

University Evangelical Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry

The Lampstand

February 2019

Our Mission

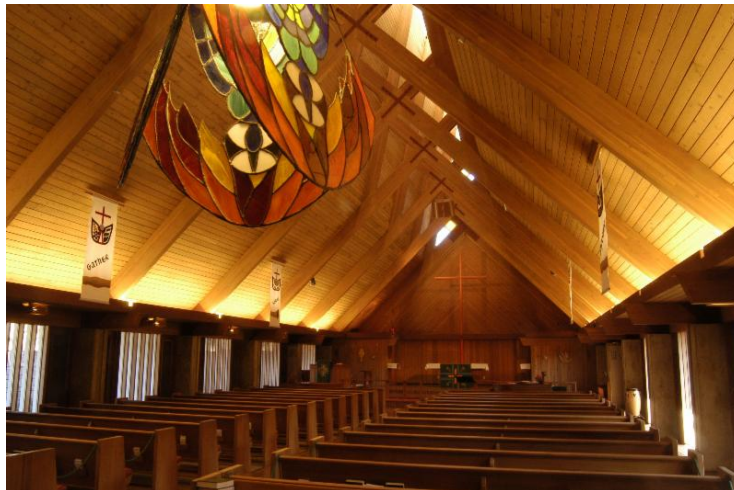
UELC's Mission:

To Embrace and Share the Love of God in Jesus Christ, as the Holy Spirit 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

Listening to God

Last month I focused on spending time in prayer. I want to take that a little deeper this time

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**Join Our
Mailing List**

**Forward To A
Friend**

March Newsletter Deadline

Please send any articles for the March newsletter by February 26th to Andy Noss
andrew.noss@yahoo.com

February Worship Volunteers

Assisting Ministers

Feb 3
Feb 10
Feb 17
Feb 24

Altar Guild

Feb 3 Anna Grace
MontMarquette
Feb 10 Joan Anderson
Feb 17 Elaine Manion
Feb 24 Jackie Klein

Lector

Feb 3
Feb 10

that a little deeper this time.



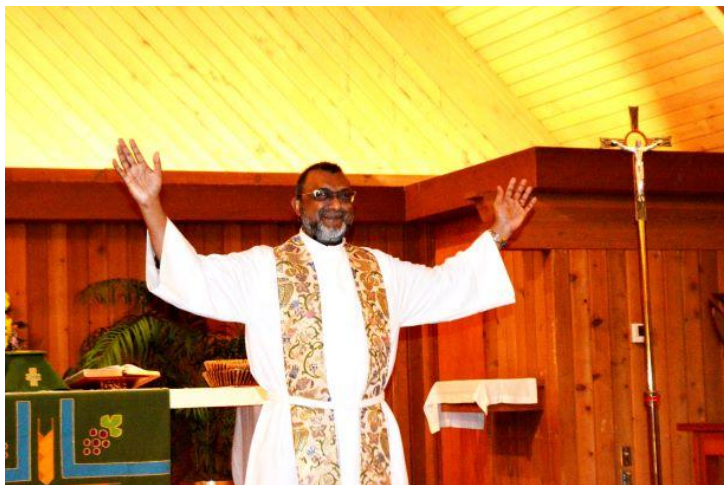
The picture on the left, is one of my places to be alone with Jesus. This was on a rainy night two weeks ago in Gainesville, Florida. I listened to the sounds around me and watched through the skinny lemon tree as the rain fell glistening in the light of my garden lamp, it felt like Gethsemane! Not in the sense of pain that Jesus felt, but as a private place where Jesus went with His disciples to pray. That special trysting place.

I believe that praying in the garden was not a once off event for Jesus and his close friends. Sure, they didn't have the glass of water sitting on a tabletop gas fireplace with comfortable garden furniture and cozy cushions. Yet, they gathered alone to be mostly quiet with God.

That rainy night, I found myself just being quiet. I said, as if talking to my soul, "Shhh... listen!" Sitting and simply listening... perhaps to God!? I thought I heard God - no, I'm sure I heard God say, "Be still and know that I am God!" And so I sat and listened. So what did I listen for? I just let God the Holy Spirit lead my thoughts, as best as my controlling self would allow. So I quoted that old scripture again, "Be still and know that I am God..." from Psalm 46:10, and remained still. Then, subconsciously keeping with the theme, I sang silently, deep inside me, "Be still my soul, ...", that 18th century hymn by the German, Katharina von Schlegel. All the time basking in the presence of God - a kind of listening to God.

When we pray, we need to resist the urge to go to God with our lists. Listening to God is what feeds us. Scripture and song are some tools that can help us listen to God. Let there be silences that allow God the Holy Spirit to feed our souls in real time. It's not a trance. It's not some out-of-body experience. It's not the musings of a mystic, mouthing meaningless mantras. It's simply quietening our quick-paced life to be aware of God's presence with us when we simply reach out to God in prayer. Amen.

- Pastor Terrance



Council President's Report

At the last meeting of UELC Council approved four elected members..Becky Borgert and Sandy Bauldree were elected for three year terms, Jackie Klein for a second term of three years and Janet Janke is filling Bill Chamberlin's term. Thank you Bill for your dedication while serving. The officers are: President--Donna Day, Vice President--Krissi Norford, Treasurer--Jim Yale, and Ron Gordon--Secretary.

Our main concerns at present are to grow our church and in initiating the roof repairs. OUTREACH is of prime importance.....why not have an initiative to bring a friend to church?? Martin Vala is working with the roofer and start up should be soon. Thanks to all of you for your pledges made. Without you we wouldn't have achieved our goal!!!

The church will be supporting two seminarians this year.....our own Krissi Norford and Pastor's

Feb 17
Feb 24

Ushers

Feb 3 Jeanne Chamberlin / Ron Fourman
Feb 10 Ron Gordon / Phil Noss
Feb 17 Ron Fourman / Andy Noss
Feb 24 Gene Brandner / John MontMarquette

Greeters

Feb 3
Feb 10
Feb 17
Feb 24

Sound Assistant

Feb 3
Feb 10
Feb 17
Feb 24

Counters

Feb 3 Jackie Klein / Phil Noss
Feb 10 Donna Day / Peter Fauerbach
Feb 17 Ron Gordon / Dan Norford
Feb 24 Rick Dienhart / Peter Fauerbach

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 new born 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.

daughter Sharai Jacob.

The 1902 house is rented for the 2019-20 academic year by three engineering students well known to Becky Borgert. They will pay \$600.00 per month and WIFI as well as utilities without subsidy from UELC.

The Congregational meeting is February 10th.

The Council Retreat will be held at Oak Hammock on February 16th.

The Council meeting will be held at 7 PM on February 21st.

God bless!!

*Donna S. Day
Acting President*

UELCL People

Evangeline Grace was born the night of January 18th, 2019 weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 inches long. Dan and Krissi Norford thank everyone who have expressed their congratulations upon her arrival!



February Birthdays

2/2 Becky Borgert
2/9 Gene Brander
2/18 Laura Ling
2/24 Elaine Manion
2/26 Walter Leite
2/26 Otto Johnston

Special Prayer Concerns

- Prayers for healing: Al Schilling, Agnes Martinson, Lois Wilkowske, Alice Simpson.

Lois Wilkowske's new address:

3997 Five Forks Trickum Rd.SW
Apt. 113
Lilburn, GA 30047
phone 352 281 0164

Campus Ministry News

Students continue to meet on Thursday's at 5:30 p.m. (note change in day in the last 2 months). An initiative is underway to extend our ministry towards a Young Adult Ministry at UELC. This will provide the opportunity for students and younger adults up to age 40 to engage faith conversation and develop a ministry to suit the needs of young adults in a changing world.

Music Ministry





Adult Forum

Adult Forum will continue its study of Walter Brueggemann's book, *Interrupting Silence*, through February. A new study series will be announced to begin the first Sunday of March.

- Phil Noss

Homeless Bags? Or Blessing Bags?

Recently I've been conflicted about calling the food bags we distribute "homeless" bags when I know at least some homeless people prefer not to be called "homeless."

Not long ago I heard about someone handing out "blessing bags" that sounded similar to what we do. It reminded me that one day when I handed one of our food bags to a lady near a shopping center, she said thank you and then added "blessings on you!" It finally struck me that here's an answer to my "homeless" conflict: "Blessing" bags are blessings both for those who are hungry and for us as we have a concrete way to do God's work in a small way. So that's what I'm calling our food bags from now on: Blessing Bags!

For those who aren't familiar with the program, we fill a gallon-size plastic bag with a bottle of water, a protein source (currently either a small can of beans or sausages), a cup of fruit, packages of cheese crackers and granola bars and sometimes peanuts, a cookie, appropriate plasticware and napkin, a Wet One, an invitation to ULC, a list of free food sources in Gainesville, and one of the United Way's 211 cards offering help. Bags are available each Sunday in the box under the stairs in the narthex. Members may take one so it's available in your car when you see someone who you think might need one.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at bchamberlin2@cox.net or 352-275-4937.

- Jeanne Chamberlin

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!!!**

For more information please contact Liz Finn

LIFT

Lutherans In Fellowship Together (LIFT), our monthly gathering to share a meal, have fellowship and hear presentations of interest to all. Thank you to Vibeke and Martin Vala in January.



Family Promise

Hosting Now!

We're finishing our best work this weekend, although the families will remain at our church

were finishing our host week this weekend, although the families will remain at our church under the administration of Grace United Methodist Church as their facilities are under renovation. It's a relief for the families not to have to pack up and move this weekend!

We welcomed a fourth family mid-week -- a father and three adolescent children who were living in their van (which serves as dad's Uber taxi as well). Ten-year-old Mylee hugged FP caseworker, Shari, when the family was told they could move into the program and said "You mean we don't have to sleep in the van anymore?" They are settling in nicely and said they had the best night's sleep in weeks on Wednesday, their first night with us. When I left the church Thursday evening Mylee was playing hide and seek with the other girls.

Hilda's family will move out on Monday as their apartment is now ready! Hilda, Rachel and Andrea's families entered the program at similar times and they support each other so beautifully. The joy they are all feeling is mixed with sadness as they brace themselves for the change, especially for the children who have grown so close.



Bed Race 2019

Family Promise is seeking sponsors to support and enter the 5th annual Bed Race fundraiser on May 4th. If you know of a local business or organization which might want to sponsor and get some recognition for helping end childhood homelessness, please send them [this link](#) or direct them to the Family Promise website. UELC will be looking for daring individuals to decorate and drive our bed this year, too!

amy_schirmer@yahoo.com

Village of Hope



February/March is the time the members of UELC renew or begin a new sponsorship for a child through the Lazarus Project at the Village of Hope School in Haiti.

This school is located in Bonnette, Ganthier, a resource poor, rural farming area approximately 15 miles from Port au Prince, Haiti. Sponsorship is a distinctive and personal way for you to enhance and develop the life of a vulnerable child. More than ever we know the future of Haiti rests in the hands of the youth that are being educated today. Supporting a child's education can be likened to planting a mango tree. One does not see the fruit or benefit from it for some years, but eventually one day the flowers appear and next, the fruit for all to enjoy. The same goes for the knowledge that you are providing for a student you will support via the sponsorship program. One day the education, conducted in the Christian environment at VOH, will bear fruit and it will not only benefit the child but also their families and community.

The Village of Hope School provides quality education for children from Kindergarten through High School. The students attend Chapel once a week, and services for the senior classes are led by high school students. Along with routine school exams, in accordance with the Ministry of Education children in grade 6, 9, 12 and 13 must pass National exams in order to advance to the next level. Each day students receive a meal of rice and beans. They also receive dental and medical care through the Health Center that is now part of the campus.

Sponsorships can be paid annually [\$480] via a check made out to UELC with the notation, VOH, Lazarus Project on the memo line. Sponsorships can also be paid monthly [\$40]. Two or even three can go together to sponsor one child.

Watch for the poster in the narthex to the right of the bulletin board to see how sponsorships for 2019 are progressing. The bulletin board with the pictures of children that are sponsored will be updated in Spring.

For additional information contact Janet Janke, Lazarus Project Coordinator at UELC

Krissi and Dan Baby Shower









Our Pastor and Staff

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

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

Moses Choi
 Pianist

Evelyn Simmons
 Administrative Assistant
info@ulcgainesville.com

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 FAMILY PROMISE	2 FAMILY PROMISE 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

FAMILY PROMISE 4 th Sunday Epiphany 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	7 pm AA	11:30-1 pm The Bee	7 pm Choir	5:30 pm Students / Young Adults		7 pm AA 10 pm AA
10 5 th Sunday Epiphany 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Congregational Meeting	11 7 pm AA	12 11:30-1 pm The Bee	13 7 pm Choir	14 5:30 pm Students / Young Adults	15	16 Council Retreat at Oak Hammock 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
17 6 th Sunday Epiphany 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	18 7 pm AA	19 11:30-1 pm The Bee	20 7 pm Choir	21 5:30 pm Students / Young Adults 7 pm Council	22	23 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
24 7 th Sunday Epiphany 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	25 7 pm AA	26 11:30-1 pm The Bee	27 7 pm Choir	28 5:30 pm Students / Young Adults		

2019

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