

Do you know who Marion Morrison, Frances Guam, Norma Jean Baker, Roy Fitzgerald and Betty Pepske are? They are all famous people you know very well if you are at least 30. They have touched most of our lives and cost us a great deal of time and money. They are – in the same order – John Wayne, Judy Garland, Marilyn Monroe, Rock Hudson and Lauren Bacall. All of these movie stars changed their names in order to create a new image for themselves.

Names are important. Your name on a document says you will do it, and connecting your name to your work says you are proud of what you have done. Parents usually are very concerned about what they name their children although some think it is funny to name their children Cherry Pie, Christmas Eve, or Irma Baker, most try to find a name that reflects their family heritage and beliefs. Our son, Marshall, is named after his grandparents. Biblical names are still the most popular with Michael right at the top, year after year. Our name is important to us. If someone forgets us – we are forgotten, if they mispronounce our name, or make fun of it, we are the one who is being made fun of.

In the Bible, names are also important. Abraham and Sarah and Peter and Paul all had their names changed by the events they experienced. Frequently, the names of places that proved to be significant were changed. Places for instance like Jabbock became Bethel after Jacob met God there.

You have a new name also. When you accept Jesus Christ as Lord, you receive a new name – Christian. It is a name that says something about you. It is part of your identity, part of how people see you in the world. It makes you a unique individual, a child of God; loved, forgiven, saved.

Mak

Having the name of a famous person is a very heavy burden. But we can pull it off if we are willing to be disciples of the one we have been named after – Jesus Christ.

Go forth into the world in the name of Jesus Christ.



CHURCH OFFICE

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Phone: (352) 628-4083 Fax: (352) 628-9086

> WEBSITE www.1umc.org

PASTOR Reverend Mark Whittaker

> ADMINISTRATOR Theresa Weber

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</u> Carol Eriksson

> **BOOKKEEPER** Sandy Dewart

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Kay Bast

MUSIC DEPARTMENT Dixie Lay Joy Potts Dayna Middlebrooks

> PARISH NURSE Karen Kline

PARISH VISITOR Peggy Benson

<u>SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT</u> <u>& NURSERY SUPERVISOR</u> Sandra Tam

> YOUTH COORDINATOR Lori DeClue

SOUND TECHNICIAN Sharon Cooley Ron Hesketh

NIGHT SECURITY Michael Rodgers

> <u>CUSTODIAN</u> Dale Evans

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. The 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.

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.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

12:00 NOON FEBRUARY 22

Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, a season of penitence and fasting as we ready ourselves for the gift of Christ's death on our behalf. It is a time of recognizing anew who we are and who we are called to be.

The Ash Wednesday service offers us an opportunity to kneel before God and acknowledge that we have fallen far short of what he desires of us. It is an opportunity to renew our commitment to being more Christ-like in everything we say and do.

The service this year will be on Wednesday, February 22nd at noon in the Sanctuary. The Ash Wednesday service is not to be entered into carelessly or indifferently. It is a time for reverence and commitment.

We will celebrate with the imposition of ashes, recognizing ourselves as rebellious and mortal beings standing in the need of God's grace. At the same time, we will receive reassurance that we are not alone as we face the reality of death. God's grace is sufficient for us.

Come and share this holy and gracious moment in the life of the Church.

Pastor Mark

ENOUGH FOR ALL

Enough food, enough water, enough peace, enough housing!

We invite you to join us in this years C.R.O.P. Walk!

We walk to help end world hunger and poverty for millions of people around the world.

C.R.O.P., Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty sponsors this walk each year to raise money to fight hunger and poverty around the world. We are looking for walkers who will solicit sponsors for their walk, and for people who will support the walk through their gifts. 75% of the money will go to aid the world projects of C.R.O.P. and 25% will stay here in Citrus County.

The walk will start February 25, 2012 at 2 p.m. at First **Presbyterian Church in Crystal River**. Come and walk so that there will be "Enough For All"!

Mark Whittaker

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It's time to begin planning for a summer program for children in our church and our neighborhood. We have some ideas for VBS and will be asking for lots of helpers. If you are interested in being part of an exciting and spiritual week with children please let me know. We any bible study group that meets in will be meeting in February to begin planning, watch for meeting dates or give me a call.

re-furnished room and will soon any of the opportunities to study begin looking forward to participating in service projects, and

preparing for Christian camp this summer.

Martha Dorrell will be leading the Invitation to the Old Testament eight week class beginning February 7, 2012 at 1 p.m. in Room 106. These eight week sessions seem to be well received and we plan to offer more throughout the year.

You are always invited and encouraged to join any of the Sunday school classes available, or homes or here at the church. Why not call a few friends and invite them to join you. Just call the office The youth are enjoying their if you want more information on God's word.

Kay

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Our church has two scholarships available to high school seniors and seminary students.

The Samuel R. and Gladys F. Huey Scholarship may be awarded to an applicant from Chassahowitzka or Homosassa pursuing a college degree preferably, but not limited to, a teaching career.

The Kathryn O. Mitchell United Methodist students seminary and who are toward becoming United Christian Education Directors.



Scholarship is available to who are enrolled in а education pursuing their Methodist Ministers. Directors, or Church Music

Application forms for the Huey Scholarship are available in the guidance offices at Lecanto and Crystal River High Schools.

Application forms for the Mitchell Scholarship are available at the church office.

Mark Whittaker



Fingernails

Yup, you read that right, Fingernails. Did you ever wonder what doctors are looking for when they look at your fingernails? Your nails can provide clues to your overall health.

Take a minute and look at your nails. What do you see? Do they look strong and healthy or do you see ridges, dents, or areas of unusual color or shape?



Healthy nails are smooth without pits or grooves. They are uniform in color and consistency and free of spots or discoloration. Nails are composed of laminated layers of protein called keratin and grow from the area at the base of the nail beneath the cuticle. As the nail grows it pushes the older, hard compacted cells toward your fingertips. You may see vertical lines which are normal and get more prominent as you age. Sometimes you will see white lines or spots which are the result of injury but will fade with time.

Not all conditions are normal, such as discoloration of the entire nail

or a dark streak under the nail. The shape of the nail may change, such as curling. The nail itself may be thinning or thickened; the nail may separate from the surrounding skin. There may be redness, swelling or pain around the nails. There may even be bleeding around the nail. If you observe these changes it is important to check with your medical doctor or dermatologist.

Disorders that affect the amount of oxygen in the blood such as abnormal heart anatomy, lung disease or infection may cause clubbing. Kidney and liver disease can also damage nails. Thyroid diseases may cause brittle nails or splitting of the nail bed. Severe illness or surgery may cause horizontal depressions or dents in the nails. These are just a few of the symptoms and diseases suggested by nail changes.

Now, how can you keep your fingernails looking their best? Keep you nails dry and clean. Wear cotton lined rubber gloves when washing dishes, cleaning or using harsh chemicals. Avoid long soaks in the tub. This will prevent bacterial fungi and other organisms from growing under your nails. Trim and file your nails regularly, and use hand lotion several times daily. Never use your fingernails as tools. Don't bite your fingernails or cuticles. Don't pull off hangnails, trim them. If you rely on manicures and pedicures, check and make sure the salon is currently licensed as well as the technicians. Make sure instruments are sterilized and foot baths are cleaned with a bleach solution between clients.

Be an advocate for your own health. If you notice changes in your nails, check with your doctor.



When "PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER" Doesn't' Work!

You've heard it time and time again: "Pull yourself together...Cheer Up...Tough it out...It's not that bad." Perhaps people have said it to you. Or perhaps you keep saying it to yourself, but it hasn't helped. You are still hurting. Things are coming apart, not coming together. Here's the good news: You don't have to go through your struggles alone. Help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential one-to-one care as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart. To learn more about Stephen Ministers for your self or someone you know, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders: Carol 382-8926, Karen 382-7263, Kay, 382-4908 or any Stephen Minister wearing a blue name tag.

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

You have enemies? Good! That means you've stood up for something in your life. Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

If you missed the dawn that I made for you today it doesn't matter. I will make you another tomorrow. GOD

FAREWELL TO DEAR FRIENDS



NEW ADDRESS

Richard & Edy Shaffer Lake View Terrace 431 Maple Tree Drive Apt. FF206 Altoona, FL 32702 "The time has come for us to be under some help and protection of things to come in the future."

Please pray that they will find peace and happiness in their new home.

THE WAYS OF THE KINGDOM by Jan Wise

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. (1 Peter 4:12)

Pastor Mark commented, "As long as there are tests, there will be prayer in schools."

Testing is a normal part of learning and, though we complain and struggle with getting prepared, the test helps us and our teacher know if we are learning.

Testing has different meanings. God may call something a *test*; we may call it a *trial* while Satan calls it a *temptation*. Regardless of the label, we know the importance of being prepared. In our daily walk with God, he prepares us for whatever will come.

My English teacher prepared us for the Regents exam. We studied past exams, answering questions and learning the test format. On exam day, it encouraged me to find the format and type of questioning familiar. There were questions we hadn't covered, but I had learned to handle the unexpected. I was amazed to learn what I had learned!

The Bible records, "... God tested Abraham." When Abraham raised his knife to kill his son Isaac as God commanded, an angel stopped him, and God substituted a ram for the sacrifice. God summarized Abraham's faithfulness—"Now I know that you fear God...." Didn't God know before? Whose faith benefited from the test?

In Psalm 26:2, David cries out, "Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind." Testing is part

of following the Lord. A good result increases our faith, bringing glory to God.

In Matthew 4, we find that Jesus, after his baptism, was "led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted." God led his Son to the desert where he allowed Satan to tempt him. Jesus passed the tests, proving his alignment with his Father's purposes.

Many of the tests that come to us accomplish this same thing. Whether we are cut off by someone on Route 19, hurt by some unkind words, or develop an unexpected illness, our response shows where we stand. Failure to respond to God's way indicates our need for more practice until our "test results" bring glory to God.

Paul writes, "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." (1 Corinthians 10:13)

God knows when and how we will be tested. His tests show us where we need to grow and how we have grown. God is faithful to prepare us, walking through each trial with us. Our part is to stay close to him, listening and obeying.

Father, keep us close, keep us true, and may our "test results" bring glory to you.



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SELECTING THE NEW PASTOR

Over the next few months the church will be quietly in the process of receiving a new pastor. There are many steps in this and it is a complicated process that will require the input and work of a lot of people.

It starts with the Staff Parish Relations Committee working together to try their best to define what they feel the church needs in it's new pastor. What qualities, what skills, what talents they think best fit the current and future needs of the congregation. The committee communicates this information to the District Superintendant, John Powers, in a meeting they will have here late in January. The committee uses a Church Profile to lay out this information.

Then in February and March, John and the other eight District Superintendents get together with Bishop Timothy Whitaker, and with prayer and much discussion, will plan the appointments for the coming year for the entire Annual Conference. This process is very complicated and takes a couple of months and a number of meetings to do the job correctly. The Cabinet (the Bishop and all of the District Superintendants) have to consider the needs of the church, the needs of the pastors and their families, as well as the style and strengths of both.

After much conversation, John Powers will come to our Staff Parish Relations Committee with the pastor they have designated for the church. The moving pastors also will meet with their District Superintendant to be told where their next appointment will be. In the United Methodist Church we are a Sent system, not a Call system.

This means that the Bishop sends the pastor to the church, not the church calling the pastor. Good or bad, this is the way we have been doing it for over 225 years.

Changes may have to be made in the choices by the Church or the pastor and that requires another round of meetings. Eventually the appointments are decided on and there is an announcement day, usually around Mother's Day. The new pastor can then contact the church and come for a visit with the Staff Parish Relations Committee. They will talk about the transition and expectations on both sides.

At Annual Conference in Lakeland this year, June 14-16, the appointments will be fixed and the church will have a new pastor.

The new pastor will move in the last Wednesday in June and will be here starting on July 1, 2012.

It is important that you hold all this in your prayers this year. The cabinet and the church working and praying together for God's will to be done is the best way to make sure that the church gets the right person for the job of leading the greatest church in the Annual Conference.

Mark Whittaker



Do you know that there are many creative and tax-saving ways to arrange a deferred gift to the church—some with financial deferred gift to FUMCH's benefits to you now?

Do you know that it is easy to remember the church in your will improvements, (2) church or trust—simply by naming FUMCH as a beneficiary of a|(4) scholarships and education specific amount or of a portion of grants, or left undesignated—the your estate?

Do you know that a life needed most? insurance policy you no longer need can become a gift to the churchsimply by naming FUMCH as to FUMCH become members of beneficiary?

Do you know that a charitable gift annuity (CGA), purchased through the Florida UM Foundation and naming FUMCH as beneficiary, will give you an attractive income stream for the rest of your life-with the remainder given to the church after your death?

Do you know that you can arrange for a portion of an IRA or other retirement plan to be given directly, or by naming FUMCH as beneficiary, without any tax being paid?

Do you know that highly appreciated stocks and real estate

can become gifts to FUMCH, 9 avoiding capital gain taxes and receiving charitable income tax deductions?

Do you know that any deferred gift to FUMCH may be designated toward a specific need or left "undesignated" to be used where it is needed most at the time it is received?

Do you know that any Permanent Endowment Fund may be designated for (1) capital ministries, (3) outreach & mission. annual interest to be used where it is

Do you know that all persons who arrange deferred gifts The 5th Dimension Society, through which the church expresses appreciation to these fore-sighted and generous people?

Do you know that you can receive more information about Planned and Deferred Gifts by calling the church office?

(submitted by the Permanent Endowment Committee)

"PLANNING"

Encouraging my thirdgrader to do his homework, I told him he'd need to know math to get a good job when he grew up.

"I don't think I want a job," he replied. "I'll just live off vour retirement!"

TAKE TIME TO READ!

New Year's resolution to take time to be good to yourself and take time to read a good book. The following are some of the new and interesting books that we have acquired in the church brings us to aristocrat Rogan library:

"Warrior Princess", а Christian biography by Princess Kasune Zulu, a native of Zambia. She is a world renowned HIV/AIDS advocate, educator and activist. She speaks of its impact on women and children, and also related issues such as poverty, child labor, education for girls, child soldiers, child prostitution, human rights and gender equality. She herself has positive HIV status that prompted her to be a tireless ambassador for others infected by the virus. It is amazing what God can do with even one person who is truly willing to serve Him unconditionally. Orphaned in her teens in Zambia, she has gone from preaching to hardened truckers to churches across the United States, and follows Evy Varley's marriage to ultimately to the White House.

Linda Chaikin has written a trio of books in the "East of the Sun" series. Book 1, "Tomorrow's Treasure" is a story of Evy Varley who remembers little of her parents and nothing of So. Africa, the land where she was orphaned during the Zulu War of 1878. She was raised by her aunt and uncle at the rectory in the small English village of Grimston Way, When Sir Rogan Chantry, the arrogant and handsome son of the local Squire, accuses Evy's mother of stealing the infamous Kimberly Black Diamond, Evy sets out to prove him wrong. Secrets abound as a stunned Evy finds that her own aunt and uncle may have

It's time to follow through on your concealed disturbing truths about her family. Evy must draw upon her wits and her faith to pursue "Tomorrow's Treasure".

Book 2, "Yesterday's Promise",

Chantrey's pursuit of a mysterious deposit of gold, marked on a map willed to him by his murdered uncle, Henry Chantrey, and he is challenged by a new complication: the impending British colonization of So. Africa. Can Sir Rogan find the gold in the midst of escalating tensions among the native tribesmen, the missionaries sent to win them, and the new colonists? Meanwhile in England, Evy Varley, the woman Rogan loves, is headed for a brave yet dangerous confrontation with Henry's killer. A reunion seems improbable for them. Can yesterday's promise hold them faithful to the hope of future freedom and a victorious love?

Book 3, "Today's Embrace", •

Rogan Chantrey. It is all she had hoped it would be, so when she finds out that she is pregnant, she plots to keep the pregnancy secret in order to accompany her husband to So. Africa. Evy is determined to travel to Bulawayo, the new mission station of Dr. Jakob van Buren – the one man who can help to finally clear her mother's name. They find malaria, murder and an African uprising in Africa and they all take their toll. Rogan and Evy must fight, not only for their love, but also for their very lives.

"Leaving" by Karen Kingsbury, a favorite inspirational novelist. This is Book One of the Bailey Flanigan Series, featuring

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members of the popular Baxter family h and it finally completes the Bailey/ b Cody story. Love, loneliness, big opportunities and even bigger decisions H highlight this first book. Bailey is b leaving Bloomington to take advantage of a once in a lifetime opportunity to audition for the ensemble of a H Broadway musical in New York City. re Is she ready to leave family and friends a for the loneliness of the city? And what of Cody Coleman? His disappearance has Bailey worried about their future find and she prays that their love can for survive.

"The Doctor's Lady" by Jody Hedlund - Priscilla White knew God wanted her to be a missionary, not a wife. Then the missionary board declared that the only way she can serve is to be married. Now, married IN NAME ONLY, the epic journey west will test Priscilla's spirit – and the new longings of her heart.

"Somewhere a Song", Book 2 of Daughters of Fortune series, by Judith Pella. The day after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, the world is reeling in shock, and the daughters of newspaper tycoon Keagan Hayes encounter its tumultuous aftermath on three different continents. Returning to Moscow after a stressful emergency visit to California, journalist Cameron Hayes hears the devastating news and knows it will mean war with Japan. Her sister Blair is caught in the Phillipines during the attack. She had followed her estranged husband to his military assignment in the South Pacific in hopes of restoring their fractured marriage and has not been heard from since. In Los Angeles, youngest sister Jackie deepens her relationship with a Japanese friend in spite of fear-induced

hatred toward Asians since the bombing. The terror of war threatens to drive a wedge into the Hayes family. Is reconciliation now beyond hope? A sweeping saga of a family and a world in chaos!

"Serendipity" by Cathy Marie Hake - Maggie Rose is the only remaining woman in Carver's Holler and she has cared for a ragtag of old men for years, bartering for a living and making soaps, lotions and perfumes from a special rose recipe passed down for generations. She hasn't wanted to marry until a strapping young man arrives on her doorstep, searching for a doctor for his ailing mother. Life suddenly changes but instant attraction does not a marriage make. A clash of cultures and a battle of wills ensues. Is there any hope that true love will blossom between a free-spirited woman and her uncompromising husband?

"People of the Book", a novel by Kathi Macias. This is truly a book for the times we live in. Farah wants nothing more than to develop a deeper devotion to her Muslim faith. She sees the month of Ramadan as her chance to draw nearer to Allah and pursues that goal. All goes well until the prophet Isa – Jesus – appears to her in a dream and calls her to Himself. Forced to choose between family and faith, her choice may also become life or death. A strong and moving story! All choices have consequences, some more life-affecting than others. The book shows the reality of Christian persecution present in the Muslim world. The young women in the novel struggle with their faith, hope and fear as they could be killed for taking a stand for Christ.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! From the Library Staff



Answers: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1

Olive & Alex Stevens ~ 61 years ~ Sharon & James Haskell ~ 48 years ~ Ann & John Sandstrom \sim 47 years \sim 8 Joyce & Don Foxwell ~ 56 years ~ 14 Alice & Robert Yusko ~4 years ~ 16 **Diane & John Gibbs** ~ 49 years ~ 17 Loretta & Alan Burcaw ~ 22 years ~ Althea & Art Stuckey ~ 48 years ~ 23 **Dorothea & Waldo Shellenberg** ~ 55 years ~ 25 Janet & Jerry Tanner \sim 35 years \sim 26 **Rosalie & Wayne Haynes** ~ 35 years ~ Ina & Joe Ryder \sim 12 years \sim 27 Gail & Richard English \sim 43 years \sim .



IN OUR PRAYERS (as of 1/16/2012)

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AVANTE Annie Preston

BRENTWOOD Joyce Minnicks Margurite Seely

CEDAR CREEK Jack & Lois Schoch

CITRUS HEALTH/HOSPICE Roland Aberle

> <u>CYPRESS COVE</u> George Cole Clay Spencer

DIAMOND RIDGE Betty Duncan

MONROE LIFE CARE Mary (Beth) Huey

SUGARMILL MANOR Marge Dilling Grace Payne

SUNFLOWER SPRINGS Ruth Eaton Fran Graham Joanna Miller Joan & Jack Ness Abbye Jean & Bill Richner

WOODLAND TERRACE Shirley Weber.

IN MEMORIUM



FEBRUARY 2012 (as of 1/18/2012)

Wednesday 1

14

7:00 Mens Prayer Group 9:30 Weight Watchers 10:00 Grief Support 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 LaMountain Bible 2:00 Spirit Heart 3:00 Benson Bible 5:15 Music 5:30 WW DINNER 6:00 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir

Thursday 2

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 1:30 Serendipity Women 2:00 Green Team 3:00 Preps 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon

Friday 3 GENESIS DEADLINE 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:00 Wise Bible 12:00 Women's Retreat 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal

<u>Saturday 4</u> Women's Retreat

8:00 Saturday Sisters 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:30 Bereavement 10:30 Gods Clods

Sunday 5

COMMUNION SUNDAY Women's Retreat 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Traditional Worship 10:45 New Beginnings SS 11:00 Traditional Worship 3:00 CC BAND CONCERT

<u>Monday 6</u> BLOOD MOBILE

- 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 SHINE 8:30 Tracking Committee 9:30 Visitation Committee 11:00 Reserved 1:00 Diabetes Support 1:00 ML Respite
- 4:00 Stephen Ministries

<u>Tuesday 7</u>

10:00 Old Testament Bible 10:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 UMW Ex. Mtg. 12:00 Weight Watchers 1:00 Old Testament Bible 1:30 Stephen Ministers 3:00 Serendipidity Bible 3:00 Stephen Ministers 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Serendipidity Bible

Wednesday 8

7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:30 Weight Watchers 10:00 Grief Support 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 LaMountain Bible 1:00 Shawl Ministry 2:00 100th Anniv. Com. 2:00 Spirit Heart 3:00 Benson Bible 5:15 Music 6:00 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir

<u>Thursday</u> 9

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:00 Back Pack 9:15 Ruth Circle 3:00 Preps 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon

Friday 10

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:00 Wise Bible 2:00 Cancer Support 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal

Saturday 11

8:00 Serendipity P/cakes 8:00 Saturday Sisters 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:30 Bereavement 1:00 Baby Shower

Sunday 12

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

Monday 13

8:00 Work Crew 8:30 SHINE 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:00 PED 9:30 Visitation Comm. **10:00 UMW Brunch** 11:00 Reserved 1:00 Alzheimer Support 1:00 ML Respite

Tuesday 14

VALENTINE'S DAY 9:00 WW Prep. 9:30 Faith Hope Circle 9:30 Helping Hands Circle 10:00 Old Testament Bible 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Weight Watchers 1:00 Dorcas Circle 1:00 Old Testament Bible 3:00 Serendipidity Bible 4:30 Kitchen Committee 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Salty Circle 7:00 Serendipidity Bible

FEBRUARY 2012 (as of 1/18/2012)

President's Day

Wednesday 15 7:00 Men's Prayer Group 9:30 Weight Watchers 10:00 Grief Support 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 LaMountain Bible 1:30 New Member Class 2:00 Spirit Heart 3:00 Benson Bible 3:30 Staff/Parish Relations 5:15 Music 5:30 WW DINNER 6:00 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Thursday 16

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 1:30 Serendipity Women 2:00 SA Set-Up 3:00 Missions Committee 3:00 Preps 3:30 Trustees 7:00 Creative Worship 8:00 AA 8:00 Al-Anon

Friday 17 Council Reports Due 8:00 SA Breakfast 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:00 Wise Bible 4:00 A/Video Rehearsal Saturday 18

8:00 Saturday Sisters 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:00 CPR 10:30 Bereavement

<u>Sunday 19</u>

PANTRY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Traditional Worship 10:45 New Beginnings SS 11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 20

OFFICE CLOSED

8:00 Work Crew 8:30 SHINE 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Reserved 1:00 ML Respite 4:00 Stephen Ministries **Tuesday 21** 10:00 Old Testament Bible 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Weight Watchers 1:00 Old Testament Bible 1:30 Stephen Ministers 2:00 Finance Committee 3:00 Serendipidity Bible 3:00 Stephen Ministers 4:30 Kitchen Committee 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Serendipidity Bible Wednesday 22 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:00 Mens Prayer Group 9:30 Weight Watchers 10:00 Grief Support 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 LaMountain Bible 12:00 Ash Wed. Service 1:00 Shawl Ministry 2:00 100th Ann. Com. 2:00 Spirit Heart 3:00 Benson Bible 5:15 Music 6:00 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Thursday 23 Fold/Mail 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:00 AARP Safe Driving

3:00 Preps

8:00 AA

8:00 Al-Anon

7:00 COUNCIL (music)

Friday 24

Saturday 25 8:00 Saturday Sisters 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 10:30 Bereavement Sunday 26 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY **BLOOD MOBILE** 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Traditional Worship 10:45 New Beginnings SS 11:00 Traditional Worship 2:00 CROP WALK Mondav 27 8:00 Work Crew 8:30 SHINE 8:30 Tracking Comm. 9:30 Visitation Comm. 11:00 Reserved 1:00 ML Respite **Tuesday 28** 10:00 Old Testament Bible 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Weight Watchers 1:00 Old Testament Bible 3:00 Serendipity Bible 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Serendipidity Bible Wednesday 29 7:00 Mens Prayer Group 9:30 Weight Watchers 10:00 Grief Support 10:00 Siegel Bible 10:00 LaMountain Bible 2:00 Spirit Heart 3:00 Benson Bible 5:15 Music **5:30 SOUP SUPPER** 6:00 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir.

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9:00 Our Father's Table

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:00 AARP Safe Driving

4:00 A/Video Rehearsal

10:00 Wise Bible

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FEBRUARY 2012 BIRTHDAYS

2 Cyrynda Walker 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 Marjorie Ottman 7 Allen Stone 8 Hilda Theriault 9 Bill Barton Dylan Patton Wanda Wheeler 10 Eden Kimble Pam Milat

11 Robert Boekholder Bud Ludwick Barbara Smith 13 Shirley Cromer 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 Bernice Wade



18 Alice Hurley 20 Candy McFarland Patricia Urzen Marilyn Watson

21 Joyce Foxwell Neil Kline Pat Layman Jack Radabaugh 22 Jim Roth

23 Ann Morrison 24 Christine Annear Tammy Borras 25 Richard Hartley Donna Ludwig Jack Ness 26 Dennis Borras Marguerite McClain 28 Doris Nasutovich.

COLUMBARIUM NEWS

Our Church Columbarium is a reflection of the earlier church cemeteries, located adjacent to churches. This continues even now in very rural settings.



The Columbarium enables congregants to be reposed with their fellow church members, and provides an appropriate setting for committal services and visitation.

Closely under one half of the Columbarium Niches have been purchased. Full details can be obtained from Theresa, Church Administrator, 628-4083.

John Gibbs, Chairman

	No matter how big or 17		
<u>RECALL NOTICE!</u>	small the SIN defect is, Jesus		
The Maker of all human	will replace it with:		
beings (GOD) is recalling all			
units manufactured, regardless of make	1. Love		
or year, due to a serious defect in the			
primary and central component of			
the heart. This is due to a malfunction			
in the original prototype units			
code named Adam and Eve, resulting	6. Goodness		
in the reproduction of the same defect			
in all subsequent units.	7. Faithfulness		
This defect has been identified			
as "Subsequential Internal Non-	9. Self control		
morality," more known as S.I.N., as it			
is primarily expressed.	Please see the operating		
Some of the symptoms include:	manual, the B.I.B.L.E. (BEST		
1. Loss of direction	Instructions Before Leaving Earth) for		
2. Foul vocal emissions	further details on the use of these fixes.		
3. Amnesia of origin	WARNING: Continuing to		
4. Lack of peace and joy	operate the human being unit without		
5. Selfish or violent behavior	correction voids any manufacturer		
6. Depression or confusion	warranties, exposing the unit to dangers		
 Fearfulness Idolatry 	and problems too numerous to list, and		
 8. Idolatry 9. Rebellion 	will result in the human unit being		
	permanently impounded. For free		
The Manufacturer, who is neither liable nor at fault for			
this defect, is providing factory-			
authorized repair and service free of			
charge to correct this defect.			
e	permitted to enter Heaven so as to		
•	prevent contamination of that facility		
offered to bear the entire burden of the			
staggering cost of these repairs. There			
is no additional fee required.	1.5. Thease assist where possible by		
The number to call for repair	notifying others of this important recall		
in all areas is: P-R-A-Y-E-R .	notice, and you may contact the Father		
Once connected, please upload	any time by 'Knee mail'!		
your burden of SIN through the	Because HE Lives!		
REPENTANCE procedure.	ر 🜨 ا		
Next, download			
ATONEMENT from the Repair			
Technician, Jesus, into the heart			

NEWS FROM THE HENRY'S

Dear praying friends,

18

As we turn the calendar into 2012, we would like to again express our deepest thanks for your prayers and concerns for us. We are grateful and encouraged by your prayerful involvement in our ministries and trust the Lord is answering those prayers in ways beyond what we could ask or imagine. Keep up the great "work" this year ©! Praises

⊕·····Elaine did a great job leading youth and women's Christmas events at Cool Shade of Life Church (CSLC) last month. The youth heard the Gospel in a



unique way through Christmas lights, while the women sang carols and gave homemade cookies to church member's neighbors. These events and others were definitely a challenge for Elaine because of her health, but we are thankful that she made it through okay and that the positive impact was so evident.

⊕·····Elaine had her **second cataract surgery** at the end of December and seems to be recovering well. We hope that this will allow her to have much-

improved vision for the rest of her life. Elaine continues to have spinal pain and other medical issues, so please continue to pray for her health.

⊕·····Praise God that we received quite a few extra financial gifts last month! That allowed us to receive most of our business reimbursements back, which alleviated a lot of financial strain. We are so thankful for those who generously gave and trust God will bless them. Please pray for the Lord's continued generosity in our lives and ministries this year.

⊕·····Instead of a normal Sunday church service, CSLC held an evening Christmas outreach at Pastor Ogaat's house. It included games, songs, gifts, a message and



a children/youth program that was led by Elaine and included Caleb and Jamie . Praise God that around 20 non-Christians were exposed to the true Gospel and pray that they would be open to the message.

 ⊕ This month's cultural photo is "temples." While Thai New Year (Songkran) is in April, Thais still celebrate the "international" new year with lots of festivities.

(Combine that with Chinese New Year in January or February, and Peterson family from New the "Happy New Year" signs stay up for months!) Around 30,000 Buddhist temples will take advantage of the opportunity this year to hold prayer services, give year blessings, collect new



donations/gifts, hold merit-making ceremonies and even host music concerts. (FYI, Thai calendars have vears two on them: the "international" year of 2012 and the Buddhist year of 2555.)

Prayers

several of our team's national partners - Pastor Dapoe, Pastor Moses and Pastor Wit - in Mae Jaem, Mae Ai and Sisaket in the next couple months. Please pray for wisdom in the timing and purpose of the trips as we seek to prepare these partners for missionaries to join in their church-planting and evangelistic efforts this year.

⊕·····One of our bigger responsibilities of the year as PIONEERS leaders comes up this month as we review Annual Ministry Plans with Team Leaders and HOME Team members. Please pray for wisdom, God's clear direction and stamina through this challenging and important process.

ው·····It looks like the 19 **Zealand** will definitely be coming in March to join Pastor Moses in Mae Ai in ministry. Now, there is an American couple who are very interested in Pastor Dapoe's work in Mae Jaem and likely will visit later this month or in February to make a final decision on whether to join our team in assisting him. Please pray for wisdom for these couples in the months ahead.

⊕·····Our children will begin their second semesters at school this month: junior Brittany and freshman Justin at Columbia International University (S.C.) and 8th-grader Caleb and 6th-grader Jamie here in Chiang Mai at Grace International School. Please pray for them to grow spiritually, academically and socially in the next five months.

all have heard, Until ⊕·····We likely will be visiting Joe, Elaine, Brittany, Justin, Caleb & Jamie

> Did You K n o w that Forbes magazine ranks Christian charities as the most reliable in terms of using donor money? A Forbes study ranks the 200 largest U.S. charities based on several criteria, and 4 of the 5 that received perfect scores are Christian organizations. Check out http://www.christianpost.com/news/ christian-charities-more-reliable-thanothers-according-to-forbes-64522/ for a summary story and http:// www.forbes.com/sites/ williampbarrett/2011/11/30/the-200largest-u-s-charities-for-2011/ for the Forbes story and rankings.

In His grip, Joe, Elaine, Brittany, Justin, Caleb, & Jamie

SUPPLIES
dition, they still need for the homeless as tems needed are:
ss ping bags ves & hats (for cold months) ropane tanks dorant o and hand sanitizer d-Aids hcloths els e double-edged razors (no le edge, please) et paper te crew socks ey-type underwear (size 32) r candles k stoves
spray (for the summer) have any questions, please ee to contact the Tanners at 352-503-3848.
Food Bless You for helping! Image: Constraint of the second state of the second s

take them to Theresa's office Outreach Center. It has been set up marked for the Tanners, and they in the Hernando Civic Association will deliver them to CASA.

Center.

'A SOLDIER DIED TODAY!"

He was getting old and paunchy And his hair was falling fast, And he sat around the Legion Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in And the deeds that he had done, In his exploits with his buddies They were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors His tales became a joke, All his buddies listened quietly For they knew where of he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer For ol' Bob has passed away, And the world's a little poorer For a Soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many Just his children and his wife. For he lived an ordinary Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family Going quietly on his way, And the world won't note his passing 'Tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth Their bodies lie in state, While thousands note their passing And proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories From the time that they were young, But the passing of a Soldier Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution To the welfare of our land, Some jerk who breaks his promise And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow Who in times of war and strife, Goes off to serve his country And offers up his life? The politician's stipend And the style in which he lives, Are often disproportionate To the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Soldier Who offered up his all, Is paid off with a medal And perhaps a pension, small.

It's so easy to forget them For it is so many times, That our Bobs, Jims, and Johnnys Went to battle, that we know.

It is not the politicians With their compromise and ploys, Who won for us the freedom That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger With your enemies at hand, Would you really want some cop-out With his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier--His home, his country, his kin, Just a common Soldier Who would fight until the end.

He was just a common Soldier And his ranks are growing thin, But his presence should remind us We may need his like again.

For when countries are in conflict We find the Soldier's part, Is to clean up all the troubles That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor While he's here to hear the praise, Then at least let's give him homage At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline In the paper that might say: <u>"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,</u> <u>A SOLDIER DIED TODAY."</u>

21

KEVIN & LAURA NEWS FROM

Celebrating Christmas in December?!!

22

News Year Eve 2012!

Obviously, to us westerners this of a new year together with prayer, makes perfect sense. However, for Russia and about 12 other countries in the world, they celebrate the Orthodox date on the 7th of January. This year, we heard of many fellowships/churches across Russia deciding to celebrate on the 25th of December, one of which was a small fellowship that meets in a village about 30 minutes from us. Several of us joined in their celebration of the birth of our Savior! Although it's a very small group, we were encouraged by their faith in Him.

This year we celebrated the coming food, games, and fireworks! We even had a piñata for the kids filled with candy. Not everyone in the fellowship wanted to come out in the cold and leave their homes for a long period of time. (Someone has to keep the fires going at home!) However, we had a good turnout and a great time of sharing and just being together; not surrounded by drunks! Many shared of looking forward to a new year filled with opportunities to share with friends and neighbors as well as growth in their spiritual understanding of the Word.



fellowship visit in the next village



receiving a gift for our fellowship



time of sharing and prayer



our pastor and his family

After reading this update, you 23 Christmas in January.... Our fellowship decided to remain may think all we did in December and January was to with the January date of celebrating Christmas since it is recognized by celebrate! For the majority of people everyone and wouldn't give another in Russia, this is true! We see nonreason for the community to think stop drinking; most government of us a sect. Our time was shared offices and many businesses with folks from the city and another village. The pastor shared the importance of remembering what the "Good News" truly is and what a precious gift we were given over 2000 years ago in a smelly stable filled with animals; a gift that changed the world forever!!



children receiving their Christmas gifts

Good News!

visitors from the next village

actually close from the 31st of December until the 10th of January! The real 'reason for the season' is totally lost in the 'celebrating.' As for our fellowship, this time was spent in much prayer and a renewed desire to serve the community. Please remember us in prayer and there is such a burden of urgency to share the Good News with others.

We see and feel the darkness of 'the enemy' and know a battle rages in the heavens! We also know the victor of that battle and stand firm in that knowledge.

> Serving in Siberia, Kevin & Laura



24 THE RETURN Everyone in the wedding ceremony was watching the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle to give her away to the groom. They reached the altar and the waiting groom; the bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand. Everyone in the room was wondering what was given to the father by the bride. The father could feel the suspense in the air and all eyes were on him to divulge the secret and say something. So he announced "Ladies and Gentlemen, today is the luckiest day of my life." Then he raised his hands with what his daughter gave him and continued, "My daughter finally, finally returned my credit card to me." The whole audience including the priest erupted in laughter all except the poor Groom!!				
-				
In the midst of a busy life,				
<u> </u>	TAKE some time to be a kid again!			
2				
Q. V	Vhat do they call pastors in Germ	any?	Give me a sense of humor, Lord, give me the	
	A. German <u>Shepherds</u> .		grace to see a joke, to get	
Q. V	Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?		some humor out of life,	
	A. Because Noah was standing on the $\underline{\text{deck}}$.		and pass it on to other	
.			folk!	
	A minister waited in line to			
have	his car filled with gas just	<u>THIS MONTH IN HISTORY</u>		
	re a long holiday weekend.	02 "Ground Hog Day"		
	attendant worked quickly, but	03 "The Day the Music Died"		
	e were many cars ahead of him. lly, the attendant motioned him	http://www.youtube.com/		
	ard a vacant pump.	watch?v=QmyGZ64J9yg		
	"Reverend," said the young	08 "Boy Scout's Day"		
	, "I'm so sorry about the delay.	12 Abraham Lincoln's BD		
	ems as if everyone waits until last minute to get ready for a	14 Valentine's Day20 President's Day		
	trip."			
2	The minister chuckled, "I	• 22 George Washington's BD		
	w what you mean. It's the same	29 "Leap Day (every 4 yrs)"		
ın m	y business!"	L		

2012 COUPLE'S RETREAT

25

THEME: "LIVING BY FAITH"

MARCH 9-11, 2012

Life Enrichment Center 4991 Picciola Rd Fruitland Park, FL 34731

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

The weekend will focus on the true meaning of Faith and how we apply Faith in our day to day living!

<u>http://www.ummflconf.org/Couples%20promo_New.wmv</u> (check out this link to the retreat and center if you haven't been) LEADERSHIP TEAM



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 9500 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.



"Revvie Debbie" Nelson as she has been fondly named, is a graduate of Asbury Theological Seminary and is now serving Ridge Manor Community UMC. With a passion for healing and deliverance, Revvie Debbie invites you to join her in uncovering God's miracle for you at this retreat weekend as we savor His amazing Word together.



WORSHIP LEADER: Lenee Schroeder and her husband Bob traveled across the US and the UK for 25 years in full-time Christian concert ministry and were always favorites at the Leesburg Retreats. Today Lenee continues in full time Christian Ministry with music concerts, and leading retreats around the US.

COST INCLUDES: program, room, & meals - \$298.00 per couple MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: UNITED METHODIST MEN

Contact Jim Stoneman, Retreat Coordinator, at 422-0169 or Theresa in the office 628-4083

SIGN UP TODAY TO PUT "YOUR" NAME HERE! (see form on reverse side)



PIRITUAL PORMATIC

Truth and Clearness

A while ago I wrote about not all things labeled "spiritual" being Christian spirituality. It's also the case that every book with thin paper with gold edges and bound nicely is not the Bible which we Christians use - no matter what the title. We must be very careful because there are a lot of things masquerading as Christianity. If you are considering purchasing a Bible or if someone has given you one, I urge you to talk with Pastor Mark, Kay Bast, your Sunday school or Bible study teacher, or your Christian Spiritual Director. It is extremely important to be sure that what we are studying is *truth*.

Some of the *Spiritual Disciplines* have names which have caused some questions for a few people. <u>Meditation</u> as a Spiritual Discipline is not meditation as we generally think of it. It is more pondering the Scriptures as, "Mary pondered these things in her heart." (Luke 2:19) A few of the Scripture references in the *Spiritual Formation Bible* are: Ps 19:14; Ps 77:12; Col 3:2. This is not a new idea; hear what some spiritual leaders of the past have said about meditating on Scripture:

The actions of our Savior are so rich in meaning that every soul that ponders them finds in them its own share of spiritual food to nourish it and bring it to salvation.

Catherine of Siena (1347 – 1380) The Life of Catherine of Siena In our meditation we ponder 27 the chosen text on the strength of the promise that it has something utterly personal to say to us for this day and for our Christian life.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906 – 1945) Life Together

The definition of submission as a Spiritual Discipline has to do with "subordination to the guidance of God; within the Christian fellowship...out of reference for Christ" and has to do with "our efforts toward Christlikeness". Some of the Scriptures relating to submission are: Luke 1:38 & 46 56; Eph 5:21 - 6:9; Heb 5:7 and 13:17; James 4:7; Col 3: 18 - 24. Scriptures are sometimes taken out of context; perhaps even a single plucked out and used alone often to make a point. We know Scripture is to be taken as a whole and Scripture interprets Scripture. The passage often used out of context is about submitting and loving another, and ultimately about submitting to God. Submission as a Spiritual Discipline is about submitting to God.

If you would like complete definitions and some Scripture references, they are available on the Spiritual Formation bulletin board. As always, just give me a call if you have any questions.



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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

<u>We Are A Stephen Ministry Church</u> "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

Rev. Mark Whittaker, Pastor

Marsha's Prayer Chain Email: ricmar@infionline.net

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