



IN YOUR FACE

Ash Wednesday is a kind of “in your face” worship service. It comes right out and says you are a sinner! It doesn’t soft soap it or pussy foot around it. The message is very clear whether we want to hear it or not – we have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). As the communion service says, we have “not loved you (God) with our whole heart, not done your will, not loved our neighbors and have not heard the cry of the needy.” We are greedy, we put ourselves first for everything, and we don’t really trust God, turning instead to gods of our own making.

When Jesus was led into the wilderness, the devil tempted him to believe he had all the answers--that he could feed the people, rule the world and command even the angels. Of course, it is easy to be tempted; the question is how do you respond?

We are tempted to believe that we are not really sinners--we have not murdered anyone or stolen lots of money. We are not Burnie Madoff or Pol Pot or even the balloon boy’s father and mother. If we made a MISTAKE, it was a little one, not worthy of attention from others or ourselves or God.

Ash Wednesday with all its doom and gloom is at the same time a day we can celebrate. For although we are sinners, as the tradition so pointedly reminds us, we are also reminded that we are forgiven sinners. If we are willing to turn and repent, if we are willing to call on the name of Jesus, then we can know the assurance of our salvation and our release from the sins that dominate our lives.

Michelangelo’s painting in the Sistine Chapel in Italy has the picture of God reaching out, stretching out, and extending himself as far as he can toward Adam. Adam, on the other hand, has both his elbow and his wrist bent. All Adam has to do to be in touch with God again is to straighten out his arm and, by his choice, he can bridge the gap between man and God. God has done all the work; all we have to do is decide to accept what God has already made possible.

Ash Wednesday is a day for confession but also a day to lift our hands and hearts in praise and thanksgiving that God demonstrated his love for us in this: “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5:8) We do that partly by an anointing of our foreheads with ashes to symbolize our sorrow for what we have done and what we have failed to do. This is one way for us to witness to the world that in spite of our failures our God never fails. He is always extending his grace and forgiveness to us.

Our Ash Wednesday service will be on Wednesday, Feb 17, at noon in the sanctuary. Come and share this service of awareness and forgiveness.



Pastor Mark

WORSHIP & LENT

I hope many of you have begun to “**Study and meditate on God’s Word in preparation for next week’s worship,**” and that those of you who have not will begin this practice soon. For many of you, this is an addition to your regular Bible study or devotional time. I’m not suggesting you give up something that works for you, but I think you will find this addition of weekly Scripture reading and study in preparation for Sunday worship a vital part of your Spiritual Journey. Remember—our individual preparation for worship affects the worship of the whole congregation.

Ash Wednesday is February 17, so you may be thinking about what you will do during Lent. Rather than giving up something, why not consider taking up something new this year – something like a new spiritual discipline? In the Narthex and on the Spiritual Formation bulletin board, you can pick up a list of spiritual disciplines that includes a description of each. Lent is a great time to get acquainted with a new spiritual discipline. Trying an unfamiliar spiritual exercise is no more difficult than giving up something for Lent. Then, of course, giving up something could be considered **fasting** which is a spiritual discipline. **Silence** is a really good one to try practicing during Lent. It will give you the quiet you need in order to listen for the “still small voice” which will guide you through the days leading toward Easter. **Prayer** is another good one for Lent for the same reason. You probably already pray, but being intentional and consistent in prayer is something many of us struggle to do. Being consistent and intentional in prayer throughout Lent could begin a really important new habit! Actually, any spiritual discipline is appropriate for Lent. I would love to help you get started, so please let me know if you want to talk about a spiritual exercise you may be considering for the Lenten period.

Again this year we will have the prayer labyrinth available in the fellowship hall on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Many of you told us how meaningful the experience was for you last year. We were thrilled to have such a wonderful response from our church and from the community.

Marilyn Watson

E.B.A.D.O.C**"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.

All of us need to memorize the mission statement and do all that we can to make it a reality in our lives.

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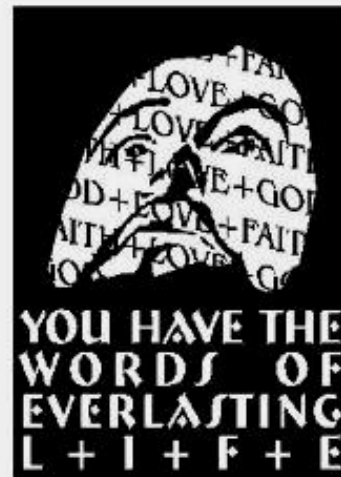
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"Lord, to whom can we go?"; Peter, speaking in the name of the apostles, presents the rhetorical question: is there really any other option available to us, based on what we have come to understand?

Although accepting Jesus is not going to make their lives easy the Twelve recognize Jesus as God's promised Messiah, and they will "accept no alternatives!"

Once a person has become sincerely convinced of the truth of Jesus and His message, going elsewhere in search of meaning and salvation is no longer a real option.

The Purpose of Genesis is to:

- † NOTIFY its readers of what has happened, what is happening, and what is scheduled to happen.
- † EDIFY believers by printing material that encourages and strengthens their Christian walk.
- † GLORIFY God by being one of His instruments of communication at FUMCH and wherever else He may choose to spread the Word through this publication.

Within The Church

Worship Services

Ushers

Greeters

Music Ministries:

Choirs: Children's Choir

Men & Ladies Ensembles

Handbells & Chimes

Christian Education:

5 Adult Sunday School Classes

Children's Sunday School

Youth Ministry

Communion Stewards

Lenten Soup Supers

Library

Prayer Ministry

UMW Circles

Tape Ministry

Blood Bank

Visitation Care Group

Parish Nurse Ministry

Wednesday Night Dinners

Disaster Relief Programs

Funeral Receptions

United Methodist Women

Stewardship

Biblical Travel Ministry

Counters

Folding & Mailing

Attendance Tracking

Outreach Ministries

Parish Nurse

Nursing Home Ministries

Shut-in Visitation

God's Clods (Clown Ministry)

"Tuned To Revival" Quartet

Disaster Relief & Response Team

Thrift Shop

Linda's Loaves

Volunteers in Missions

Prison Ministry

Stephen Ministry

Prayer Blanket Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Knit For Kids Ministry

Health Related Workshops

(Diabetes, High Blood Pressure)

Annual Seminar for Elder Needs

Men's Monday Morning "Work

Detail"

Men's Wednesday Morning Prayer

Breakfast

Hugs for Soldiers

Vacation Bible School

World & State Travel Groups

Welcome Bags

Bus Ministry

Missionaries to Siberia

Missionaries to Thailand

Missionaries to Haiti

Small Groups

Cancer Survivor

Current Affairs

Individual Bible Study Groups

(Men, Women, and Couples)

Fibromyalgia Support Group

Saturday Sisters

Contemporary Issues

Bereavement Group

P.A.W.S.

Discipleship Classes

Disciple I

Disciple IV

Companions in Christ

Benevolences

Habitat for Humanity

St. Andrews Mission

(Feeding the hungry)

The Heifer Project

S.H.A.R.E. (Economical food for the church and community)

Food Pantry

Holiday Food Baskets

Toys for Children (at Christmas)

Salvation Army

The Path (Help for local homeless)

Methodist Children's Home

C.R.O.P. Walk

Equipment for Handicapped (Wheel chairs, walkers, etc.)

Community Outreach

(Use of our facilities)

AA

Al-Anon

After-school Tutoring

Girl Scouts

Hospice

GED Tutoring

Kiwanis Breakfast

Isaiah's Place

FCAT Tutoring

Wise Discipleship

by Jan Wise

The Disciple Looks at the Work of Believing



Believing shouldn't be work - should it? We eat our breakfast cereal, believing it won't poison or make us sick. That's easy!

We see a chair and sit down, believing it will hold us. What's hard about that?

We go to visit a friend, believing we will be welcome. That's not work either.

A group following Jesus asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

(John 6:28-39)

So Jesus pointed out that believing in who he was, that he was fully God and fully man, sent from the Father as his exact representative, was then and is today a work of faith.

Remember the shepherds in the field who heard the angels' song? They heard the heavenly message and then they made a decision to believe what they had heard. The work of believing began as they left their flocks, saying, "Let's go to _____ and see this thing that has happened, which the _____ has told us about."

(Luke 2:15)

The scripture tells us that they hurried off and found Mary, Joseph and the baby. Later, when the shepherds returned to their flocks, they were glorifying and praising God for all the things they had seen and heard, "which were just as they had been _____."

(Luke 2:20)

In the Scriptures, the Lord calls us many times to step out of our normal routine, make an effort to seek him in a new way, and then, if we do, we will, like the shepherds, eventually find ourselves glorifying and praising God for the things we discover that are just as his word said they would be.

What about the wise men? They saw a different star in the sky and believed it heralded the birth of a new King of the Jews. Think about the work of believing for them. First, they were Gentiles - what moved their hearts to seek this newborn King of the Jews? Then it took them a two-years' journey, far from their familiar comfort zone. Think of the planning and provisions they needed to make and how far they would travel as they exercised the "work" of believing - somewhere out there was the one God had sent. In God's time, the star led them to a house where they found Mary and the child Jesus. These wise men who made the effort to seek, bowed down and wor-

shipped the Christ. They had found him - just as they had believed.

In Matthew 13:53-58, we read of Jesus returning to his hometown of Nazareth after he had been teaching and healing in nearby areas. In Nazareth, "he began teaching the people in their _____, and they were _____. 'Where did this man get this _____ and these miraculous powers?' they asked. 'Isn't this the _____'s son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas? Aren't all his _____ with us? Where did this man get all these things?' And they took offense at him."

Jesus said to them, "Only in his home town and in his own house is a prophet without honor." The passage ends with this: "And he did not do many miracles there because of their _____ of faith."

Why do you think they didn't believe in Jesus, even though they knew the reports about him and were amazed at his wisdom and miraculous powers?

What "work of believing" would have been needed for them to receive Jesus as the one God had sent?

What work of believing do you need to do to receive what Jesus did for you?

THINK ABOUT IT: (from thoughts of Joseph Prince, Author of *Destined to Reign*)

- ♦ "Jesus knew no sin, did no sin and in Him was no sin. But at the cross, He received our sin and became sin for us." Do you believe Jesus took all your sins - past, present, future - into himself on the cross? Why is this a "work" of believing? How does it (or does it) affect your life?
- ♦ "We, who were sinners, knew no righteousness, did no righteousness and in us was no righteousness. But at the cross, we received His righteousness," becoming the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Do you believe you are righteous before God in Christ Jesus? Why does this require the "work" of believing? Does your believing fluctuate with your mood? Your behavior?
- ♦ The divine exchange: "He (Jesus) did not deserve to made sin, but He was made sin in our place. We did not deserve to be made righteous, but we were made righteous because we received His righteousness." Have you practiced this "work" of believing until it is a reality in your life?

God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

(2 Corinthians 5:21)

TAKE TIME TO READ!
Following is a review of books
for your reading enjoyment:

1. "Wagered Heart" by Robin Lee Hatcher, a novel about Bethany Silverton who moved from the genteel world in Philadelphia to the raw frontier town of Sweetwater, Montana. As a conservative preacher's daughter, she can't resist the challenge of charming the most attractive cowboy in town into attending her father's church, only to find that he has charmed her also. Bethany's quiet life is thrown into turmoil when ruthlessly ambitious Vince Richards thinks Bethany would make a perfect wife as well as a help in his ambition to become governor, and he is determined to get what he wants at any cost.
2. "Women of the Bible" by Ann Spangler, a one-year devotional study of women in scripture. It focuses on the lives of 52 prominent and not-so-prominent women to help you approach the story of salvation with fresh eyes. The cast of characters is long and colorful, including women, young and old, married and single. Even though our culture is different from theirs, we share many of the same emotional responses and struggles; women today are still agonizing over infertility, worrying about children, longing for real affection and struggling to find faith in times of darkness.
3. "The Virtues of Aging" by Jimmy Carter. Many ask, "What are the virtues? What could be good about growing old?" First, consider the alternative to aging! Virtues of aging include both the blessings that come to us as we grow older and what we have to offer that might be beneficial to others. It's better to be 70 years young than 40 years old. This book offers good ideas and insights.
4. "The Reason for God, Belief in an Age of Skepticism" by Timothy Keller. Even ardent believers have questions and doubts. Keller singlehandedly dismantles each of them. "Why does God allow suffering in the world? How could a loving God send people to Hell? How can one religion be 'right' and the others 'wrong'? Why have so many wars been fought in the name of God?" He presents an intelligent platform on which true believers can stand their ground when bombarded by the backlash to religion.
5. "Best Loved Poems from the Salesian Collection" compiled by Sara Tarascio. The title says it all. The book contains beautifully illustrated and lovely poems that are a pleasure to read and enjoy.
6. "Ready to Wed" by Melody Carlson, a novel about Grace Chapel. When Belle Bannister, a real Georgia peach, checks into Grace Chapel Inn on a MISSION TO FIND A HUSBAND AMONG THE ELIGIBLE BACHELORS OF ACORN HILL, the Howard sisters teeter between disbelief and awe. Belle sets off to plan her wedding, trusting God to supply the groom, and teaches them all an unlikely lesson about faith.
7. "The Innocent Man" by John Grisham, another legal thriller that is every bit as suspenseful and fast-paced as Grisham's

other stories. A man who could have been the next Mickey Mantle stumbles and his dreams are broken by drinking, drugs and women. On a winter night in 1982 a young cocktail waitress is murdered. The investigation has led nowhere until, on the flimsiest evidence, it led to Ron Williamson. The washed-up small-town hero was charged, tried and sentenced to death in a trial littered with lying witnesses and tainted evidence – a trial that let a true killer go free. Impeccably researched and grip-pingly told, it is filled with 11th hour drama.

8. "Adam" by Ted Dekker. FBI behavioral psychologist Daniel Clark has been stalking a killer known only as "Eve" for the past 16 months. When he traps the elusive psychopath in a face-off, Daniel becomes the next casualty, but then he is resuscitated. After dying once, he's got nothing left to lose in his obsession to stop Eve--or so he thinks. A high-octane thriller that exposes clearly the battle between good and evil.
9. "River Rising" by Athol Dickson. Welcome to Pilotville, Louisiana 1927, an isolated outpost on the Mississippi River, a stilt village bounded by swampland, an island of brotherly love in a sea of racism. Rev. Hale Poser, a stranger with a bad hip, has come looking for his roots. He is a humble man, a righteous man, a miracle man. In the swamp behind the tupelo and cypress lurks a lingering, sleeping evil. When the reverend silently slides ashore, it will sleep no longer. It will rain, rise up like a river and nothing but a miracle can stop this awful flood.
10. "A Lady of Secret Devotion": by Tracie Peterson, part of the Ladies of Liberty series that includes "A Lady of High Regard". Eager to ease the financial burdens of her family, Cassandra Stone is thrilled when she is hired to be a companion to Mrs. Jameston, a wealthy society matron who treats her like a daughter. Cassie begins to harbor concerns for her employer's safety, and her own, when Mrs. Jameston's son, Sebastian, exhibits resentment and cruelty toward his mother. When an insurance company suspects Sebastian of fraud, the company enlists Cassie's help, and the situation is quickly complicated by matters of the heart. .

Lent is an introspective period during which we take stock of our lives and relationships.

In this period of quietness and reflection, give yourself a treat and savor the literary fruits of some Christian writers. In the library you will find authors who share deeper understandings of old truths and others who write Christian fiction to bring you reflective and joy-filled moments.

Helen LeFave & Barbara Jackson
Your FUMCH Librarians

**NEW UMW 2010
READING PROGRAM BOOKS
Available in the FUMCH Library**

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Angels Among Us
In the Beginning
Longing for Enough in a Culture of More
My Tummy Talked in Church Today_

EDUCATION FOR MISSION

God Trusted a Woman
Where Mercy Fails (A Bonus Book)
Walking the Choctaw Road (Larger than Average Print)
Prayers and Ponderings (Large Print)_

NURTURING FOR COMMUNITY

Play With Me
The Undertaker's Wife
Still My Grandma

SOCIAL ACTION

A Little Piece of Ground (Larger than Average Print)
The Other Game (A Bonus Book)
The Road of Lost Innocence

Books in the Reading Program for Children and Youth can be read by Adults and count towards a District Reading Certificate.

ANGELS AMONG US: The Bible is full of stories about angels. Some angels bring messages revealing God's purposes, others provide strength and courage, and yet others simply praise and worship God. From the majesty of the angels in Jacob's ladder to the protection of Elijah's guardian angel, this beautifully illustrated Bible story picture book celebrates the mystery of these heavenly beings as they appear to people on earth.

IN THE BEGINNING: 50 Devotions for Teens on Genesis. You know the Creation story. You've studied Noah and the Ark, Abraham and Sarah, and Joseph and his brothers. But do you REALLY know these great stories of our faith? The author takes you on a journey through Genesis where you'll meet some familiar and some not-so-familiar characters. Then she challenges you to find your place in God's story and to cling to God's promises.

LOOKING FOR ENOUGH IN A CULTURE OF MORE: The author uses brief, thoughtful chapters to explore "The Good Book," "The Good Life," "The Good Work," "The Good Society" and "The Good Earth." The book's probing essays make the life of enough seem not only possible but a natural for Christians.

MY TUMMY TALKED IN CHURCH TODAY: And 51 Other Humorous Poems and Devotions for Adults Who Love Children. This collection of poems, Scriptures, reflections and prayers will bring joy and understanding to children and adults. Read these with the children in your life as you share, laugh and celebrate faith together.

GOD TRUSTED A WOMAN: Leadership Lessons from the Life of Dr. Frances M. Alguire, First Laywoman to Lead the World Methodist Council. Born and reared on a dairy farm in central Michigan, Dr. Frances M. Alguire rose through Christian service to become the first laywoman elected president of the World Methodist Council, representing 77 million Methodists worldwide.

WHERE MERCY FAILS: Darfur's Struggle to Survive – This book documents one of the greatest humanitarian crises of our time now underway in Darfur, Sudan. Veteran journalists Chris Herlin-

ger of Church World Service and Paul Jeffrey, a United Methodist Missionary and senior correspondent for United Methodist Women's "Response" magazine, show the conflict is political, environmental and intimately personal.

WALKING THE CHOCTAW ROAD: Stories from Red People Memory – The eleven stories in this book explore the heart of what it means to be Choctaw. The author doesn't shy away from describing the painful and tragic history of the Choctaws in the United States, but through this hurt, he reveals the deep faith, abiding hope and spiritual underpinnings of his people. (LARGER THAN AVERAGE PRINT)

PRAYERS AND PONDERINGS: This book is a collection of work by residents of Brooks-Howell, a United Methodist Women-owned home for retired deaconesses and missionaries in Asheville, NC. During their tenures, these women and men served God on five continents as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, educators, ministers and as God's servants in a variety of other capacities. (LARGER THAN AVERAGE PRINT)

PLAY WITH ME: Two Friends on a Spiritual Journey with Kids – Longtime friends, the authors find joy in following the winding path of wonder and wildness, silliness and surrender forged by their children. They discover hanging out in the park, building snowmen, and dealing with dirty diapers and ear infections can connect women to God and each other in deeply spiritual ways.

THE UNDERTAKER'S WIFE: Wisdom and Musings; Life in a Small Town Funeral Home – No one will forget the people who pass through the home of "The Undertaker's Wife." With warmth and humor, this initially reluctant undertaker's wife chronicles her journey from farmer's daughter to obtaining an advanced theological degree and becoming an organist in the small-town funeral home she shares with her husband.

STILL MY GRANDMA: Camille and her grandma have a special friendship. They have sleepovers, bake cupcakes together, go out shopping and giggle at old photographs. But one day Grandma forgets Camille's name. Then she can't remember where to put her shoes. This story gently introduces young readers to the realities of Alzheimer's disease and reminds them that love is more powerful than any illness.

A LITTLE PIECE OF GROUND: Twelve-year-old Karim Aboudi is stuck in his Ramallah home during a strict curfew, longing to be outside playing soccer with his friends. When the curfew ends, he and his friend discover a perfect site for a soccer field, but in this city there's constant danger even for schoolchildren. When soldiers find Karim outside during the next curfew, it seems impossible that he will survive. The author creates a fascinating metaphor for the Israeli occupation of Palestine allowing young and old to witness it through the salvaged play of Palestinian youth. (LARGER THAN AVERAGE PRINT)

THE OTHER GAME: Lessons from How Life is Played in Mexican Villages – A Bonus Book – Readers learn about democracy, economic well-being, the environment, and cultural and spiritual values from Mexican campesinos (farmers), while visiting villages that have existed for thousands of years. Villagers' way of life, work and families reveal alternatives for creating a sustainable future for all on the planet.

THE ROAD OF LOST INNOCENCE: The True Story of a Cambodian Heroine – The author's life story illustrates triumph over unthinkable adversity. The book recounts her childhood experience of being sold into sexual slavery and shuttled around Southeast Asia for a decade. This is also the story of an awakened activist and her brave fight against powerful forces stealing the lives of children around the world. NOTE: This book contains strong language and content.

Program runs yearly from July to June.

The books I have read to complete
PLAN ____ of the Reading Program are:

I have also read *Response Magazine*
and/or
New World Outlook regularly.

Completed forms are to be turned in to your
UMW Executive Committee by June 30th to
qualify for a "Certificate of Participation"
presented at UMW District Meeting in Octo-
ber.

READING PROGRAM PLANS

PLAN I

- 4 books each year
- 1 from each category
- Selections from the reading lists if not included in previous reports (including youth books)
- Regular reading of Response

PLAN II

- 10 books each year
- At least 2 from each category
- Selections from the reading lists if not included in previous reports (including youth books)
- Regular reading of Response and New World Outlook

PLAN III

- 15 books each year
- 7 additional books from each category
- Selections from the reading lists if not included in previous reports (including youth and children's books)
- Regular reading of Response and New World Outlook

PLAN IV

- 20 books each year
- 8 books with at least two from each category
- 12 additional books from any category
- Selections from the reading lists if not included in previous reports (including youth and children's books)
- Regular reading of Response and New World Outlook

Can't find the book you wish to read in our Church Library? Other possible sources of reading materials include the public library and the Mission Resource Center at:

www.missionresourcecenter.org
800-305-9857
Or
www.gbgm-umc.org/umw/readingprogram.

A publication of
United Methodist Women

**UNITED
METHODIST
WOMEN**

The Reading Program



FUMCH's Library
Collection of
UMW Reading
Program Books
are purchased by
Homosassa's UMW
Unit's funds.

The books can be found on the
shelves to the right-hand side of
the library door, directly across
from the librarian's desk.

2010

READING PROGRAM BOOKS BY CATEGORY AND YEAR

2009 READING PROGRAM BOOKS

Education for Mission

- R5007-2009-12: Creating a Habitat for Humanity
 R5036-2009-12: Greatest Gift, The
 R5005-2009-12: Let The Children Give Time, Talents, Love and Money
 R5023-2009-12: Lifting Up Hope, Living Out Justice
 R5002-2009-12: Many Faces, One Church
 R5034-2009-12: Send Me - The Story of Salkehatchio Summer Service
 R5033-2009-12: Three Cups of Tea

Nurturing for Community

- R5012-2009-12: Acts of Faith
 R5028-2009-12: Amish Grace
 R5008-2009-12: Crisis in The Village
 R5010-2009-12: Faith & Fitness - Diet and Exercise for a Better World
 R5040-2009-12: Recovering the Sacred
 R5050-2009-12: Who Stole My Church

Social Action

- R5035-2009-12: 51% Minority, The
 R5027-2009-12: Blessed are The Pacifists
 R5001-2009-12: Confronting the Controversies
 R5014-2009-12: Energy: Use Less, Save More
 R5016-2009-12: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
 R5011-2009-12: They Take Our Jobs!
 R5044-2009-12: William Wilberforce

Spiritual Growth

- R5004-2009-12: A Perfect Love
 R5025-2009-12: Gift of Change, The
 R5041-2009-12: Holy Stuff of Life: Stories, Poems, and Prayers
 R5042-2009-12: Inner Healing
 R5032-2009-12: Matthew - The Book of Mercy
 R5037-2009-12: Peace in The Storm
 R5009-2009-12: Sharing Food

Large Print

- R5049-2009-12: Three Cups of Tea
 R5051-2009-12: Here If You Need Me: True Story
 R5006-2009-12: Settling In
 R5052-2009-12: Gift of Change, The
 R5043-2009-12: Why?

Children

- R5017-2009-2: Crossing Bok Chito
 R5039-2009-2: Proud to be a Blacksheep
 R5038-2009-2: My Name is/Me Llamo Gabriela
 R5013-2009-2: The Dream on Blanca's Wall
 R5031-2009-2: Only One You
 R5048-2009-2: Still My Grandma
 R5047-2009-2: Four Feet, Two Sandals
 R5015-2009-2: Journey for the Planet
 R5045-2009-2: Angels Among Us
 R5046-2009-2: Circles of Hope

Youth

- R5018-2009-2: Walking the Choctaw Road
 R5029-2009-2: Making Of Isaac Hunt, The
 R5030-2009-2: William Henry is a Fine Name
 R5026-2009-2: A Little Piece of Ground
 R5003-2009-2: In the Beginning

2008 READING PROGRAM BOOKS

Education for Mission

- R1046-2008-12: End of the Spear
 R1019-2008-12: God's Golden Acre
 R1045-2008-12: Journey to Dignity
 R1032-2008-12: They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky

Nurturing for Community

- R1031-2008-12: For God and Country
 R1048-2008-12: Grace Matters
 R1017-2008-12: I Choose to Stay
 R1040-2008-12: Keeping Spiritual Balance as We Grow Older
 R1036-2008-12: Mrs. Hunter's Happy Death
 R1007-2008-12: Who's Raising your Child?

Social Action

- R1014-2008-12: Earth Trek
 R1033-2008-12: Enrique's Journey
 R1034-2008-12: Hard Line
 R1030-2008-12: War & the Christian Conscience
 R1008-2008-12: What's Wrong with the Christian Right?
 R1006-2008-12: When the Rivers Run Dry

Spiritual Growth

- M3011-2008-12: Traditional Beliefs of United Methodists
 R1028-2008-12: And We Are Changed
 R1002-2008-12: Jesus' Parables of the Lost And Found
 R1047-2008-12: Letters to a Young Doubter
 R1041-2008-12: Living Bountifully!
 R1003-2008-12: Longing to Pray
 R1029-2008-12: Walk in a Relaxed Manner

Large Print

- R1001-2008-12: 10 Gospel Promises for Later Life
 R1043-2008-12: Leap of Faith

ChildrenEducation for Mission

- R1021-2008-12: *Brothers in Hope*
 R1011-2008-12: Librarian of Basra

Nurturing for Community

- R1022-2008-12: Catching the Moon
 R1044-2008-12: Muskrat Will Be Swimming
 R1024-2008-12: Poems to Dream Together

Social Action

- R1012-2008-12: Almost Gone
 R1015-2008-12: Cooper's Tale

Spiritual Growth

- R1039-2008-12: Does God Hear My Prayer?

YouthNurturing for Community

- R1025-2008-12: No Place

2007 READING PROGRAM BOOKS

Education for Mission

- 2443-2007-12: Angry Wind
 2449-2007-12: Bethlehem Besieged
 2454-2007-12: Shagavad Gita, The
 2455-2007-12: Blindfold's Eyes - The Bonus Book
 2432-2007-12: Called As Partners in Christ's Service
 2488-2007-12: Hospital by the River, The

2007 READING continued

- 2456-2007-12: Kite Runner, The
 2457-2007-12: Like Grains of Wheat
 2459-2007-12: Once Upon a Time in Africa
 2439-2007-12: Standing Alone
 2458-2007-12: Storyteller's Companion to the Bible, The

Nurturing for Community

- 2498-2007-12: A Song to Sing, A Life to Live
 2460-2007-12: Beginning Again
 2440-2007-12: Belonging
 2450-2007-12: Ending Violence in Teen Dating Relationships
 2451-2007-12: Fifty-Two Simple Ways to Make A Difference
 2442-2007-12: From Rage to Reason
 2461-2007-12: Gambling: Don't Bet on It
 2433-2007-12: Giving Good Gifts
 2462-2007-12: Graying of the Church, The
 2463-2007-12: My Time
 2424-2007-12: Not Much Just Chillin'
 2407-2007-12: Sing Me to Heaven
 2431-2007-12: We Are All Suspects Now

Social Action

- 2411-2007-12: Blue Collar Jesus
 2499-2007-12: Children at War
 2412-2007-12: Dispossessed, The
 2464-2007-12: Disturbing the Peace Bonus Book
 2497-2007-12: Ending Hunger Now
 2446-2007-12: Getting in the Way
 2421-2007-12: God in the Alley
 2435-2007-12: God's Politics - Bonus Book
 2465-2007-12: One-Hour Activist, The
 2466-2007-12: Stop the Next War Now
 2430-2007-12: Taught by America
 2467-2007-12: Troubled Water
 2468-2007-12: Uprooting Racism
 2441-2007-12: What Can One Person Do?

Spiritual Growth

- 2469-2007-12: Awakening the Spirit, Inspiring The Soul
 2428-2007-12: Breakfast Epiphanies
 2470-2007-12: But Lord, I Was Happy Shallow
 2448-2007-12: Church Enslaved, The
 2471-2007-12: Courageous Spirit
 2472-2007-12: Faith and Feminism
 2422-2007-12: In the Beginning
 2423-2007-12: Joshua in a Troubled World
 2434-2007-12: Just Wives?
 2474-2007-12: Peacework
 2409-2007-12: Sing the Wondrous Love of Jesus
 2475-2007-12: Your Inner Eve

Large Print

- 2476-2007-12: Blessings of Brokenness, The
 2478-2007-12: Grace for the Moment
 2436-2007-12: God's Politics - Bonus Book

(Editorial Note: Children's, Youth's, and Book Listings from 2006 are available upon request.)

FUMCH UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

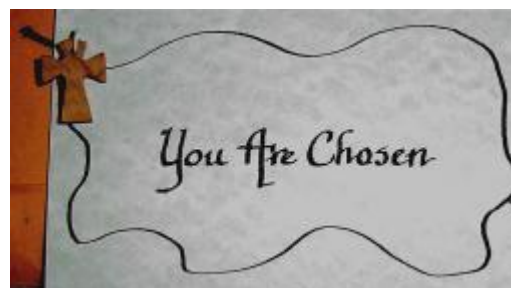
Installation of 2010 UMW Officers December 11, 2009



Martha Dorrell presented a dissertation describing "Chosen-Ness."

"United Methodist Women are privileged, select persons chosen by God for a ministry."

All newly elected officers were given a calligraphic badge with an olive wood cross...



Sisters serving in United Methodist Missions...

From left to right: Helen LeFave, President; Lori DeClue, Vice President; Jackie LaMountain, Treasurer; Barbara Jackson, Secretary of Program Resources; Ruth Oblinger, Membership, Outreach & Nurture Coordinator; Donna Ludwick, Spiritual Growth Coordinator; Sharon Deutch, Committee on Nominations Chairman; Judith Huffer, Publicity Chairperson; Maratha Dorrell, Installation Program MC. Front row: Nancy Pearo, Education & Interpretation Coordinator.

ATTENTION CIRCLE MEMBERS!

In regards to U.M.W. Circles being in charge of making soup for the Lenten Soup Suppers...

It has been discussed, and agreed upon, that there is too much pressure in having to get 22 - 24 pots/slow cookers, etc. of soup for each supper, and some of our members feel they can no longer make and transport soup.

Pastor Mark has stated that we don't have to worry about making all the soup anymore.

Each Circle will take a turn at being Hostess for one of the soup suppers. The duties will be to set up, make coffee and tea, furnish the bread, butter and crackers and clean up.

The soup suppers usually start at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

They will begin Feb. 24th. The schedule is as follows:

- ◆ February 24 - Helping Hand Circle
- ◆ March 3 - Faith Hope Circle
- ◆ March 10 - Executive Board/SALTY Circle
- ◆ March 17 - Dorcas Circle
- ◆ March 24 - Ruth Circle

If you have any questions or need more information, please call me - Helen Lefave - (352) 628-1380
Or email me at hhunter@tampabay.rr.com

BE A PART OF ASSEMBLY 2010!

It's time to plan your trip to St. Louis for the United Methodist Women's Assembly 2010, April 30 - May 2.

Plan to come a day early and take part in the pre-conference Ubuntu Day of Service, or the Mission Forward Symposium, both set for April 29!

Experience Assembly with your United Methodist Women sisters. Talk to your friends and make plans to travel together. Online registration is quick and easy. Visit the website www.umwmission.org - go to the Assembly web page and follow the prompts to register today.

Assembly 2010 is all about choice, and there will be exciting speakers and performances in the Dome, as well as interesting panel discussions, workshops, and presentations in the Experience Hall. You'll re-tool for mission and recharge your spirit with United Methodist Women members and partners from around the world.

Reserve your spot today and make sure you are a part of Assembly 2010! See you there!

CALL FOR PRAYER SHAWLS AND BABY BLANKETS FOR ASSEMBLY 2010



United Methodist Women members can warm up for Assembly by putting their legendary craft skills to work making prayer shawls and baby blankets for the quadrennial event in St. Louis, MO, April 30 to May 2. The items will be displayed in the Assembly Experience Hall and distributed after the event to mission institutions and persons in physical and/or spiritual need. Some of the shawls will be available for purchase with proceeds going to United Methodist Women's Mission Giving.

The shawls and baby blankets may be sewn with fabric, knitted, or crocheted. Suggested sizes for the prayer shawls are: triangles – 65 inches long and 32 inches center back; rectangles – 19 inches by 69 inches, or 14 inches by 70 inches. Suggested sizes for the baby blankets are – 30 inches by 30 inches, 32 inches by 32 inches, 3 inches by 36 inches, and 38 inches by 38 inches. These are suggested sizes and shouldn't limit creativity.

Prior to Assembly 2010, United Methodist Women members should take the completed prayer shawls and baby blankets to their local churches to be blessed. Send the consecrated items to Linda C. Douglas, Women's Division/General Board of Global Ministries, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 1504, New York, NY 10115 by March 1.

In the spirit of "Faith-Hope-Love in Action," the theme of the 18th Assembly, use your talents and skills to share warmth and love with others.

Please have your items at the church office by February 18th.

Pastor Mark will conduct a Blessing Ceremony over the completed articles, on Sunday, February 21st.

Shawls and blankets have to be mailed to reach New York City by March 1st.

For more information on

A Call for Prayer Shawls and Baby Blankets for Assembly 2010, go to: www.umwmission.org



and click on the "Assembly 2010" box, or contact Ms. Douglas at ldouglas@gbgm-umc.org or 212-870-3753.

All Roads Lead to....

Have you ever driven in a subdivision where all roads seemed to lead back to the main entrance? It's a careful design to keep us from getting hopelessly lost.

When God wants us to do something, sometimes it seems as if all roads lead to that very activity.

Is God calling you to a new ministry activity in our congregation? Consider Stephen Ministry, our one-to-one care giving ministry.

For an unforgettable map and more information, contact Kay Bast, 382-4908, Karen Kline, 382-7263, or Carol MacKenzie, 382-8926.

Are You in Need?

I was a woman caught between the sometimes conflicting needs of husband, home, and the increasing physical and medical needs of ageing parents.

I prayed...reached out...I became a care receiver. My Stephen Minister care giver listened, to my frustrations, supplied the tissue to dry my tears, prayed with me, and encouraged me in the paths I know I needed to pursue.

My care giver was there the night my parent died, being my quiet anchor and support. She was there in the months after with smiles and prayers. My care giver and I have a special bond that will always be there and still is today.

I was a man who had a rich long life but had reached a point where living became difficult. I was ready to die, but wasn't sure God wanted me.

I became a care receiver. I looked forward to the weekly meetings with the "Church Man"... my own Stephen Minister.

The night before I died, I told my family that I was ready. With the help of my care giver, I knew that I would be with God and would see my family again.

Do you need a Stephen Minister?

Talk with any one of those who are wearing the BLUE name badge. Or Call: Kay Bast 382-4908, Karen Kline 382-7263, Carol MacKenzie 382-8926



Kay Bast
Peggy Benson
Anna Cooley
Ernie Dorrell
Martha Dorrell
Shirley Dunkle
Jane Hamilton
Sue Harris
Joyce Hesketh
Mary Jane Houchins
Karen Kline
Carol MacKenzie
Charles Peters
Jim Potts
Marilyn Siegel

Serendipity Happenings

Through Serendipity, the Holy Spirit is doing wonderful and beautiful things.

Sitting here gazing out of the window at my now frozen and burned yard, hearing the furnace kick on, and contemplating the temperature vacillating from the 40s to low 20s and a predicted 15 degrees for Monday, I quickly realize that winter is here – brrrr. Then my thoughts quickly go to those hurting from the cold and to those helping others who are victims of this cold. Are you one of them?

I cringe at the thought of having to live outside, and yet there are many right here in our immediate vicinity and community who do. Not only are they homeless, but also hungry. In this morning's news, I read of persons in a car driving by a homeless group of men and women in St. Pete and throwing acid bombs out of the window onto these people -- man's inhumanity to man.

We in Serendipity are trying to help. Each month we have a pancake breakfast for the public. Our men routinely contribute cash and supplies. All monies go to those in need. We want to increase our contributions, and we want to more adequately support those among us who give beyond what we can imagine.

Such persons include Jerry Tanner and his wife Janet, both long-time FUMC members. They work as a team and give specific direction and needs information to us in Serendipity. On virtually a full-time basis, they support and help fill the needs of those "on the streets." They distribute food and supplies. They transport people to shelters. They talk with them and care for them, one on one -- "Angels of Mercy to the Needy." When you see Jerry or Janet, thank them for what they do. They are doing our Lord's will by feeding the hungry and so much more. God bless them.

Men and friends of FUMC: Our Serendipity group has grown from five men with a vision to 25 and growing. As we take on additional needed projects, we need more men to join us. As we study and discuss the Bible as it relates to our present world and contemporary living, good things happen.

Won't you consider joining with us on

Tuesdays from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.?

Experience the brotherly love and fellowship in the group and be a part of helping us to help others. Join at any time.

Call Jim Potts (382-1842) for further information.

Do Your Part to Help The Homeless!

SERENDIPITY'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST

All You Can Eat ~ \$4.00

FEBRUARY 13

8:00 - 10:00 AM

ITEMS NEEDED FOR HOMELESS

Jerry and Janet Tanner, church members who tirelessly volunteer helping the homeless in Homosassa and Hernando, mentioned 3 dire needs:

- Pillar candles to put in tin cans, to keep the tents warm and as a light source. (Candles do not have to be new ones.)
- C&D batteries (Dollar General & Dollar Tree are good sources).
- Toilet paper.
- Hair shampoo and conditioner, soap, and other toiletry items can be used also. (Partial opened bottles are accepted. How many of us have bought a product and then discovered that it "just didn't work for us" and either threw it out or put it on a shelf, never to see the light of day again?)

Items can be dropped off at the Church Office, with the notation the items are for Jerry and Jan's Homeless Ministry..

SOME OF OUR OUTREACH MINISTRIES

World-wide: As a church we contribute about \$80,000 a year to missions on nearly every continent.

Closer to Home: We support a number of important ministries in our State. One of the most significant is The United Methodist Children's Home & Habitat For Humanity.

Thrift Shop: This valuable service provides clothing and household goods at very low costs to the community. Used computers, golf equipment, luggage, and various other items are also offered periodically.

Food Pantry & Holiday Food Baskets: We collect food, and have distributed 1022 bags of groceries and 100 Holiday Gift Baskets in 2009 to local families. The need keeps growing: 801 bags in 2008, 624 bags in 2007, 495 bags in 2006, and 492 bags in 2005.

SHARE: This food-buying cooperative offers top quality meats, fish, fowl, staples, and produce, at bargain prices to all who wish to participate in the monthly program.

St. Lawrence River Cruise/Tour September. 19-27, 2010

By Rev. Richard Evans, Tour Host

There have been a few recent changes in our trip to Canada scheduled for September. **Non-stop flights in both directions!** We will fly from Orlando direct to Montreal via Air Canada on Sunday, Sept. 19. Then motor coach to Quebec City, where we will board the M/V Canadian Empress for a fabulous Lawrence River cruise to Kingston ON. And we will return from Toronto direct to Tampa via Air Canada.

The price has been reduced! How often does that happen these days? Due to a great deal on airfare for our group, we have been able to reduce the per person cost by \$150. The new price of \$3,425 is based on a group of 30 and includes all of the following: airfare, cruise, meals on board ship, hotels (Quebec City & Toronto), motor coach transportation to and from Homosassa, motor coach transportation in Canada, shore excursions, and comprehensive travel insurance. A \$350 deposit will hold your reservation.

A party at the Pohlman's home! Ralph and Lois Pohlman, associate members of FUMCH and Canadian citizens, have graciously invited our group to a Sunday afternoon party on Sept. 26 at their home in Belleville (just 45 minutes from Kingston). Their home is in a beautiful location overlooking Lake Ontario and right on our way to Toronto for the night.

The cruise itself will be a spectacular journey up-river, with stops at many interesting sites. The fall foliage should be at its peak. The ship is small but with all the expected amenities and with accommodations for about 120 passengers. Our group will be about 25% of the passenger list. (Check it out at www.stlawrencecruiselines.com)

All church members and friends are welcome—as long as there is space. Pick up a new flyer at the church office. Call me (563-5833) if you have questions. Then call Jess Mackey at J and L Travel (382-7708) to register.

We have scheduled a special Information Meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 24 from 4 to 5 pm in room 114. We will show a video from St. Lawrence Cruise Lines and answer all your questions.

EBADOC Academy

Our Lent/Easter EBADOC Academy rotation unit: "Jesus in the Garden" will begin on February 21st and run through March 28th. All first graders and up are invited to join us at the EBADOC Academy. Remember...we countdown and blast off at 9:30 every Sunday morning.

**It's that time of year again!
Calling all previous and new
VBS 2010 Volunteers!
No experience necessary!**



Mark your calendars now. We have set tentative dates of **June 7-11, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. until Noon** (due to the Memorial Holiday many families have plans during that time.)

Come join our team as we prepare this year to take a journey to **Egypt: "Joseph's Journey From Prison to Palace."**

We will need a lot of enthusiastic adult and teen volunteers for this one. This VBS is written for a multi-generational experience. So whatever you can do, **WE NEED YOU!** Carpenters, set designers, painters, snack leader, Egyptian "Shop Keepers" in the "market place", costume makers, sewers, "Family Leaders and Assistant Family Leaders", make-up artists (think Cleopatra), audio/visual (Sharon!), Joseph and other actors.

We have something for everyone to do -- any age, any talent (or lack of) just people who love children and are willing to have a great time with them.

So let's have some fun and "walk like an Egyptian!" Call Kim Bennett at 382-3941 or Crystal Wiseman at 503-7098 for more information. Watch the Sunday bulletins for meeting dates/times.

YOUTH NEWS

The latter part of 2009 found the Youth Group busy with activities and projects. Prior to Thanksgiving, they created and assembled autumn craft projects, which they then used as demonstration models for the EBADOC Academy students. The Youth assisted the Sunday School students in completing more of the festively decorated leaves, turkeys, and cornucopia, which were presented to the Visitation Committee members. These ladies were delighted to take the children's creations to those they visited at home, in rehab, or nursing facilities, and in hospitals. This collaborative ministry activity seemed to be enjoyable and successful for all.

Later, with the enthusiastic and capable direction of Mrs. Krissy Brown, the Youth Group members spent an evening in the computer lab, where they custom made Christmas cards. These were taken to the EBADOC Academy students, who further decorated and signed them; the final versions were then passed on to the Visitation Committee. Prior to the Christmas holiday, these cards were sent or delivered to shut-in or ill members of the congregation. We hope they brought a bit of joy and happiness to the recipients.

In early November, students Jerry Crawford and Kayla Micali, accompanied by Mrs. Neretta Brobst, attended a weekend "Cross Trainers Retreat" at the Warren Willis Youth Camp in Leesburg. The extremely busy weekend featured numerous worship services, small group discussions, music, structured competitions, unstructured activity times, and, of course, food! A total of 267 teenagers, plus advisors, youth ministers, and activity leaders, filled the campus for the weekend. It was an educational, social, and spiritual time for all. We hope to have more youth attend Summer Camp and next fall's retreat. Anyone who is interested in further details may contact "Mrs. B" at the church; some scholarship funds are available to subsidize camp fees. (Summer Camp registration has already begun; information packets were distributed in Sunday School. Please contact Mrs. B if you would like one.)

Mid-December found us playing a Christmas Trivia Game while decorating a tree and the Youth Center. Some mischievous creativity was also afoot, as the youth found ways to include ping pong paddles and balls, hockey pucks, and other game pieces as "ornaments" on the tree! But when completed, it was a lovely sight to behold.

On January 6, 2010, we learned about and celebrated Twelfth Night, thus concluding the Christmas Season and moving us into the season of Epiphany. Our more recent activities focused on "Caring for Creation," in which we identified all that God has created and our responsibilities for maintaining and protecting those gifts. We have tried to further our conservation and recycling activities, especially as individuals and in our homes. We want to remind all of you that we are still accepting aluminum cans and empty printer cartridges for recycling, and the funds earned are used to support mission children in the Philippines and Peru. Thank you to all who have supported these efforts in the past; we hope you will continue to do so.

LILIES FOR EASTER SERVICES

We will be taking orders on three Sundays:
March 7, 14 and 21.

- Fill out the envelope order form completely.
- Place a check or cash in the envelope.
- Please make check to FUMC.
- Place the envelope in the OFFERING PLATE.
- The envelopes will be in the narthex.
- The plants will once again be \$10.00.

Thank you for your continued support to make our church special for Easter.
With appreciation, The Decorating Committee

A Bequest that Lasts Forever

Joe and Anna have been faithful members of their United Methodist Church and enthusiastic supporters of its ministries and mission.

Joe: "Several years ago, Anna and I knew it was time to update our Will and we decided to include bequests to our church and several favorite charities. We really want to be able to help others even after we are gone."

Anna: "And we wanted to do more than just make gifts. Joe and I have been careful over the years and have accumulated resources that make our retirement years very comfortable. We plan to be generous with family, but we also have the ability to be generous with our church and other charities.

So we have named four of our favorite charities to receive \$2,500 each. And we have named the church to receive \$40,000 designated to the Permanent Endowment Fund. By doing so, our bequest will generate additional income to our church's ministries for generations to come. That gives us a great deal of satisfaction."

Travel With Friends

Come with us to MILL CREEK FARM in Alachua. This Retirement Home for Horses gives lifetime care to horses rescued by the SPCA or Humane Societies, horses retired from government service such as police patrol, state and federal parks, etc.

Date: Saturday, March 13, 2010
Time: 10:00am
Cost: \$10 plus 1 carrot

Lunch on your own at Brown's Restaurant. After lunch we will walk around Mill Creek Farm, once part of a golf course, and see these horses in their beautiful environment.

\$10.00 check due by March 1, payable to FUMC.
Please mail to:
Ann Morrison
7046 W. Lincolnshire Dr.
Homosassa, FL 34446

**IF YOU HURRY...
YOU MAY NOT BE TOO LATE!**

**NEVER ATTENDED A RETREAT BEFORE?
NOW'S THE TIME FOR YOU TO SAY,
"Honey, let's go!"**

Any doubts, questions, or reservations?
If so, talk to any of the couples listed below.
They went last year and most are going back this year.
If you are "on the fence"
a talk with them will convince you to attend this uplifting, spiritual event.
(the food is outstanding also!)

- Ron & Marie Witham
- Jack & Lois Schoch
- Arden & Nancy Sheaffer
- Lee & Kay Bast
- Sheldon & Jackie LaMountain
- Jim & Barb Stoneman
- Walt & Marge Dilling
- Art & Althea Stuckey

**2010 COUPLE'S RETREAT
MARCH 12 to 14, 2010**

United Methodist Retreat Center Leesburg
"In Jesus Name"

Leadership Team



John Riley



Sharon Austin



Ed Diaz



Music Leaders
Gretchen & Reg
The Dunnemans

**Time is running out! Please send in your
Registrations and Checks Now!**

**Jim Stoneman 352-422-0169
and Marilyn Watson.**

THRIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

FUMCH'S UMW Thrift Shop seeks volunteers to man its thrift shop. Thrift Shop is open from 9:00 AM to Noon, Thursday-Saturday.

All money raised at our thrift shop supports the UMW's local, national, and global missions. The profit is divided among:

- ◆ Undesignated Mission Giving – Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, and Love Offering.
- ◆ Designated Giving
- ◆ Administration and Membership Development.
- ◆ Local Missions – Ecumenical and Community Projects, Local Mission Programs, Vacation Bible School.

A desire to serve is more important than any retail experience you might have. The Thrift Shop Volunteer greets customers personally, sells Thrift Shop merchandise, and maintains an awareness of stock, operates the register, and keeps accurate count of money, sorts and tags merchandise, and assists the Thrift Shop Manager to assess needs. Helps maintain a clean and attractive shop.

For more information:

Claudette Kirby, Thrift Shop Co-Chair Phone: FUMCH Thrift Shop: 352-628-4083 Home: 352-382-4568	Marge Davis, Thrift Shop Co-Chair Phone: FUMCH Thrift Shop: 352-628-4083
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PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for:

- Each of us to come to worship ready to hear what the Holy Spirit has for each of us.
- Our Missions Committee members, esp. this month as they make important decisions.
- Each of our missionaries and the agencies we support.
- All those who come to visit our church to sense the difference the presence of the Holy Spirit makes here.
- Each woman who is participating in the Leesburg Women's Retreat February 19 – 21.
- Members of the short-term mission team headed to Haiti.
- Each one of us to have a passion to know Jesus more intimately.
- Our Men's Prayer Group who gathers so faithfully every Wednesday to pray.
- Each couple who is being prompted to attend the Couples' Retreat to respond and for all the couples as they prepare for the retreat March 12 – 14.
- Christ to be glorified in all we do.

STEWARDSHIP 2010

The year just passed was difficult from many aspects. The economy, the health care debate, wars, a seemingly unproductive congress, and people from all walks of life losing their homes and being forced to live in undesirable situations—all these result in much concern.

Through all this you have done your best to keep the Lord's Church financially sound. Even though our covenants were less than last year, we are a great deal better off than many other struggling institutions.

As chairman of the Stewardship Committee, I want to thank you all for the sacrifices you are making to honor our Lord. Together, with careful planning and by identifying ways to save, we will successfully make it through 2010.

You are a fantastic group. Thank you!

In His Love and Grace,
Jim Roth

Thank You for Your Support

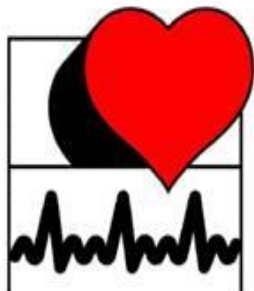
The **Florida United Methodist Children's Home** and the Mission Committee would like to thank our congregation for the support you have given us this past year. We did not make our goal this past year, but hopefully we will make it in the New Year 2010. We will begin this year with a **Fifth Sunday Offering on January 31st** and **won't have another 5th Sunday until May 30th**. Of course, we are always glad to have contributions anytime during the year.

This is a wonderful ministry of helping children who truly need our aid. Some of the children and youth who come into the care of the Children's Home feel neglected, abandoned, rejected or have serious family conflicts and discord in their lives. The treatment programs at the Children's Home are engaged in the restoration of broken bonds and broken relationships, believing that such restoration opens the path to good mental health.

Mental health is enhanced through a personal relationship with God. Recent brain-scan research has demonstrated that the religious impulse is rooted in the biology of the brain. The human brain has been mysteriously endowed with the unique capacity to reach and know God. If the Children's Home is successful in reaching and teaching these children, they will be able to leave the Children's Home having been reconnected to hope, to significant others in their lives, and to God. Their connection to God is especially important as they learn to know and trust the One who will never leave or desert them regardless of what life situations come their way.

**Thanks to this congregation
for helping to achieve these goals!**

February is American Heart Month



February is traditionally Valentine month. What is the symbol of Valentine cards? Mostly, it is a picture of the heart. February is also heart month. All my literature focuses on diet, exercise, stress relief, and medication. My new Harvard Heart Letter has 10 small steps to get you on the road to better health in 2010.

1. Take a 10-minute walk every day.
2. Give yourself a lift. Lifting a hardcover book or a 2 pound weight a few times a day can help tone your arm muscles.
3. Eat one extra fruit or vegetable a day. They are good for everything from your brain to your bowels.
4. Make breakfast count. Start the day with some fruit and a serving of whole grains like oatmeal, bran flakes, or whole wheat toast.
5. Stop drinking your calories. Cutting out just one sugar-sweetened soda or latte can easily save you 100 calories a day, or a 10 pound weight loss in one year.
6. Have a handful of nuts. Walnuts, almonds, peanuts, and other nuts are good for your heart.
7. Sample the fruit of the sea. Eat fish or other sea food one time a week instead of red meat. It's good for the heart, brain and waistline.
8. Breathe deeply. Try this for a few minutes each day. It can help you relax and also help to lower blood pressure.
9. Wash your hands often. The flu, pneumonia and other infections can be very hard on the heart
10. Count your blessings. Take a moment each day to acknowledge your blessings in in your life. Gratitude is a very positive emotion and has been linked with better health, longer life and greater well-being .

Aristotle said, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit."

Small steps are one way to get into the habit of excellent health. (Harvard Health Letter)

Shirley Exley

COMMITTEE EXPRESSES THANKS FOR CONGREGATION'S SUPPORT

The Missions Committee wishes to express its appreciation for the support the congregation provided in the recent Snickers candy bar campaign. The goal was 1790 bars and more than 1800 were collected.



Each candy bar was wrapped with a Christmas message written by our pastor. Warden Gerald Roberts and Chaplain Ron Knowles at Lancaster Correctional Institution were particularly appreciative of the 1000 bars they received because that was the only item the inmates would be given this Christmas. Warden Roberts felt the inspirational message could have a positive effect on the men.

The assistant warden and human resources manager at the Citrus County Correctional Facility also were very appreciative of the 700 candy bars given their facility. They thanked our church for the message around each bar and for the fact we were doing something for the inmates who are often ignored by the general public.

All of the staff at E-Ninni-Hassi, the girls camp sponsored by the Eckert Foundation, were very excited and thankful for the 90 Snickers bars furnished them.

Excellent support also was furnished by local businesses. Donations were received from: Publix, Sweetbay, Walmart, Winn Dixie and CVS. Of particular note were the Publix Corporation which sent a \$100 gift card (in recognition of its two stores) and Sweetbay which provided 150 candy bars.

The excess bars along with the pastor's message are being included with the food given to the needy by our food pantry.

Jack Radabaugh, Missions Committee

Dear Praying friends,

We thank the Lord for a tremendous 2009 of serving Him, and may all of us be blessed as we seek to give Him the glory again this new year.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” – Colossians 3:23-24

Praises

✚Cool Shade of Life Church held its **fourth baptism service** last month, at which four new members were baptized Praise God! Please pray for *Dton, Uuy, Dukada* and *Dtum* to grow in their new faith and to be protected by God as the attacks come.



✚For eight days, our living room was like a train station with hundreds of people passing through regularly – or it just seemed that way! Anyway, we hosted a Cool Shade of Life Church youth group **Christmas party**, a church evangelistic event that included a Billy Graham Evangelistic Association video, and a women’s group Christmas party. For those long-time readers of this bulletin, you will remember when the women’s group was *a lot* more sparse than it was this year. Praise God that these groups are growing! Please pray for the five non-Christian women who heard the Gospel for the first time at the outreach event.



Church Teens



Church Outreach



Church Women

✚Our **financial situation** continues to steadily improve thanks to so many generous donors! In the first half of December, we received another \$1,500 in one-time gifts. Praise God! That totals \$11,135, or 82%, of the one-time gifts needed to erase our mission account debt and reimburse us for ministry expenses paid with personal funds. Only another \$2,415 to go! Our regular support also continues to climb, as we have received \$900 in additional monthly support since our October request for help. We are now at 92% of our support goal, with another \$500 to go. Please continue to pray for us to be financially sound for the first time in, well, basically since we were first approved as missionaries in 1999!

✚Thank you for your prayers concerning our **one-year Thai visas**. Praise God that everything went smoothly despite possible complications and that all five of us on this side of the world are legal to live here for yet another year.

Prayers

✚Ministry begins in earnest again as **our family visits Pastor Moses** in Mae Ai near the northern border with Burma today through Sunday. We would like to develop the partnership our team has with Pastor Moses, so we will enjoy the new year’s festivities in his village and then join in worship on Sunday before returning home. Then, next Tuesday and Wednesday, Joe is tentatively scheduled to travel alone to western Chiang Mai province in order to consider a team partnership with an evangelist who wants to start a church in an area with no believers. We also have plans to meet with a Chiang Mai business couple later this month to consider how a Christian community with their employees and clients might look and whether our team should be involved. Please pray for safe travel and for wisdom for all involved in these gatherings.

✚Joe will be meeting later this month with **a couple from the U.S.** who are interested in PIONEERS and ministry in Thailand. Please pray for God to lead them wisely in His plans for their future and that Joe would be a blessing in their search.

Cool Shade of Life Church in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Visit our Web Site:

<http://www.ourchurch.com/member/h/HenryThailand/>

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

News from the Wooster's

We were so blessed to have both our boys here in Siberia over their Christmas breaks this year. [We had forgotten how much food, juice and milk two students can chow down.]

Although the temperatures were **way** below normal for this time of year, -45 to -53 F., they managed to snowboard and ice skate with old friends and were able to spend time on Baikal.

Our time was not without work...to the right is a fence Corey designed in the Village.



Lake Baikal: We've been many places over the past 13+ years; Lake Baikal is by far one of our top five favorites. Along with our co-workers, we spent four days camping, yes camping, near the shores of the lake. As crazy as this may sound, we did stay in winterized "yurts" or round tents. (Very warm and very cozy.) The snow was up to three feet deep and the lake was spectacular. It was in the process of freezing and there are no words to describe how that occurs. What an amazing sight!



New Year and Christmas in Horinsk: New Years is a HUGE celebration, unfortunately it is usually one in which everyone gets drunk. This year we decided to have a major celebration with our fellowship in the village in an environment where there would be NO alcohol. We started making all the food in the afternoon, then about 7 pm we all got together and continued preparing the meal we would share later. The custom here is to sit down and eat at midnight....so we placed all the food on the table and had a MAJOR feast with all kinds of salads, fruit, and meat dishes. Of course no Russian feast would be complete without candies and sweets of all kinds. With over 40 people present, we began the New Year celebration around 11pm with a time of sharing what the Lord had done in our lives in 2009. Around 11:45, we ate a little "snack"...prayed in the New Year, watched fireworks, then around 12:30 sat down to eat our "feast"! We played games till about 4:00 am in the morning and then started taking everyone home. By 5:00 am we were all snuggled in bed. (Side note: There



was one family that did not come; they stayed home because they have a 4 month old baby. It was the first time in many years that the husband had not been drunk. He had stopped drinking when he started his new life with the Lord. Oh the power of prayer!

A second Christmas: The Russian Orthodox Church follows the Julian calendar for its holidays and special services. For this reason, we have the blessing of celebrating the "reason for the season" twice. On Jan. 7th we were able to attend services in the city and on the 10th celebrated with the folks in the village and were joined by some members of the worship team from Ulan Ude. Christmas "carols" are a relatively new thing here, however, each year we hear of yet another beautiful hymn or carol that has been translated as we worship the newborn king.



Manger Scene
"Merry Christmas" in Russian

Please join us in prayer for the young families in the village. There is so much pressure to drink and so much dishonesty along with a high crime rate in the region...we have two young families and many young single mothers who are desperately trying to change their lives. Remember them often.



We also continue to remember Ivan as he works through his recovery. He presses on and looks better every time we time we visit.



Lastly, we ask for His provisions in our monthly needs. We are not in a desperate situation but are low and trust He will provide as always in His ways and timing.

*"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God!"
~ Psalm 100: 1,2a ~*

Kevin and Laura Wooster

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS	
2 Cyrnda Walker	15 David Brightman
3 John Hoadley	Bill Jahn
Karen Kline	Harold Slusher
Syble Little	16 Judy Lipovetz
Harold Marvin	Roberta Little
Judy Powell	Judy O'Gorman
Gini Slusher	
4 Phyllis Grotjahn	17 William Britland
5 Neretta Brobst	Marilyn McKown
Carolyn Roth	Delmar Meewes
Arlene Stohrer	Bernice Wade
6 Nell Lent	18 Alice Hurley
Marjorie Ottman	20 Candy McFarland
7 Allen Stone	Patricia Urzen
8 Hilda Theriault	Marilyn Watson
9 Bill Barton	21 Joyce Foxwell
Dylan Patton	Neil Kline
Wanda Wheeler	Pat Layman
10 Eden Kimble	Jack Radabaugh
Pam Milat	22 Jim Roth
11 Bud Ludwick	23 Ann Morrison
Barbara Smith	24 Christine Annear
12 Audrey Hite	25 Richard Hartley
13 Shirley Cromer	Donna Ludwig
14 Pam Bailey	Jack Ness
Pamela Patton	26 Marguerite McClain
Hendrik Pouderyn	28 Richard Evans

Dear Church Family:

We are so blessed to be a part of FUMC. We want to Thank You so much for all the prayers, phone calls, and visits during and following John's recent hospitalizations.

Blessing to all,

Jo Ann & John Guthrie

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES	
1 Olive & Alex Stevens ~ 59 years ~	16 Diane & John Gibbs ~ 47 years ~
2 Sharon & James Haskell ~ 46 years ~	17 Loretta & Alan Burcaw ~ 20 years ~
Ann & John Sandstrom ~ 45 years ~	Althea & Art Stuckey ~ 46 years ~
8 Joyce & Don Foxwell ~ 54 years ~	23 Dorothea & Waldo Shellenberg ~ 53 years ~
14 Alice & Robert Yusko ~ 2 years ~	25 Janet & Jerry Tanner ~ 33 years ~
15 Eve & Thomas Walsh ~ 7 years ~	26 Rosalie & Wayne Haynes ~ 33 years ~
	Ina & Joe Ryder ~ 10 years ~
	27 Gail & Richard English ~ 41 years ~

In Our Thoughts
And Prayers

PERSONS RESIDING IN
LONG-TERM CARE
(As of 1/6/2010)

- AVANTE
Annie Preston
- BRENTWOOD
Corrine Baritto
Evelyn Bash
- CR HEALTH & REHAB
Betty Farewell
Robert Smith
- DIAMOND RIDGE
Jean Buzby
Betty Duncan
Helen Hudson
- GREEN ACRES
Bud Jenks
- HUNT RESIDENCE
Bill Marquis
- SUGARMILL MANOR
Shirley Hart
Grace Payne
- SUNFLOWER SPRINGS
Marguerite Belzer
Ruth Eaton
Ruth & Bill Willis
- WOODLAND TERRACE
Shirley Weber

Welcome New Members
December 2009



Carolee & Mike Gettings
4 Bonnie Drive
Homosassa 34446
352-382-1075
From: Fairmont, WV



Bonnie Knapp
15 Boxelder Court
Homosassa 34446
352-382-0759
From: Oneonta, NY



Theresa & Randy Weber
4150 W. Geraldine Drive
Citrus Springs, FL
352-201-8520
From: Sarasota, FL



Judy & Tom Williams
4 Cosmos Court E
Homosassa 34446
352-503-7556
From: Auburn, ME

MANY MANY THANKS!

We send a great big THANK YOU to all of our Church family who have provided us with so many donations for our homeless family in Hernando.

We have used most everything and we will continue to do what we've been doing for our homeless and needy friends.

God Bless,
Jerry & Janet Tanner

WATCH FOR
ANNOUNCEMENTS
ABOUT MOVIE
PRESENTATIONS
IN OUR NEW THEATRE!



Yes! There really will be popcorn!



FEBRUARY 2010

	MONDAY 1	TUESDAY 2	WEDNESDAY 3	THURSDAY 4	FRIDAY 5	SATURDAY 6
	8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Exercise 6:00 Stephen Min.	10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Stephen Ministries 3:00 Serendipity Bible 3:00 Stephen Ministries 3:00 ABC Bible	7:00 Mens Prayer Group 9:00 WW Prep 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 Lakmountain Bible 12:30 Lunchtime Bible 2:30 Prayer Discovery 5:15 Music 5:30 Wonderful Wednesday 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir	9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 2:00 Green Committee 3:00 Adult Bible 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 Creative Worship 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	GENESIS DEADLINE 9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 10:00 Wise Bible	8:00 Sat. Sisters 9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 10:30 Bereavement 10:30 God's Clods
SUNDAY 7	MONDAY 8	TUESDAY 9	WEDNESDAY 10	THURSDAY 11	FRIDAY 112	SATURDAY 13
COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship	8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Exercise	9:30 Faith Hope Circle 9:30 Helping Hand Circle 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Dorcas Circle 2:00 Stewardship 3:00 Serendipity Bible 3:00 ABC Bible 7:00 Saly Circle 7:00 GROWN-UP Movies	7:00 Mens Prayer Group 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 Lakmountain Bible 10:00 SHARE Sign-Up 12:30 Lunchtime Bible 1:00 Shawl Ministry 2:30 Prayer Discovery 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir	9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 9:15 Ruth Circle 3:00 Adult Bible 4:00 Video Rehearsal 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 10:00 Wise Bible	8:00 Sat. Sisters 8:00 PANCAKE BKFAST 9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 10:00 SHARE Sign-Up 10:30 Bereavement
SUNDAY 14	MONDAY 15	TUESDAY 16	WEDNESDAY 17	THURSDAY 18	FRIDAY 19	SATURDAY 20
DISCRETIONARY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship	OFFICE CLOSED 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Exercise 6:00 Stephen Min.	10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Thrift Shop Tea 1:30 Stephen Ministries 2:00 Finance Comm. 3:00 Serendipity Bible 3:00 Stephen Ministries 3:00 ABC Bible	ASH WEDNESDAY 7:00 Mens Prayer Group 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 Lakmountain Bible 11:00 Diabetes Support 12:00 ASH WEDNESDAY SERV. 12:30 Lunchtime Bible 2:30 Prayer Discovery 3:30 Staff/Parish Committee 5:15 Music 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir	9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 3:00 Adult Bible 3:00 Missions 3:30 Trustees 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 Creative Worship 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	COUNCIL REPORTS 9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 10:00 Wise Bible	8:00 Sat. Sisters 9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 10:00 KIDS Movies 10:30 Bereavement
SUNDAY 21	MONDAY 22	TUESDAY 23	WEDNESDAY 24	THURSDAY 25	FRIDAY 26	SATURDAY 27
PANTRY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship	President's Day 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Exercise	10:00 Staff Meeting 3:00 Serendipity Bible 3:00 ABC Bible 7:00 LADIES Movies	7:00 Mens Prayer Group 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 Lakmountain Bible 12:30 Lunchtime Bible 1:00 Shawl Ministry 2:30 Prayer Discovery 4:00 Cruise Meeting 5:15 Music 5:30 SOUP SUPPER 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir	9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 3:00 Adult Bible 4:00 Video Rehearsal 7:00 COUNCIL 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon	9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 10:00 Wise Bible 1:00 Father's Table	8:00 Sat. Sisters 9:00 - Noon Thrift Shop 9:30 SHARE Delivery 10:30 Bereavement
SUNDAY 28	<p style="text-align: center;">NEW MEMBER SUNDAY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Traditional Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2nd Sunday in Lent</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>An Irish Blessing</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The love and affection of the angels be to you, The love and affection of the saints be to you, The love and affection of heaven be to you, To guard you and to cherish you. May God shield you on every steep, May Christ aid you on every path, May Spirit fill you on every slope, On hill and on plain.</p>						

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

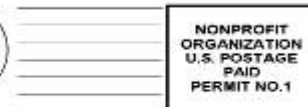


Photo by Carole Crystal, Photo-journalist

We Are A Stephen Ministry Church

Visit our Web Site: www.1umc.org

Neil Kline, Webmaster

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
EBADOC Academy &
Sunday School for all ages: 9:30AM

Office Hours: Weekdays
8:30AM to 4:30PM
Office Telephone: 352-628-4083

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Soli Deo Gloria



February 2009