

# G E N T I L E S

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

MAY 2007

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Volume 11 Issue 5

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**Night Security**  
Michael Rodgers  
**Custodian**  
Dale Evans

Happy Birthday to us,  
Happy Birthday to us,  
Happy Birthday,  
Happy Birthday,  
Happy Birthday to us!

Sunday, May 27, is Pentecost Sunday, and the church celebrates it as the day the Church was “born” through the wind and fire of the Holy Spirit.

It is the day we remember what happened as the disciples and other followers of Jesus were “waiting” and praying in the upper room. The promised Holy Spirit descended on them with tongues like fire, and a mighty wind blew through the gathered worshipers, blowing them right out of the room and into the world.

Then Peter, empowered by this same Holy Spirit, stood up and preached to the people who had come from all over the known world to celebrate one of the festivals of the Jewish faith called Pentecost. With Spirit-given boldness, he told them how they had contributed to the death of the Son of God, how they had helped to crucify God’s beloved Son. Because of Peter’s sermon, over 3,000 people joined the church that day. (Acts 2)

So the church first came into being as the power of the Holy Spirit moved among the multitude of people gathered for Pentecost.

But the Spirit’s movement didn’t stop there. The Holy Spirit became the recognized

power behind God’s moving presence throughout the world.

It was the Spirit who moved Phillip out of the comfort of home to a desert road to wait in the heat for someone or something—he wasn’t told who or what. Phillip started out and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch who was riding in his chariot going home from Jerusalem. “The Holy Spirit told Phillip, ‘Go to that chariot and stay near it.’” The scripture tells how Phillip was then able to share Jesus Christ with the Ethiopian, and how the Ethiopian asked Phillip to baptize him. (Acts 8:20-40)

The same Holy Spirit spoke to Peter through a vision while he was staying in Joppa. The message of the vision would change Peter’s idea of those he thought of as “unclean Gentiles.” God showed him that he was not to not call anything impure that God has made clean. Then the Spirit told Peter, “Simon, three men are looking for you. So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them for I have sent them.” As a result, Peter went to the house of the Gentile centurion, Cornelius, where he preached to and baptized the Gentiles gathered there. (Acts 10:9-48)

Still today we celebrate the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We feel a “nudge” that someone needs to hear from us; we hear the call of God to go out into the world to accomplish a mission. We have known, with-

out knowing quite how, that God is moving us toward something new and different—sometimes a “something” we would rather not leave our comfort zone to do. But, like Phillip, we obey and are surprised by God’s blessing.

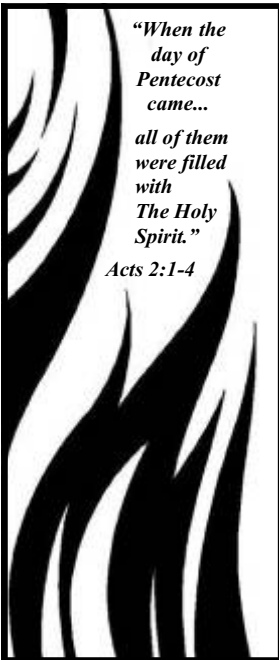


The Holy Spirit is the “still small voice” and the mighty wind which blows through our lives to draw us out of the familiar and into the world where people are hurting and in need.

How are we to respond to the Holy Spirit’s speaking in our lives?

We can learn from Samuel’s experience when he was just a little boy. As he slept in the Temple, he heard his name called. Samuel didn’t know who was calling him, but finally Eli, the High Priest, told him to respond when he heard his name by saying, “Lord, speak for your servant is listening.” (Samuel 3:10 NIV) Samuel was afraid when he heard the words of God, but he obeyed and eventually became a great prophet and leader for Israel.

So we celebrate Pentecost as the season of the Spirit. It’s a time to expect the unexpected, a time to be ready to say, “Lord, speak, for your servant is listening.”



# "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.



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 Homosassa Methodist Church and wherever else He may choose to spread the Word through this publication.

- 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**

- Special dates**
- National Day of Prayer,  
May 3, 2007
- Friendship Day,  
May 4, 2007
- Christian Family Week,  
May 6-12, 2007
- Mother's Day,  
May 13, 2007
- Ascension of the Lord,  
May 17, 2007
- Armed Forces Day,  
May 19, 2007
- Victoria Day (Canada),  
May 21, 2007
- Pentecost,  
May 27, 2007
- Memorial Day,  
May 28, 2007

- 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**

# WE DID IT !!!

Our "Time To Build Challenge"  
has reached its goal of \$200,000!!

The campaign got off to a great start with a half-dozen advance gifts totaling more than one-third of the goal. Then, on March 11, a very large number of you made your way to the front of the church to deposit your gifts in the flower pot placed there for that purpose.

At some services there were traffic jams at the front of the church, and we had to sing as many as six verses of the hymn to provide time for everyone to bring their gift forward.

I watched this procession at each of the three services, and it was heart-warming to see such an enthusiastic response. By the following Sunday, we were within a few dollars of the \$200,000 goal. The final total is not yet available because some of the gifts came in as stocks and their exact value will be determined when they are converted to cash, and there are a few gifts still working their way through some legal hurdles. But it is now clear that we have reached our \$200,000 goal.

As a result of this wonderful response, we are now in a position to move ahead with the third and final phase of our building program.

We have authorized our architect to prepare drawings and engineering specifications for the new facilities, and we will be working closely with him over the next 5 or 6 months to flesh out the details of those plans. We should be ready to solicit bids by this fall. There will be a Church Conference at that time to get your final approval and, if all goes as planned, we should be ready to begin construction by the end of this year or very early next year.

We thank you all for your continued commitment to the future of this church and the expansion of our ministries and missions here in Homosassa and beyond. Our long-held dream of a new fellowship center is now on its way to becoming a reality! We praise God for this blessing, and thank you for making it happen.

Dave Marquis  
Chairman, Building For Tomorrow Committee



The 2007 Florida Annual Conference Event is June 6-9 at the Lakeland Center. Its theme is "From Generation to Generation," derived from Psalm 145:4, "One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."

A strong emphasis on sharing the stories, experiences and traditions of faith from one generation to the next will be emphasized.

Through worship, preaching, singing, conducting the business of the annual conference and times of fellowship, annual conference members will demonstrate how we praise God, strengthen our faith and grow deeper in our walk with the Lord "From Generation to Generation."

Each year at Annual Conference the churches of the Florida Annual Conference receive an offering to fund special projects.

Again this year we will be continuing our support of the church in East Angola that is struggling after many, many years of civil war. Over the last few years we have rebuilt several churches and established a seminary to train pastors.

This year, 80% of the money collected will go to East Angola to restore the Quessua School and theological center, the Quessua church parsonage and the Malange orphanage which are to be expanded with a new building in Quessua.

The other 20% of the money will go to the Florida Conference Bishops Initiative on Children and Poverty task force to distribute back packs and school supplies to children across Florida.

Your gift on Sunday, May 20, will be a blessing to the people of East Angola as they continue to reconstruct their once thriving church.



SPECIAL  
OFFERING

~ Pastor Mark

## Spiritual Formation (or Passionate Spirituality)

If we seek God with ALL our heart, mind, and spirit, I believe we will discover His passionate love for us. Then we will not be able to deny how much He loves us. In response, we will fall in love with Him (or more in love with Him). When we love someone, we want to spend more time with the person and want to know more about him. In other words, we want to know the person more intimately. We learn more about Jesus by studying His Word. We get to know Him better by spending time with Him in prayer (two-way prayer – not just rattling off a list of what we want Him to do for us, but also listening to what He has to say to us). This renewed or new relationship with our Savior will draw us to seek Him eagerly, to spend more and more *quality* time with Him, and to serve Him. Then we'll find ourselves wanting to introduce others to our best friend – Jesus.

So let's give it a try – let's seek God with *all* our heart, mind, and spirit and get to know Jesus more intimately than we ever have before. God's Word is sometimes called the "Living Word" -- each time we read it, it seems to say something we didn't see before. Reading His Word and spending time with Him can be life-changing experiences. We will find ourselves becoming more like Jesus. It is quite amazing to see the transforming power of our Lord at work all around us. How do I know? I know because I've seen people change. And I, too, have been transformed by the renewing of my determination to seek God this way. So let's continue our journey together.

### \* \* \* \* Spiritual Disciplines \* \* \* \*

One of the ways we grow in our walk with God is through practicing spiritual disciplines. In his February 25<sup>th</sup> sermon, Pastor Mark talked about spiritual disciplines and told us about several of them in detail. These disciplines are sometimes referred to as "means of grace" because, by practicing them, we encounter God and grow closer to Him. Some of these disciplines are even considered sacraments – or sacred moments.

One of these sacred moments is baptism. We may not remember our own baptism, but we probably remember how close we felt to God when we held our children as they were baptized. We know how we feel when we kneel at the alter rail and are reminded to "remember your baptism and be grateful."

Confirmation is another of the sacred moments. Standing before the congregation and affirming their vows before their peers, their family, and their church family can be a truly amazing feeling for the confirmands and for us as we promise to nurture them in the faith. It's amazing to see their reaction when they realize they have a huge extended family who truly accept and love them just as they are.

A sacred moment we have an opportunity to experience regularly is *communion*. The closeness we feel to Jesus when we partake of the bread and the cup and recall the sacrifice He made on our behalf can be overwhelming if we allow ourselves to focus on Him and feel His presence.

Another of the disciplines is *worship* (not just worship attendance). When we come into the sanctuary ready to hear what the Holy Spirit has to say to us and lose ourselves in worship and prayer, we can be so caught up in worship that become unaware of those surrounding us. Hearing what the Lord has to say to us individually, through the sermon and every part of the service, can give us guidance, inspiration, and great joy. We know we have been in His presence and that He has met us at the greatest point of our need.

These are just a few of the spiritual disciplines which, when practiced, cause us to have an intimate encounter with God.

For those of you who weren't able to be in church to hear Pastor Mark's sermon, the spiritual disciplines he shared were journaling, fasting, retreats, reading & meditating on the Word of God, and various kinds of prayer. Let's use every opportunity to practice the spiritual disciplines that will help us grow in our walk with God.

~ Marilyn Watson



## NEW 4-WEEK BIBLE STUDY : "BORN INTO A BATTLE"

Are you aware that the day you were born, you became a participant in the war between darkness and light, between God and Satan? Satan numbered you as belonging to his side until the day you acknowledged you were a sinner and turned to Jesus Christ as your Savior. Then you immediately changed sides in the war, and Satan became your enemy.

Scripture tells us how Jesus defeated Satan at Calvary and set us free from his dominion. But the war goes on as Satan comes against us, trying to keep us from living in the freedom we have been given. In his hatred for God and God's children, Satan will lie, steal and destroy to keep those who belong to God from growing into mature believers. Discipled believers learn to recognize their enemy's tactics and how to enforce the victory Christ has won for them.

In our ignorance, we fight each other. But Ephesians 6:11-12 says, "Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*"

This 4-week class, taught by Jan Wise, will be offered Wednesday afternoons, 2-3:30,

May 16–June 6, and on Thursday mornings, 10:00-11:30, May 17–June 7.

Please call the church office, 628-4083, or Jan at 352-5799 to sign up for the class.

Education Corner

Patience Nave

I try to make this column totally objective each month, but this month I hope you will allow me to be extremely personal. You might say this is my testimony. It is what is on my heart right now and what I want to share with you.

Wallace and I have been married 56 years. For all of those years, we have been involved in the church, the first eight or ten spent in "doing." Then, about 46 years ago, we made a life-changing decision. On our knees by the side of our bed, in the middle of a spring night, we asked Jesus Christ to be Lord of everything. We didn't change churches or even Sunday habits. But we *did* recognize immediately a change in our desire to know more about the Bible. The result is over 45 years of pretty serious Bible study.

Now we face the most difficult time in our 56 years together. Wallace's illness is a challenge that we never expected but one that we are meeting with extraordinary grace. And both of us know it is because of the years of allowing God to store in us his wonderful truth of what he has done in us and will do for us. All those years of going the Sunday school, of private Bible study were preparation and strength for today. That's amazing to me! The Bible says, "Thou hast put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. In peace will I both lie down and sleep, for Thou alone hast caused me to dwell in safety." (Psalm 4:7-8) That's an obscure little verse but one filled with wonder. And it is great to know that joy and peace right now, so that we are able to "lie down and sleep" knowing that God is indeed in charge of our lives.

So why is it important for me to tell you this? Because I long to see more of you in Bible study on Sunday morning. The deep desire of my heart is to help you find the strength you are going to need when you have to face what we are facing right now—or something similar. I long for you to know the joy of first-hand knowledge of all our loving and generous God has done to equip us for life now and in eternity—and even for making the passage from here to there. I don't want you to get where Wallace and I are today and not have the absolute assurance and confidence that can only come from hearing with deep understanding the promises of our absolutely dependable God. This is something that can only be learned in serious study, and usually that study is more meaningful in a learning environment with others. I am always surprised when some small thing said by another—often a young Christian whose has such fresh sight, uncluttered by preconceptions—helps me to see a portion of Scripture more clearly.

I invite you - no I urge you - to find a Sunday school class that suits your own study habits and make regular Bible study a part of your life now—while there is time. Bible study on Sunday morning is a vitally important part of worship for many, as well as a time of growth and preparation for life during the week. If we run out of space in the existing classes, God will help me find a way to have more classes. I know He will because He has so much He wants to teach us about Himself and how important we are to Him. He tells us His Word is useful for

"teaching, correcting, rebuking, and training in right living, that the man/woman of God may be equipped for every good work." (II Timothy 3:16) Please give Him the opportunity to teach you what you are going to need both today and some day down the road. Let this be the year that you begin serious Bible study.

**Call me and I'll find a class for you!**

## ~ Vacation Bible School ~

Many exciting ministries are springing up at Homosassa United Methodist Church, and this year that includes a new format for Vacation Bible School (VBS).

Instead of having a week of morning sessions for children, we want to make this a family affair - a church family affair with a one-week program June 11-15, from 6:00pm until 9:00pm for children and adults. Here's the plan. Using Cokesbury materials our theme will be, "Lift Off: Soaring To New Heights With God."

- At each evening session the entire group will first assemble together - for a purpose. We want the adults to enjoy the eagerness and enthusiasm of the children, and, at the same time, the adults can, by their presence and participation, teach the children that worship is important to us—even though we are "old"!
- At that assembly, we'll focus on the each evening's theme, learn the songs to support the message, and worship and pray together.
- Classes for the children will rotate from project to project, with time spent on crafts, mission outreach, drama, etc.
- Classes for the youth will be called "Crosswinds," following the theme of the children's program but with the focus on youth needs and concerns.
- Classes for adults will be follow the same theme for Christian growth that the children study, once again teaching by example that we need to study, even when we are "old." Jan Wise will lead that class.

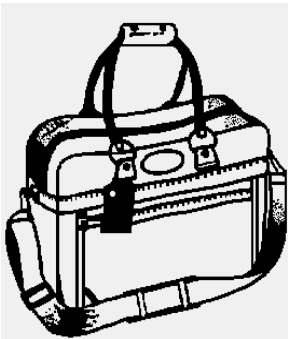
A special class is being planned for parents, again using the children's theme but expanding lesson plans to help parents see how Christian growth and character can be encouraged at home through what their children are learning at church. Patience Nave will teach that class.

The "Lift Off" theme encourages enthusiasm about our faith, whether we are young, old, or in between. Story time, great crafts, music, and two mad scientists will keep the children enthralled! The opportunity to discover where adults fit in the patterning of their faith for the next generation will challenge the rest of us.

Registration prior to the beginning of VBS will assist those planning in knowing how to prepare. Parents, please register your children as soon as possible for this exciting week. And adults, please plan to support the children's program at the church by participating in this week of fun and activity.

**SIGN UP NOW!**





### FUMCH Travel Ministry

By Rev. Richard Evans

On Sunday, April 22, twenty-seven members and friends departed from the church for a 17- day cruise/tour through the Panama Canal. After leaving Port Everglades, the ms Volendam stopped at Cartagena, Colombia before traveling through the canal. Pacific stops included one in Costa Rica and 5 in Mexico. The group will spend two days in San Diego before returning home on May 9.

While on board we observed Malaria Awareness Day and members contributed to the Nothing But Nets campaign to help eradicate Malaria from Africa. As the ship moved through the canal on April 26, we noted that such a massive engineering project could not have been completed over 100 years ago were it not for the concerted effort to eradicate Malaria and Yellow Fever from Panama.

Under consideration for 2008 or 2009 is a trip to Ireland. The tour would be designed on the “hub and spoke” model, spending 3 or 4 nights each in Belfast, the eastern part of the Republic, and the western part of the Republic. The travel group would then take day trips (spokes) from each “hub.” If you are interested in traveling to “the Emerald Island” with some church friends, leave your name on a list at the church office. Then, as plans develop and as materials are prepared, we can keep you informed. And please let me know if you have suggestions for other destinations.

### HAVE YOU WALKED?

Have you walked to Emmaus or been to a Cursillo? Have you participated in any of the other similar three-day “Walk” experiences? If so, we would like to know it.

We would like to have a list so we can keep in touch. Remember - we did form community. We would also like to help each other be informed of any upcoming events.

You can let us know by emailing me at [marilynww@netscape.com](mailto:marilynww@netscape.com) or by calling the church office. It will be interesting to hear where each of us took our “Walk.”

For those of you who read this and are wondering what on earth this is all about or who would like to know more, please contact me at the email address above.

~ Marilyn Watson

### Wash Day.....

Submitted by Emilia Chevalier

**Monday: Wash Day** ~ “Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.”

**Tuesday: Ironing Day** ~ “Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.”

**Wednesday: Mending Day** ~ “O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.”

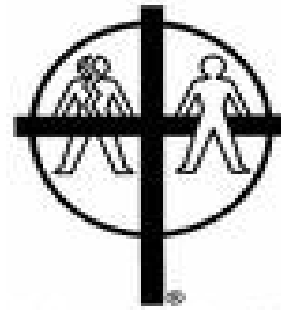
**Thursday: Cleaning Day** ~ “Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.”

**Friday: Shopping Day** ~ “O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.”

**Saturday: Cooking Day** ~ “Help me, my Savior, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness.”

**Sunday: The Lord's Day** ~ “O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.”

### STEPHEN MINISTRY



**The Name:** The name *Stephen* comes from St. Stephen, who was the first lay-person commissioned by the Apostles to provide caring ministry to those in need (Acts 6).

**The Stephen Series Logo:** The logo Stephen Ministry congregations use consists of a cross and circle, together with a broken person and a whole person. The broken person stands behind the cross, symbolizing the brokenness in our lives as a result of our sin. The whole person stands in front of the cross because it is through the cross of Jesus that we again are made whole. The circle symbolizes both the wholeness we receive through Christ and God’s unending love for us.

### Important to Note:

- Stephen Ministers are not counselors. They are trained Christian caregivers. Their role is to listen and to care—not to counsel or advise. Please do not refer to Stephen Ministers as counselors.
- Stephen Ministry is a supervised ministry. Stephen Ministers engage in twice-monthly supervision to ensure that they are providing the best quality Christian care for their care receivers.
- Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry. What a care receiver tells a Stephen Minister remains confidential. Even in supervision, the names of care receivers and specific details are never discussed.
- Stephen Ministers do not make cold calls. They are assigned only to people who agree to receive the care of a Stephen Minister.

Contact Diane (382-7242),  
Kay (382-4908),  
or the church office  
for more information,  
or if you wish to talk to someone.

## MEMORABLE MAY READING

Some books are memorable because we can associate them with events in our lives. Others have unusual or quirky characters that we remember. We have some selections this month that we hope will leave you with good memories.

1. "Sound the Trumpet" by Gilbert Morris, a former pastor and Professor of English who has written over 60 novels. This story starts in England in 1743 and tells of a man who came to America an indentured servant only to be caught up in the winds of revolution.

2. "Finding Anna" by Christine Schaub. This tale of love between a man, a woman, their children and God just happens to be true. It is developed from the story behind one of America's most beloved hymns, "It is Well With My Soul." It will change your perspective on forgiveness forever.

3. "White Chocolate Moments" by Lori Wick, a favorite author of bestselling Christian fiction with a powerful life-message. Arcineh Bryant loses her parents as a young girl and is taken in by her grandfather, Sam. However, she holds resentment toward Sam as she grows up, and, betrayed by friends she thought of as family, she loses her faith in relationships of any kind. This is a compelling story about a woman's hunger for acceptance and wholeness. She journeys back to her grandfather's home where she discovers surprises, more questions and, for the first time in her life, an answer to the question that grips her searching heart, "Who will love me forever?"

4. "Necessary Risk" by John F. Bayer. After his brother dies in a suspicious industrial accident, Navy Commander David Michaels is thrust into a dangerous world of corporate greed and political espionage. Not knowing whom to trust or what to believe, his search for truth is the greatest risk of his life. Threatened by nuclear disaster and plagued by religious doubts, David's search for the truth about his brother's murder turns into a search for the faith that once sustained him.

5. "The Lazarus Trap" by Davis Bunn. Awakening in a jail cell and bleeding from his head, Val Haines remembers nothing, not even his name. As his memory slowly returns, he discovers that the world thinks he is dead. He thinks it may be for the best as he's involved in a conspiracy of embezzlement and murder for hire. With nothing but a few belongings and a sizable amount of cash, not knowing whom to trust, Haines must run. He'll do anything to claim a new life for himself -- or die trying. This should keep you on the edge of your seat.

6. "Shiloh Autumn" by Bodie & Brock Thoene, a writing team who are stylists of historical fiction. This novel is the saga of the Tucker and Canfield families as they struggle to make it through the Great Depression. It's an inspiring story of courage, faith and the healing strength of forgiveness in the face of loss and betrayal. Though times were tough, the

cotton farmers had no forewarning of the terrible Memphis panic and disaster of October 1, 1931, when in one day the cotton market collapsed and an easy way of life was blown away with the wind.

7. "The Longing Season" by Christine Schaub. Captain John Newton, 22 years old, had it all -- intelligence, confidence, wealth acquired in the slave trade and a love interest on a distant shore. Most men work all their lives to achieve what he had at a young age. Suddenly a storm at sea brought Newton to his knees, changing his life forever. This is a true story of Newton's conversion from "lost" slave trader to a "found" man of God and how the beloved hymn "Amazing Grace" was born.

8. "Chesapeake Blue" by Nora Roberts, prolific write of romance novels. This is the story of Seth Quinn who had an early boyhood that was harrowing living with his drug-addicted mother and that prompted his moving in with the Quinn family where he grew up with three older brothers who watched over him with love. Now the novel has him returning from Europe as a successful painter, settling down on Maryland's Eastern Shore, once again surrounded by his three brothers and their families. Intrigue enters when he meets Dru Whitcomb Banks, an independent woman who owns a florist shop. She sees Seth as a romantic challenge. The plot then involves blackmail and secrets that could destroy Seth's new life and his new love.

9. "Little Pilgrim's Progress" from John Bunyan's classic, by Helen L. Taylor. The author simplified the novel for young and old readers. It's both an exciting adventure story and a profound allegory of the Christian journey through life. It's a delightful read for everyone.

10. "Grave Risk" by Hannah Alexander. The beloved high school principal collapsed and died. It was a tragedy for the entire town. For nurse Jill Cooper it was a crushing loss -- and the first of many shocks. Then another death occurs. Is it an accident? Is everything a coincidence? Or could it all possibly be connected to another murder three decades ago? Jill will have to look hard at her troubled history, question her sanity and her faith and face the deepest secrets in her heart.

The Church Library is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm and Sunday morning from 8:00 am to Noon. Just sign the card found in the back of the book and place the card in the yellow box on desk in library office. When you return the book, please leave it on the office desk. The newest selections are on the display shelves to the right of the door.



Happy Reading from  
your Library Staff,  
Helen Lefave and  
Barbara Jackson

**Walking on the Path**

*Patience Nave*



**"If you love me, keep my commandments."**

(John 14:15, KJV)

A little word - like "if" - can cause my thinking to go in all sorts of unexpected directions.

Jesus could have said *"Because you love me,"* or *"Since you love me,"* or *"when you love me."* But He chose "if." So how does the use of "if" reveal important truth in this verse? "If you want to go, you can." The person must decide if the going is worth the effort. "If you want that book, buy it." The person must decide if the book is worth the expenditure. "If you need me, call." The person must determine the need and whether or not I'm the right person to help. "If the weather is good, I'll go visit my friend in the hospital." The person must determine whether or not the sick friend is worth braving the elements to go to the hospital.

Jesus chose his word well. *"If you love me. . ."*

Now *I* have to decide. Do I? Do I love Him enough to show that love by some action? Do I love Him enough to spend whatever is needed in time or money to express that love? Do I love Him enough to deny myself some leisure or comfort in order to do something that I know would please Him? Do I love Him enough to do what He says—keep His commandments—even though others may think they are old-fashioned, archaic, for another time? Do I love Him enough to take up my cross daily and follow Him?

Oh, how it hurts to realize Jesus knows us so well.

As He faced that awful cross - willingly - He knew we would be still trying to decide *"if"* following Him, *"if"* loving Him, was really worth the effort.

And He drops that little *"if"* right in the middle of a passage in which He promises to give what we ask and to send the Holy Spirit to help. The message of the *"if"* is clear, but the voice in which He speaks is gentle. Gently He challenges us to decide just how much we love Him.

The 2000-year-old message is the same today. He gives the directions; we must decide how far we will go in following.

**Prayer:** Father, we need the promised Holy Spirit so badly! We waiver and are less constant than we want to be. Strengthen us so that when we say we love You, we'll have no hesitation and will show by our lives that our confession of love is true.

**~ Be A Difference Maker ~**  
**INSTRUCT OTHERS**

*"And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue; whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly." Acts 18:26*

Everyone has heard of Billy Graham, but have you ever heard of Mordecai Hamm? Most people haven't.

Mordecai Hamm was faithful to preach the gospel when asked by a group of men in Charlotte, North Carolina. At the end of his message a young boy came forward to accept Jesus Christ as his Savior. His name was Billy Graham.

We never know how God will use those with whom we place a spiritual investment.

Priscilla and Aquila didn't know either. One thing they did know was that Apollos needed disciplining. They took him home, taught him, and encouraged him in his ministry. Like Mordecai Hamm, their dedication and love produced a disciple who would touch countless others.

Mature Christians have something to offer others who are younger in the faith. Will you make a difference in someone's life by sacrificing your time to teach them? Who knows? You may be investing in the next Billy Graham.

*Father, show me how I can use the truths You have taught me to disciple others.*

~ Sylvia Howard

A legal assistant who teaches Sunday School at First Baptist Church, Bremen, Georgia



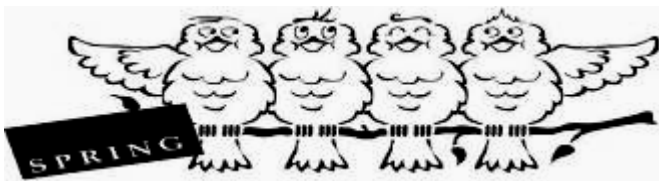
I want to express my thanks to my church family for the many phone calls and cards and especially the prayers during my absence due to foot surgery. They were all appreciated very much.

In Christian Love,  
Jeanette Cole

*(Note from the Editor: This notification was supposed to be run in the April edition of Genesis. Sorry about the delay, Jeanette.)*

**Help Wanted**  
Someone to create attractive bulletin boards.  
Materials provided.  
Apply at Church Office.





## Welcome Gift Bags

With all the growth in Citrus County it is not hard to find someone who is moving in right down the block.

Do you remember when you first moved into a new place? You probably didn't know where to look for a doctor or a church or any number of things you needed.

So what can you do for someone who is a new neighbor on your street, who is unfamiliar with the area and has not attended our church?

To help you greet a new neighbor FUMC has put together Welcome Gift Bags. They are full of helpful information about the area and the church. They even have a goodie or two buried in them amongst the information.

We have contacted local merchants in the area who have agreed to donate items of interest and education as a part of this new ministry.

Items that FUMC will be providing are a tri-fold with committee, ministry, and mall group information, plus worship times, and a special "Come Worship With Us" invite. Some of the vendors participating are Sweet Bay, Pizza Hut, Homosassa Wildlife Park, Manatee Office Supply, Hair by Mare, Dallas Fencing, Poppa Johns Pizza, and many other service providers. More items will be provided as the list of vendors grows. If you know of a business, or are part of a business, which would like to participate in this ministry please contact Barbara Jackson at 382-2705.

We hope if you have someone new move in nearby that you will come and get one of the gift bags to welcome them to the area. It is a great way to introduce yourself, welcome them to the community, invite them to church and even if they never come to church, you may make a new friend.

One of the things about God's love is that it is free - no strings attached. The Welcome Bag is a free gift given with no strings attached. All it takes is a willingness on your part to share God's love with a new neighbor.

Don't forget to let them know you are from FUMC and invite them to join us for Sunday Service at 8:00 am, 9:30 am, or 11:00 am.

~ Barbara Jackson

## Remember Those Who Served! May 28, 2007



### God and the Spider

Submitted by William Gilbert

(Author Unknown)

During World War II, a US marine was separated from his unit on a Pacific island. The fighting had been intense, and, in the smoke and the crossfire, he had lost touch with his comrades.

Alone in the jungle, he could hear enemy soldiers coming in his direction. Scrambling for cover, he found his way up a high ridge to several small caves in the rock. Quickly he crawled inside one of the caves. Although safe for the moment, he realized that once the enemy soldiers looking for him swept up the ridge, they would quickly search all the caves and he would be killed. As he waited, he prayed, "Lord, if it be your will, please protect me. Whatever your will though, I love you and trust you. Amen."

After praying, he lay quietly listening to the enemy begin to draw close. He thought, "Well, I guess the Lord isn't going to help me out of this one." Then he saw a spider begin to build a web over the front of his cave.

As he watched, listening to the enemy searching for him all the while, the spider layered strand after strand of web across the opening of the cave.

"Hah," he thought. "What I need is a brick wall and what the Lord has sent me is a spider web. God does have a sense of humor."

As the enemy drew closer he watched from the darkness of his hideout and could see them searching one cave after another. As they came to his, he got ready to make his last stand.

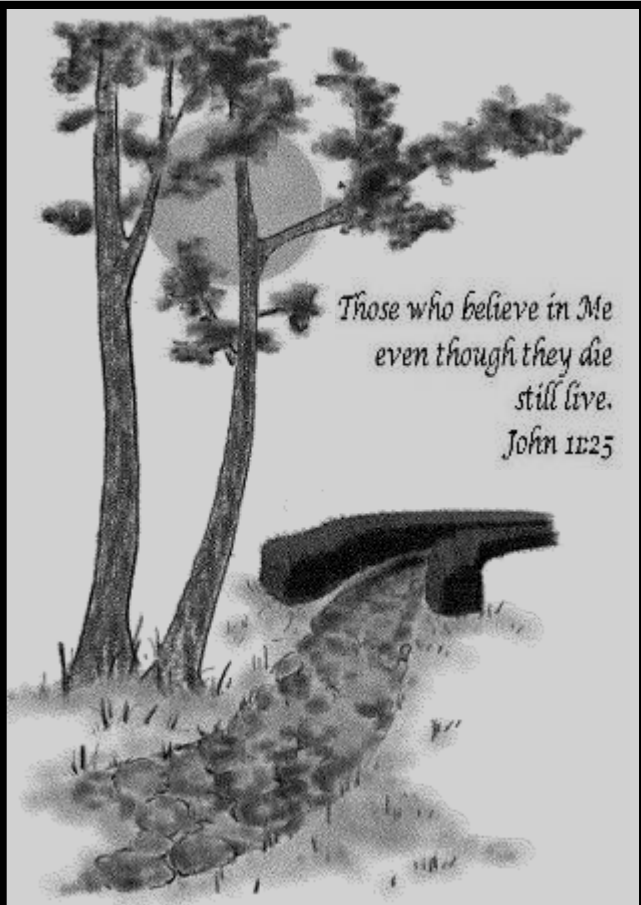
To his amazement, however, after glancing in the direction of his cave, they moved on. Suddenly, he realized that with the spider web over the entrance, his cave looked as if no one had entered for quite a while.

"Lord, forgive me," prayed the young man. "I had forgotten that in you a spider's web is stronger than a brick wall."

We all face times of great trouble. When we do, it is so easy to forget what God can work in our lives, sometimes in the most surprising ways. And remember, with God a mere spider's web becomes a brick wall of protection.

*Lord, I thank you for all our Military, and their families. I pray for your Brick Wall of Protection, to protect them everyday!!! Amen*

*In Memorium*



*Barbara Ann Phillips*  
February 16, 1930  
To  
March 30, 2007

*Richard J. Bradley*  
January 5, 1931  
To  
April 3, 2007



On Religion  
Excerpts from:  
"Looking For  
The Why"  
by Terry Mattingly  
April 31, 2007  
Citrus County (FL) Chronicle

*From Your Editor: We're shocked by the events of Monday, April 16, 2007, in Blacksburg, Virginia. I found these words quite thought-provoking and am passing them on. \*Judith\**

If you remember the Columbine (Colo.) High School massacre, you may be thinking of the column that journalist Peggy Noonan – a traditional Catholic – wrote about the "culture of death" hours after that hellish day.

She wrote: "Your child is an intelligent little fish. He swims in deep water. Waves of sound and sight, of thought and fact, come invisibly through that water, like radar, that go through him again, and again, from this direction and that. The sound from the television is a wave, and the sound from the radio..."

"The waves contain words like this, which I'll limit to only one source, the news: "... took the stand to say the killer was smiling the day the show aired ... said the procedure is, in fact, legal, infanticide...is thought to be connected to earlier sexual activity among teens...court battle over who owns the frozen sperm...contains songs that call for dominating and even imprisoning women...died of lethal injection...had threatened to kill her children...had asked Kevorkian for help in killing himself...protested the game, which they said had gone beyond violence to sadism...showed no remorse... which is about a wager over whether he could sleep with another student...which is about her attempts to balance three lovers and a watchful fiancé..."

"This is the ocean in which our children swim. This is the sound of our culture. It comes from all parts of our culture and reaches all parts of our culture, and all the people in it, which is everybody."

The Columbarium

Niches are available for purchase at \$1,200. (Payment plans are available.)



The price includes niche space for the cremated remains of one or two persons, brass urns, brass name plates, opening and closing, and perpetual care.

Call the church office for more information, or talk to a member of the Columbarium Committee.

## Guaranteed Income During Retirement

Did you know that a Charitable Gift Annuity, arranged through the Florida United Methodist Foundation and naming First United Methodist Church of Homosassa as beneficiary, will pay you guaranteed income during your retirement years?

There are a lot of benefits to you with such a gift:

- Guaranteed income for life.
- Highly attractive annuity rates.
- An income tax deduction for your charitable gift.
- Part of your annual annuity income may be tax free.
- Capital Gains tax saving on appreciated property donated.
- A creative way of continuing to support your church even after your death. (The remaining principal will be paid to FUMCH when the contract ends).

Example: A \$50,000 Charitable Gift Annuity, on a single life, given by someone 75 years old would generate a payout rate of 7.1%. Income would be \$3,550 each year, paid quarterly. A charitable deduction of over \$23,000 may be carried forward for up to 5 years. A portion of income will be tax free. (For two lives, the percentage rate will be slightly lower. For persons older than 75, the payout rates will be higher).

More information is available at the church office or from any member of the Permanent Endowment Committee. Details are available from the Florida United Methodist Foundation in Lakeland and at [www.fumf.org](http://www.fumf.org)

--Submitted by the Permanent Endowment Committee.

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son, who's a very good carpenter. Jared, 8

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath, somewhere there's a tornado. Regan, 10



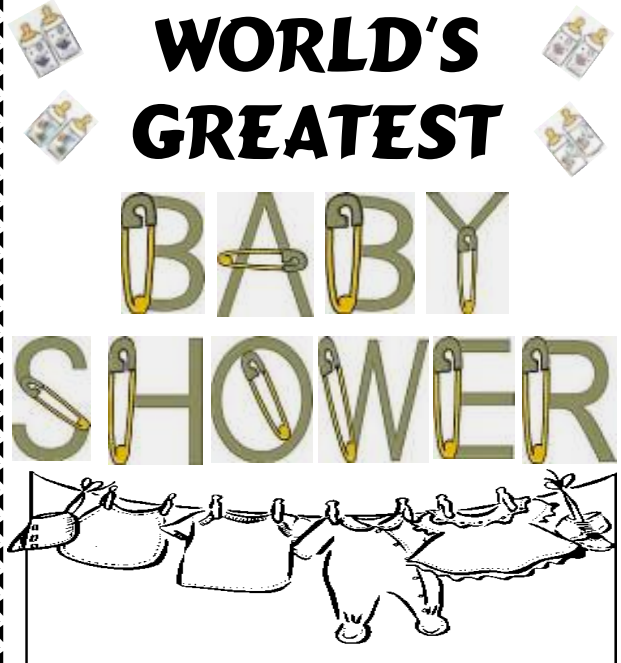
Angels talk all the way while they're flying you up to heaven. The basic message is where you went wrong before you got dead. Daniel, 9

It's not easy to become an angel! First, you die. Then you go to Heaven, then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear those angel clothes. Matthew, 9

I only know the names of two angels. Hark and Harold. Gregory, 5

I hear angels all the time in my dreams. And I'm sticking with that no matter how many people tell me I'm crazy. Molly, 8

Thank you, Grace Payne



Citrus County's 12th annual World's Greatest Baby Shower will be May 10 at the Citrus County Auditorium.

The event assists in educating expectant and new parents in a fun and friendly atmosphere and is attended by more than 500 people each year.

Donations of any new baby items are welcomed, such as strollers, high chairs, cribs, toys, gift baskets, handmade quilts, and blankets.

Donations of money also are welcome; checks should be made payable to Citrus County Home & Community Educators (CCHCE). Donations are tax deductible and 100 percent of the donations go to the event. Donors will be recognized in the newspaper, on the event program and/or from the stage.

Donations of all types may be dropped off at the Church Office by May 4. Please indicate that it is for the "Baby Shower" and make sure you or your group's name and address are on the donation.

Contact Larry Raymond or Jim & Dee Green for more information.

**MAY 10, 2007**  
**TWO IDENTICAL SESSIONS**  
**FIRST SESSION ~ 4:30-6:00 PM**  
**SECOND SESSION ~ 7:00-8:30 PM**

Sponsored by: Citrus County Chronicle, Kiwanis Clubs of Citrus County, Citrus County Health Department, Citrus County Home & Community Educators, and many other agencies, groups, churches, and community organizations.





**Welcome  
to our  
Church  
Family!**

**MARCH  
2007  
JOINERS**

Jim & Jill Wickliffe  
85 Woodfield Cir.  
Homosassa 34446  
382-3957  
Jim from Benton, AZ  
Jill from Leominster, MA

Betty McGraw  
4 Viburnum Ct.  
Homosassa 34446  
382-3036  
from Quitman, GA

Suzanne Holmes  
7431 S. Mindy Pt.  
Homosassa 34446  
628-1644  
from Homosassa

**AND A BAPTISM !**



The Christensen Family with daughter Emma Michelle, born June 2, 2006, was baptized April 15, 2007.

Randy, the painter, often thinned his paint to make it go further.

The Church decided to restore its biggest building. Randy put in a low bid and got the job.

He bought the paint, and, yes, thinned it with turpentine. Well, Randy was painting away, the job nearly completed, when suddenly there was a clap of thunder. The sky opened, and the rain poured down. It washed the thinned paint off the church.

Randy fell from the scaffold, landing among the gravestones. He was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty. Randy raised his voice to the heavens, crying, "Oh, God, forgive me; what should I do?"

And from above, a mighty voice roared: "Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!"

~ From Margaret Skidmore

***United Methodist Women***  
**May 15, 2007**  
**5:30 PM**  
**Guest Night Banquet**



**Program: Adopt-A-Woman and Bring to the Banquet**  
**Guest Speaker will be Eleanor (Ellie) Myers**  
**UMW President of Central Gulf District**

**The banquet will be held in the Fellowship Hall.**  
**There will be ham as the entrée, and we are requesting**  
**that everyone bring a side-dish to compliment the ham.**  
**Guests only need to bring themselves.**

**Leader: Patricia Blake - UMW President**  
**Hostesses: Dorcas Circle**  
**Circle Duties For The Month of May:**  
**Thrift Shop ~ Ruth Circle**

**Why am I**  
**a United Methodist Woman?**



Let me count the reasons: I want to know more about God's word, so I go to School of Christian Mission, and learn about the Bible, As well as the culture of and mission work in another country, and my Christian social responsibility as well.

I want to be informed about legislation in my state, so I go to the Legislative event to understand proposed laws, and how they relate to my mission as a United Methodist Women.

I want to be part of a caring community of women who support the mission program of the United Methodist Church as well as participating in local mission opportunities.

I want to be part of a group of women who feel the need to take time apart from the world to renew their spiritual strength so they can go back into the world with fresh attitudes of joy and love to serve others.

I want to serve a Purpose which tells me that I am not alone- I am part of an organization that truly serves women and children, not just in my church or community, but across God's world.

I want to meet monthly with other women who want to grow into an informed, supportive community that learns ways to serve others, and is not afraid to take risks when called by God to do so.

I want to go to Conference and District events and get updated on the newest mission opportunities as a United Methodist Women; and enjoy the fellowship of other UMW's. And have fun at the overnight meetings.

Why am I a United Methodist Women? I could count the reasons for eons; but most important reason why I am a United Methodist Woman is this: God has called me to be one, and I am ecstatic that I said, "Yes!"

25 June 1995; Edith Tallent Sunday



**DITTY BAGS,**  
*Like Hurricane Buckets,*  
*Bring Hope, Essentials to Thousands*

Ditty Bags, "little bags of hope," is a joint project of FUMCH and the Gulf Central District United Methodist Women.

Men's and women's and children's bags are distributed throughout the Northern part of the District to all Cold-Night Shelters, homeless shelters, transitional-living programs, Street Ministry, Farm Workers Self-Help, and domestic violence programs. We have quite a sizable collection of little toys to put in the children's bags.

Last year we had a problem with donated products being of different sizes and getting too many of one thing and not enough of another. To provide a continuity of size and product we are asking for financial contributions; then women from UMW will take advantage of Tax-Free Week and shop for as much as the donated funds will cover.

Maureen Samstag has been busy sewing ditty bags all spring. We wish to thank the generous donors for the lovely materials provided her for this project.

July 31, 2007 deadline for donations.  
Write your check to "UMW."

Checks and donations can be given to Jackie LaMountain, UMW Treasurer, Pat Blake, UMW President, or put in an envelope and placed in Staff Mail Box #33 next to Staff Break Room in the Administration Building.



**You Can Make A Difference!**

Help your family, school, and community.

Join the Labels for Education™ family, and be a part of a wonderful community tradition. For over 30 years, Labels for Education™ has been awarding free educational merchandise to schools across the U. S.

Be a part of it!

Our labels benefit Homosassa Elementary School.

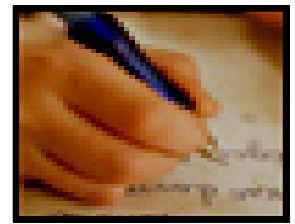


Put your donated labels in "The Big Soup Can" on top of the Staff Mail Boxes, Administration Building Hallway.



Thank you for pitching-in!  
~ Helen LaFave

**ROUGH EDIT**



**ATTENTION YOUTH!**

**There is a youth Bible being built right now and it's going to be a Bible made for you...by you.**

**"If the world could see Him through your eyes..."**

**Honest and creative self-expressions of God actively working in your world, community, church, friends, family, school, and yourself—they have the power to touch and inspire. Your expressions can become part of a global exhibition for Christ.**



**"What if God was one of us?"**

**SHOW THE WORLD AN ACTIVE GOD THROUGH THE POWER OF CREATIVE IMAGERY**

Photo copyrighted property of: <http://www.usscatastrophe.com/kh/ape/ape.small/god.jpg>

**Capture your observations and experiences in photography, poetry, journaling, lyrics, pottery, textile, sculpture, painting, digital illustration, or drawing...there are as many possibilities as there are art forms.**

**Selections of which submissions make it into the final printed Bible will be judged, and if it's one of yours, a member of our staff will notify you.**

**For More Information On This Project, go to:  
<http://roughedit.group.com/>**

**May Birthdays**

1  
Arthur Smith  
Gene McGee  
Joan Downs  
Tracy Hodges

2  
Robert Christensen  
Danielle Christensen

3  
Marlene Pond  
Ann Eckman

4  
Gil Kissinger  
Josie Reel  
Elizabeth Evans  
Marilyn Siegel  
Alice Williamson  
Sharon Smith  
Ron Witham

5  
Sharon Haskell

6  
John Manser  
Loretta Blair  
Carolyn Crawley  
Ryan Blevins

7  
Marge Dilling  
Patricia Yacco

8  
Henry Folsom

9  
Dolly Schwalbert  
Gail English

10  
Evelyn Bash  
Debbie Grafton

11  
Ina Ryder  
Suzanne Holmes  
John Sandstrom

14  
Caroline Hay  
Lori White

16  
Howard Kuntz  
Joyce Saxton  
Amanda Grafton

17  
Carole Weinberger  
Patricia Coleman  
Dayna Middlebrooks

18  
Conrad Keniston  
Chuck Hoeffler  
Marge Davis  
Richard English

19  
M.J. Jahn  
Rebekah Csont

22  
Bill Marquis  
Onlee McEachin

24  
Eve Walsh  
Jack Graham

25  
Ruth Bronn  
Linda Ritter

26  
Jack Fasnacht  
William Smith  
Linda Schrock  
Ernie Dorrell

27  
Lillian Gorlitz

28  
Ernie Verge  
Jack Schoch  
Alma Mallett  
Joe Henry  
Dolores Henry

29  
Sandra Tam

30  
Ruth Eaton  
Lyn Wolf  
Clarence Kohler

31  
Grace Payne  
Arthur Case Jr.  
Ann Albere  
Barbara Lantz

**Anniversaries**

5  
Linda & Mel Gordy  
40 years  
Joyce & Allen Stone  
61 years

7  
Fern & Charles  
McWilliams ~ 41 yrs  
Joyce & Stan Zawacki  
52 years

9  
Sharon & Ronald Seely  
48 years

11  
Gretta & George  
Marshall ~ 39 years

12  
Ruth & Dermot  
Samuda ~ 18 years

13  
Lorraine & Robert  
Angus ~ 19 years

15  
Jimmi & Barry  
Reichard ~ 34 years

16  
Lori & Stan DeClue  
9 years  
Lori & Nick White  
26 years

17  
Emily & L. Archer  
Walker ~ 60 years

22  
Jack & Linda Schrock  
53 years  
Joan & Clayton  
Spencer ~ 2 years

24  
Ruth & Oliver Bronn  
66 years  
Alan & Marilyn Shimp  
50 years

25  
Angie & Michael  
Watson ~ 5 years

26  
Sue & Wes Harris  
23 years  
Holly & Raymond  
Jordan ~ 38 years

28  
Brenda & Ed Loper  
2 years

31  
Melinda & Steven  
Bassler ~ 27 years

**Nursing Centers**

Barrington  
Ken McGuire

Brentwood  
Evelyn Bash  
Rene Dube  
Ann Specht

Crystal River Health & Rehab.  
Robert Smith -  
Hospice

Cypress Cove  
Jack Mallett  
George Mestjian -  
Outreach  
Willie Smith -  
Outreach  
Elta Whilden  
Julia Wilkinson

Sugarmill Manor  
Del Parker  
Grace Payne

Diamond Ridge  
Marjorie Cook  
Maddie Wallace

Life Care Center  
Cal Maupin

Nature Coast Lodge  
Betty Duncan

Hospice At Home  
Dea Miller  
Wallace Nave  
Ken Smith

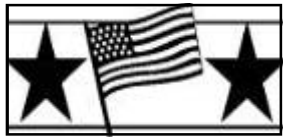
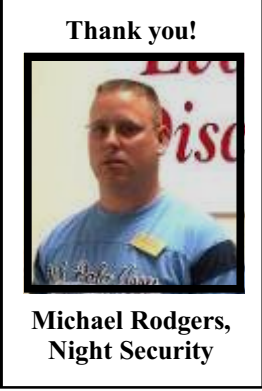


When using FUMC for small groups, meetings, etc., we ask for your help in making sure that the building is secure after you leave.

**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!



**Effective May 14, 2007:  
NEW PRICES FOR POSTAGE**

**Forty-One Cents**  
For First Class Mail

**"Forever" Stamp & Nondenominational American Flag Stamp**

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

PSALM 90:12

May 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



**SHARE of Florida**  
by Tom & Nancy Pearo

**MAY BASIC**  
Basic Package guaranteed retail value of \$36 or more....You pay only \$18!

- \* 2.45 lbs. Roaster Drums
- \* 1 lb. BBQ Pork Rib Patties
- \* 9 oz. Shaved Oven Roasted Turkey Breast
- \* 12 oz. Sandwich Steaks
- \* 1 lb. Italian Meatballs
- \* 2 ~ 6 oz. Broc. & Cheese Stuffed Chicken

\* Indicates 1 item each sold at Non Select Sites for \$12.00 as "Double Meat."  
Plus a variety of fruits & vegetables.

**MAY SPECIALS**

Bacon Wrapped Steaks ~ \$14.50  
6-8 oz.

Chicken Cordon Bleu ~ \$12.40  
8-6 oz.

Combo Pack ~ \$11.00  
2 ~ 5oz. Sirloin Steaks  
2 ~ 4oz. Boneless Pork Chops  
2 ~ 4oz. Chicken Breasts  
4 ~ 4oz. Hamburger Patties

**MAY SELECT ITEMS**

*Available at Select Sites Only*

2.25 lbs. Fully Cooked Beef Pot Roast  
With gravy ~ \$5..55  
1.5 lbs. Thin Sliced Turkey Breast ~ \$4.00  
8oz. Corn Dogs (4 pack) \$1.10

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

***Save Money Through SHARE !***

SHARE (Self Help and Resource Exchange) Florida Food Network is a nonprofit organization that helps the community with great savings on food.

Once a month, a menu goes out to the host sites and you may purchase a basic food package of fresh produce, frozen meats and other staples for \$18, but has a retail value of \$32 to \$40. SHARE also offers various monthly specials in addition to the basic package.

This is not government surplus food. The food is purchased from grocery wholesalers. There are no income requirements. Everyone is welcome to participate in this food savings program.

First-time participants will receive \$2 off their first \$18 order. The only requirement is that you must pay with cash or food stamps. Checks cannot be accepted.

**Sign-up for May Food Packages:**

Wednesday, May 2

&

Saturday, May 5

Sign-up hours are 10 am - 11 am

**Distribution of May SHARE purchases:**

Saturday, May 19

Pick-up hours are 9:30 am until 11:00 am. Any food not picked up is donated to the Church Food Pantry.

Host Site: First United Methodist Church of Homosassa  
8831 W Bradshaw Blvd., Homosassa, FL, 34448

**Volunteer Service Receipt**

Your participation makes SHARE work. For each month you order food, you are required to contribute a minimum of 2 hours of your time toward community volunteer activities.

Coming on Pick-up Day and assisting in the dispersal of food for 2 hours is an acceptable volunteer participation service.

(Your Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Has completed \_\_\_\_\_ hours of volunteer service for:

(Name of Recipient) \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Service Rendered \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



Below is wonderful poetry Audrey Hepburn wrote when asked to share her "beauty tips." It was read at her funeral years later.

- For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.
- For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.
- For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.
- For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day.
- For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone.

Thank you, Carroll Lunceford



**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.

Please call Ann Eckman, Hospitality Center Chairperson, at 382-3671.

**Rolling! Rolling! Rolling!  
Oh, the places you will go...**



In the next few months the new "Transportation Ministry" will begin it's mission under the guidance of Bill Brobst, with some assistance from his wife, Neretta.

A team of qualified drivers will be available to provide transportation for non-driving members for church services once a month, for the youth group and other church-based organizations to go on outings, and for day-trips of interest to the general membership.

We hope you will support this ministry by participating in the activities to come. Look for announcements in "Genesis" and the weekly bulletins, as well as on the website.

~ Bill & Neretta Brobst



**Things My Mother Taught Me**

1. My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE. "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."
2. My mother taught me RELIGION. "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
3. My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL. "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
4. My mother taught me LOGIC. "Because I said so, that's why."
5. My mother taught me MORE LOGIC. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."
6. My mother taught me FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
7. My mother taught me IRONY. "Keep crying... and I'll give you something to cry about."
8. My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS. "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
9. My mother taught me about CONTORTION-ISM. "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck?!"
10. My mother taught me about STAMINA. "You'll sit there until all that Waldorf salad is gone."
11. My mother taught me about WEATHER. "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."

12. My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY. "If I told you once, I've told you a million times, Don't exaggerate!"
13. My mother taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE. "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."
14. My mother taught me about BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION. "Stop acting like your father!"
15. My mother taught me about ENVY. "Eat That! Think of those starving kids in China."
16. My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION. "Just wait until we get home"
17. My mother taught me about RECEIVING. "You are going to get it when you get home!"
18. My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE. "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to freeze that way."
19. My mother taught me ESP. "Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"
20. My mother taught me HUMOR. "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."
21. My mother taught me WISDOM. "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."
22. My mother taught me about my ROOTS. "Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"

Thanks, Mom!



*Dear Praying Friends,*

A month of meetings lay ahead for us, which is why we're sending this bulletin out early. Thanks again to those who prayed for our requests last month, including bad pollution and a difficult work situation for Elaine. Both those areas have cleared up a bit, so to speak.

Praises

We are leaving Saturday (March 31) for our PIONEERS area retreat at a beach location in Cha-Am (south of Bangkok). The only reason we can go this year is an anonymous gift that we heard about only Sunday. We had to scramble to get things in order for the trip, but we made it. Praise God for the very generous donor.

We are thankful that a handful of new Thai people are attending Cool Shade of Life Church (CSLC). We now have two married women and a mother and daughter who attend regularly in addition to the five founding families.

The worst of *Chiang Mai's* pollution is gone. "However the particle levels have risen back above 120, which is considered unhealthy. In addition, we hit our first of many 100-plus degree days of the hot season Tuesday. It will be as high as 110 degrees every day now through at least the end of April, so things are pretty rough weather-wise for people here.

Because of the heat, we had our dog's fur trimmed dramatically, thus the random photo...



*"Fluffy haircut"* of her with Brittany, Caleb and Jamie after school one afternoon.

Prayers

After our PIONEERS retreat ends on April 7, we will stay south of Bangkok for a retreat of Siam Baptist Group, of which CSLC is a member. That retreat runs from April 9-12.

Please pray for wisdom in decision-making; for unity among this group of more than a dozen churches; and for a real sense of purpose and direction for the Thai pastors, who face a difficult task daily in a country that is less than 1% Christian.

Please pray for the six-member family of *Banjong*, one of the founding families of CSLC.



*"Banjong family"*

The noodle shop they opened eight months ago is not bringing in much income and takes up a lot of the family's time at night. *Banjong's* teenage daughters often help until 9 p.m. and then have to do their homework while the shop stays open until past midnight.

Pastor *Ogaat* and Joe have a plan to help their family and ask that you would pray for them to make wise decisions about their future.

Joe has begun teaching the Bible in English to a group of seven Thai teens on Thursday nights. Please pray that they would grasp the theological concepts and be able to make an educated decision about whether to follow Christ.

Also, would you please pray for *Fer*, one of Elaine's students in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade who is not a Christian, to be able to understand the Gospel fully.

Staff needs at Grace International School continue to be large. Please visit [www.gisthailand.org](http://www.gisthailand.org) if you have any interest and please pray for the right people to fill the many open positions in the 2007-08 school year.

Please begin to pray for our trip to the States this summer. Joe has made a lot of arrangements already,

but more remain. We will visit at least seven churches and lots of family and supporters.

Pray for safe air travel to and from Chiang Mai for good connections with people and churches, and for safe travel as we drive up and down the East Coast.

Elaine's parents, Roger and Sally, are working through some health issues as her father retires. Please pray for healing along with wisdom as they embark upon a new lifestyle.

Brittany had to have a tooth removed this week in preparation for getting braces in late April. Please pray for the two-year process to go smoothly and to result in the desired outcome.

Please pray for the volatile financial situation in Thailand, particularly concerning the currency (*baht*).

It continues to get stronger against the dollar, reaching 35:\$1 now in Thailand (32.4:\$1 offshore), because of global currency speculators.

All this money gambling is hurting expats and many Thai businesses, which rely on exports. We have lost 17% of our support off the *baht's* high of 42:\$1 about 1½ years ago.

Praise God that generous supporters have helped to increase our support \$550 a month recently.

Joe's latest monthly budget maneuverings put us about \$1,000 short of full support, \$500 of which is buying power that we have lost in-country as a result of the *baht's* climb.

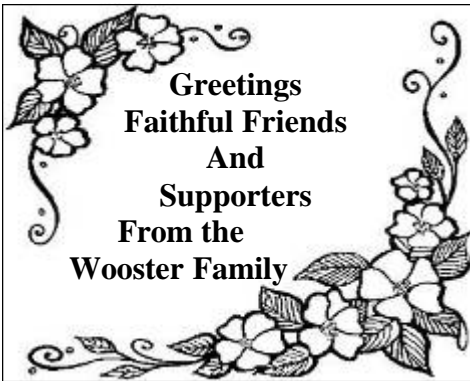
*"In the same way, 'Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.' The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God.*

*Galatians 3:6-7*

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

**To contact the Henry Family in Thailand, their postal address is:  
Joe & Elaine Henry & family  
224/445 Soy 20  
Mubaan Kwan Wiang  
Hangdong 50230  
Thailand**

**Email: [jebjcyj@eroam.net](mailto:jebjcyj@eroam.net)**



**Can you believe it's May?!?**

We're almost halfway through the year 2007....it can't be possible. The earlier time change, Easter, a hot and very dry spring in Florida, spring flowers and many of our northern friends going back to the 'milder' weather we Floridians long for - all these things have brought us into May.

For the Wooster Family it's also a very exciting month for two reasons. Joshua will be finishing his first year of college (wow) and Corey will be graduating from High School here in Sarasota (his Dad's alma mater).

The boys are looking forward to some time off and are planning a road trip across the US. (They have seen enough of the world and wanted something closer to home!)

Then it's time for work as they both prepare for the fall.

Which brings us to the next question....what are Kevin and Laura going to do with an empty house and how are their plans to return to Russia coming along? Glad you asked....

Right now it looks like we'll be heading back to Siberia once again. This time we'll be in the south central region, yet still above Mongolia.

The people there are also Asian in descent; however, the region is much poorer than where we last lived and the unemployment rate is around 40%.

We aren't going to name specific places, so as not to jeopardize the work that will begin within the next month. Many changes are taking place across Russia.

We look forward to starting a new work in a new region and anticipate the Lord will do great things in the lives of the people. At this stage, we will be living in the region as community development workers but will be allowed to share our Christianity and the hope that it gives us each day.

We ask for prayer in the following area:

- The hearts of the people of Russia to hear the Hope of Christ.
- Wisdom as to when we should leave for Russia.
- Wisdom for Corey as he looks for work and a place to live.
- For Joshua as he needs work for his next year in college.
- Additional yearly finances for the ministry (a small amount is still needed).

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. The Lord truly meets our needs, big and small. Please also pray that our eyes will always be fixed on the one who saves so that all may hear of His love and grace.

*Until the world knows Jesus,  
Kevin, Laura,  
Joshua, and Corey Wooster*

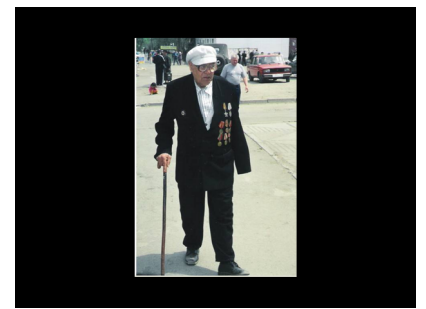
*"In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.*

*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."  
1 John 4:9-10*

The pictures are of the people and region where we are anticipating working.



Children of the south/central region of Siberia. A decorated war veteran.



Outside one of the main cities



in the region.



The region is well known for its horsemen.



**To contact the Woosters:**

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315 Bobby Jones Road  
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(941) 377-3014

Email:  
klwooster@yahoo.com

# OSTEOPOROSIS WORKSHOP

The Meeks Method

To be presented by Holli Benthusen, OTR/L  
Vice President for Therapy Management Corporation

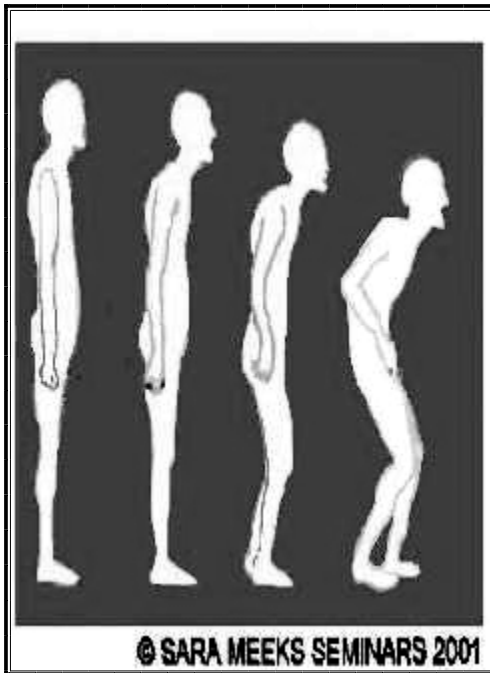
## “Osteoporosis - A Growing “Epidemic”

### MEET Sara Meeks:

"I have a dream that someday every person, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, lifestyle or any other factor, who has the condition of low bone mass (osteopenia) and/or skeletal fragility (osteoporosis,) will be able to enter a physical therapy practice, gym, fitness center, senior exercise class or any other facility or class where movement is being taught, and that person will be given a program that is #1 SAFE! This is not the case today.

“If you take any of my seminars, you will find out why and, as you learn new principles of movement and exercise designed for skeletal health and safety, you can help me fulfill my dream. You, too, can become a dreamer. Read on and learn more about my background and why I have this dream and sense of mission in my life.”

Sincerely Yours In Good Bone Health,



In recognition of the importance of promoting bone health and preventing fractures, President George W. Bush has declared 2002-2011 as the “Decade of the Bone and Joint.”

Like other chronic diseases that disproportionately affect the elderly, the prevalence of bone disease and fractures is projected to increase markedly as the population ages. But osteoporosis can usually be prevented and, if you already have it, it can be treated.

As you look at the picture above, determine where you fit along the continuum. Then imagine where you will fit in 5, 10 or more years. If you do not like what you see, then consider attending this workshop to learn what you can do now to prevent the effects as they need not happen.

By focusing on prevention and lifestyle changes (including physical activity and nutrition), as well as early diagnosis and appropriate treatment, Americans can avoid much of the damaging impact of bone disease.

**This workshop will be held at First United Methodist Church in Homosassa  
MAY 19, 2007**

It will consist of two parts:

1. 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. “What is Osteoporosis?”
2. 10:30 – 12:00 noon - Exercise Program

This is an active participation segment. Please wear comfortable clothing for exercise. You will also need to bring a mat or towel for the floor. (Half foam rolls for exercise will be available for purchase prior to class – cost is \$12 uncovered, or \$24 covered.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Attending:  9:00–10:30     10:30-12:00

I would like to order half roll     \$12 Uncovered     \$24 Covered  
(Check made out to Sara Meeks Seminars or money enclosed.)

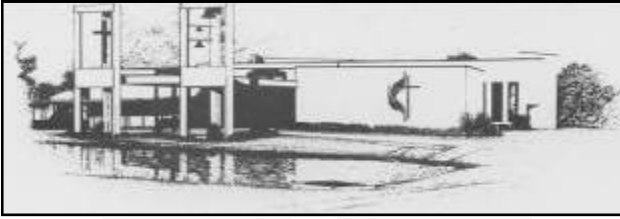


**First United Methodist Church  
of Homosassa**

8831 W. Bradshaw Street  
Homosassa, FL, 34448



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Church**

**We Are On The Web:  
www.1umc.org  
Neil Kline, Web Master**



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

**Rev. Mark Whittaker  
Pastor**

**Sunday Schedule**

**Morning Worship: 8, 9:30 and 11AM**

**Nursery at all services**

**Sunday School for all ages: 9:30AM**

**Methodist Youth Fellowship: 12-2PM**

**Office Hours: Weekdays**

**8:30AM to 4:30PM**

**Office Telephone: 628-4083**

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*Soli Deo Gloria*



**PENTECOST:**

*Send the fire again*