



DOMINION WINDOW

First United Methodist Church, Cocoa

JUNE 2009

PASTOR GENE YOTKA

This month we will look at the spiritual discipline of meditation. Instead of giving a theological appraisal of meditation or expositing the benefits of meditation, I thought it would be most helpful to offer everyone one of the methods for meditating on Scripture, through which I feel, has benefited my spiritual growth.

Meditation on Scripture

Opening Prayer:

Dear Lord,

I need you more than ever. Therefore I place myself at your feet, as one of Your the disciples. Lord Jesus, please reveal the message that You have for me, as I search the Scriptures this day. In the precious name of Jesus, Amen

Wait patiently:

Pray and open the Scriptures, looking and listening until you come to a passage or passages to which you feel God leading.

Preparation:

Open your Bible to the passage on which you have been led to meditate:

Sit still and straight-up, with both feet flat to the floor. In a series of flexing and relaxing movements begin by flexing your toes and them allowing them to relax. Move to your feet, calves, and thighs, and so on, up your body, flexing and relaxing each muscle as you go. As you flex inhale and as you relax exhale. Feel the stress of the day disappear.

Notice your breathing. Feel and become aware of each breath.

Allow yourself to connect to your surroundings, by increasing your awareness of things, sounds, smells, and textures that are apparent at that very moment. Stay in the moment. Don't think of the past or the future, just focus on the gift of the moment. Allow thoughts to move in and out of your mind freely. Do not attach to any specific thought.

Continued

Now as if lifting a veil or removing a blindfold, recognize the presence of God in your midst and place yourself before God. Be as someone waiting for an amazing gift, lesson, or revelation.

**Read God's Word (the one you have chosen), as it is being spoken from
God directly to you:**

Pray for the Lord to assist you, that you may hear God's Word in your heart Allow the Word of God to penetrate and adhere to your spirit. A prayer such as the following may be right for this special time with the Lord.

Dear Lord,

Open my heart that I may hear you grace filled Word fresh and anew. I place myself before You Lord Jesus that I may surrender my most inner being to your love. I pray Lord that the Word's of love and grace that You offer me now penetrate and adhere to my spirit. May Your Word by the power of the Holy Spirit, move me in such a way that I grow closer to who you. Lord help me to be all that You have called me to be. In the precious and glorious name of Jesus Christ I pray. Amen

Feel God's love being poured out on you as you listen intently to the Holy Word.

Compose the scene:

Place yourself in the Biblical narrative. How does the scene described in the Scripture inform things such as, where you are standing? Who is around you? What is the weather like? What do you hear, smell, taste, feel as you sit before the Lord who is speaking to you?

How are you being affected by the images around you, as those images relate to the life of Jesus and the message of the Gospel?

What actions do you feel you may be called to perform? Listen to God's promptings that come to mind as a result of this experience of God's Word?

Conclusion:

Offer a prayer of Thanksgiving:

Dear Lord,

Thank you for your Word. Thank you for this particular experience of Your Word, and thank you for the lesson, guidance and revelation that You have provided through this particular experience of Your Holy Word. Thank you Lord. In the precious name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

Offer the results of the meditation experience back to God:

Dear Lord,

I acknowledge that Your presence has changed me. Lord I offer back to You the results of this meditation that You may empower me to go forth and be obedient to its message to me. Lord I ask
cont.....

Pastor Gene . .Continued

For the strength to _____ (fill in the blank based on your experience. i.e., *pray more, help the poor, seek you more, be a better witness etc...*).

Ask yourself: What is a good first step that I can make today, in an effort toward the fulfillment of the guidance I have received from God?

Spiritual Nosegay: Write down the message, word, idea, and/or direction that you have received. Place it in your pocket, wallet, pocketbook (somewhere that it will be available to you during the day) and look at it often throughout the day, especially during stressful or difficult times.

Be Blessed, Pastor Gene

Circle of Concern

Home: Mary Heslop, Kay Bartberger, May Russell, Sharon Bauer, David Rothermund, Christi Coy, Ernest Lindley, Betty Turner, Jim Bishop, Sr., Peggy Morgan Halper, Fay Mallard, Elsie Bailey, Gladys Williams, Lucille Taylor, Lou Kotopka, Bea Miller, Mildred Page, Howard Russell, Jack Potter.

Rockledge Rehab. Bob Kunkle, **Wuesthoff Progressive Care:** Pat Russell

Merritt Island Health: Judy Barker. **Death:** Lenora Cuppett passed away on May 9th 2009. Bill Greene passed away May 27th. 2009

“THE SHEPHERD’S CLOSET THRIFT STORE”

At this time we are in great need of Volunteers!

Our volunteers can work a couple of hours a day or a couple of days a week. Whatever they choose. This is a fun place to be and we would love to see you participate in our Thrift Store. Please call the church office at 636-4811 if you would like to come and join us.

Please continue to support this wonderful ministry.

Open Monday—Friday (throughout the summer)

10 am—3 pm.

Donations are always accepted. Please drop them off at the Thrift Store Mon.—Fri. 10am—3pm. We are happy to come and pick up things you want to give away. Just call us at 636-4811.



SUMMER BELLS

Please contact **Diane Click (452-4709)** if you are interested in joining the Beginning Bells class. The group will meet for six weeks starting the last week of June. You do NOT have to be able to read music to learn to ring bells. No long term commitment—Give it a try!!



VBS

“THE LOST LUMEN”

Summer is here and this month we shall have our VBS here at the church.

We are again planning for an evening school.

June 22nd—26th— 5:30 Dinner

Program 6:00pm—8:30PM

Ages: Kindergarten through 6th Grad

We will also be needing volunteers.

Call David Russell at 543-8259 if you are interested in helping.



Although we have great support from **Second Harvest** and **Target** in supplying us food, we are always in need of more. If you can spare a can or some paper towels, toilet rolls etc. please bring them by the church office and we shall make sure it gets to the Pantry.

This has been one of our most successful outreach ministries and has brought some relief to many families in our area.

God Bless, Food Pantry Ministry

JUNE 2009

- June 2 *3:45pm Bible Study in Rm. 208
 (every Tuesday)
 *6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal
 (every Tuesday and Friday)
- June 3 *7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- June 4 6:00pm Trustees Meeting Rm. 208
- June 5 4:00pm Wedding Rehearsal
 (Rehearsal Dinner to follow in H. Hall)
- June 6 11:00am Belflower/Dotson Wedding in Sanctuary followed by
 Reception in Hughlett Hall.
- June 7 2pm—4:30pm Via de Cristo Meeting Rm. 208

 6:00pm—9:30pm Victoria Yotka's Birthday Party H. Hall
- June 8 Youth—Summer Camp Activities throughout the week.
- June 10 Florida Annual Conference at Bathune Cookman College in Daytona
 Through June 13.
 10:30am UMW Luncheon with Special Guest (see inside DW)
- June 14 12:15pm State of The Church Meeting in Hughlett Hall.
- June 17 10:30am Lydia Circle meet in the Parlor
- June 22 Beginning Bells (see inside DW for more information)
- June 23 EASE Group Meeting 11am Rm. 208 (Alzheimer's Support)
- June 22—June 26 VBS all week. (Dinner 5:30pm. Program 6—8:30pm.)



We hope you will all have a wonderful safe summer.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Tuesday: 3:45pm Bible Study with Pastor Gene Rm. 208
5:30pm Tuesday Fellowship Dinner is over till the Fall.
8:30pm WISEGUYS Youth/Adults meeting is cancelled till the fall.

Our 6pm Wednesday Communion Service in the chapel will not take place through the summer. It will start again in the Fall.

6:30pm Sundays, "Vine & Branches"
(College Age Co-ed) H. Hall Great for young people !

Our Thursdays Chapel Service at 8:30am (Holy Communion) has changed back to **Friday** mornings. Please come and enjoy the morning service. Always check our Sunday bulletin for updates and any other changes.

Christmas in July



If all goes to plan we shall be having a Fund Raiser for our Shepherd's Closet Thrift Store. It will be "Christmas in July" and will be held in Hughlett Hall. We shall be selling a whole lot of Christmas stuff along with other things.

The United Methodist Women will be participating by providing edible goodies and refreshments to make the time enjoyable.

The date will be **Saturday, July 25th. TBD.** Mark this in your Calendars and keep checking the bulletins for further information.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2009

UMW Web-Site:gbgm-umc.org/umw

The Executive Board There will be **no meeting** for June or July

The Unit Meeting will be **Wednesday June 10th in Hughlett Hall**. This will be a very special luncheon as we are having a guest speaker. Her name is Anita Barnett Campbell and she is the Director of Major and Planning Gifts from the Florida United Children's Home. We hope you will all be able to attend and make Anita feel welcomed. We thank Verda Rothstein for getting all this together and organizing her to come.

Circle Meetings

Mary Deborah Circle meeting at 9:30am., Tuesday June 9th in the Parlor.

Lydia Circle Meeting will be Wednesday, June 10th in the Parlor.

Martha Circle has no meeting in June.

Rachel Circle will have no meetings in June, July and August.

Ruth Book Group will meet Wednesday, June 24 with Nancy Glass.

Sue Oden has graciously offered to take the post of Vice President of the United Methodist Women. We really miss our Mildred and hope she will return to the UMW very soon.

As this is summer, things slow down somewhat. There is not too much news for June. Hope you all have a wonderful, safe summer.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Florida Conference will hold their Annual Conference from Thursday, June 11 through Saturday June 13th. In Daytona Beach at Bethune Cookman College.

Pastor Gene and MaryAnn will be attending along with the Booths.

Pastor Gene will be Away from Wednesday and return Friday Evening.

EXCITING THINGS AHEAD!

- We are planning another Community BBQ middle of July
- October we will have The Pumpkin Patch back, along with a fall festival with entertainment, BBQ and fun for the kids.

Keep track of all these events through your future DW and Bulletins.

WELCOME MINISTRY!

Welcome Ministry, complete with cookies, coffee and juice has begun on Sunday morning before the 11am Worship Service. If you don't care for coffee and a cookie, at least stop by so we can wish you a Happy Sunday.

Donations are accepted but not necessary. See you next Sunday!

Sue Oden

Thank You.

Robert and I would like to thank all who attended our wedding and for the beautiful presents and generous gifts that were given us at this very special time in our lives. We are blessed to have such great people in our lives.

Robert and Tara



JUNE 2009

6/01 Tara Liberatore
6/04 Ernest Lindley, David Oliver
6/05 Jo Crouch
6/07 John Patrick
6/08 Floyd Perrin, Lois Childers,
Victoria Yotka
6/09 Don Oden
6/10 Lou Kruger
6/12 Ronald Chabot
6/13 Dennis Peterson, MaryAnn Yotka
6/14 Lowell Garland, Kyle Conrad
6/15 Roberta Frye, Arnold Smith
6/17 Ray Sharp, Carina Slack
6/23 Frances Tidwell
6/24 Leah Dunn
6/25 Michael Artelli III
6/26 Marsha Williams
6/27 Gladys Williams
6/28 Chuch Kurzweil, Jim Williams
6/29 Helen Damron
6/30 Pat Buckley

JULY 2009

7/01 Elsie Vasilevich
7/02 Howard Lewis, Charles Hammons
7/04 Barbara Mangum
7/05 Daniel Heckman
7/06 Jim Bishop, Jr.
7/07 Esther Hansen, Sharon Smith,
Linda Simmen,.
7/08 Dalton Haile
7/10 Verda Rothstein, Barbra Compson
Gene Oliver
7/12 David Bauer
7/14 Richard Harris
7/15 LaVonn Simpkins
7/16 Seth Drobniowski,
Leah Drobniowski
7/17 Dana Jean Mason
7/18 Sue Oden
7/21 Douglas Sumerlen
7/22 John Gates, Kathleen Burch,
Crystal Strickland,
James Strickland
7/23 Herman Byrd
7/27 Mozelle Green, Mikael Hardee
7/29 Jenny Phair
7/31 Margaret Chumley
Donna Heckman.

**Please remember the
Birthday Box in the
Narthex of the Church**

"Give Me That Old Time Religion"

Free Admission



Appalachian Gospel

**Bluegrass Gospel Music
Gospel Storytelling
Hymn Sing**

**Sunday, Sep 20th
4:00 PM**

*First United Methodist Church
825 Forrest Ave.
Cocoa, Florida 32922
321-636-4811
www.fumc-cocoa.org*





“STATE OF THE CHURCH”

On Sunday, **June 14th** we will again be holding our *State of The Church* meeting in Hughlett Hall. It will begin at 12:15pm following the 11am Worship Service.

There will be discussions regarding up-coming events, our financial status and many other things in hopes we can improve on what we already have, and hope to bring new ideas which will behoove us in the years to come.

This is an important meeting for everyone who cares about the future of our church, to participate. Feel free to ask questions and we shall be happy to answer them.

Refreshments will be served.

WORDS OF THANKS

Words seem woefully inadequate to express the over-flowing appreciation to each of you who encouraged and supported us during Lenora's illness and final "home-going". The get-well cards sent were read when they arrived and then repeatedly during the days Lenora spent in hospice. Together we would read the cards, look at the beautiful pictures, read the often included scriptures and talk about the ones who sent them. The love and caring that poured from each envelope lifted our hopes and spirits. Thank you.

And now we also want to thank each of you for the out-pouring of Christ's love through your presence, words, cards, flowers, remembrances and calls you showered over our family in the last month. The oneness and support of the Body that Gene speaks of was evident in countless ways.

Thank you for blessing us during this sad time.

In His love, the family of Lenora Cuppett.



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