



The Chronicle
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 S. Renee Lawrence
 Pastor

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 Port St. Lucie, FL 34983
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New Year's Message

F R O M T H E P A S T O R

New Year! New Hope! New Challenges! Same consistent, reliable Savior and Redeemer. The church year rotates us through a series of life event of Jesus, faith events of importance to teach us what we need to know. The message, however, is unchanging and eternal. God sent not the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved!

My own instincts pull me away from making resolutions I won't keep. I can start the year with a firm conviction that whatever this year holds for me and mine, God is the unchanging and power-filled foundation of my life.

Our church will face challenges left over from 2009, some new ones we don't see coming and a great joy. On March 7 we will celebrate our 50th Anniversary as a church in Port St. Lucie. We were the first church of *any* kind in Port St. Lucie. It will be a delight to remember our past and name those who have blessed us through half a century. If you have memories to share, contact Gary Stannis, Chair of the Anniversary Committee. Our theme is 50 Years of Blessings! Mark your calendar for our celebration.

Whatever your life will be in 2010, this congregation wishes to surround you with love and the witness of Christ. Let love lead us into a deeper walk and a greater joy than the world can give.

Happy New Year!

Renee

Pastor Renee

Church Staff

Assistants to the Pastor

Bill Baldwin
 Rad Orlandi

Church Administrator

Gladys Dolan
 Gladys@pslfumc.com

Church Secretary

Loretta Grilley
 Secretary@pslfumc.com

Director of Student Ministries

Pam Szymczyk
 Pampslfumc@live.com

Children's Director

Dawn Stannis
 Dawn@pslfumc.com

Head Custodian

Jose Melendez
 Jose@pslfumc.com

Music Ministry

Tom Gifford
 Joan Snouffer
 Carol Zaring
 Cynthia Townsend
 M. J. Montague

El Aposento Alto Pastors

Idelsa Suarez
 Juan J. Dominguez

Our Purpose

***We Exist:
 To Know And Share
 Jesus Christ***

***To Relieve
 Suffering***

***To See God Work in
 LIFE Group
 Ministry
 & To Pray About
 Everything.***

Church Webpage

www.pslfumc.com

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Youth Corner



Santa breakfast was so much fun to watch, we had around 75 children come and sit on Santa's lap and receive the story about our Savior, Jesus Christ and His

Birth. The Youth serving were given many compliments on how hard they worked and how polite they were. Thanks to our special Santa for helping us out.



Christmas Trees came and Christmas trees went. The Witness Team and the Youth Group would like to thank all of our members who worked at the Christmas tree sales and those of you who bought trees. This year we sold around 400 trees giving both teams around \$2800 each. Thank you for making this a success for the community events and the youth summer trips.

Just for your information, the newspaper bin that is located in the parking lot is for our members to drop newspapers, magazines; junk mail and shredded paper (please no cardboard boxes). The youth collect papers from the retirement community at Harbor Place twice a week adding to the church collection. The money that is collected from this is put into the youth fund for any expenses they have. **We appreciate all your support.**



Winter Dance:

**Saturday
January 30th
5:00 pm-8:00pm**



The winter dance is an evening filled with party attire, lights, our own wonderful DJ (Gino), who plays music that is sweet to the ear, a dinner prepared by our very talented chef Cindy Taylor, silent auction and full service provided by our high school students. The cost of the event is \$15 per person. Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors.

Important January dates for the youth:

- 10th: Parents meeting at 5:30. Need all parents to attend
- 16th: Erma Jean Work day at 10:00 am meet at the church
- 17th: Pancake breakfast to be served to the church between services.
- 21st: Feeding ministry in Fort Pierce, meet at the church by 4:45 we leave at 5 to go to Fort Pierce and feed the community.



January Birthdays

- 6th - Jesus Merced
- 17th - Sean Olson
- 18th - Wesley Propst



*The Music Department
is proud to present:*

**Huntley Brown, Pianist
Sunday February 21, 2010 at
4:00 PM**

Huntley Brown grew up in a
Christian home on the island of

Jamaica. His parents, Myrtle and Alpheus Brown, taught him what it means to be a Christian, and at an early age he accepted Christ. Without knowing how to read music, he learned to play the piano by imitating his brothers. His Father who played the accordion and a little piano gave Huntley some basic instructions, and he also received instructions from Mr. Paul Tucker, a family friend. Mostly, though, he learned by listening to different recordings.

"Dr. MJ was teaching music at Iona High School in Jamaica when Huntley was a young boy attending there. He attributes her with having a part in inspiring him to become a musician."

Huntley's music ministry has taken him all over the world. He also was the regular crusade pianist for the recently retired Dr. Ralph Bell, an associate evangelist with the Billy Graham Association and is now the pianist for Ruth Graham and Friends Ministries.

We are very excited to have Mr. Brown in concert at our church and encourage you to join us for this very special concert.

Invitation to Genesis: Please join Pastor Renee and Rad Orlandi in this 10-session study of the first book of our Bible! Most people know Genesis as the book that describes the beginning of all things, but the Creation story is only a small part of this book. It is a story of *multiple beginnings* from start to finish. In this study, we will listen to the witness of this first book of the Hebrew Bible and will understand more clearly God's purpose in beginning to form a people with the likes of Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, and Jacob and Esau. Classes will be held Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. with Pastor Renee and Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. with Rad, beginning Tuesday, January 12. Please register early (878-1155) so we may order enough participant books. Plan to pick up your book before the first class in order to complete the required reading for the first week.. Books are \$10.00. Class sessions will be 90 minutes each.



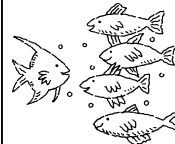
On behalf of the Salvation Army let me express great appreciation to the men and women of FUMC for staffing the Red Kettle this season. You gave two full days of service, November 27 and December 12. Those ringing on December 12 were Tom Daley, Audrey Tuthill, Pat Kinahan, Carl Hensley, Bob Riley, Mike Preuschl, Ed Rishko, Bill Bogley and Don Akerberg.
Carl Hensley, Chair, Advisory Board
Salvation Army of St. Lucie County



Oh Christmas trees! Sales have gone great. Both the youth and the witness team will benefit from the profit of the sale of the trees. We thank everyone who gave their time to this worthy project.

December 19th the witness team visited the elderly at one of the local nursing homes. This is a new project for the team, and we are always looking for new projects. If you have any idea's, of how you would like your team to share the love of Christ, we would love to hear from you. Contact any team member or you may call Janet Pederson @370-0183 or Jody Dugan @ 344-3457.

May you all be blessed with His love this Christmas and feel hope for the New Year.
Your Witness Team



**NEW
Member FORMING NOW!!
Class**

If you are interested in joining the church, please join us on Saturday, January 30, 9:30 am - 11:30 am, in Room 101 of the Beacon Life Center. Pastor Renee & Rad Orlandi will be your guides and share with you how membership at FUMC can bless you tremendously with new friends, new connections to the church and new vistas for your spiritual growth.

Please call the church office at 878-1155 or send an email to secretary@pslfumc.com to reserve a seat in this group of journey mates.

Come Join Us for Connections Café

Wednesdays, 5:45 PM , Beacon Life Center

Menu for January

- January 6** - Prime Rib Dinner
- January 13** - Baked Stuffed Chicken
- January 20** - Italian Meatball & Sausage Hero
- January 27** - Pulled Pork Sandwich

All dinners include Salad and/or Soup, Bread, assorted desserts and drinks, all for only \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 10.



THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

♥ I would like to express my deep appreciation for the honor I received a few Sundays ago for my volunteer services to FUMC. I had no idea it had been 30 years since Bob Gorday, the pastor at the time, asked if I would like to help out. I did enjoy the many tasks I was able to help with during this time. I will continue to be around if and when needed. Once again, thank you all. I did not do it for any recognition, I can assure you - just a feeling that there was something I could do for God and the Church. Love,
Lorraine Ferguson

♥ A BIG THANK YOU to all who participated in our church fundraiser by purchasing the 2010 Calendars. We reduced the mortgage on the Beacon Life Center by \$1,670. Kudos to Shirley Miller, Barbara Orr, Mary Lou Stetser and Loretta Grilley for their hard work on this project.

♥ Thanks to the many members of my church family who prayed for me & cheered me on during my recent health challenge. There is no malignancy, but I must continue with follow up care with the Internist. Please continue to keep me in your prayers.
God bless, Louise Oates

♥ You will never understand how much what you have done means to me. It helps to take a great weight off my shoulders. I am eternally grateful and will never forget. I hope to be able to pass on the generosity to someone else someday and tell my son what these kind, wonderful strangers did for us when he was a child. You all will always be in our prayers, Thank you and bless you all! Merry Christmas!
A mother & son helped by FUMC at Christmas.

Years ago, Jamaican Poet Laureate, Claude MacKay, who lived in Harlem, N.Y., penned the poem "Poinsettias, Red, Blood Red in Warm December." The "red blood" poinsettias seem to be used universally as the center piece for Christmas collages. Although many hybrid varieties of poinsettias are available now-a-days. Jesus came to us at Christmas and his blood was shed for our redemption.



As we reflect on the beauty of Christmas, let us also remain prayerful for our country and also for the world.

The Women's Prayer Group meets in the Conference Room of the Beacon Life Center at 8:30 am on Thursdays, Won't you join us?

Our Thanks Goes Out To:

- ♥ Jean Henwood, Fred & Anna Maddox for assembling the weekly bulletins.
- ♥ Montie Ramsarran, Marilyn Benda & Carol Dust for staffing the food pantry on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
- ♥ Our many church family volunteers who keep the landscape weed free & beautiful.
- ♥ Bev Bostwick for tending the Memorial Garden.
- ♥ Shirley Reeder, Anna & Fred Maddox for preparing the pews.
- ♥ John Stetser, Mike Preuschl & Stan Williams for helping with custodial tasks.
- ♥ Counters for your weekly assistance.
- ♥ All of our committee members, choirs & ushers who work hard all year long.
- ♥ Bill Bogley, Marlis Spear, Jan Poulin, Mary Lou Stetser, Shirley Miller and Lorraine Ferguson who help in the office on a weekly basis.
- ♥ Carla Cappellia & Bev Bostwick for managing the feeding ministry and food pantry.



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

will hold its Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, January 12, at First United Methodist Church, Orange Avenue, Fort Pierce. Registration begins at 9:30 and the meeting, which will include planning for the 2010 year and installation of officers, will begin at 10:00. All women are invited to attend. For information call Jean Henwood 466-2057.



"Methodist Milers"

**Get fit spiritually & physically
Come join Rad Orlandi
Every Tuesday & Saturday morning
7:00 am - 8:30 am**

We will meet for devotional, walk/exercise (start at BLC, walk to Sportsman's Park track, return, stretch, chat: diet, nutrition, exercise, wellness, etc.)

Services on the webpage!



Did you know that the audio of our services can be heard online at our website www.pslfumc.com? Click on "sermon audio" and listen along!



Our Friends Residing at Care Centers

PSL Restorative Care Center

Katie Minch

Forest Park

Louise Huff

Brighton Gardens

Bradley Jones

Doris Stull

Life Care Center

Bernice McMullen

Harbor Place

Lillie Berry

Gertrude Giametta

Jessie Turner

Paradise Cove

Jeanne Smith



Please contact the church office with the address of any service personnel currently on active duty. We have many requests from members of the congregation who would like to write to them.

Please pray for our Service Personnel – Lt. Patrick Amersbach, Sgt. Dustin Armstrong, Larry Bach, William L. Baker, Sean K. Birmingham Sr., Sgt. Joshua Bryant, Michael Thomas Byrnes Jr., Michael Calore Jr., Holly Chambers, Evan Craig, Chip Davis, Matthew A. Davis, Timothy Davis, David DeAtley, Lt. Daniel Doverspike, Alysyn Ellis, Brian Ginter, Capt. Chris Graham Erik Gudmundson, Josh Guertin, Barbara Hager, Albert Hickey, Mark Hopkins, Kevin A. Jespersen, SFC Brian “Tigger” Johnson, Commander Marie Kelly, Erick King, Michael Kuehn, SPC Jeff Maddox, SPC John Jeffrey Latta, Ens. Joe Lopiccolo, John Lowry, Pvt. Jason Lyon, David C. Maitland, Heather Maitland, Jason McErlain, Col. Kevin McNeely, Col. Kurt McNeely, Peter Mills, Daniel Mullen, David Orlandi, SSgt. Marla Poirier, Greg Poole, Jocelyn Priola, Matthew Rabins, Dylan Randazzo, Major Christopher Rizzo, John Rosenhagen, Chuck Sachs, Mark Scales, Shawn Schroeder, Sgt. Mark Sorester, Dan St. Peters, SFC Ken Steele, Oral Sutherland, Ens. Davidson Taveras, Anthony Thompson, Jorge L. Vazquez, Narciso Villasuso, Mike Vitale, Ens. Tim Waters, Sgt. Robin R. Watkins, Reid Wilbraham, Philip M. Young.

Please call the church office if someone you know should be added to the Service Personnel list or no longer on active duty.

Please Note: If you are aware of an illness, hospitalization, or death in the family of one of our members, please notify the church office. This will help us better serve you. (We would rather receive several phone calls than none at all. So please do not assume that we already know.)



Record Of Our Faithful Attendance

Attendance	11/29	12/06	12/13	12/20
8:15am	161	143	142	145
11:00am	138	148	130	140
OASIS	213	163	225	150
S School	118	138	134	130

Informational Tidbits:

Food Pantry –The last Sunday of every month is “Food Pantry Sunday.” Please bring your donations of non-perishable food and supplies. Our pantry serves many less fortunate families from our congregation and our community.

Need A Ride to Church? - We have a bus ministry to pick up people on Sunday morning for the 11:00 a.m. worship service and return them home afterwards. Please call the church office for more information.

Albertson’s Community Partner Program - Every time you shop at the store, just hand them your card before the order is tendered. The church will receive a contribution from the store each quarter. If you are interested in participating, please stop by the church office to pick up a card or call us and we’ll mail one to you!

Sherwin Williams Neighbor-to-Neighbor Program Our church is currently enrolled in this program offering special savings to you and CASH BACK to the church. Every time you shop at the Sherwin-Williams store and use the Neighbor-to-Neighbor card you will save 20% on all regular priced merchandise and 5% on all sale priced merchandise! In addition, a CASH BACK BONUS will be mailed to the church with no strings attached. You can pick up your card from the church office.

WHY Ministry – We Help You! – Offers food to those going through times of unusual stress or life crisis. Remember, if you have been blessed by God, you should be a blessing to others! And the testimony of those already participating is that "we get back so much more than we give."

Paper Drive – After reading your daily newspaper, please remember that we have a large recycling bin for them. You can now bring old magazines, phone books and old mail too! Please help the YOUTH and ecology!

**Check Out our website: pslfumc.com
Newsletter Deadline: January 15**

The Online Directory can be accessed from the church website at www.pslfumc.com You will need the id & password assigned to you in order to login to the directory. Your id & password can be obtained by calling the church office or by email to secretary@pslfumc.com



Do we have your e-mail address? If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter “The Chronicle” in your email box or receive our daily e-prayers and daily devotions, just send an email to: Secretary@pslfumc.com and we’ll add you to the list!

Devotions

What did Jesus do on the earth?

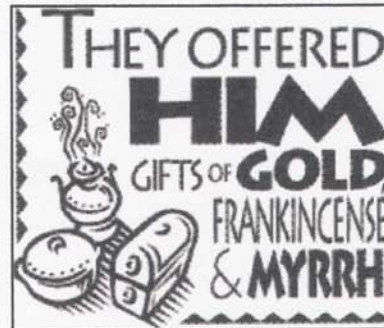
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1

"It's a miracle!" Jairus must have joyfully shouted. "My little girl was dead, but Jesus brought her back to life!" News spread quickly throughout the country (Matthew 9:18-26). Blind people could suddenly see (Luke 18:35-43). Crippled people could walk (Luke 5:17-26). Many sick people were being healed (Mark 6:53-56). And that's not all! Jesus walked on water (Mark 6:45-51). He made giant storms go away by simply speaking (Mark 4:35-41). Demons obeyed His commands (Matthew 17:14-18). Twice He fed thousands of people with just a little bit of food (John 6:3-13; Mark 8:1-10).

It seemed there was no limit to Jesus' mighty power! Whatever the problem, He could take care of it. These miracles showed God's power and love. Jesus was proving that He truly was the Son of God, just as the prophets had said!

The Bible says, "Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written" (John 21:25). What problem do you have in your life today? Whether it's big or small, Jesus can help! Tell Him about it and trust Him to do what's best for you.

Wonderzone Devotions



The Wise Men gave gifts to Jesus

The wise men, traveling from the East, came to give worship and give royal gifts. They brought gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. The bible doesn't actually say that there were three wise men, there could have been more. But it does state that there were three gifts. This is one of the reasons that we give gifts at Christmas, but more importantly we give gifts because Jesus gave of Himself so freely. He is the greatest gift of all!

Keep Jesus first in your lives each day in the upcoming year. May 2010 be filled with many blessings for you and your family!

**Extreme Kids Zone
Resumes on
Wednesday
January 6, 2010**



Martin Luther King Day

Martin Luther King, Jr., was a great man who worked for racial equality in the United States of America. He was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. Both his father and grandfather were ministers. His mother was a schoolteacher who taught him how to read before he went to school. Young Martin was an excellent student in school.

After graduating from college and getting married, Dr. King became a minister and moved to Alabama. During the 1950's, Dr. King became active in the movement for civil rights and racial equality. He participated in the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott and many other peaceful demonstrations that protested the unfair treatment of African-Americans. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. Commemorating the life of a tremendously important leader, we celebrate Martin Luther King Day each year in January

Crispy Apple Surprise

Ingredients

4 apples	8 caramels, unwrapped
½ cup flour	½ cup rolled oats
¼ cup brown sugar	4 tablespoons butter

1. Cut apples in half.
2. Scoop out the core with a spoon, but don't go through to the bottom.
3. Press a caramel into the center of each apple.
4. Place apples in a baking pan.
5. In a medium bowl, pinch together flour, oats, sugar and butter. Top each apple with some of the mixture.
6. Bake for 30 minutes at 350 F until tops are lightly brown.

PARENTS

Childhood Is Not A Disease



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14, NIV)

Jesus saw something in childhood besides the future. He recognized worth and value in the state of being a child, for He told the waiting adults in this crowd that children are important for what they are right now - "For of such is the kingdom of heaven.."

Children are more than people in transition, waiting for some future date of real meaning. The qualities that come from being young are not flaws or imperfections, rather, childhood is a marked and definable stage of development.

Jesus' loving response to the children lets us see into His heart's feeling of worth of a young life.

Childhood is not a disease to be cured or endured. It is a God-ordained part of human life with value and significance that continually enriches the experiences of those who may have forgotten what it is like to see the world from a fresh, unspoiled point of view.