

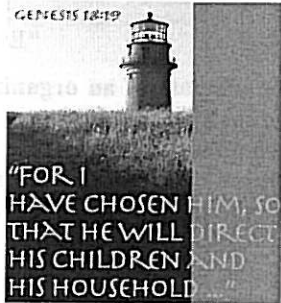
GENESIS

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

Open Hearts—Open Minds—Open Doors
We are a Stephen Ministry Church

October 2010, Volume 14, Issue 6

GENESIS 12:1-19



"FOR I
HAVE CHOSEN HIM, SO
THAT HE WILL DIRECT
HIS CHILDREN AND
HIS HOUSEHOLD..."

Read Luke 17:11-19

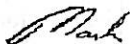
In the story of the Ten Lepers, most people focus on the fact that only one of the ten came back to Jesus to thank him for his healing. A lot of people have speculated about what was going on in the other lepers' lives that they failed to return and express their thanks for relieving them of an enormous social burden. Some have said that they may have been too excited about their new health or they wanted to go to the Temple to finish the religious requirements and get back to their normal lives and families. It has even been suggested that one reason was that they didn't believe that Jesus had anything to do with it, after all what had He done but tell them to leave?

But if you read the story carefully, Jesus was not focused on whether or not the lepers were grateful to him for having cleansed them. He was focused on their failure to give credit to God for the healing!

There is a story about a little boy who was climbing a huge old oak tree. He wanted to get up where he could look out over the landscape and be higher than anyone. But he got so high up that the branches were not sturdy enough and finally one broke sending him plummeting toward the earth. As he falls, he shouts a prayer, "Lord if you save me I will be the best person you have ever seen. I will do everything that mother asks me to and without backtalk." About the time he finished the prayer his belt happened to snag on a broken off knob of a branch and he is jerked to a stop just feet about the ground. The boy looks down and smiles and says, "Never mind God, I don't need the help."

Sometimes we are oblivious to the wonder and glory of God that is all around us. We fail to see or feel his presence in our lives even in the best of moments. We take God for granted and don't even think about God until something disastrous happens and we need a helping hand. We are good at asking for help but not so good at seeing his hand in our lives on a day to day, minute by minute basis. In reality our day should be made up of seeking out opportunities to praise God for all that He has done and is doing in our lives each day.

This is not just count your many blessings, but being aware of God's presence and touch throughout the day. Looking for it, expecting it, honoring it, and then celebrating it when we experience it face to face. Be thankful for all that God has done, and then praise God for all that He has given us.



“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

OUR AWESOME STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Mark Whittaker

ADMINISTRATOR

Theresa Weber

BOOKKEEPER

Sandy Dewart

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Patience Nave

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Dixie Lay

Joy Potts

Dayna Middlebrooks

PARISH NURSE

Karen Kline

PARISH VISITOR

Peggy Benson

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTEN-
DENT**

& 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.

**WORLD COMMUNION
SUNDAY**

Mark Whittaker

The first Sunday of October is **World Communion Sunday**. It is a time that churches all over the world come together to celebrate as the family of God. We kneel together with Christians who celebrate in the same way we do and with Christians who think and look and act differently than we do. We even celebrate with those who are persecuted for their faith across the world.

This year we will be observing World Communion Sunday by using the old Methodist service and serving the elements by intinction. When we serve by intinction we come down to the communion rail and receive the bread and dip it in the juice and partake. Then, if you desire, you may pause at the rail to pray before returning to your seat. I hope that you will make every effort to be here for this service.



Parish Nursing Notes October 2010

So, what are you going to do with all those outdated unused medications? The Sheriff's Department and the Partners for a Substance Free Citrus sponsor a "take-back" drug program on **the first Friday of every month** at the Sheriff's Operation Center in Inverness. The location is 1 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and the hours are from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

The FDA and the White House Office of National Drug Control have worked together to give federal guidelines for proper disposal of medications:

Check the drug label for specific instructions for disposal. Do not flush prescription drugs unless specifically directed to.

Never give medications to friends.

Certain drugs may be thrown in the trash. Before do so, they should be mixed with some undesirable substance such as kitty litter or coffee grounds. They should then be put into a sealable bag, or empty container.

Certain powerful narcotics, pain relievers and other "controlled substances" carry instructions to flush down the toilet to reduce the danger of unintentional use, overdose or illegal abuse. One example is a fentanyl patch. Too much of this medication can cause severe breathing problems in children, pets and high risk adults.

Also of concern are inhalers and aerosol products. Some may be thrown in the trash or recyclables, or it may be consider a haz-

ardous waste and require special handling. In this case it would be best to check with your waste disposal company or recycling facility.

Although there are federal guidelines, The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has specific guidelines to protect our aquifer. No medications are to be flushed or poured down the drain due to the fact that our wastewater treatment systems are not designed to remove many of these substances from the water. Instead: Add soda or a small amount of water to the medication in its original container. This will help to dissolve the medication. Inedible substances such as cat litter, cayenne powder, or dirt should be added to liquid medications. Close the lid and seal with duct tape or packing tape, being sure to use a marker to remove your name and prescription number. Place the bottle or container inside an opaque container, such as a coffee can and tape it closed. This container can then be hidden in the trash. Do not put in the recycle bin.

Hope this information helps you clean out that overflowing medicine cabinet!





Ministry Team

Within the Church

Greeters
 Ushers
 Music Ministries
 Attendance Tracking
 Biblical Travel Ministry
 Blood Bank
 Christian Education
 Communion Stewards
 Counters
 Disaster Relief Programs
 Flower Arranging Ministry
 Folding & Mailing
 Funeral Receptions
 Genesis Newsletter
 Library
 Lenten Soup Suppers
 Online Picture Directory
 Parish Nurse Ministry
 Prayer Ministry
 Singles Ministry
 Stewardship
 Tape 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
 Linda's Loaves
 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
 Shut-In Visitation
 Stephen Ministry
 Tuned To Revival Quartet
 Thrift Shop
 Volunteers in Missions
 Vacation Bible School
 Welcome Bags World
 State Travel Groups

Small Groups

Bereavement Group
 Cancer Survivor
 Contemporary Issues
 Individual Bible Study Groups
 Fibromyalgia Support Group
 PAWS
 Saturday Sisters
 Serendipity

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
 Salvation Army
 SHARE
 St. Andrew's Mission
 The Heifer Project
 The Path
 Toys for Children

Community Outreach

AA
 AI-Anon
 After school tutoring
 Camp-E-Nini-Hassee
 FCAT tutoring
 Hospice
 Isaiah's Place
 Kiwanis Breakfast
 Our Father's Table



Education and Ministries

Patience Nave

We surely are a busy church! Colossians 3 says, "*Work hard and cheerfully at all you do as though working for the Lord and not for your earthly master.*" I believe if I ever saw a church that does that, it is this one! So many people are working on such good things, with great joy! Let me tell you just a few!

- AFTERSHOCK, our youth group, is working on a "Policy Manual" that will be a guideline for their program and behavior. The entire group, along with the Youth Coordinator Crystal Wiseman and me, is diligently putting together this manual, which may take awhile but will be important to our growing group.
- The Dorcas Circle and an "at large" group from the church have formed two teams of about ten to work on "Blessings in a Book Bag." Beginning in September, on the second and third Thursdays of the month, one of those teams will pick up the bags from Homosassa Elementary School, go to the Life Point Family Church, fill the bags with food for the weekend for the children in families who might not have food for the weekend, and return the filled bags to the school for the children to take home on Friday. We are so excited about having a part in this project.
- The organization that sponsors these book bags is raising money to buy the food, and they are selling chicken dinners to be delivered on September 15, for \$8.00. Supporters of the program in our

church have bought 15 of those dinners, which will be given to the Tanners to give to the homeless or needy. Isn't that a fantastic thing? The money for the meals goes to feed the children on the weekend, and the food from the fund raiser goes to the hungry! WOW!

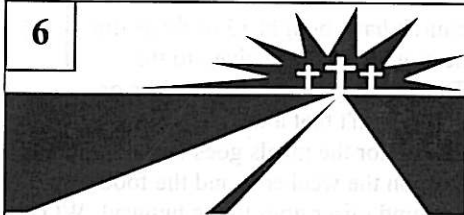
- We opened new classes for Disciple Bible study this fall and advertised for people to join. Instead of a couple of classes, we now have four—an afternoon and an evening class for both Disciple I and Disciple IV. There's room in each for a few more if you're interested. Call me and I'll find you a spot.

- Dixie Lay and I are planning music for the children, and I am not sure when I have been more excited about anything! Keep that project in your prayers. If all goes well, before long you'll see those beautiful little faces singing in church! I can hardly wait!
Dixie and I have also got another *huge* project that we want to work on. I can't tell you yet, but it will be w-o-n-d-e-r-f-u-l if we can pull it off. Pray for us! We're pretty ambitious!

In a time when the news cries out that America has forgotten about the God who gave us the guidelines for our nation's foundation, I rejoice in the fact that that is not true of Homosassa United Methodist Church! We have not forgotten HIM! Thanks for being who you are and for letting me do what I do!



Classes for All Ages



WALKING ON THE PATH Patience Nave

"If I regard sin in my heart, The Lord will not hear." (Psalm 66:18)

When I *really* study Scripture, I usually read from more than one translation so that I can get a clearer understanding of what the Lord is saying. The above verse is one that merits such examination because a rather cursory look at the verse can be depressing. After all, don't all of us sin? Aren't there always going to be things in us that need changing? So if that is true, my prayers are wasted! God isn't listening because there is "*sin in my heart.*" **Wrong!**

Let's look very closely at one word in this verse and see how a careful study of that word can change my understanding of the whole. The word is "*regard.*" Remember, the Psalms were written in Hebrew, and our Bible was translated from Hebrew to English, so someone smarter than I had to determine how to change the intent of the Hebrew word into English. One translation could be "*harbor sin,*" another "*cherish sin.*"

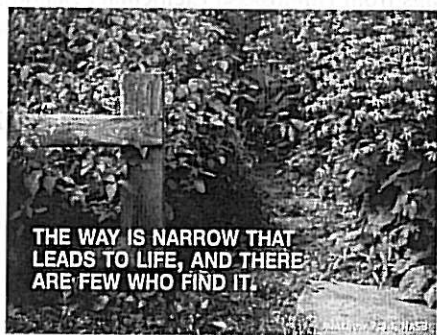
To harbor is a boating term meaning to come into port, drop anchor, and rest or stay in that spot. To cherish is to hold close to oneself, to love and to enjoy. Regard is to esteem or elevate something or someone to a high position.

Now let's consider the verse. "*If I [harbor, drop anchor and rest in, cherish, hold close and enjoy] sin in my heart, the Lord will not hear.*" So the Psalmist is **not** talking about the sins/mistakes we make

daily, the cross moments we have with family and friends, the thoughtless words that come from our mouths. He is talking about the sin that we just hold on to, the anger that we will not release, the unfor-giveness that we nourish. He is talking about the sins that we enjoy, knowing they are sin but refusing to relinquish them even at the risk of separating ourselves from God.

But because of God's wonderful grace, even the worst of these sins he longs to forgive so that we can be delivered of them into a peace of knowing his acceptance of us. Our job? Let them go! Don't try to fix them! Confess them to God, allow him to forgive them, and change us so we can rest in his wonderful peace and forgiveness, knowing that he hears our prayers.

Prayer: *Father, there is nothing so wonderful as knowing that all the mess in our lives that we cannot change, you will forgive because Jesus bore the punishment for our sin on that cruel cross! We praise you that you are our deliverer from "besetting" sin and that you do hear us when we come to you—not because we are worthy but because of your grace. Amen.*



THE WAY IS NARROW THAT
LEADS TO LIFE, AND THERE
ARE FEW WHO FIND IT.

Making a Real Difference by Rev. Richard Evans

A well-known, rather reclusive, and very wealthy man died quite suddenly. Residents of the town where he had lived were very curious about their former neighbor and businessman. One person boldly asked the local funeral director: "Can you tell me how much he left behind?" The wise undertaker replied: "All of it!"

One day, when our time comes to leave this earth and we are heaven-bound, we will leave behind all of our earthly possessions. And with some serious thought and planning now, we can make a real difference in the lives of others after we are gone.

Most of us want to be sure that some of our money will be directed to surviving members of our family. And many of us want to support our church and possibly several worthy charitable organizations through additional bequests in our will or trust.

Our love for members of our family will be expressed through our gifts to them. And just think about what a difference we can make with gifts that will minister to the needs of many people through our church and through other benevolent organizations that we may decide to support with some of our money—after we no longer need it.

A gift to your church through your *Will* or *Trust* can make a real difference! And so can other forms of planned and deferred giving—such as a Charitable Gift Annuity, a Charitable Remainder Trust, a Life Insurance Policy, a remainder portion of your Retirement Plan, etc. For information about various forms of deferred giving, call me or any other member of the Permanent Endowment Committee, or contact the Florida United Methodist Foundation.

Helping Hands Circle Outreach Projects

Leader: Kay Bast,
Co-Leader: Donna Ludwick

As part of our Birthday Cake Ministry to Camp E-Nini-Hassee, members of Helping Hands Circle made and delivered 8 Birthday cakes and cards to the girls at E-Nini Hassee in Floral City this month.

The girls' camp is an Eckerd Youth Alternatives facility which supports up to 90 girls under age 18. The girls stay for 9-12 months in the wilderness as they receive life-coping skills from trained counselors. We have been providing cakes and cards year-round to the girls for the past 3 years. Please see E-Nini-Hassee's ad for their October 20, 2010 fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner in this issue. All are welcome! The food is delicious, with the \$6 per person proceeds going to a wonderful local cause.

Our other outreach ministries include financial support to the Camp through UMW, support of our local homeless ministry, and support to sophomore college student Brittany Henry, daughter of our

missionaries to Thailand, Joe & Elaine Henry.

Several of our members operate and staff the Thrift Shop.

We are working hard preparing

for our part in the November 6th, 2010, Bazaar.

Come join us the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am for Bible study and outreach planning in the Church Parlor.



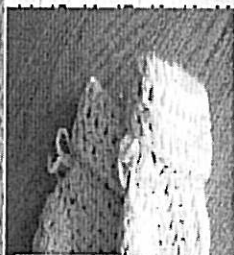
UMW Messageboard

OCTOBER 2010

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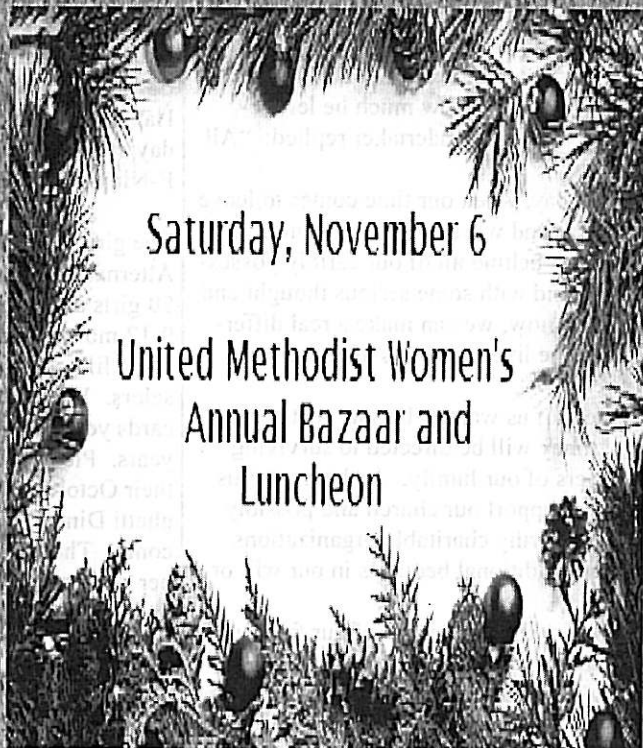
NOVEMBER 2010

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NOVEMBER 7

Start 2011 Bazaar Projects

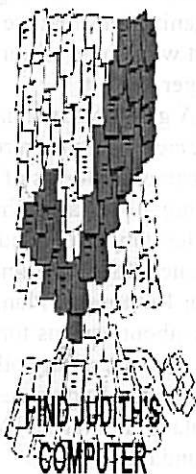


Saturday, November 6

United Methodist Women's
Annual Bazaar and
Luncheon

TO DO:

1. DO SOMETHING
2. DO SOMETHING
ELSE
3. DO MORE STUFF
4. DO THAT AGAIN





Rise! Shine! Glorify God!

Methodist Women Focus On Faith, Hope, Love

by Judith Huffer

Representatives from FUMCH's UMW Unit had the privilege of being on the campus of Florida Southern College in July for the School of Christian Mission. The theme was "Faith, Hope, Love in Action" (All God's people in mission together in the world.) Now we are heading into the fall season, after our relaxing summer, and we are ready to be involved. John Wesley's rules were simple - "Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can."

On a District level, Cindy Huffman, Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth, needed to resign her position for personal reasons. FUMCH member, Lori DeClue, attended the School of Christian Mission this summer with her children, and Ellie Myers, our Nominating Committee Chair, took the opportunity to get to know her a little better and determined she should be asked to finish out the term of our departing sister. Lori, who has jumped right in to help with our District Annual Meeting and our Retreat planned for next

April, serves as vice president of our UMW unit.

OCTOBER CALENDAR:

"Let's Get Together!"

**5th DISTRICT ANNUAL
CONFERENCE ~**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2010.

**Speaker: PASTOR DEBBIE NELSON,
Ridge Manor, Fl.**

"Pastor Deborah J. Nelson came to us at Ridge Manor from right here in Florida via New "Joisey" - as we have heard so often! What a marvelously warm and joyous spirit she has and we consider ourselves the most fortunate "flock" to be shep-



herded by "Revvie Debbie." as she is affectionately called. Pastor Debbie felt God calling her into full-time ministry from her public school classroom, and after much prayer she followed His direction and began four years of pastoral training at Asbury Theological Seminary. Her first assignment brought her to us and we have been blessed over and over again. Her enthusiasm, her excitement, her energy, and her deep experience with Christ, make

her the best of the best! Under her leadership the church has grown numerically but more importantly, she has initiated a spiritual growth and depth among her "sheep." We thank our Lord daily for sending us this very beautiful servant."

Registration—9:00 a.m.

Program—9:45 a.m.

Cost—\$12.00 with lunch;

\$7 without lunch

**PASADENA COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH,
227 70th STREET S.
ST. PETERSBURG, 33702.**

Come and meet your Methodist Sisters from other churches, and through exchanging ideas, Kingdom fellowship, and socializing, we return back to our individual units and share what we learned of God's love, and share intentional actions, helping people feel good.

The affirmation of our Pledge:
"PURPOSE: The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

If you are interested in attending, contact Helen LeFave, UMW President, or Lori DeClue.

ATTENTION: All Circle Leaders and Committee Coordinators! The Executive Board will meet the first Monday of October, November, and December, at 1 PM in room 114. Plans and preparations for the November UMW Bazaar and Luncheon, and December Installation of Officers need to be discussed and the information

taken back to the circles. PLEASE attend these important meetings!

**SPAGHETTI
DINNER
FUNDRAISER**

**Camp-E-Nini-
Hassee,
Floral City, FL**

Wednesday, October 20,
2010, 4:00 PM to 7:00
PM.

\$6.00 per person

Spaghetti, salad, bread and
dessert served in an air-
conditioned dining hall.

Van tours through the wil-
derness camp available
before or after your
dinner.

For more information call
the Camp at
352-726-3883



Let heaven
and earth
praise him.

PSALM 69:34, NRSV

**PRAYER FOR THE
EARTH**

*The bounty of the earth is
given for all the people of
God.*

"God created man in his image, male and female he created them. He blessed them, and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth. I give you the green plants and every fruit-bearing tree for food.' God looked upon all that he had made, and he saw that it was good."

Genesis 1: 27-31

God created the earth as a

homeland for his human family. He has given man dominion over all living things, so that the family of man might grow and prosper. But God has also charged man with the responsibility of taking care of the earth. Man has the power to use the earth for good or ill. If he uses it wisely, it will sustain the human family indefinitely; if not, it will become a barren waste, hostile to life, and we will be no more.

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?"

"Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't He?"

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Duane Geiger | 12 Michelle Selby | 23 Louise Brechka |
| 2 Holli Benthusen | 13 Art Carl | Ann Fasnacht |
| 3 Dominick Travers | 14 William Baker | Erma Kern |
| 5 Connie Barton | 15 Cynthia Allen | Kathi Mansfield |
| John Dean | Alice Carnahan | Anna Rivells |
| Robert Russell | Tom Wise | 24 Thomas Cloyd |
| 6 Charles Gordon | Alice Yusko | Sandra Violet DeClue |
| Larry Healy | 16 Clayton Spencer | Kayleigh Gordon |
| Sharon Rapp | Doris Stine | Bill Kemp |
| Gail Rudolph | 17 George Knerr | Patricia Lawrence |
| 7 Carolyn Byington | Betty McGraw | 25 David Honerich |
| Sue Harris | Pat Schuessler | Mary Valeria Wither |
| Faye Schmitt | 18 Bill Richner | 26 Dee Green |
| 8 Elizabeth Ainsworth | 19 Lisa Specht | 27 Virginia Hoadley |
| Don Hoes | 20 Norma Geiger | Joyce Zawacki |
| 9 Loretta Burcaw | Diane Koskels | 28 Terry Adams |
| 10 Steven Bassler | Mary Olson | 29 George Marshall |
| Patricia Blake | Jan Winters | Jack Schrock |
| John Mayles | 21 Joe Ann Gidlow | 30 Charlotte Brightman |
| Peggy Powell | Merlyn Hoar | Donna Flack |
| 11 Kenneth Dent | Jack Reed | Helen Lefave |
| Jerry Tanner | | 31 Hettie Nevels |
| | | Bob MacKenzie |

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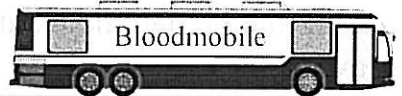


NEW MEMBER LAST MONTH

Cleta Knapp
5376 S. Marsha Terrace
Homosassa, Florida 34446
352-503-6412

PLEASE GIVE "THE GIFT OF LIFE"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2010,
7:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.



The blood donated stays in Citrus County, and if you donate you may draw from it. There are no substitutes for blood! This will be the last drive at UMC this year!!

1
Virginia & John Hoadley
~ 55 years ~

5
Connie & Bill Barton
~ 70 years ~

11
Susan & John Dean
~ 23 years ~

13
Virginia & Kenneth Will
~ 31 years ~



16
Barbara & Hank
Deppner
~ 50 years ~
Katherine & Terry
Cornelius
~ 46 years ~

20
Pam & Cameron Cleary
~ 7 years ~
Alice & Dan Hurley
~ 42 years ~

Wanda & Fred Wheeler
~ 62 years ~
23

Eileen & Roger Ferguson
~ 56 years ~

24
Cecelia & George
Woodward
~ 32 years ~
26
Debbie & Robert Grafton
~ 30 years ~

30
Barbara & James
Stoneman
~ 56 years ~
Jan & Jerry Winters
~ 34 years ~

31
Sue & Howard Kuntz
~ 57 years ~

**IN OUR THOUGHTS
AND PRAYERS
(as of 9/1/2010)**

AVANTE
Annie Preston
ARBOR TRAIL
Duane Smith

CYPRESS COVE
George Cole

DIAMOND RIDGE
Fleetie Baker
Betty Duncan

HUNT RESIDENCE
Bill Marquis
LIFE CARE
Jack Ness

SUGARMILL MANOR
Shirley Hart
Grace Payne

SUNFLOWER SPRINGS
Ruth Eaton
Fran Graham
Joanna Miller
Ruth & Bill Willis

WELCOME NEW MEMBER



PAT DEEM
7889 W. Dover Street
Homosassa 34446
352-727-9448
794-0227
Transfer from:
Crystal River UMC



**IN MEMORIAM
ROBERT GIDLOW**



4/6/1934

To
8/19/2010



Friday 1**GENESIS DEADLINE**

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:30 Disciple IV
10:00 Wise Bible

Saturday 2

8:00 Saturday Sisters
9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:00 Red Cross CPR
10:30 Bereavement
10:30 God's Clods

Sunday 3*COMMUNION SUNDAY*

8:00 Traditional Worship
9:30 Traditional Worship
9:30 Sunday School
11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 4

8:00 Work Crew
8:30 Tracking Committee
9:30 Visitation Committee
11:00 Exercise Class
1:00 Diabetes Support
6:00 Stephen Ministries
7:00 Disciple IV

Tuesday 5

8:00 Tutoring
10:00 Staff Meeting
1:30 Stephen Ministers
3:00 Serendipity Bible
3:00 Stephen Ministers
5:30 Weight Watchers

Wednesday 6

7:00 Mens Prayer Group
9:00 WW PREP
9:30 Weight Watchers
10:00 LaMountain Bible
10:00 Siegel Bible
10:00 SHARE Sign-Up
3:00 Nave Bible
5:15 Music

5:30 WW DINNER

6:00 Bells
6:30 Youth Group
7:00 Choir

Thursday 7

8:00 Tutoring
9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
2:00 Disciple I
2:00 Green Team
3:00 Quartet Rehearsal
4:00 A/Video Rehearsal
7:00 Creative Worship
7:00 Disciple I
8:00 AA
8:00 Al-Anon

Friday 8

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:30 Disciple IV
10:00 Wise Bible
2:00 Cancer Support

Saturday 9**8:00 Serendipity P/cakes**

8:00 Saturday Sisters
9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
10:00 SHARE Sign-Up
10:30 Bereavement
3:00 Barton Open House

Sunday 10*DISCRETIONARY SUNDAY*

8:00 Traditional Worship
9:30 Traditional Worship
9:30 Sunday School
11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 11

8:00 Work Crew
8:30 Tracking Committee
9:30 Visitation Committee
11:00 Exercise Class
1:00 Alzheimer Support
1:00 UMW Exec. Mtg.
7:00 Disciple IV

Tuesday 12

8:00 Tutoring
9:30 Faith Hope Circle
9:30 Helping Hands
10:00 Staff Meeting
1:00 Dorcas Circle
2:00 Stewardship
3:00 Serendipity Bible
5:30 Weight Watchers
7:00 Salty Circle
7:30 Kitchen Committee

Wednesday 13

7:00 Mens' Prayer Group
9:30 Weight Watchers
10:00 Siegel Bible
10:00 LaMountain Bible
10:00 Shawl Ministry
3:00 Nave Bible
5:15 Music
6:00 Bells
6:30 Youth Group
7:00 Choir

Thursday 14

3:00 Perm/End. Comm.
8:00 Tutoring
9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:15 Ruth Circle
2:00 Disciple I
3:00 Quartet Rehearsal
4:00 A/Video Rehearsal
7:00 Disciple I
8:00 AA
8:00 Al-Anon

Friday 15**COUNCIL REPORTS DUE**

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:30 Disciple IV
10:00 Wise Bible

Saturday 16

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

Sunday 17

PANTRY SUNDAY

8:00 Traditional Worship
 9:30 Traditional Worship
 9:30 Sunday School
 11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 18

8:00 Work Crew
 8:30 Tracking Committee
 9:30 Visitation Committee
 11:00 Exercise Class
 1:00 Fibromyalgia Support
 6:00 Isaiah Foundation
 6:00 Stephen Ministries
 7:00 Disciple IV

Tuesday 19

8:00 Tutoring
 10:00 Staff Meeting
 1:30 Stephen Ministries
 2:00 Finance Committee
 3:00 Serendipity Bible
 3:00 Stephen Ministries
 5:30 Weight Watchers

Wednesday 20

7:00 Mens' Prayer Group
 9:00 WW PREP
 9:30 Weight Watchers
 10:00 Siegel Bible
 10:00 LaMountain Bible
 3:00 Nave Bible
 3:30 Staff/Parish Relations
 5:15 Music
5:30 WW DINNER
 6:00 Bells
 6:30 Youth Group
 7:00 Choir

Thursday 21

8:00 Tutoring
 9:00 Fold/Mail
 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
 2:00 Disciple I

3:00 Missions Committee
 3:00 Quartet Rehearsal
 3:30 Trustees
 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal
 7:00 Creative Worship
 7:00 Disciple I
 8:00 AA
 8:00 AI-Anon

Friday 22

COUNCIL REPORTS DUE

???-Bus Trip

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
 9:30 Disciple IV
 10:00 Wise Bible
 1:00 Our Fathers Table

Saturday 23

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

Sunday 24

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

8:00 Traditional Worship
 9:30 Traditional Worship
 9:30 Sunday School
 11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 25

8:00 Work Crew
 8:30 Tracking Committee
 9:30 Visitation Committee
 11:00 Exercise Class
 1:00 Stroke Support
 7:00 Disciple IV

Tuesday 26

8:00 Tutoring
 10:00 Staff Meeting
 3:00 Serendipity Bible
 5:30 Weight Watchers

Wednesday 27

7:00 Mens' Prayer Group
 9:30 Weight Watchers
 10:00 Siegel Bible
 10:00 LaMountain Bible
 1:00 Shawl Ministry
 3:00 Nave Bible
 5:15 Music
 6:00 Bells
 6:30 Youth Group
 7:00 Choir

Thursday 28

8:00 Tutoring
 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
 2:00 Disciple I
 3:00 Quartet Rehearsal
 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal
 7:00 COUNCIL MEET.
 7:00 Disciple I
 8:00 AA
 8:00 AI-Anon

Friday 29

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
 9:30 Disciple IV
 10:00 Wise Bible
 1:00 Our Fathers Table

Saturday 30

8:00 Homeless Fair
 8:00 Saturday Sisters
 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
 9:30 Red Cross CPR
 10:30 Bereavement

Sunday 31

CHILDREN'S HOME SUNDAY
 8:00 Traditional Worship
 9:30 Traditional Worship
 9:30 Sunday School
 11:00 Traditional Worship
 2:30 NCC Band Concert

How Can I Explain the Gospel to My Children?

John MacArthur

Grace to You

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www.christian.com

As a parent, the most important thing you can do for your child is to teach him or her the good news about how to be right with God, how to be forgiven of sin through the person and work of Christ. Over the years, many have asked me, "How can I explain the gospel to my children in terms they understand without toning down the hard demands of Christ? Must a child understand Jesus' lordship to be saved?"

Certainly children are limited in their ability to understand spiritual truth, but so are adults. Very few people intellectually understand all the gospel truth at the moment of salvation. Fortunately, the essential truths are basic enough that even a child can understand. Jesus Himself characterized saving faith as childlikeness ([Mark 10:15](#)). True belief is not a function of advanced intellect, sophisticated theological understanding, or complex doc-

*Let the little
children
come to me ...*

Matthew 19:14

trinal knowledge.

Children old enough to be saved can grasp the concept of coming to Christ with an obedient heart, and letting Him be boss in their lives.

When sharing the gospel with a child, here are a few points to keep in mind:

(1) Remember that repetition and re-statement are especially helpful. Give the gospel simply and briefly, but don't assume the first positive response means they got all the truth they need to know. Continue explaining and expanding your explanations. Too many ministries to children equate every positive response with a real conversion.

(2) Use Scripture and explain it clearly. Even with children, God's Word is the seed that produces life ([1 Peter 1:23](#)). Don't use approaches that give gospel outlines with no Scripture. Only the Bible can speak with authority to the human heart—including a child's heart.

(3) Understand the inherent danger in any outline or prefabricated presentation: they tend to follow a predetermined agenda that may bypass the child's real needs or fail to answer his or her most important questions.

(4) Finally, remember that the issues in salvation are the same for a child as for an adult. The gospel is the same message for every age group. The great British preacher of the last century, Martyn Lloyd-Jones, correctly observed:

"We must be careful that we do not modify the gospel to suit various age groups. There is no such thing as a special gospel for the young, a special gospel for the middle-aged, and a special gospel for the aged. There is only one gospel, and we must always be careful not to tamper and



"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

tinker with the gospel as a result of recognizing these age distinctions. At the same time, there is a difference in applying this one and only gospel to the different age groups; but it is a difference which has reference only to method and procedure." (from Knowing the Times, Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1989, 2)

Children must be able to understand that sin is an offense to God's holiness and that they are personally guilty (though because of their limited experiences, most kids obviously won't have as deep a sense of personal guilt as adults). There's nothing wrong with telling children about hell and God's wrath. Children do not have a difficult time grasping such concepts. They understand punishment for wrong doing and are capable of understanding that Jesus died to take the punishment for the sins of others.

They need to be told that Jesus expects to be obeyed, and they will understand even better than some adults that trusting Jesus means obeying Him. The importance

of obedience needs to be emphasized repeatedly, even after the child makes a profession of faith.

The Bible is very clear in emphasizing that parents—particularly fathers—are to bring up their children "in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). Teach your children to respect you and to pay attention to the biblical truths that you teach. Be accurate and clear in your explanation of God's Word, remembering that instruction is not just verbal. It's also non-verbal by the way you live your life before their watching eyes.

Cultivating godly children in an increasingly evil world sometimes seems like an impossible responsibility. At least that's what you might conclude if you listen to some experts. Many parents and parents-to-be have been intimidated into thinking they can't possibly lead, love, and nurture their children in a way that pleases God—at least not without lengthy training seminars, strict methods, and complex programs.

While the world may have changed, God's Word hasn't. Effective, godly parenting is not only possible, it's well within reach of anyone willing to understand and apply what God says on the subject.

Fathers, if you are looking for resources to help you, I recommend the following:

- Cultivating a Godly Child
- What the Bible Says About Parenting
- The Parenting Collection

Widely known for his thorough, candid approach to teaching God's Word, John MacArthur is a fifth-generation pastor, a popular author and conference speaker, and has served as pastor-teacher of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California since 1969. John and his wife, Patricia, have four grown children and fourteen grandchildren.

Dear praying friends,

The start of school and some important mission leadership responsibilities have kept us very busy recently. Thanks so much for thinking of us and praying for us during this time of transition for our family and our ministries!



Praises

August was incredibly busy in terms of working to set up **Pioneers International Foundation** in Thailand. We had numerous meetings, and Joe and a fellow board member had to take day trips to Bangkok to secure paperwork. Now, we think/hope/pray all the i's will be dotted and t's will be crossed this week, and approval of the foundation will then be in the hands of the government. Please pray for a quick and smooth approval so our mission agency can have an effective visa system in place and can serve Thailand with the highest credibility.

Praise God that several generous supporters have already given \$800 toward our **computer needs**. That's a great start! We only need \$700 more to be able to fully fund numerous important purchases/upgrades that would set us up well in ministry computer-wise for years to come. (If you're led to help with this project, send a

check filled out to PIONEERS to 10123 William Carey Drive, Orlando, FL 32832 with a note attached saying it's for "Joe & Elaine Henry, #110798E".)

Brittany had a good **return trip to the U.S.** other than Delta's San Francisco agents ignoring the fact that she had a legitimate ticket for a couple hours. She is settled back into Columbia International University (South Carolina) well and enjoying her new roommate and classes (see "*Brittany room*" photo). Justin, Caleb and Jamie also have had great starts to the



school year at Grace International School (GIS) here in *Chiang Mai* (see "*First day*" photo).

This month's **cultural photos** are "*umbrella*" and "*silkworms*." In true Elaine style, Mom packed out the summer break with *many* visits to local cultural (and not-so-cultural) locations! One such place was the row of umbrella and silk factories in a *Chiang Mai* suburb, where visitors are able to check out how items are made and even have a hand in making the silk worms are a particular attraction for the boys!

Prayers

Several teams in the SiAM Area – including ours, The HOME Team –



urgently need teammates to serve the Lord most effectively. Please pray for God's powerful provision of workers for the harvest here in Thailand.

Speaking of **The HOME Team**, there have been two important developments recently. One is that the Kosanovic family (from South Carolina, USA) is at 89% support, which means they should be able to come to Thailand in October as planned if they can work out what to do with their house. Also, God led the Small family to a very promising church-planting opportunity south of Chiang Mai in a series of villages that have no Christian witness. Please pray for wisdom for these two families as they seek God's leading in these matters.

Please continue to be in prayer for **Elaine's ministry schedule**. Now that she is not teaching at GIS, she needs to determine what are the "best" ministry choices from a very long list of "good" options.

Our mission agency, PIONEERS, will be holding its **International Leadership Conference** in Chiang Mai on Sept. 19-24. That makes it easy for us to attend! Please pray for good times of fellowship, sharing, collaboration and worship and that God will be glorified in our midst.

Until all have heard,

Joe, Elaine, Brittany, Justin, Caleb & Jamie

Did You Know...

... that Chick-fil-A (yes, the U.S. chicken restaurant) has created a new video for its employees that has powerful implications for Christians as well? Check out http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7T_Vm02aymk and see if you agree. FYI, in case you don't know, Chick-fil-A was founded by a devout Christian man from Georgia. Revenues in 2009 totaled more than \$3 billion, proving you don't have to be open on Sundays to succeed! (Visit <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chick-fil-A> for the full story.)

Just a quick note to let you know that Elaine returned home today after five nights in the hospital. Praise God! We are thankful she is back but well aware that her recovery will take at least several weeks. To put it simply, she does not have any of the most severe heart and lung problems as the doctor feared at one point. However, he did uncover several long-term issues that will need to be managed. We have been so encouraged by the many emails we have received and want to thank all of you for your prayers. Please continue to pray for Elaine's energy and oxygen levels to be restored and for wisdom on how quickly to return to full-time ministry.



Missionaries in Siberia

Siberian Greetings Faithful Friends of FUMCH!

Giddy-up there cowboys!! There's a saddle shop in the making in Siberia?!?? It's true, the project to make saddles has begun and the learning process is going very well. We have two local men



along with Kevin and our fellow worker Doug learning everything from

making the 'tree', the wooden portion under the leather, cleaning and drying the cowhide needed, to cutting, fitting, and sewing the leather onto the tree. There is much more to this



process and in the future Laura will let Kevin get into the details. Please lift this in prayer...for success to those men who will be making them to sell throughout the region. (We have had quite a lot of interest already!)

Even more exciting than saddles ...

five new *family members* were added in August! It was a wonderful celebration with many friends and family



members attending; over 50 people in all were there. There was one young man who made this decision and asks for prayer as he strives to be the leader of his home and the husband and father that *our Father* would desire of him. Please keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers as they grow in their understanding and love for their Father!

As of this writing, September 1st, we've been able to get the steps and porch almost completed on the main building where the fellowship meets. We need to place the hand railings on the steps and some benches on the porch...we still have plenty of time before winter. The garden is just fantastic this year! We have been so blessed with rainy days followed by lots of sunny, warm days! Anyone want some zucchini???? How about green beans???? We can't give them away fast enough good problem to have though the potatoes are delicious, but we haven't dug them all up just yet. (Just a few more weeks.) We will most definitely have a wonderful harvest this year, food that will get many people through those long winter months!

With the coming of September, our home groups, men and women's study groups, and our youth will begin meeting again. Remember us as we seek wisdom in what to share and that most of all, it would be understandable in their language! Please keep the fellowship in your thoughts and prayers as well as the projects. Again, please keep these projects and the folks in your prayers....they are much needed and appreciated by all!! The fellowship sends their warm greetings to you and also lifts up your fellowship often!

Joyfully Blessed,
Kevin & Laura

Prayer and Praise

Pray for the boys as they are both very busy....Joshua is in his final semester at Biola University in CA and Corey is in training at Fort Leonard Wood Missouri, he finished Army basic training on the 26th of August. If you would like to write either of them, drop us a note and we will send you their addresses.

Praise Him for His continued provision for the work here.

THANK YOU!

To the Shawl Ministry,
and to everyone for
their prayers, cards, and
meals while I was re-
covering from my hip
replacement.

Carroll Lunceford

Almost Haiti-Bound

Patience Nave

21

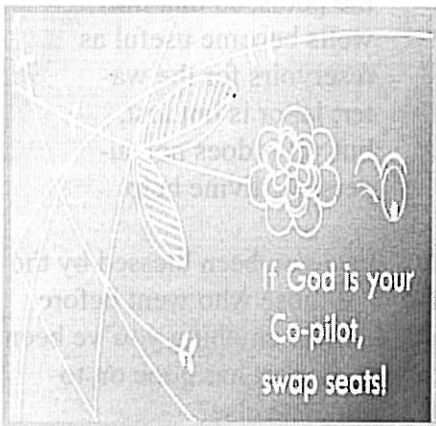
Our *Genesis* editor offered me a little extra space this month so I can tell you the latest on our church's Haiti ministry.

As you know, the spring trip was cancelled due to the terrible devastation from the earthquake. Plans for the fall were always tentative, but I am pleased to tell you that we are just days from departure. A team of thirteen will leave on October 15. Our plans are to finish the work begun at the school in Carrenage, as well as to do some small construction jobs and repairs at the school and at the Mission House in Petit Goave.

Water has been brought to the top of the mountain, and we have ordered cisterns to collect it, making clean water available for the children. Last year Dr. Tim told us that there was little wrong with the children in the community that clean water would not cure. Well, praise God, the clean water is now there!

A plan has been drawn for the kitchen facility. (I use the word kitchen very loosely! It won't be like any kitchen you can imagine, but to them it is a wonderful kitchen.) We have ordered the materials to build the structure, and they should be on the ground when we arrive. We have hired the prescribed number of workers to assist us in the work, and our team will join them in construction.

Your wonderful generosity has made all this possible! I expect to have money left to feed children and maybe even help pay teachers! You are amazingly unselfish! Thank you for caring for children whom you will never see! Pray for us all—for safe travel, for safety in somewhat trying working conditions while we are there, and for God to bless our work for these people whose need is so great!



22 Blessed by the Past, Blessing the Future

The devotional from Spurgeon's **Morning and Evening** below centers around the simple idea that God uses our labor to bless not only us, but those that come after us. Specifically, Spurgeon uses the example of a well. We dig it, God fills it and later on someone other than us stumbles across it and uses it.

In some ways I see this principle mirrored in old church buildings. The original congregation sacrificed time and resources to build the building, God sustained the congregation over the generations and then the future congregation uses the building to worship and serve in ways that wouldn't have been possible without it:

The comfort obtained by one may often prove serviceable to another; just as wells would be used by the company who came after. We read some book full of consolation, which is like Jonathan's rod, dropping with honey. Ah! we think our brother has been here before us, and dug this well for us as well as for

himself ... Travelers have been delighted to see the footprint of man on a barren shore, and we love to see the waymarks of pilgrims while passing through the vale of tears.

The pilgrims dig the well, but, strange enough, it fills from the top instead of the bottom. We use the means, but the blessing does not spring from the means. We dig a well, but heaven fills it with rain. The horse is prepared against the day of battle, but safety is of the Lord. The means are connected with the end, but they do not of themselves produce it. See here the rain fills the pools, so that the wells become useful as reservoirs for the water; labor is not lost, but yet it does not supersede divine help.

How have you been blessed by the efforts of those who went before you? Is there anything you've been involved in that has gone on to bless someone else?

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www.gospel.com*

WORD UNSCRAMBLE

aavnltosi _____

nierretuocrs _____

brloa _____

ivigng _____

hpta _____

eprisa _____

snig _____

leibb _____

voel _____

urhchc _____

Answers: salvation, resurrection, labor, giving, path, praise, sing,
bible, love, church

DID YOU TAKE MY SPACE?

One day, a man went to visit a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up next to the first, and the driver got out and said, "I always park there! You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still he said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, "**I took your place..**"



JOIN THE SUGARMILL WOMEN CANCER SURVIVORS

We have **re-located** from our homes in Sugarmill Woods
to:

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Now opening membership to the Homosassa community!

Meetings will be held on the **2nd Friday of each month**
from **September to June at 2:00 p.m.**

We welcome women cancer survivors, cancer patients,
and women who are going through the diagnostic process.

For more information or to make a reservation, call
Pat Schuessler – 382-0057, email: patschue@aol.com

STORAGE USE

Recently Trustees have become aware of storage issues that have not been handled in accordance with the Building Use Policy adopted by the Church Council. Specifically, items have "appeared" in storage which are unidentified and items are stored in areas not designated as storage. In addition, some food items are stored in the kitchen freezer and/or refrigerator well beyond retention limits.

The procedure for storing items begins with completing a storage request and item identification tags. The storage request is given to the Office Administrator who will consult with Trustees to determine an appropriate storage area. You will then be notified and may make arrangements to place your items in the designated storage area.

Items stored and unused within a two-year period are subject to disposal. Food items stored in the refrigerator or freezers are subject to much shorter retention periods according to policy.

The Board of Trustees is requesting your cooperation. For further reference please see page 6 of the Building Use Policy which outlines the storage procedures. Please review the policy and ensure any items you have stored comply with the policy as soon as possible.



THANK YOU!

Many thanks to everyone for all the cards and phone calls when my husband, Bob, passed.

JoeAnn Gidlow

DALE IS HOME!

Yes, it's true -- God has truly blessed our beloved Custodian! After a terrible scare and some tense days, Dale Evans is at home making a slow but sure recovery. Dale and his family send heartfelt thanks out to all the people who visited, called, and sent cards. If you'd like to send a card, Dale's address is:

78 South Lucille St.
Beverly Hill, FL 34465

MEN'S SPIRITUAL RETREAT

October 22-24

"In Jesus' Name"



Rev. Riley Short

Bishop James Swanson, Sr.

Worship & Music
Will be lead and
performed by
Ross Kimura

LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Come and enjoy spirituality and serenity at
its finest.**



RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

27

OCT 22-24

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Accommodations - Life Enrichment Center

Check Amount - \$ 145.00 per person

Make checks payable to United Methodist Men.

Attach check, put form and check in envelope, and deliver to Men's Retreat Coordinator or the church office. If you have questions contact Jim Stoneman 352-422-0169, Men's Retreat Coordinator, or Marilyn Watson.

Note: Please enter your room mate selection. All efforts will be made to accommodate you.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2010**

FUMC - HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

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

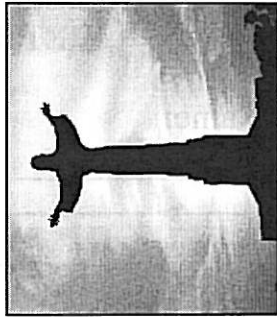
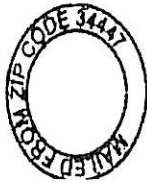
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Neil Kline, Webmaster

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