

HE LIVES!

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Sunday Worship: 8:00 am—9:30 am—11:00 am 8831 W. Bradshaw St., Homosassa, FL 34446 Phone: 352-628-4083 Fax 352-628-9086 Learn more at 1umc.org



"I want to know Christ—yes, to and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the on toward the goal to win the prize Spirit. for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:10-11, 14

Within a few days our Lenten Season will draw to a close. will celebrate Palm Sunday and be Easter morning! It is just that close.

The above scripture is from Paul's writing to the church at Philippi. The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the church roughly sixty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

You can hear in Paul's words his strong and urgent heartfelt desire to know the power of Jesus' Paul is willing to resurrection. suffer as Jesus suffered in attaining his personal resurrection from the dead.

In verse 14, Paul mentions that he "presses on toward the goal to win the prize" for which God had called him heavenward through Jesus. It is obvious that Paul is seriously living his life in the hope know the power of his resurrection of Christ. He is boldly stating his belief and faith in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Paul is convinced that Jesus lives in him resurrection from the dead... I press through the presence of the Holy

All of this conviction, hope, trust and faith still exists sixty years after the fact! After sixty years, Paul is still strong in his conviction of the We power and love of Jesus. For some folks, sixty years is a lifetime. But Holy Week. Then suddenly it will after all those many years, Paul remains strong. We know that he will continue to start churches and to write incredible pieces of correspondence to churches and individuals. He is our example of faithful perseverance and unflagging faith.

> Every year it strikes me as we move into and through the Easter season that we do so with great speed. We begin with the Lenten Season and, as the lighted candles on the Lenten Cross grow in number each week, we can literally see Easter quickly approaching. Then there comes Palm Sunday, Maundy

Thursday and Good Friday.

As we leave the sanctuary on the evening of Good Friday, we are anticipating celebrating the rising of God's Son in only two short days. On Saturday we're making sure our good, "Sunday-go-to-meeting" clothes are ready for the big day. Hopefully we're out getting freshcut flowers for the Flowering Cross. Some folks are excited to be able to too busy with all the other stuff of resume what they had given up for life. Lent Other folks are excited because their family members are in town to celebrate the big day with them, and they spend Saturday doing fun things together.

Then suddenly here it is--Easter Sunday has come! Everything gets started early in the morning. Church staff and dedicated volunteers are scurrying about making sure everything is ready. Folks at home are getting prepared for a great day at church and then time with family. favorite service.

Then comes Monday. The Flowering Cross is setting out in the hot sun of the church lawn. Easter clothes are hanging back in our closets. Easter dinner left-overs are in the fridge. Family members are back home or will soon to be leaving. Some folks are back to work early Monday morning. It's all over. Easter has come and gone.

My concern is always that we lose the impact of Easter too soon-sometimes the very next day. Perhaps due to the culture of our times, it is a "natural" thing to just lose the importance of where we are in our faith journeys because we are

Another reason may be that Easter's happenings are not news to us. We already know how everything turns out in Jesus' life. Knowing what we think of as the "end of the story" may steal the longevity of the Good News. How blessed we are that Paul did not focus on the immediate happening of Jesus' resurrection, but stressed the importance of pressing on toward the goal that Jesus provided for us. We pray that we can find the We all show up and celebrate at our Holy Spirit drive within us to respond as Paul did. May we hold deep in our hearts the realization of the love and power God has given us through the blessing of Easter.







Need to update your records?

If you have changed any of your contact information, please call Barb after 12:30 p.m. in the church office at 628-4083. 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. Changes and/or updates may also be done at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings.

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: **8831admin@1umc.org** or see someone at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings.

New Member Orientation

Did you know that we welcome new members every month of the year on the fourth Sunday of every month? New Member Orientation is always held the Wednesday before a new member Sunday and is a quick and easy process. We invite you to join us if you want to transfer your membership from another Methodist church, transfer your membership from another denomination, or if you want to make a profession of faith and become a member. If you have any questions about which category to join by, please contact Pastor Kip, Theresa, or Deb in the church office at 628-4083, or indicate "wish to join" on the pew pad. Thank you.

Pastor's Member Classes

New member classes will be taught by Pastor Kip Younger, twice a year for anyone considering becoming a member of the church or would like to learn more about our Methodist beliefs. Pastor's membership classes will be four, 1 hour sessions, on Wednesday evenings 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in room 306 and are not required to become a member but they are highly recommended. Watch the weekly bulletin for future dates or call Theresa.

Prayer Labyrinth Holy Week 2015



During Holy Week Fellowship Hall will be transformed into a sacred space for prayer and worship. We hope you will take this opportunity to walk the prayer labyrinth – an ancient way of worship and prayer. People travel long distances to walk the labyrinth at the United Methodist Life Enrichment Center near Leesburg and thousands from around the world travel to Chartres Cathedral in France to walk the labyrinth inlaid in the floor there.

A labyrinth is a prayer tool like a prayer altar, a cross, candles, or a prayer journal. There is evidence that Christians used the labyrinth for prayer and meditation as early as 350 C.E. The labyrinth we use belongs to the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. It is modeled after the labyrinth in Chartres Cathedral. People in the early church who were not able to go to the Holy Land to fulfill their "holy obligation" walked the labyrinth in Chartres Cathedral on their knees reciting prayers. Although you "walk" the labyrinth, it is not a long or difficult walk (we do have chairs available if you wish to sit). Brochures with complete information about the labyrinth and tips for walking it are available on the Spiritual Formation Bulletin Board, at the information desk in the Narthex, and in Fellowship Hall when you come to walk the labyrinth. There will be someone available to answer questions at the labyrinth. If you have questions before then, please call Marilyn Watson at 352-464-2182.

Walking the labyrinth has become part of our Holy Week tradition. We pray a visit to the labyrinth will be a blessing to you and perhaps it will become part of your Lenten tradition as well. Since this isn't just a United Methodist prayer tool, consider bringing your friends and neighbors. The labyrinth will be open at the following times:

Palm Sunday Monday – Good Friday Holy Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.





April....is **Distracted Drivers** Awareness Month

With all our winter visitors hitting the roads shortly to return to their northern homes, along with the increased holiday traffic, this is a very good time to take a closer look at "distracted driving".

Safety Administration (NHTSA) defines distracted driving as "any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving". Needless to say, this increases the risk of motor period... Scary! vehicle accidents occurring.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) there are three main types of distraction:

*Visual: taking your eyes off the road

*Manual: taking your hands off the wheel

*Cognitive: taking your mind off driving

Examples of all these types include cell phone usage including texting. eating, drinking, smoking, disciplining children, grooming, reading, watching a video, using and adjusting a navigation device, and adjusting the radio, CD or temperature controls. Texting is considered the most dangerous of as it is a combination of all three types of distractions. The above distractions are a list of those that occur inside a vehicle, but there are also many that occur outside, such as: searching for an address, looking at scenery, animals, people or a crash site.

A 2011 CDC study showed that 69% of U.S. drivers between the The National Highway Traffic ages of 18 and 64 reported talking on a cell phone while driving within the month prior to the study. Thirty one percent of the same group reported reading or sending text messages or emails within the same

> When I was a new driver my father stuck a sticker on the dashboard which read: "Drive defensively, the other driver is a nut". Wish I had a stack of those to give out now. Be careful driving; and don't let a distracted driving accident ruin your celebration of all the glory of Easter.



It's a jungle out there... stay safe!

Christian Education

by Deb Dioguardi

A New Season

"Put on your big girl pants and deal with it."

Those are the endearing words spoken to me by my younger daughter after she "resigned" from her gymnastics team. She was ready to move on, tired of spending 12 hours a week in the gym plus weekends in competition. For some reason I was having a harder time dealing with the end of an era than she was. You see, while she would never be an Olympian or even a collegiate gymnast, she was good at the sport, and still loves to prance around and do hand springs in my living room. I wondered if she would ever find a niche that suited her so well.

In the years since Gillian's "retirement", I've had to "deal with" many shifts in our life as a family but one of the biggest ones is happening this month; Amanda is graduating from high school on May 29th.

Now, I know most of you have "been there, done that", but I ask that you'll give me a little grace as I ponder this change. That you've all survived this shift in family paradigm gives me hope that it will all be good in the end and that some

day soon I will be able to 7 reclaim the space that for the past 16 years has been a her bedroom (and maybe turn it into a Mom-cave?).

As much as I am going to miss having Amanda around the house on a daily basis, I am so excited for what God has in store for her life. He has placed in her heart a fire for education, especially quality education for "the least of these". I have been blessed to travel with Amanda to South Africa twice and I have seen her in action. She is passionate, bold, personable, and not afraid to work hard and speak out. Most importantly, she seeks God. I pray that, more than anything, will never change.

This story is not just about a proud mom staring down a change of season around an emptying nest. This story is for all of us who are facing changing seasons—and who of us are not? As much as I pray that my daughters will continue to seek God, I pray that for myself as well. For as long as I keep seeking Him, as long as Amanda keeps seeking Him, as long as you keep seeking Him; we will be able to be in His Grace, full of His Spirit, and ready to deal with the season. Whatever it is. Instead of "big girl pants" he provides us with armor so that we can "deal with it".

"Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil."

by Jan Wise

Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10) Other Bible versions use the word "abundant" to describe the life Jesus wants us to have.

We have all experienced the work of Satan, the thief, as he attempts to steal, kill and destroy in our lives. But have we also known the full, abundant life that Jesus Christ offers?

In Matthew 4:19, Jesus invited Peter and Andrew to that abundant life. He said, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." These men knew the patient toil needed to be fishers of fish. However, the challenge of fishing for men would require much more than their natural, human ability.

Jesus' first word, "come," was an invitation. Today, that same invitation is given to all of us. Jesus explained that no one can come to the Father except through him. (John 14:6) When we realize we are separated from God by our sin and want to be reconciled to him, we respond to Jesus' invitation, and the first step toward abundant life has been taken--we have "come" Jesus.

The next words of Jesus are both invitation and command--"Follow me." changing response to his "come," How will you decide?

we are now urged to follow him. This often leads to a crisis of belief in our lives. For example, those of us who grew up as worriers are confronted by the command of Jesus, "do not worry." We have developed lifestyles that now compete with following Jesus. Allowing Jesus to change our way of thinking will be a continual challenge as we choose to follow him daily.

Finally, Jesus promised the men he called that he would make them fishers of men. He did not expect them to change themselves from who they were to become the men he was calling them to be. Jesus said *he* would do the changing as they traveled together. My husband and I have traveled together for 57 years, and we easily finish each other's sentences. Traveling together with someone changes us. How wonderful to know that Jesus, through his indwelling Holy Spirit, will gradually mold us into the persons he created us to be.

So the pathway to the abundant life Jesus promises has a simple but challenging pathway-come to him, follow him daily, and cooperate with his leading as he causes us to become all that we were created to be. Then, and only then, will we know the fullness of the purpose for which we were created by God. His invitation is clear, his purpose is known, but only you and I can decide whether we want to live After the life-the full, abundant life he offers.

"..think of these things.."

by Don Bates

Martyrs come along all the time. One person that always comes to my mind experienced being a martyr twice in his forty-two years of life. Eric Liddell, born in Qing Empire (China) in 1902, died in China in 1945. But what a life he lived and gave! Born of Scottish missionaries parents, Eric came back to Scotland for his education, graduating from Edinburgh University, his plans were to return to China and continue the work of his father and brother, a missionary doctor in the poorest regions of China. But as he told his father: "God has His hand upon me for missions, but He also made me fast!" Liddell ran for his native Scotland, and was a star on the Scottish National Rugby team. In 1923, he set the British record for the 100 meters of 9.7 seconds, (it would stand for 23 years), and the 200 meter dash in 21.6 seconds.

In 1924, at the Olympics held in Paris, Liddell, a member of the British Olympic team, had to qualify for the 199 meter race. The qualifier was scheduled on a Sunday. Liddell refused to participate as he viewed running a secular activity violating the sanctity of the Sabbath. Even a request from the Royal family could not persuade him to change his mind. He had come to the Olympics to run the 100 meter race. He was known as the "Flying Scotsman". Even though it was not his specialty, the British entered Liddell in the 400 meter to be held on a Monday. At the start of the 400, a member of the American Olympic squad slipped Liddell a piece of paper. On it was written 1Sam.2:30: "THOSE WHO HONOR ME, I WILL HONOR".

Liddell ran the 400 in 47.6 9 seconds, winning the race and setting both an Olympic and world record. In 1925, Liddell returned to China.

After 15 years of service, life in China became very difficult because of Japanese aggressiveness. Providence after providence were taken by the Japanese modern forces over the much inferior Chinese armies. 1943, Liddell was interned with other members of the China Inland Mission. Langdon Gilkey, who survived the internment wrote of Liddell: "...he was the the finest Christian gentleman I have ever known. In all the time in the camp, I never heard him say a bad word about anybody." On February 21, 1945, weighing less than 100 pounds from beatings a n d starvation Eric Liddell died, five months before the camp was liberated, Liddell's last words, in reference to his life given to serving God were: "IT'S COMPLETE SURRENDER!"

Eric Liddell's family and admirers funded the Liddell Memorial Missionary Scholarship at Edinburgh University and erected a Memorial in North China.

Liddell is claimed by the Chinese as their 1st Olympic champion because of his birthplace. The British also claim him. In 2008, just before the Beijing Olympics, Chinese authorities revealed that Liddell had refused an opportunity to leave the camp, and instead gave his place to a pregnant women. Apparently, the Japanese and British, with Churchill's approval, had agreed upon a prisoner exchange. News of this final act of sacrifice, (spelled martyrdom), surprised even his family members.

GOD BLESS!

kerd his Hasses

10 CAMP E-NINI-HASSEE TOUR MARCH 10

Thirteen ladies and our bus driver, Dick English, traveled to Floral City on March 10, 2015 to tour the

Eckerd Wilderness Program for girls 12 to 18 years of age. We saw the "pow wow" area for vespers, obstacle course, zip line, balance beam, climbing course, and the outdoor sleeping quarters that the girls construct themselves. We saw the dining hall, outdoor kitchen, shower rooms, chapel, school and library.

United Methodist Women are financial supporters of the Camp, and the Missions Committee donates Snicker candy bars to the girls.

There are presently 35 girls residing in the camp (staying from 9 to 18 months as needed) as they recover from substance abuse, unacceptable behavior in school, or an unhealthy home or foster home environment.

Ladies of Helping Hands Circle bake birthday cakes for each girl and supply personal birthday cards. If you wish to help by donating 8" x 8" aluminum cake pans with lids, cake mixes or icing, please leave your donation in the church office marked "for Helping Hands".

Thank you! Submitted by Linda Gordy

SIT BACK AT YOUR COMPUTER AND COPY THE LINK BELOW INTO YOUR BROWSER...CLICK ON THE ARROW... AND ENJOY!

http://www.interviewwithgodsite.com/

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for:

- each of us as we journey through Lent and celebrate Christ's resurrection.
- all those who come searching for something to find the love of Christ.
- each of us to invite people to join us in worship during this wonderful season of preparation and celebration.
- all those making preparations and rehearsing for the celebration of the resurrection.
- our pastor and church staff and their families.
- those who come to the Food Pantry for assistance.



This past year has been very 11 busy and important for both campuses of FUMCH. The year 2014 completed 107 years of

ministry. Madison Youth Ranch was opened with the completion of 2 homes, and Activities Center, administration facility and the completion of a stable and horse paddock, that will soon provide therapy for the program.

A second Heart & Home Resale Shop opened, with the assistance of the Volusia Chamber of Commerce, in Orange City, Florida. The new school. Aldersgate Academy, completed their first semester as a accredited Charter school on the Enterprise campus. Although the congregations of the UMC are the sponsors and the main supporting agency of the ministry of FUMCH, they are not the only ones. Thanks go to the following corporations and you are asked to show your support to them as you shop:

The Hartford Insurance Co.- Lowe's - The Marriott Vacation Properties.

vou shop Amazon Smile, use the link http:// smile.amazon.com/ch/59-0638479 A portion of your purchase will be donated to the Children's Home.

When you travel consider booking through FAVORITE HOTELS COLLECTION, just follow the link below and have access to over 100,000 hotels in 12,000 locations worldwide:

http://favoritehotelscollection.com/partners/fumch

The following comes from one of our children attending Aldersgate Academy on the Enterprise campus:

"When I started at Aldersgate, I had a hard time with school. I tried to sleep in a lot of my classes, walked out of class, used hurtful language and didn't want to listen. Well, honestly, I didn't notice it at first but as the school year went to I figured out that God was in the school all the way. What I mean by that is I saw Him in the teachers, the assistants, and the students. Just everywhere you went and everything you did I just felt like it was a blessing to me. The teachers don't judge, don't hate, don't have favorites, they just love and care and want to help you.

This school has made a big change in my life. I made better grades. My grade point average is a 3.75. I have matured in my behavior and my anger. I barely use hurtful language anymore. One of the biggest things this school has shown me is what I want to be when I grow up. I want to be a pastor when I grow up and I think that if it wasn't for my teachers and the people I love and of course God, I would be lost."

Thank you 1UMC of Homosassa for supporting FUMCH. YOU are saving the lost sheep. How Christ like of you!

Don Bates, LCR



WIN THE WORLD FOR CHRIST THROUGH GOD'S WORD

Our Church is now sending "In Memory Cards" to the families of church members who have passed away. Each of us have an opportunity to recognize a church member and/or friend by witnessing for our Lord with a Lasting Tribute of Gideon Bibles. You are completely free to participate in any manner you wish. A donation as small as \$1.25 will purchase a New Testament Bible and a \$5.00 donation will purchase a Gideon Bible found in motel rooms.

When a member passes away there will be an announcement in the Sunday bulletin and a basket on a table in the narthex to receive your gift. All of our donations will be collected together and the number of Bibles available for the amount of funds raised will be purchased. Always remember that 100% of your gift is used for the purchase of Bibles.



I want to thank my Church Family for all their help after my second shoulder surgery. The phone calls, cards, food, and transportation were always there. Thanks again!! Who could ask for a better "family"?

In Christian Love, Barbara Jackson

Won't you PLEASE...

May 3, 2015 at the Church Until 1:00 p.m.



2015

APRIL

Jean & Wilford Hartley \sim 32 years \sim

Dottie & William Baker

 \sim 36 years \sim

Billie & Jim Grudzen

 ~ 15 years \sim

Helen & Buddy Hansen

~ 70 years ~

Sharon & Dale Miller

 $\sim 45 \text{ years} \sim$

Judy & Robert Powell

~ 51 years ~

12

Neretta & Bill Brobst

 \sim 14 years \sim

15

Grete & Dan Nygaard

 ~ 15 years \sim

Jim & Joan Veronesi

 \sim 48 years \sim

Helen & Ron Sheetz

~ 61 years ~

Mary V. & Donald Wither

~ 56 years ~

Shirley & Ron Phillips

~ 56 years ~

Marilyn & Ralph Siegel

 \sim 24 years \sim

20

Beth & Ronald Johns

 ~ 30 years \sim

24

Judy & Tom Williams

 \sim 11 years \sim

25

Betsy & Richard Dulaney

 \sim 34 years \sim .

* Bold = 50 years+





NEED PRAYER?

Email your request to prayerchain@lumc.org or put your request in the Prayer Request Box in the narthex, or call the church office at 628-4083.

Wednesday 1

7:00 Men's Prayer Group

9:00 LABYRINTH

9:30 Weight Watchers

10:00 CS CARDS

10:00 Meadowcrest Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

2:00 Staff/Parish RC

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Women's Bible

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

Thursday 2

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:00 LABYRINTH

9-12 FOOD PANTRY

1:30 Women's Serendipity 7:00 MAUNDY THURS.

Friday 3 GENESIS DEADLIINE THRIFT SHOP CLOSED

9:00 LABYRINTH

9:30 Knit for Kids (OS)

10:00 Wise Bible

7:00 **GOOD FRIDAY** Ser.

Saturday 4

8:30 Saturday Sisters Bible

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:00 LABYRINTH

10:00 DECORATE

10:30 God's Clods

3:00 A/Video Rehearsal

Sunday 5

EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 Traditional Worship 9-9:30 Faith Café open 9:20 Discovery Class 9:30 Sunday School (all)

9:30 Traditional Worship

10:30-11 Faith Café open

10:45 New Beginnings 11:00 Traditional Worship

1:00 EASTER DINNER

(pot luck)

Monday 6

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 SHINE

8:30 Tracking Committee

9:00 Come Pray (Chapel)

9:30 Visitation Committee

10:00 Sacred Hour

11:00 Daniel Plan

1:00 ML Respite

Tuesday 7

9:30 Staff Meeting

10:00 UMW Leaders

1:30 Stephen Ministers

3:00 Serendipity Bible

3:00 Stephen Ministers

5:30 Weight Watchers

6:00 Girl Scouts

6:30 WOW

Wednesday 8

7:00 Men's Prayer Group 8:00 Sanctuary Set-Up

9:30 Come See Bible

9:30 Weight Watchers

10:00 Meadowcrest Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

10:00 Stephen Ministers

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Women's Bible

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

Thursday 9

8:00 Sanctuary Grace 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9:15 Ruth Circle

9-12 FOOD PANTRY

6:00 C.E.R.T.

6:30 W.O.W Bible

Friday 10

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:30 Knit for Kids (OS) 10:00 Wise Bible Study

Saturday 11

8:00 Serendipity Pancakes

8:30 Saturday Sisters Bible

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

3:00 A/Video Rehearsal

Sunday 12

Communion Sunday

Discretionary Sunday

8:00 Traditional Worship 9-9:30 Faith Café open

9:20 Discovery Class

9:20 Discovery Class 9:30 Sunday School (all)

0.20 Traditional Wordsin

9:30 Traditional Worship 10:30-11 Faith Café open

10:30-11 Faun Caje open 10:45 New Beginnings

10.43 New Beginnings 11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 13

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 SHINE

8:30 Tracking Committee

9:00 Come Pray (Chapel)

9:00 PEO

9:30 Visitation Committee

10:00 Sacred Hour

10:30 Fight Team

11:00 Daniel Plan

1:00 Care Givers Support

1:00 ML Respite

Tuesday 14

9:30 Helping Hands Circle

9:30 Staff Meeting

12:00 Next Chapter Beareav

12:30 CS Leaders

1:00 Dorcas Circle

3:00 Serendipity Bible

5:30 Weight Watchers

6:00 Girl Scouts

Wednesday 15

7:00 Men's Prayer Group

9:30 Come See Bible

9:30 Weight Watchers 10:00 Stephen Ministers

10:00 Meadowcrest Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Women's Bible

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

Thursday 16

8:00 Medical BUS

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

9-12 FOOD PANTRY

1:30 Women's Serendipity

3:00 Missions Committee 3:30 Trustees Meeting

Friday 17

Council Report Due

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:30 Knit for Kids (OS)

10:00 Wise Bible

Saturday 18

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

3:00 A/Video Rehearsal

Sunday 19

PANTRY SUNDAY 8:00 Traditional Worship

9-9:30 Faith Café open 9:20 Discovery Class

9:30 Sunday School (all)

9:30 Traditional Worship

10:30-11 Faith Café open 10:45 New Beginnings

11:00 Traditional Worship **Monday 20**

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 SHINE

8:30 Tracking Committee

9:00 Come Pray (Chapel)

9:30 Visitation Committee

10:00 Sacred Hour

11:00 Daniel Plan

1:00 ML Respite

6:00 Girl Scouts

Tuesday 21

9:30 Staff Meeting

1:00 Stephen Ministers

2:00 Diabetes Support

2:00 Finance Committee

3:00 Serendipity Bible

3:00 Stephen Ministers 5:30 Weight Watchers

6:00 Girl Scouts

Wednesday 22

7:00 Men's Prayer Group

9:30 Come See Bible

9:30 Weight Watchers

10:00 Stephen Ministers 10:00 Meadowcrest Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

1:30 New Member Orient.

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Women's Bible

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

Thursday 23

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9-12 FOOD PANTRY

3:00 PEC

7:00 Council

Friday 24

9:00-Noon (Thrift Store) 9:30 Knit for Kids (OS) 10:00 Wise Bible

Saturday 25

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

3:00 A/Video Rehearsal

Sunday 26

New Member Sunday

8:00 Traditional Worship 9-9:30 Faith Café open

9:20 Discovery Class

9:30 Sunday School (all)

9:30 Traditional Worship 10:30-11 Faith Café open

10:45 New Beginnings 11:00 Traditional Worship

Monday 27

8:00 Work Crew

8:30 SHINE

8:30 Tracking Committee

9:00 Come Pray (Chapel)

9:30 Visitation Committee

10:00 Sacred Hour

11:00 Daniel Plan 1:00 ML Respite

Tuesday 28

9:30 Staff Meeting

12:30 CS Leaders

3:00 Serendipity Bible

5:30 Weight Watchers

6:00 Girl Scouts

Wednesday 29

7:00 Men's Prayer Group

9:30 Come See Bible

9:30 Weight Watchers

10:00 Stephen Ministers

10:00 Meadowcrest Bible

10:00 Siegel Bible

5:15 Music

6:00 Bells

6:30 Women's Bible

6:30 Youth Group

7:00 Choir

Thursday 30

9:00 Fold/Staple Mail 9:00-Noon (Thrift Store)

FOOD PANTRY **CLOSED**

WEEKLY YMCA

CLASSES

(352) 637-0132

Mondays

9:30 Cardio

10:30 Strength

Wednesdays

9:30 Pilates

10:30 Strength

Fridays

9:30 Cardio



Gerry Graham Dorothy Koehler Roger Hasterok Dixie Simmons William Schuessler Jason Sheriff Frank Zack Sherrie Aud Richard Bader JoAnn Guthrie Joshua White 10 Ronald Tiller Theresa McCracken 12 Isabel Stuart Robert Yusko 14 Joy Potts 15 Mary Joy Speicher Laurie Stainton 16 Peggy Benson William Murray **Edythe Shaffer** Jim Winder 17 Russell Chapman

2015 Grete Nygaard Melanie Sheriff Olive Stevens 20 Gloria Schwartz Marjorie Veenstra <u>21</u> Gloria Elsea Dale Miller Judy Williams Dean Moore Robert Powell <u>24</u> Joan Lange <u>25</u> Dolores Moore 26 Eileen Ferguson Ronald Powell <u>27</u>

Ronald Powell

27
Virginia Will

28
Art Carnevale

Kay Jay

Leland Irish

Roger Ferguson
30
Carli Benthusen
Kim Hamrick

Charles MacNeill.



(as of 3/18/15)

BRENTWOOD

Gene Harry

CR HEALTH/REHAB

Nancy Pearo

CYPRESS COVE

Gloria Elsea Richard Elsea Barbara Sunderland

SUGARMILL MANOR

Dorothy Atwell Zip Bender Jerry Cole Grace Payne

SUNFLOWER SPRINGS

Barbara Kuhl Helen Vaught Catherine Wisehart

SUPERIOR RESIDENCE

John Guthrie Hazel Keniston Hank Pouderoyn-HPH.

You are invited to "come as you are" to a time of prayer in the Chapel from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Monday mornings.





















Darlene M. Hall

(352) 503-6207 15 Glenridge Boulevard Homosassa, FL 34446

Elizabeth Ann Riddle

(352) 422-6224 2210 S. Wigwam Point Homosassa, FL 34448



If anyone has pictures or articles from the newspaper about our church or member happenings on site, please share them with the Archives Committee. We have not received anything for the past 3 years, so I would like to bring the archives up to date. Please drop any item in the Library mailbox in the office hallway. Thank you, Barbara Jackson

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN 2014

William "Bill" Dunkle Cleta Knapp Elly Case Doris Stine

> Dorothy Collister Onlee Davis Loraine Wood Robert Bellcase Charlie Wade Bill Barton

Norwood Speary Alma Zimmerman Annie Carl Marge Dilling Andy Fowler

Sue Spuhler Lois Huggins Jimmi Reichard Cecelia Bledsoe



Helen Labeau Alex Stevens Virginia Pazian Ted Archambault Lois Schoch Merl Hoar Sharon Palmer Jack Ness Abbye Jean Richner Henry Heeseman Ed Loper Bill Morrison Christopher Monro Allen Millikin Conrad Keniston Bob Bunting Len Chesterfield Joyce Minnicks Charlotte Ohlhorst.

Donald Tam

18 From Kevin and Laura http://klwooster.blogspot.com

"April showers bring May flowers", unfortunately not in Siberia! April brings us another month closer to Spring - aren't you glad you live in Florida where Spring arrived over a month ago?!! We also realized this month begins with a great day for pranksters/ jokesters around the world. Over the years, we have been a part of some great jokes pulled on others and on us. Our favorite happened many announced that the head of Lenin (the largest statue in the world) had been stolen. People actually called the station in a panic - he's still quite popular in this area! We won't try any jokes on you but will share answered prayer. The Father is bringing men into our fellowship, and they are already making a huge difference! First, a short holiday history lesson...



Defender of the Fatherland

...23rd of February. Looking into the history of this holiday, we found some interesting information. Begun in 1923, this holiday was called The Day of the Red Army. Then in 1949 it was changed to Soviet Army and Navy Day. The latest change in 2002; President Putin gave the holiday it's current name, Defender of the Fatherland. Originally, the day was meant to celebrate men serving or who had served in the military with parades and of course lots of vodka. Over the last few years, it has turned into what may be called "men's day" or similar to years ago when a local radio station our Father's Day. Why is this so important? This year we had six men and some boys from one of the local schools travel to a church in Ulan Ude for a conference celebrating this holiday. As Kevin and our elders sat in the auditorium in this month's update about and the MC greeted everyone, it turned out that we had more people attending than any other fellowship; we had sixteen people from our village. What an amazing time as we worshiped together with men from twelve other fellowships in Buryatia as well as one group that traveled in from a neighboring region. The purpose of the conference was fellowship, Word, testimonies and sharing a THANK YOU for the continued prayers. In the years we have lived in the village, there have been very few men attending the fellowship. However, this year we are seeing men coming to study groups and wanting something different in their lives. We are extremely excited about what the Father is doing this year!

Serving strangers in their time of need! Funerals here are nothing like the States. In Russia, funerals are three days preparations where the family does absolutely everything! There are no funeral homes; just places to buy wooden caskets, plastic wreaths, and inexpensive headstones. There's also a place that makes the iron 'gates' that surround the gravesite. Needless to say, there is much work to be done. Did we mention the family also digs the grave? You can imagine how difficult this is in the winter months. A pile of wood is burned, the ground dug as far as possible, then more wood is burned, more digging...you get the idea. where our 'strangers' served.) The 'strangers', are the new men that we wrote of earlier. They did not know this lady or her family; they just needed help because there were no minus temperatures; this truly showed the love our Father speaks support and prayers!! of in His Word!!

We will close with one more | Serving in Siberia. holiday. We're not certain if this day | Kevin & Laura is popular there, however, the 8th of March an important day in Russia! Women are given gifts and/or



of flowers as a thank you for all they have done throughout the year. Since the fellowship has more men, this year they cooked and served our ladies a meal, presented them with flowers and a small gift, then sang



This is a long, cold process! (This is some wonderful songs of praise. The women truly enjoyed the evening! Most of our ladies are widows and do not have older sons, so this was a huge treat! Our knew that someone in the fellowship | fellowship is growing and the folks are taking o v e r many family members available. They dug responsibilities. We are grateful for this person's grave for two days in all HE is doing in this village and very thankful for your continued

SO MANY BOOKS..... SO LITTLE TIME

20

Why not take advantage of the extra hour of daylight to read one of the following selections found in the Church Library?

- 1. "Journey to the Well", a novel by Diana Wallis Taylor. Marah is a young girl in love with her childhood friend, Jesse. When she is forced to marry an older man, she must abandon her dreams of happiness. This well-researched portraval of a woman's life in the time of Jesus opens a window into a fascinating world. The author's rich descriptions of the lifestyles and rituals mesh easily with the emotional and very personal story of one woman who desperately seeks to rise above the difficult circumstances of her life. wonder at the circumstances of the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and from the author's mind comes the full story of the woman at the well.
- That Glitters", "All Secrets of the Blue Hill Library book by Emily Thomas. When a powerful storm blows through Blue Hill, Anne's children are rescued by a drifter named Jack Kendall. Anne doesn't want the stranger near her children but they immediately grow attached to him. As Jack works his way into the hearts of Blue Hill's residents, she tries to figure out what he wants – and if he can be trusted. Inspired by Jack's tales prospecting in Alaska, the boys

- begin searching the creek behind the library for gold. They have a large collection of rocks flecked with shiny metal. Could they really have struck it rich?
- 3. "Miriam's Healing" Cynthia Davis. Can you remember a time in your life when you ached for God to answer your prayers? As a little girl, Miriam learns about the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob at the knee of her mother. Yet Miriam is filled with doubt as she watches Hebrew men toil as slaves under the hot sun. When her mother sends her newborn son down the river in a basket, she has faith that God will deliver His people. Miriam is not as sure. She begs God to be merciful but her prayers are unanswered year after year. However, Miriam is about to discover that God hasn't forgotten those He loves.
- 4. "Charlie Bear" by B. J. Taylor – What a Headstrong Rescue Dog Taught Me About Life, Love and Second Chances. This story shares an intimate look at the first year in the life of a rescue dog nearly labeled "unadoptable" by his foster mother due to a long list of behavioral issues. He ferociously guards his food and toys, throws temper tantrums and is sensitive to touch, and he repeatedly attacks their other dog. B.J., however, is determined to make it work. But when B.J.'s world begins to fall apart, she's shown how time, patience and faith in God can carry us through. And, most of all, she

learns how Charlie Bear was not the herself pulled between only one who needed a second worlds chance – she did, too! This is a loving tribute to a rescue dog that eventually becomes a loving member of a family and changes based on Thomas Kinkade's Angel three lives forever.

- 5. "Stagestruck" by Emily Thomas. Anne is thrilled when her old High School friend, Tami Bates, returns to Blue Hill for a visit. Tami is a theater producer's assistant in London, and she has an intriguing mystery for Anne. Tami found a medical career – which may mean note in the pocket of a costume purchased at an auction that indicates Anne's aunt had legendary missing play Anne agrees to look for it and quickly learns that several other people are also searching for the manuscript and are willing to go to him pursue his career, if only that great lengths to get it.
- 6. "Love Finds You Charm, Ohio" by Annalisa Daughety. Emma Miller appears to be the most blessed girl in Indiana. She teaches school, enjoys the attention of a wonderful man, and has a loving family. But this Amish girl has more on her mind than buggies and bonnets. She longs for adventure and wants to see the So, when her sister Abby asks her to spend the summer with relatives in Charm, Ohio, Emma jumps at the chance. In Charm, she meets an Englisher who has come to town to escape her chaotic life and despite their differences, the two become great friends. Emma finds

two 21 and her ultimate decision will impact not only herself but everyone she knows.

7. "Harbor of the Heart" Island, written by Katherine Spencer. Lisa Martin knows that Daniel Merrit gave up his medical practice because he blamed himself for endangering a patient. Now she is completely shocked to hear that Daniel is considering returning to a leaving Angel Island – and Lisa. As Daniel struggles to make the a decision, they are both put to the test when a sailor wrecks his boat in a vicious storm. Then Lisa sees Daniel's medical skills firsthand and valuable fully understands why she must let didn't mean sacrificing the love of her life.

> The sailor survives due to Daniel's skill but moments earlier he had contemplated ending his life due to losing his career and family. Despite feeling desperate, the residents of Angel Island will not let him give up. Tragedy can become a blessing for all.

HAPPY SPRINGTIME from your Library Staff -Barbara Jackson, Helen Lefave, Ann Ice, and Twig Wilson





Happy Easter – and may you know the joy of the new life and peace that is offered to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. As we celebrate the resurrection, we give thanks for the new life and forgiveness that is offered to each of us.



Sometimes, we are called to embody that new life as God calls us to a fresh task or to try something new. Can you imagine what it was like for the disciples to be sent out two by two for the first time to various villages – inviting people to repent and praying for the sick? It is difficult to imagine what that challenge must have felt like! became aware of my financial position, this has helped me gain control over my finances". Another class is being planned for May.

For the third year running, we have encouraged people to read through one of the gospels during lent. Each year, lay people have contributed reflections to make a booklet with a

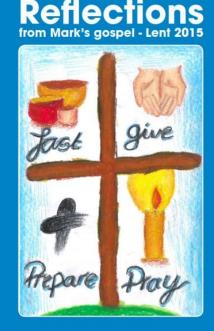
This month, we would like to share of a few 'new things' that have been happening around EBM this spring, and ask you to pray for these experiments in living out faith.

One new group is the EBM Community Choir, a group of about fifteen people who have started singing together on Tuesday evenings. Though there are a few from the congregation, others have joined this group from the hostel, the gardening group, and the local community. This group sang for the first time at an evening put on by our Irish language program, and is planning to sing at our Thursday evening service during Holy Week.

A new budgeting course was offered to the community this February for the first time, and 11 people took part in the class developed by Christians Against Poverty. We constantly witness people who are caught in an oppressive pattern of debt and uncertainty — and this course offers very practical help. In the evaluation, one person wrote, "For the first time in my life I became aware of my financial position, this has helped me gain control over my finances". Another class is being planned for May.

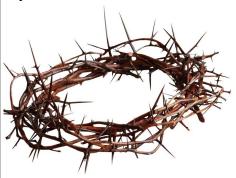
For the third year running, we have encouraged people to read through one of the gospels during lent. Each year, lay people have contributed reflections to make a booklet with a reading for each day (these are o n l i n e a t www.eastbelfastmethodists.com). This year, we are reading through the gospel of Mark, and groups come together during the week to

share in discussion. shared last week how she had been a day? Christian for several years, but had never read through a gospel in it's entirety and was finding great encouragement in this practice.



On the home front, we also have new beginnings. Emily has begun learning the flute over the past couple of months, so we now have a pianist and a flautist among our daughters! And, as I write this article, we are also expecting to welcome a new puppy to our home tomorrow. So our family life will be changing substantially as we have the bounding energy, joy, mess, and challenge of a bouncing ball of fur. We may be crazy... but our children are sure excited.

One woman What is new around you this 23



"The steadfast love of the never LORD ceases. mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning." **Lamentations 3:22-23**





WITHIN THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

Church Council
Counting Team
Board of Trustees
Finance Committee
Memorials
Nominating Committee
Permanent Endowment Committee
Scholarship Committee
Staff/Parish Relations Committee
Stewardship Committee

WORSHIP

Audio-Visual Ministry Communion Stewards Creative Worship Team Decorating Committee Flower Arranging Greeters and Ushers Music Ministry

MEMBERSHIP CARE

Attendance Tracking Committee
Christian Education
Disaster Relief Programs
Funeral Receptions
Library
Member Support
Parish Nurse
Parish Visitation
Prayer Ministry
Reception Committee
Stephen Ministry

MINISTRIES & WORK AREAS

Folding/Mailing Committee
Genesis Newsletter
Green Committee
Kitchen Committee
Mission Committee
Monday Morning Work Crew
Office Reception Team
Online Picture Directory
Publicity
Salvation Army Bell Ringers
Welcoming Ministry
Wonderful Wednesday Dinners
Youth Ministry

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Alzheimer's Support Group Arts Council Blood Bank Camp-E-Nini-Hassee Cancer Support Group **Diabetes Support Group** Disaster Relief/Response Team Food Pantry God's Clods (clown ministry) Health Related Workshops Holiday Prison Ministry Hunger & Homeless Outreach LifeSouth Blood Bank Location Medical Equipment Loan Memory Lane Respite (day care) Men's Wed. Morning Prayer Breakfast Knit for Kids (World Vision) **Nursing Home Ministries** Prayer Shawl Ministry Shut-In Visitation Stephen Ministry Thrift Shop Welcome Bags

MISSIONS

CROP Hunger Walk
FL United Methodist Children's Home
Missionaries to Ireland
Missionaries to Siberia
Salvation Army of Citrus County
SHINE

The Path, Sanctuary, & Grace House

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Men's Serendipity - Tuesday, 3 pm
Men's Prayer Breakfast - Wednesday, 7 am
Ladies Wednesday Morning, 10-12 am
Come and See - Wednesday, 10-12 am
Meadowcrest Bible - Wed. 10:45-11:45
Godsquad Youth - Wed. 6:30-8:00 pm
Wednesday Night Ladies - 6:30-8:00 pm
Women's Serendipity - 1st & 3rd TH, 1:30
W.O.W. - 2nd Thursday, 6:30
Friday Bible - 10:00-11:45 am
Saturday Sisters - 8:30-10 am
Bible Questers - Sunday 9:30-10:30
Discovery - Sunday 9:30-10:30
New Beginnings, Sunday 10:45-11:45



Parables/Analogies

Jesus taught in parables using images people could relate to easily. It seems to me God uses the same principle today as He more likely to call such comparisons analogies. Whatever we call them, I think such communicate larger principles through the simple things in life.

One analogy is our spiritual journey and walking the prayer labyrinth. A labyrinth has one path; there is one way to get to our destination, that one path is Jesus Christ. As you walk the labyrinth, there are twists and turns just as there are on our spiritual journey. As you walk, you notice that sometimes the journey seems to be straight and long just as our spiritual journey may, at times, seem long and straight. At other times the walk on the labyrinth has shorter sections where you walk a few steps then turn and walk a few more steps and turn again like our spiritual journey that seems to have a lot of turning around and turning again. As we follow the path, we follow our Lord. The similarity I see most clearly is that we sometimes seem to be so close to God, and then suddenly we seem to be farther from Him (the center of the labyrinth). An

outdoor labyrinth has a path 25 that is often laid out on cement with bushes lining the way. Among those bushes. I sometimes see weeds like those weeds in my life which need to be pulled up all the way to their roots.

While gardening, I sense similar analogies. In addition to the one with weeds which need to be pulled communicates with us. We might be up by the roots, there are bushes which need to be trimmed so they will grow as God created them too – comparisons like us who sometimes need some pruning by the Master. Our lawns, like us, also need nourishment; the lawn needs fertilizer and we need spiritual nourishment from studying the Bible. Our gardens need water; we need the Living Water. Like our gardens we both need the sun/Son to shine light. One day as I was sprigging in St. Augustine grass, my neighbor said, "That's way too much work. I just kill it all off and put in a new lawn." I am so thankful that God does not do that with us! Instead God gently nurtures us, pulls out the weeds all the way to the roots, feeds us through His Word, supplies His Living Water, and His Son shines in and through our lives.

Marilyn Watson



program to become healthier as we looked at some of them as having live in a way that is consistent with anything to do with health! We who what the Bible says. This plan has are part of this group are all having a been used by hundreds of churches lot of fun learning, experimenting, around the country. There are five spending time together, areas of concentration in The Daniel becoming what God intends for each Plan – faith, food, fitness, focus, and of us. friends. Here are a couple pieces of wisdom from The Daniel Plan:

will do."

"...if God made it, it's good for you. If man processed it, it's not good for you."

"The shorter the distance food travels from the field to your fork, the better it is for you."

The current participants in The Daniel Plan thank you for your prayers as we make changes in our lives. As we all know change can be challenging especially changing long-time habits! The Daniel Plan focuses on getting healthier with God's help and the encouragement and prayers of friends. It is amazing how many Scriptures tell us how to

The Daniel Plan is a lifestyle live and many of us had never

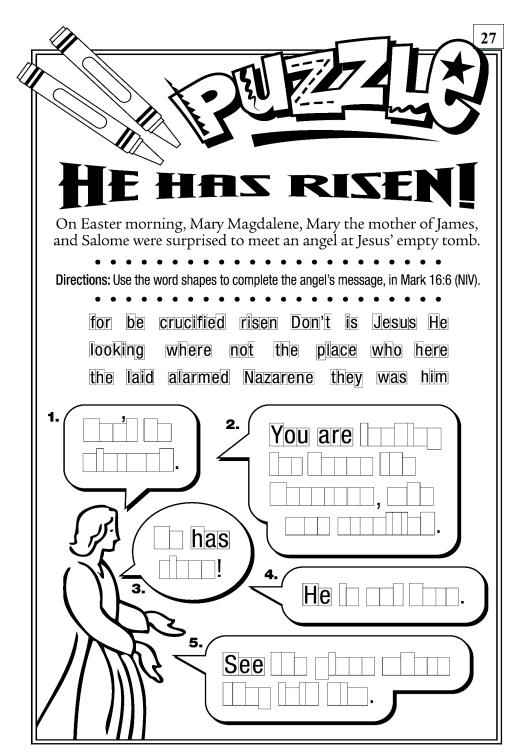
One of the Scriptures we look at differently is "So whether "The best exercise is the one you you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

> 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV) Emphasis added.

> We plan to begin a new 6week Daniel Plan study in April. If you wish to signup, please call the church office and have the receptionist add your name to the list. We are considering an evening group if there is enough interest so when you call, let the receptionist know you need an evening class. At www.danielplan.com there is helpful information, tips, tools, and inspiration.

> If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Watson.





Answer: I. Don't be alarmed. 2. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. 3. He has risen! 4. He is not here. 5. See the place where they laid him.

First United Methodist Church of Homosassa 8831 W. Bradshaw Street
Homosassa, FL 34448
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PERMIT NO. 6

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

Rev. Kip Younger, Pastor

Office Hours: Weekdays 8:30AM to 4:30PM Office Telephone: 352-628-4083 Fax: (352) 628-9086



