

Covenant United Methodist Church
 3701 S. Clyde Morris Boulevard
 Port Orange FL 32129

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Covenant Corner

United Methodist Church

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Covenant United Methodist Church

March 2008

We Count Our Blessings For Volunteers

by Sue Macchiarella



On February 9th, 2007, Covenant UMC held its annual Volunteer Celebration Thank-You Dinner and "Show". With over 100 volunteers in attendance, the Fellowship Hall was well occupied. The entrance to and inside the Fellowship Hall were decorated in red, pink, and white with hearts everywhere. The tables were adorned with lily centerpieces which were in heart decorated clear vases with clear glass pebbles and a light in the water to cast a warm glow. Mardi gras beads and glasses of kisses enhanced the theme of "We Love Our Volunteers."

After a dinner of ham and chicken marsala, mashed potatoes, corn pudding, and more, catered by Aunt Catfish, we made our way to the Sanctuary for the evenings entertainment provided by a VERY GRATEFUL staff. Beginning the entertainment and opening the show was a foot stomping, hand clapping, lightshow and ever excited staff jumping around to "Get Ready for This."

Between vignettes of "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader,"- "The Attack of the Killer Tongue" and infamous "Grapevine" routine (which we hope did not put anyone into counseling from seeing the Senior Pastor in white tights and a garbage bag) were snippets of Trunk Monkey and a license plate game.

One of the highlights of the night was a video that showcased the many faces of Covenant volunteers and the many ways they serve. Volunteers left the celebration in awe of the amazing talent (said with tongue in cheek) and a handful of thank-you gifts which included: heart

magnets, glasses of kisses, mardi gras bead necklaces, centerpieces, full stomachs, and best of all happy hearts!



It is important for all of us to remember that volunteers at Covenant serve in every aspect of church life, administration, and leadership. Volunteers save Covenant thousands of

dollars every year and hundreds of work hours through their service. Without volunteers, Covenant would not be able to run nor be able to perform ministry.

If you would like to volunteer, next time you are here, look around you... chances are that you are talking to a volunteer. The best way to volunteer is talk to another volunteer (staff will work, too) and find out how to get started. Our Volunteer Coordinator, Molly Motley, will be manning the Information Booth in the narthex on Sunday, March 16, 2008 if you would like to learn more. There is no better gift then giving of yourself to help another. Christ is our Lord, prayer is our desire, and

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEART OF COVENANT.



See pictures page 11

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E-MAIL:
 umc@jesusatcovenant.org

OFFICE PHONE:
 (386) 767-8544
 FAX: (386) 322-9150

His Resurrection Services

PALM SUNDAY
 March 16—8:30; 10:00; 11:00 a.m.

GOOD FRIDAY
 March 21—

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
 March 23 —6:00 a.m.




Web Page: www.jesusatcovenant.org



For The Children...

Florida United Methodist Children's Home
Where Children Come First!



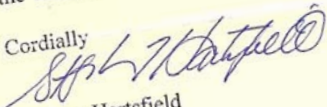
Covenant United Methodist Church
3701 S Clyde Morris Blvd
Port Orange, FL 32129-2319

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your kind and gracious gift of scrapbooking materials to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. During this Christmas season your generous giving means so much to this ministry. Each and every day we are reaching out in Christian compassion to all the children in our care.

The Russian novelist Dostoyevsky said, "The soul is healed by being with children." This is especially true during the Christmas season. The staff of the Children's Home considers it an honor and privilege to work with each child. We will do our best to make sure this will be a Christmas to remember for every boy and girl at the Home. The campus is arrayed in lights. The cottages are decorated. Special meals will be enjoyed. Gifts will be given and received. Most important of all, the children in our care will hear the Christmas story and learn the real reason we celebrate this season.


Please know that your support is greatly appreciated. We are caring for hurting children 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. May your soul also be healed by the knowledge that your gift is making a difference. All of us at the Children's Home hope you have a joyous and loving Christmas.

Cordially

Stephen Hartsfield

Constituent ID: 355578EC
Gift Date: 12/24/2007
Gift Amount: \$0.00 *Thank you!*
Gift Type:

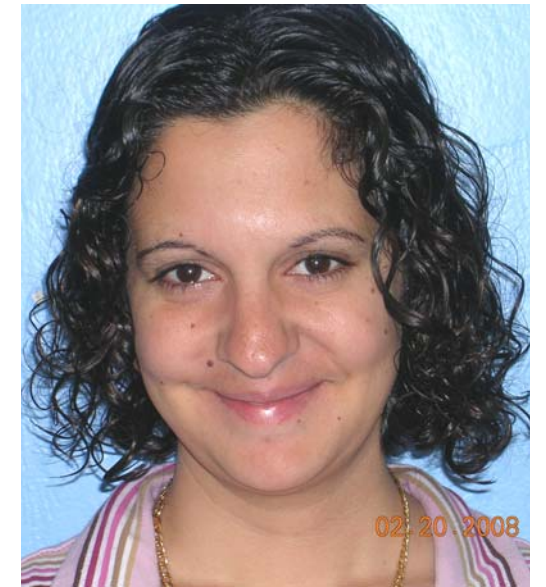
Pursuant to Internal Revenue Code requirements for substantiation of charitable contributions, the church provided no goods or services in return for these contributions except intangible religious benefits. This Children's Home is registered with the State of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Solicitation of Contributions Section with a registration number of SC-01628.

51 Main Street ♦ Enterprise, Florida 32725 ♦ Telephone: 386.668.4774 ♦ Fax: 386.668.4486 ♦ www.fumch.org



SPOTLIGHT ON...

Christine Alba Jarvis
Nursery Team Leader



I am very thrilled to join the team at Covenant United Methodist Church! I feel very lucky to have been chosen, out of the well-qualified applicants, to be your new nursery coordinator / supervisor of volunteers. This job is an honor for me and I look forward to meeting all of you and your children.

I am originally from a small town in Connecticut, called Stratford. I have been living in Port Orange for about 5 years. I have come to find it is very different living in the south but I love it. I have been married for almost 3 years to a wonderful husband (Donnie) and we have a beautiful little girl named Angelina!

I will be 28 March 13th. I got my first daycare job at the age of 16 as an aid and have been working with kids ever since. After high school I went on to a local Community college and earned an AA in Early Childhood Education and Development, while working full time as the head teacher of a 2-year-old class room. I also was a nanny at night and on weekend for some of the kids from my school. I love children (always have since I was a little girl) and knew I wanted to be a teacher. At the age of 20 I got the opportunity to start my own infant class room. I wasn't sure at first if that was for me but I am so glad I took the risk and decided to challenge myself and leave my comfort zone of the older kids. It was one of the greatest experiences of my life and I will never forget the joy I felt being able to provide the needs of the 4 infants in my care. I would hold them and rock them and look into their sweet little faces, knowing they are our future and they were getting a good start. Their mothers had to work and they deserved the best care I could provide during the day. I truly felt blessed.

The hardest decision I ever had to make was moving away from home and giving up that job. All my family is still up north and I miss them everyday. I feel happy joining a new type of family at Covenant. I worked in South Daytona at Holy Cross for 2 years when I first moved here, then took time off to get married and start my family.

I have been watching kids on and off for the past 3 years in my home while being a stay-at-home mom (my number one priority) .Birth to three are the most important and vital times in the life of a child and Angelina will be 3 in June. I am accomplishing my goal.

I love spending time with my family and friends. I like the simple life... staying home and just spending quality time. We love to play at Reed Canal Park and at the beach. I love to just spent time with my daughter and watch her reactions to the amazing world around her.

Children have always fascinated me. They are tiny adults and when you take time to talk with them you are amazed at how smart they are. With their clean-slate way of looking at the world with no fear and an abundance of possibilities before them, all children deserve the best and I feel that is my job here...along with the other staff in the nursery... to provide your children with the best care we can give. As a team leader I am ready to begin that mission. If you have any questions, ideas, comments, or would just like to meet me, please call the office and leave a message for Christine Jarvis. Have a wonderful day and God bless.

"Growing in Christ...Reaching out with Love!"