

NEWS & VIEWS

TUSKAWILLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JANUARY 2008

A Word From Our Pastor

Some Excellent Things

In the *Pilgrim's Progress*, the pilgrim knocks on the door of the interpreter's house. When the interpreter answers, the pilgrim says, "I was told if I came here I would be shown such excellent things that would help me on my journey." Those of us who choose to come knocking on the door of Psalm 139 will indeed find "excellent things" for our faith journeys.

God knows your name - "O Lord you have searched me and known me..." (Psalm 139:1-2). I recall seeing a lost little girl in a store crying for her mother. As her mother called out her name from across the store, she began to smile and run to the sound of her name being called. Whenever we find ourselves lost in life, may we run to God in prayer with the confidence that he knows our names.

God knows your secrets - "You...are acquainted with all my ways..." (Psalm 139:3-4). When I was a kid, whenever someone important knocked on the door, we were to yell, "Fire Drill," and immediately throw the excess mess around the house into a back room near the garage. We would open the door and act as if our house was always clean. Many times we do that to God, but he knows the messes in our lives. With his redeeming love, he wants to go to the back room of our hearts and clean things out for good.

God knows your potential - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..." (Psalm 139:13-16). Who do we listen to when it comes to our worth and our potential in life? The media? The culture? God knows us better than we know ourselves; God created us. God has designed us for a great purpose, so may we allow God's love for us to dictate who we become.

Some excellent things to consider as you begin a new year in God's name. I will see you in church on Sunday. Never forget how much I love you.

With Great Expectations,

Charley Reeb, Pastor

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Upcoming Sermons- Rev. Charles Reeb

You are invited to hear Rev. Reeb's Sermon Series on the 23rd Psalm:

Jan. 20 - "The Shepherd"

Feb. 3 - "The Shepherd Frees Us From Fear"

Feb. 17 - "The Shepherd Keeps Us on the Right Path"

Mar. 9 - "The Shepherd Protects and Heals Us"

Jan. 27 - "The Shepherd Provides Contentment"

Feb. 10 - "The Shepherd Gives Spiritual Refreshment"

Mar. 2 - "The Shepherd Comforts Us in the Valley"

Mar. 16 - "The Shepherd Praise the Shepherd"

ECWP- Early Childhood Weekday Program

TUMC Early Childhood Weekday Programs wish you and yours GOOD HEALTH,
HAPPINESS and SAFETY in the New Year.

TUMC/ECWP 2008 NEWS --

* OPENINGS available in the following classes

Threes - 4 day Mon - Thurs; PreK (VPK) 5 day Mon - Fri; PreK (VPK) 4 day Mon - Thurs

Please contact the Preschool office at (407) 699-6012 for information regarding tours, tuition and fees.

* February 2 (Sat) DAD's Pancake Breakfast celebrating those special men in our children's lives.

* Monthly FAMILY WORSHIP - ALL WELCOME

Join us as we gather in TUMC Sanctuary at 9:30am to celebrate God's world through songs, stories & fellowship.

January 23 (Wed) and 24 (Thurs) February 13 (Wed) and 14 (Thurs) March 19 (Wed) and 20 (Thurs)

April 16 (Wed) and 17 (Thurs) May 21 (Wed) and 22 (Thurs)

* Parent/Family Meetings are scheduled after our Family Worship gatherings for discussions and conversations with topics such as literacy, de-cluttering your space, Early Childhood issues and more.

* **REGISTRATION** for the school year 2008 - 2009 - February 11(Mon)-- current enrolled TUMC/ECWP families and TUMC church members. Tuition and fees will be available late January.

February 25(Mon)-- OPEN Community Registration . *Tours of the Preschool are given upon request. Please contact the Preschool Office (407) 699 - 6012 Monday - Friday.

March 15, 2008 TUMC/ECWP and TUMC's Children Ministry will be hosting an Easter event for the Preschool and Church community.

* TUMC Early Childhood Weekday Programs is a Voluntary PreKindergarten (VPK) Provider for the Early Learning Coalition of Seminole County classes. The VPK program is a state of Florida funded program for our PreK children and the families. TUMC/ECWP will be hosting a VPK ROUNDUP for our local community on March 29 (Sat), 2008. More details to follow.

We at TUMC Early Childhood Weekday Programs continue to work together with our children, their families and the TUMC community to provide hands-on learning, age and developmentally appropriate programs and events to celebrate and care for God's world.

TUMC BOWLING LEAGUE

It is time to dust off those bowling shoes, dig out the bowling balls and get ready for the start of a new season of fun and fellowship. The TUMC bowling league will begin in mid January, 2008 at the Oviedo Bowling lanes. We will meet on Friday nights from 6:45 - 10 pm . If interested please contact Lori Detwiler at lcdetwiler@netzero.net, or at 407-365-7399.

J[#]A[#]M[#]N MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry at Tuskawilla UMC

THANK YOU - A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped with the Birthday Party for Jesus, the Christmas Story Time and Christmas Eve Worship. The children and families were blessed by your love and generosity.

NURSERY NEWS - Babies - 24 months will be in Room 4-5. Toddlers age 3 will now be in Room 1-2. Ms. Jacque is our new Nursery Coordinator and will be building the schedule for 2008. If you can work with this special ministry, please call the church office and we will get your information to Ms. Jacque.

SONshine NEWS - Children ages 3-5th grade are invited to come and join in fellowship with one another at 11:00, in the Fellowship Hall. **We are building the schedule for 2008; please volunteer for this important ministry opportunity! All materials are provided.**

Tuskawilla Young Musicians - Beginning in January, we will be forming two new choirs! Music Director, Joseph Shelley, will be teaching music to our 3rd-5th graders and Ms. Kelli will be teaching the children ages 3-2nd grade. Watch your bulletin for information coming soon!

Parents Morning In is Coming! - PMI is a morning fellowship time for parents. This group will meet on Wednesdays beginning January 30, from 9:15-10:30. Please contact Ms. Kelli for more information.

ACCOLYTES WANTED: Fourth and Fifth grade girls and boys, who are interested in becoming acolytes, please see Ms. Kelli as soon as possible. Please register today for these events by calling the church at 407-699-8155.



This can be you! Need a Hug?

We have the perfect place for you. Each Sunday morning, we provide nursery care for babies and toddlers during all 3 worship services and Sunday School. Our nursery coordinator, Jacque Gabrielle, is always in one of the rooms but she needs several volunteers to provide a safe, nurturing environment.

Are you a grandmother, a mother with older children or just someone young at heart? Can you imagine how refreshed a young mother will be after spending 1 hour in worship without trying to quiet a little one? Can you help provide our young parents an hour of respite from their busy lives? The more people to volunteer for this ministry, the fewer times you'll be called upon.

Please start the New Year on the right foot - volunteer an hour of your time to help your church, to comfort a crying baby, to read a Bible story to a toddler, to be in service to a young parent and to care for God's smallest angels. Please call or email the office, 407-699-8155, and we'll pass your contact information to Jacque. She'd love to hear from you!

YOUTH AT TUMC

High School/ College Ministry Ski Retreat : On Friday, January 18 through Monday, January 21, the college and high school youth ministries will combine for a ski retreat to Winter Place, WV. Our theme will be "Get Out of the Way and Let God Work". Pray for us as we experience God in His creation and take time to focus on our relationships with Him.

"Parents of Teens Class" : Do you ever feel like your teenager or pre-teen should have come with an instruction manual? Do you find that you are stricter or more lenient than your youth's friends' parents? Does it ever feel like your house was built on the set of a teen soap opera? Are your teens' friends more important to them than you are? Do you need some encouragement? Support? Reinforcements? Help is on the way! Beginning Monday, January 28 at 7:30 p.m., a "Parent's of Teens" class will be offered. This 1-1/2 hour weekly class will run 6 weeks (until March 3.) We will discuss typical and atypical adolescent behavior, how to set boundaries, and how to emerge from parenting with your mental health intact! To indicate your interest, contact Kathy Rexroad at youth@tumcfl.org or 407-699-8155. Invite your friends! Please respond by Monday, January 7 so that adequate curriculum will be available for participants.

Annual Middle School Retreat in February: This February (8-10), the youth ministry will hold our annual Middle School Retreat at the Warren W. Willis United Methodist Youth Camp in Fruitland Park, Florida. This popular retreat is traditionally led by our high school leadership team. The leaders are diligently planning the biblically-based curriculum, which will be balanced with worship, fun, and fellowship. They will also offer workshops teaching dance, praise band, and drama.

"It's (this retreat) a good place to hang out with friends, you might learn something new about your faith, you might learn more about how the people around you are affected by God, and you may learn more about how to interact with other people." – Veronica Whetzel

If you would like receive information regarding this retreat, and have a sixth – eighth grade youth, please contact Kathy Rexroad at youth@tumcfl.org. Act now – spaces are limited!

Love is patient and kind. Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. Love never ends.....

SUPER SENIORS LUNCHEON

Do you know that each month many of our Seniors meet for lunch and other activities? Some months there are guest speakers who provide rather valuable bits of information for our senior population as well as for anyone who attends. This month the meeting will be held on Thursday, January 3 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Our speaker this month will come from the Sharing Center in Longwood. Please bring a covered dish to share and join us for food, fun and fellowship. If you would like more information on this wonderful program, you may contact Judy & Larry VanOre at 407-695-7602.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY

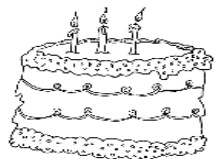
- 1 Erin Hermann, Kim Neisler, Alex Stornelli, Nicholas Vitale, Cedric Campbell
- 2 Matthew Whitley
- 3 Stacie Caldwell, Hamp Hardee, Nathan Quinn
- 4 Jesse Adler, Ernest Metz
- 5 Brenda Holmes, Anne Turnbaugh
- 7 Lauren Graves
- 8 Dylan Greene, Norma Hayes
- 10 Grayson Dannecker, Daryl Golden, Maxine League
- 11 Mike Nelson
- 12 Dot Brundage, Hope Chalmers, Nathaniel Todriff
- 13 Ashton Ferrer-White, Matthew Thomas
- 14 Karen DeMelo, Sarah Hand
- 16 Yvonne Hardee
- 17 Victoria Cunningham, Dillon Warrick
- 18 Brandy Reeb
- 19 William Honig
- 20 Abby Holmes
- 22 Sean Brown, Andrew Carman, Laura Prince, Collin Storm
- 23 Gerry Politsch
- 25 Don Estell
- 27 Laura Lee Brodie, Cathy Falcone, Kimberly Hand, Megan Lamkay
- 28 Connie Williams
- 29 Brianna Whetzel
- 30 Dax Martinez
- 31 Chuck Aldridge, Jack Brundage, Jae Kim, Connie Sloane, Lily Yates

- 1 Rick & Brenda Brown
- 7 Jae & Jennifer Kim
- 10 Alan & Mindy Moretz
- 13 Jim & Grace Leedy
- 21 Bill & Carole Jones
- 25 Ray & Pat Martin
- 27 Keith & Melissa Bailey
- 30 Mike & Janet LaFata



“God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all..”


1 John 1: 5b



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The February Newsletter deadline will be **Thursday, January 17, 2008**. For your convenience, you can E-mail your Newsletter articles to office@tuncfl.org or fax it to 407-699-9419. The church office reserves the right to edit any contributed articles for length and clarity.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Weekly Church Services 8:30 - Traditional 9:45 - Contemporary 11:00 - Blended</p>			<p>2 No Disciple Bible Study</p>	<p>3 Winter Holiday - No school 12pm Super Seniors Luncheon</p>	<p>4 Winter Holiday - No school</p>	<p>5 8 AM Prayer Group</p>
<p>6 12 PM Missions Mtg 6pm Trustees Mtg.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 7-7:40 PM Cherub & TYM practice 6:30 PM Disciple Bible Study 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study</p>	<p>10 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 8 AM Prayer Group</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 7-7:40 PM Cherub & TYM practice 6:30 pm Disciple Bible Study 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study</p>	<p>17 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18 HS Ski Trip</p>	<p>19 8 AM Prayer Group HS Ski Trip</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 7-7:40 PM Cherub & TYM practice 6:30 pm Disciple Bible Study 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study</p>	<p>24 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 8 AM Prayer Group</p>
<p>27 6 PM Finance Mtg. 7 PM Admin Board</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 7-7:40 PM Cherub & TYM practice 6:30 pm Disciple Bible Study 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study</p>	<p>31 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>		

**TUSKAWILLA UNITED
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BELONG. GROW. SERVE.

Gearing Up for... Easter 2008!

ON A HILL



too far away

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (I Corinthians 1:18 NIV)

Rehearsals for this year's Easter presentation have begun!
And we would like you to join us!