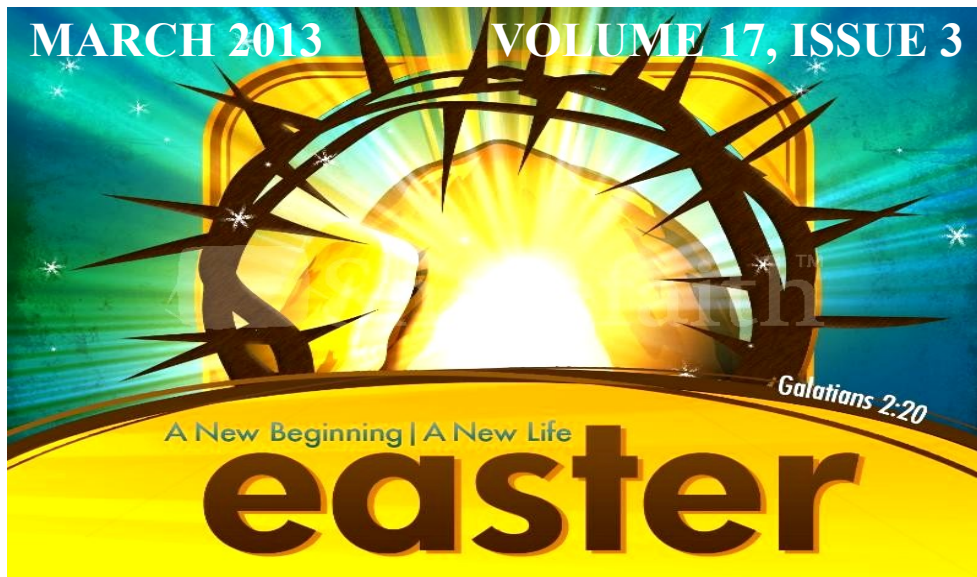


GENESIS NEWSLETTER
HOMOSASSA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8831 W. Bradshaw Street - Homosassa, FL 34448

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

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

Rev. Kip Younger, Pastor



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theresa@lumc.org

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YOUTH COORDINATOR

Wayne Brown

MUSIC

Dixie Lay

Joy Potts

Dayna Middlebrooks

PARISH VISITOR

(open position)

SOUND TECHNICIANS

Sharon Cooley

Ron Hesketh

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

& NURSERY SUPERVISOR

Sandra Tam

CUSTODIAN

Dale Evans

NIGHT SECURITY

Randy Weber





Greetings:

As you probably already know March is going to be a very busy month for the church. So, I would like to use this newsletter space to go over most of the events of March.

On March 3rd, which is of course the first Sunday of March, it will also be the third Sunday of Lent. With this being the case, you will be on your third Sunday devotion if you are using the devotions books offered just prior to Lent. And you will experience the lighting of the Lenten Cross for the fourth time, if you attended Ash Wednesday services. Remember that the Lenten Cross helps us keep focus on where we are in the Lenten Season.

The flaming candles help us count down the Sundays prior to Easter. And I would like to thank our readers once again for lighting our Lenten Cross candles each Sunday.

If you signed up for the Real Ideas Conference at the Van Dyke UMC in Lutz then we will be attending this together on March 7th and 8th. This has always been a very informative conference and I hope that you will be blessed in your attendance.

If you started the New Member Class on Wednesday February 27th, then you know that our last class is on Wednesday March 20th, and that **new members will be welcomed on Palm Sunday, March 24th** during the service which you normally attend. We look forward to a great class of new members.

Following Palm Sunday comes **Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. We will honor both with worship services held on the appropriate day, at 7:00 pm.** On Maundy Thursday we will celebrate Holy Communion together to remind us of our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples. On Good Friday we will recall the passion of our Lord and his burial. I know that sometimes folks feel like they do not want to attend these services, pointing out to me that Maundy Thursday is just another communion service, accept it's not on a Sunday, and that Good Friday is too sad, and they do not want to relive what happened to Jesus. I understand their reasoning, but I don't agree. Maundy Thursday is when Holy Communion was initiated. And Good Friday allows us to remember and not take for granted that the days leading up to Easter were not easy for anyone to live through. I

hope you will mark these dates on your calendar.

And yes, then comes Easter morning. We will have our normal three services at their normal times. There will be lots of great Easter music and hymns. We will have a cross outside in front of the narthex for you to bring flowers for. This large cross will have “chicken wire” around it, and we will ask you to remember to bring fresh cut flowers on Easter to place on the cross as you enter or exit worship. By the end of the morning, the cross will be transformed from an ugly tool for death to a beautiful presence of peace and new life. Thus, as we get closer to Easter, there will be lots of reminders to bring cut flowers on Easter.

Besides lots of worship news in March there is also a **Soup Supper on March the 6th**, and if I understand correctly we are to bring our own bowls. So, you should **bring a very large bowl** to save repeated trips to the serving table.

And of course don't forget about **changing your clocks on the night of the 9th** so you are on time for worship.

I think that covers it. I hope to see all of you as we celebrate the wonderful resurrection of our Lord and Savior and all the events which lead up to Easter morning.

God Bless – Pastor Kip



Towards A New View of Lent! 3

Chalice Lighting:

There is a tale for Lent that comes from a far-off place... One day the Devil decided to close up shop in a certain part of the world, and so he decided to hold a fire sale and an attitude auction. Some evil people were pleased to get his tools like fear, ignorance and prejudice and be able to play his infernal games at half price...

But one person seeking to be more spiritual and caring, wandered into the shop. Intensely curious, he looked around at all the tricks of deception and the tools of malice, until he spotted the quality on the highest shelf that had the highest price. Boldly, he asked the devil what that quality was, and why was it so expensive. The devil replied, “That is discouragement. Why is it so expensive? That's simple. It's my favorite. With the tool of discouragement, I can pry into any person or any group and cause all kinds of havoc and damage.”

Let us light the chalice this morning for hope, for compassion, for the courage to look deeply at ourselves. By not being discouraged by life's challenges, we uncover the diamonds among the dust, to find new insights and opportunities, and learn how best to accept ourselves as being love-worthy, just, and kind.

Peter Edward Lanzillotta Ph.D.

4

Religious Education
 Holy Bible
by Kay Bast



We have just completed our first Weekend Bible Adventure and were very pleased with the day. We had 10 children and 7 youth who spent the day learning how we can all shine God's light in our lives and our relationships with others. In the late afternoon we enjoyed a concert from Light Central Praise Band. The young people are really using their music to praise God and spread the news of his Grace for all. They were a lot of fun and we all enjoyed having them.

There is still room in the Friday night Invitation to the New Testament, if you are interested in coming just give Wayne Brown a call.

A large crowd attended the first soup supper of the season and then moved into the Sanctuary to attend a very meaningful Ash Wednesday service. There are only 2 soup suppers this year, the second one will be held on March 6th. A really good Easter presentation is planned so be sure to put the date on your calendar.

Several ladies recently attended a training to gather ideas for women's ministry, so watch for information on some upcoming events just for the ladies.

There are currently several opportunities for Bible study available and all are open for new members to join at any time. If you would like more information please give me a call, catch me in the hallway, or just come by my office.

Kay





Taking Medications Safely

Medications can cure diseases, ease symptoms, and help you stay healthy. They can also cause a lot of problems if taken incorrectly. The Federal Drug Administration (FDA), through studies, estimates that 50% percent of these problems could be prevented. The FDA in its regulatory role tries to prevent errors by regulating drugs, drug labeling and drug manufacturing standards. Doctors, nurses and other health care professionals also work to educate their patients to reduce errors. But ultimately, the responsibility rests with you!

The FDA recommends 6 tips to avoid medication errors:

1. Know the name of your medication. It is always a good practice to ask your doctor to spell the medication name for you. When your prescription is filled, check each time that the packaging is the same and the medication looks the same. If something doesn't look

right, question it. Also count the number of pills and be sure you have been given the amount you have paid for.

2. Know how to use this medication. Ask questions about safe use. What if a dose is missed? Is the medication taken before, during or after a meal? What are the side effects? What medications, food or activity should be avoided while taking this medication?

3. Know the purpose of the medication. People are more likely to take medications if they know why they are taking them.

4. Read labels and follow directions. Read the label every time you take the medication to assure you are taking it correctly. If a measuring device is provided with the medicine be sure to use it. Always read the patient information that comes with the prescription.

5. Keep your list of medications current. Be sure to include all over the counter medications in that list. Share this list with all your health care professionals.

6. Keep the list of medications with you. Be sure to share this list with family members and keep a list available in your home.

Thank You

I thank our Heavenly Father that I am part of the Family of God. Thank you, my Christian brothers and sisters, for all the love given to me during George's departure to Heaven and your support during my back surgery.

In Christian Love, Jerry Cole



CHURCH MINISTRIES

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
 Wednesday Night Dinners
 Youth Ministry

Outreach Ministries

Annual Seminar for Elder Needs
 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.

1/14/13



FRIDAY,
MARCH 1
FOR
APRIL



2 a.m.
Sunday
3/10/13



THE WAYS OF THE KINGDOM

by Jan Wise

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. (Philippians 4:12-13)

Paul's words give us pause because we can't conceive of being content in this way. The key to his discovery has two parts—"I have learned," and "I can do everything through him."

Our society breeds dissatisfaction. Whether listening to commercials on TV, seeing the "special sale" signs in the store or participating in conversations around us, we are constantly tempted to be unhappy with ourselves and our lives. We dwell on "if only" thoughts--"if only....., then I would be content."

Once, as I complained to the Lord about a Christian brother, the Lord said, "I'm satisfied with him; why aren't you?" Why wasn't I satisfied—because the brother wasn't doing it *my* way!

But we can refuse to let circumstances make us discontented by leaning on the promise of Jesus. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid." (John 14:27) He has given us his peace. Ours is the "do not let" part—Jesus has provided all we need to be content; our

part is to refuse to dwell on thoughts leading to discontentment. That takes both learning and practice.

This past year two friends moved to adult care facilities. Their expectations illustrate Paul's point. Each one had a "practicing" attitude: "I've made up my mind before I go that I will be happy there—and so I know I will." They left behind much from their former "comfort zone," trusting God that the move was his best for them. They knew the peace Jesus promised and based their expectations on his promise.

Often our expectations are based on the wrong idea. We expect what the world promises to give—the good life, the cheapest prices, the longest satisfaction, the happiness of physical fulfillment. Then we complain when the world's seductive promises fail.

God, because he created us, knew what promises would offer true contentment. He promises us that when we seek him, we will find him—and when we find him, then, and only then, will we begin to learn Paul's secret of being content.

Whenever I am discontented—with myself, with a friend, with the church, with some situation—I am learning to let that dissatisfaction turn me to God. When I seek him rather than my own self-satisfaction, his peace and contentment are available to me.

So, in the final analysis, our being discontented is a choice we make. Learning to be content, receiving Jesus' peace, is also a choice, a choice that's just a prayer away.



INFO UPDATE

Please 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@lumc.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.



Where are the Clowns?

God's Clods have been very busy representing FUMC of Homosassa in the best way possible for a bunch of silly clowns. Volunteering in the community as clowns, we are sharing God's love through laughter and bringing a little joy wherever we go. It's fun and rewarding beyond belief. In addition to our regularly scheduled visit to New Horizons Village where we facilitate a birthday party for 48 developmentally challenged adults, we have added a monthly visit to Sugarmill Manor. There we perform, sing and dance, tell a few jokes, share a little "magic", and celebrate their birthdays. In addition over the holidays, we have clowned at a Thanksgiving food distribution, a Thanksgiving meal for the homeless, the Christmas parade, the library's 5th anniversary, and the Elk's Club Christmas party. Yes, we even made a quick appearance at the fall bazaar.

The first Saturday of each month, God's Clods meets in room 102 of the education building. During this time we practice our clown skill and learn new ways to make people happy. Sir Prize and Prism aka Mark and Iris Whittaker attended Mooseburger's Clown Camp in Minnesota over the summer. After five days of intensive training with expert instructors, they brought back a bushel of information and new tricks to improve our efforts. They have been happy to share what they learned with the rest of us. If you are interested in joining us, you are welcome to just pop in at 10:30 a.m. We would be tickled pink to see you! We plan to have a two day training session soon. Everyone is welcome to take part and see what the clown ministry is all about.

Your clown ministry is alive and well reaching out to the members of the community in your name and inviting people to come and check out FUMC.

THE MARCH WIND MAY BLOW
BUT WE ARE LUCKY -- NO

10 SNOW! IT'S TIME TO
READ A GOOD BOOK

“**A Quilt of Memories**”, a Patchwork Mystery, by Kristin Eckhardt. Sarah Hart is an expert in vintage quilt restoration and also has a knack for piecing together mysteries. When Sarah’s elderly father, William, takes a turn for the worse, she summons her brother James home from Italy to say goodbye. When Sarah discovers that their father’s bank account has been drained, she must find out who stole his money, and James was the only one who had access to the funds, but denies any wrongdoing. Who would steal an old man’s life savings? If they don’t recover the money soon, William will be forced to leave the nursing home. As the whole family gathers around William’s bedside, three generations reminisce about the many ways he impacted them all and they are reminded that even in the midst of sadness, there is hope for the future.

“**A Love of Her Own**”, a novel by Maggie Brendan. This is Book 3 of the Heart of the West series. Still cautious after a broken engagement, April McBride fully intends to guard her heart when she travels to Lewistown, Montana to attend her brother’s wedding. It won’t be hard in the small mining town of dusty shops, bad service and ill-bred cowboys. But a run-in with horse trainer Wes Owen opens up

vast possibilities for frustration, embarrassment, friendship and... love? This is an adventurous, spark-filled ride through love in turn-of-the-century Montana.

Beverly Lewis, much loved author, has written a series of books about “*The Seasons of Grace*”.

Book 1 - “**The Secret**” – The loving hand of God is at work in even the most unsettling circumstances. In the seemingly ordinary Amish home of Grace Byler, secrets abound. Why does her mother weep and wander deep in the night? And why does her father refuse to admit something is dreadfully wrong? Then, in one startling moment, the quiet life Grace has known is irrevocably altered, leaving her to question all she has been taught about love, family and commitment.

Book 2 - “**The Missing**” – The heartwarming sequel to “The Secret”. Grace Byler longs to uncover the secret that drove her mother to leave the family weeks ago. When all hopes are dashed for a search, an unlikely friendship leads to a surprising invitation. Meanwhile, the young Amish man Grace thought was courting her best friend takes a sudden interest in her, and Grace’s decision to remain single is challenged even as her determination to find her mother grows.

Book 3 - “**The Telling**”, the powerful conclusion of the series. The anticipation of a homecoming, a

chance to set things right, Yet will the “Telling” cause further pain? Accompanied by her new English friend, Grace Byler has left her home in Bird-in-Hand to search for her mother in Ohio. But what if Lettie refuses to be found? Meanwhile, Lettie continues her private quest to find the missing piece of her life, though she is increasingly torn between the family she left behind and the yearning for her long-lost child. Will mother and daughter find the answers they seek?

Here is another series about cousins.

Book 1 - “**A Cousin’s Promise**” - Love is a promise – for better or worse. When a group of eight cousins and friends leaves their Indiana Amish community for a weekend getaway, a horrific accident brings them home forever changed. Wayne Lambright is permanently disabled by the accident and sacrifices his happiness by breaking his engagement to his fiancée, Lorraine Miller. She refuses to believe Wayne doesn’t love her anymore. For better or worse, Lorraine wants to be Wayne’s wife, but if he doesn’t agree, should she promise her love to her old boyfriend, Jake? How will God work to bring Lorraine the true desires of her heart?

Book 2 - “**A Cousin’s Prayer**” - A year after her boyfriend was killed, a traumatized Katie Miller returns to her Amish community in Indiana, struggling with depression and panic attacks.

Freeman Bontrager has been **11** interested in Katie ever since they were in school. Is there any future for him with this emotionally scarred woman or should he turn to the fair beauty, Eunice Byler? When a mysterious package appears on Katue’s doorstep, Freeman’s loyalty is tested. Will he win her trust only to lose his standing with her parents? What will it take for Katie to overcome her fears and dare to live – and love – again?

Book 3 - “**A Cousin’s Challenge**” - After a serious van accident leaves Amish schoolteacher, Jolene Yoder, profoundly deaf, she leaves home to learn how to read lips and communicate with sign language. But two years later, a family with children who have been deaf since birth moves to Jolene’s hometown and she is asked to return as their teacher. Lonnie Hershberger has lost faith in God and in women ever since his girlfriend broke up with him when he lost his hearing during an explosion. When he starts falling in love with Jolene, he worries about protecting her if he can’t hear. Jake Beechy is his competition but he is fighting his growing attraction to Ella Miller, Jolene’s cousin. What drastic measures will God take to break the barriers between these young lovers - and teach them to hear the voice of love?

HAPPY READING

from your Library Staff

**Helen Lefave, Barbara Jackson,
Ann Ice, and Pat Barton**

12

JOSEPH and the Amazing TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Sunday, April 14, 2013

Bus trip to Hudson Show Palace Theatre
to see the musical version of the Joseph story.

Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat

Music by Andrew Lloyd Weber - lyrics by Tim Rice.



The cost is **\$48 per person (NOT including tip)**. This includes the buffet lunch, ticket, and bus.

12:00 noon bus leaves from the church!

Please contact Sue Norman:

email: laughingsuenorman@gmail.com

or phone 1-352-461-3235 for tickets and/or questions. **Make check out to First United Methodist Church, Homosassa.** Please submit your check to the church office as soon as possible.

DON'T MISS THE BUS!

RESERVATION DEADLINE -WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10



5
Jackie & Sheldon LaMountain
~ 20 years ~

9
Dayna & Ron Middlebrooks
~ 17 years ~

10
Jill & Jim Wickliffe
~ 40 years ~

11
Lavonne & Kevin Brennan
~ 7 years ~

12
Joyce & Robert Leaming
~ 22 years ~

17
Sandra & Donald Tam
~ 11 years ~

18
Nell & Bill Lent
~ 64 years ~

20
Ann & Donald Parkinson
~ 9 years ~

24
Claudette & Roger Kirby
~ 40 years ~

Pat & John Rada
~ 62 years ~

27
Jan & Peter Magamoll
~ 70 years ~

29
Jan & Ed Masek
~ 26 years ~

30
Regina & William Parks
~ 69 years ~.
*** Bold = 50 years+**

13
IN OUR
THOUGHTS
AND PRAYERS

(as of 2/13/2013)

BRENTWOOD
Joyce Minnicks

CEDAR CREEK
Wilbourn Fowler
Lois Schoch

SUGARMILL MANOR
Marge Dilling
Grace Payne

SUNFLOWER SPRINGS
Ruth Eaton
Joan & Jack Ness
Helen Vaught
Catherine Wisheart

SUNSHINE GARDENS
Pete Magamoll

TIMBER PINES RESIDENCES
Abbye Jean Richner.

Thank
YOU!

I've often said that this church and my friends here are my saving grace. That has certainly been proven during my recent hospital stays as everyone has gone above and beyond expectations.

Words cannot express my appreciation for all the support and caring everyone has shown; from caring for Charlie, to preparing meals, and to airport pickups and drop offs.

Hugs and blessings to all,
Bunny Wade

Friday 1**GENESIS DEADLINE**

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
1:00 Bazaar Committee

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

Tuesday 5

9:00 PREP KITCHEN
9:30 Arthritis Support
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
4:00 Intercessory Prayer
5:15 Music
5:30 SOUP SUPPER
6:00 Bells
6:30 Youth Group
6:30 New Member Class
7:00 Choir
7:00 Women's Bible

Thursday 7

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

Friday 8

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

Saturday 9

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

**Sunday 10****1 Great Hour**

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 PED
9:30 Visitation Committee
10:00 Sacred Hour
1:00 ML Respite
1:00 Alzheimer Support
4:00 Health Team

Tuesday 12

9:30 Arthritis Support
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

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
3:00 Creative Worship
4:00 Intercessory Prayer
5:15 Music
6:00 Bells
6:30 Youth Group
6:30 New Member Class

Thursday 14

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:00 Backpackers
9:15 Ruth Circle
9:30 Arthritis Support
3:00 Permanent Endowm.
6:30 Sugarmill Chorale

Friday 15**Council Reports Due****Couple's Retreat**

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

Saturday 16**COUPLES RETREAT**

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



Sunday 17

PANTRY SUNDAY
COUPLES RETREAT

7:45 BLOOD MOBILE
8:00 Traditional Worship
9:30 Sunday School (all)
9:30 Traditional Worship
10:45 New Beginnings SS
11:00 Traditional Worship

3:00 NCFS Concert

Monday 18

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
6:30 Girl Scout Leaders

Tuesday 19

9:30 Arthritis Support
9:30 UMW Unit Meeting
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

1:30 Transfer Members
2:00 Staff/Parish Relations
3:00 Benson Bible
4:00 Intercessory Prayer
5:15 Music
6:00 Bells
6:30 Youth Group
6:30 New Member Class
7:00 Choir
7:00 WOMEN'S Bible

Thursday 21

9:00 Label Genesis

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:30 Arthritis Support
1:30 Serendipity Women
3:00 Missions
3:30 Trustees
6:30 Sugarmill Chorale
7:00 COUNCIL

Friday 22

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

Saturday 23

8:00 Saturday Sisters Bible
9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:30 ZUMBA
10:30 Bereavement
11:00 LABRINTH setup

Sunday 24

PALM SUNDAY

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
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 LABRYINTH
8:30 SHINE
8:30 Tracking Committee
9:00 PED
9:30 Visitation Committee
10:00 Sacred Hour
1:00 ML Respite

Tuesday 26

8:30 LABRYINTH
9:00 AARP Safe Driving
9:30 Arthritis Support
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
8:30 LABRYINTH
9:00 AARP Safe Driving

9:30 Weight Watchers
10:00 LaMountain 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 Youth Group

6:30 New Member Class

7:00 Choir
7:00 Women's Bible

Thursday 28

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:30 Arthritis Support
6:30 Sugarmill Chorale
7:00 MAUNDY TH. SER.

Friday 29

OFFICE CLOSED

9:00 LABRYINTH
9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
10:00 Wise Bible
4:00 A/Video Rehearsal
7:00 GOOD FRIDAY Svc

Saturday 30

8:00 Saturday Sisters Bible
9:00 LABRYINTH
9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)
9:30 ZUMBA
10:30 Bereavement
4:00 LABRYINTH CL. UP

Sunday 31

EASTER SUNDAY

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

WEEKLY YMCA 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

SPRING



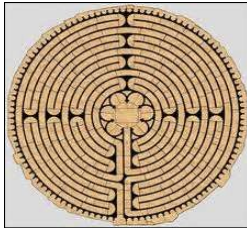
1 Glenn Harwood Stan Sobolak	13 Pat Barton John Guthrie Patricia Ross	24 Ashleigh Gordon Carl Merritt Cee Merritt Emily Walker
2 Gladys Bevan Cecelia Bledsoe James Haskell Larry Stainton Helen Vaught	14 Mary Lee Millikin Lorraine Wood	25 Vera Irish Gene Ludlow Bill Yuhasz
5 Frances McCrady Jim Wicker	15 Gerry Green	26 Jerry Cole Mary Jane Houchins Barry Reichard Janet Tanner Joyce Wicker
6 Ida Bradley Janet Watson	17 Pat Burns Susan Burns Barbara Gilbert Elsa Pence	27 David Benthusen Ernest Miles Ray Riter Timothy Sunderland
7 Pam Cleary Shirley Dunkle Alan Shimp Fran Smith	18 James Graham Pat Kern Jerry Winters	28 Solveig Spuhler
8 William Busby Glenda Gable	19 Don Foxwell Jennifer Gibbar	29 Judy Lee Jan Masek
9 John Rada Pat Rada Margaret Woods	20 Helen Scheetz	30 Kevin Brennan Gary Partin Larry Rogers
10 Mike Gettings	21 Charles Peters Shelby Weingarten	31 Rick Graves Erin Kimble Peter Magamoll.
12 Rolland Custer William Squires	22 Linda Clawson Brenda Loper Wendy Miles	
	23 Jim Price	

Thank You

We want to thank you for your prayers and thoughts during Larry's surgery and recovery. He continues to improve each day. We have truly been blessed.

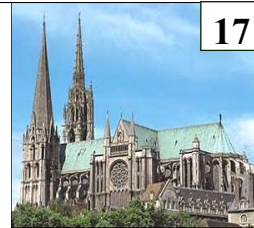
Love in Christ, Laurie & Larry Stainton





Prayer Labyrinth

Holy Week 2013



17

Again this year the prayer labyrinth will be in Fellowship Hall during Holy Week. We hope you will take this opportunity to use this ancient way of worship and prayer. As part of their spiritual journey, people travel long distances to walk the labyrinth at the Methodist Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg, and thousands travel to Chartres Cathedral in France (picture above) to walk the labyrinth inlaid in the floor there.

For those of you who have not taken this walk or who are unfamiliar with a prayer labyrinth, I'm including some information here. More details are available on the Spiritual Formation bulletin board and in the narthex. When you come to the labyrinth, there will be a brochure with complete details and tips for your journey.

A labyrinth is a prayer tool like a prayer altar, a cross, candles, or a prayer journal. There is evidence that Christian churches used the labyrinth for prayer and meditation as early as 350 C.E. The oldest known labyrinth still in existence is in Algeria and is inscribed in the center with the words "Sancta Ecclesia" meaning holy church. The labyrinth we use is made of canvas and belongs to the Florida Conference of the UMC and is called an 11 circuit labyrinth; it is modeled after the one in Chartres Cathedral.

Walking the labyrinth has become part of the Holy Week tradition for many in our congregation since it was first introduced here a few years ago. We hope it will become part of your tradition as well. The times when it will be open are listed below:

Palm Sunday	11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday – Thursday	8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Good Friday	9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Holy Saturday	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



WITH SYMPATHY



We sadly announce that **Lynford Roy** - church friend and spouse of FUMC member Lucile Roy, passed away January 24, 2013. Services will be in Burlington, Vermont.

From Kevin & Laura

Greetings Dear Friends...we're still in Florida and LOVING this wonderfully warm weather!!!

Wonderful visit in January!...

Many of you were able to spend some time with us in January when we shared during a Saturday evening potluck and all three services on Sunday. What a blessing to be surrounded by those whom have prayed so fervently these many years. We pray that if you were able to attend, you were blessed and are better informed as to how to pray for us and the work in which you are an invaluable partner! THANK YOU !!!

During our visit, several folks asked about our 'boys' – they're now ages 25 and 23! This doesn't seem possible but just the same it's true, so here's a quick update on Joshua and Corey. Joshua graduated Biola University in 2010 and eventually found work at the Discovery channel as a production assistant where he is enjoying learning many new things about the film industry. Corey is out of the ARMY and is waiting for the VA to help him with his knee injury that he sustained while in the service. From what we hear this could take as long as two years as there are many veterans that are injured.

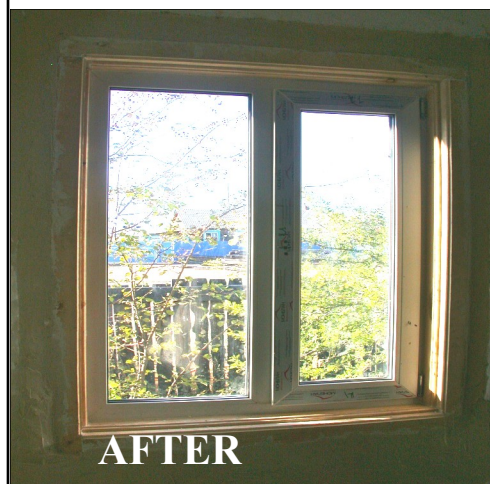
Keeping in touch with Siberia...it can be a challenge keeping up with what's happening in Siberia having so many miles between us and our Russian 'family.' However, we are so blessed to have Internet service there so we can email or even call over the computer for free! We have been in touch with our teammates in the village and have an update on the work as it continues in our absence. The ladies are continuing to meet together and study His word. There are eight ladies committed to coming and the leaders are seeing growth and understanding of the Word. There are also several men that have been consistently meeting and discussing what the Bible says about being a loving man and being the head of his household. There have been some great discussions and the leaders of the group are seeing understanding and change in their lives as well! Please keep these groups lifted in prayer as they press on.



Never too young to worship...last summer our dear friends and fellow workers left the village for about three weeks and joined us for a field conference. This left a huge 'hole' in some areas of the work that we 'the foreigners' had been doing. One of these areas was Sunday worship. There is much talent in the fellowship; they just felt as long as 'we' led worship that was just fine. It's amazing what folks can do when they have to..... four people from the fellowship came together and formed a worship team. One is a girl who studied piano for over five years. At the age of 15, she is using her talent to play on Sundays. Even though we the foreigners haven't returned, they are continuing to meet together and study what is worship and it's importance for the spiritual growth in the fellowship.

WOW (Windows of Warmth) update...There are several opportunities to help out with this amazing project. This summer we have a small team coming out to our village and our hope is to put in four new windows and siding with insulation on the building that our Fellowship owns. That's right - the local body of believers owns the building. It's the typical log design with very little insulation keeping the cold out during the winter so this is a huge need. At the present time the windows in the main hall are the "old" style that let in a lot of cold as well. The total cost for the project

will be approximately \$5,500 **19** dollars. We would also like to have the summer team help install several windows in a home (or two) in conjunction with the local Social Services department for our county. If you would like to help with this on-going project please send your financial support to our organization....GSI 2102 SW 47th St. Cape Coral, FL 33914 and mark it for WOW account.



Serving Together in Siberia,
Kevin & Laura

Deadlines, deadlines--with so many activities on the church calendar, I missed the deadline for February's "Genesis". So a little review is necessary.

A lot was said on the last United Methodist Children's Home (UMCH) Sunday (12/13/12). It was good hearing from others about the work being done. 1st UMC is also doing great things. If you remember, the support goal for each supporting church is based on the official membership number X \$12 per member. Our church hasn't been at the official membership count (810) for a while. Therefore, meeting our support goal has been difficult. Last year it wasn't that difficult. 1st UMC gave \$8,661, or 93% of our goal. From all the children at UMCH and those of us involved locally--THANK YOU!

February 4, 2013, there was a training session for church members involved with church committees. There were sessions for church LRCs. This was my first conference, and I was very pleased with the presentations. I will share more about these in future issues of "Genesis".

The BIG event this month is the Campus Visitation scheduled for March 16, 2013. Anyone interested in visiting UMCH is welcome, but I must hear from you by **March 10, 2013**. Please contact me by email [**citrusbates@gmail.com**](mailto:citrusbates@gmail.com) so transportation can be organized. It is a TWO-hour trip to the campus in Enterprise, Florida.

Our 1st UMCH Sunday will be March 31, 2013. Please pray about how much you can share with the children at UMCH - children like Veronica! Veronica came to UMCH after years of abuse and heartache. Her parents were teenagers when she was conceived. When Veronica was 8, her mother committed suicide, and her father had no idea how to raise her. An uncle promised a better home life, so Veronica went to live with him. He sexually abused her.

In her junior year of high school, Veronica finally told a teacher of the abuse. The teacher called UMCH, and Veronica went to live there. Upon entering UMCH Veronica said, "I just want to go to school and GET OUT OF HERE!" Just months at UMCH brought a dramatic change. Veronica finished high school, graduated from college, and is planning to study for a Master's Degree. Veronica stated: "If children like me don't find someone who believes in them, they give up and, in most cases, turn to drugs and/or crime. On the other hand, if people invest in us and give us a shot, we stand a better chance of succeeding, because we fought for the opportunity." Praise God for this special life, and thank God for UMCH and the children under our care!

Don Bates, LCR for United Methodist Children's Home



IRA Charitable Rollover Extended in 2013

The “fiscal cliff” deal (The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012) that finally was passed by congress on Jan. 2, 2013, contained a surprise provision of interest to many people. The IRA Charitable Rollover has been extended through 2013. Therefore, individuals 70½ years and older may authorize a distribution from a traditional or Roth IRA to be transferred directly to an eligible charitable institution (such as First UMC Homosassa). Individuals may exclude those amounts distributed to charity from their gross income.

The IRA Charitable Rollover provision was established initially through the Pension Protection Act of 2006 and was extended in Dec. 2010 through Dec. 31, 2011, when it expired. During that time many donors turned portions of their IRAs into tax saving gifts. Now the provision has been extended again allowing individuals over 70½ to make contributions directly from their IRAs without reporting the distribution as income and without including the gift as an itemized deduction.

The provision applies to IRAs only—not to other retirement plans such as 401(k) and 403(b) accounts. However, it may be possible to make a tax-free transfer from such accounts to an IRA, from which a

charitable rollover can then be made. 21

Who can benefit from the IRA Rollover provision? **You can** if your required minimum distribution from an IRA would otherwise push you into a higher tax bracket. **You can** if your IRA assets are too large to be used in your lifetime (Your heirs will be taxed when they inherit them). **You can** even if you choose not to itemize on your federal income tax return (because your IRA Rollover contribution is excluded from income). **You can** if you are looking for an easy and tax-free way to make a special contribution during 2013 to FUMCH (Mortgage Reduction Fund, Permanent Endowment Fund, Missions Pledge, etc.).

If interested, talk with your accountant, tax advisor, or financial planner. Then call the church office or a member of the Permanent Endowment Committee to find out how to arrange a direct transfer from your IRA to FUMCH.

Submitted by the Permanent
Endowment Committee

*Thank
You*

Thank you, my dear Church Family for your prayers, cards, and many acts of kindness during my Mother's illness and passing on January 11, 2013. God bless you!

Love, Linda Gordy

ICE CREAM FLAVORS WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



BLACK CHERRY	COOKIES AND CREAM	MOOSE TRACKS	PRALINE PECAN
BUBBLE GUM	COTTON CANDY	NEAPOLITAN	RAINBOW SHERBET
BUTTER PECAN	FRENCH VANILLA	NUTTY COCONUT	ROCKY ROAD
CHOCOLATE CHIP	MINT CHIP	PEANUT BUTTER CUP	STRAWBERRY
COOKIE DOUGH	MOCHA ALMOND FUDGE	PISTACHIO ALMOND	VANILLA BEAN



by Marilyn Watson



Spiritual Formation

A Deeper Lenten Journey

Lent is a season of preparation. So what will you do in preparation for Easter?

Have you ever pondered the fact that Easter is one day and Lent is forty days?

So I guess the question really is – what will you do *during* Lent?

Lent is a time for cutting out those things that distract us. It's easy to be caught up in relationships, family, work, and even in church work. The distractions in our lives take us away from living a life with Christ. Sometimes we try to fill the emptiness inside us with TV, busyness, meaningless chatter, the computer, or other things to keep us from being still. Many of us run from silence because we're afraid of being alone with God. So we need to take some time to pray and listen so when God shows us where we might need to refocus our lives, where He may be calling us to serve, or where we are in our relationship with Christ we can hear Him. Some people give up something for Lent, others take on something. Whatever is given up or taken on, the purpose needs to be to draw closer to Christ.

Most of you are **23**

expecting me to tell you it would be a great idea to try out a new spiritual discipline* (what John Wesley would call a means of grace), but I've done that before. So this time I'll suggest participating fully in all the Lenten and Holy Week activities and services. I don't mean just be at the church, but rather approach Lent prayerfully asking the Lord to show you anything He chooses and be open to whatever it may be. Have a repentant attitude like the one we had when we began our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes. Use the Lenten devotional booklet daily as a guide then stop and spend some quality time listening to God. Come walk the labyrinth with a prayerful attitude and open mind and heart to hear what God may reveal to you. Use the reflection booklet. Worship at the Maundy Thursday Service and at the Tenebrae Service on Good Friday, then come celebrate the resurrection. It could be that you will celebrate like you have never celebrated before!

May your Lent be a deeper journey to the cross than those in the past and your Easter be a most glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection!

*There is information on the Spiritual Disciplines on the Spiritual Formation Bulletin Board and in the Narthex.

IT WAS ONLY A QUARTER!



Several years ago, a preacher from out-of-state accepted a call to a church in a small town in Texas. Some weeks after he arrived, he had an occasion to ride the bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, 'You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it.' Then he thought, 'Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet.'

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, 'Here, you gave me too much change ...'

The driver, with a smile, replied, 'Aren't you the new preacher in town?' 'Yes' he replied.

'Well, I have been thinking a lot lately about going somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I'll see you at church on Sunday.'

When the preacher stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on, and said, 'Oh God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter.'

Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read. This is a really scary example of how much people watch us as Christians, and will put us to the test! Always be on guard -- and remember -- You carry the name of Christ on your shoulders when you call yourself 'Christian.'

Watch your thoughts; they become words.

Watch your words; they become actions.

Watch your actions; they become habits.

Watch your habits; they become character.

Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

~ author unknown ~

With pleasure, we announce that
 Jean Beck and Lynn Dubose
 were united in holy matrimony
 Saturday, January 12, 2013

You Have the Answers!

In which battle did Napoleon die? * his last battle.

Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?
 * at the bottom of the page.

The River Ravi flows in which state? * liquid.

What is the main reason for divorce? * marriage.

What is the main reason for failure? * exams.

What can you never eat for breakfast? * lunch & dinner.

What looks like half an apple? * the other half.

If you throw a red stone into the blue sea what it will become?
 * It will simply become wet.

How can a man go eight days without sleeping?
 * No problem, he sleeps at night.

How can you lift an elephant with one hand?
 * You will never find an elephant that has only one hand.

If you had three apples and four oranges in one hand and four apples and three oranges in other hand, what would you have? * very large hands.

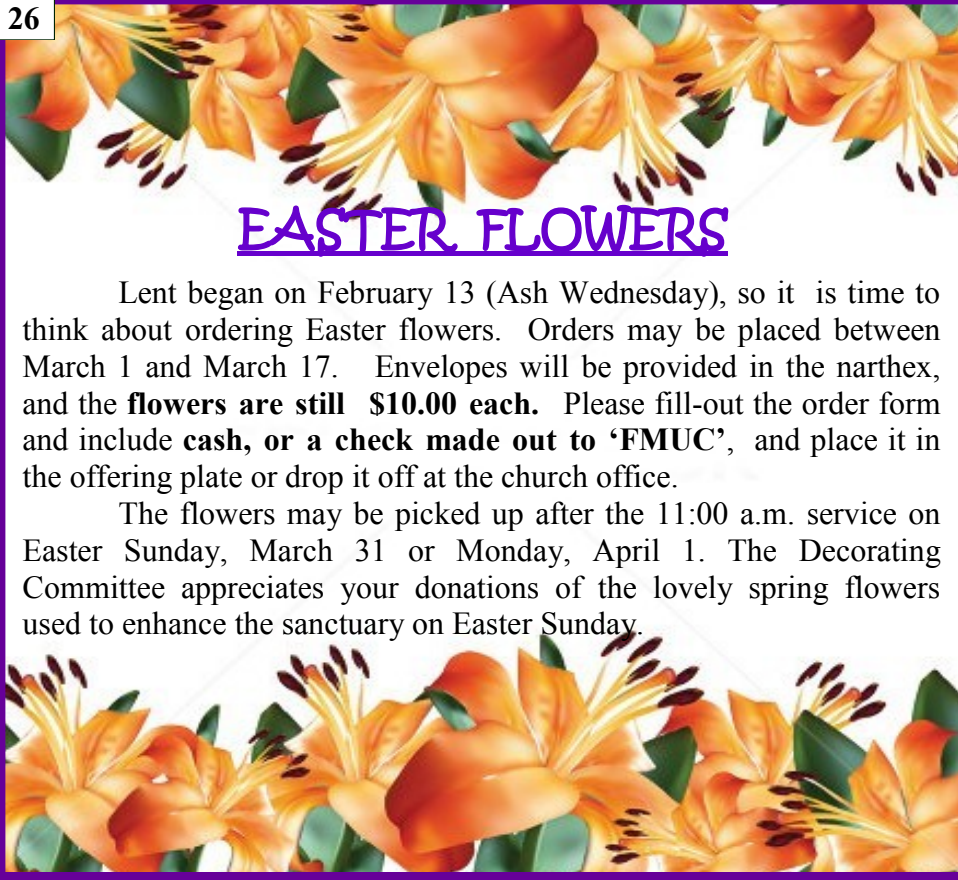
If it took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it? * No time at all, the wall is already built.

How can u drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it?
 *Any way you want, concrete floors are very hard to crack.



**Spread the laughter, share the cheer.
 Let's be happy, while we're here!**

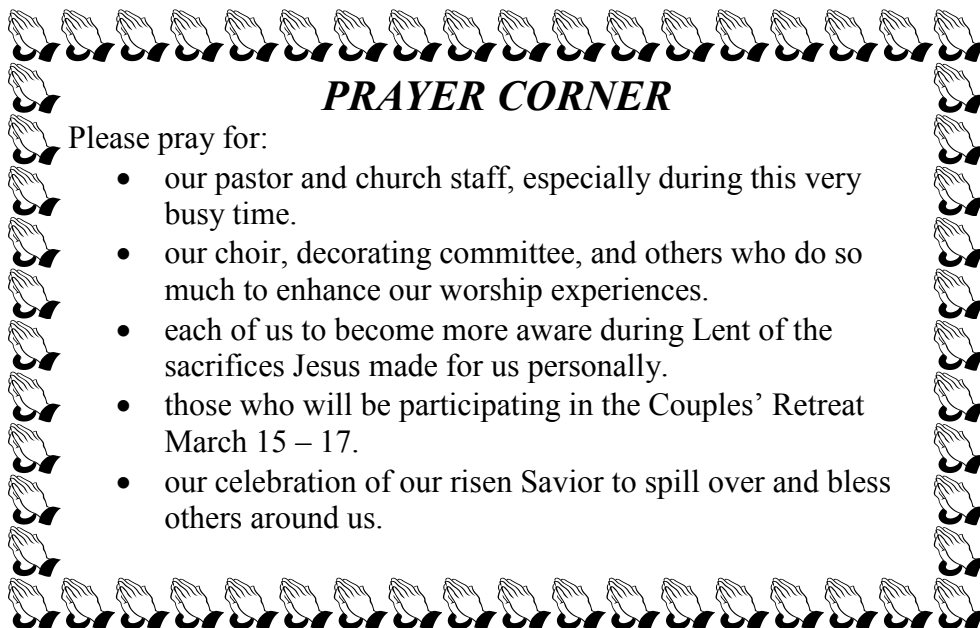




EASTER FLOWERS

Lent began on February 13 (Ash Wednesday), so it is time to think about ordering Easter flowers. Orders may be placed between March 1 and March 17. Envelopes will be provided in the narthex, and the **flowers are still \$10.00 each**. Please fill-out the order form and include **cash, or a check made out to 'FMUC'**, and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office.

The flowers may be picked up after the 11:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, March 31 or Monday, April 1. The Decorating Committee appreciates your donations of the lovely spring flowers used to enhance the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for:

- our pastor and church staff, especially during this very busy time.
- our choir, decorating committee, and others who do so much to enhance our worship experiences.
- each of us to become more aware during Lent of the sacrifices Jesus made for us personally.
- those who will be participating in the Couples' Retreat March 15 – 17.
- our celebration of our risen Savior to spill over and bless others around us.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A MISHAP?

Come with me to a third grade classroom..... There is a nine-year-old boy sitting at his desk and all of a sudden, there is a puddle between his feet and the front of his pants are wet. He thinks his heart is going to stop because he cannot possibly imagine how this has happened. It's never happened before, and he knows that when the boys find out he will never hear the end of it. When the girls find out, they'll never speak to him again as long as he lives.

The boy believes his heart is going to stop; he puts his head down and prays this prayer, 'Dear God, this is an emergency! I need help now! Five minutes from now I'm dead meat.' He looks up from his prayer and here comes the teacher with a look in her eyes that says he has been discovered.

As the teacher is walking toward him, a class mate named Susie is carrying a goldfish bowl that is filled with water. Susie trips in front of the teacher and inexplicably dumps the bowl of water in the boy's lap.

The boy pretends to be angry, but all the while is saying to himself, 'Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Lord!'

Now all of a sudden, instead of being the object of ridicule, the boy is the object of sympathy. The teacher rushes him downstairs and gives him gym shorts to put on

while his pants dry out. All the other children are on their hands and knees cleaning up around his desk. The sympathy is wonderful. But as life would have it, the ridicule that should have been his has been transferred to someone else - Susie.

She tries to help, but they tell her to get out. You've done enough, you klutz!

Finally, at the end of the day, as they are waiting for the bus, the boy walks over to Susie and whispers, 'You did that on purpose, didn't you?' Susie whispers back, 'I wet my pants once too.'

May God help us see the opportunities that are always around us to do good. Remember.....just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.

Each and every one of us is going through tough times right now, but God is getting ready to bless you in a way that only He can. Keep the Faith!

~ author unknown ~



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”

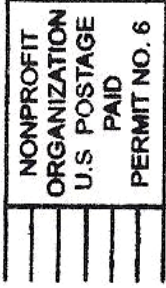
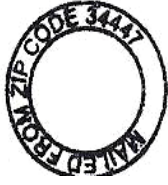
Rev. Kip Younger, Pastor

Office Hours: Weekdays
8:30AM to 4:30PM
Office Telephone: 352-628-4083
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MARCH
2013

