

University Evangelical Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry

The Lampstand

March 2018

Our Mission

UELC's Mission:

To Embrace and Share the Love of God in Jesus Christ, as God Empowers us.

UELC's Guiding Principles:

Jesus is our Lord and Saviour; therefore, we are to:

- > Worship God in inspiring, diverse, and creative ways
- > Be a community engaged in spiritual practices that attune us to the Holy Spirit's guidance for our living
- > Welcome all people in their diversity to worship, learn, and serve with us
- > Be a safe place to learn, explore, and debate
- > Be generous stewards of the gifts God has given each of us to bless others and care for the natural world
- > Continue outreach to, and further develop connections with, the academic communities of Alachua County
- > Affirm human rights and work for social justice



Pastor's Corner

Yes, There is time! Take Time to Be...

This phrase, "Yes, there is time!" sounds like denial of reality or wishful thinking in our fast-paced, driven world. But this is not new. The ancient proverb, "Time and tide wait for no man (sic)", still drives the modern world.

We are counselled to "redeem the time". "Time is a precious commodity (sic)", they say. "We don't have all the time in the world", we say to our children. "There are only so many hours in the day!", others exclaim as they rush from one place to the next; one chore to the next. Calendars and timetables, whether on our phones, in our purses or hanging on the wall. Clocks displayed prominently in our houses and in public space, dictating our pace. All in the name of efficiency and progress, we say.

Last week, I sat on my back porch in the middle of the night listening to the rain fall on the roof and on the bed of dead leaves accumulated over time. Through the dim light I'd turned on, I also noticed the new bright-eyed little leaves seeming to appear out of nowhere on my

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Join Our Mailing List

April Newsletter Deadline

Please send any articles for the April newsletter by March 30th to Andy Noss
andrew.noss@yahoo.com

March Worship Volunteers

Altar Guild

March 4 Elaine Manion

March 11 Joan Anderson

March 18 Anna Grace

MontMarquette

March 25 Mary Lou Schirmer /

Jackie Klein

Greeters

March 4 Andy Noss

March 11 Krissi / Dan Norford

March 18 Pat / Ron Gordon

March 25 Alice / Bruce

Simpson

Lay Assistants

March 4 Ron Bauldree / Jim

Yale

March 11 Becky / Sam Borgert

March 18 Pat Dasler / Nathan

Gross

lemon tree that had looked all but dead after the rare freeze of February. Little flowers and buds also appearing, to restore the long-lost beauty of other barren bushes. A refreshing cool breeze swept through nature's corridor. I heard the squirrels scuttering through the row of trees and shrubs that have become their highway over time. They navigate their way, always seeming to hurry around, yet stopping intentionally to raise their curious heads as if to be still statues for a fleeting second.

I was in bliss! Not feeling the fleeting of time but taking a moment "to smell the roses", so to speak. I was in heaven! Then a line from a hymn by William D Longstaff filled my mind and blessed my soul: "Take time to be holy, the world rushes by..."

I entered the throne room of God and it was as if Time was a statue standing still... This Lent, let's not allow time to dictate our pace, but let's dictate time's pace. The frenetic frenzy of the fast-paced world mires the mind, jealously jousting for our joy. Don't give up your joy. Here the words of this great hymn:

*Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,
Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.*

*Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
Spend much time in secret, with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be;
Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.*

*Take time to be holy, let Him be thy Guide;
And run not before Him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.*

*Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,
Each thought and each motive beneath His control.
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above*

Lenten Blessings in Jesus Christ, Pastor Terrance

President's Message

What a blessing we are all receiving from the Holden services during Lent and the music program being provided by JiHye Han and Crystal Jacob! Pastor Jacob is also working hard with Andy Finn and Martin Vala to provide a working sound system.

In March we will celebrate the blessings of the long-time ministry of Deacon Shari O'Brien and engage in a few new ministry initiatives. The appreciation program for Shari's multi-faceted ministry will begin with a potluck after church on Palm Sunday, March 25, and will include a few speakers and a couple of surprises. Jackie Klein is helping me coordinate the program.

Just before this issue of the *Lampstand* was published, however, the congregational council began an initiative to reach out to congregational members who have not often been seen recently. Council members will individually check to see how members are doing and whether there is anything the church can do to help them or whether they are ready to be more active as the church engages in renewal. The effort will also serve to help update the congregational membership roster as required by the synod.

The church Council in February adopted plans to enhance the security of congregational members in addition to the enhanced parking lot lighting already authorized. Cece Noss has written an article elsewhere in this newsletter summarizing a recent program of LIFT, when Ray Davis assessed our church buildings' security. Ray reviewed materials provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security letting people know what to do to prepare for, and protect ourselves, in the case of an outside shooter situation. Materials handed out at LIFT will be made available to all members of the congregation, and congregational members will be given an opportunity to inform themselves of what to do if we should face an active shooter situation in our church. Church leaders will work with local law enforcement officials to develop a protocol for our congregation in the case of a crisis.

March 25 Krissi Norford / Otto Johnston

Lectors

March 4 Sam Brill
March 11 Joan Anderson
March 18 Krissi Norford
March 25 Nathan Gross

Sound Assistants

March 4 Dan Norford
March 11 Sam Brill
March 18 Sam Brill
March 25 Dan Norford

Ushers

March 4 Jeanne / Bill Chamberlin
March 11 Ron Fourman / Andy Noss
March 18 Sam Brill / Phil Noss
March 25 Gene Brandner / John MontMarquette

Counters

March 4 Ron Gordon / Andy Noss
March 11 Donna Day / Dan Norford
March 18 Gene Brander / John MontMarquette
March 25 Sherrie Kirk / Phil Noss

Still Collecting Diapers!

We are still collecting infant/toddler diapers for Gainesville Community Ministry. You can put them in the lime green container in the Kaiser Center.

Gainesville Community Ministry says they often get plenty of newborn and small infant diapers, but not a lot of the larger size (fitting 20 pounds and up).

So, if you could, donate some of the larger sizes.

If you have questions, you can contact Krissi Norford.

While congregational leaders do not expect an active shooter situation in one of our buildings, we recognize our location and activism might make us a target. After hearing about the presentations of Davis and Bill Phoule, who specializes in personal protection, at LIFT, the Council voted against an armed presence on the UELC campus. An armed presence often antagonizes a person who has a mindset to shoot, and it is difficult to prepare for the armament a shooter might bring. A shootout between a bad guy and "good guys" risks too many lives in a crowd. Both alarm systems and armed security officers are expensive and often an ineffective way to rebuff an attack. Davis, Phoule, and Homeland Security recommend running if possible, hiding in a secured location if possible, and fighting en masse or with any object available only as last alternative. Most importantly, experts recommend using cell phones to call 911, calls which are monitored every Sunday morning by law enforcement units in the area.

The Council also heard reports from Vibeke Vala and Pastor Jacob on the development of a Sanctuary Congregation at Westminster Presbyterian Church. The program is still in the development stage, and no candidates for sanctuary have been identified. The Pastor encouraged interested congregational members to participate in the Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Just (IAIJ), which meets Mondays at the local Mennonite church. Joan Anderson attends regularly.

Pastor Jacob announced that Vibeke Vala will head a new church website initiative. She is working with a team that includes the pastor, Janet Janke, Andy Noss, and me. In order to allow Vibeke to lead the website effort, Ron Gordon and Krissi Norford have agreed to help her with the minutes.

Bill

UELCL People



March Birthdays

3/4	Adam Jeffers
3/4	Cate O'Malley
3/7	Amy Schirmer
3/11	Georganne Watson
3/12	Cassandra Lipka-Leite
3/20	Beverly Gronwall
3/24	Wesley Noss
3/28	Martin Vala

Special Prayer Concerns

- Prayers for healing: Al Schilling.
- Janette Burkhardt, sister of Carol Dienhart, in Wisconsin.

2018 Council



Ash Wednesday Service



Lenten Services





Adult Forum



Where are they now?

WE DECIDED WE WANT TO ADVENTURE TOGETHER FOREVER!



Jordan Pugh [2008 Alum—Environmental Science] engaged to [Nic Tedio](#)
at [St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge](#)
18 Feb 2018

Jordan and Nic live in Tallahassee

Appreciation Sunday for Deacon Shari O'Brien

Sunday, March 25, 2018 at UELC

Immediately after the 10:25 a.m. Service,

A potluck lunch and program will be held in the Kaiser Center, recognizing the outstanding, dedicated service of Deacon Shari O'Brien, particularly during the time of transition between our last full-time pastor and Pastor Jacob.

Join us as we pay tribute to Shari's wide ranging commitment to UELC in worship, campus ministry, the adult forum, the Bee, LIFT, social outreach and the many times she completed special projects on behalf of the church in the absence of a full-time pastor. While there were others who stepped forward, Shari's contribution has been outstanding, in spite of health challenges.

Please RSVP by signing up on the list in the Kaiser Center or by calling the UELC church office by March 19 to indicate your participation in the potluck lunch.

Persons are also encouraged to send or bring pictures, letters, or notes that can be placed in a **memory book for Shari**. These should be mailed or dropped off at the church office, or can be brought to the event.

Questions involving food should be directed to Caroline Yale. Questions related to other aspects of the event should be directed to Jackie Klein, Bill Chamberlin or Pastor Terrance Jacob.

Vibeke Vala's invitations

Dear Friends,

Spring is the time for new beginnings. Your council is busily tackling ways to revitalize our community of Faith, and so many of our church family members are involved. Here is an opportunity to get more involved:

Concurrent with the facelift of our campus we are embarking on a path to also refresh our Web presence. And to that effect I am asking for your help.

Our beautiful Sanctuary and all its treasures deserve to be commemorated. I trust that many of you will be able to recall details of the history of our church so that I may be able to reserve a section on our website for just that.

It is also my hope that I can rely on all of you to send me brief descriptions of the many activities in which you engage at church so that we can disseminate information about all our community efforts to the general public who may visit our site: Family Promise, The Bee, Adult Forum, LIFT, the Lazarus Project.....etc

However, the information I seek will not only serve as web posts but will also be incorporated into the "Manual" for lack of a better word the I am in the process of putting together.

Both website and manual are intended to enlighten all of us, visitors and new members alike about who we are and what we do in the service of the Lord. Here are some ideas to help jar you memory:

- Who founded our church? And when?
- Who were our Pastors from the very beginning?
- In the 70's there was a beautiful sculpture in the garden. Who was the artist and what happened to it? It served as the illustration of our newsletters "the Shepherd's Purse."
- There was a café/coffee house in the education building? What was "The Bent Card" all about?
- Our Early childhood center and Sunday Nursery?
- Who established the current vegetable garden and what is its purpose?
- The history and design of the Sanctuary?
- The beautiful bronze dove and its mate, a Chalice on opposite sacristy walls? The tree with bronze leaves on the rear wall?
- The banners - who stitched them and what do they symbolize?
- The baptismal font and the light overhead?
- The organ? I remember that was repaired in the late 90's as Lars (our oldest son) went to NYC to pick up pipes.

I will include the history of the 1902 House as Martin and I were intimately involved in its acquisition while Roger Murgatroyd (Becky Borgert's father) and Martin had a year long affair renovating the old structure to its present glory.

So anything at all that you recall will be so helpful. Maybe you still have contact with former members who might help shed light on our precious history?

Please send me your recollections: vibekewilken@gmail.com or write them down and leave in my box in the office. You may also mail them to me at Vibeke Vala, 3432 NW 11th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605.

Some of you may recall that I made a request last year and I have yet to acquire your treasure!

And now these three remain Faith, Hope and Love..... Humbly Yours, Vibeke Vala

The Bee

JOIN US ON TUESDAYS
for
"THE BEE"

WHERE: ULC KAISER CENTER

WHEN: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

WHAT: A "BEE"

**Which is a meeting for communal work and/or amusement OR
a prayer, favor, the joining of neighbors to help a neighbor in
need.**

**We will have lunch together, short devotion, and a variety of
programs to select.**

BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

COME and SEE!!!

NEED MORE INFO:

Shari soben@springmail.com or 904/710-6577

LIFT

L.I.F.T.
Lutherans in Fellowship Together
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
Thursday, March 8th
Noon
UELC, Kaiser Center

Joan Anderson will do a PowerPoint presentation on Community Connections in Gainesville, Alachua County, and the North Central Florida area. The particular focus will be on the topical issues of Immigration, "Dreamers" and the initiative called "Welcoming Gainesville". What does this all mean for us Lutherans in Gainesville?

Joan's presentation will be based on her involvement in the *Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice* (IAIJ) and *Welcoming Gainesville*.

Please bring your favorite dish to share and join us for another informative monthly fellowship.

For more information, contact Ron Bauldree at 352-378-9354

LIFT: Protecting Your Church Congregations--Tips for Improving Safety

Thirty-five people were in attendance at the February LIFT. As usual, the food was plentiful and delicious. The two invited speakers spoke on security issues. The recent mass shooting

at the Parkland, Florida high school, is yet another tragic example of a killer with a "soft target". "Soft targets" are where innocent people are gathered in places of learning, celebrating, worshipping, never expecting violence. This is why we need to become more informed.

The first speaker, Ray Davis, is a retired GPD Police Sergeant. Much of what he said about our church property was reassuring. He told the group that, before speaking, he had made the rounds of our buildings and property, and gave them high marks. He found them very secure, both outside and inside. The walls, doors and windows are heavy and offer good protection, and there are multiple entries and exists to both the sanctuary building and the Kaiser Center. The pews inside the sanctuary are heavy. As for the Kaiser Center, he noted that the doors on the offices are heavy, open outward (therefore more of a barrier to forced entry), and equipped with locks. He said the outside lighting was good. This was without knowing that Martin Vala reported in the Annual Report that purchase and installation of new solar-powered LED street lights on new poles are planned to replace the flood lights which will come down when the old utility poles are removed as part of the Northwest First Avenue renovation.

Mr. Davis told us that the GPD has a policy for their vehicles to cruise near churches on Sunday mornings, watching for anything that looks suspicious. He also said, when someone makes a 911 call about a dangerous situation, the caller needs to be patient and stay on the line when giving the location and other details, because the dispatcher is typing all the information into a computer which is received by all law enforcement vehicles operating in the city. The closest vehicles can respond very quickly.

Both speakers said we all should be aware of our surroundings wherever we are, and mentally have a plan in case there is an incident. Current advice is to flee or hide if you are able. If you are hiding, turn off your cell phone ring. If things are evolving quickly, do whatever you can to distract the attacker, throwing something at (presumably) him, or several individuals jumping on him at the same time. When law enforcement arrives, make sure your hands are empty and visible. During all this, we are advised to try to stay calm and not panic.

The second speaker was Bill Phoule. He is a former Marine, former member of a Swat team, and had been on teams offering protection to high-profile figures such as Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice when they traveled. He also runs personal defense training workshops. Consequently, he has been thinking about security and protection issues all of his adult life.

His talk touched on a wide range of personal protection issues. He said that criminals who want to make a lot of money with little risk of being caught, favor identity theft. The highest two target groups for identity theft are seniors and children, children because criminals can use their social security numbers to establish credit to make purchases, and no one is checking for breaches. As for adults, never give out personal information such as social security numbers or bank account numbers to a phone caller, no matter who the caller claims to represent, unless you have initiated the call. For home security, he suggested considering motion detector lights on the outside of your home, and also home alarm systems.

When you are in public places, always be alert to your surroundings and anything which seems strange or suspicious. He does not advise going to Walmart at night, parking at a distance from the store in an area with less lighting, and walking to the store while checking your cell phone! He warns ladies not to put their purses in shopping carts while inside stores. Would-be robbers will look for the easiest targets.

As for possible attempts at attack or abduction, Mr. Phoule said, in his experience, it isn't the potential victim's physical strength or training which has prevented a bad outcome, but it was in their quick thinking. For example, if someone is trying to force you into a car, make a lot of noise, draw attention, and at all costs do not get in a car with an abductor.

Being aware of possible risks and vulnerabilities, and having mental plans for how to deal with anything from a petty robber to a mass shooter, should make us feel more, not less, secure. Thank you to these speakers, and to the organizers.

Theology on Tap

Everyone is invited to

Theology on Tap



Monday March 12th at 6:30 PM

Come early for dinner, discussions begin at 6:30

Take the night off from cooking and join us



Enjoy great beer and drinks,
delicious food, terrific fellowship
and a chance to have friendly
conversation about Jesus, church
and life.

What we do is simple: We have a
Bible study, at a bar.



4860 NW 39th Ave.

Sponsored by

University Lutheran Church and Gethsemane Lutheran Church
ulcgainesville.com glcgainesville.com

Easter Sunday Brunch

SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY APRIL 1ST

EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH

All members, students, and friends of the congregation are invited to join together on Sunday April 1st following the worship service for a brunch. Please add you name to the signup sheet so we will be sure to set a place for you. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share that serves 12 or more. We can always use help for set up beginning at 9:00 or clean-up afterwards. Contact Caroline Yale 495-1742 if you can help.



Family Promise

Recent hosting and family update

We had an amazing show of support for our family guests last Jan/Feb with time and donations from our members who fed and accommodated four families with 11 children. We were also blessed with volunteer coverage and meals on two evenings by Holy Faith Catholic Church's youth and young adult groups. In addition to serving as volunteers, the youth group collected about 20 brand new games and puzzles and donated them to us for our hosting.



I am incredibly grateful for our volunteers who are ALL so giving and self-reliant. You make coordinating the week a joyful breeze -- truly! Of special note: Pat Dasler introduced a work colleague to Family Promise and to our church by bringing her along to volunteer one evening. The Lutheran Student Gators reportedly had a blast playing with the children on their regular Tuesday devotions evening. Thanks to Krissi and Pastor Terrance for enabling that! Our facilities also, once again, served as a beautiful safety net for these families in need.

Since then, Shontai and Eris' families have graduated from the program and found housing they can afford. Lakeisha's family relocated to Ocala where her job is. Brandi will be moving out soon, enthusiastic with a new job in a leasing office where she will also be able to live with her two boys.

For more stories of Family Promise graduates and for inspiring videos like [this one](#) visit the updated Family Promise website at <https://www.familypromisegvl.org/>



Garage sale report: Nearly \$6,000 was raised at this one-day event to which several of our members contributed goods and time. What was two years ago thought to be a one-time event in order to empty out the storage units full of donated goods collected throughout the year has turned into a very dear annual funding source hosted and organized by Trinity United Methodist Church. Thank you for your donations and patronage!

Coming events: You are welcome to join Family Promise's **ribbon cutting ceremony** for the first mobile home in the **Partners in Housing** program on March 14 with a light lunch at 11:30 am at Lamplighter MHP. A second home is being purchased soon. These will serve as transitional housing for our families who qualify.

The fourth annual **Bed Race** fundraiser will be on Saturday, May 5 at Trinity UMC. Last year, the Lutheran Student Gators raced a bed with Pastor Chad at the helm and financial support from Pat Dasler and our UELC members.

Next hosting: April 29th. Please contact me if you're interested in getting involved or have questions.

Thank you all for your continued support! Amy_Schirmer@yahoo.com

Lazarus Project Sponsorships



Lazarus Project sponsorships for students at the Village of Hope in Haiti should be renewed by the end of March. The list is growing of those who have already renewed but there still is a ways to go to meet the goal of 22 sponsorships again this year.

Sponsorships at the Village of Hope provide a child with a Christian education, uniforms, two meals each school day, and dental and medical care.

The cost to sponsor one child is \$480 a year. This can be paid annually, quarterly, or monthly at \$40 a month. Another option is for two or three people to share a sponsorship of a child.

Checks should be made out to University Lutheran Church and put in your offering envelope with the notation "Lazarus Project" on the special gift line and also on the memo line of your check. Your contribution will be reflected on your UELC statement of giving.

Watch the progress on the poster in the Narthex. As sponsorships are renewed a "smiley face" will appear on the large heart. Let's see if we can match or beat last year number of 22 sponsorships!

For additional information contact Janet Janke, Lazarus Project Coordinator at University Lutheran Church, at jrjanke147@gmail.com or 372-8610.

Thrivent Choice



Attention: Thrivent Financial Members

Thrivent Choice®

Are you a member of Thrivent Financial? Participating eligible members of Thrivent Financial can direct their funds called "Choice Dollars®" to an eligible organization, of which there are more than 20,000 churches and nonprofits enrolled. If you have earned "Choice Dollars®" in 2017, you have until March 31, 2018 to direct your fund before they expire.

Don't wait to direct

Good Friday is on March 30th and March 31st falls on Saturday. As a result, the corporate office is closed on both of these days. To ensure that Choice Dollars directions get processed before the deadline.

Two easy options for directing Choice Dollars:

- Online at www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.
- Phone: [800-847-4836](tel:800-847-4836) and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt. The Member Connection Center is open until 6 p.m. Central time, Monday – Friday.

Our Pastor and Staff

Pastor Terrance Jacob
Pastor, Congregation and Campus Ministry
pastor@ulcgainesville.com

JiHye Han
Minister of Music (Pianist / Accompanist)

rachelhan131@gmail.com

Crystal Jacob
Minister of Music (Direct Choir and music-related ministries)

Evelyn Simmons
Administrative Assistant
info@ulcgainesville.com

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 10 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
4 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Choir 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	5 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	6 11:30-1 pm The Bee	7 6 pm Lent Soup Supper 7 pm Lenten Service 7:30 Choir	8 Noon LIFT 7 pm Council	9	10 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 10 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
11 4th Sunday of Lent 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Choir 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	12 6:30 pm Theology on Tap 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	13 11:30-1 pm The Bee	14 At Gethsemane: 6 pm Lent Soup Supper 7 pm Lenten Service 7:30 Choir	15	16	17 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 10 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
18 5th Sunday of Lent 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Choir 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	19 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	20 11:30-1 pm The Bee	21 6 pm Lent Soup Supper 7 pm Lenten Service 7:30 Choir	22	23	24 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 10 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
25 Palm Sunday 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Choir 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Appreciation Potluck and Program	26 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	27 11:30-1 pm The Bee	28	29 7 pm Maundy Thursday	30 7 pm Good Friday	31 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 10 pm Alcoholics Anonymous

2018

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