

University Evangelical Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry

The Lampstand

January 2020

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

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**Join Our
Mailing List**

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February Newsletter Deadline

Please send any articles for the February newsletter by January 29th to Andy Noss
andrew.noss@yahoo.com

January Worship Volunteers

Assisting Ministers
Jan 5 Krissi Norford / Pat Dasler
Jan 12 William Speer / Ron Bauldree
Jan 19 Austin MontMarquette / Jim Yale
Jan 26 Becky / Sam Borgert

Altar Guild
Jan 5 Joan Anderson
Jan 12 Elaine Manion
Jan 19 Jackie Klein
Jan 26 Mary Lou Schirmer

Lector
Jan 5 Rick Dienhart
Jan 12 Paige Hansen
Jan 19 Sharai Jacob
Jan 26 Joel Beaudry

Ushers
Jan 5
Jan 12
Jan 19
Jan 26

Trust the Journey Regardless of Direction! – Based on Matthew 2:13-23



When God says north but sends you west, trust the journey!

"The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry"



Eric Burns, *To a Mouse*, 1785, made famous for us by John Steinbeck in his 1937 work, *Of Mice and Men*.

How many of us have found that our best laid plans often meet a bend in the road? Perhaps we had our life mapped out and



then life throws a spanner in the works! You imagined your life one way. "This is where I will be when I am 50 or 70", and lo and behold we strike bumps in the road – investments don't pan out, like in 2008. We meet loss by death of someone that was to be in your plan, maybe divorce, loss of health, loss of a job; sometimes circumstances beyond our control or situations we create through wrong or unwise decisions. Our best laid plans often go awry.

When people come to me with these issues – as if I do not have them myself, or as if I have it down in my life – I often say, "Sit with it. Accept it! Don't try to apportion blame. More often than not, when we experience disappointment we try to find blame. If it is not someone, some system or societal trend, it is ourselves – "I knew I should have listened to my mother. I knew I made a stupid decision and took a risk." If I have my wits about me, I normally say, "it's no one's fault, or it does not help to apportion blame. Let's see how we go from here on." (I should take that advice myself, sometimes – but that's another story.)

Then are those times, when someone, maybe even God tells you what your life is heading for. When I was in grade 1 a total stranger told me I was going to be an author – maybe that will still happen – but then later on in my life, I felt called to be an ordained pastor. For many people, through the urging of their teachers, parents or even by the influence of public figures, see a direction their life should take. We then often accept it and make plans for that to be realized in our lives. Then it goes awry!

Joseph, in the Gospel earlier in the narrative of Matthew, that he and Mary will have a son and he will be the messiah, save his people, be the prince of peace, etc. He would have been looking forward to that being realized. He had found his way to Bethlehem of Judah, because that was the prophecy.

Then in the text today, the angel of the Lord tells him to pack up and leave with Mary and their newborn son, Jesus. He was directed to go to Egypt. That seemed opposite to what the plans were. Joseph being a carpenter must have made a state of the art crib, handmade toys and a beautiful cozy room. Mary may have been waiting for Jesus

to become a leader in the temple in Jerusalem. And now, they were told, pack up and go to Egypt. Egypt where a millennium and half ago, his people lived in slavery until God through Moses freed them. "Lord that seems opposite. The direction seemed opposite." Jesus was to free his people, usher in a new day, not go backwards. We don't know what the attitudes of Joseph and Mary were, but we do know that they left at once. Herod was going to kill all children two years and below. Historians say Jesus must have been just under two then. So Jesus spent his early formative years – the terrible Twos in Africa. I wonder what his parents felt and how they lived in this strange land.

Perhaps Joseph questioned the earlier message of God that Mary had become pregnant by the Holy Spirit, and wondered whether Mary had had sexual relations with

Jan 5 Jeanne Chamberlin / Andy Noss
Jan 12 Ron Gordon / Ron Foutman
Jan 19 Gene Brandner / Phil Noss
Jan 26 Roger Springfels / John MontMarquette

Greeters

Jan 5 Ron Fourman / Phil Noss
Jan 12 Austin MontMarquette
Jan 19 Dan Norford
Jan 26 Collin Larke / Ron Gordon

Sound Assistant

Jan 5 Sam Brill
Jan 12 Sam Norford
Jan 19 Sam Borgert
Jan 26 Dan Norford

Counters

Jan 5 Rick Dienhart / Peter Fauerbach
Jan 12 Gene Brandner / John MontMarquette
Jan 19 Jackie Klein / Phil Noss
Jan 26 Donna Day / Andy 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 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.

someone else. Perhaps Mary and Joseph went through some serious marital conflict. Mary may have also thought that Joseph made a mistake by leaving his carpentry workshop back in Israel and had become a nomadic won't work, who didn't care about his family. All that they thought was their path, was turned on its head. It was like God had said, "I'm sending you north" and then sent them southwest.

Joseph is told who Jesus is – save his people. Then God tells him to leave His land and go to Egypt – seems opposite to the message. Is it contradictory? But then, when Herod dies, God tells them to go back to Israel. The Savior, the Messiah is to go to the seat of the Jewish religion, and redefine it. That had been the basic message those 4 years before. The message remains the same, but sometimes the journey seems to detract from the purpose. Ours is to simply listen and follow – basically trust! When we dwell on the “not-going-rights” of our lives and our world, we lose our joy! We lose our Peace. There comes a dullness in our heart and spirit. Ours is to believe, trust and follow. The biggest test of faith is to follow when it seems that things are going the totally opposite direction.

The greatest comfort is in the words of the 6th Proverb, v 9: “we plan our ways but God directs our paths/ our steps.” Let's rest in that for 2020. No matter the road, not matter the predictions, no matter how our health is, our relationships are, trust God, obey and follow.

Joseph and Mary did, and look what happened! God's full and true Will was revealed for your good and mine – eternal good! Are we going to argue with that! God works all things together for the Good! Mary and Joseph learnt that. Abraham learned that, Noah learned that. Pray God that you and I could learn that too.

A Sermon by Rev.Terrance Jacob at University Evangelical Lutheran Church,12/29/19



Council President's Report

The December 17, 2019 Council meeting met as scheduled at 7:00pm

The treasurers report was presented by Jim Yale, along with the Spending Plan for 2020.

Moses will give a report on his trip at a lunch following the church service on January 12, 2020.

Redevelopment goals have been met; all is going well.

Janet Janke shared a visit made to the Castle Church in Orlando by Janet, Jim and Caroline Yale and Donna Day.

Results of the Council elections were presented at the Congregation meeting on December 8, 2019. Officers were elected at the council meeting on the 17th. President - Becky Borgert, Vice President - Donna Day, Secretary - Ron Gordon and Treasurer - Jim Yale.

Have a blessed New Year!



UELC People



January Birthdays

1/2	Patricia Simpson
1/6	Benjamin Brander
1/7	George Chappell
1/8	Gene Ryerson
1/8	Lauren Samuels
1/11	Agnes Martinsen
1/13	Beverly Ryerson
1/14	Ronald Bauldree
1/16	Benjamin Borgert
1/16	Barbara Dalsheimer
1/19	Evangeline Norford
1/19	Dutch Schirmer
1/26	Crystal Jacob
1/28	Scott Simpson
1/31	Diamond Stutzman

Continued Prayer Concerns

- Prayers for healing: Al Schilling, Agnes Martinson, Lois Wilkowske, Dutch Schirmer, Ron and Beverly Gronwall, Les O'Brien
- Prayers of comfort and peace for Alice Simpson and family, at the passing of Bruce Simpson



Altar Flowers

A beautiful way to remember a loved one or a special occasion in your life.

Check the altar flower chart located in Kaiser Center to sign up for a Sunday that would be meaningful for you. Cost for flowers is \$30.00. Please contact Evelyn in the church office if you have any questions. 352-373-6945

Advent Ladies Tea - December 15





Bruschetta Cheese Ball

Servings: 12-16

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 10 minutes

Ingredients

Cheese Ball

- 1 5.2 oz. Boursin Garlic & Fine Herbs Cheese
- 18 oz. brick Cream Cheese at room temperature* (See NOTE)
- 1/4cup sour cream
- 1cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/2cup freshly finely grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 Roma tomatoes, chopped with seeds and flesh removed**
- 1/2cup sun-dried tomatoes (packed in oil), chopped, rinsed, dried***
- 1/2cup basil leaves, chopped
- 1tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1/4-1/2teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/4teaspoon salt
- 1/8teaspoon pepper



Panko Sun-Dried Tomato Coating

- 3/4cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1tablespoon butter
- 3tablespoons sun-dried tomatoes, diced, rinsed, dried**
- 3tablespoons basil leaves, chopped

Garnish

- 1 Roma tomato, chopped (more or less)
- 1tablespoon fresh basil, chiffonade (more or less)

Dippers

- 1-2 baguettes sliced into 1/2 "slices***
- olive oil
- crackers

Instructions

1. **Cheese Ball:** Add all of the Cheese Ball ingredients to a large bowl and mix with a spatula until well combined. Drop mixture onto a large piece of plastic wrap, cover tightly, and shape into a ball. Freeze for 1-2 hours or chill in the refrigerator for 2 hours up to 24 hours.
2. **Panko- Sun-Dried Tomato Coating:** While the cheese ball is chilling, prepare Coating by melting butter in a medium skillet over medium heat. Stir in panko and continue to stir constantly until panko is golden. Cool completely then stir in sun-dried tomatoes and basil.
3. **Assemble:** When ready to serve, remove cheese ball from freezer/fridge, roll in toasted panko mixture, pressing to adhere, until evenly coated. Garnish with fresh tomatoes and fresh basil. Serve with baguette slices and crackers (optional).

Baguette slices: Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Line 1-2 large baking sheet with baguette slices. Brush top sides of slices with olive oil and flip all the slices over so the olive oil is SIDE DOWN on the baking sheet. Bake for 6 to 8 minutes or until slightly golden around the edges.

Recipe Notes

Total Time does not include chilling as this will vary upon individual.

*DO NOT microwave cream cheese to soften it or it will be too soft and hard to form into a ball.

You just want the firm outer part of the tomato so when you cut your tomatoes, scoop out the inside flesh and seeds so all that remains is the firm part - we don't want the extra moisture in our cheese ball. After you chop your tomatoes, pat them dry once more with a paper towel. *Measure the sun-dried tomatoes, then rinse them and squeeze them dry before chopping.

****You can either prepare 1 baguette and supplement with crackers (or Garlic Parmesan Pretzel Crisps are amazing!!) or prepare 2 baguettes and not use crackers/pretzels.

*****This Bruschetta Cheese Ball also makes an incredible spread for sandwiches.

ADVENT





LIFT

Thursday, Jan. 9th at Noon

Translating the Bible Today. Phil Noss will be talking about translating the Bible in our day and age. Phil has worked in translating the Bible for decades in Africa.

Join us as we kick-off our 2020 LIFT programs - our monthly potluck luncheon where we continue learning how we might serve in our local community and around the world. Please bring your favorite potluck dish and join us for fun and companionship. We will see you then. If you have any questions, contact Ron Bauldree, rbbauldree@msn.com

Young Adult Ministry

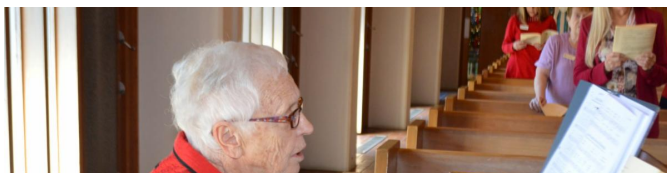
Campus/Young Adult Ministry will resume weekly meetings on January 9, 5:30-7:00 pm.

For inquiries contact Krissi and Dan Norford (keb.dan@gmail.com).

Music Ministry

At UELC, we continue to have a variety of music and song choices in worship.

Many thanks to Bev Cone for serving in December!





Choir practices resumes on January 8.

Choir practices in the Kaiser Center on Wednesday evenings at 7 to 8 pm and Sunday mornings at 10 am. Please contact Minister of Music, Crystal Jacob for more information, suggestions or feedback.



The Bee - What's Happening?

The Bee has been busy doing projects and sending cards- get well, birthday, and thinking of you - to members and friends of the congregation.

Blessings,
The Bee

Adult Forum

A new discussion on ***Dialogues: Racism*** begins on Sunday mornings, 9-10 am.

Contact Dan Norford for more information: keb.dan@gmail.com

Family Promise

Blessings in this new year! The warmth of our congregation's commitment to hosting families in crisis at our church provided safety and relief for 13 families, including 26 children, over four weeks in 2019! Thank you for your support in this mission to help end child homelessness in our community.

As we enter our fifth year as a host congregation for Family Promise, we look



As we enter our fifth year as a host congregation for Family Promise, we look toward our first hosting week at the end of this month, **Jan. 26-Feb. 1**. However, families will move into our church the week before, and be hosted by volunteers from Grace United Methodist Church. Grace

continues its commitment to Family Promise without its own facilities to host at present. So we will make up the beds and prepare the kitchen on **Jan. 19th** in readiness for the two-week period. Please still bring your donated grocery items for *our* week on the 26th.

Sign up to volunteer [host](#) or provide [groceries](#) online, in the Kaiser Center, or by emailing me at amy_schirmer@yahoo.com. New volunteer hosts are welcome!

Village of Hope

Stop and take a look at the redesigned bulletin board in the Kaiser Center with the pictures of our sponsored children at Village of Hope in Haiti. A special thanks to Crystal for updating this display. There is a list showing the names of the sponsors for each child. Look for your name and the number before it corresponds to the number on the yellow dot on your child's picture.

There are currently some sponsors who have a new student but still only have the picture of their former student. There has been much unrest in Haiti this past year due to the huge increases in the price of food and fuel and the shortage of both. As a result mission trips had to be cancelled and these are the people who took the pictures of the students to send to sponsors. Mission teams are being encouraged to begin again in 2020 and hopefully new pictures will be taken and sent.

For the first time VOH sent out thank you letters to sponsors that included the amount you gave as a sponsor. UELC always sends only one check to VOH so they were only "estimating" what they thought you gave. Your monetary gift to VOH is given through your offering at UELC and is always shown on the statement you receive from the church.



Village of Hope is one of the premier education facilities in the region. There are 17 primary teachers and 32 secondary teachers for the more than 650 students enrolled. This year all 25 of the Philo [13th grade] students passed their national exams. This was an amazing accomplishment considering the stressors and disruptions that took place during the past school year.

Watch for information in February/March about renewing your sponsorship or beginning a new one!

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

Sun**Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri****Sat**

			1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2	3	4 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
5 2 nd Sunday Christmas 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	6 7 pm AA	7 11:30-1 pm The Bee 1:30 pm HAT	8 7 pm Choir	9 Noon LIFT 5:30 pm Young Adult and Campus Ministry	10	11 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
12 Baptism of our Lord 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship - Moses	13 7 pm AA	14 11:30-1 pm The Bee 7 pm Council	15 7 pm Choir	16 5:30 pm Young Adult and Campus Ministry	17	18 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
19 2 nd Sunday Epiphany 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship - Evie	20 7 pm AA	21 11:30-1 pm The Bee	22 7 pm Choir	23 5:30 pm Young Adult and Campus Ministry	24	25 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
26 FAMILY PROMISE 3 rd Sunday Epiphany 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	27 FAMILY PROMISE 7 pm AA	28 FAMILY PROMISE 11:30-1 pm The Bee	29 FAMILY PROMISE 7 pm Choir	30 FAMILY PROMISE 5:30 pm Young Adult and Campus Ministry	31 FAMILY PROMISE	

2020

University Lutheran Church | | info@ulcgainesville.com |
 1826 W University Avenue
 Gainesville, FL 32603
 Phone: 352-373-6945
 Fax: 352-373-1679

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