

Pathways



# Christmas Eve Service Times

Monday, December 24

4:00 PM  
Family Service

6:00 PM & 8:00 PM  
Candlelight  
Services



EAST LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 2012

## Haiti Mission Trip

By Trevor Charlton

The Haiti Mission Team arrived back in the US in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday after a wonderful six day visit to Zamar Ministries in Croix des Bouquets, Haiti. The team carried with them six full suitcases of over the counter medications, donated by the ELUMC congregation, plus eighty pairs of children's new shoes and sixty new backpacks.

Annie Doraisingh led two clinics and one educational class on dealing with high blood pressure. She was assisted by 'Nurses' Sally Hood and Trevor Charlton. The medications from ELUMC were heavily utilized and greatly appreciated by the people of Zamar. Approximately sixty men, women and children were seen at the two clinics.

The team also took on a construction project, demolishing and rebuilding the collapsed south perimeter security wall. Two generator sets were also repaired and put back in to service. Additionally, time was spent purchasing materials and preparing for Melbourne First United Methodist Church, under the leadership of Pastor Dionne, with whom ELUMC overlapped for twenty-four hours, to carry out some painting and construction extension work on the main building in Croix des Bouquets.

The team worshipped with our brothers and sisters in Zamar in both Croix des Bouquets and Mirabalais. We shared many hours of fellowship and strengthened our relationships with the people of Zamar. We thank God for being blessed with the opportunity to be part of his work in Haiti and for safe travels.



## Offer Christ

► PAGE 2  
THROUGH THE  
WORD, SACRAMENTS,  
HOSPITALITY, PRAISE  
AND GIVING

## Special Worship Service

By Lois Rogers-Watson



Christmas and New Year's can be times of sadness for those who have experienced losses in recent times. The loss may be the death of a loved one, the dissolution of a marriage or relationship, the end of a job you really liked, or significant loss in the quality of your life.

Your church recognizes that you may be hurting while others are excited about the Season. We invite you to join us for **a time of remembrance and comfort on December 23 at noon**. We will gather in the front of the church in the first several pews on the right hand side of the main aisle in the Sanctuary. Pastor Jay will lead us in this special service which will be brief in length but meaningful to you and to anyone you would like to invite to come with you.



## Grow in Faith

► PAGE 4  
THROUGH PRAYER,  
SMALL GROUPS,  
CLASSES, AND  
SUPPORT GROUPS



## Serve Others

► PAGE 7  
THROUGH  
OUTREACH, MISSIONS  
AND CAREGIVING

# Offer Christ

## Worship and Music Ministries

As we approach the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Pastor Jay and people involved in the music ministry of ELUMC have been working hard to prepare special worship experiences. We are blessed to have so many people willing to share their spiritual gifts and musical talents in a way that enhances the East Lake worship experience. We invite everyone to join us as Pastor Jay and our musicians *Offer Christ* in a variety of ways throughout the month of December.



On **December 2**, we will observe communion at all three worship services. Pastor Jay's message for the first Sunday in Advent will be *God's Gift of Strength to You*.



On **December 9**, the **bell choir** will share special music during the **8 and 11 o'clock worship services**. Come and hear the bells and join us for the second Sunday of Advent with Pastor Jay's message, *God's Gift of Joy to You*.

At **5:00 pm on December 9**, the Celebration Children's Choir will present a Christmas story with the production of **A Rockin' Royal Christmas**. The children will show us that Jesus is the King of Kings and believing in Him is the answer to a higher calling than any "king" on earth. A **chili cook off** will follow the children's presentation. The chili cook off will give us an opportunity for Christian fellowship as we gather to show appreciation to our children and their directors for sharing this wonderful story. Information and sign up is available at the mission and outreach booth on Sunday mornings.



On **December 16**, the third Sunday of Advent, we will enjoy the **Christmas Cantata** at the **9:30 and 11:00 am worship services**. There will be no 8:00 am service. The voices of the choir and Praise Team will unite to share a special time of praise, worship and celebration with **Peace Hope & Joy** by Travis Cottrell. This Cantata will be one that everyone will want to hear.



The seventy voice **Concert Choir** from **Tarpon Springs High School**, under the direction of Chuck Cheeseman, will present a **candlelight concert** at East Lake United Methodist Church at **7:00 pm on Thursday, December 20**. The concert will be of traditional Christmas songs with narration by Pastor Jay Kowalski.



On **December 23**, we will unite in **one service at 10:30 am** to prepare our hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. We will celebrate the last Sunday of Advent. Pastor Jay's message will be *God's Gift of Hope to You*.



On **Christmas Eve**, we will have three worship services.

- The **4:00 pm** service will be a **Interactive Family service** and will provide opportunity for children to be part of the story being presented.
- The **6 and 8:00 pm** services will be **Blended Candlelight services**. Pastor Jay's message will be *What's so Special about Christmas?*



On **December 30**, the fifth Sunday of the month, we continue our practice of having **one worship service at 10:30 am**. As 2012 comes to a close, Pastor Jay's message will be *The Greatest Gift of All*.

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

John 3:16



## Ushers and Greeters Needed for Christmas Eve

By Sue Bailey

Thanks to everyone who has already signed up to be an usher or greeter on Christmas Eve. We still need more servants. If you have the gift of hospitality, please prayerfully consider serving. We will have many visitors on Christmas Eve. People with friendly smiles are needed to greet people and help them find their way around the church campus. The sanctuary will be filled to capacity, so we will need more ushers than we normally have on Sunday mornings. Ushers will help seat people, collect the offering, and help light candles at the 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm services. Experience is not needed. Please sign up at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings, email Sue Bailey at [mike.sue.bailey@verizon.net](mailto:mike.sue.bailey@verizon.net) or sign up on the church website at [www.eastlakeumc.org](http://www.eastlakeumc.org).



One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. Luke 18: 1

Are you overbooked for this month? Do you look at your schedule and start to panic? How can you possibly do everything? There are meetings, birthdays, gifts, decorating, parties and too many other things, not including work, family and church. It's time to trim your list instead of the tree. Consider fewer gifts, fewer decorations and not so many parties. Find quiet time to spend with devotional materials and in prayer. The only way to get to the heart of Christmas is with Jesus. All of the others things are fine, but they aren't necessary.

Practice some stress busting techniques. Here are some ideas:

LEAVE. If the noise level is too much or the crowds are closing in, just leave. You don't have to stay in the toy store with all the screaming youngsters, and you don't have to converse with the know-it-all at the party. You can walk away.

CLOSE THE EYES. Take a break from the lights and activities. Closing the eyes is a great way to get recentered.

TRY SOME SOLITUDE. In the middle of so much activity it helps to have time alone. Use the quiet time to set priorities, to pray, and to count your blessings.

GO OUTSIDE. Fresh air and sunshine can make a difference in how you feel. Being in God's creation and going for a walk can help find extra energy.

LOCATE SOME WATER. Listen to it, watch it, drink it or sit in it. Water refreshes in so many ways. He knows what we need; maybe that is why God put so much water on earth.

BREATHE. Remember to exhale occasionally. When the shoulders are up to the ears, it's time to take deep breaths. Fill the lungs completely from the bottom to the top. Pause for a couple of seconds. Exhale letting all of the air out of the lungs from the top to bottom. Repeat three to four times. Your shoulders have relaxed with the rest of the body. Stress causes shallow breathing. Deep breathing releases it.

LISTEN TO MUSIC. Choose whatever type makes you happy. Sing along. It's amazing how good this can make us feel.

Give yourself the gift of peace in the midst of a world of chaos. Have a great holiday and share your peace with those around you. (Source: www.mayoclinic.com)

To-date through Week 48

Income needed	\$663,360.00*
Income received	\$619,235.97
Net	(\$44,124.03)



\*"Income Needed" is the amount needed to fully fund all the ministries and obligations of our church. We thank the staff who are doing an outstanding job of managing expenses. Be assured that your church is meeting all obligations except payments toward our Apportionments. (Through September, the church has paid only \$14.4K of the \$58K to-date invoiced apportionment payments.) East Lake UMC recognizes that our connectional gifts (apportionments) represent people coming together, combining their money to accomplish something bigger than themselves. By year-end, the Finance Team intends to authorize payment of as much of the apportionments as church income will allow. It is our hope that the income gap will close and we will be able to pay the full apportionment.



Missed a sermon? Download it to your ipod or listen to it online. Go to [www.eastlakeumc.org](http://www.eastlakeumc.org) and click on play under the latest sermon tab.



East Lake Church

Be our friend AND become a fan



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DESIGN TEAM

The excitement within the Children's Ministry here at East Lake UMC continues to build. The Design Team has begun to develop a plan to enhance and grow this important ministry. The team (Pat Peterson, Gena Peterson, Julius David, Sue Bailey, and Erin Lowe) meet monthly to ensure on-going support for our Children's Director and the ministry.

- ★ **Curriculum**—Last month we reported that the new **children's worship curriculum** had been launched. The **children and families** are **enjoying** the new curriculum. To ensure that all teachers are comfortable with the new web-based curriculum, Pat Peterson and Erin Lowe offered **additional training for the teachers**.
- ★ **Communication**—The **"God Time" cards for the K-5 children's curriculum**, *252 Basics*, now provide resources to help the children to grow their faith all throughout the week. **Parent Cues** are being shared with parents to support spiritual conversation between parents and their children, based on the lessons being studied in children's worship from **Pre School-5th grade**. The Children's Ministry is now on **Facebook!**
- ★ **Safety Checkup**—The Children's Ministry is taking a **fresh look at the check-in and checkout procedures**, reminding parents of the importance of complete records and the need for security. All **registration cards are being reviewed** to make certain that the information is correct and up-to-date.
- ★ **Planning**—A **master list** of needs for programming for the next year is being developed so that we **identify resource needs** and are able to **recruit** the **volunteers** needed to **maximize the potential of each activity** within the children's ministry for the next year.
- ★ **Prayer**—The East Lake UMC **Prayer Team** continues to undergird the Children's Ministry and the Design Team through prayer. **Please pray with us.**

Watch for regular updates on our progress as we continue to "kick it up a notch" in the Children's Ministry, and please join us for the following events:

### Children's Christmas Play & Chili Cook Off

Sunday, December 9

*A Rockin' Royal Christmas*

5 p.m.  
Sanctuary  
Performed by  
Celebration Children's Choir

*Chili Cook Off*  
6 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

### Breakfast with Santa



*Breakfast with Santa*

Saturday, December 15  
9:30 till 11:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

*Fun for children, parents, & grandparents!  
Please invite your friends and family!*

### Parent's Night Out



Friday,  
December 21  
6:30-9:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

*Fun for potty-trained 3 year olds through fifth grade!  
Come and enjoy pizza and the movie!*

### Christmas Eve

Join us for the  
Interactive Family Service at 4 p.m.



Children will truly enjoy participating in the Paper Bag Christmas!  
Parents & grandparents will love seeing the children enact the story!



Our youth Progressive Dinner will be Sunday, December 16 at 5:00 pm. Details are being shared with Youth and their parents. For more information please contact Mary Treichel, Director of Youth Ministries at 727-784-9250 Ext. 111.

### IMPRINT Retreat

November 9 -11, several members of our youth group attended the fall retreat Imprint 2012 at Warren W. Willis Camp. This weekend focused on global health issues. Here are some testimonies from participants: including: water, hunger, and healthcare.

### Paper Lanterns of Hope

By Jim Hickman



Very soon the Youth will be remodeling the Youth Room. And two of the items you will find hanging in their newly decorated space will be paper lanterns. I can't encourage you enough to take the time to look at these lanterns.

On November 9 through 11, many of our Youth attended IMPRINT at Warren Willis. I know most of us think of these retreats as an opportunity for our Youth to celebrate their love of God through praise and worship. But, don't think that way about IMPRINT. The purpose of IMPRINT is to make our Youth and chaperones, like me, aware of various social issues. The focus this year was on health.

This is an eye opening experience. We saw videos and heard presentations describing the hardships of African tribal people who suffer from starvation, lack of clean water and disease.

We also learned how we can make a difference. I will admit, perhaps because IMPRINT took place so soon after the election, to being concerned this would be very political. It wasn't. Instead, it focused on the difference we can make whether as individuals or as a Church. After all, the role of the Church through the centuries of its existence is to provide help to those in need.

We heard from a Pastor whose Church funded a well in an African village. By building this well, women and children no longer had to walk several miles multiple times a day to get water. As a result, more children were able to attend school. The villagers suffered fewer illnesses because they had water free from bacteria and germs. A small irrigation system was built allowing the villagers to grow crops for food. Just this one well transformed an entire village. The pictures and videos we saw showed village children with smiles resembling those of our children opening a Christmas present.

We learned that many villagers die from diseases and illness preventable and curable. One of those diseases is Malaria. Several of our Youth have already begun a fund raising campaign to purchase mosquito nets. These nets will save lives. We saw how several foundations raise money to provide inoculations and medications. More lives will be saved.

After learning about how hunger, health and disease impact our world, including our very own community, our Youth were challenged to imagine a more perfect world. The paper lanterns depict their vision for that more perfect world. Take a look and see for yourself. Their vision does not lack hope. With that I am satisfied our Youth, with eyes wide open, will be poised to make a difference. A difference bringing hope to all they encounter, which, no doubt, leads to a more perfect world.

### Hope for Africa, IMPRINT 2012

By Jimmy Hickman and Nicole Platti

All activities we did at the retreat were meant to open our eyes to concerns we normally turn away from. For example we did a water walk, where we walked over a mile retrieving water from a lake and bringing it back in jugs. It was actually pretty difficult, and to think that people in Africa walk three times the distance 3-4 times a day is heart-wrenching. We also participated in a food banquet to emphasize the amount of people in the world who live on less than \$2.00 a day and have very little to eat. 15% of campers (the upper-class) had a buffet for lunch and could get seconds, 35% of campers (middle-class) had rice, beans and tortillas for lunch, the last 50% of campers had nothing but water and a bowl of rice to eat, representing those making less than \$2.00 a day. It left an incredible impact and emphasized the amount of people who go to bed hungry each night.

At worship, the pastor really stressed the importance of not just feeling sad about all these global difficulties, but going home and actually doing something about it. We, Jimmy Hickman and Nicole Platti, are taking that initiative. The focus of our fundraiser is healthcare, specifically malaria. We are trying to raise \$1000 dollars to purchase 100 malaria-prevention nets and directly save 100 lives. In what we call Hope for Africa, all donations will go to the organization Nothing But Nets which buys, transfers, and distributes bed nets all around the world to families in need. Our goal is to raise the money by New Years' Day, and any donation is well appreciated. With every \$10 donated, a life is saved and when a child dies in Africa every sixty seconds from malaria, how could we not reach out and help?



Count to five. One...Two...Three...Four...Five. In those five short seconds, a child in Africa died of starvation. In America, one in every six children is hungry. Women and children in Africa have to walk at least four miles a day at least three times a day to get water for their family, which they use to drink, clean clothes, bathe, and cook. This water is unclean, and usually filled with disease. This makes it lethal because most people in Africa have HIV/AIDS which weakens their immune system. Thus, they can't fight off the disease they are drinking in the water. Drinking water is literally killing them. Malaria kills over 3,000 children everyday.

A family in Africa lives on less than \$2.50 a day. That is probably as much as your cup of coffee costs that you get at Starbucks every morning. All these things are what our youth group learned at the Imprint retreat at Warren W. Willis Camp. We also learned how we can help to prevent these statistics. We can donate food to organizations that help feed children in Africa. We could volunteer at a soup kitchen to help feed the homeless in America. We could raise money to help pay for a well in Africa, giving clean water to a village. We could donate \$10 to buy a mosquito net for children. This covers a bed, so you would be saving a person's life from malaria. You could use the money you by coffee with to help pay for any of these things.

On the retreat, we had an unusual lunch. Everybody was given a letter, A, B, or C. Anybody with A was the upper class of 15% of the people. They had a buffet, water, sweet tea, and cookies for dessert. People with a B were the middle class making up 35% of the population. They had rice, beans, and a tortilla shell. And the last 50%, the C's only had rice and water. They also had to eat on the floor. Think of this the next time you are eating a great lunch or dinner. Think of the other 85%. Our pastor was walking around checking out all three groups, asking how they were doing. After lunch, he told us what he had learned from this walkthrough. He told us that the C group was in fact the most generous. One of our own youth, Josh Cilmi, offered him some rice. Nobody else offered him food. After learning all of this, I know I can help, I know I can make a difference, and so can you.

**Young Days Tidbits**

*By Jackie Kaller, Director of Young Days Child Development Center*

It's beginning to look a lot like.... Our children are busy scurrying about decorating their classrooms and making projects for this holiday season. Christmas is a time of peace, love and goodwill to all.

During December, Young Days children will join in the excitement celebrating the true meaning Christmas, the birth of our savior Jesus Christ and the joy of giving.

Come see the children perform all the heartwarming songs of the holidays. Our Christmas program is on Thursday, December 20 and Friday, December 21.

Young Days has partnered with the Child Life Team of St. Joseph's Children's Hospital and Children's Oncology Department this holiday season for a Toy Donation Drive. There are many children that will have to spend the holidays in the hospital. Please support our efforts and donate a new toy for a sick child ages 1-6. We will be accepting unwrapped toys in the designated box in our lobby now through December 21.

Our Holiday Puppet Show will be December 12 at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome.

(Add Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays graphic here)

**New L.I.F.E. Group**

*By Judy Keats*

**Enjoy LIFE!  
(Living in Faith Effectively)**

**Every Thursday 2:00 - 4:00 PM  
Fellowship Hall  
All are invited**



As your Minister of Visitation, I have discovered that there are many people who desire a place and time for Christian fellowship sometime during the week. After some research, it appeared that Thursday afternoon would be a good time and our Fellowship Hall would be a good place.

Members Pat Bruenning and Barb Frett, mother – daughter, were the first to suggest to me an afternoon of fun and games, and offered to help organize this time of Christian fellowship! Some of you expressed a desire for a time for talking and listening, learning a new skill, working on projects to help others, playing games, or cards.

Pastor Jay and the staff have embraced the idea, and we invite you to come and see what is happening every Thursday afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 pm!

**A World-Wide Church Re-Formation is Happening!**

*By Lois Rogers-Watson*

One of the Pathfinder groups is curious about what is happening to the Christian faith in the 21st Century, and they are exploring the work of leading scholars who are writing about the trends and developments. If you are not in a Pathfinder group and find this intriguing, join us in January! We will be meeting on January 9 in the Glasgow Room at the church at 7:00 pm.



On **Saturday, December 8**, the United Methodist Men will meet at church for coffee at 7:30 am and then travel to Metropolitan Ministries in Pasco to volunteer at their Holiday Center. Please RSVP to Jim Feierbacher at [jf3343@aol.com](mailto:jf3343@aol.com) We hope to have great participation in this **service activity**.

The **Working Singles** dinner will be held on:

- **Saturday, December 8 at 6:30 pm**

The December dinner will be held at a member's home.

For more information, please email Linda Kapsa at [lmk2922@hotmail.com](mailto:lmk2922@hotmail.com).



### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

All women of the church are invited to a meeting at noon on **Wednesday, January 9**, in Fellowship Hall for lunch to nourish our bodies and a program which will nourish our souls and minds.



### Are You Curious About the Israeli-Palestinian Situation?

*By Lois Rogers-Watson*

Come for coffee and conversation at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 5 in Fellowship Hall, and meet Elen Qasses, a lovely Christian woman who is a resident of Beit Sahour, near Bethlehem. She is here for two months visiting her son, who lives in Tampa.

Elen started an award-winning kindergarten. When it was running smoothly, she turned her attention to the elderly and founded an Elderly Center similar to our Senior Centers where there are activities, services, and programs provided. Elen is very well respected in her community, where she has been a leader all her adult life. Better than the media, Elen can tell you about what life is like for Palestinians and would be happy to answer your questions. She is devout and gracious and you will feel honored to be in her presence. Do come on January 5 and bring friends!



Elen (on right) in conversation with a UMC mission team

### Want a Special Addition To Your Christmas Tree?

*By Stan and Carol Orr*

Look for the beautiful ornaments for sale in the courtyard on Sunday mornings. These custom "Cross with Flame" wooden ornaments were specifically designed for ELUMC in Gatlinburg, Tennessee and made from Finnish birch with contrasting walnut and cherry stains to enhance the beauty of the wood. Proceeds will go to the Missions Apportionments for ELUMC. What a great way to help your church and bring beauty to your home.



## Serve Others

### The Angel Tree is here ...

- The ELUMC Angel Tree is in the Narthex. Children served by United Methodist Cooperative Ministries, Cornerstone Family Ministries, and Lacoochee Elementary School are being adopted.
- When selecting an angel from the tree, **please sign out the angel** on the sheets provided.
- In order to deliver the gifts before the school holiday, **please return gifts** for the adopted children **no later than December 16**.
- When adopting a child from United Methodist Cooperative Ministries (U angels), please make activity fee checks payable to East Lake UMC with "Angel Tree" and the angel number in the memo line.



## Mission Moments



As we reflect on our accomplishments in 2012, it is clear that we have many generous and caring servants within East Lake United Methodist Church. In addition to supporting the overall ministries and missions of this church, we have been able to send monies to Our Sister Church in Cuba, United Methodist Cooperative Ministries, Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Zamar Ministries in Haiti, the Florida UM Conference for World Communion Sunday, Habitat for Humanity, and to UMCOR for the people devastated by Hurricane Sandy.

Mission Possible, our first ever silent auction and barbeque, raised funds for Our Sister Church in Cuba, United Methodist Cooperative Ministries, and Zamar Ministries in Haiti. Thanks to generous donors, willing buyers, and many super workers, we raised over \$3000 for these ministries. At the Christmas Market, we are offering olive wood pieces from Bethlehem Artisans and flame and cross ornaments from North Carolina to raise funds to support the missional portions of the 2012 apportionment.

We had great participation in many hands-on experiences to help others throughout the year. We collected sneakers and Boxes of Hope for Metropolitan Ministries in Pasco, made sandwiches for Pinellas Hope, and built houses for Habitat for Humanity. The ToyMakers created wooden toys for children in need, the bicycle ministry refurbished bikes for children and adults, and UMW sponsored the Ditty Bag project at ELUMC for United Methodist Cooperative Ministries. The angel tree project is supporting children served by Cornerstone Family Ministries, Lacoochee Elementary, and United Methodist Cooperative Ministries.

Small groups of people throughout the church participated in many other activities supported by UMW Circles, Pathfinder and Sunday School classes. In addition, individuals within the church participated in on-going and special Salty Service throughout the year. Pastor Jay has helped us to understand how to use our influence and our affluence to be the hands and feet of Jesus. As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, let us all take a moment to reflect on how thankful we are to have been able to help others and what we can still do to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you to every person who participated in any act of kindness or support for others this year. Let's work together to help even more next year!



Lacoochee School

### Thank You East Lake UMC

By Stan and Carol Orr

ELUMC donated forty-two "Boxes of Hope" to Metropolitan Ministries. This represented nineteen-hundred pounds of food (not including the turkeys), plus five-hundred and thirty-five dollars worth of gift cards for a combined total of one-thousand fifty dollars.

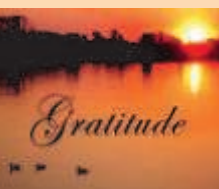
Metropolitan Ministries is a wonderful outreach program which serves our community. East Lake UMC is also represented in the many volunteer hours our church gives each week and at holiday times at the Pasco County facility.

Thank you church, for your most generous support of this most deserving program!



### Gratitude

By Bonnie Swan



*Mercy to the needy is a loan to God, and God pays back those loans in full—Proverbs 19:17*  
(The Message)

Thank you Pastor Jay, staff members, my Pathfinder group, dear friends of my church family, and my husband. Your love and support at the UCMC "Share the Dream" recognition dinner afforded repayment with interest to each one of us who reaches out to those less fortunate. I am so very blessed.



Joy Cookies:

The Caregiving Ministry will again be organizing the baking and delivery of cookies to eight area fire stations and to every nurses station on every floor at Mease Countryside, Mease Dunedin and Helen Ellis Hospitals on Christmas Eve. We do this to show our love and appreciation to those who give up being with their families on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to keep us safe and tend to our medical needs. We need elves who are bakers and we need elves and their families to deliver. We also need cookie tins. Sign up sheets are at the Welcome Center. Sign up early to get your choice of where you would like to deliver and be sure to pick up an instruction sheet. Questions? Call Margie Marks at 727-786-0005.



Poinsettia Delivery:



Caregiving will be once again be delivering the donated poinsettias on Christmas Day to our home bound, nursing homes, Brookside Suncoast Hospice and anyone of our church family who may be recovering from surgery or in rehab. If you are ordering a poinsettia, consider donating it to Caregiving to be shared. If you would like to deliver some poinsettias, look for the sign up sheets at the Welcome Center.

Caregiving Clown Ministry:

Judy Salvador and Debie Petty, Alias, Lady Hadley & Doctor Kisses, have taken the clown ministry to Westbay Nursing home twice a month. They bring the joy of laughter and fun as they sing, share hugs and bring Christ's love to residents there.



The Caregiving Faith Community Nurses and Volunteers continue to take **Blood Pressure** readings the **third Sunday** of the month in Fellowship Hall from 9-11 am. Having this reading done could save your life. **Please Do Not Drink Coffee Before Your Reading.**

Reminders



Metropolitan Ministries in Pasco County provides food and shelter assistance to families in need. This proactive organization strives to strengthen the community by helping families get back on their feet. Southwestern Pasco County has many families in need. Metropolitan Ministries can use all the volunteers we can supply. Sign up to volunteer on their website [www.metromin.org](http://www.metromin.org).



Join us the first **Thursday** of the month, **December 6**, at **Vetture's** Pizzeria and Restaurant for fun and fellowship from 5:30 pm till 8:30 pm. Identify yourself as being from East Lake UMC; and Rick Maida, the owner of the restaurant, will donate 10% of the check to the church. Vetture's is located at 36137 East Lake Road in the Brooker Creek Publix Shopping Plaza.



Your event will only be placed in the Bulletin/Announcement Loop/Newsletter if your meeting or event is in the church's Event Management System. To add an event or meeting, or to cancel, please contact the church receptionist, Vickie Downing, at 727-784-9250 or [vdowning@eastlakeumc.org](mailto:vdowning@eastlakeumc.org)



[www.eastlakeumc.org](http://www.eastlakeumc.org)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2- Communion Sunday</b> 9:15 am 252 Basics - Sunday School 9:30 am Journey Class 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 11am Youth Sunday School 1pm 45 Club 5pm Youth Praise Band 6pm Youth Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8am Toymakers 12:30 pm Son-Kissed Sisters 6:45 pm Stephen Ministry Class 7pm Missions & Outreach 7pm Praise Band	<b>5</b> 8am Toymakers 9:15 am Mommy & Me Class 6:45 pm Handbell Choir 6:45 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm Pathfinder Meeting 7:30 pm Church Choir	<b>6</b> 8am Toymakers 1pm UMW Meeting 2pm L.I.F.E 4pm Children's Choir 5:30 pm Family Pizza Night 8pm Al-Anon	<b>7</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>1</b> 8am Toymakers 9am Bicycle Ministry <b>8</b> 7:30 am United Methodist Men 8am Toymakers 9am Bicycle Ministry 6:30 pm Working Singles Dinner
<b>9</b> 9:15 am 252 Basics - Sunday School 9:30 am Journey Class 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 11am Youth Sunday School 4pm Toymakers Christmas Party <b>5pm Children's Musical</b> <b>6pm Chili Cook Off</b> 6pm Youth Group	<b>10</b> 6:30 pm Finance Team Meeting	<b>11</b> 8am Toymakers 12:30 pm Son-Kissed Sisters 6pm Board of Trustees 6:45 pm Stephen Ministry Class 7pm Pathfinder Partnership 7pm Praise Band	<b>12</b> 8am Toymakers 9:15 am Mommy & Me Class 10am Young Days Puppet Show 6:45 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm Pathfinder Meeting 7:30 pm Church Choir	<b>13</b> 8am Toymakers 2pm L.I.F.E 4pm Children's Choir 7pm UMW-Sarah Circle 8pm Al-Anon	<b>14</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>15</b> 8am Toymakers 9am Bicycle Ministry <b>9:30 am Breakfast with Santa</b>
<b>16</b> 9am Blood Pressure Checks 9:15 am 252 Basics - Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Journey Class 11am Youth Sunday School 12:15 pm Youth Renovation Meeting 5pm Youth Praise Band 6pm Youth Group	<b>17</b> 7pm Church Council	<b>18</b> 8am Toymakers 9am UMW-Mary Martha Circle 12:30 pm Son-Kissed Sisters 6:45 pm Stephen Ministry Class 7pm Praise Band	<b>19</b> *Newsletter Deadline* 8am Toymakers 9:15 am Mommy & Me Class 6:45 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm Pathfinder Meeting 7:30 pm Church Choir	<b>20</b> 8am Toymakers 9am Young Days Christmas Program 2pm L.I.F.E 4pm Children's Choir <b>7pm Candlelight Concert</b> 8pm Al-Anon	<b>21</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 9am Young Days Christmas Program	<b>22</b> 8am Toymakers 9am Bicycle Ministry
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8am Toymakers 9am UMW-Mary Martha Circle 12:30 pm Son-Kissed Sisters 6:45 pm Stephen Ministry Class 7pm Praise Band	<b>26</b> *Haiti Mission team Returns* 8am Toymakers 9:15 am Mommy & Me Class 6:45 pm Handbell Choir 6:45 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:30 pm Church Choir	<b>27</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 8pm Al-Anon	<b>28</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>29</b> 8am Toymakers 9am Bicycle Ministry
<b>30</b> 9:15 am 252 Basics - Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Journey Class 11am Youth Sunday School 5pm Youth Praise Band 6pm Youth Group	<b>31</b>	<b>1st of January</b> <i>Office Closed</i>				

## Offering Christ, Growing in Faith and Serving Others-All Good News!

- Thank you to all who helped serve in the Pumpkin Patch!
- Mission Possible was a great success! About one-hundred fifty people had a great time enjoying the BBQ dinner, and listening to Faye Monroe's piano recital and Haiti's Zamar Ministries' Halleluiah Gospel Choir singing on November 3.
- The Bicycle Ministry donated five bikes to families in need and four bikes were prepared for the Silent Auction on November 3.
- The Great American Teach-In at Young Days was a huge success.
- The United Methodist Women of East Lake were recognized for contributing in all five areas of giving and four individuals were recognized for participating in the Reading Program: Iris Schreiber, Ginny Jones, Lois Watson, Mildred Hoffman.
- Twenty youth went to Metropolitan Ministries the week of Thanksgiving to help sort food and hand out turkeys.



*Happy Birthday! If you have a birthday in December and it is not listed, email [dmuller@eastlakeumc.org](mailto:dmuller@eastlakeumc.org) so we can update our database.*

1 Charles Russo  
 3 Brayden Spink  
 Matt Novick  
 Joan Robinson  
 Cindy Hesselbirg  
 4 Robert Roe  
 5 Alisha Beck  
 Karen Williams  
 Cynthia Dodge  
 Samuel Warnock  
 Brett Lesko  
 6 Lori Acevedo  
 7 Ty Cogswell  
 8 Pat Bruenning  
 9 Nicole Holler  
 Christian Mahoney  
 Kelsey Gilmore

11 James Lee  
 Ray Hodges  
 Andrea Gleason  
 Thad Gleason  
 12 Libby Johnston  
 13 Steve Dover  
 Roger Tegenkamp  
 14 Steven Poitinger  
 Joseph Fewell  
 17 Dave Lamont  
 Christine Grove  
 Jan Housewright  
 18 Casey Hesselbirg  
 19 Janice Nash  
 Susan Happel  
 Hailey Preston  
 Katherine Shoulta  
 20 Cindy Raspen  
 Neil McClenaghanan

21 Mike Schnell  
 Matt Feeney  
 Mike Feeney  
 22 Dan Schillaci  
 23 Susi Nicholson  
 24 Pattie Housewright  
 26 Janet Heinsen  
 27 Trevor Charlton  
 28 Art Ritzel  
 Ralph Kirk  
 29 Doug Hebbard  
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 30 Gary Sundholm  
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Joe Truman .....Custodian

Chase Hild .....Custodian

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**Join us for Worship Sunday mornings: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00**

*Pathways* is the official newsletter of East Lake United Methodist Church. The *deadline* for the January newsletter is **December 19, 2012**. Contributions should be in Publisher, Word or jpg format and emailed to dmuller@eastlakeumc.org. All submissions are subject to editing.