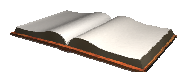


## HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD Sing with me...



God is so good to us. Even when we are doubtful, He is absolutely faithful. Are we that faithful? In His Word we are told to pray for our country and our leaders. Next week when the results of the election are in please remember that "God Is In Control" and continue to pray for our nation.

All the prayer ministries: prayer chain, prayer vigil, prayer groups, altar workers, etc. are invited to our

**Fall Gathering Saturday, November 22**

**10 AM until 11:30 AM**

We will have coffee, juice, and yes, food . .

It is always encouraging to get together with our fellow intercessors and our Pastor to hear what God is doing. Please plan to join us.

As we pray for the people of our world, and our economy there are two websites I would recommend. They are daily prayer assignments and the take about one minute each.

A Scripture is listed, and then a prayer that you should read out loud, because it calls upon the promises of God and it builds our faith to hear ourselves speak it out. No need to shout, just speak it out. God formed the earth by speaking it into creation; give it a try after all you are made in His image.

The sites are:

<http://prayercentral.net/baghdad>  
<http://prayercentral.net/economy>

You can sign up to have either or both sent to you each day. The Baghdad site issues prayer for the people of Baghdad and our soldiers. The economy site was new a few weeks ago and is amazing in its scope.

Just a note on Friday, November 21 the sanctuary will be occupied from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM. So during that time the prayer vigil will take place in your hearts where ever you are. With love and prayer,

Carol Faircloth

### September Facts:

**Income \$45,969      Expenses \$71,089**

Sept Average church attendance 440

Sept Average Children's Church attendance 25

## MEMBERS OF OUR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

We are very proud of those who serve on the Leadership Council at Covenant UMC. Their responsibilities are the overall administration and programming for the church.

Listed here are our Council members and their area(s) of responsibility:

- Kathy Addison, Evangelism
- Leonard Addison, Staff Parish
- Ida Carveth, Adult Ministries
- Jon Domeij, Member at large
- Carol Faircloth, Prayer and "Sacred Spaces"
- Kathy Freeman, Co-Chair Trustees
- Sue Macchiarella, Administration/ Missions & Outreach
- Frank Mercer, Council Chairman/ Worship / Lay Leader
- Vic Miller, Co-Chair Trustees
- Molly Motley, Volunteer Coordinator
- Paul Pollock, Senior Pastor
- Leigh Slayback, Worship & Music
- Donna Spencer, Education and Youth
- Joan Varley, Council Secretary & Attendance Records
- Kay Wingard, Missions/Outreach/ Ushers & Greeters

## 2008 COVENANT TRUSTEES

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Pat Conway     | Vic Miller     |
| Kathy Freeman  | Richard Motley |
| Bill Fricke    | Jack Weiler    |
| James Harbour  | Lee Schneider  |
| Charles Hinman | Doug Simmons   |



## Ponderings With Pastor Paul

*Pastor Paul's report given to Charge Conference, October 20, 2008*

Studies have shown that it takes about 18 months for a congregation to successfully make it through one new transition. Our congregation has, with God's help, made it through a number of transitions in past years. Now we're going through several more transitions all at the same time. This means that now, MORE THAN EVER, prayer will have to be a vital ingredient in our congregation! MORE THAN EVER responsible action will be required!

One of the major transitions that we're going through during the next eighteen months to three years will be the pure joy and excitement of giving birth to a new congregation that has the same D.N.A. found right here at Covenant U.M.C. If you believe that Covenant is unique in the United Methodist Church, then you realize what an exciting privilege GOD has given us to "birth" another congregation with one of our own "home-grown" pastors and with a nucleus that is dominantly comprised of our own new people. PRAISE GOD FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY AND ADVENTURE!! Once again, these days will have to be bathed in MUCH prayer; wise and responsible action will be our only course of action. The Psalmist declares, "Unless The LORD builds the house, those who labor will labor in vain."

Our new church is officially been named, Venetian Bay Community Church. It's being developed under the watchful care and guidance of The U.M. Florida Conference, AND The New Church Development Team of The East Central District.

Of course, all this is happening THROUGH the amazing ability of The Holy Spirit at work in Rev. Rebecca Hyvonen and the new leadership team on site just west of New Smyrna Beach. God has been opening doors in a marvelous way! Many of the initial people who form the nucleus of the new church start are the very same people we know and love who have been with us at Covenant. We strongly encourage every person at Covenant who has a new church passion and a pioneer spirit to make a three year commitment to join GOD in this new work. Both Rebecca's Leadership Team and ours here at the "mother church"

believe that in three years (2011) there will be great joy and celebration seeing what GOD HAS DONE in BOTH the "mother" and the "daughter" churches. Once again, PRAYER AND RESPONSIBLE ACTION IS NEEDED!

Leadership roles and job descriptions will, by necessity, be changing during the next eighteen months. We'll have fewer people on our leadership staff at the "mother church" for the immediate future. Part of this is due to sending Pastor Rebecca into a new outreach setting; another reason is simply that we need to be fiscally responsible in every area of our life at Covenant. One day we'll need more staff. Then we'll have to create a position especially designed to engage the youth in our community. We'll also have to find another unique person who will help shape, and give direction to, Evangelism, Discipleship, Small Groups, and Pastoral Care. Once again, PRAYER will be needed to find the right people for such tasks.

One of our biggest challenges will continue be in the area of wise stewardship: to challenge our people in the growing area of financial support and pay off our mortgage as soon as possible. To this end a special team was formed last spring with the idea in mind that an approach for Healthy Living and Healthy Giving Stewardship would permeate our congregation during the next three to five years. PRAYER and faithful responses will be needed from ALL of us.

We have the privilege of being part of God's work that VERY few United Methodist Churches ever realize: starting another church. It's a big responsibility that is obviously greater that we can do ourselves; it's GOD-sized! There will be sacrifices that we will have to allow GOD to make in OUR lives in order to be outwardly focused and still reach for the goal of becoming a "healthy Body of Believers UNDER The LORDSHIP of Jesus Christ."

As Frank Mercer sometimes says, "Having said that" let me conclude by reminding all of us that this is actually quite simple because our focus is only two-fold: (1) Strongly supporting our daughter church with people, resources, and PRAYER, while (2) Successfully "navigating" the transitions at Covenant as we keep "our eyes FIXED on Jesus!" IT WILL ALL BE WELL WORTH IT!

"Soli Deo Gloria!"  
 ("All to the glory of God!")

**Trustees Corner:**

The Trustees held their meeting on October 6, 2008. The following topics and their ongoing progress was reported :

- 1) Cell Tower Completion
- 2) Fellowship Hall Sound Panels
- 3) Storm Damage Assessments
- 4) Vans Report As It Relates To Cost of Operations and Maintenance

The next major project will be the fall clean up for the entire Church property. The clean up is scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2008 between 8AM and 12PM. Please mark your calenders. Support from as many CUMC servants as possible would be greatly appreciated.

Ongoing revenue producers include receipts from restaurant, Beef O'Brady's for Wednesday dining by CUMC servants and cell phone donations that were received during the prior month. Approximately 40 phones were received and the Love Fund greatly appreciates all the support.

Thank you to all CUMC servants for your continued interest and have a Blessed Day.

James L Harbour, Trustee

**FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME**

Join us as we go in the church van to visit the FUMC Children's Home for the purpose of putting up their Christmas lights.

**Tuesday, Nov.18**

We will be leaving the church @ 5:30 PM, returning @9:30 PM. Call church office or Charmaine (756-3762) to sign up.

**Covenant United Methodist Church**

Offers members and visitors three Sunday morning worship services and a Wednesday evening service, plus Faith Building Classes for adults and children

**FAITH BUILDING CLASSES/ ADULTS & CHILDREN....9:45 WORSHIP SERVICE.....8:30, 10:00 and 11:00 SERVING A GROWING CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION**

- Rev. Paul Pollock.....Senior Pastor
- Leigh Slayback..... Director of Music Ministry
- Nate Mudge.....Media Director
- Donna Spencer.....Education & Youth Ministry
- Rick Rosengrant .....Maintenance
- Jim Saucier.....Maintenance
- Sue Macchiarella.....Administrative Director
- Elaine Kinion.....Administrative Assistant

**- MINISTERS - ALL PEOPLE OF OUR CONGREGATION**

**- NEWSLETTER -**

Kitty Maiden, Editor

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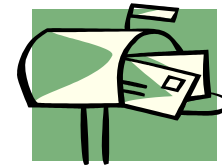
*kitink@bellsouth.net*

**The church office is open Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.; Fri 9:00 a.m.– 12 noon**

**Phone (386) 767-8544**

**[www.jesusatcovenant.org](http://www.jesusatcovenant.org)**

**EMAIL: [umc@jesusatcovenant.org](mailto:umc@jesusatcovenant.org)**



**FROM THE MAILBAG**

*Words cannot express what I am feeling as this is being written. A thank you is just not strong enough; but thank you is what I am saying for the respect and love that was shown to Ron at his "Celebration of Life" Service on September 6th. It was absolutely a wonderful closure to a wonderful life. I also at this time want to thank all those people who sent cards of sympathy and love to me as well as my sister, Barbara. I am saving everyone of them and periodically go back and read them again. We may be over 400 miles away now, but the Covenant Family and the Emmaus Community Family will stay in my heart for always. May God continue looking down on all of you and show you His love.*

*Eleanor White*

Covenant United Methodist Church Family,

I would like to thank you for your prayers during my recent battle with the cancer I have been dealing with for the past thirteen years. I have a rare cancer located in the sinus area in my head that very few people in the Medical Industry know little about (Esthesioneuroblastoma). But that hasn't stopped the Lord from opening many doors for me in dealing with it over the years. The power of prayer played a bit part in me still being here today. Not only has my FAITH grown over this period of time but my understanding that God does listen to our prayers and responds to them in his timing and not always ours. I just completed 4 months of Chemotherapy in Shands Hospital at the University of Florida in Gainesville. I'm happy to announce that my latest MRI indicated that my cancer is in remission. I believe the Lord has answered your prayers and I thank you for that.

Worshipping a loving God (our Creator) who has walked with me every step of the way has helped me get through the rough times. His never-ending Love is my salvation.

Thank you again for your prayers.

Ed and Helen Briones

*We are truly blessed to have found this church family.*

**God Rocks at Red Bird**

By Marty Robertson

As always our God is an awesome God and worked wonders during our week at Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky. Red Bird is a Methodist complex in the heart of Appalachia-- America's Third World. It's comprised of a work camp, medical clinic, school, senior community center, thrift store, and gift shop selling local artisan wares. Our trip began with God orchestrating security that our destination would be reached. One of the team members was unable to go at the last moment and the slot was filled with Jack Redman volunteering his services. It was a call from God. We decided to go an alternate route in order to view Jack and Dottie's new condo in Maryville Tennessee. While in Maryville the church van, which had just been serviced prior to departure, began making terrible noises and we were able to take the van to Jack's son's car dealership. They generously lent us (free of charge) another vehicle to complete our mission even paying for the repair. We were able to continue on without missing any days of service at Red Bird. We were so grateful to the Redman family for their kindness and generosity. We discovered God's miraculous hand of protection was on us when we picked up the van and discovered the calibers had not been bolted into the brake system at the servicing in Daytona. We had driven more than 500 miles on the verge of losing our entire brake system. Thank you. Lord.

Back at Red Bird our team of ten headed by Rhoda Kollar served in various areas. In the work camp the team, under the direction of Paul Johnson, laid linoleum, worked on a wooden deck and painted a home. Covenant workers also worked in the thrift store, the gift store, meals on wheels, the senior center and the medical center. They spoke with people, hugged and loved them and witnessed to them about the love of our Lord Jesus. Talent night among the 100 or so camp workers proved to be a great success with our swim wear T-shirts and song (although we botched it we did get the most laughs and applause). We kept up the old Covenant motto "we take our faith seriously but not ourselves". If you want to be a part of a mission where age or disabilities don't matter, where you can receive greater blessings than you give, and where you can make a difference in others lives, then come to Red Bird next year. (As our chorus on our talent night song said--to the tune of "Let's go surfing now" by the Beach Boys)..... Let's go serving now Everybody's learning how Come to Red Bird with me!!!!