

SUMMER EDITION

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



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Volume 11, Issue 6

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> Website www.1umc.org

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We are a Stephen Ministry Church



Each year the Churches of the Florida Annual Conference send their pastors and representatives to Annual Conference.

The Conference is usually held in Lakeland on the Tuesday following the Memorial Day holiday.

This year, however, it will be a week later - June 6 - 9.

The theme of the Conference is "From Generation to Generation."

Much of what happens at Annual Conference is the same from year to year, but that "same" is very well done.

Each evening there will be a special worship service that will call us together as a community.

The ordination/memorial service will be on Wednesday, the 7th, and will center around the ordination and commissioning of new pastors into the Conference as well as a time of remem-



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brance of those who have gone before us to the Father's house.

There will also be a Bible study each morning before the day's business schedule starts.

This is the year we will be electing delegates to General Conference, which will take place in April of 2008.

Also this year the Bishop is asking the members of the Churches in the Conference to assist with an offering that will go to East Angola.

In previous years the money received has helped to rebuild the main church in Quessua and to provide bicycles for 25 pastors. The money this year will be used to rebuild parsonages, an orphanage and a School of Theology.

Each church is asked to receive this offering and then bring it to the Conference. Twenty percent (20%) of the money will be used for the "Bishop's Initiative on Children in Poverty," a program that funds special programs in the Conference supporting children's ministries. For the first time this year there will be a special night of events for the youth of the Conference. Friday, June 8th, at 7 p.m. in Lakeland, there will be a concert featuring the MUSIC of Bono and the band U2, called U2-charist.

The emphasis will be on critical social justice issues centering around extreme poverty, hunger and AIDs.

There will also be a "Wet and Wild" event in Orlando the next day.

Conference is always interesting, and it offers a great way to learn about the work of the church on a wider scale.

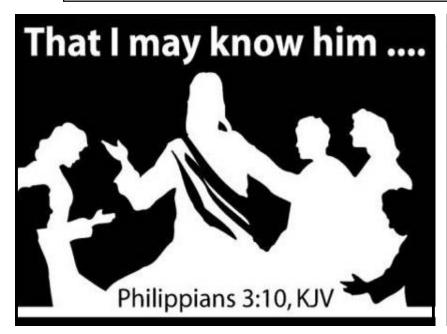
If you are interested in experiencing our Annual Conference, you are welcome to attend.

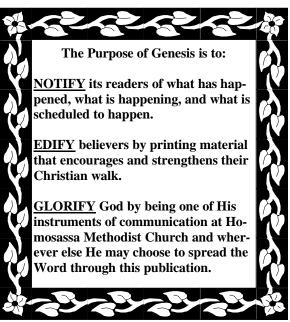




"Everyone Becoming a Disciple of Christ"

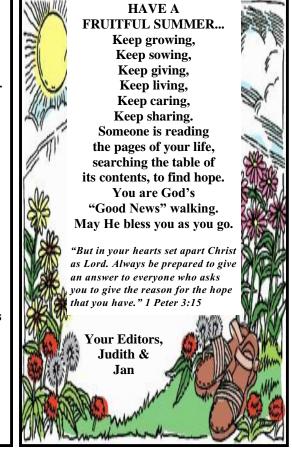
The purpose of an organization's mission statement is to give it direction, focus, and motivation. It clearly states why an organization exists and what it intends to accomplish in the future. This mission statement of the First United Methodist Church of Homosassa was adopted on January 27, 2005.





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
- Parish Nurse Ministry
- Wednesday Night Dinners
- Disaster Relief Programs
- Small Groups Ministry
- United Methodist Men
- United Methodist Women
- Biblical Travel Ministry
- Counters
- Attendance Tracking



As Outreach

- Thrift Shop
- Food Pantry
- SHARE
- Holiday Baskets
- Nursing Home Ministries
- Cancer Survivors
- Current Affairs
- First Place Bible Based Weightloss Plan
- Volunteers In Mission
- Habitat for Humanity
- PAWS (Pets Are Working Saints)
- Crop Walk
- Salvation Army Kettle Ministry
- Discretionary Giving Committee
- GED Tutoring
- 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



VBS 2007

Let's All Soar to **New Heights** With God!

June 11-15, 2007 6:00 - 9:00 P.M. **Closing** Celebration on Saturday, June 16th

VRS for EVERYONE! Bible Stories, Music, Crafts, Science Projects Mission Projects, Snacks & More





★
Children
★

Teens
★

Action
★

Parents
★

★
Grandparents
★

★
Adults
★





☆ Friends & Neighbors ☆

Special Bible Studies for Teens & Adults



OUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THOSE LONG DAYS OF SUMMER...

Our schedules usually slow down during the Summer, so pamper yourself and use the time to read a mystery, a light romance novel, a self-help book or a book based on Biblical history. We have the following in our Library and during the Summer, we'll have new books each month on the display shelves to the right of the entry door:

- 1. "Witness" by Debbie Webb & Mary Owens. Out of a first century grave, etched on a dead woman's pendant are a curious sequence of symbols that are repeated upon the pages of five ancient parchments which, when translated, bear witness to one of the most compelling conversions in history. "Witness" is a riveting fictional narrative told about Mary Magdalene.
- 2. "The Brushstroke Legacy" by Lauraine Snelling.

Ragni Clauson's life seems to be falling apart and she hopes spending her vacation fixing up her great-grandmother's cabin and supervising a rebellious teen-age niece will offer some rejuvenation. She discovers that a century ago her great-grandmother, Nilda, managed to find time to paint between taking care of home and menfolk, raising a daughter and fighting off locusts. Will Nilda's passion for enduring art re-ignite Ragni's artistic soul a century later? Stories of three generations of women are woven together, calling us to use our "gifts" no matter what the circumstances are.

3. "Yellow Rose Bride" by Lori Copeland. Seven years ago, seamstress Vonnie Taylor's husband of 24 hours, Adam Baldwin, had their marriage annulled. Now she faces the ultimate indignity - sewing the wedding dress for his new intended bride. She had tried to put Adam out of her mind after a family feud had doomed their love. Now as past secrets are uncovered and danger unleashed, they are thrown together once more. Sometimes love is worth the wait.

- 4. "At the Scent of Water" by Linda Nichols. Samuel Truelove had a rewarding life as a gifted heart surgeon. He had married the love of his life and had a beautiful daughter. His picture-perfect life began to unravel when he was suddenly called to perform an emergency surgery. A deadly cascade of events was set in motion. Two unimaginable tragedies two broken lives his and his wife's. Will they allow their ravaged hearts to heal?
- 5. "House" by Frank Peretti and Ted Dekker, two acclaimed writers of supernatural fiction. Two couples both have a mysterious accident and walk until they see a sign "Wayside Inn" and think they are safe. The reader is thrown into a killer's deadly game. There are rules that make no sense yet must be followed. The story will keep you guessing until the last page.
- 6. "The Name" by Franklin Graham.

The Name represents the division of life between good and evil, God and Satan, light and darkness, righteousness and sin, heaven and hell. The Name shouts out a choice: Whom will you serve, give your life to trust? Jesus did not say "Do your own thing; all roads lead to God." That would have made Jesus politically correct, but Jesus is not politically correct. HE IS LORD.

7. "Ten Thousand Charms" by Allison Pittman. Life on the frontier held little promise for a women alone and Gloria was no exception. Born into a godless life, Gloria has a son by a man who never knew or cared. Longing for a family of her own, she strikes an agreement with a miner who is a widower with a newborn daughter. They will care for the children - but marriage isn't mentioned. A poignant story of love and redemption.



8. "The King of Torts" by John Grisham.

Clay Carter works in the office of the Public Defender and dreams of a better job in a real firm. He reluctantly takes the case of a young man charged with a random street killing. As he digs into his client's background, Clay stumbles on a conspiracy too horrible to believe. He's in the middle of a complex case against one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world. The enormous settlement could change his life - could make him the legal profession's newest king of torts. It will also open the reader's eyes to the world of "high finance and manipulation." A good read.

9. "The Testament" by John Grisham.

Troy Phelan is a self-made billionaire who is eccentric, reclusive, confined to a wheelchair and looking for a way to die. His heirs are circling like vultures. Nate O'Riley is a Washington lawyer who's lived too hard, too fast, for too long. His second marriage is crumbling and he's just finished his fourth stay in rehab. Rachel Lane is a young woman who chose to give her life to God and went to live and work with a primitive tribe of Indians in the deepest jungles of Brazil. Their lives are forever altered in a story that mixes legal suspense with a remarkable adventure due to the startling secret of "The Testament."

10. "Six Million Angels" by Charles Colson.
These are stories from twenty years of Angel
Tree's Ministry to the children of prisoners.

11. "Forever" by Karen Kingsbury.

The 5th and final book of the "Firstborn" series. Katie Hart is thrilled about her future with Hollywood's Dayne Matthews. As she plans their wedding, she receives tragic news. Now she and members of the Baxter family must travel to Los Angeles and sort through their options. The Baxters are caught in the crosshairs of the paparazzi. Can they survive as a family? Can the family find the faith and courage to trust in God's plan and accept his gift at the end of their struggle?







12. "The Postcard" and "The Crossroad" by Beverly Lewis (2 novels in one volume.) Her two bestselling Amish novels of suspense, romance and faith explore the age-old question: Is this the person with whom God wants me to spend the rest of my life?

"The Postcard" finds Rachel Yoder, a New Order Amish woman, resigned to life as a widow. A postcard is found by Philip Bradley, a journalist from New York City assigned to write an article on the Amish. He finds it while staying at the Bed and Breakfast Rachel is helping run. The postcard reveals a shocking tale.

"The Crossroad" finds Philip Bradley returning to New York because he can't forget Rachel Yoder. He decides that he must find out once and for all if he truly loves Rachel, and then follows the hard decision - either to join her and her Anabaptist faith or return without her to modern life.

13. "They Also Serve" by Pam Hanson and Barbara Andrews.

These are more tales from Grace Chapel Inn. Come back and visit the charming village of Acorn Hill, tucked away in rural Pennsylvania where townsfolk relax on their porch swings or gather to discuss the day's events at the Coffee Shop over homemade pie. It's the kind of town where friendship and faith flow together like a wide river on a fine spring day.

Have a Happy Summer! Your Library Staff Barbara Jackson and Helen Lefave



Planning for New Building Underway

Detailed planning activities for our new fellowship hall, kitchen, youth center, thrift shop, library, and classrooms are now well underway.

The Building Committee has completed a 20-page document detailing our design ideas for the new facilities, and Building Committee representatives have met several times with the architect to review these ideas.

Additional deliberations are underway regarding the kitchen design, the thrift shop, and the three new classrooms, with meetings between building committee members and users of those facilities now scheduled to finalize design requirements.

We have retained a site engineering firm to prepare a new site plan that will meet county requirements for landscaping, parking, permeable/impermeable area, and sewer hook-up.

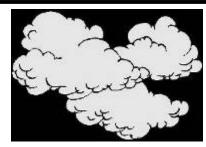
We have meetings scheduled with consultants on kitchen design, and audio/video design, and there will be numerous follow-up meetings with the architect plus other planning activities throughout the coming months.

We do not yet have a definite schedule for the start of construction, but our plan is to have preliminary drawings completed by late summer, final drawings, engineering specifications, and permitting completed by the end of October, bid solicitation and mortgage application during November, Church Conference to approve plans in December, and construction to begin early in 2008.

We understand that there may be some delays and changes required as we progress, but we hope to be able to stick pretty close to that time line.

Dave Marquis Chairman, Building For Tomorrow Committee

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Hurricane Brewing?

Hurricane season is fast approaching.

Government officials suggest that we prepare in advance, stockpiling supplies and making contingency plans.

But what happens when the "hurricanes" of our lives come without warning? When a loved one suddenly becomes seriously ill or dies. When the pink slip arrives, and a job is lost. When a teenager goes astray. When a marriage comes apart. When days feel long, and nights seem endless.

The winds and rains of life challenges can blow us off course. Though we cling to our faith, to our family, to our friends, sometimes it helps to have a person outside of the storm zone to be that steady anchor, providing weekly visits and phone support while we walk through periods of disappointment, grief or confusion.



If you would like to request a
Stephen Minister, who will respect
your confidences and provide
a safe haven,
contact Diane (382-7242),
Kay (382-4908),
or the church office.

A Message From Your Parish Nurse

MAY WAS NATIONAL STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

National Stroke Association's Awareness Month's,
"The Women in Your Life" campaign,
was a national effort to increase awareness about
stroke prevention. Recognizing stroke symptoms
can be easy if you learn to think F.A.S.T.:

F = FACE	Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?
A = ARMS	Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
S = SPEECH	Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Does the speech sound slurred or strange?
T = TIME	If you observe any of these signs then it's time to call 9-1-1.

Women play an important role in all of our lives - they are our mothers, grandmothers, aunts, wives, sisters and best friends. Because we value and cherish these women, we must educate them about the risk of stroke. Consider these facts about stroke and women:

- Twice as many women die from stroke than from breast cancer every year.
- One-half of all African American women will die from stroke or heart disease.
 - More women than men die from stroke.
- 4 out of 5 American families will be affected by stroke. Stroke is the third leading cause of death and the number one cause of adult disability in the United States.

The good news is that together we can prevent more than half a million strokes from occurring this year.

For more information, please visit http://www.stroke.org/ or call 1-800-STROKES. More importantly, pass this information on to all the women in your life so they too can be stroke smart.

If you have further questions, you are welcome to contact your Parish Nurse, Sharon E. Smith, through the church office.



THANK YOU
Marilyn
&
Leon Wells
for all your hard work
that keeps our
memorial rose garden
in constant bloom.

When You Are Considering a Major Gift to the Church by Rev. Richard Evans

For many of us there are times in our lives when we are able to make special gifts to the church and to some of our favorite charities. Our investments may have been "very good" to us and we want to share some of the good fortune. We may want to honor a family member in a special way. We may want to establish a memorial gift in remembrance of a spouse, a parent, or another family member. Or we may decide to name the church as beneficiary in a will, a charitable gift annuity, a charitable remainder trust, an IRA, a life insurance policy, or some other kind of deferred giving.

Sometimes direct gifts come in response to a special appeal, such as our recent "close the gap" campaign for Phase 3 of our Building Program. Or they may help add to our endowment - insuring a bright financial future for FUMCH for generations to come.

Several years ago we established a Permanent Endowment Fund that provides members and friends of the church with an opportunity to express their love for the Lord and His church through gifts that will become a living memorial.

Currently the fund has about \$150,000 under management - invested in several sub-funds. Each quarter, interest is added and, periodically, new gifts are received to increase our total endowment. Within the next decade, we hope to see our endowment grow beyond \$1,000,000. New gifts may be designated for the following purposes through the corresponding sub-funds:

- <u>Capital Improvement</u>, <u>Maintenance</u>, and <u>Building Expansion</u>. Income from this fund is to be used for capital improvements to church facilities and maintenance priorities that are not funded through the annual operating budget.
- <u>Church Ministries</u>. Income from this fund is to be used by the church in its parish ministries. These may include Worship, Music, Christian Education, and various other ministries of the church.
- <u>Outreach and Missions</u>. Income from this fund is to be used to support outreach projects in our local community and mission causes around the world which are not funded through regular congregational giving.
- <u>Scholarships and Christian Education Grants</u>. Income is to be used for:
- (1) Scholarships to deserving students who are furthering their education beyond the high school level.
- (2) Grants to individuals toward the cost of non-credit courses, Biblical travel, or workshops to further their Christian Education.
- (3) Scholarships to deserving youth who enroll in summer camping activities sponsored by the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.
- <u>General</u>. Income from this fund is to be used for special needs to be identified by the Church Council. All undesignated endowment gifts are placed in the General Fund.

So, when you are considering a major gift to the church, keep these many options in mind and let your gift help some of your favorite areas of need here at FUMCH. If you have questions, call the church office or any member of the Permanent Endowment Committee.

2007 Men's Fall Retreats ~ LIFE ENRICHMENT CENTER LEESBURG

Why Should I Attend?

The answer to this question is as varied as are the participants.

For most of us the bottom line is that spiritual growth does not occur in a vacuum.

Jesus did not intend for us to make this spiritual journey alone, because most of us, if left unattended will fall into a comfortable rut with our life, work and family.

A wise person once said that if you are coasting, you must be headed downhill.

These retreats are an opportunity for men to get away from their routines,
to spend time together in a relaxing environment, to be in the company of other Christian men
and to be filled with the Holy Spirit through uplifting music and messages by people who have a
pretty good idea of what most men face on a daily basis.

We promise to offer you a spirit-filled weekend that will have a positive impact on your life.



OCTOBER 12-14

Ed Diaz is a co-founder of Walk Thru The Bible Ministries and has taught that seminar extensively over the last 30 years. He is Division Director of Search Ministries, which provides training for Christians in Lifestyle Evangelism. Ed co-authored "The Winning Run." He also serves as Spring Training Chapel Coordinator for the Detroit Tigers.



Reverend Scott Smith is a graduate of Florida State University, and Duke University. He says his main job is to be a husband to Kris. Second job, Daddy to Caleb (12), Joshua (10), and Jacob (8), which includes but is not limited to being a soccer coach, advice giver, rules maker and fun guy. He is the lead pastor at Community of Faith UMC.



Reverend Donald Taylor will be sharing with us a unique insight into our Jewish roots. After completing a MDiv and while working toward a ThM in Hebrew studies, he pursued his interest in Judaism, studying for six years under an Orthodox Rabbi. Don now serves as Director of Chaplain Services for Hospice of the Comforter in Altamonte Springs.

Higher Ground was formed in 1998 as a praise band for contemporary worship services at the first United Methodist Church of Coral Springs. They are strong Christians who try to serve God not only with their music but by living Christian lives that witness through their actions and attitudes. They believe their ministry can usher people into the presence of God and further the cause for Christ.



OCTOBER 19 - 21, 2007



John Riley is a challenging, inspirational speaker with the unique God-given ability to communicate great truths in a simple, understandable manner. John has spoken to more than 9,500 audiences in 15 countries and throughout America for 30 years, uplifting and encouraging his listeners to do and be all that is possible through God for His Glory. He has been a regular speaker at Leesburg since 1979.



Denny Hieberg is the lead pastor at Grace Church in Gainesville where he has had the privilege of serving since 1994. He has lived in a "female dormitory" with his wife of twenty-six years, Cindy, and their three daughters. Denny loves baseball, Gator sports, and being involved with helping people discover the journey of a lifetime as disciples of Jesus. During the past four years, God has led him to launch a ministry called "Kingdom in the Sky" which focuses upon the spiritual and physical needs of the people of Lesotho, Africa.



Dr. Jerry Dooling served six churches in the Alabama-West Florida Conference and was District Superintendent of the Dothan, Alabama, district. Because of his interest and dedication to evangelism, he was invited to attend the Regional Institute of Evangelism sponsored by the Institute of World Evangelism of Candler School of Theology held in Sao Paul, Brazil. Jerry has a sweet spirit, loves the Lord and one of his passions in life is preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ.

OCTOBER 19 - 21, 2007 (Continued From Previous Page.) Music Leader - Ross Kimura & Vinny



Ross Kimura is the Music Pastor at St. Paul UMC in Largo Florida. A native of Hawaii, he has lived in New York City, where he studied at Julliard School of Music. He has a masters in piano and opera orchestrations and has played at the Paris, London, and Milan Conservatories. Ross can bring Life to Traditional Hymns in a way that would make Charles and John Wesley and Cokesbury want to sing along.

OCTOBER 26-28 2007



Dr. Riley Short retired as Senior Pastor of First UMC, Lakeland. He is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and Candler School of Theology and has Doctorates from Bethune Cookman College and Florida Southern College. His story telling ability is his specialty, and he is a master at using this ability to teach Biblical truths. This gift has also made him a favorite speaker at the Leesburg Retreats for many years. Dr. Short is presently serving as a Professor of Preaching at Asbury Theological Seminary at the Orlando campus.



Reverend Phillip Short is Senior Pastor at First United Methodist Church in Stuart, Florida. He is a third generation United Methodist pastor, married to Giova and they have one daughter, Carmen. Phillips has a sweet spirit and is being used as pastor, revival leader and speaker at District and Conference events. Since coming to Stuart he has started weekly discipleship meetings with the men known as the Band of Brothers Drive Way Ministry. They are now starting Drive Way North.



Reverend Donald Taylor will be sharing with us a unique insight into our Jewish roots. Upon graduation from High School, Don was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy and is still active in the Navy Reserves. After completing an MDiv and while working toward a ThM in Hebrew studies, he pursued his interest in Judaism, studying for six years under an Orthodox Rabbi. Don now serves as Director of Chaplain Services for Hospice of the Comforter in Altamonte Springs, FL, and attends Community UMC in Casselberry.

Ross Kimura & Vinny will be the musical presentation for this week's retreat.

COST FOR RETREATS:

Life Enrichment Center (LEC.) - \$128.00 per person includes program, room and meals.

Youth Camp (lodges or cabins) - \$109.00 per person includes program, room and meals.

Family Campground - 40.00 per camp site, plus \$30.00 per person program fee.

Off Campus - \$30.00 per person program fee (does NOT include meals)

Meals are available at the LEC for Family Campground and Off Campus participants for an additional \$41.00 per person.

Reservations will be guaranteed only after full payment is received by August 15, 2007.

Weekend Offering

The money that we charge you to attend these retreats is used solely to pay for the weekend. We hope that you come prepared to make an appropriate donation, based on your ability and as you are moved. This has been a tradition from the beginning of the retreats, enabling many worthwhile projects to be funded. One of the largest of these projects is the scholarship fund for seminary students. To date, we have provided over \$480,000 to seminarians in the Florida Conference! These funds are given with the understanding that the recipients will return to Florida to serve in our churches after ordination, a need that becomes more crucial every year. The scholarship program has become very popular—so much so that we are finding ourselves unable to support many of the other worthy causes that we have supported in the past. In an attempt to rectify this shortfall, we have established the \$100.00 club, where we are asking for a one-time gift of \$100.00 in order to establish a financial base for funding scholarships in the future. If we can garner enough support for this program, our hope is that we will be able to fund the scholarships through the interest earned, thereby allowing us to provide additional financial support to other areas. Please prayerfully consider helping us to help the future of the United Methodist Church.

COMPLETE INFORMATION IS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD NEAR THE OFFICE.



THRIFT SHOP YARD SALE June 1st & 2nd

The Thrift Shop WILL be open for business-as-usual during June, July, and August.

The Sorting Room will be closed on Tuesdays during June, July, and August.

If you wish to drop off donations, please do so during the regular Thrift Shop days:

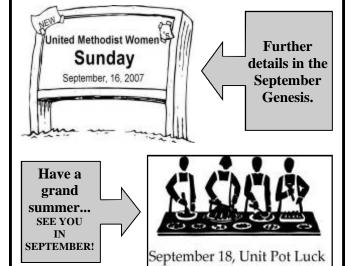
Wednesday and Saturday, 9am to Noon.

There will be no Executive Board or Unit Meetings during June, July, and August.

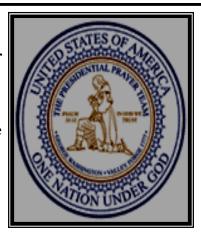
The UMW Executive Board wishes you an enjoyable summer and hopes to see everyone in the Fall, refreshed and ready, to start off another year of mission and ministry projects.

On May 14th the Committee on Nominations expressed that they have exhausted all avenues in the search for interested parties to preside as President and Secretary of FUMCH's UMW for 2008.

We are praying that someone will feel God's call to lead our community of women. If you sense God's speaking to you, contact Peggy Benson, Chairman, Committee on Nominations, or JoAnn Ryan, UMW Secretary.



Join the
Presidential Prayer
Team which is an independent
and non-partisan group to encourage prayers for our President, our Leaders, our Nation, and our Armed Forces.



1 Timothy 2:1-2 (New International Version)

- 1. I urge then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone -
- 2. for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

http://www.presidentialprayerteam.org



A couple of months ago we ran an article in Genesis proposing our church set aside a designated day and time for personal, family, at-home prayer for our troops in harm's way, our church, our pastor, local authorities, and governing world leaders.

Sheldon LaMountain relates the story of how his grandmother, the mother of 14 children and a practicing Seventh Day Adventist, used to hold Friday evening prayer assemblies in her home at 7pm.

This practice was deeply significant during the days of WW II when her 5 sons were involved in war-time efforts - one son a Marine, two sons in the Army serving in the European and Japanese theatres, and two sons working in the Northern NY State iron-ore mines doing their part for the war-effort.

We find ourselves at war again.
Some of our church has relatives in harm's way.
The Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer Group invites you to make the commitment to pray
Sunday evenings at 7pm.
On a piece of paper write:

"Yes, You Can Count On Me/Us."

Put it in the collection plate on Sunday or leave it at the church office. You will hear more about this new ministry in September.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.

"I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world."

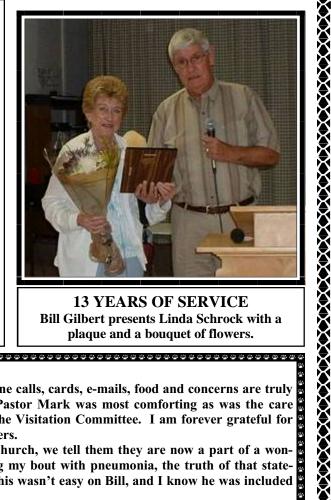
~Mother Teresa

"I've seen and met angels wearing the disguise of ordinary people living ordinary lives."

~Tracy Chapman

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."

~Sherry Anderson



13 YEARS OF SERVICE

Bill Gilbert presents Linda Schrock with a plaque and a bouquet of flowers.

Dear Church Family,

Your prayers, telephone calls, cards, e-mails, food and concerns are truly appreciated. The visit from Pastor Mark was most comforting as was the care shown by Sharon Smith and the Visitation Committee. I am forever grateful for your abounding love and prayers.

When folks join our church, we tell them they are now a part of a wonderful church family. During my bout with pneumonia, the truth of that statement was surely borne out. This wasn't easy on Bill, and I know he was included in your prayers and concerns.

From the bottom of my heart - thank you and God bless all of you.

Connie Barton

Dear Church & Choir Family,

Thanks to all of you for the cards, visits, flowers and prayers. I enjoyed the CDs of the services - what a joy to hear the sermons and sing along with the choir as they sang their songs and hymns. You all are such a blessing!

God bless you,

Jo Miller

Dear Church Family & Friends,

My heartfelt thanks for all of the prayers, cards, letters, flowers, and visits. I am still physically weak, but your prayers have helped me gain spiritual strength.

Thank you so very much for the beautiful Prayer Blanket. It will indeed keep me warm with all your prayers. What a blessing!

My recovery is slow, but sure. I look forward to being back in Church to greet each and every one of you.

May the Lord bless each of you with His grace and peace...

Love, Linda Schrock

MEMBERS & FRIENDS

At

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

Diamond Ridge

Marjorie Cook

Maddie Wallace

Life Care

Jeannette McDougall

Nature Coast Lodge

Betty Duncan

Richland Oaks

Bill Marquis

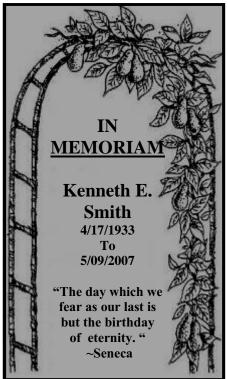
Sugarmill Manor **Del Parker**

Grace Payne Hospice At Home

Dea Miller

Wallace Nave

Ken Smith



Pastor Mark's Vacation







SCHONBRUNN PALACE Vienna



Dresden

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Vienna



OPERA HOUSE

HOFBURG PALACE Vienna



ST. STEPHEN'S PULPIT Vienna





COLOGNE CATHEDRAL
Koln Dom, Germany

"SMART CAR"
Germany



CLOWNStreet theatre in Vienna

Panama Canal Pholo Journal



<u>Time to Eat</u>: l to r: Ruth Eaton, Linda Gschwind, Lorraine Tollefson, Fleetie Baker, Marge Ludke, Peggy Powell



<u>Time to Eat:</u> l to r: Bill Richner, Abbye Jean Richner, Bill Ackerman, Tho Ackerman, Dee Green, Jim Green



Fran Graham and Escort



Dressed for dinner: Myrna & Dick Evans



The ms Volendam

Gatun Locks





Puerto Chiapas

Acapulco





Cabo San Lucas Rock Forhattions

Birthdays: June ~ July ~ August

JUNE **Roland Aberle** Jeanne Comfort Emma Christensen Alma Zimmerman Dermot Samuda Wayne Brown 6 Leon Wells Helga Squires Mary Cannon **Thomas Ottman** John Gibbs 8 **Ray Fisher** Virginia Szenas **Bob Brobst Eleanor Hoeffler** Virginia Mangels Carolyn Custer 10 Alicia Weston 12 Jim Love 13 William Parks 14 **Phyllis Peters** Linda Gordy 15 Althea Stuckey 16 **Irene Stone** John Lawrey Stan Zawacki **Beulah Seiler Charles Blair Loral Byington** Alex Stevens Pat Nave Regina Parks **Catherine Barrett** Lucille Meewes Robert Bellcase 19 Charles Wade Larry Vainio Lavonne Brennan 21 **Miriam Currier** 22 **Dorothy Wolf Dickee Desimone** 23 **Alvin Culp** Ralph Siegel Yvonne Beck Jimmi Reichard Gene Harry

Ronald Hesketh Cranie Koellhoffer Maria Briggs 26 Lee Bast **Jeffrey Post** 27 Jack Holcomb Sr **Gordon Lawrence Diane Gibbs** Jynetha Montgomery 28 Marguerite Betzer June Bish Andrea Pirkle 29 Allene Misunas **Harvey Oltendorf** 30 **Betty Bennett** Len Cromer Fred Small **Bob Bunting** JULY Henry Sandlas III **Judith Busby** Dick Kern Lois Diedrich **Edwin Jenks** Janet Magamoll Andy Andrews Mel Gordy Juliann Harry 4 Juanita Sobolak 7 **Ann Sandstrom** 8 Elizabeth Olson 9 Allen Millikin 10 **Dorothy Collister** 11 Helen LaBeau Marion Hamilton **Andrew Merson** 12 Eileen Brown 14 Jack Mallett Norwood Speary 15 Heidi Hilthron 17 Don Snedeker Todd Workman 18 Sue Price Marie Vainio 19 Nikki Buck

Joe Crawley

Joan Spencer

Jackie LaMountain 21 Florence Sledd Lee Knerr Jovce Winder David Lambert **Derek Benthusen** 23 Ruby Raymond John Yuschak Dee Otto Nancy Pearo **Barbara Sunderland** Ryan Selby 25 Louise Miller 26 **Dorothy Jenks** Vernon Tidswell **Shirley Hart** Jesse Knight 28 **Doris Feldmann** 29 Fran Hughes Marjorie Heybeck **Lavoy Patton** Paul Huffstutler **Nancy Sheaffer** 30 Ozzie Schmitt Frances Graham Marylou Fisher **Edie Mingalone** AUGUST **Dorothy Aberle** Helen Dresback Barbara Stoneman Tom Smith Dan Hurley Carole Deyo-Fahl 3 Marge Frazier Jim Green Ann Eckman 4 Sheldon LaMountain 5 June Oltendorf Wilbourn Fowler Walter Dilling Jovce Monigold Jeannine Love **Sharon Miller** 7 Ruth Samuda Q **Shirley Hunter** Myrna Sanford 10 **Bernhard Diedrich** 11

Howard Watson

12 Albert Carlson Sr. Priscilla Frederick 13 Hilda Wicks Carroll Phillips Joan Clanfield Sandi Workman 14 Venia Blankenbeckler Barbara Kuhl **Donald Wither** Joyce Hesketh Wanda Chapman **Terry Cornelius** 16 **Arthur Stuckey** Elizabeth Vaughn 17 Lois Schoch Jeanette Cole **Karl Smith** Robert Schwebes 18 Mert Davis **Sharon Palmer** 19 Walter Briggs 20 Jeremy George 21 Roger Johnson **Phyliss Nevins** William Stocker 22 Barbara Neurohr Verna Stout Krissy Brown **Katherine Cornelius** 24 Mildred Beechman John Wolf **Robert Leaming** 25 Joanna Miller 26 Roy Olson 27 Kari Amundson 28 Arden Sheaffer **Lorraine Angus** 29 Helen Hansen Virginia Pazian **Judy Roberts** 30 Clara Speary **Shirley Allen** Marlene Mullins Frankie Adams **Deborah Hargis** Laci Nunnery 31 **Shirley Holland**

Anniversaries: June ~ July ~ August

JUNE

Marie & Ron Witham

~ 11 years

Juanita & Stan Sobolak

~ 25 years 3

Marie & Ted Archambault

~ 57 years

Bunny & Charlie Wade ~ 58 years

Joyce & Ronald Hesketh

~ 47 years

Dorothy & Edwin Jenks

~ 47 years

Syble & William Little

~ 59 years

Virginia & Henry Mangels

~ 24 years

Phyllis & Charles Peters

~ 21 years

Andrea & David Pirkle

~ 44 years 8

Sue & Thomas Cloyd

~ 62 years

Lou & Elwin Mosier

~ 49 years

Jovce & William Smith

~ 55 years

Donna & John Yuschak

~ 44 years

Merlyn & Pat Hoar

~ 51 years

12

Julian & Shelby

Weingarten ~ 49 years

Clara & Norwood Speary

~ 62 years

16

Annie & Art Carl

~ 56 years

Barbara & John Lawrey

~ 56 years

Mildred & Robert Mott

~ 51 years

17

Gloria & David Marquis

~ 12 years

Marian & Henry Sandlas

~ 57 years

18

Emily & Robert Russell

~ 41 years

Mary Ellen & Frank Wais 47

~ years

19

Jeanette & John Cole

~ 58 years

Gene & Rusty Harry

~ 41 years

Marilyn & Leon Wells

~ 43 years 20

JoAnn & John Guthrie

~ 48 years

Barbara & Richard Hartley

~ 58 years

21

Nelva & Raymond Clemans

~ 4 years

Marylou & Ray Fisher

~ 5 years

Joan & Jack Ness

~ 55 years

June & Harvey Oltendorf

~ 49 years

Marie & Larry Vainio

~ 49 years

22

Marcia & Richard Bader

~ 55 years

Beverly & Edward Calkins ~

22 years

Myrna & Richard Evans

~ 50 years

23

Dorothy & Richard Jones

~ 10 years

24

Charlene & William Murray ~ 19 years

25

Burnie & Gene McGee

~ 49 years

26

Joe Ann & Robert Gidlow

~ 53 years

29

Barbara & Dave Shores

~ 44 years

JULY

Krissy & Wayne Brown

~ 9 years

6

Carolyn & Joe Crawley

~ 37 years

Dorothy & Jack Graham

~ 40 years

MJ & Bill Jahn

~ 52 years

10

Bob & Lisa Specht

~ 13 years

11

Mary Lee & Allen Millikin

~ 48 years

13

Kim & Allen Bennett

~ 16 years

Lucille & Delmar Meewes

~ 55 years 20

Pamela & Paul Patton

~ 23 years

22

Jeanne & Dene Balmer

~ 7 years

27

Patricia & Mark Cram

~ 48 years

Carroll & John Lunceford ~ 50 years

28 **Doris & Julius Kertesz**

~ 51 years

Dorothy & John Wolf

~ 64 years

31

Nancy & Karl Amundson

~ 25 years Janet & Howard Watson

~ 42 years

AUGUST

2 Barbara & Larry

Sunderland ~ 4 years

Sandi & Rick Workman

~ 38 years 4

Dolores & Walter Briggs

~ 67 years

Dorothy & Roland Aberle ~ 58 years

Mary Kay & Ed Messenger

~ 15 years

Myrna & Richard Sanford

~ 48 years

11

Holli & David Benthusen

~ 23 years

12

Mary & Robert Severance

~ 52 years

14

Vicky & Jeffrey Post

~ 2 years

17

Nancy & Arden Sheaffer

~ 50 years

18

Carol & Andy Andrews

~ 45 years

Abbye Jean & Bill Richner

~ 19 years

19

Minnie & Howard

Watson Sr. ~ 71 years Alice & Bill Williamson

~ 51 years

21

Pat & William Schuessler ~ **36** years

22 Pat & Harold Layman

~ 39 years

24

Sandra & John Dewart ~ 30 years

Lois & Ralph Pohlman

~ 50 years 27

Judy & James Roberts

~ 23 years

28

Carol & Bob Mac Kenzie

~ 42 years

29 Carolyn & Rolland Custer

~ 48 years Iris & Mark Whittaker

~ 37 years

30 Pat & Dick Kern

~ 25 years

Janet & Fred Small ~ 50 years

31

Sue & Jim Price ~ 50 years

Ruth & Phillip Rittgers ~ 50 years

Barbara & Ben Toole ~ 51 years

Come back to SHARE! Save Money Through SHARE!



We need to get back on track. Seems some buyers are not coming in any more, and this has us very much concerned. We have been picking up new people every month, and this should increase our overall sales, but it's not. We are unable to understand this because we have not heard any complaints or other signs of dissatisfaction with SHARE.

Could it be that people are forgetting the great bargain SHARE is to everyone? If you bought from us before, you know how much you can save. If you are unhappy with something, please let us know. If there is something we need to change, come in and talk to us about it.

This program helps a lot of families every month, but we still need more sales to keep program going. Many volunteers put their time and effort into running the program. Their job is to get you through the pickup line as fast as possible and without making any mistakes so that everyone gets what they paid for. They do this to help the less fortunate who depend on being able to buy food at such a reduced price.

Everyone needs to save on groceries. This April, we sold only \$784.75. April of last year, we did \$1,065.50. That's a difference of \$280.00.

If we continue to decline, we may lose our site and we do not want this to happen so please help us out. Come back to SHARE! It's the only time you can help people and save money at the same time. We're not asking for donations. We want you to be part of the program and save. It's a Win, Win, for everyone.

The summer months are coming soon. SHARE will continue to provide quality food at reduced prices. Specials will always be there. Come on a sign-up day or D-Day and see what you can get for \$18.00. You will be amazed. Compare prices at the local supermarket and see the difference yourself. You will be saving fifty percent or more.

The "One family at a time" program is back. Bring a neighbor or friend; they will save \$2.00 on their order and yours. Fill out the form found in the SHARE Newsletter.

If you have any questions or just want to talk about SHARE, call us, Tom and Nancy Pearo, (352) 382-1034.

"BASIC," "SPECIAL" & "SELECT" MENU SELECTIONS WERE NOT AVAILABLE FOR JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST. Look for monthly SHARE newspapers in Ad Building lobby.

MONTH	SIGN UP	D-DAY
JUNE	6th & 9th	23rd
JULY	11th & 14th	28th
AUGUST	8th & 11th	25th

Sign -up hours are from 10am to 11am.
Pick-up (D-Day) 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

Thank You



...to the patrons who donated such wonderful homemade and purchased baby items for this annual event. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

> Dee Green, Church Coordinator Larry Raymond, Baby Shower Board Member

The Skelley family thanks everyone

for all the encouraging cards and emails and phone calls. Thank you also for the financial gifts toward our medical costs and for the pancake breakfast fundraiser. We feel very blessed to be a part of this wonderful church family.

We hope to see you soon. Steven, Joyce Ann and Steffany Skelley

<u>The</u> 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.

Dear praying friends,

Praises:

We spent the first 12 days of April at our PIONEERS area retreat and at the Siam Baptist Group camp. We had excellent opportunities for fellowship and to get to know our missionary and Thai brothers and sisters better. We also had a bit of R&R wrapped around the many meetings.

Pastor *Ogaat's* brother-in-law, *Dtûm*, and his fiancé plan to help us out at the church for two years while they prepare to marry and open their own church. Praise God! They are both graduates of Bangkok Bible College and Seminary and are especially gifted with youth and music. Their contributions to Cool Shade of Life Church (CSLC) will be invaluable, and we will have the privilege of helping them grow in their Christian walk as they seek God's will in starting a new Thai church.

We can't help but be in awe of what the Lord is doing in terms of potential growth out of CSLC. *Dtûm* has joined us; two others members, *Khèk* and *Banjong*, have begun attending the Chiang Mai Baptist Church Bible center with an eye toward future leadership, perhaps even opening new churches; and another member, *Nót*, is a new Christian who is growing rapidly in his faith and interest in serving God.

All four of our children continue to closely bond with their Thai friends from church. The three Thai boys – Fluke, Fang, and Oót – are regulars at our house, and the three Thai teen girls – $A\acute{y}t$, Dew and $Y\acute{o}k$ – are good friends with Brittany. It's very humbling to see how God has led the children to interact so well with their Thai peers.

We have had seven new people come to church in the past two weeks, all invited by church members. It is exciting to see all the members catch the vision of sharing Christ with their family and friends in a natural way.

Prayers:

As mentioned last month, our friend *Banjong* and family had a big decision to make. His family made the hard call to close their noodle shop, which will allow *Banjong* to attend Bible school while doing lawn jobs and other work on the side. Several people also have made the commitment to provide small amounts of financial support for the family as *Banjong* studies with an eye on future service for the Lord. Please pray for this step of faith.

Speaking of *Banjong*, he and his daughter, *Yók*, will be the church's first baptisms this Sunday. Pray for this time to be a blessing in their lives.

We continue to make plans to return to the States from June 9-August 7. However the dollar continues to fall on this side of the water, which means our plane tickets get more expensive every day. Tickets that cost \$6,640 last

summer are now \$7,590, but our carefully calculated monthly savings will only cover the earlier figure we planned on three years ago. Please pray for the Lord to provide the additional \$950 (probably \$1,000 by the time you read this).

Continue to pray for Joe's teaching the Bible in English to five Thai teenagers on Thursday nights. Also, please pray for Fer, one of Elaine's students in 2^{nd} grade who is not a Christian, to be able to understand the Gospel fully.

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

Joe and Elaine Henry, serving as church planters in Thailand, will be returning to the U.S. for two months this summer and are asking First United Methodist Church members to prayerfully consider two needs:

- During their time here (June 10-August 5), they will be traveling around the St. Petersburg and Homosassa areas along with a trip up the coast to Pennsylvania and back. They need transportation for their family of six and are asking for people to pray about whether they have a van or other large vehicle that could be loaned to them during that time. (They estimate they will drive 4,000 miles over the eight weeks.)
- Their mission agency is requiring that their family have full physical exams before they return to the mission field, which is an expensive requirement. They are asking if any doctors would be willing to offer their services at a reduced cost (or free?) in order for them to complete the physical exam requirement for two adults and four children (ages 16, 14, 8 and 6).

If you can offer help, please contact the Henrys as soon as possible via email at jebjcj@eroam.net or through their parents, Joe and Dolores Henry, at FUMC. The Henrys give their thanks for your prayerful consideration of these requests!

~ Give to your missionaries ~

William Carey once said "We will go down to the depths of hell to rescue souls if someone will hold the other end of the rope for us." Missionaries depend on others to hold the rope financially and in prayer for the furthering of God's kingdom.



Make your check payable to PIONEERS
and add a note stating the name of the missionary
you wish to support. Mail it to:
PIONEERS, Attn: Finance
10123 William Carey Drive
Orlando, FL, 32832.



Where is the Wooster family ten years later?

It's hard to imagine that it really has been ten years. Our journey began in January of '97 to an area we had never heard of or seen until we got off the train.

Today, we are all in the U.S., going through a transition year. Joshua is finishing his first year at Messiah College in PA, and Corey will be graduating High School the middle of May.

The time has gone very fast and Kevin and Laura are experiencing the beginning of having an "empty nest." The boys are experiencing their "home" culture once again and are making plans for their futures as young men.

Across Russia



Throughout these ten years, it has been our goal to reach the people of Russia with a hope found only in Christ Jesus and to bring them some kind of aid or support for the felt needs in the communities where we work.

So often, it has been through the practical things and the building of relationships where we have seen change and a hunger for truth. The organization we've worked with now stretches from Moscow to the region around Lake Baikal and Northward close to the Arctic Circle.

In the Book of Acts we see Teaching, Loving and Caring, Worship, Evangelizing and Prayer as key elements to their growth & success...This is what we want to see spread throughout this vast country of Russia. We have experienced this in a real way in many areas and eagerly anticipate what will happen in the new regions just opening.

Thank you for making it possible!

This past March, the leaders out East decided a time of "hiking" across Lake Baikal would be a tremendous way to build discipline in all aspects of their lives!



Leadership retreat - Siberian style. The picture above is from a men's retreat. Where they crossed the lake it is 25 kilometers wide. They were stretched both spiritually and physically.

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?

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.

At this time, 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 here are also Asian in descent, however, this region is much poorer than where we last lived and the unemployment rate is around 50%.

How can I get involved? Actually there are very practical ways to be a part of the work and not have to travel to Russia/Siberia.

- •Prayer...we have always said that we could have more than enough finances but without prayer behind us, we would never leave the U.S.
- •Get involved in a particular project. We have had books, playground equipment, clothing, vitamins, items for a café donated; all used to help meet a need in a community and build relationships.
- •Notes of encouragement or just a quick letter letting us know how you are doing and what's happening in your lives. (We really love to hear from you!)
- •Finances prayerfully consider a one time gift or perhaps becoming a monthly partner. For financial support make checks payable and send to:



Pioneers 10123 William Carey Dr. Orlando, FL 32832

Do not write our names on the checks. On a separate piece of paper please put "For the account of 10299."

For Him We Serve, Kevin & Laura

Kevin & Laura Wooster 315 Bobby Jones Road Sarasota, FL 34232 (941) 377-3014 (941) 716-3309 (cell) E-mail: klwooster@aol.com Skype: klwooster

We Are Going To Ireland



Yes, we are making plans for a tour of "the Emerald Island" in late May/early June of 2008.

The two-week trip will include 3 "hubs" of 4 nights each in or near Belfast, Limerick, and Dublin, with day trips from each - covering most of both the Republic and Northern. Ireland.

We expect to have direct flights to and from Dublin/Orlando. Details and pricing will be available very soon.

If you are interested, leave your name on a list in the church office. Then, as plans develop and as materials are prepared, we will keep you informed.

~ Richard Evans

Time and Talent Survey

The church newsletter, *Genesis*, is seeking volunteers to help in almost every aspect of publication - writers, reporters, data entry, photographers, and general production helpers for Sept. 2007 - June 2008 editions.

If you have the time and talents to help in any of these areas please complete this form and return it to the NEWSLETTER mailbox. Many hands make light work, and your help will be most appreciated.

Check the appropriate blanks if you have ability or experience

Check the appropriate blanks if	you have ability or experience:
WRITING	REPORTING
PHOTOGRAPHY	COMPUTER DATA ENTRY
	UCTION HELPERSACHINE OPERATION)
Please indicate days of the week even an hour or two:	and times you could be available to help for
DAY	TIME
DAY	
THANK YOU!	SIGNATURENAME
FHUND # UK EMAIL ADDRES	SS



Transportation Ministry

Transportation to and from church on Communion Sundays is available to those who wish to come to church but are unable to do so because of the lack of transportation or the inability to drive. If you are interested in being picked up for church, or know someone who is, you can get more information by completing the following sign-up form and returning it to the church office or by contacting Bill & Neretta Brobst at 621-3736.

A qualified driver will pick you up at your home between 9:00 am and 10:30 am for the 11 am service. Please be ready to leave so there is no delay getting to the next pick-up. Due to the varying number of riders each month a definite pick-up time can not be scheduled.

Also through this outreach, the congregation will be able to call upon the Transportation Ministry to provide transportation for day trips, outings, and other church functions.

YES I am interested in being picked up for church the first Sunday of the month for 11AM Communion Service. Please call me to make arrangements.		
NAME	PHONE	
ADDRESS_		

First United Methodist Church of Homosassa

8831 W. Bradshaw Street Homosassa, FL, 34448





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



