

# NEWS & VIEWS

TUSKAWILLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## A Word From Our Pastor

FEBRUARY 2008

### 3 Simple Rules

Over the Christmas holidays I received a wonderful little gem in the mail – it was a gift from our District Superintendent, Dr. Wayne Wiatt. The gift was a tiny book with a big message: *Three Simple Rules - A Wesleyan Guide to Living* by Reuben Job. The book is based on a message that John Wesley gave so many years ago where he encouraged followers of the Wesleyan “flavor” of Christianity to simplify their lives by keeping three simple rules. If the rules are kept, they will not only change your life but have a lasting impact on those around you.

What are these rules? Don’t worry, I am not going to tell you that “you have to read the book to find out” (although I do highly recommend that you obtain a copy for yourself and read it often). Here are the rules:

**Do No Harm** – Each day be intentional about not hurting others or yourself. This may seem easy, but how often do we behave in ways that are harmful? Do we say things that are ugly? Do we put ourselves in situations that would be considered harmful to our spiritual well-being?

**Do Good** – Every day God blesses us with opportunities to do good in his name. All of us are gifted to serve God in some capacity. Do we take advantage of every opportunity and gift to do good or do we pass them by?

**Stay in Love with God** – God desires a relationship with us. He wants to stay connected with us so we can grow closer to him and be empowered to live the life he dreams for us. How often do we engage in those habits that cultivate our love for God? How often do we pray, worship, read the Bible, and serve others?

There they are – three simple rules. Some might say that keeping these rules is not a bad way to live. I would say it is the only way to live.

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:

Feb. 3 - “The Shepherd Frees Us From Fear”

Feb. 10 - “The Shepherd Gives Spiritual Refreshment”

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

Mar.2 - “The Shepherd Comforts Us in the Valley”

Mar. 9 - “The Shepherd Protects and Heals Us”

Mar.16 - “The Shepherd Praises the Shepherd”

# ECWP- Early Childhood Weekday Program

ECWP - Early Childhood Weekday Programs is a ministry at Tuskawilla UMC for its members and the community. We are committed to provide not only a positive social and educational experience for your child but also to spread the message of Christianity to God's children.

ECWP is composed of two parts of equal importance:

- A) Parents Day Out Program provides an activity oriented program with daily activities in art, music, stories and play. In our effort to encourage the growth and self-worth of each child, we provide a place where children can play, explore and have hands - on experiences in a safe, caring and creative environment.
- B) Our Christian Preschool is a developmentally appropriate practices program for children three years old and PreKindergarteners - PreK.

Registration for 2008 - 2009 school year will begin on Monday, February 11 for children currently attending ECWP and for active TUMC church families. Registration will begin at 10:00 am and will be held in the Narthex of the sanctuary. Registration will be for the following classes: 2s; early 3s; 3s or PreK. The school day groupings are: Tuesday/Thursday; Monday/Wednesday/Friday; Monday - Thursday; or Monday - Friday. Specific teacher requests will not be available at this time. TUMC/ECWP will have OPEN registration for the general public on Monday, February 25, 2008.

## Calendar of Events:

Saturday, February 2 - Family Pancake Breakfast from 8:30 - 10:00 am

Wednesday, February 13 - Parents Meeting for Literacy Program at 10am in the church sanctuary.

February 3 - 24 - "Socks filled with love" a Missions Project for the Coalition for the Homeless.

Saturday, March 15 - ECWP/TUMC Children's Ministry - Easter Celebration.

If you have questions and concerns regarding registration, if you would like to take a tour or have questions on any of the activities listed, please contact the school office at 407-699-6012.

*\* 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.*

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**May:** Ronald McDonald House

**June:** Middle School Mission

**July:** High School Mission

**August:** Beachers Town Primary School - Jamaica, West Indies

**September:** Wycliffe

**October:** Operation Christmas Child

**November:** Thanksgiving baskets

**December:** The Sharing Center

A church that is focused on serving others becomes a stronger church spiritually and financially. Please be in prayer for all these proposed missions for 2008. These cannot be accomplished without your prayers, moral, physical and financial support. Let's all band together and make this our best year ever.

*Deb and Bill Gorman*

# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY

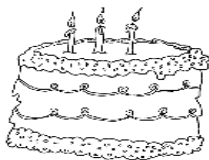
- 1 Hilary Childs, John Folsom III, Sarah Whitley
- 2 Carl Causey, Roy Ray
- 3 Leigh Hermann
- 4 Connie Hicks
- 6 James Brick, Julia Ross
- 7 Janie Ford, Jerry Mills, Pam Storm
- 8 Mike Lyons, Cherie Peters
- 9 Brenda Brown, Justin Russell
- 10 Matthew Palmeira
- 11 Deborah Gorman, Chris Healy
- 12 Frank McGuire
- 13 Pat Martin, Thomas Williams
- 14 Sheryl Love, Marie Noble
- 15 Daniel Moore, Ryan Thomas
- 16 Anna-Maria Gomez
- 17 Steve Carman, Harley Patterson
- 18 Marti Aldridge, Scott Sturgess, William Whetzel
- 19 Peter Crowley
- 20 James Chalmers, John Pitts
- 23 Damaris Cintron, Brian Hadlock, Christopher Lilly,  
Debby Risley
- 24 Tessie Davey
- 25 Lukas Allen, Jennifer Bridgewater, Kim Hughes,  
Sarah Moore, Linda Schindler, Caitlin Tindell
- 26 Delaney Clark, Maggie Graham, Phyllis Walter
- 27 Maria Gottschalk, Courtney Neisler
- 28 Jim Gay III, Rob McLintock,

- 7 John & Betty Kemp
- 14 Ronald & Marie Zitza1
- 17 Bill & Gloria Duncan
- 17 Murray & Sonia Hamilton
- 18 Vernal & Enid Elcock
- 22 Bob & Judy Walker



## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT

- Feb 1 - 3: 2008 Florida Conference Women's Retreat -  
Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg
- Feb 2: UMW Conference Mission Team Meeting
- Feb 2: Bill Glass Day of Champions-Prison Ministry
- Feb 4-6: Restore the Joy @ Asbury Seminary
- Feb 9: "Communications Road Show" Workshops at Peace UMC
- Feb 15: Deadline for Year-end Statistical Reports online
- Feb 28: Mandatory Clergy Meeting @ St Luke's UMC, 9am to 1pm
- Feb 29-March 1: "Deep Shift" with Brian McLaren Event @ First  
Baptist, St. Pete
- Feb 29-March 2: Spring Confirmation Retreat @ Warren W. Willis  
Youth Camp
- Mar 7-8: Lay Speaker Training @ Stewart Memorial UMC,  
Daytona Beach



## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The March Newsletter deadline will be **Thursday, February 21, 2008**. For your convenience, you can E-mail your Newsletter articles to [office@tumcfl.org](mailto:office@tumcfl.org) or fax it to 407-699-9419. The church office reserves the right to edit any contributed articles for length and clarity.

# YOUTH AT TUMC

## SUMMER MISSION TEAMS

Our mission team (s) orientation meeting will be held on Sunday, March 2, at 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. in the youth room. All youth or rising sixth grade students interested in our summer mission trips must attend. A \$100 deposit for the middle school TEAMEffort Mission Trip is due on March 2. A list of acceptable community service projects will be available at this meeting. Applications to participate on our summer mission teams are due no later than Sunday, March 9, 2008. Adults feeling called to chaperone and participate in a youth mission trip should contact Kathy Rexroad for an application at youth@tumcfl.org.

## CHOCTAW YOUTH VISIT IN MARCH

My heart was touched and my eyes welled up this July as I listened to Germaine, a 14 year old Choctaw teen, lead a Bible lesson with the high school and middle school class with conviction and faith. Since Germaine had lost his 2 month old niece just days before our arrival, I marveled at his steadfastness in the midst of his grief. I thanked God that He had blessed me with the privilege of witnessing this after 11 years of mission and ministry with the Choctaw. We screamed as loudly as we could, our little group of 17 missionaries, as one of our own Choctaw youth, Kristen Tubby, was crowned 2007 Choctaw Indian Princess. Kristen lives out her faith and she shared with the audience that one of her most memorable outreach activities had been her experience serving at the Arnold Palmer Ronald McDonald House with the rest of the Choctaw youth leaders and us! We could have burst with pride in her bold witness!

The youth office is currently in contact with the adult leaders of John Memorial to plan another training session for the Choctaw youth during their Spring break, March 8-14. We plan to invite new youth who stepped forward to leadership positions in July and begin training them to lead as well as to continue our training of the youth we hosted last March. We will need assistance from our church family to provide the needed meals, housing, transportation, chaperones, and funding. Please watch the announcements in February to learn how you can help.

And thank you for all of your help last year. You, too, should burst with pride in our Choctaw youth knowing that because of your support you too were a part our mission team!

-Kathy Rexroad

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

*February is "Bring a Friend to Church" Month*





# FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Weekly Church Services 8:30 - Traditional 9:45 - Contemporary 11:00 - Blended					1	2  8:00 AM Prayer Group
3	4 4:30 - 5:30 PM "I Love My Parents" Group  7:30 - 9PM "Parenting My Teenager" Class	5 9:30 AM Mary Martha  7 - 8:30 PM MS Bible Study	6 Ash Wednesday  9 - 10:30 AM PMI 4:30 - 6 PM Halo Band 6 - 6:40 PM Cherub & TYM Practice 7 - 7:45 PM Holy Hands Choir 7- 8PM Ash Wednesday Service 7 - 8 Special Ash Wednesday children's service 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study	7 12 PM Super Seniors 7 - 8:30 PM College & Career Bible Study 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir & Praise Team		9  8:00 AM Prayer Group  MS Retreat
10 MS Retreat return at 4PM	11 4:30 - 5:30 PM "I Love My Parents" Group  7:30 - 9PM "Parenting My Teenager" Class	12 9:30 AM Mary Martha  7 - 8:30 PM MS Bible Study	13 9 - 10:30 AM Parents Morning In 4:30 - 6 PM Halo Band 6 - 6:40 PM Cherub & TYM Practice 6:30 - 9PM Disciple BS 7 - 7:45 PM Holy Hands Choir 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study	14 12 PM Super Seniors 7 - 8:30 PM College & Career Bible Study 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir & Praise Team	15	16 8:00 AM Prayer Group
17 Bring a Friend Receptions	18 Church Office Closed  4:30 - 5:30 PM NO "I Love My Parents" Group  7:30 - 9PM NO "Parenting My Teenager" Class	19 9:30 AM Mary Martha  6:30 - 7:30 SPR Committee Mtg.  7 - 8:30 PM MS Bible Study	20 9 - 10:30 AM Parents Morning In 4:30 - 6 PM Halo Band 6 - 6:40 PM Cherub & TYM Practice 6:30 - 9PM Disciple BS 7 - 7:45 PM Holy Hands Choir 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study	21 12 PM Super Seniors 7 - 8:30 PM College & Career Bible Study 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir & Praise Team	22 7PM Magic Game	23 8:00 AM Prayer Group  8AM - 12 PM Church-wide Clean up Day
24 6 PM Finance Mtg. 7 PM Admin Board	25 4:30 - 5:30 PM "I Love My Parents" Group  7:30 - 9PM "Parenting My Teenager" Class	26 9:30 AM Mary Martha  7 - 8:30 PM MS Bible Study	27 9 - 10:30 AM Parents Morning In 4:30 - 6 PM Halo Band 6 - 6:40 PM Cherub & TYM Practice 6:30 - 9PM Disciple BS 7 - 7:45 PM Holy Hands Choir 7 - 9 PM HS Bible Study	28 12 PM Super Seniors 7 - 8:30 PM College & Career Bible Study 7:15 - 9:15 PM Chancel Choir & Praise Team		

# J<sup>#</sup>A<sup>#</sup>M'N MINISTRY

## *The Children's Ministry at Tuskawilla UMC*

**MAGIC GAME** - It's not too late to purchase your Orlando Magic tickets for Friday, February 22. These make great gifts for birthdays, friends, family gatherings, and VALENTINES! Tickets are \$20.00 each. Come and make a memory with your family and friends.

**THANK YOU** - to Suzanne LaFata for bringing Sure Skills Dining Course to the kids of TUMC! Fifteen children ranging in ages from 4 -13 participated in the class on January 20.

**NURSERY NEWS** - Babies - 24 months will be in Room 4-5. Ms. Jacque is our new Nursery Coordinator and is building the schedule for 2008. If you can work with this special ministry, call the church office and we will get your information to Ms. Jacque. All workers must complete paperwork according to the Child Protections Policy and be cleared to work with children

**SONshine NEWS** - Changes have taken place in SONshine. The children are now spending the first part of their SONshine time in the 11:00 service. This is a wonderful family time where you and your child can spend time together in song and worship. Because of our Child Protection Policy, ALL CHILDREN must be signed-in for participation in SONshine before they are permitted to leave the sanctuary. A registration table will be set-up in the narthex for your convenience. ALL children must also be signed-out before being permitted to leave SONshine. Parents, if your child becomes disruptive during worship, please remove them promptly to the narthex until they are able to return.

**CHERUB & TYM- Tuskawilla Young Musicians** - meet each Wednesday from 6:00-6:40 pm in the choir room. We need all children **ages 3 - 5<sup>th</sup> grade** involved in this fun and active group. We are preparing to sing this month, so join us now.

**PARENTS MORNING IN IS HERE!** - PMI is a morning fellowship time for parents. This group is meeting on Wednesdays, from 9:00-10:30. We are studying, "PARENTING: THE EARLY YEARS" by Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott. Books are \$13.00 and limited. Nursery is not available.

**ACOLYTE MINISTRY:** Boys and girls in grades 3-5 are encouraged to sign-up to acolyte. The book can be located in the church narthex. Hope Chalmers is overseeing this ministry, so please let her know if your child is interested in getting involved in this important ministry.

**SHRINERS CIRCUS VOUCHERS** - Thanks to John Folsom we have children's vouchers for the Bahia Shrine Circus. Each voucher can be turned in for one child's ticket at the gate. Parent tickets must be purchased. Please see Kelli O'Reilly if you are interested. Vouchers are limited.

## 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, February 7 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. 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 & Bob Walker at 407-365-8878.



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*BELONG. GROW. SERVE.*

## MARCH CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

### Weekly Church Services:

8:30 - Traditional; 9:45 - Contemporary; 11:00 - Blended

*Prayer Group meets every Saturday at 8:00 AM*

### Music Ministry:

Wednesdays - 4:30 - 6:00 PM - Halo Praise Band

6:00 - 6:40 PM - Cherub & Tuskawilla Young Musicians

Thursdays - 7:15 - 9:15 PM - Chancel Choir & Praise Team

7:00 - 7:45 PM - Holy Hands Signing Choir

### Bible Studies:

Tuesdays - 7:00 - 8:30 PM - Middle School Bible Study

Wednesdays - 6:30 - 9:00 PM - Disciple Bible Study

7:00 - 9:00 PM - High School Bible Study

Thursdays - 7:00 - 8:30 PM - College & Career Bible Study

Fridays - 9:00 - 11:00 AM - Women's Bible Study

Groups & Classes: Mondays - 4:30 - 6:00 PM - "I Love My Parents" Group

7:30 - 9:00 PM - "Parenting My Teenager" Class

Tuesdays - 9:00 - 11:00 AM - Mary Martha Group