

GENESIS

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

October 2006

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Volume 10 Issue 8

Church Office

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Website

www.1umc.org

Senior Pastor

Rev. Mark Whittaker

Youth Pastor

Rev. Steven Skelley

Administrator

Happy Trails, Lyn, &
Thank you for all your
hard work!

Bookkeeper

Sandy Dewart

Christian Education

Patience Nave

Music Department

Mary Kay Messenger

Joy Potts

Dayna Middlebrooks

Parish Visitation

Sharon E. Smith

Night Security

Michael Rodgers

Custodian

Dale Evans

DEFINING

STEWARDSHIP

by Reverend Mark Whittaker

Someone once said:
"Stewardship was what
you do after you say
you believe."

Now most people im-
mediately think that
this is referring to the
offering on Sunday
morning -- but that is
only a small part of
what it means to be a
good steward in our
world today.

Stewardship is what
you DO after you say
you believe.

It is easy to say we be-
lieve in Jesus as Lord.

Most of us have grown
up knowing that to be
true and when it was
time for us to join the
church it was an easy
thing to put into words.

The hard part is when
we start putting our
belief to work.

Sometimes that means
that we have to face
persecution for our be-
liefs; sometimes it
means we have to give
up something that we
want in order for the
word be shared.

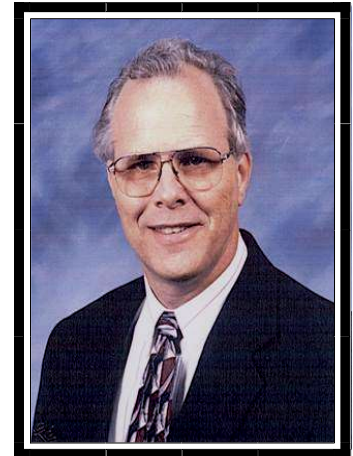
It is spending our time
and talents sharing
God's word and the
depth of God's love
with people who do not
know God as their per-
sonal Savior.

Stewardship is working
together to lift up
those who are beaten
down by the world.

It is compassion for
those who can not take
care of themselves.
Stewardship is using
your time and talents
to make the church
stronger as it worships
and celebrates and wit-
nesses to the love of
God in our lives.

Stewardship is some-
times doing the daily,
no glory, ordinary, in-
visible kinds of things
that happen behind the
scenes but make a dif-
ference in the ministry
the church is able to
accomplish.

Stewardship is also
supporting the church
with our tithes and of-
ferings.



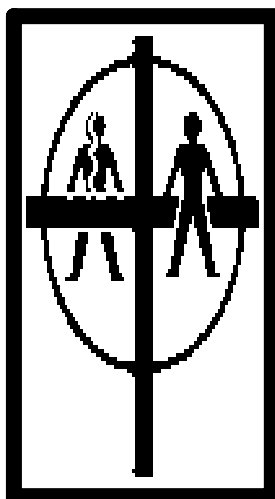
But this is a spiritual,
theological matter not
a financial one.

Our gift of self and
time and money is a
statement to the
world of what is im-
portant to us.

We give, not because
the church needs the
money, but because
we need - as Chris-
tians - to give in order
that God might be in
charge, not mammon.

Stewardship is what
you do after you say
you believe.

How have you been
"doing" lately?



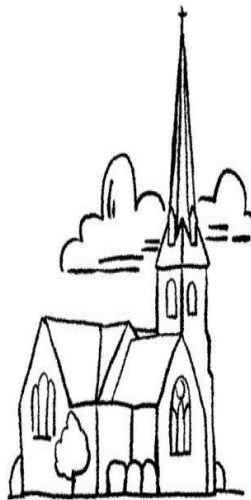
**We are a
Stephen
Ministry
Church**

"Everyone Becoming a Disciple of Christ"

The purpose of an organization's mission statement is to give it direction, focus, and motivation. It clearly states why an organization exists and what it intends to accomplish in the future. This mission statement of the First United Methodist Church of Homosassa was adopted on January 27, 2005.

Within The Church

- Worship Services
- Music Ministries
- Men & Ladies Ensemble
- Children's Choir
- Handbell & Chimes Choir
- Christian Education
- Adult Sunday School
- Children's Sunday School
- Youth Ministry
- Lenten Soup Supers
- Fine Arts Program
- Disciple Ministry
- Prayer Ministry
- UMW Circles
- Tape Ministry
- Blood Bank
- Visitation Care Group
- Golf Outings
- Wednesday Night Dinners
- Disaster Relief Programs
- Small Groups Ministry
- United Methodist Men
- United Methodist Women
- Biblical Travel Ministry
- Counters
- Attendance Tracking



OPPORTUNITIES FOR



As Outreach

- Thrift Shop
- Food Pantry
- SHARE
- Holiday Baskets
- Nursing Home Ministries
- Cancer Survivors
- Current Affairs
- Healthy Body & Healthy Spirit
- Volunteers In Mission
- Habitat for Humanity
- PAWS (Pets Are Working Saints)
- Crop Walk
- Salvation Army Kettle Ministry
- Discretionary Giving Committee
- Brownies
- Boy / Girl / Cub Scouts
- Clown Ministries
- Missions Ministry
- Prison Ministry
- Children's Home
- Hospice Bereavement
- After-School Tutoring
- Angel Tree
- Stephen Ministries
- Angels With Wheels
- Prayer Blanket Ministry

October							November							December						
<u>S</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Tu</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Th</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Tu</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Th</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Tu</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Th</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>S</u>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4							1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					

Father God gave us 168 hours a week ~ 672 hours a month

Stop. Look around you! REALLY look around you! Just how blessed are you?
 Stewardship is more than reaching into your wallet and pulling out the checkbook.
 Look into your heart and slip on the sandals of service.

**Think of us in this way,
 as servants of Christ
 and stewards of
 God's mysteries.**

1 Corinthians 4:1

A Little Dessert, A Lot of Ministries

by Sallyann Moore
Stewardship Chairperson

Remember last year's dessert extravaganza – tables loaded with goodies ranging from homemade chocolate-covered cherries to cannoli in two flavors, all complimented by informational displays about our church ministries?

If you missed the event, you missed out on a fun evening.

This year's dessert extravaganza promises more of the same, with a twist. Our tables will still be loaded with goodies, including new flavors and more sugar-free choices, but we've added a mission scavenger hunt to the mix.

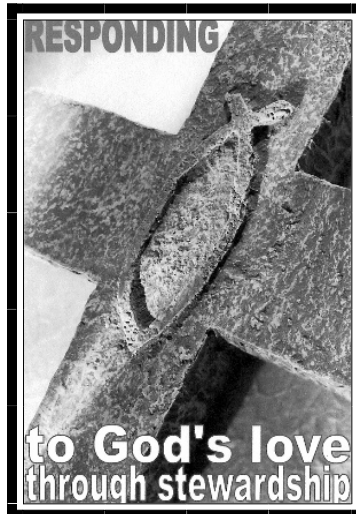
During the evening you'll have a chance to visit more than 20 mission and ministry displays. At each display, one of the mission/ministry stewards will answer your questions and mark your game card.

Get every square on your game card marked, and you'll qualify for a prize drawing later in the evening.

Prize drawings, scavenger hunts, goodies galore? Sounds like fun, doesn't it? So what does that have to do with steward-

ship; isn't stewardship serious business? The giving of our time, talent, and treasure certainly does require serious thought and prayer. But there's another side to stewardship – the upbeat, positive, fun feeling we experience when we've acted as stewards. It's what we get back when we give.

Helen Keller, whose illness left her deaf and blind before her second birthday, discovered it, saying: "The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves."



Medical doctor and third president of Stanford University, Ray L. Wilbur, found it, too, noting: "Unless we think of others and do something for them, we miss one of the greatest sources of happiness."

We hope you'll come to this year's dessert extravaganza. We hope you'll find it a fun evening of Christian fellowship.

And we hope you'll discover in the mission and ministry displays the opportunity for personal fulfillment that comes from responding to God's love through stewardship.

Stewardship Month Schedule

October 1, 8, 15, and 22

Stewardship Minute: a thoughtful and thought-provoking minute during each morning service.

October 15, 22, and 29

Special Pastoral Message

October 23, 24

Dessert Extravaganza and Mission Scavenger Hunt: join us for a fun-filled evening of fellowship. Registration form can be found on page 19 of this month's *Genesis*.

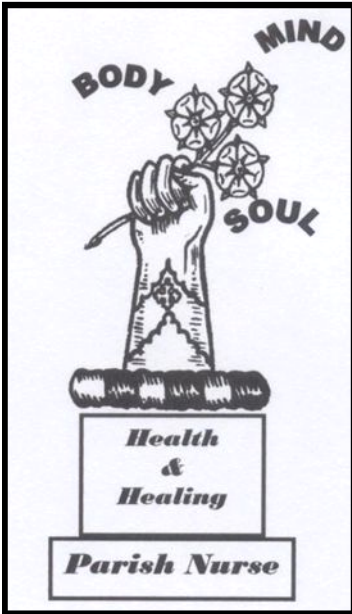
October 29

Stewardship Sunday: bring your completed estimate of giving cards for the offering.

November 5

Consecration Sunday: celebrate with us as we consecrate your gifts to God's work.

WHICH ROAD WILL YOU CHOOSE?
From the Parish Nurse



The phone rang just after our church administrator had left for the day and I was the only one in the building. When I answered it, I was surprised to be told it was an employee at our post office. She said that a member of our congregation had become weak and disoriented at the post office. They were taking her home, but she had requested that the church be called.

When I arrived at the home, I found the church member doing somewhat better. Our Postmistress was in the kitchen putting away groceries. WOW! This lady really went "beyond the call of duty" that day. She had even driven the church member's car home, and another employee was waiting to transport the Postmistress back to the post office.

It would have taken much less effort for someone at the post office to call 911. Instead the post office employees chose not to "take the easy road." What a demonstration of Christian caring!

P.S. A member of the Visitation Care Group took a thank you and flowers to the Postmistress.

The above related "true" account of a recent incident, demonstrates another aspect of the Parish Nurse role. Although the Parish Nurse is not usually available for emergency home visits, the role does include functions as a personal health counselor.

Dick & Myrna Evans spent 5 weeks in New Hampshire near family and friends. They hosted a happy "unbirthday party" for their 3 great-grandchildren who celebrate their real birthdays while their great-grandparents are in Florida. Dick & Myrna also spent a week in Cooperstown, NY, where 2 of their grandsons played baseball at Dreams Park.



"What I did on my Summer Vacation"

Bill & Alice Williamson celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Bill surprised Alice with a trip to Washington State & Victoria. All Alice had to do was pack her suitcase. A party was also held in their honor.

Holistic Small Group News

Our Holistic Small Groups are soon going to reconvene. Check the church bulletins for dates and times. If you'd like to be trained to start another Holistic Small Group, please see Steve Skelley at the church office.

Creative Worship News

As part of our desire to share the gospel in ways that all people can understand, we have created our own Creative Worship Team. Please contact Steve Skelley if you have skills in art, painting, building props, dance, acting, singing, etc. We'd love to have you on our team.

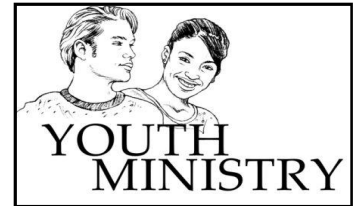
Sunday School

9:30 – 10:30 am on Sundays

Youth Fellowship

12:00 – 2:00 pm on Sundays

Youth Missions



In the past year, we performed a number of local missions: 2006 Crop Walk, nursing home Christmas caroling, adopt-a-park, hurricane health kits, SHARE help, and sand art for shut-ins.

As we look to the rest of 2006 and 2007, what other missions can we add to our list of good deeds? Bring your ideas and hopes to Steve and let's make them happen so others are blessed.

We Need Your Empty Ink Cartridges

The First UMC Youth Ministry thanks you for bringing in your empty computer printer ink cartridges. We raise \$30 to \$75 a month through your donations. These funds support youth ministry and youth missions. Thanks to you generous donations, we have raised almost \$1000 in the last year! The collection box is located on the soda machine beside the fellowship hall door.

Church T-Shirts and Polo Shirts

Order forms for church t-shirts, polo shirts and more are located on the bulletin board near the kitchen and fellowship hall. We need a minimum of 36 shirts to order.

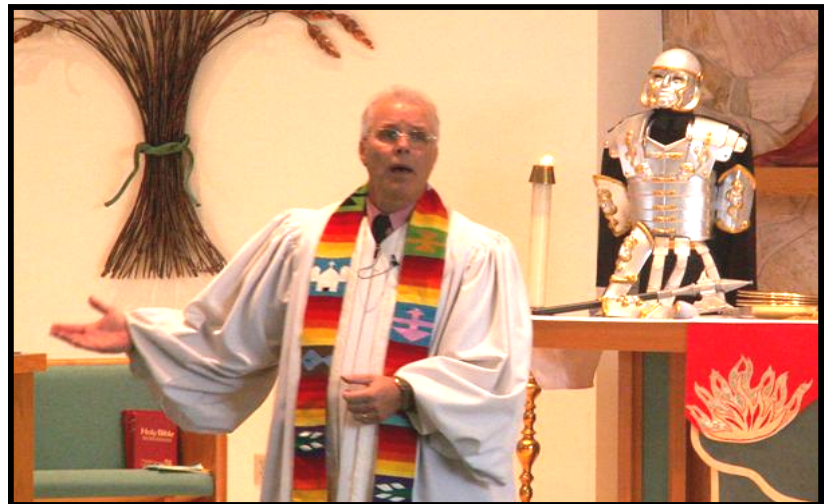
**PRAISING
GOD
~ WITH ~
MUSIC
AND
DRAMA**



Is There Chaos In Your Life?



ARE YOU SURE?



“GOD CAN PROVIDE THE RIGHT ARMOR”

Our SACRED DANCE GROUPS, adult, youth and children, all rehearse on Sunday mornings. Myrna Evans and Holli Ben-
thusen are our sacred dance leaders. Check the Sunday bulletins for rehearsal dates and times.

Our YOUTH SINGERS are rehearsing on Sunday mornings. Rehearsal times and room number will be listed in the Sunday bulletins. Marge Dilling will once again be leading this group.

Our HANDBELL CHOIR will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 6th at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. No previous ringing experience is necessary, but music reading is helpful. Beginning and ex-

perienced ringers are both welcome!!

Our CHANCEL CHOIR rehearses on Wednesday evenings also, after handbells, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. They have been rehearsing since their break in July. So, come on by and check us out! Beginning and experienced singers are welcomed in this group also.

The “church mouse” has told me that some members of our congregation sang in a choir or glee club when they were in high school; yet, they are NOT in our choir. If you enjoyed it then, (regardless of HOW MANY years ago it was), why don’t you come and see if you would still enjoy it now?

Anyone with INSTRUMENTAL

EXPERIENCE should leave a message with your name and phone number for Mary Kay Messenger at the church office. We like to enhance our worship services with instruments when possible. We can’t do this if we don’t know that you’re “out there.”

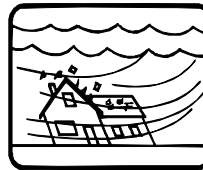
We’ll be starting to rehearse our Christmas Music before you know it, so don’t put off joining us. We’re looking forward to meeting YOU at one of our next rehearsals!

**MUSICALLY
YOURS!**

Mary Kay
Messenger,
Director
Of Musical
Ministries



Disaster Relief



Although predictions for the number of storms to be expected have been recently lowered, the season does last through November.

It is extremely important that some medical and financial materials be updated at this time – since the original assemblage of this material four to six months ago.

Do not let down your guard and merely wait until the next warning to make personal disaster plans or review and update current plans to insure that you will be prepared for the next tropical event.

Specifically each family or single person should pre-plan where they will go if evacuation is necessary. Everyone living west of Hwy.19 and 1.5 miles east of Hwy.19 as well as Sugar Mill Woods residents between Hwy.19 and the clubhouse are in the evacuation zone. In addition most mobile home residents must evacuate regardless of their location. Our church property is within the evacuation zone and cannot be used for these emergencies.

Make arrangements to stay with relatives or friends who live in a hurricane-safe zone. Listen to emergency broadcasts on 88.3 FM and, if evacuation is necessary, secure all windows and doors, turn off electricity, water and gas and leave via marked evacuation routes. Let

friends and family know where you are going. Take your family disaster kit with you. (See attached list.) These supplies should enable you to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 72 hours up to 5 to 7 days. We cannot emphasize enough - - *please do not depend on the government to be available for immediate relief after a weather-event!*

Pre-planning and prevention, along with working with our Disaster Committee, is the key to helping all of our church and their families to be prepared for and able to react safely to impending emergency situations.

It is important to identify those with special needs (for example medical or transportation needs) as well as those who will need temporary shelter. This is why we ask each member to periodically complete a Hurricane Information Sheet so that we can identify both those who will need some sort of help as well as those who can help. If you haven't completed a form, they are available in the church office. We are also updating our contact list as well as our disaster plan.

If you are interested in stewardship with this committee, are willing to be on the telephone relay, are able to provide housing, transportation or clean-up help, contact me at 382-8926 or the church office 628-4083.

**Bob MacKenzie
Chairman**

Family Disaster Kit/ Must-Have Supplies

Drinking Water – 1 Gallon per person per day - at least 7 day supply - store water in sealed non breakable containers—replace every 6 months

Prescription Medicine – 2 week supply

Battery-powered flashlights and radio

Spare batteries

Cash or Travelers Checks – ATM's may not be working

Non-perishable packaged or canned food – minimum 3 day supply

Manual can opener

Disposable plated cups and utensils

First Aid Kit

Plastic trash bags

Important documents stored in weatherproof container including: birth, marriage, death certificates, ownership documents, insurance policies, passports/visas, Social Security cards, bonds/stock certificates, Wills/Living Trusts, medical records/children's vaccination histories, photo copies of all cards carried in wallet, backup discs of computer info., irreplaceable photos/video tapes, inventory video or photos of personal property/home contents for insurance claims.

Clothing and bedding for each person

Raingear, hat, eyeglasses, sunglasses

Sunscreen, insect repellent

Personal hygiene supplies

Sanitation supplies- toilet paper, novelettes, soap, liquid detergents, disinfectant, unscented household bleach

Special needs for babies and or adult/elderly

A Story of Stewardship In the 5th Dimension by Richard L. Evans

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Evolent retired to Florida over 20 years ago. They had acquired a house that they turned into rental property to generate additional income.

Although they still wanted the income, they were tired of managing and maintaining the property; and they did not want to pay someone else to manage it. The house had more than tripled in value over the years Ben and his wife had owned it. Had they sold the house they would have incurred a substantial capital gain tax liability.

After talking with members of their family and with their attorney, the Ben Evolents gave the properties to the Florida United Methodist Foundation to create a Charitable Remainder Trust.

The house was sold for a net total of just over \$240,000 and a trust was established with an annual payout of 6%. Now Ben and his wife receive \$14,400 a year, an amount that will be paid to either survivor until both are deceased.

Then the remainder of the trust will be disbursed to the charities they have named: 75% to their United Methodist Church, 15% to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, and 10% to the Florida United Methodist Foundation which has managed the trust.

The Ben Evolents avoided tax on their capital gain and they received a substantial charitable tax deduction that they can carry forward for up to 5 years. Now Mr. and Mrs. Ben Evolent are enjoying their extra annual income and are relieved to be free from the worries of management and maintenance.

They also are pleased to have provided for their church and its outreach ministries for many years to come. A fine example of Stewardship in the 5th Dimension!

For more information about Charitable Remainder Trusts and other ways to give in the 5th Dimension, call the church office or the Florida United Methodist Foundation in Lakeland (866-363-9673).

It's Not Too Late! by Richard L. Evans

No, it's not too late to sign up for our 15-day cruise though the Panama Canal next spring.

But don't wait much longer to sign up. Holland America's ms Volendam is filling up, and it may not be too long before the block of staterooms our agent is holding will be "called in" and registrations will be closed. So don't be disappointed!

Our group will leave Homosassa on Sunday, April 22 and sail the same day from Ft. Lauderdale.

After a full day of transiting the canal and after seven ports of call in Central America and Mexico, we'll spend two days in San Diego before flying back to Tampa and returning home.

Inclusive prices range from \$2,843 to \$4743 per person, depending upon the accommodations selected.

Pick up a flyer from the church office for all the information. And call me (563-5833) if you have questions. I hope you'll join us on what promises to be a great trip!

Give Life!

Find A Blood Drive!

"The life of the flesh is in blood"

Lev. 18:11

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

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

Barbara Jackson

Wonderful Wednesday Suppers

by Lyn Romano, Administrator

Once again we begin our season with a diverse and interesting group of speakers!

October 4, 2006 - Sharon Smith, our Parish Nurse and Visitation Chairperson, will give a talk about how she and her team can help guide and refer you in your health choices. Please come and meet the newest member of our staff!

October 18, 2006 - Detective Chris Cornell of the Internet Crimes against Children Unit of Citrus County will give a compelling talk about how we can help protect our nieces, nephews and grandchildren against those who prey on them via the internet.

November 1, 2006 - Barbara Sayles, Regional Director of the Society of St. Andrews, will also be our guest speaker. She will be speaking about how this wonderful organization, along with your contribution, helps provide food and hope for the hungry.

November 15, 2006 - Terry Steele, Executive Director of the Habitat for Humanity, will talk about the extensive work they do locally and nationwide.

November 29, 2006 - Bess Bussey, Coordinator of Local Church Representative & Volunteer Services from the Children's Home, will speak about the children and bring us up-to-date on their progress.

December 13, 2006 - As Christmas approaches and we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the children of FUMC will be performing a Christmas Drama for your enjoyment.

In February of 2007, as one of our suppers falls on Valentine's Day, we will be having a musical evening filled with song. Jeannine & Jim Love will be our guest soloists, Joy Potts to accompany on the piano.

We are still working on inviting other interesting speakers for the 2007 season. Keep an eye on the bulletin inserts for more information. In the meantime, we hope you can come and enjoy the delicious food and desserts prepared by our dedicated group of volunteers Wonderful Wednesday offers and enjoy an evening of Christian fellowship and interesting programs.

Copies of "SENIOR MOMENTS", a book by Rev. Richard Evans, are available for sale in the church office. \$10 each. A copy is available in the church library for those who may wish to borrow it.



Happy Trails, Lyn & Joe!
God bless your new adventure.
Love, the Church Family

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME.... FABULOUS FALL READING?

Our Church Librarians have knocked themselves out during "summer-training camp" for you! Don't miss out on some of these great "picks!" Editor

~ ~ ~ ~

If so, look no further than your Church Library for the following:

1. "Charade" by Gilbert Morris, Ollie Benson is 29 yrs. old, is 6 ft. and weighs 406 lbs. He is obese and desperately miserable - until he meets a woman who loves him for who he is. Or so it seems. He lives in a world of glamour, fame and fortune due to the success of his computer program. When the two people he trusts the most betray him in brutal fashion, he constructs an elaborate plan for revenge. His plan for revenge was perfect - almost. There's just one glitch. Ollie comes face to face with the power of true unconditional love. It could change his life - or end it.

2. "Tristan's Gap" by Nancy Rue. Where did we go wrong? Serena thought she had the perfect family until her daughter, 16-year old Tristan, the "good girl", disappears and unpleasant truths surface that force Serena to question nearly everything she believes about her children, her marriage and her faith.

3. "Troublesome Creek" by Jan Watson is a charming coming-of-age historical novel set in the late 1800's. Born and raised in the hills of Kentucky, Laura "Copper" Grace loves the wilderness. Her step-mother threatens to send her to boarding school "to become a lady". Can she possibly come to terms with her family and discover the true meaning of "home" and will she discover that perhaps God has other plans for her that are more wonderful than she could ever imagine?

4. "At First Sight" by Nicholas Sparks. Successful Manhattan science journalist Jeremy Marsh now lives in the tiny town of Boone Creek, North Carolina, is married to small-town librarian Lexie Darnell, the love of his life and awaiting the birth of their daughter, all of which he said he would never do after a failed marriage. Just as his life seems to be settling into a blissful pattern, an unsettling and mysterious message reopens old wounds and sets off a chain of events that will forever change the course of this young couple's marriage.

5. Also by Nicholas Sparks is "Nights in Rodanthe". Adrienne Willis, 45 yrs. old, has been abandoned by her husband for a younger woman. In search of respite, she goes to the small coastal town of Rodanthe, North Carolina to run a friend's inn for the weekend. A guest, 54 yr. old Paul Flanner, arrives. He has sold his medical practice and is trying to escape his own shattered past. As a major storm approaches, the two wounded people will turn to each other, a moving reminder that love is possible at any age, at any time, and often when we least

expect it.

6. "Hadassah" by Tommy Tenney brings the age old story of Esther to life, a gripping action-adventure story, full of political intrigue and suspense. It's historically accurate with a new perspective on the power and beauty of the peasant girl who becomes queen.

7. "The Tender Vine" by Kristen Heitzmann is a story of testing - first of love between Carmen and her rogue husband Quillan as they attempt to resurrect their marriage by starting anew in California, and testing again when Quillan is shunned by his entire family and then faces yet more rejection. His determination to prove his worth is tested beyond what any had imagined.

8. "What If the Bible Had Never Been Written" by Dr. D. James Kennedy. The purpose of this book is to set the record straight, to show that the Bible has been an unmatched force for good. It's also geared toward equipping and building up Christians at a time when Christianity is "politically incorrect". This would be a good study book for a discussion group.

9. "Bryson City Tales", "Bryson City Seasons" and "Bryson City Secrets" by Walt Larimore, M.D. Journey through the seasons with a young doctor as he establishes his practice in a small town nestled away in a fold of the North Carolina Smoky Mountains. There's a world of colorful characters and the warmth, humor, quirks and struggles of a small country town. It's a world where the family doctor is also the emergency physi-

cian, the coroner, and the obstetrician and where wilderness medicine is part of the job, search and rescue calls in the forest are a way of life and the next patient just may be someone's livestock or pet.

10. "The Jesus Prescription for a Healthy Life" by Leonard Sweet. With insight and humor, Mr. Sweet examines how Jesus laughed, hung out with friends, played with children, walked and enjoyed the good times at social gatherings. He details the ways and habits through which Jesus lived a disciplined life and healthy existence during his ministry among us.

11. "Bleachers" by John Grisham. Veering from his usual legal suspense novels, John Grisham tells the story of High School All-American Neely Crenshaw who was probably the best quarterback ever to play for the legendary Messina Spartans. Fifteen years later, he's come home to bury his football coach Eddie Rake, the man who molded the Spartans into an unbelievable football dynasty. As Coach Rake's "boys" sit in the bleachers waiting for the dimming field lights to signal his passing, they relive the old glories and try to decide once and for all whether they love Coach Rake or hate him. Stakes are especially high for Neely Crenshaw who must finally forgive his coach -- and himself before he can get on with his life.

12. And we have eight audio tapes of the Left Behind series by Tyndale Audio. Begin with A06-20 through A06-27, approximately 180 minutes each running time.

Missionary Reports
By Judith Huffer

WOOSTREET JOURNAL



SUMMER 2006

MAILING ADDRESS:

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315 Bobby Jones Road
Sarasota, FL 34232
(941) 377-3014

E-MAIL: kwooster@aol.com
Skype: kwooster

I must admit that I was excited beyond belief when I received this newsletter from the Woosters. Our Russian missionaries are reserved and quite humble in the monthly reports that we receive, and sometimes the lack of material leads us to believe that we are not publicizing their ministry as much as we could/should.

Thank you, Laura. This is not "too much info." Editor

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UPDATE FROM FEBRUARY 2006 NEWSLETTER

"Our teams are still in Russia. The new law on NGO'S (non-government organization, or in US terms, a not-for-profit agency) has gone into effect and we are still not sure what this will mean to us (Solbon). In one area we have registered a local NGO and our hope and prayer is that this will give us the ability to issue LOI'S (letters of invitation) and to then register them for our long term workers. It was an answer to prayer in just registering the local NGO in this region. According to the attorney who handled the registration for us, this is the first such organization by a non-Russian citizen this region has ever registered."

~ ~ ~ ~

NEW TEAM FORMING IN SIBERIA THIS SUMMER

"We have two families opening a new work in Yakutia, Siberia. Please

pray for them too as they settle in. Pray that they would be able to find affordable housing in a good area of town, a vehicle and that they would be able to start making relationships that will begin the work in this needy region of Siberia."

~ ~ ~ ~

Dear Family & Friends;

It is hard to believe it is summer already. It seems like it was just yesterday that we sold all of our household items in Moscow and headed to the states for home field assignment. Well, we didn't sell all of our stuff. A friend of ours who has a house in Moscow has allowed us to store six boxes in his basement. This may not sound like a lot but there were some items that we wanted to save until we move back to Russia.

Because of this blessing, we were able to keep some things that we would have a hard time replacing. This helped to bring the stress level down when we were packing and selling off our things. We are so grateful to the Lord for providing this small need.

As of this writing, we are in Sarasota, Florida. We had a great visit with family in PA in June and are now working on getting things together to settle into a house for the coming year. We have been truly blessed with a nice three bedroom house in the school dis-

trict we wanted for Corey. This was another answer to many prayers! Thank you all for praying with us for our housing.

This past weekend we (Laura and Kevin) had the unique opportunity to drop our son off at college. It was a very emotional weekend as we hugged and said our goodbyes. As we drove off, it gave me a picture of the separation that Jesus must have felt when he came down to earth.

This gave me yet another picture of something that is not so pleasant. Jesus knew he would see his father again and we know that we will see our son again. However, what will happen to those who have not heard about Jesus and then they die?

The answer to that question is the reason we travel to the far reaches of Russia. For this reason, we are so grateful to you, our church family, for partnering with us to take the gospel to Russia for the past 10 years.

This coming year we are in the states for our home field assignment and look forward to seeing you several times. Also, while here in the states, we will be studying and working on improving our ability to impact lives for Christ.

Starting in September we both started Biblical counseling courses to be better able to counsel and help more of the Russian people we will be working with during our next term of service (4 years).

Please continue to pray for safe travel for us as we will be driving across the state of Florida to visit supporters during the months ahead.

October is probably one of the most beautiful months of Fall. The leaves are turning brilliant colors, the air is cool and crisp, and we think of Fall as a time of harvest.

The Bible speaks of a different harvest, a harvest of souls waiting to hear the gospel and have the chance to "take off the old and put on the new" lives that Christ gives.

In the next weeks, there will be a new team of two families heading out into the colder regions (minus-60) of Siberia. They have been in the 'fields' before and are going out to a region that is in need of workers!

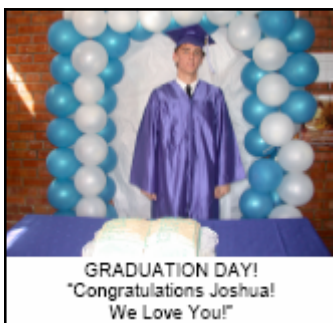
"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."
Matthew 9:37.

This region is called Yakutia and is located about 600 miles north of where we lived in Siberia. The region is huge and the believers that are there are in much need of discipleship. Please join us in praying not only for the families that are heading out, but for the people of Yakutia. Pray for more workers, there are never enough!

Prayer and Praise

- We would also ask that you begin praying for us, Kevin and Laura, as we are seeking God's direction as to where to best serve after our time here in the U.S.
- Pray for Corey as he starts 12th grade this year at Sarasota High School and also at SCTI (Sarasota County Technical Institute)
- Pray for Joshua as he starts his freshman year at Messiah College in Grantham, PA. Continue to pray for still-needed finances for the coming year.
- Praise God for the time we spent this past month in Orlando at Pioneers. It was a great help for us with the transition back into the U.S.
- Praise for Corey getting into the Tech School and Sarasota High!

May your days be filled with a fruitful harvest...Serving Him in Joy,
Kevin, Laura, Joshua and Corey Wooster



Dear praying friends...
A letter from the Henrys

"I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me."

This word from Paul, in Romans 15:30, is our plea to you. Any kingdom work that gets done here is thanks in great part to your prayers, and we covet them each month. Without you joining us in the struggle, our enemy will keep captive the hearts of many people here in Thailand who live under the control of evil spirits and fear. Thank you so much for your vital work in prayer.

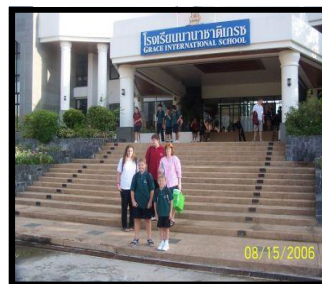
Praises

Last month, we asked you to pray for the salvation of *Jong*, a member of our cell group who recently opened a new restaurant. That same week, *Jong* asked *Ogaat* to come to his house to explain how he could follow Christ, who is now his Savior! As they say so eloquently here in Thai, *Jong* is now a new member of God's family,

(สมาชิกใหม่ของครอบครัวพระเจ้า)

~~~~~

**Brittany, Justin, Caleb and Jamie** have started the year well at Grace International School.



**Jamie** is really soaking it all in after having 94 days off following kindergarten.

**James** under our rapidly growing banana tree.

(Continue on next page)

Please pray for Justin's concentration level to remain high; his focus was a problem last year, but he has started out strong this year and is even considering running for class president.

Elaine has 11 students and a much more relaxed classroom than last year. Please pray for Elaine to get through the beginning paperwork avalanche and settle into a good routine.



Cell group continues to be a blessing each Saturday night.



Joe will teach again next week, while Elaine began teaching Old Testament stories to the cell group children last week

The whole family greatly enjoys the times of worship and fellowship with our Thai friends.

**PRAYERS**

Joe finished his first term of teaching at the Bible school of Chiang Mai Baptist Church last month.

The "Christian Family" series he taught was well-received, and it was a tremendous opportunity for Joe to learn more language and culture.

Please pray as he will begin teaching "Old Testament Survey" on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> for 8 weeks, likely his last term of teaching at CMBC since he will soon focus on the new church plant.

Continue to pray for plans to open a new church in November. Joe and Ogaat are seeking the Lord's will about opening in a townhouse or in a home. Please pray for the Lord to clearly reveal His will and for wisdom in the many plans that need to be made in the coming three months.

Thanks so much to those who have responded to our missions account deficit and the \$800 shortfall in our monthly support.

Already, we have received several one-time gifts and a new monthly donor.

Praise God! The deficit in our account has shrunk from \$2,800 to about \$1,800, and we feel the Lord is really moving in this area.

It should be a fascinating month as we watch what He accomplishes! Please continue to pray for our finances.

As mentioned last month, Joe and Pastor Ogaat have put together a financial proposal of start-up costs for the church that will open, Lord willing, in November.

The start-up budget totals \$6,053, which includes rental deposit on a small townhouse and lots of supplies/renovations.

If you would like to help financially, PIONEERS has set up an account through which all donations should go so we can be fully accountable.

Just send a check to "PIONEERS," 10123 William Carey Drive, Orlando, FL 32832.

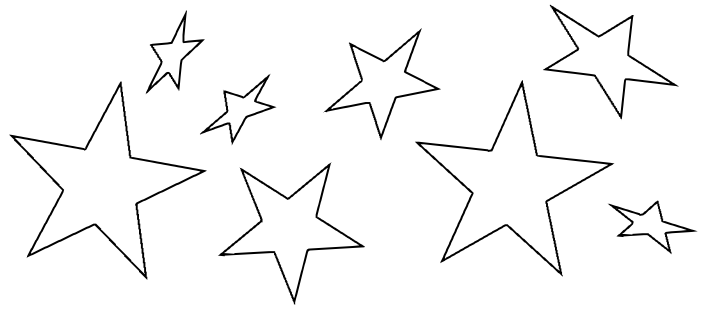
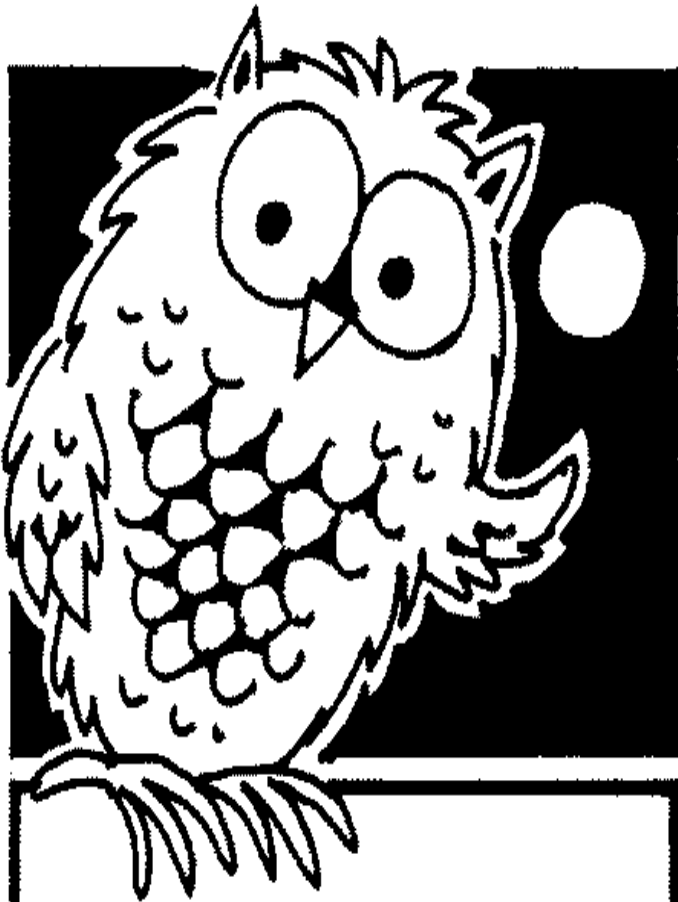
For tax-deduction purposes, don't write anything in the memo line of the check, but attach a note saying it is for account #050191, "Kwan Wiang Church Plant."

If you reply to this email, we can send you the three-page proposal (Word/384KB).

*Until all have heard, ....  
Joe, Elaine, Brittany, Justin, Caleb & Jamie*

**Joe & Elaine Henry, and family  
224/445 Soy 20  
Mubaan Kwan Wiang  
Hangdong 50230  
Thailand**





**As our season begins,  
we ask for your  
cooperation!**

**When using FUMC for  
small groups, meetings, etc.,  
we ask for your help in making  
sure that the building is secure  
after you leave.**

**IF YOU OPEN IT ~  
LOCK It.  
IF YOU TURN IT ON ~  
TURN IT OFF.**

**~ REMEMBER ~**

**STOP!**

**After your meeting is over, STOP and check  
that all lights and fans are off.**

**LOOK!**

**LOOK to make sure that everyone has their  
belongings and has left the building before  
you...**

**LOCK!**

**LOCK the doors!**

***Security  
at FUMC  
Is  
Important!***

**Thank you!  
Michael Rodgers  
Night Security**



**October Birthdays**

1  
Duane Geiger  
2  
Eleanor Hittle  
Holli Benthusen  
3  
Dominick Travers  
5  
Jack Kadel  
Connie Barton  
John Dean  
Robert Russell  
6  
Larry Healy  
Gail Rudolph  
7  
Carolyn Byington  
Faye Schmitt  
Sue Harris  
8  
Elizabeth  
Ainsworth  
Dori Hoes  
Donald Parkinson  
9  
Loretta Burcaw  
10  
Peggy Powell  
John Mayles  
Patricia Blake  
11  
Jerry Tanner  
Kenneth Dent  
12  
Michelle Selby  
13  
Art Carl  
14  
William Baker  
15  
Alice Wilson  
16  
Doris Stine  
Clayton Spencer  
Ann Parkinson  
17  
George Knerr  
Pat Schuessler  
18  
Bill Richner  
Betty Eldridge

19  
Ralph C. Hudson  
Lisa Specht  
20  
Norma Geiger  
Mary Olson  
Jan Winters  
21  
Jack Reed  
Merlyn Hoar  
Joe Ann Gidlow  
Barbara  
Deppner  
22  
Harry Livermore  
Jr.  
23  
Erma Kern  
Louise Brechka  
John Maderia  
Ann Fasnacht  
Kathi Mansfield  
24  
Thomas Cloyd  
Bill Kemp  
Sandra Violet  
DeClue  
26  
Dee Green  
27  
Virginia Hoadley  
Joyce Zawacki  
28  
Betty Maderia  
Ester Waters  
Terry Adams  
29  
Jack Schrock  
George Marshall  
30  
Charlotte  
Henry Kaiser  
Helen LeFave  
Donna Flack  
31  
Hettie Nevels

| October 2006 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 22           | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29           | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

**October Anniversaries**

1  
Virginia & John  
Hoadley ~ 51 yrs.  
  
5  
Betty & Paul  
Huffstutler ~  
56 yrs  
  
5  
Connie & Bill  
Barton ~ 66 yrs.  
  
5  
Joanne & Donald  
Holcomb ~ 43 yrs  
  
11  
Alma & Jack  
Kadel ~ 32 yrs.  
  
11  
Susan & John  
Dean ~ 19 years  
  
13  
Virginia & Kenneth  
Will ~ 27 yrs  
  
16  
Katherine & Terry  
Cornelius ~  
42 yrs.  
  
20  
Barbara & Hank  
Deppner ~ 47 yrs  
  
20  
Pam & Cameron  
Cleary ~ 3 yrs.  
  
23  
Alice & Dan  
Hurley ~ 38 yrs  
  
24  
Wanda & Fred  
Wheeler ~  
58 years  
  
23  
Eileen & Roger  
Ferguson ~ 52 yrs  
  
24  
Marjorie &  
Thomas  
Ottman ~ 53 yrs

**October Anniversaries Continued...**

24  
Cecelia &  
George  
Woodward ~  
28 yrs  
  
26  
Debbie & Robert  
Grafton ~  
26 yrs  
  
29  
Nancy & Tom  
Pearo ~ 18 yrs  
  
30  
Barbara &  
James  
Stoneman ~  
52 years  
  
31  
Jan & Jerry  
Winters ~ 30 yr  
  
31  
Sue & Howard  
Kuntz ~  
53 yrs.

**Nursing Centers**

Barrington  
Ken McGuire  
  
Brentwood  
Evelyn Bash  
Rene Dube  
Alice Pentecost  
Betty Pettit  
Ann Specht  
  
Cedar Creek  
Bill Marquis  
  
Crystal River Health & Rehab  
Robert Smith  
*(need permission from family to visit)*

**(Nursing Centers Continued....)**

Cypress Cove  
Jack Mallett  
Ruth E. Smith  
Elta Whilden  
Julia Wilkinson  
  
Sugarmill Manor  
Del Parker  
Grace Payne  
Ray Short  
  
Surrey Place  
Marjorie Cook  
Maddie Wallace



**Prayer for Strength in Old Age**

O Lord our God, under the shadow of Thy wings let us hope.

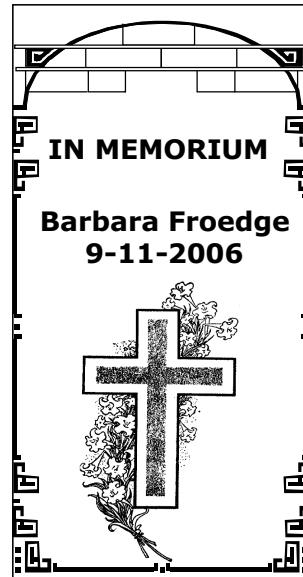
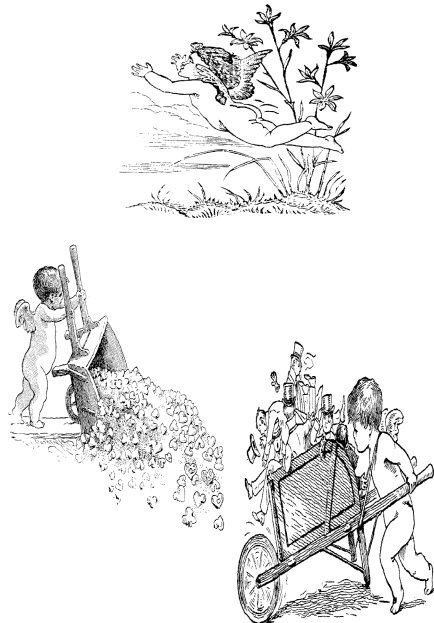
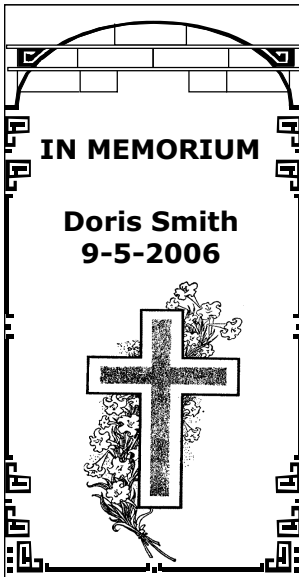
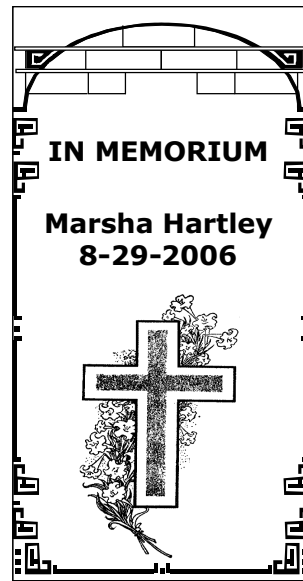
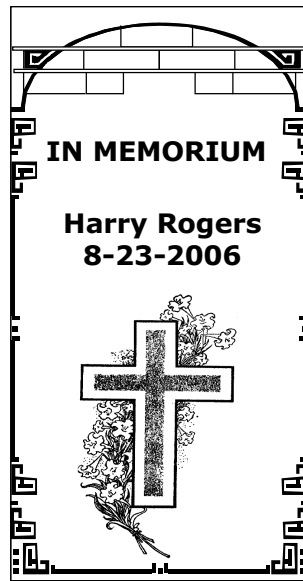
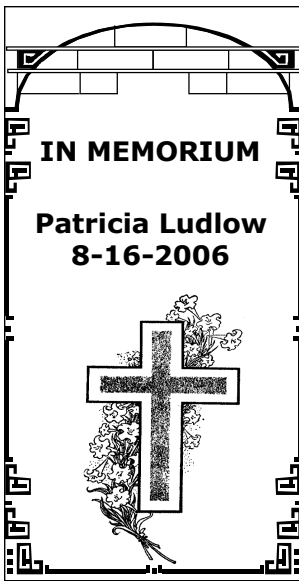
Thou wilt support us, both when little and even to gray hairs.

When our strength is of Thee, it is strength; but, when our own, it is feebleness.

We return unto Thee, O Lord, that from their weariness our soul may rise towards Thee, leaning on the thing which Thou has created, and passing on to Thyself, who hast wonderfully made them; for with Thee is refreshment and true strength.

Amen.

St. Augustine



Last minute update from the Henry family in Thailand!

Email 9/19/2006  
9:15 PM

*You know you're a missionary when ... your first class of the new term at Bible school is cancelled because of a military takeover...and your kids (and wife) have a "coup day," not a "snow day."*

Anyway, as many of you have heard by now, the military took over Thailand in a bloodless coup late Tuesday and early Wednesday (Thailand time). There were no problems, even in Bangkok, where it occurred, and about the only sign of something different here in the far north are the king-related music videos on all the Thai TV stations (which were taken over as well) and all the children home from school.

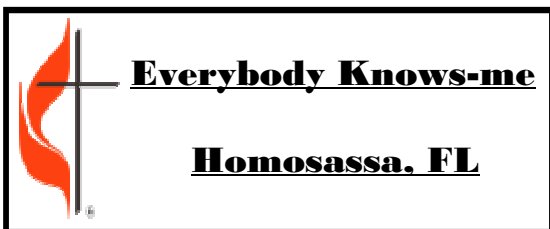
We just wanted to quickly let everyone know that we are fine and that it appears there will be no problems as a result of this latest coup (the last one occurred in 1991). Of course, things can change, and as interim Team Leader for the PIONEERS church-planting team of five families here in Chiang Mai, I have changed hats today from Bible school teacher to head of security in order to monitor the situation.

Please pray again for Thailand's political situation, as I asked in our monthly bulletin several months ago. This problem has been years in the making, and democracy remains a somewhat fragile idea here, so the nation needs wisdom in moving forward from this coup, which is a real setback to the country's efforts to be a model of stable democracy in an area of violent communist/military dictatorial regimes (Burma, Laos, Cambodia, etc.).

Thanks again for thinking of us and for your prayers. We are grateful as all of you stand with us before the throne of our Lord!

*In His hands,  
Joe, for the Henry crew*

**Be a Pal!**  
**Wear Your Name Tag!**  
**Help make our new members**  
**Feel at home quickly!**



Several fellow members have noticed that we are wearing magnetic name tags, and have asked how and where we got them. We purchased them at Gulf Trophies, 4155 S Suncoast Blvd. #B. Phone number: 628-4760. The store is located between Misty River and the gas station, south of Walgreen's. The cost was \$5.00 each. When several are ordered, the cost is lower. They made the Methodist logo of the cross and flame so it is available for future orders. They are very comfortable to wear and can be easily read.  
~ Connie & William Barton ~

# Welcome to our Church!

Have you visited the Hospitality Center recently?  
It is a great way to get acquainted with other members  
or visitors that you haven't met.

## Hosts & Hostesses Needed!

There is a need for people to act as  
hosts and hostesses once a month.

**First Shift: Set-up & 9 AM—9:30 AM**  
**Second Shift: 10:30 AM—11 AM**  
**& Clean-up**

Looking for 8 or 10 couples, or individuals,  
for once a month duties.

Take an hour on Sunday morning, before or after  
church services, and use this opportunity to make  
new friends, and give service to the church.

| October |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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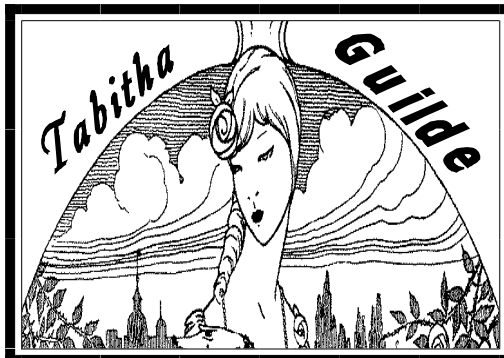
| November |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| December |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24       | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31       |    |    |    |    |    |    |

Pick a date/dates during this  
up-and-coming holiday period  
for your Contribution of Stewardship  
to this ministry of hospitality!

Please call Al Shimp,  
Hospitality Center Chairperson,  
at 382-3870

Tabitha Guild has decided not to meet on a set monthly schedule. New members are always welcome.  
Contact:  
Myrna Evans  
Lorraine Tollefson  
Ruby Raymond  
Arlene Stohrer



SUNDAY SCHOOL  
WORKERS NEEDED

# CATCH THE SPIRIT

For more  
information  
Contact:

**Patience Nave,**  
**Director of**  
**Christian**  
**Education**  
*Or*  
**Louis Garthaus,**  
**Sunday School**  
**Superintendent**

*A Note From Pat Blake*

**UMW Executive Committee**  
**Meeting ~ November 7th**  
**10 AM**

**UMW Unit Meeting ~**  
**November 14th**  
**10 AM**



| November 2006 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 19            | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26            | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |



**Executive Committee UMW**

**FUMC of Homosassa**

**8831 W. Bradshaw Street**

**Homosassa, FL, 34448**



*Luncheon & Tour  
Invitation*

**All United Methodist Women & Friends**

**Whatever Street You Live On**

**Near-And-Far-Ville Town, FL, 00000**

**~ October Unit Meeting of UMW ~**

**Day Trip to  
The United Methodist Center  
in Tampa, FL**

~~~~~

October 3, 2006

Bus will leave at 8:30 AM from

FUMC of Homosassa

Arrive back home between

3:30 PM & 4:00 PM

**Tour followed by Lunch
at the historic
Columbia Restaurant
In Ybor City**

**Make Reservations and
Luncheon selections at
Church Office**

**Bus only holds 44 passengers
~ First Come, First Served ~**

**Cost for bus, lunch, & tips,
will be \$40.00 total.**

**For further information call
Kay Bast at 382-4908**

Menu Selections

Columbia's Original 1905 Salad

*Crisp lettuce with Julienne of ham, natural Swiss cheese, tomato, olives,
Grated Romano cheese and our famous garlic dressing.*

Entrée Selections

Ropa Vieja

*Shredded beef sautéed with onions,
green peppers, and tomatoes.*

Served with platanos and white rice.

Arroz con Pollo

*Chicken baked with yellow rice,
green pepper, Spanish onions,
tomatoes, white wine and virgin olive oil.*

Topped with green peas and pimientos

Accompaniments

- *Mixed Fresh Vegetable*
- *Black Beans*

Desserts

Godiva Chocolate Cake

Flan

Beverages

Freshly brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Iced Tea

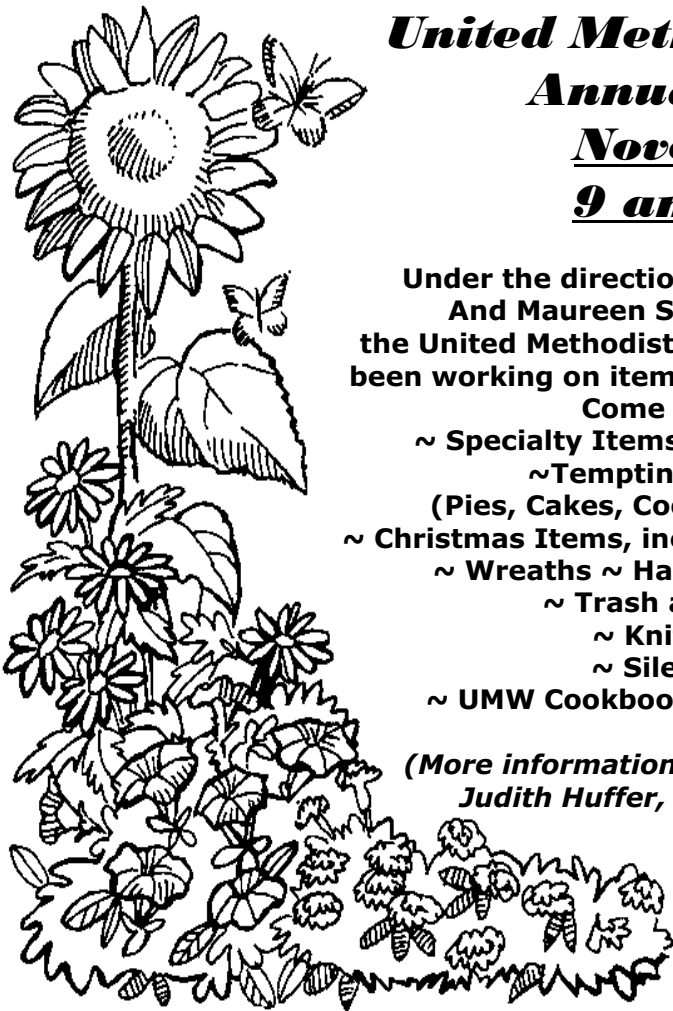
United Methodist Women's Annual Bazaar November 4 9 am—2 pm

Under the direction of Pat Blake, Chairman,
And Maureen Samstag, Co-Chairman,
the United Methodist Women of Homosassa have
been working on items for this event all year long.

Come and shop for:

- ~ Specialty Items ~ Dolls ~ Baby Items ~
- ~ Tempting Baked Goods ~
(Pies, Cakes, Cookies, Pastries, Breads)
- ~ Christmas Items, including trees & decorations ~
- ~ Wreaths ~ Hand-made decorations ~
- ~ Trash and Treasures ~
- ~ Knitted Items ~
- ~ Silent Auction ~
- ~ UMW Cookbooks available for \$7.50 ~

(More information will be announced later)
Judith Huffer, Publicity Chairperson



- **SHARE Sign-up Dates**
October 4 & 7
- **PICK-UP:** October 21

Do not let the early November sign-up and pick-up dates get past you.
GREAT food selections for Thanksgiving!

- **SHARE Sign-up Dates**
November 1 & 4
- **Pick-up:** November 18

CONSIDER
BUYING A
"DONATION."

There is always
need for extra
food-packs for
needy families at
Holiday Time.

SHARE Special
Bring in a new buyer!
\$2.00 off their first order.
\$2.00 off of your order.



SHARE Select Sample
Purchase what you want and select the quantities
that you need. Simply spend a minimum of \$18.
See how much you save!

The SHARE Basic Sample Package \$18
An assortment of frozen meats, fresh fruits, vegetables
and other grocery items.
Each month offers different favorite and new selections.

Produce Pak	\$6.50
1 lb Garlic & Herb Chicken Kabobs	\$2.75
1 lb Alaskan Salmon Filets	\$2.65
1 lb Ground Sirloin	\$1.90
2 lb Johnsonville Italian Sausages	\$2.65
1 lb Ground Turkey	\$0.80
12 oz Velveeta Shells & Cheese	\$0.90
12 oz can Cranberry Concentrate	\$0.75
2.5 lb Beef Sirloin Roast	\$7.50
2.25 Fully Cooked Slab of Ribs	\$10.00

Pork Loin Chops	Potatoes
Chef's Choice Meatballs	Onions
Choice Beef Sirloin Tips	Broccoli Slaw
Crab Sticks	Spinach
Chicken Thighs	Carrots
French Toast Sticks	Radishes
Pancake Syrup	Apples & Pears

OCT
29TH

Keep Up With The Times
Reset Your Clocks

OCT
29TH



**DESSERT EXTRAVAGANZA AND
MISSION SCAVENGER HUNT
RESERVATION FORM**

**Please join us for an evening of Christian fellowship and more on
Monday, October 23 or Tuesday, October 24.
The fun begins at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.**

**To reserve your spot, simply complete the following information and put
this form in the offering plate by October 15, 2006.**

Name:

**I plan to attend the Dessert Extravaganza and Mission Scavenger Hunt
on:**

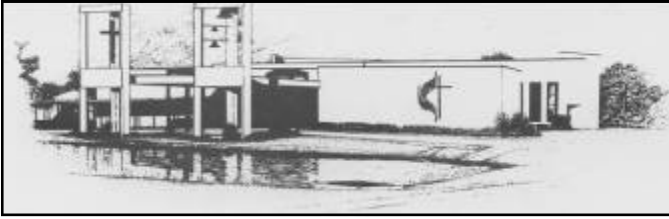
_____ **October 23, 2006**
7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

_____ **October 24, 2006**
7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

I'm bringing the following people with me:

**First United Methodist Church
of Homosassa**

8831 W. Bradshaw Street
Homosassa, FL, 34448



**A Stephen Ministry
Church**



First United Methodist Church of Homosassa
"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

Rev. Mark Whittaker
Pastor

Sunday Schedule

Morning Worship: 8, 9:30 and 11AM

Nursery at all services

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30AM

Methodist Youth Fellowship: 12-2PM

Office Hours: Weekdays

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