GENESIS NEWSLETTER

HOMOSASSA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8831 W. Bradshaw Street - Homosassa, FL 34448 Phone: (352) 628-4083 Fax: (352) 628-9086

Sunday services: 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Kip Younger, Pastor

FEBRUARY 2013 - VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2



GOD LOVES YOU!

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Dayna Middlebrooks

PARISH VISITOR

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SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

& NURSERY SUPERVISOR

Sandra Tam

CUSTODIAN

Dale Evans

NIGHT SECURITY

Randy Weber



Greetings! Well, Christmas and New Years have come and gone, and now one might think we are entering into the humdrum of the rest of the year. However, that's not true.

In the middle of February we will begin the season of Lent. Here are some dates for you. On Sunday, February 10, we celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord. Then on the next Sunday, February 17, we will begin the Season of Lent. This season concludes on Good Friday, March 29, and then we celebrate Easter on March 31. The end of March seems like a long way from now, but we all know how fast time flies.

So, what are we to do about the Season of Lent. Lent, much like Advent, is a season of reflection and preparation. This time of reflection begins with the offering of ashes on Ash Wednesday. The Wednesday service this year will be February 13, at 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday is a time to remember we are called to repent for our sins and allow the Holy Spirit the opportunity to speak to our hearts concerning our past and, more importantly, our future. Thus, the Season of Lent is a time of serious

reflection concerning our relationship with the risen Christ.

Sometime during Christmas I mentioned that of the two special Christian events, Christmas and Easter, Christmas was seen as the most critical of the two. The valid reason for this is that if there were no Christmas, there could never have been an Easter. Now that Christmas is past, it is time to prepare for the next huge event in Christian history.

For me, the idea that Good Friday had to happen solely for the forgiveness of my sins, grieves my heart. Sometimes folks might be tempted to rationalize; "Well, all of this happened a long time ago, and I am just one individual among billions and billions of others, so in the big picture why does my perception and understanding of Good Friday and Easter really matter?"

The problem with this rationale is that Jesus died and rose for every individual ever conceived. The vast number of humanity does not diminish the meaning of his death; it multiplies the meaning, because he took the sins of every person upon himself when he died and set every believing person free through his resurrection. So, it is a big deal to each individual person.

It is as big a deal today as it was in the original three-day period

of Good Friday and Easter. Think of the impact upon your heart if you weeks to prepare for this major had been standing there at the crucifixion, and then witnessed the empty tomb three days later. What would it have been like when you came to understand that Jesus' death and resurrection, which you just witnessed, were all for you. I think most of us would have been absolutely stunned, in a state of shock physically and spiritually. That's how big this is.

So now, we have a few event. During this Lenten Season, think what it might have been like to have really been there. Think about the suffering Messiah and His empty tomb, as all occurring just for you. We can do this, because it was and still is all for us. Pray and mediate over the meaning of this as the weeks of Lent pass, and we move closer to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Palm Sunday and Easter.

God Bless – Pastor Kip



THE OTHER SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Many people are not aware that an adult Sunday School class meets at 10:45 after the 9:30 service. We meet in Room 114 by the Chapel. Jan Wise is teaching from Max Lucado's study on Galatians. We invite you to join us for Bible study and lively discussion.



SHINGLES, SHINGLES

What are Shingles and what is the advantages of getting the Shingles vaccine?

Shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus. This is the same virus that causes chickenpox. Once a person recovers from chickenpox the virus remains dormant in the body. Scientists still haven't discovered the reason why, but the virus may rear its ugly head years later causing shingles, also known as zoster or herpes zoster. The CDC (Center for Disease Control) estimates that 1 out of 3 people in the US will develop shingles. Even children can get shingles. The risk increases as a person gets older. Approximately 50% of cases develop in those over 60. People with compromised immune systems are at a greater risk. Most people typically have only one episode in their lifetime, but in rare cases they can have a second or even a third episode!

Shingles presents commonly as a rash in one or two "dermatomes". A dermatome is defined as an area of the skin supplied by nerve fibers from a single spinal root. The rash usually does not cross the mid line of the body unless the person has a compromised immune system. Even before the rash appears people may experience pain, tingling or itchiness in an area. The rash itself develops into blister-like clusters. These vesicles will continue to form for 2-5 days and progressively dry and crust over. They usually heal in 2-4 weeks, but may leave scarring or pigmentation.

Shingles cannot be spread from one person to another, but the virus can be spread to someone who has never had chicken pox. The virus is spread through direct contact when the rash is in the "blister" phase. A person is not contagious before the rash develops, nor once the rash crusts over, and chances of spreading decrease when the rash is covered.

The most common complication of shingles is postherpetic neuralgia (PHN). PHN is severe pain in the area where the rash occurred. This pain may resolve in a few weeks or may persist for several years. PHN rarely occurs among people under the age of 40 but can occur in up to half of the untreated people 60 and older. Shingles may lead to serious complications involving the eye, but very rarely to pneumonia, hearing problems, blindness, brain inflammation, or death.

Shingles can be treated with several available antiviral medications. They will help shorten the length and severity of the illness, but to be effective should be started as soon as possible after the rash appears. There are a variety of medications available to treat the pain and itchiness associated with the virus.

The CDC recommends the Shingles (Zostavax) vaccine for people 60 and older. This is a one time only vaccination and there is no maximum age for obtaining the vaccine. Even if you have had an episode of shingles you can get the vaccine to prevent future occurrences. At this time the CDC does not recommend the vaccine routinely for people 50-59, although it is approved by the FDA (Federal **Drug** Administration).

~ continued, next page

Karen



By the time you read this we will be well into 2013, but Happy New Year anyway.

our first Weekend Bible Adventure enjoy some Christian Praise music with us at the end of the day. We will have an opportunity to listen to the music and fellowship with the available for Sunday school in young people at 4:00, so please put it on your calendar. There will be a love offering available as the students are coming at no cost to us. Thanks for supporting our young people.

We have many visitors at our services each Sunday and we everyone and invite them to the hospitality center for a cup of provide "goodies" just one Sunday rewarding.

out of the entire year. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex to sign on. You can deliver the goodies to the church on Friday or bring them on Sunday by 9:00. If you have trouble getting them here, just call me at home 382-4908, and I will be We are busy with plans for happy to pick up on Friday or Saturday. "Nothing says loving on February 16th. Please come and like something from the oven", just like the Pillsbury ad used to

> There are always seats Martha's class or Jan's class, you are welcome any Sunday in room 106 or room 114. We look forward to seeing you there.

I hope you have signed up for one of the short term Disciple classes, either "Living the Purpose Driven Life" with Jan Wise leading, are making an effort to welcome or "Invitation to the New Testament" with Wayne Brown leading. Spending time in the Word coffee. You have an opportunity to is always well worth your time, and offer hospitality by signing up to the fellowship with others is very

IN SYMPATHY



John "Jack" Schoch went to be with our Lord January 4, 2013. A long time member of our church, he leaves behind Lois, his wife of nearly 64 years, 2 sons, John A. Schoch Jr. (Jamie), James C. Schoch (Bernadette) and families to cherish his memory. May he rest in peace with our Lord.



Within the Church

Greeters Ushers Music Ministries Attendance Tracking Biblical Travel Ministry Christian Education Communion Stewards Counters Disaster Relief Programs Flower Arranging Ministry Folding & Mailing Committees Funeral Receptions Genesis Newsletter Library Lenten Soup Suppers Online Picture Directory Parish Nurse Ministry Prayer Ministry Stewardship Audio-Video Ministry United Methodist Women **UMW Circles** Visitation Care Group

Youth Ministry **Outreach Ministries** Annual Seminar for Elder Needs

Wednesday Night Dinners

Bus Ministry Disaster Relief & Response Team God's Clods (Clown Ministry) Health Related Workshops Hugs for Soldiers Local Travel Ministry Men's Monday Morning Work Group Men's Wed. Morning Prayer Breakfast

Missionaries to Siberia Nursing Home Ministries Prayer Shawl Ministry Holiday Prison Ministry Shut-In Visitation Stephen Ministry Tuned To Revival Quartet Thrift Shop Vacation Bible School Welcome Bags

Small Groups

Bereavement Group **Cancer Survivors** Individual Bible Study Groups **PAWS** Saturday Sisters Men's Serendipity Women's Serendipity Support Groups Alzheimer's Support Diabetes Support Memory Lane Respite Stroke Support

Discipleship Classes

(various classes & times)

Benevolences

CROP Walk Equipment for Handicapped Food Pantry Habitat for Humanity Holiday Food Baskets Methodist Children's Home Salvation Army The Path

Community Outreach

Blood Bank Camp-E-Nini-Hassee Hunger & Homeless Outreach Kiwanis Breakfast Our Father's Table.

WITH SYMPATHY



Frances (Fran) Graham, went home to the Lord Monday, January 14, 2013. Her sister Peggy Powell survives. She was a wonderful happy-go lucky person; always trying to make you laugh. She and Peggy were tremendous assets to our church.

COUPLE'S RETREAT March 15-17, 2013

Begins Friday: 3:00 PM Ends Sunday: 11:00 AM

Spring Spiritual Enrichment Weekend at Life Enrichment Center. This weekend experience is designed for Couples, plus those who have lost a spouse or are otherwise single and would like renewal.



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 over twenty 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.



Shirley Groom has a B.A. in Music Performance from Eckerd College and received her M.Div. from Asbury in Orlando, FL. Shirley is serving as Pastor of First UMC of Fort Pierce and says she is a "sold-out" disciple for and of Jesus Christ and truly desires for all people to experience this awesome, mighty, gracious, and loving

God that I serve. She has been in ministry for 25 years as an educator, music director, youth pastor and now as the pastor.



Lenee and her husband Bob traveled across the United States and the United Kingdom for 25 years in full-time Christian concert ministry and were always favorites at the Leesburg Retreats. To-day Lenee continues in full time Christian Ministry with music concerts, and leading retreats around the United States. She is an

accomplished keyboard musician, Song Leader and Singer and continues to be a favorite at the Leesburg retreats.

COST: program, room, & meals - \$310.00 per couple

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: UNITED METHODIST MEN

Contact Jim Stoneman, Retreat Coordinator,

at 422-0169 ~ SIGN UP TODAY!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: WEB SITE www.ummflconf.org
Relax by the lake and enjoy the atmosphere of the LEC grounds.

Enjoy great food in a relaxed environment.

Sing along with new praise songs and old favorite hymns.

Come prepared for some good insights for living with verse by verse.

Bible studies by two of Florida's Premiere Leaders.

The emergency phone number at the LEC: 352-787-0313 *Sponsored by Florida Conference United Methodist Men*

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MARCH 15-17, 2013 COUPLES' RETREAT Registration Form	
Name Last: First (male) First (female)	
E-mail address:	
dome Phone:Cell:Cell:	
Wailing address:	
City:ST:SIP:	
Special Needs: [] First Floor Room [] Handicap Room	
COST: Life Enrichment Center w/meals \$298.00 per Couple	
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: <u>UNITED METHODIST MEN</u> , attach to this form, place in enve marked for: Jim Stoneman, Retreat Coordinator, and deliver to him or the church office	place in envelope church office.
8	



Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. (Luke 16:10)

Writing this the first of January, I remain somewhat hung over from Yuletide celebrations. My thoughts still linger on the amazing reality of that first Christmas.

Knowing all our family would be here Christmas Day, I prayed, "Lord, please let them ask me one question I can answer." I requested this because all our family use smart phones, know computer jargon, and carry on conversations about a technological world foreign to me.

Traditionally all our family attends Christmas Eve worship. The services have been much the same over the years, so everyone knows what to expect. But this year was different because Pastor Kip preached about the shepherds visiting Mary, Joseph and Jesus. Tom and I were not surprised, but our kids were.

So some of the kids greeted us Christmas Day with "We've got a question for you!" Then they asked, "Why didn't your pastor mention the wisemen at the stable? They were there, too."

When I hesitated, they added, "Weren't they?" When I explained how the wisemen came about two years later, led by a star to a house where they found the "child and his mother," the kids reacted with disbelief. "But the

wise men are in all the nativity scenes and in all the pageants we've seen. They must have been there."

Then I replied, "They have it wrong. The Bible says angels announced the birth to *Jewish* shepherds; a new star proclaimed the birth to *Gentile* wisemen. There was no star over the stable and no gifts except the baby Jesus." In a state of "tradition-shock", they responded, "How could all those people be wrong?" The kids struggled with having been misled by the church and the secular world in the portrayal of the Christmas story.

I thanked God for giving me a question I could answer. I thanked him that they had listened to the message. But I was saddened having to admit we as "church" had presented the story wrongly to our children and even to our adults.

Some say, "We have to condense it into one story. How could we wait two years before we produce the wise men? What difference does such a small detail make?"

I asked the Lord, "What difference does it make when the wise men came or whether we put a star over the stable? Why did you separate the two visits?

I found where the scriptures say Jesus came *first* to the Jew and *then* to the Gentile. God's plan was to introduce his Son to them in that order.

Our scripture from Luke 16:10 stresses how important it is to faithfully handle the "little details," our carefulness indicating how we will handle larger truths God has for us. It seems the way we tell the Christmas story is much more important than we thought.

FABULOUS FEBRUARY READING 10

"Angel Sister" by Ann H. Gabhart is a novel that takes place in 1936. Kate Merritt works hard to keep her family together. Her father has slipped into alcoholism, her mother is trying to come to grips with their dire financial situation, and her sisters seem to remain blissfully oblivious to all of it. Kate could never have imagined that a dirty, abandoned little girl named Lorena Birdsong would be just what her family needs. The power of true love is revealed, the freedom of forgiveness, and the strength to persevere through troubled times, all against the backdrop of a sultry Kentucky summer.

"The God I Love", is a memoir by Joni Eareckson Tada. More than three decades ago, a diving accident left Joni Eareckson Tada a quadriplegic. Back then she questioned how a loving God could condemn an active young woman to a lifetime in a wheelchair. Today she is grateful, because it is from this vantage point that Joni has discovered a God who is so magnificent that no circumstance, no matter how terrible, can separate her or you - from his fierce, tender and enduring love. Billy Graham has said, "Joni is one of the most incredible women I have ever known."

"Home Town Tales" by Philip Our library boasts several Gulley. books by Mr. Gulley who helps us travel back to a simpler time. Life was uncomplicated and people knew each other by name. Folks cared for one another and were willing to do what | Heart". The Bender family's second was right - no matter the cost. Inspired by his own hometown, Philip Gulley takes us there and shares unforgettable and preyed upon by ruthless bandits.

stories with timeless values and enduring virtues. You'll enjoy these moments of grace and joy - no matter how far from your hometown you've traveled.

Speaking of hometowns, Hampton Dunn has written "Back Home", a history of Citrus County, Florida. The book has just finished being reprinted in December 2012. It is the official book descriptive of Citrus County, Florida. The Dunn residence at Floral City can be toured by groups. Some fossil bones unearthed in Citrus County by a scientist at the Florida State Museum were found to be about eight or ten million years old, a tip-off on the antiquity of this area. The book follows the county's history through the ages to the county's bicentennial in 1987 with many photos.

Dale Cramer has written a series of books titled "The Daughters of Caleb Bender". Book 1 of the series is "Paradise Valley". The story is inspired by actual events. In 1921, Ohio's new law forced Caleb Bender's family to seek sanctuary in the wilds of Mexico, where the government will not interfere with their Amish way of life or take their children from them. Nor will it protect them from the bandits terrorizing the countryside. Benders establish a homestead in exile in an unfamiliar land where no one speaks the language or knows their ways. Even steadfast Caleb is compelled to wrestle with the demands of faith, only to discover that love has its own demands.

Book 2 is "The Captive year in Mexico has taken a grievous turn. They've been ravaged by disease

expatriate Amish discover, more than ever before, what it means to live by faith and not by sight. But it's Miriam who must make the hardest choice as her heart takes her on a new and dangerous course. Domingo is a native Mexican and forbidden to her. thinks she is beautiful and has proven himself a man of principle, grace and Miriam is tormented by conflicting emotions and haunted by vivid dreams.

"For Such a Time As This". Secrets of Strategic Living from the Book of Esther, written by Ray C. Oueen Esther faced Stedman. challenges and threats that were as perilous as those that we deal with today. Because she confronted these challenges with the faith and courage that come from God alone, there is much that we can learn from her life. The author provides a three dimensional view of the book of Esther: as an historical document of actual events that took place in the life of the Jewish people; as a thrilling narrative of romance and suspense that reads like a gripping novel; and as a parable of profound and practical truth for our everyday Christian lives.

Suzanne Woods Fisher is the author of many books about the Amish as well as nonfiction books about them, including "Amish Peace". Her latest writings are a series called "Stoney Ridge Seasons". Book One is "The Life on Windmill Farm Keeper". hasn't been the same since Julie Lapp's father has had trouble with his heart, but that doesn't stop Julie from planning her wedding to her girlhood love, Paul Fisher. However, Paul postpones the wedding once again and

Faced with impossible choices, the Julie is determined to change his 11 mind. She knows that the Bee Man, Roman Troyer, is to blame. Roman is a mysterious man who travels through the Amish communities of Ohio and Pennsylvania with his hives full of bees, renting them out to farmers in need of pollinators. Can Julia secure the future she's always dreamed of or does God have something else in mind?

> Book Two is "The Waiting". This is a story of Jorie King who is waiting for Ben Zook to return to Lancaster County, to settle down, join the church, and to marry her. Jorie is devastated to learn that Ben has been killed. She finds comfort in the friendship of his brother Caleb. Their friendship turns to love with the promise of a fresh beginning - until their worlds are turned upside down. The book transports you into a world where things aren't as simple as they seem.

> Book Three is "The Search". Lainey O'Toole's car breaks down in Stoney Ridge, the very town in which she had made a split-second decision during a childhood crisis and she is forced to face the past and discover how her decision has impacted so many. Her world is about to collide with that of Bess Reihl who is in Stoney Ridge helping her intimidating grandmother recover from surgery. The secrets that come to light will shock them both.

HAPPY READING from the Library Staff Barbara Jackson, Helen Lefave, Ann Ice, Pat Barton



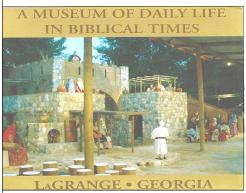
Georgia in the Spring

A 4 day/3 night Motor Coach Tour March 19-22, 2013

Led by Rev. Richard L. Evans - 1ST UMC - Homosassa FL

Day 1 we travel to LaGrange GA where we will spend 3 nights at the Best Western Hotel, featuring full breakfast each morning. Departure at 8:30 am from the church. Lunch (on your own) at Cracker Barrel in Tifton GA. Supper (on your own) at I-Hop in LaGrange GA—next to the hotel.

Day 2 will feature a visit to the Explorations in Antiquity Center with full scale replicas from biblical times. Participants will experience the lives of shepherds and farmers, as well as life in villages and cities. A walk through the time tunnel spans 2,000 years. Lunch will consist of an authentic "Last Supper" Passover meal similar to the one Jesus celebrated with his first disciples.





Day 3 will be spent at Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain GA, just a half hour ride from LaGrange. Participants will see the azaleas in bloom and visit the Discovery Center, the Butterfly Center, the Horticultural Center, the Memorial Chapel, and enjoy all the beautiful gardens in the spring (upper right picture.) And the day will feature a full buffet lunch.

Day 4 we will travel home to Homosassa with lunch (on your own) at Cracker Barrel in Tifton GA. Arrival between 5 and 5:30 pm.

The cost for the trip is \$299 per person, double occupancy. (Single supplement is \$105). The price includes motor coach, 3 nights at the Best Western, 3 full breakfasts, noon meals at the Explorations in Antiquity Center and at Callaway Gardens, all admissions, and trip insurance. (Not included: 2 lunches, 3 suppers, and driver gratuity).

Contact Dick Evans (through the church office) with any questions. Register with Jess Mackey at J & L Travel (382-7708). \$100 deposit with your registration and the balance due by February 28. We have a block of 25 hotel rooms that will be held until Feb. 19. Register soon! And invite your friends to join you. In the fellowship of church friends, expand your understanding of the Bible, and enjoy a day at Callaway Gardens.



Olive & Alex Stevens ~ 62 years ~

Sharon & James Haskell ~ 49 years ~

Ann & John Sandstrom ~ 48 years ~

Sue & Eugene Spuhler ~ 62 years ~

<u>8</u>

Joyce & Don Foxwell

~ 57 years ~

<u>14</u>

Alice & Robert Yusko

 \sim 5 years \sim

16

Arlene & Ray Froelich ~ 50 years ~

Diane & John Gibbs

 \sim 50 years \sim

17

Loretta & Alan Burcaw

 \sim 23 years \sim

Althea & Art Stuckey

 \sim 49 years \sim

<u>25</u>

Janet & Jerry Tanner

 \sim 36 years \sim

<u> 26</u>

Rosalie & Wayne Haynes

 \sim 36 years \sim

Ina & Joe Ryder

 \sim 13 years \sim

27

Gail & Richard English

 \sim 44 years \sim .



(as of 1/16/13)

BRENTWOOD

Joyce Minnicks

CEDAR CREEK

Wilbourn Fowler Lois Schoch

SUGARMILL MANOR

Marge Dilling Grace Payne

SUNFLOWER SPRINGS

Ruth Eaton Joan & Jack Ness Catherine Wisehart

SUNSHINE GARDENS

Pete Magamoll

TIMBER PINES RESIDENCES

Abbye Jean Richner.



We want to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, and concerns during Joan's recent surgery.

God has blessed us with excellent results. It is wonderful to have a caring church family that is so supportive.

Jim & Joan Veronesi

FEBRUARY 2013 (as of 1/17/2013)

Friday 1 **GENESIS DEADLINE**

14

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:00 Wise Bible 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal 7:00 Inv. to New Testament

Saturday 2

8:00 Saturday Sisters Bible 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:30 ZUMBA 10:30 Bereavement 10:30 God's Clods

Sunday 3 **COMMUNION SUNDAY**

8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Sunday School (all) 9:30 Traditional Worship 10:45 New Beginnings SS 11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 4

8:00 Work Crew 8:30 SHINE 8:30 Tracking Committee

9:30 Visitation Committee 10:00 Sacred Hour

1:00 ML Respite

5:00 Stephen Ministers 5:30 Quit Smoking

Tuesday 5

10:00 Staff Meeting

10:00 Living the Purp. Life 10:00 UMW Executive Mtg.

1:30 Stephen Ministers

3:00 Serendipity Bible

3:00 Stephen Ministers

5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Guy Bible Study

Wednesday 6

7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:30 Weight Watchers

10:00 HPH Bereavement

10:00 LaMountain Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

3:00 Benson Bible

3:30 Creative Worship

5:00 Intercessory Prayer

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

7:00 Women's Bible

Thursday 7

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 1:30 Executive Board 1:30 Serendipity Women 2:00 Green Team 6:30 Sugarmill Chorale

Friday 8

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:00 Wise Bible 2:00 Cancer Support 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal 7:00 Inv. to New Testament

Saturday 9

8:00 Saturday Sisters Bible 8:00 Serendipity Pancakes 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:30 ZUMBA 10:30 Bereavement

Sunday 10

DISCRETIONARY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Sunday School (all) 9:30 Traditional Worship 10:45 New Beginnings SS 11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 11

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 SHINE

8:30 Tracking Committee 9:30 Visitation Committee 10:00 Sacred Hour 1:00 ML Respite 1:00 Alzheimer Support

4:00 Health Team

5:30 Quit Smoking

Tuesday 12

9:00 Kitchen Prep

9:30 Faith Hope Circle

9:30 Helping Hands Circle

10:00 Living the Purp. Life

10:00 Staff Meeting

1:00 Dorcas Circle

1:00 Stewardship

3:00 Serendipity Bible

5:30 Weight Watchers

6:00 Diabetic Support

6:30 Semi Circle

7:00 Guy Bible Study

Wednesday 13 ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:30 Weight Watchers 10:00 LaMountain Bible 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 HPH Bereavement 1:00 Shawl Ministry

3:00 Benson Bible

4:00 Intercessory Prayer

5:30 SOUP SUPPER

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Ash Wed. Service

Thursday 14 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:00 Backpackers

9:15 Ruth Circle

6:30 Sugarmill Chorale

Friday 15

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

10:00 Wise Bible

4:00 A/Video Rehearsal

7:00 Inv. to New Testament

Saturday 16

7:00 Mini-VBS

8:00 Saturday Sisters Bible

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:30 ZUMBA

10:30 Bereavement

4:00 Christian Music

Sunday 17 LENT BEGINS PANTRY SUNDAY

8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Sunday School (all) 9:30 Traditional Worship 10:45 New Beginnings SS 11:00 Traditional Worship 2:00 Castle Bay Concert

Monday 18 OFFICE CLOSED PRESIDENT'S DAY

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 SHINE

8:30 Tracking Committee

9:30 Visitation Committee

10:00 Sacred Hour

1:00 ML Respite

5:00 Stephen Ministers

5:30 OUIT SMOKING

6:30 Girl Scout Leaders

Tuesday 19

9:30 UMW BRUNCH **10:00 Living the Purp. Life**

10:00 Staff Meeting

1:30 Stephen Ministers

2:00 Finance Committee

3:00 Stephen Ministers

3:00 Serendipity Bible

5:30 Weight Watchers

7:00 Guy Bible Study

Wednesday 20

7:00 Men's Prayer Group

9:30 Weight Watchers

10:00 HPH Bereavement

10:00 LaMountain Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

2:00 Staff/Parish Relations

3:00 Benson Bible

4:00 Intercessory Prayer

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

7:00 WOMEN'S Bible

Thursday 21 Label Genesis

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

1:30 Serendipity Women

3:00 Missions

3:30 Trustees

6:30 Sugarmill Chorale

Friday 22

COUNCIL REPORTS DUE

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

4:00 A/Video Rehearsal

7:00 Inv. to New Testament

Saturday 23

8:00 Saturday Sisters Bible

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:30 ZUMBA

10:30 Bereavement

Sunday 24

8:00 Traditional Worship

9:30 Sunday School (all)

9:30 Traditional Worship

10:45 New Beginnings SS

11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 25

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 SHINE

8:30 Tracking Committee

9:30 Visitation Committee

10:00 Sacred Hour

1:00 ML Respite

Tuesday 26

10:00 Living the Purp. Life

10:00 Staff Meeting

3:00 Serendipity Bible

5:30 Weight Watchers

7:00 Guy Bible Study

Wednesday 27

7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:00 Safe Driving Class

9:30 Weight Watchers

10.00 HPH.B

10:00 HPH Berevement

10:00 LaMountain Bible

10.00 Lawlountain Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

1:00 Shawl Ministry

3:00 Benson Bible

4:00 Intercessory Prayer

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 New Member Class

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

7:00 Women's Bible

Thursday 28

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:00 Safe Driving Class

6:30 Sugarmill Chorale 7:00 COUNCIL.



FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 1
for
MARCH

WEEKLY <u>YMCA</u> CLASSES (352) 637-0132

Mondays 9:30 Cardio 10:30 Stab/Strength

Wednesdays 9:30 Pilates 10:30 Stab/Strength

Fridays 9:30 Cardio 10:30 Stab/Strength

16	FEBR		
2			
Charlotte Langley			
Cyrynda Walker			
3			
John Hoadley			
Karen Kline			
Syble Little			
Harold Marvin			
Judy Powell			
Gini Slusher			
4			
Phyllis Grotjahn			
5			
Neretta Brobst			
Carolyn Roth			
Arlene Stohrer			
6			

Nell Lent

Allen Stone

Hilda Theriault

Bill Barton Dylan Patton Wanda Wheeler

10		
Eden Kimble		
Pam Milat		
11		
Robert Boekholder		
Bud Ludwick		
Barbara Smith		
13		
Shirley Cromer		
Robert Spence		
14		
Pamela Patton		
Hendrik Pouderoyn		
15		
David Brightman		
Bill Jahn		
Harold Slusher		
16		
Judy Lipovetz		
Roberta Little		
Judy O'Gorman		
17		
William Britland		
Marilyn McKown		
Delmar Meewes		
Bunny Wade		

RUARY 2013 BIRTHDAYS		
10	18	
Eden Kimble	Alice Hurley	
Pam Milat	20	
11	Richard Haydon	
Robert Boekholde	r Candy McFarland	
Bud Ludwick	Marilyn Watson	
Barbara Smith	21	
13	Joyce Foxwell	
Shirley Cromer	Neil Kline	
Robert Spence	Pat Layman	
14	Jack Radabaugh	
Pamela Patton	22	
Hendrik Pouderoy	n Jim Roth	
15	23	
David Brightman	Ann Morrison	
Bill Jahn	24	
Harold Slusher	Christine Annear	
16	Tammy Borras	
Judy Lipovetz	25	
Roberta Little	Richard Hartley	
Judy O'Gorman	Donna Ludwick	
17	Jack Ness	
William Britland	26	
Marilyn McKown	Dennis Borras	
Delmar Meewes	Marguerite McClain	
Bunny Wade	28	
	Doris Nasutovich.	



IN SYMPATHY

Dorothy (Dot) Wolf went with her Lord 12/18/2012. She passed away peacefully in her sleep and her son wishes to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers. Her son Jon's address

is 12212 Pine Valley Club Drive, Charlotte NC 28277.

BLANK GREETING CARDS NEEDED!

Have any blank greeting cards that you don't use? Could you donate some to the church? Visitation would be more than grateful! They are sent for many reasons; to our shut-ins, to people who are ill or have had surgery, and for many other reasons as well. Just turn them into the office or the Narthex (small box marked) at your convenience. Thank you!

DO YOU KNOW A DESERVING RECIPIENT?



FUMCH offers advanced educational scholarships as follows:

#UEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND: Numerous \$1000 scholarships, available primarily to Homosassa and Chassahowitzka residents from Lecanto High School, can be awarded annually.

Applicants must be or will be in full-time pursuit of undergraduate educational degrees, although other applicants will be considered. Interested students should contact the guidance office at Lecanto High School for further information and applications.

<u>MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP FUND</u>: Awards are available annually for graduate-level and advanced undergraduate-level United Methodists pursuing careers as pastors, church music directors, and church education directors. Applicants must be under sponsorship by churches in the Gulf Central District of the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church and must complete the application process every year, **no later than April 1st**. Interested students should contact the church office for further information and applications.

Members and friends of our church who would like to fund bequests for other scholarship funds or to supplement the funds cited above should contact any member of the Permanent Endowment Committee at their earliest convenience for further information. Such bequests can often lead to personal income and estate tax advantages in the form of charitable gift annuity, or charitable remainder annuity trust, or charitable lead trust among others.

Richard E. Stanard Chairman, Permanent Endowment Committee

Long ago, when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf!

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from? Join us each Sunday 9:00-11:00 in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and refreshments!





Time to update your records!

2013 is here and it is a great time to update the information the church has about you and your family. If you have changed any of your contact information this past year, please call Nicole after 12:30 p.m. in the church office at 628-4083 to update your records. Not a member yet but attend regularly? We want you to be included in our Circle of Friends list. Please use the pew pad on Sunday to record your contact information (name, address, & phone number). Please print clearly and include your email. All of this information is vital and will help connect us to each other as the body of Christ. Provide your information with confidence-we will never distribute, sell, or otherwise use your information for anything other than church business.

Weekly Email

Pastor Kip sends out a weekly email every Friday which includes important announcements, information about the coming week's scripture, and usually some things to think about as you prepare for worship on Sunday. If you want to receive this weekly email, please email Theresa in the office at: **theresa@1umc.org**.

New Member Classes

New member classes will be taught by Pastor Kip Younger, 3 times a year, for anyone who is considering becoming a member of First United Methodist Church or would like to learn more about our Methodist beliefs. The membership classes will be four, 1 hour sessions, on Wednesday evenings 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in room 306. We will receive our new members on the following Sunday. The three opportunities to join the church in 2013 will begin on **February 27th**, **May 29th**, and **August 28th**.

Membership Transfers

Membership transfers for people who want to transfer their membership from another Methodist church will be held the fourth Sunday of every month. If you are transferring from another denomination or any other church, you are encouraged to attend the new member classes.

If you are interested in exploring membership, have any questions about which category to join by, please contact Pastor Kip, Theresa in the church office at 628-4083, or indicate "wish to join" on the pew pad on Sundays.



PASSION & REFLECTION

What are you passionate about?

I hope you will take some time to answer the question, "What are you passionate about?" before reading on.

We're probably a11 passionate about our families. Maybe we are also passionate about our job or our volunteer work. There are endless possibilities. Perhaps we're passionate about the music on Sunday morning. Or maybe we're passionate about reading our Bible, our Bible study group, prayer, or worship. Maybe we're passionate about using our spiritual gifts to serve our Lord or sharing our faith. Perhaps we're passionate about loving Jesus.

Several years ago I was asked to help our church develop our passionate spirituality (one of the five areas being emphasized by the Florida Conference). What I discovered rather quickly was that you receive this newsletter and I one of the things I'm passionate encourage each of you to use the about is passionate spirituality!! I'm passionate about everything to do reflect on those Scriptures the Lord with worship. So it turned out to be a very good match. It's my prayer that each of you will find out what cross. your spiritual gifts are and use them

to glorify our Lord in that area 19 where you are most passionate.

There is a lot of reflection in spiritual formation events and studies. At our labyrinth each year, we provide a reflection booklet. In the Spiritual Formation Bible many of the footnotes have reflection questions. Much of the writing in the area of spiritual formation gives rise to thinking and reflecting. Most Bible studies are informational – learning information from and about the Scriptures. In a spiritual formation study such Companions In Christ, we reflect on a small portion of Scripture in order to let it work on us.

Although the church-wide study we have been doing is not a spiritual formation study, the author asks some great questions. Have you been answering the questions at the end of each of the daily readings? Pondering and thinking about them - giving the Lord time to help you with your answers? These questions, if given time, can be formational. Why not take some time and reflect on them or go back later and reflect on the questions.

Lent will begin shortly after Lenten devotional and your Bible to guides you to. May our Lord bless your journey through Lent to the

Marilyn

BAZAAR RESULTS



The annual UMW Holiday Bazaar was held on November 2 and 3, 2012. The event was co- chaired by UMW President Pat Blake and Semi Circle Secretary Priscilla Frederick who were helped by a dedicated committee of Circle Leaders and volunteers. The publicity, chaired by Barbara Sayers, Semi Circle Co-Leader, was extensive and effective.

The Bazaar was bigger and better with the addition of new sales venues such as Plants & Flowers, lunches on both days, plus the Man Cave and Silent Auction that were handled by the Serendipity Men.

The income, \$8,110.65, was the highest in UMW history. The officers and members of United Methodist Women thank everyone for their contributions in time and money.

Listed below is the income for each category:

PLANTS & GARDEN - \$441.20

BAKERY - \$433.50

TECHNOLOGY - \$46.00

BOOKS - \$974.35

CRAFTS - \$481.20

HIDDEN TREASURES - \$691.66

KITCHEN - \$796.50

CHRISTMAS - \$2,171.03

LUNCHES - 11/2 \$62.85 and 11/3 - \$496.25 Total \$559.10

COFFEE & DONUTS - \$66.31

SERENDIPITY MEN - \$1,107.30

PRE-SALE - \$331.50

MISCELLANEOUS SALES - \$11.00

LESS EXPENSES -\$6,283.20

TOTAL INCOME- \$8,110.65





Soldiers are the brave and proud who give up their life for freedom for you and I. These are the gallant ones who, in time of war, know that this is their calling as each one goes into battle not knowing if they will live or die. The price to pay for we do not understand, you or I, but to those who are called soldiers I am grateful in heart for their courage that I am free.

Many a man of such caliber, who fought to save our country, knows of their comrades in arms who were by their side, who didn't return, and realized it could have been them. Recognition due was not given as though appreciation and gratitude are not words.

Brave are these the men that followed their belief that freedom should reign as the chivalry of clashing swords.

For the flag flies high named "Old Glory" but to these glorious men and women this emblem is the heart and soul invisible in spirit. The phrase "In God We Trust" says it all and to all the fighting forces who watch out for us and keep us safe from our enemies; the candle without a name is visible and it's flame will always stay lit.

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It will take just 37 seconds to read this and change your thinking. Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back.

The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation. Every afternoon, when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake where ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite details, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine this picturesque scene. One warm afternoon, the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other

man could not hear the band - he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.

Days, weeks and months passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away.

As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window besides the bed. It faced a blank wall!

The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, 'Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you.'

Epilogue: There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy. Remember: 'today is a gift, that is why it is called The Present.'

Pray that we might live in a world at peace and with the awareness of God's love in every sunset, every flower's unfolding petals, every baby's smile, every lover's kiss, and every wonderful, astonishing, miraculous beat of our heart.



Reverend Sandra Garner was the installation officer and her theme was "Service to God Through Women." New officers, from left to right: Pat Blake, president; Laurie Stainton, vise president; Helen Lefave, secretary/ treasurer; Barbara Jackson, secretary of program resources, Ann Ice, spiritual growth coordinator; and Claudette Kirby, chairwoman of the nominating committee. (pictures by Neil Kline)

2013 CIRCLE LEADERS



From left to right: Sharon Rapp-substitute for Nancy Pearo-Faith Hope Circle; Joan West-Ruth Circle; Sharon Deutsch-Helping Hand Circle; Alice Carnahan-Dorcas Circle; and Dayna Middlebrooks-Semi Circle.

With the beginning of a new year, the FUMC United Methodist Women would like to invite you to join a UMW Circle. Circles meet monthly at the church except for Ruth, which meets at members' homes.

The present list of Circles and their new leaders are as follows; please feel free to call any of them to inquire about joining so that you too can share and help with the Lord's work.

DORCAS CIRCLE -

2nd Tuesdays 1 p.m. Alice Carnahan 628-9298

FAITH HOPE CIRCLE -

2nd Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. Nancy Pearo 382-1034

HELPING HAND CIRCLE -

2nd Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. Sharon Deutsch 621-3668

RUTH CIRCLE-

2nd Thursdays 9:15 a.m. Joan West 382-1380

SEMI CIRCLE -

2nd Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. Priscilla Frederick 382-0422



SHINE CAN HELP!

Want to see if you can save money on your prescription drugs? Are you new to Medicare and not sure what options you have?



The Florida department of Elder Affairs' SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elder's Program) is **offered at no cost** to you.

For assistance, please call 527-5956 (Citrus County), or 1-800-963-5337 (toll free). A SHINE volunteer will return your call promptly.

PRAYER CORNER Please pray for: • each of us to listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance and to be obedient in all areas of our lives. • our pastor and church staff, daily. • the women who will be participating in the Conference Women's Retreat February 15 – 17. • those families and individuals who struggle to make ends meet, that we may help to meet their needs – physically and spiritually. • us to continue to be a welcoming and loving congregation to everyone.

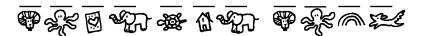




ove is the greatest commandment!

What did Jesus say when asked about the greatest commandment of God?

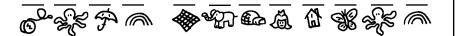
Write the first letter of each picture on the lines below.













Mark 12:30-31

26 NEWS From Kevin & Laura

Greetings From Sunny and Warm Florida!!

Yes, we are here and have been resting and visiting family over the last five weeks. (Nov.-Jan.) We were blessed to spend Thanksgiving plus another week in California with our oldest son before arriving in Florida in Dec. Laura immediately left for PA to visit with her family and celebrate with her Dad as he turned 80!! It was a wonderful visit; even though both parents became ill with upper respiratory infections that turned into pneumonia. And the day after she flew back to FL her Dad ended up in the hospital. (He has completely recovered...PTL) Of course Laura felt it was necessary to be witnesses to Me both bring back the germs.... she got super sick, then shared it with Kevin.... that was our holidays! We are definitely NOT complaining since we were able to be with our youngest son and most of Kevin's family for Christmas.

-42C in December!!! Boy, are WE glad we're in Florida this winter ©. Usually it does not get that cold until at least January. Our Russian friends are convinced we left because we wanted to escape another Siberian winter... well that may be partly true. However, we also wanted to return and spend time

for a couple of new projects we'll share about in the next update.

8,466 miles between here and Horinsk, Siberia. Even though we're not there, we stay in touch so we can lift our folks in prayer and keep you informed as well. You have been keeping one of the girls from our youth group in prayer as she went through surgery Moscow last November. She returned home in December and is doing well with the apparatus that is extending her chin. Folks amazed at how well she's doing and even more incredible is how she has experienced very little pain and discomfort. (We're convinced it's because of the huge amount of prayer that has gone up for her and her Mom... THANK YOU and please don't stop praying just yet!)

Acts 1:8 "....And you shall Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the end of the earth." As believers, 'Jerusalem' is our neighborhood; our hometown. Our 'Judea' should be somewhere a little farther away...perhaps the next town or county. Our 'Samaria' should be a little farther yet....this is where it may be a little more difficult to get to or move to ©. And for those willing to "GO" there is the 'end of the earth'. Our small fellowship has been pressing toward that next step in being witnesses to those around them from the very beginning. Now with family this trip and raise funds they are looking at the next village

as their "Judea". There are already is three or four believers in this other Buriat as well as most people the city over the past few years. in the work and the weekly 120this man and his family. We have had a working relationship with this pastor so he felt quite comfortable in asking us for assistance. Given our

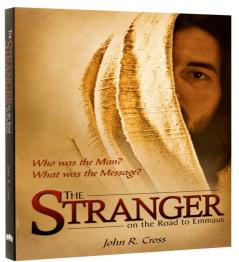
Buriaita, Russia 13 #10 Kijinga #21 Horinsk

proximity and previous connections with the people there, we have decided to send a team from Horinsk twice a month so they can have a Sunday service. Valary and his family as well as another man from our fellowship and his family will be heading over together. This village



primarily and ethnically 27 village who have been under the speak Buriat on the street. shepherding of a young man from Fortunately, Valary knows Buriat quite well. Our fellowship laid This man's wife is NOT interested hands on these two families in January to officially send them out mile trip that has taken its toll on to the village of Kijinga. What an open door our Father has given. Please keep this new work in prayer as these families are taking a huge step of faith in sharing the Good News!

> Have a Blessed February and if you want to read a good book on some foundational truths, go to the web site goodseed.com and look for the book titled "Stanger on the Road to Emmaus".



This is a book that we have used for several years and have had GREAT success! (It is also available as a free e-book from their site).

> Till the World Hears. Kevin & Laura

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

We Are A Stephen Ministry Church "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

Rev. Kip Younger, Pastor

Office Hours: Weekdays 8:30AM to 4:30PM Office Telephone: 352-628-4083 Fax: (352) 628-9086 Marcia's Prayer Chain Email: ricmar@inffonline.net

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