



TUMC Sharing News

Volume I, Number 2, September, 2010

We Have a Winner!

And the winner of the Name the Newsletter Contest is (drum roll, please) Debby Risley!!! She suggested *TUMC Sharing News* which is now the name of our electronically delivered newsletter. Thank you, Debby, for submitting such a great name. In case anyone is interested in how the selection was made, it was by a drawing at the Administrative Board meeting on Sunday, August 22. Suzie Lilly was the one who pulled the name out of the proverbial hat (actually an envelope). Thanks to all who submitted names. Each was so very good that there was no way to choose one over another except by drawing!

Don't you just love autumn? Not only can we look forward to some cooler weather, but at TUMC all kinds of things pop up on our calendars that we haven't seen since spring. For example, the Friday Morning Bible Class resumes its studies; the choir is singing again; Mary Martha returns to its weekly work and fellowship; and, of course, our children, youth and college and career groups begin a new year of spiritual growth, fun and fellowship. At TUMC, September

brings with it many opportunities to belong, grow and serve!

The following pages are filled with articles about varied opportunities to learn and serve that will make you want to belong. Take a peek, choose an activity, and then give it your all. The rewards will be glorious!

A Peek Inside:

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From Our Trustees
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A Prayer to the God of a Polychromatic People

O God of Love in Differentiability, who wills the freedom and fulfillment of all human beings. We most graciously give thanks unto Thee for the constancy of your loving kindness and tender mercies to us all. We are constantly reminded of Your Holy Presence:

by the wind that blows from the Atlantic,
by the sun that beams brightly,
by the stillness of a thousand and one midnights,
and by the gathering of people from all walks of life.

O God of Unity, we stand in awe at the marvelous networking of the bringing together of people by Your Spirit. It includes a community of black, brown, beige, tan, peach, white, conservatives and progressives, rich and poor, business and labor, Republicans and Democrats, straight and gay. We pray for a "coalition of conscience" that will dedicate itself to the proposition that the Christian ideal of liberation and reconciliation can be made concrete through courageous action in a spirit of love, in pursuit of human dignity for everybody.

Because our needs are so great and Your care so constant, we know that You are creating a network of disciples around new visionaries of a better tomorrow whom You are assembling at TUMC for this new day. Surprise us with the discovery of how much power

See Christ, Page 2

TUMC on Sunday: Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 8:45 AM AMPLIFY Youth 4:00 PM

TUMC Throughout the Week: Bible Studies for all ages; Youth activities for all ages; Adult events. Call TUMC Office, 407-699-8155, for details.

Tuskawilla United Methodist Church is located at 3925 Red Bug Lake Road, Casselberry, FL 32707



Getting To Know You - A Profile

Hello, Suzie Lilly!

The young people know her as “Alex’s mom” or “Ashley’s mo,” while a few others know her as Chris Lilly’s wife. Still others know her as that pretty, dark-haired woman who sits with her family every Sunday in the second pew, center left section. Her friends know Suzie as that friendly, caring and fun person who brightens their lives, and Tuskawilla United Methodist Church is happy to know her as a member.



Suzie, in fact, has been around TUMC longer than most, starting when she was a child. She used to visit the church every summer when she came to spend time with her member grandparents, Corky and Jean Arthur. They brought her with them to church and took her to its various activities. And aren’t we lucky that they did! It was those visits and her grandparents living here that gave Suzie the notion that maybe she would like to live in Florida some day and belong to TUMC!

That “some day” arrived when husband Chris was laid off from Gateway, Inc. in North Sioux City, South Dakota where they both worked and where, in fact, they had met. Once the layoff came, they had a decision to make about what to do to secure their future as much as they could. Since the Arthurs, Suzie’s grandparents, lived here and she and Chris envisioned Suzie’s parents, Stephanie and Ron Ege, would eventually join them, the couple decided to make the move to be with family. Now she can count not only parents and grandparents as family, but Suzie

See Family, Page 3

From Christ, Page 1

we have, through Christ, to make a difference in our community and beyond:

- A difference in the way Your disciples meet, greet, and respect others
- A difference in the breadth of our vision of what is possible in humanization, reconciliation, transformation, and sanctification in Your kingdom
- A difference in the way we work together for justice and equity for all of your children
- A difference in our response to the needy and appreciation for those who give of themselves for the flourishing and thriving of our most beautiful world and her people.

O gracious God of a Love Supreme, use this time to spark a new hope and stir up within us a new faith so that we can make actual new possibilities in the world around us for the cause of Jesus Christ. Thou, who art the Architect and Governor of the universe, make compassion, charity, and cooperation be the new mark of Spirit-filled disciples of Jesus who have heard the call to kingdom living. Strengthen us to face reality and to withstand the devilish attacks and assaults of this world and the rigor of tough times in the anticipation of a bright side beyond the struggle. Inspire, empower, and sustain us until we reach the mountaintop of unity and see that future for which our hearts yearn, a future in which we gather around Your “table of second chances” and truly see ourselves as a polychromatic people living this new life through the skin of Messiah Jesus.

This is our fervent and sincere prayer, O Holy and Sacred Unity.

Amen!!!

*By Dwayne Craig,
Pastor*



The Help List:

Rev. Dwayne Craig, Sr. Pastor, pastor@tumcfl.org

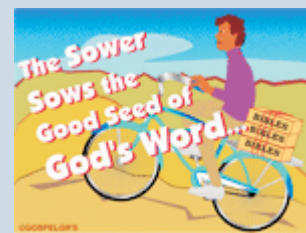
Kathy Rexroad, Director of Student Ministries, youth@tumcfl.org

Joseph Shelley, Director of Music Ministries, music@tumcfl.org

Lynn Campbell, Administrative Assistant, office@tumcfl.org

Larry Hale, Maintenance Director, shine@tumcfl.org

The TUMC office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday





TUMC Food Ministries

Food Pantry

By Jan Rudolph
Food Pantry Coordinator

Please remember to bring non-perishable food to church with you on the first Sunday of each month. Food donations are sorted and stored in the Food Pantry by the TUMC United Methodist Women following worship service that day.

TUMC also helps support the Safe House of Seminole County. Items nearing the expiration date and anything we have an abundance of is packaged for the Safe House representative to pick up. Lynn Campbell has mentioned several times how much the Safe House appreciates the food and personal items..

Needed personal items include toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, toilet tissue, paper towels, shampoo and conditioner. Feminine hygiene products go quickly and are in short supply.

The food pantry is always in need of paper grocery bags. Plastic bags do not hold as many items and must be doubled for strength.

If you know anyone who needs emergency food help, please refer them to the church office. Otherwise, please refer them to the Friday afternoon Food Bank.

Thank you for your continuing support of both the Food Bank and the TUMC Food Pantry!



30th Anniversary Committee

Tuskawilla's New Cookbook Goes On Sale Sunday

By Paul Wyche

Tuskawilla United Methodist Church's 30th Anniversary edition cookbook will go on sale this coming Sunday, September 5. The cookbook features 150 recipes for some absolutely delicious appetizers, soups and salads, vegetable and side dishes, main dishes, breads and rolls, desserts, cookies and candy. The cookbook is being published by Tuskawilla's 30th Anniversary Committee.

"This cookbook is not just made up of recipes, it is a cultural study of our church community and the individuals the book represents," the committee said. "You can learn a lot about our church community through the cultural diversity of the cookbook's recipes."

This coil-bound cookbook features some of the finest recipes from Tuskawilla members, commented several of the committee members who have participated in other TUMC cookbook projects. The cookbook will be available from 30th Anniversary Committee members at a price of \$10 each. What a bargain to get quality recipes and a touch of nostalgia. too!



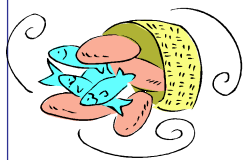
From Family, Page 2

also has Stephanie's sister Louise, also a TUMC member, plus two sisters who live nearby along with three nieces and three nephews.

And aren't we all glad that they made that move! Suzie and Chris have been members of TUMC for about five years now and are active in the children's and youth activities as well as the Pumpkin Patch and a variety of other activities. When asked what she likes about TUMC, she mentions the people, the programs for her children and her special appreciation for Joseph who has been Alex's piano teacher and has also encouraged him to be interested in playing the trumpet. Anyone who went to the last Talent Night at the church is familiar with Alex's skills at the piano.

So what does Suzie do with her time? She is an accounting manager for Pulau Corporation, and in her spare time (that is, if she ever has any!) she keeps the books for Chris who runs their business, Aire-Master, which provides cleaning supplies such as deodorizers, hand sanitizers, soap and dispensers for bathrooms for commercial buildings such as our sanctuary, for example.

Her leisure time sees Suzie hanging out with her family and traveling. In fact, next year she and Chris hope to attend their class reunions to celebrate their graduations 20 years ago! (She doesn't look old enough!) Of course, hers is in Nebraska, and Chris's is in Virginia! That ought to provide an abundance of traveling! May we all here at TUMC wish them well.



Outreach To The Community and World

Council on Ministries

By Bill Gorman

Wow! What an active church we have. God has really blessed us with some outstanding, talented and gifted members.

If you are looking for a place to fulfill our church mission of a Place to Belong, a Place to Grow, and a Place to Serve, as Pastor Craig says, there is a place for you. In addition, as busy as we are, there is always room for more! If you have an idea for a ministry that you would like to see, please either get in touch with Pastor Craig or e-mail Bill Gorman at WGorman1@CFL.RR.Com or drop off your idea in our church office with Lynn Campbell.

Feel free to attend our meetings. We meet every other month on the 4th Sunday of each month immediately after church. The next meeting will be on Sunday, October 24th. Hope to see you there.

The Outreach and Missions Committees have been combined to better coordinate the various missions and outreach projects of our church. This is a very busy time for us in the life of our church.

Our School Supplies Ministry got off to a rousing start. Thanks to Jan Rudolph's strong leadership, her active volunteers and your generosity, we were able to provide school supplies for 150 plus needy children and teachers for the coming year! And this in only our first year of working on this exciting ministry! Given how committed our members are to those in need in our neighborhoods, can you imagine how this ministry is destined to grow over the coming years? What a blessing it is to be able to reach out to so many of our most vulnerable people in these trying times.

The Pumpkin Patch. It's Baaaack!!!! Yes, fellow TUMC members, it's that time of year for our Annual Pumpkin Patch. This is one of our best known outreach ministries. Thousands of folks drive by our church every day and many have said "Oh, I know you. You're the church with the Pumpkin Patch!" One couple told us last year that their children have grown up buying pumpkins from us every year and it is one of their most enjoyable times as a family.

As you all know, not only is the Pumpkin Patch a wonderful opportunity for the church to connect to the community at large, but it is also a healthy revenue generator. This year, as in years past, we need lots of volunteer help. Can you spare a two-hour block of time to this wonderful ministry? Or perhaps you can spare the same two hours each week? You will be rewarded by genial fellowship with your TUMC partners, of course, but also you will have the chance to reach out to our community neighbors. And lastly, don't forget that one of the greatest benefits of helping the pumpkin patch is watching children's eyes light up at seeing all those pumpkins! What fun they have picking out their favorites! And story time is such fun for them!! So plan your schedule now, and be sure to sign up when the sheets begin appearing sometime in September. You will truly be blessed for your efforts.

Operation Christmas Child. The TUMC Missions Team has once again adopted Operation Christmas Child (OCC), a project of Samaritans Purse, as the October Mission of the Month. This worthwhile project brings hope and joy to children living in

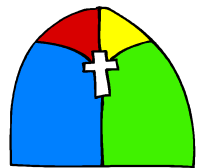


desperate situations worldwide through gift-filled

shoe boxes and the Good News of Gods Love.

Flyers describing how to pack a shoe box will be available in the Narthex starting the end of September throughout the month of October. Shoe boxes can be left in the designated boxes in the Narthex or in the church office at any time during the month; however all filled shoe boxes **MUST BE** turned in by Sunday, November 7, 2010.

Pastor Craig will lead the congregation in blessing the shoe boxes in November prior to their being taken to the drop-off site at Northland Community Church. If every family that is able fills at least one shoe box, just think of the contribution that TUMC could make to this worthy cause! Whether or not you can contribute a filled shoe box, please pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoe box gift and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Jesus Christ. Thanks for whatever level of support you can contribute to this mission project! For further information regarding Samaritans Purse or Operation Christmas Child, feel free to visit their website at www.samaritanspurse.org/occ.



From Our Trustees

Our Trustees in Action

By Dave Brubaker

The TUMC Trustees are responsible in part to "oversee, maintain and supervise all local church property" and to "be responsible, in conjunction with the pastor, for all use of the church buildings and grounds".

The primary purpose of the church facilities is to enable the vision and ministry of the congregation.

All use of the facility, in accordance with the stated purpose, must be coordinated through the church secretary who maintains the church calendar. Use by non-church groups will require the Facilities Use Agreement, approval by the Trustees and, where identified, will have a charge.

For church activities which may impose wear and tear on the facilities or require facility alteration or modification, an email or written request must be submitted to the trustees and approved prior to scheduling.

All facility users are expected to clean up and turn off lights, etc. after use.

If you find TUMC facilities or equipment that are in need of repair or maintenance, please notify the Trustees.

In order to conserve capital, church members are performing many of the facilities and grounds maintenance and repair activities. If you have a skill, ability or willingness to serve in this ministry on a regular or occasional basis, please let the Trustees know.

Current members of the TUMC Trustees are Chairwoman Deborah Gorman (debgorman51@yahoo.com) and Dave Brubaker (dsbrubaker@aol.com).

The Crossover At Last!

Ever wondered what all the construction is about in the front of our church? Well, it is here at last. For many of us at TUMC this project has been a proverbial "carrot" dangling before us for several years. And now Seminole County is finally doing what they promised some time ago: putting in a pedestrian walkway so



children who live on our side of Red Bug Lake Road do not have to cross the busy street to get to Red Bug Elementary School in the morning. The overpass would link us to the school for safety reasons but from our standpoint it will provide the opportunity

to be of service to the staff and students at the school. In addition, we will be able to use the school's parking lots during some of our busiest Sundays and special events. This will be an on-going construction project for the next few months, but if you have ever passed the school in the morning or when it lets out in the afternoon, I'm sure you agree that the walkway is a great idea. We ask that you bear with us during this long construction period. We are working with the county to keep the inconveniences to a minimum.

Members of the leadership team recently met with the project engineer who shared some of the facts about the project. Utility lines, except for water, have all been relocated. Our entrance way, with respect to turning into Red Bug, will not be impeded and work will most often be done from 7 am to 4:30 pm. The project is scheduled to be completed by April of 2011.

Of note is that a meeting for the community will be held here at TUMC on September 7 at 6 PM in Fellowship Hall. The meeting will be conducted by Seminole County.

How About A Little Sunday Inspiration?

A Sunday morning visit to TUMC includes friendly people welcoming you, music that will touch your soul and make you tap your feet, and a message that will talk to your most inner core. All this is in an atmosphere of "We're so glad you came this morning." Now, how can you beat it!!!

Join us - 10 AM every Sunday.





From Our Music Ministry

The Church Choir

by Joseph Shelley

Enjoying a three-week break this past August, members of the Sanctuary Choir enjoyed sitting with their friends and family during Sunday worship services. I can probably speak for most of them when I say it's a bit of a strange feeling experiencing worship from the pews! It's definitely a perk getting to see all of the smiling faces from the choir loft or should I say the choir lift!

One of the things choir members frequently share with me is the lack of energy or volume that is heard from congregants when singing. One of the reasons we hear for this lack of volume is that folks want to hear from the choir. Hmm, how ironic! TUMC: you *are* the choir! Yes, you are reading this correctly: *you* are the choir!

While the Sanctuary Choir and other music groups within the church want to minister to our listeners during special music selections, our spirits are lifted when we see all of our brothers and sisters singing mightily to God during congregational singing. Worshipping our Redeemer is *not* a spectator event; it is certainly not a theatrical performance where the actors are those on the chancel and the audience is the congregation.

Another way you can view a worship service is that it is a grand choir rehearsal or practice session - as

when we all sing to Jesus in Heaven. It would be hard to imagine that the saints will stand silent on that blessed morning using the same excuses: I don't have a good voice, I don't sing in tune, I'm afraid someone might hear me, etc. Of course not! We (all of us) will *sing and shout* the Victory!

Sanctuary Choir members can often tell you how many times I share with them John Wesley's Directions for Singing, found on page vii in all United Methodist Hymnals. Direction number IV states:

Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, no more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.

So: be brave! Be bold! Be *loud!* Sing to God with all your strength for He has done great things!

If you want to improve your singing skills, join the Sanctuary Choir! Rehearsing every Thursday evening at 7:15, you will have the opportunity to learn the tips and tricks to improve your singing.

Perhaps you would like to get in on the ringing of the bells! The handbell choir rehearses every other Wednesday at 7:30 PM. If you always wanted to learn how to read music, handbells is a great place to learn.

Do you play a musical instrument? I know you're out there! Join the Instrumental Ensemble every other Thursday at 6:00 PM. Are you rusty? Perfect! The Instrumental Ensemble is an excellent place to get back your chops!

The Church Choir is all of us - you and I! Involve yourself in worshipping God without fear. Be blessed as you bless God with your joyful noise.



**I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord.
(Revelation 1:8).**

During the months of July and August, we welcomed by baptism: Mason Hamilton and McKenna Ruth Rothrock

On August 24, Jenny and Chris Wherrell welcomed into the world Lily Elizabeth at six lbs., nine oz. with both mother and baby doing well.

Celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries were the following:

John and Donna Chambliss - 49 years
Henry and Karen Hanson - 48 years

Joe & Shirley Bloodworth - 51 years
Phillip & Beverly Detmer - 56 years
Congratulations and best wishes to all.

On a sadder note, we said goodbye to Ernest Voda, Trudy Hiller and Herman Craig, father of Pastor Craig, and we keep in prayers our loved ones at rehab centers and nursing homes: Bill Honig, Maxine League and Lou Voda.



News and Notes

THANK YOU TUMC!

By Jan Rudolph

Distribution of school supplies and gently used clothing was held August 9-13. The combined generosity of the congregation and Second Harvest Food Bank enabled us to help 150+ children with school supplies!

Please join me in a special THANK YOU to Dan Jones and Charley Senn. We thought there was an ample supply on hand. However, the response on the first day was so good that these two men drove to Second Harvest early Tuesday morning, picked up two pallets (20 boxes) of supplies and made sure they were at the church for sorting before 9:30 AM. This delivery, along with the two pallets we received earlier, was a wonderful blessing.

We were blessed with hard working people who helped sort and distribute the clothing and school supplies!

Thank you everyone!

How Great To Be A Greeter!

By Lori Detwiler

Being a Greeter on Sunday morning brings so many unexpected rewards. For one thing, greeters get to see everyone who comes to church that morning and greet them with hugs and handshakes. Another reward is that greeters are able to say a few welcoming words to newcomers, starting their visits with the best possible tone. As for other rewards, you have to be one to know them. Call me (407-365-7399) or the church office to volunteer. I could certainly use your help!

Coming To A Church Near You!

By Lynn Campbell

A LAY SERVANT IS...

- ◆ An active, supportive member of a United Methodist church
- ◆ Eager to serve through the church well informed on Scripture, and on the doctrine, heritage, and organization of the United Methodist Church

- ◆ Committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, care-giving ministries, and spoken communication.
- ◆ Willing to improve his/her skills through training.

It is on your doorstep, won't you come?

For a weekend of learning to be a lay servant, try the Lay Servant Ministries Training to be held Friday and Saturday, September 17 and 18, at Tuskawilla UMC in Casselberry.

All classes require a total of 10 hours attendance on one weekend, which includes Friday night September 17th from 5:00 to 8:30 p.m., and all day Saturday, September 18th, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sessions include dinner on Friday and light breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Cost for materials and meals is \$45. For further information, email Lynn Campbell, EC Director of Lay Servant Ministries at office@tumcfl.org.

On January 1, 2010, the name of this ministry was changed from Lay Speaking Ministries to Lay Servant Ministries which captures the essence of the roles and activities that many laity so selflessly provide for their congregations, districts and conference.

You may select from the following Lay Servant Ministry Courses:

United Methodist Heritage facilitated by Dr.

Wayne Wiatt, District Superintendent

The Lay Servant and The Ministry of Care facilitated by Rev. Steve Nolin, Pine Hills UMC

Basic Lay Servant Ministries (English) will be facilitated by Lynn Campbell and Shannon Elswick

Basic Lay Servant Ministries in Spanish will be facilitated by Rev. Juan Feliciano"

A Volunteer Opportunity

By Lois Cochran

I have been doing a little volunteering with the Gift From God Computer Foundation in Oviedo which refurbishes/rebuilds computers to make them available for middle and high school kids whose parents can't afford to purchase computers and who are having to rely on the school computers in order to do their homework, etc. This is a great organization and they are in desperate need of used computers. If you have an old computer or an interest in this, the website for this organization is:

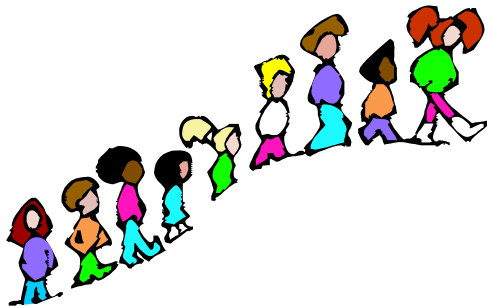
www.giftfromgodcomputerfoundation.org - the person to contact is Gerry Myers at 407-618-4817.



News and Notes - Continued

The Children Are Coming, The Children Are Coming —

Yes, the Park Lake Academy is moving to TUMC, and one of these days we will hear the sound of children's laughter again on our church campus. We expect that will happen after Labor Day. The owners have been working with Seminole County to get permits to do the hard wiring to install smoke detectors in the classrooms, and once that is done, they will have the final fire inspection and the final state licensing can be completed!



Who knew that simply moving a school from one location to another would be so complex! Brigida Geltz, one of the owners, says this move is like starting from the beginning. What we at TUMC thought would be virtually a turnkey operation is anything but! Ms. Geltz is also entertaining the notion of giving the

school a new name: Tuskawilla Learning Center! The move, with or without a new name will happen, however. Both the school personnel and we simply must be patient.

Park Lake Academy says it is "an Eco-Friendly Facility offering a safe environment while providing the latest in childhood education." They are the first school in Seminole County to introduce The InvestiGator Club Pre-Kindergarten Learning System which is a "culturally rich program providing a fully integrated preschool education in literacy, math, science, social studies, oral language, fine arts, and music. Children are taught basic readiness skills such as the alphabet, numbers, shapes, and colors, and they are also encouraged to experiment, build structures, appreciate fine art, sing and dance, and engage in dramatic play."

The school's hours will be from 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM. with full and partial enrollment available to children ages six weeks through twelve years. The school offers infant and toddler programs, free three and six-hour VPK programs, summer programs and before and after school programs.

The school is over two years old, having first opened to children in May, 2008. It started out as the brainchild of Brigida Geltz' sister who had been a school director for 20 years. Brigida was a businesswoman in construction, and she could bring the business sense into the operation. Once Brigida and her partner, Victor Ponte, got the school up and running, Brigida decided she loved this work, and she and Victor have been devoted to it ever since.



Member Businesses

JAN'S Deer Run Mobile Notary

407-951-7874
Casselberry, FL
Judy Nielsen, Notary Public



Aire-Master

407-977-0373 (Office)
407-376-0618 (Cell)
metroorlando@airemaster.com
Chris Lilly, Owner



Don't you want your business listing here?
All you have to do is e-mail your business information to lilabuchanan@cfl.rr.com, and you will see it here in our next issue.





TUMC Food Ministries - Continued

The Food Bank

The TUMC Friday Food Bank set another service record for August. We began the month serving 182 families followed by 190, 195 and on Friday, Aug. 27 we served a record 201 families! That totalled 768 families for the month. And we thought July was big when we served over 470 families! The food bank is indeed doing God's work each and every Friday.

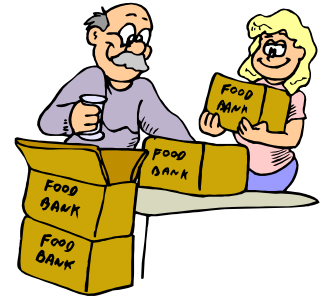
This work would not be done at all if it were not for the volunteers who constantly range both in age and in numbers. Those numbers we serve weekly are achieved because of the 40 to 50 or so people who give of their time and energy each week doing what turns out to be hard work.

In case you have never seen the food bank in action, here's what typically happens. Every Friday morning, Tim Bateman, Dan Jones and/or Charlie Senn visit Second Harvest to select and purchase food. They bring it to the church around noon, and volunteers unload it, take it inside Fellowship Hall where other volunteers place it on tables for distribution.

Meanwhile, the helpers doing their duties at the registration table are preparing their books and materials so that people can sign in, beginning at 2:00. By that time, 75 people, give or take a few, are waiting outside. During the afternoon, others come, often just before the doors close at 5:00. Once people are let into the building, the lines get long, sometimes two and three deep. Yet, the volunteers continue to smile, in spite of the fact they are huddled against the wall where the air conditioning can't get through because of the crowd of people hovering over them. The food

recipients then sit in chairs set up for them while they wait for their numbers to be called. Judy Nielsen does a bang-up job organizing this effort, answering questions and keeping the people moving. Good work, Judy and crew!

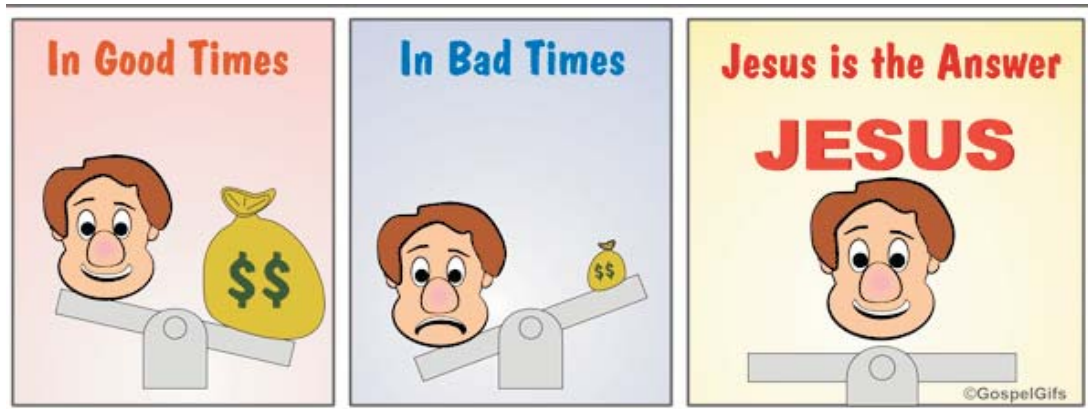
Then we have the cart pullers! God must especially smile on them because on August 20, the temperature at 3:00, our beginning time, was well into the 90's, and during the afternoon it brushed up to and into the 100's. Yet, the cart pullers continued their work taking people through the lines and out to their cars to put their food into their vehicles. In spite of the heat, the pullers showed friendly faces and willing hands. This work is exhausting, and the pullers' drooping shoulders was clear evidence of the effort being put forth.



And, finally, the volunteers who hand out the food must be recognized for their tireless efforts. Typically, they are on their feet for four or more hours, smiling and talking to the recipients passing through the lines and *never* complaining. Yet, they sometimes move very heavy boxes from one spot to the tables they are working, and they are constantly making sure their tables are filled until the food is gone. Some, if not all, of the recipients know that as they pass through the line, they are being treated by God's disciples.

Thanks and praise are due to all these volunteers, no matter what work they do every Friday and no matter how they managed to make their way to TUMC. A number of them are people who have been invited by TUMC volunteers, and, of course, a lot of them, especially the cart pullers, are from our youth or

college and career groups. Regardless of where the volunteers come from, TUMC extends its thanks to every one of them and thanks to God for all of them! This is truly God's work. The volunteers are merely the disciples.





From Our Youth

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your donation to my mission trip this summer. I spent a week in Carthage, Mississippi, leading Vacation Bible School with children from the Choctaw Indian Tribe. Although it is always an amazing experience, this year surpassed every other year that I've been. For one, we had 105 people in an incredibly small space by Friday. That's at least 20 more kids than we usually have. In my classroom alone, I had 18 on the lowest day and 23 on the highest. Of course, with 20+ kids all between the ages of 5 and 8, things get a little wild. Not to mention, I was the only team member from our church who was in the room all day. Even though I had help from other people coming in and out throughout the day and a few Choctaw leaders, I never felt like I had enough help.

Throughout the week we taught the kids about the life of Jesus through Bible lessons, games, and crafts. They seemed to enjoy it, as they do every year. The growth we see in the kids through the week is amazing. In my class, there was one boy and one girl in particular who stood out from the rest. The boy's name is Zaire, and he is nine years old. Two years ago he came to Bible School and was a terror. He ran

around relentlessly and wouldn't listen to anyone. Throughout this week he was well behaved and half way through began asking constantly if there was anything he could do to help and even wanted to help lead the lesson. He had surprised everyone by rising to the level of a leader. The girl's name is Sissy and she is five years old, just going into Kindergarten. She spent the entire week trying to keep the kids in control. She also helped teach one of the lessons, yelling to ask the questions because it was so loud in the classroom. These were just a couple of the places that I saw God throughout the week. I also saw Him working through each member of our team as we worked together to manage the 80 something kids we had every day.

The trip was not only about being up with the Choctaw, though. We spent the weekend before in Panama City at the beach for a retreat. While we were there, we spent a lot of time relaxing and hanging out at the beach. However, we did all participate in a devotional program, in which we talked about asking, seeking, knocking and delighting in God. It was a really good experience, in which I learned a lot about myself and my relationship with God.

Thank you again for your prayers and donations. Especially with all the extra kids we had and all the extra food we had to buy, we couldn't have done it without you!

Thank you so much!!

Torie Cunningham

The Last Word

This has been Volume I, Issue 2 of our newsletter, now named *TUMC Sharing News*. I hope you have enjoyed it and are looking forward to October's version, due to be published in October.

My thanks to all who have contributed to make this issue full of news, notes and information designed to give you an idea of what's happening at TUMC. If you have read the articles, you know who took the time and made the effort to stock this issue with information that is hopefully meaningful to you.

Looking ahead to the next issue, I hope you will feel free to e-mail me content, suggestions, tips, information, etc. - whatever you want to go into this newsletter. TUMC Sharing News isn't my publica-



tion; it is yours. It is merely produced by TUMC's Communications Committee for your information and enjoyment.

If you know someone you want to receive the newsletter, please just e-mail me the address at:

lilabuchanan@cfl.rr.com. We all know people who might be interested in coming

to visit us should they know the good things that are happening here. So please just send me the addresses.

This is only one source of information on the Internet about TUMC that is easily accessed. Also check out our website at tumcfl.org and on Facebook.

That's it for this issue. If you are reading this, you have probably spent some time on all the pages. Thank you. I hope you have enjoyed it.

Lila Buchanan, Editor