill her late husband's dream, Rachel Boyd struggles to keep her ranch afloat with the help of her two young sons. When faced with a loss she can't afford, she's forced to trust Rand Brookston, the one man in Timber Ridge she wishes to avoid – he's a physician, like her father, which tells her everything she needs to know about him. Or so she thinks. Dr. Rand Brookston dreams of bringing modern medicine to the Colorado Rockies. When a patient's life is threatened, Rand makes a choice that sends

ripples through Timber Ridge – and through Rachel's stubborn heart. Rachel would not – could not – ever again love a man the way she'd loved Thomas. Loving someone so completely, giving herself to a man the way she'd done with her husband, it gave them the power to hurt you in a way no one else could, even when it wasn't their intention. And she never wanted to hurt like that again ever!

#### **NEW DVDs:**

“THE BLIND SIDE”, a movie based on the true life story of a family who took in a homeless black teen from Memphis and how life-changing it was for everyone. Sandra Bullock stars.

DVD – “SLIGHTLY BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE” narrated by Liz Curtis Higgs, author of the book, and told in a lighthearted, sometimes comical manner. The names from the Bible may surprise you. It's very entertaining.

#### **New Audio Disc:**

“THE BROKER” by John Grisham. There are 6 compact discs and listening time is 6 hours. In his final hours in the Oval Office, the outgoing President grants a controversial last-minute pardon to Joel Backman, a notorious Washington power broker who has spent the last six years hidden away in federal prison. What no one knows is that the President issued the pardon only after receiving enormous pressure from the CIA. It seems that Backman, in his power broker heyday, may have obtained secrets that compromise the world's most sophisticated satellite surveillance system. Backman is quietly smuggled out of the country in a military cargo plane, given a new name and identity and a new home in Italy. Eventually the CIA will leak his whereabouts to the Israelis, the Russians, the Chinese and the Saudis. Then the CIA will do what it does best – sit back and watch. The question the CIA needs answered is, who will kill him?





## MOTHER'S DAY

The history of Mother's Day is centuries old and goes back to the times of ancient Greeks, who held festivities to honor Rhea, the mother of the gods. The early Christians celebrated the Mother's festival on the fourth Sunday of Lent to honor Mary, the mother of Christ. Interestingly, later on a religious order stretched the holiday to include all mothers, and named it as the Mothering Sunday. The English colonists settled in America discontinued the tradition of Mothering Sunday because of lack of time. In 1872 Julia Ward Howe organized a day for mothers dedicated to peace. It is a landmark in the history of Mother's Day.

In 1907, Anna M. Jarvis (1864-1948), a Philadelphia schoolteacher, began a movement to set up a national Mother's Day in honor of her mother, Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis. She solicited the help of hundreds of legislators and prominent businessmen to create a special day to honor mothers. The first Mother's Day observance was a church service honoring Anna's mother. Anna handed out her mother's favorite flowers, white carnations, on the occasion as they represent sweetness, purity, and patience. Anna's hard work finally paid off in the year 1914, when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in

May as a national holiday in honor of mothers.

Slowly and gradually the Mother's day became very popular and gift giving activity increased. All this commercialization of the Mother's day infuriated Anna as she believed that the day's sentiment was being sacrificed at the expense of greed and profit.

Regardless of Jarvis's worries, Mother's Day has flourished in the United States. Actually, the second Sunday of May has become the most popular day of the year. It also became an occasion for family reunions.

Although Anna may not be with us, Mother's day lives on and has spread to various countries of the world. Many countries throughout the world celebrate Mother's Day at various times during the year, but some such as Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, and Belgium also celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday of May.

“[www.dayformothers.com](http://www.dayformothers.com)”

### **"Mother" .....**

is such a simple word,  
But to me there's meaning seldom heard.  
For everything I am today,  
My mother's love showed me the way.

I'll love my mother all my days,  
For enriching my life in so many ways.  
She set me straight and then set me free,  
And that's what the word "mother" means  
to me.





## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A special thanks to all persons who participated or assisted in any way to make this crop walk a success.

This is the second year in a row that our walkers and our donors “stepped up to the plate” by responding with extremely generous contributions.

It is also the second year in a row that “our church” raised more funds than any of the other churches who participated. Just one of many examples where FUMC Homosassa members and friends reacted to the

challenge of HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED!

Funds raised by our church totaled \$2,773.00, with 21 walkers. The next nearest total being \$1,643.00, with 24 walkers. The Grand Total from all 5 churches was \$6,705.70.

Congratulations to our walkers and donors for a job **WELL DONE!**

Jim Stoneman,  
Walk Chairman

## PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for:

those in the Disciple Bible Studies to finish strong.  
the couples who will be participating in the Couples' Retreats  
April 29 – May 1, or May 20 – 22.  
our pastor and church staff,  
the Serendipity Bible Study Classes,  
the people of Japan and Africa,  
preparations for Annual Conference, and  
all of us to continue seeking to grow as Christ's disciples.

Submitted by: Marilyn Watson

is a United States Federal holiday observed on the last Monday of May (May 30 in 2011). Formerly known as **Decoration Day**, it commemorates U.S. soldiers who have died while in the military service. First enacted by former enslaved Africans to honor Union soldiers of the American Civil War – it was extended after World War I to honor Americans who have died in all wars.

Memorial Day often marks the start of the summer vacation season, and Labor Day its end.

Begun as a ritual of remembrance and reconciliation after the Civil War, by the early 20th century, Memorial Day was an occasion for more general expressions of memory, as ordinary people visited the graves of their deceased relatives, whether they had served in the military or not. It also became a long weekend increasingly devoted to shopping, family get-togethers, fireworks, trips to the beach, and national media events such as the Indianapolis 500 auto race, held since 1911 on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend.

The first known observance of Memorial Day was in Charleston, South Carolina in 1865; freedmen (freed enslaved Africans) celebrated at the Washington Race Course, today the location of Hampton Park, and each year thereafter. African Americans founded Decoration Day, now referred to as Memorial Day, at

the graveyard of 257 Union soldiers and labeled the gravesite "Martyrs of the Race Course" on May 1, 1865. Black Charlestonians created this American tradition.

It began in the North in Waterloo, New York on May 5, 1866. The friendship between General John Murray, a distinguished citizen of Waterloo, and General John A. Logan, who helped bring attention to the event nationwide, was likely a factor in the holiday's growth. On May 5, 1868, in his capacity as commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic – the organization for Northern Civil War veterans – Logan issued a proclamation that "Decoration Day" should be observed nationwide. It was observed for the first time on June 1 of the same year; the date was chosen because it was *not* the anniversary of a battle.

By 1870, the remains of nearly 300,000 Union dead had been buried in 73 national cemeteries, located mostly in the South, near the battlefields. The most famous are Gettysburg National Cemetery in Pennsylvania and Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington.



from Wikipedia,  
the free  
encyclopedia

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Respite

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First United Methodist Church Homosassa  
8831 W. Bradshaw St. Homosassa, FL 34448  
(352) 628-4083

Are you a caregiver for someone with  
Alzheimer's or Dementia?  
Do you Know someone who is?

Caregiving is a 24/7 job, and there are times that you  
need a break.

First United Methodist Church has started a Respite  
group for those with Alzheimer's or Dementia. This  
is a non-denominational, and free of charge.

**The group meets every Monday**  
**from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

If you are bringing someone for the first time, please  
come at 12:30 to fill out information material.

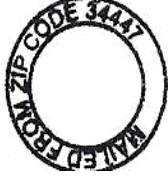
If you would like additional information, please call  
628-4083 and ask to speak to the Parish Nurse.

**THANK YOU!**

On behalf of Joyce and our entire family, thank you for all the cards,  
prayers and expressions of sympathy that we have so graciously  
received as a result of my father's untimely passing. May God richly  
bless you all. Ron Hesketh

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

*CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED*



We Are A Stephen Ministry Church  
"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

**Rev. Mark Whittaker**  
Pastor

~ *Visit our Website ~*

*[www.lumc.org](http://www.lumc.org)*  
*Neil Kline, Webmaster*

Office Hours: Weekdays  
8:30AM to 4:30PM  
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**Pat Blake, Copy Editor**

**MAY 2011**

*Happy  
Mothers  
Day*