

Pathways



EAST LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JANUARY 2012

A Special Note of Thanks

by Becky Bride

As I sit here I am reminded of Ecclesiastes 3:1: "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

I have been thinking of that a lot lately. My daughter will be married in July and the time when our children live at home will come to an end. We will be official "empty nesters."

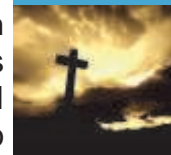
As one time ends a new one begins. I have served you through the role of Lay Leader for the past five years. Thank you for this privilege. God has helped me to grow spiritually in so many ways as I have faithfully served out this leadership position. I have learned so much about God and myself. I have grown to love you all also.

I have enjoyed encouraging you to step out in faith and answer God's call. I have enjoyed being with you as you committed to serve God at East Lake when you took the vows of membership. Being present at baptisms was very special too. Giving the messages on Laity Sunday was something I never dreamed I would do and was unbelievably frightening. Yes, God stretched me in many ways.

I am also reminded of the sisters Martha and Mary. Martha was busy preparing a meal for Jesus as Mary sat at his feet enjoying his company. I have been a very busy Martha for the last five years and it is now time for me to be more Mary. To do this I am stepping down as Lay Leader. It is time for someone else to fill this role. It is time for God to stretch and transform someone else.

I don't know where God is calling me to serve. I plan to spend a lot of time at His feet and know that when the time is right He will let me know. Thank you for allowing me to serve you for so many years.

Happy New Year!



Offer Christ

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



Grow in

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



Serve Others

► PAGE 10
THROUGH
OUTREACH AND
MISSIONS

Offen Christ

Share The Dream Banquet

by Kitty Carpenter

The United Methodist Cooperative Ministries Share the Dream Banquet on November 17, 2011, was an exciting fund raising event for the children and family programs they serve.

The Reverends Gene and Lois Watson are two of our most honored longtime volunteers. They were recognized for their serving by Yolanda Fernandez of WFLA Channel 8 News and presented a crystal candy "kiss" dish by Pamela Qualls, Cooperative Ministries Executive Director.

Gene and Lois were wonderfully supported by five full tables of East Lake United Methodist Church friends and family. They were ecstatic when Gene's daughters, Monica Post and Stephanie Severin, of Nebraska, made a surprise appearance at the banquet. Steve, Kate and Susannah Rogers, (Lois' son and family) also surprised them with a donation sponsorship and greeting in the program. Jeff and Julie (Rogers) Wood, from Tampa, were also in attendance.

It was a marvelous evening and we are so very thankful for all who attended and sent honorary gifts in their names. Our partners in missions make work possible!



Treasurer's Report

The Conference considers the end of the year to be January 13. Please look for the end of the year report in the February edition of *Pathways*.





"This is a permanent law for you, to purify the people of Israel from their sins, making them right with the Lord once a year!" Deuteronomy 11:12 NLT

In the Chinese culture, the New Year is the time dedicated to finish with the old and to start with the new. Their traditions include visiting friends and family to re-establish relationships, cleaning the house to prepare for the coming year, stocking cupboards with household provisions, settling old debts, and putting forth their best behavior. All of these activities are to make the new year better and healthier.

What are you going to do for your health this year? Are you going to keep all of your old habits and ignore healthier ones? For example have you considered limiting your meals at fast food restaurants? Can you develop healthier choices at the grocery store? Will you improve your exercise habits by walking or

joining a health club? Have you considered the health benefits of practicing self-care and a well-balanced lifestyle? Any and all of these will guide you to a healthier life.

Once you decide to make an improvement, you must first choose what area to change then make the commitment to see that change occur. Many of us take the first step of making the promise to change our behavior or habit but find it difficult to take the actual steps and then follow through on the lifestyle change. To be successful when making the commitment to alter behavior you need to have dedication, strategy, and action. Until you have a plan and begin to follow it, change is only a verbal statement.

The New Year is a good time to look at your life and determine what you need to change or improve. Start the year by considering your health. Follow the monthly tips from your faith community nurse to see how you can become healthy, prevent disease or minimize complications to your current health. Focusing on the future and a well-balanced life will help you participate more fully in the love and joy of your family.

(Source: Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco)

Please mark your calendars for the next blood drive on Sunday, February 12, 2012 from 8am till 12:30 pm in the courtyard.



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



www.EastLakeUMC.org

Young Days Registration

Young Days Preschool accepted many applicants for the 2011-2012 school year but still have openings in their 2, 3 and 4 year old programs!

Contact the school directly at 727-789-3709 or look online for more information.



Grow in Faith

Reflections on Haiti

by Gary Stephan

When I first told people that I would be performing mission work in Haiti, many said, "Why are you going? You can't really change anything." There are many issues affecting Haiti – the lack of a stable government, the lack of natural resources, no infrastructure, companies do not want to go to Haiti, and high unemployment. Looking at these situations, it can appear that anything we do will have little or no impact on the improvement of these situations.

We faced issues ourselves while in Haiti. We didn't always have the supplies we needed; we had only one vehicle to make supply runs; and the language barrier with the Creole speaking population. When we went up to the mountain village to run the medical clinic, we were the only source for medical supplies, so we had to bring everything we thought we would need. With these struggles, there were doubts. Were we doing enough and are we really making a difference? As long as we continued to look at the big things, it was hard to see a difference.

Mother Teresa faced many of the same situations in Calcutta, India. But she wasn't there to change the big picture, but to help those who were being left out. She once stated, "Don't look for big things, just do small things with great love ... The smaller the thing, the greater must be our love."

I was not a direct part of the three clinics since I was working on other projects. But that gave me a perspective that the doctor, nurses, and workers were not seeing. I would watch as a person went into the clinic with a look of concern, but then come out of the clinic (sometimes holding

nothing more than a bag of vitamins) with a look of hope and relief. In the mountain village, I watched as a father of three boys looked worried over the health of his sons. And saw the smile on his face as Annie gave him some medical supplies to help treat the illness.

At Zamar Ministries, I watched the joy in children as Jon and Trent played soccer with them. I watched a young boy laugh as Jon was playing soccer with him using nothing more than a rock. I saw a sense of hope in the people who came to church on Sunday morning as they greeted us. And on several occasions, I saw and experienced a boy or girl who would come up and place their hand in one of ours -- wanting nothing more than just to hold a hand of someone who was there for them, even though that person was a stranger.

This is why I went to Haiti, not to solve the problems affecting the country, but to help those who are being impacted by these issues. Not to bring change to the government or the economy, but to help individuals who are sick, hungry, and in need. The real impact we had in Haiti was not in the projects or the clinics, it was bringing hope to the Haitian people that God is hearing their cries and that He is responding through us. In going to Haiti, we are following the instructions left to us by Jesus in Matthew 25:40, "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'"

When we left for Haiti I had my doubts about going. I had heard there was a lot of violence and devastation. But once I arrived I noticed that there wasn't devastation that I could see. Everyone there was happy to see us and very welcoming. Even though we were there to help them out, I feel like they showed us way more than we could have ever shown them. They have such a tight bond with one another that it makes them seem like they are all family. You don't see that too often anymore and it's good to know that there

are still places out there like that. If I had a choice to go back I would go back in a heartbeat.

- Trent Favaro



Two years ago when our small group decided we wanted to go to Haiti on a mission trip, I didn't feel the call but not wanting to let anyone down I signed up to go. Well it's probably a good thing we didn't go then because I wasn't ready.

God will speak to you in strange ways but sometimes he physically keeps you from not following his plan. We decided we would go the following November instead. By that time I was prepared. On our mission trip to South Carolina this past summer God and I had a funny little conversation on the beach. I rededicated my life to him and I did something I had never done before, I dedicated my music to Him.

Those of you who know me know that music is my life and everything I do revolves around it. We went on the trip to Haiti. I had my guitar that Pastor Guerry had been pestering me to bring down to Haiti since he had first heard I

was coming. He asked me to play four songs for the congregation on Sunday. I agreed. I felt honored to play for them. We played our four songs, two of which were old worship classics and then the youths' favorite "One Day." Though these are all wonderful songs the greatest moment for me of the entire trip, maybe even my entire life was singing "How He Loves". That song is my favorite song and you could feel God in that place when we finished singing it. That was just proof to me that you don't need flashy lights or a band or anything like that to worship God and feel his presence. That was my biggest take away from the trip.

- Zach Cheeseman



I visited Haiti in the spring of this year, with three others led by Pastor Dionne. I was made extremely welcome by the people of the Zamar Mission and its outreach posts, whom I met during the 6 day Mission trip. I witnessed a very resourceful people scraping together a living the best they could in circumstances of unemployment at close to 80%. Despite the obvious challenges which confront them, the people of the Zamar community have a very strong faith, display a positive outlook for the future and really look out for each other. They may have very little in terms of material possessions but they have a wealth of love and caring in their extended 'families.'

I had such a positive experience in March, that I wanted to return and continue working with the folks in Zamar; to help improve their quality of life. The children in the school are delightful, and thrive in Zamar's learning environment. Their walk to school is through polluted and dusty streets, yet they manage to look immaculate in their school uniforms when they arrive. The school's facilities are minimal and there is a lack of basic amenities which we take for granted in the United

States. I wanted to apply my skills to improve their environment, so, on this most recent visit we installed the school's first flush toilet and sink with running water. I was so motivated and excited about it.

My second visit will be remembered for the experience of joining a much larger team of people with an age range from 17 to 60 years old. This was an inspirational group, who worked so well together; everybody made such an impact in their own way. It was a real blessing to be with such wonderful people. We shared adventures which we will talk about for many years to come. Such as how seventeen people got into a small pickup truck to return to Croix des Bouquets when our rental van broke down. And the miracle of managing to buy gas in a plastic container from a mountain cabin in the middle of nowhere!

Will I return to Haiti? Yes, you bet I will!

- Trevor Charlton

What hit me the most about Haiti is that it's a third world country in our own backyard, just a mere three hours flying time from the US. I come from India, a country like Haiti. However, I have forgotten how valuable basic necessities like clean water, a sanitation system, a public health and education system, roads/highways and just basic infrastructure can be. What we take for granted here is considered a blessing in Haiti.

What moves me is the people still smile and generally are happy. There is no mention of the earthquake last year. Nobody speaks about it. Haitians have moved on and life goes on as usual. No one is complaining about the poverty seen all around them, nor about their government – they are just happy living from day to day. What a beautiful and a simple way of life. I see children bright eyed with scabies all over their bodies, still running around kicking rocks instead of balls.

The church may not be air conditioned but the people are sitting on hard benches, under a tin roof for 6-7 hours and singing their hearts out, praising God for what they have. The children are so dedicated, dressed in their best, with pretty stuff on their hair and when they sing, their voices echo their joyfulness. The church is full of youth, full of a sense of community and the families and young people spend their whole Sunday in dedication to the Lord. When was the last time we did that as a community? When did I really thank the Lord for the blessings I have received? I sincerely believe that we have to look at the Haitians and learn how to see beyond ourselves and our daily comforts. They have found means of adaptation far more superior that can be found in our culture.

-Annie Doraisingh

Upcoming Events for Youth



Winter Jam 2012 - Saturday, January 14, 2012

Save the date! Everyone is welcome to join us! Christian rock bands including Skillet, Sanctus Real and Newsong will be performing. Tickets are \$10 (bring money for food and souvenirs). Doors open at 5:00, but seats are first come first serve, so we will be leaving from church around noon. Notarized health form and off site form needed for all youth joining us. RSVP to Mary Treichel, Director of Youth Ministries at mtreichel@eastlakeumc.org by Sunday, January 8th.



Confirmation Class of 2012

Confirmation classes for students in 6th grade and above will be beginning in the new year. This is a journey of faith that will teach students the Christian story, confirm their faith and discover how to live their commitment that they will be making to East Lake UMC. There will be a retreat at Warren Willis Camp that is an integral part of our Confirmation class experience. More details and class dates will be coming soon. Contact Mary Treichel, Director of Youth Ministries, at mtreichel@eastlakeumc.org for more information and to register for this class.



Souper Bowl Sunday is February 5. Our youth group will be collecting food at all worship services on that day to donate to Metropolitan Ministries in Pasco County. The youth group will also be having a Super Bowl Party during our regularly scheduled Youth Group time. Watch for details about the specific time and place we will be meeting for this event.



Watch for our summer youth dates for Warren Willis Camp and for Mid-High and Senior High Summer Mission trips.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thanks to the families of Josh Cilmi, Wyatt Cheeseman, Trent Favaro and Jimmy Hickman for hosting our Annual Progressive Dinner on December 11 for our Youth Group! It was a great way to begin our Christmas season. Many thanks also to the parents who helped drive our youth to the houses and back to church for desserts and our gift exchange!



Young Days Child Development Center January Newsletter from the Director to Young Days Parents

Welcome back! We are so happy to see everyone return in good spirits and refreshed for another year. We all had a needed break and are thankful to be back at Young Days. We would also like to give a special thanks to all of you for your thoughtful gifts, sweets and kind words. Our Angel Tree and Toy Drive efforts were a huge success because of your generosity.

Who says the holidays are behind us? Much is yet to come in January. It will be another busy month with plenty of programming scheduled. Class themes and lessons throughout the school will include: Winter, Science Discoveries and Space Exploration. As always lessons will be rich in literacy, math, creative expression, sensory and motor skills.

This month teachers will reinforce the fun and enjoyment of stories and the purpose of libraries. A love of books and reading is such an important gift to give a child. Our efforts foster language development, listening skills, hand-eye coordination and so much more! Don't be surprised if your child requests a library card if they don't already have one. A library card makes a great birthday present for a preschool age child.

On January 18th & 19th "Harry the Hound" from Celebration Station will visit the classrooms for some dancing, singing and coloring.

January 25 will be our first Lunch Bunch "Pizza Party" with a Veggie Tale movie in Fellowship Hall.

We are confirming scheduling for a Family Night on January 31 with "Bricks 4 Kidz LEGO Fun". The Bricks 4 Kidz preschool program reinforces many essential skills. Watch their eyes light up as they dig into a pile of brightly colored bricks ready to create fun simple sculptures based on the ABC's. Visit the website: www.bricks4kidz.com

Young Days continues to teach children to make choices. Preschool years are a good time to start encouraging children to make appropriate choices. We don't let them do whatever they want; we often times give them two acceptable choices and let them choose which one they prefer. Children need to practice making good choices. The skill is not automatically learned. We cannot always smooth the road or they would never learn to think for themselves. Learning means trial and error.

Jackie Kaller
Young Days Child Development Center

The United Methodist Women are proud to host Mary Beth Byrne of Wisconsin and Margie Miller of Indiana, who are volunteers at the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Warehouse in Baldwin, Louisiana. They will tell about their experiences there, and will be taking supplies we can donate back with them to help fill the shelves at UMCOR. The current need is for school kits. A list of the kinds of supplies needed for those kits is included at the end of this article. This event is for the entire church. UMCOR is highly respected around the world for being one of the first responders when relief is needed. It is a trusted and efficient resource, and it is our agency as United Methodists. Come, learn, eat good food and make new friends in our congregation.



Come & Learn How UMCOR Fills these Shelves and Why
On January 18, 2012 at 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
 Potluck Dinner
 After dinner program: How the Sager Brown UMCOR Warehouse works
 Bring Supplies for School Kits
Everyone is invited!

Items needed for School Kits -

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip only, no plastic scissors)
- 3 pads of paper (spiral or top bound pads, 150 sheets of loose leaf)
- 1 hand-held pencil sharpener (must be at least one inch long, please remove from packaging)
- 1 – 30 centimeter ruler (hard or flexible, cartoon characters acceptable, no advertisements)
- 6 unsharpened pencils (no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols-cartoon characters acceptable)
- 1 – 2 1/2 inch eraser (no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols-cartoon characters acceptable)
- 1 – 24 count box of crayons (only 24 count boxes)
- 1 – 14”x16” cloth bag (home made or purchased bags acceptable, heavy duty fabric only, must have buttons, snaps, or Velcro sewn in the middle of opening if used)

Mark Braverman –Working for Peace

by Lois-Rogers Watson

On your brand-new calendars, please mark this date, January 30, 2012, and plan to attend a great event. Mark Braverman will be speaking at the University of South Florida, Tampa, in Room 2708, Marshall Student Center, from 7-9 pm. Come at 6 pm should you want an autographed copy of Braverman's book, *Fatal Embrace*.

Who is Mark Braverman? Mark Braverman's roots are in the Holy Land - his grandfather, a fifth generation Palestinian Jew, was born in Jerusalem, and emigrated to the U.S. as a young man. Growing up in the United States, Braverman was reared in the Jewish tradition, studying Bible, Hebrew literature, and Jewish history. Trained in clinical psychology and crisis management, Braverman devoted his professional career to working with groups and individuals undergoing traumatic stress. Returning to the Holy Land

in 2006, he was transformed by witnessing the occupation of Palestine and by encounters with peace activists and civil society leaders from the Muslim, Christian and Jewish communities.

Why should you attend and encourage others to do so? You should attend because you are a Christian and Christians care about their neighbors. Our neighbors in the Land of the Holy One are in crisis. Mark, once a strong supporter of Israel's policies, will tell you why his views changed and why he is working so hard to find a just peace. Isn't that what we want as Christians? Come and be informed!

For more information, contact Rev. Gene Watson or Rev. Lois Rogers - Watson at 727-785-7157



Serve Others

The Watson's Story

by Kitty Carpenter

When Reverend Gene Watson and Reverend Lois Rogers met, they found that they had many things in common. Both had served as missionaries, spent their lives as clergy in the United Methodist Church, raised wonderful children and suffered the loss of beloved spouses. Their friends will tell you that both have effervescent personalities and radiate the love of Lord. What brought them together more than anything else, though, was their love of missions.

After college, Gene, a native of Missouri, served as a Methodist missionary, called a US-2, at a children's home in York, Nebraska. While there, he met and married Marion Lowry, also a US-2 from Missouri. After four years, he entered seminary and served a total of 40 years in ministry, including five years on the Bishop's Cabinet. His influence was felt far and wide in Nebraska as he worked to revitalize local churches and communities. Meanwhile, Marion was his partner in ministry, a leader in each community, and a professional advocate for children. Gene and Marion had planned retirement in 2001, but Marion died after a brief illness in the spring of that year.

Lois, a native of New York State, heard God's call to servant ministry in college, and after graduating became a US-2. Two years later she married Jack Rogers, also a US-2, and they became commissioned home missionaries who served in Georgia, Ohio, and Indiana. Both were consecrated diaconal ministers in 1977 and ordained Deacons in 1997. For twenty-three years Lois served as a bridge between the church and community in her work as library media specialist in an inner city school in Hammond, Indiana and as one of

the ministers of First UMC of Hammond. In the fall of 2000, Jack died suddenly.

Gene and Lois married in October 2002 and moved to the Tampa Bay area. Their blended family consists of four adult children, three foster daughters, and seven granddaughters.

For five years, Lois was Associate Pastor at East Lake UMC where she was in charge of adult programming. She was appointed to the Guardian ad Litem Program where volunteers look out for the best interests of abused, abandoned, or neglected children. She remains a master Guardian to this day.

Gene became passionate about a group in Pasco County that was making toys for children in need. Now the Toymakers of East Lake is a thriving group of over 50 men and women volunteers who have made thousands of wooden cars, trucks, boats, and trains and repaired hundreds of bicycles.

Children in Cooperative Ministries programs have been the recipients of many of these toys. Gene and Lois don't just stop at dropping off the toys, though. They don their festive apparel, gather their elves, and play Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Cooperative Ministries Christmas party.

The Reverends Gene Watson and Lois Rogers-Watson have made an extraordinary difference in the world around them. And, they have been faithful and generous supporters of Cooperative Ministries.

Will you join me in thanking Gene Watson and Lois Rogers-Watson for their service to Christ and our community.

Thank
You

JANUARY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 am One worship service	2	3 7pm Praise Band	4 6:45 Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm Pathfinders Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Practice	5 5:30 pm Family Pizza Night at Vetture's	6 9am Soul Sisters	7
8 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Journey Class 11:00 am Compass Class 12:15 pm Extravagant Generosity Mtg.	9	10 7pm Praise Band 7pm Pathfinder Mtg.	11 6:30 pm Staff Parish Mtg. 6:45 Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm Pathfinders Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Practice	12 10:30 am Invitation to the Old Testament Class 1:30 pm Budget Mtg. 7pm Invitation to the Old Testament Class 8pm AI-Anon	13	14 7:30 am United Methodist Men Mtg. Working Singles Group 5pm Winter Jam
15 9am Blood Pressure Checks 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Journey Class 11am Compass Class 11am Youth Ministry 5pm Youth Praise Band 6pm Youth Ministry	16 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observance - Preschool and church office CLOSED 6:30 pm Board of Trustees Mtg.	17 9:30 am United Methodist Women-Mary Martha Circle 7pm Praise Band	18 6:30 pm UMW - UMCOR presentation & potluck 6:45 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Practice	19 10:30 am Invitation to the Old Testament Class 7pm MASH Mtg. 7pm Invitation to the Old Testament Class 8pm AI-Anon	20 9am Soul Sisters	21
22 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Journey Class 10:30 am Learning to use your Bible Class 11am Compass Class 11am Youth Ministry 5pm Youth Praise Band 6pm Youth Ministry	23	24 7pm Praise Band	25 6:45 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm Pathfinders Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Practice	26 10:30 am Invitation to the Old Testament Class 7pm Invitation to the Old Testament Class 8pm AI-Anon	27	28 9am UMW- Gulf Central District Officers' Training
29 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Journey Class 10:30 am Learning to use your Bible Class 11am Compass Class 11am Youth Ministry 5pm Youth Praise Band 6pm Youth Ministry	30 9am Caregiving Ministry—Life Line Screening	31 7pm Praise Band				

Gifted to Care— Stephen Ministry

Spiritual gifts are gifts to give away. God gives them to us, and we use them to serve others. How are you using your gifts right now? Are you looking for a new way to use them? If your spiritual gifts include one or more of the following - faith, mercy, teaching the faith, encouragement, compassion . . . consider Stephen Ministry, our congregation's one-to-one care ministry. A new training class is starting this month. For more information contact Karen Wubbenhorst at 727-375-1098 or mknanny@verizon.net

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



Metropolitan Ministries in Pasco County provides services such as food and shelter assistance to families experiencing hardship or homelessness. They are a proactive organization striving to strengthen the community by helping families get back on their feet and find stability through the many services they offer. The needs in our surrounding community are greater than most of us can comprehend. We invite anyone interested in their mission to visit their website at www.metromin.org and sign up to volunteer.



Missed a sermon? Download it to your ipod or listen to it online. Go to www.EastLakeUMC.org and click on play under the latest sermon tab.

The first Thursday of the month is January 5. Join us at Vettore'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. Vettore's is located at 36137 East Lake Road in the Brooker Creek Publix Shopping Plaza.



Choir Members Needed:
No experience is necessary. Please join us at 7:30 pm on Wednesday nights in the Sanctuary.



Join us on Sunday, February 5, 2012 as we begin an 8 week sermon series titled "Celebrate Recovery."

Start your day right on the **second Saturday of the month**. All men are invited to the Gathering of Men from 7:30-9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. It's a time to center yourself for the month and meet other men who face challenges of keeping Christ alive in their lives. All are welcome!



Working Singles meets the second Saturday of the month, at local restaurants for dinner, fellowship, and fun. For more information, contact Linda Kapsa at 727-772-0017.



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

- Over thirty youth and their families spent an afternoon volunteering at Metropolitan Ministries of Pasco County in December. They helped sort food and gifts, and assisted with families shopping for their Christmas meal and presents for their children.
- Thanks to all the families who helped make our Annual Youth Progressive Dinner a success by driving and providing host homes for appetizers and dinner. Our youth group had a fantastic time!
- A huge thank you to the United Methodist Men, and Robin and Oliver Borland for preparing the pancake breakfast at Breakfast with Santa. Thanks to all the elves for helping with crafts and making the morning a wonderful success.
- We had an awesome turnout at the Children's Musical and Chili cook-off. Congratulations to Junis Damar, Judy Salvador and Lois Rogers-Watson for having the best tasting chili.
- Lots of folks enjoyed fellowship at Vetture's Pizza Night and at ELUMC Movie Night in December.

Room/Event Reservations

With the new year here, many of the reservations have timed out of our reservation system. If you have not already, please submit a reservation form for your ongoing meeting or event. Forms are online at www.EastLakeUMC.org under media and more. Please do not assume your room is available or that you may change rooms without contacting the church office. The church office manages room reservations and the church calendar. The office can be reached Monday-Thursday, 9 am -2 pm at 727-784-9250.

Happy Birthday! If you have a birthday in January and it is not listed, email dmuller@eastlakeumc.org so we can update our database.



1	Morgan Bott	Edna Hannon	Dolores Hale	21	Nolan Heid		
	Nikki Bott	7	Ralph Davis	Alexandra Prueitt	22	Zachary Bendus	
	Garth Feeney		Nicole Hesselbirg	17	William Baggott	George Shahine	
	Carol Murray	8	James LeMaster	Jonas Kaiser	23	Robin Borland	
3	Payton Dewitt		Karen Bender	Dan Polen		Graham Spalding	
	Cortland Smith		Danielle Muller	18	Joseph Balsamo Jr.	Grant Spalding	
5	Janet Brown	11	Caroline Morrison	Joshua Cilmi	24	Timothy Carty	
	Grady Davenport		Ralph Parker	John Dawkins		Bonnie Swan	
	Taylor Pittman	12	Michael Gris	Jill Horton	25	Elizabeth Baker	
	Jean Rowe		Emily Lowe	Paula Spink		Beth Gorddard	
	Starr Stevens	13	Ryan Allen	Ian Vonnos	28	Margaret McConnell	
	Lucille Stinson		Mary Ann Hough	Stephen Watters		Ann Millan	
6	Barbara Baker		Jennifer McClenaghan	Sarah Werner		Kyle Vonnos	
			Anne Murray	19	Evelyn Lerch	31	Jim Vautier
		14	Virginia Pemberton	Anton Uselis			
		15	Austin Vautier	20	Chase Hlad		
		16	Mary Jane Allison	Stanley Johnson			



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Why Join?

- No Contracts, no hassels-pay as you go
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- Jimmy HallCustodian
- Josh Satler.....Custodian

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www.EastLakeUMC.org

Office Hours:
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 Closed Fridays
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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 February newsletter is **January 18, 2012**. Contributions should be in Publisher, Word or jpeg format and emailed to dmuller@eastlakeumc.org. All submissions are subject to editing.