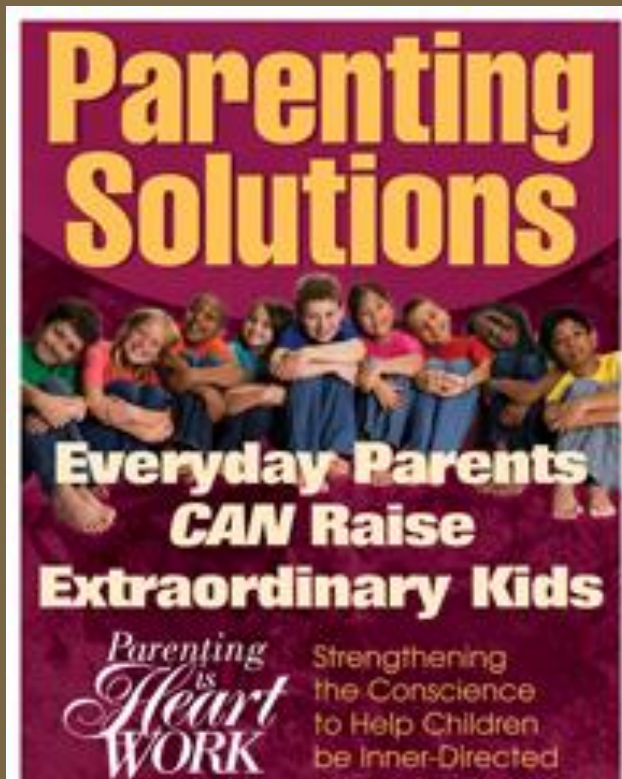


Shepherd's Community United Methodist

MAY 2011

WWW.SCUMC.NET

WHAT'S HAPPENING



May 14th 8:45am - 2:30pm

Register TODAY www.scumc.net

FROM THE PASTOR

I hope you don't mind a little bit of a rambling message from me this month. There is a lot going on that I want to cover.

First: Here's a look at the Lenten/Easter Season in 2011 at Shepherd's Community:

- Ash Wednesday
- The Lent Dare daily devotionals online – I thought a great mix between the staff and folks from the congregation. It was truly a blessing to follow along every day.
- Four fasting days to pray for the church and the community
- The Confirmation Class and Confirmation Retreat, where I was the speaker for 200+ confirmands from throughout Florida (our students were wonderful)
- Palm Sunday complete with the Confirmation Class plus 4 families who joined our church, plus plus our very first immersion baptism outside in our inflatable Baptismal pool
- The Easter Egg Hunt, complete with 3100+ eggs and an estimated 400+ folks in attendance (and skydivers)
- The three services on Easter Morning and very close to 300 in total attendance.

Shepherd's Community UMC

2165 Shepherd Road ~ Lakeland, Florida 33811 ~ (863) 701-7171

CONNECT. GROW. SERVE.

It's been a great season. (and we need naps around here) We hope that through your cooperation with God this Lenten season that you love Jesus more than you did before.

I want you to pay special attention to the [Parenting Seminar on May 14th](#) which we are hosting and which is being run by the National Center for Biblical Parenting. At \$25 dollars a couple and programs for you and your children with lunch included it's hard to go wrong. You can sign up on our website.

I don't know how many of our folks are really clued into how the United Methodist Church appointment system works. Our clergy are appointed by the Bishop and Cabinet. (There are 700+ churches and 900+ clergy.) Every Pastor is appointed or re-appointed for 1 a one year term that begins on July 1st. It is different every year but on average 15-20 percent of our clergy move. Early in May every year, we have Announcement Sunday. This year it was May 1st and I am happy to announce that I will be returning as the Pastor of Shepherd's Community for another year. We are blessed to serve here.

And last, let me close with a personal prayer request....I will be taking a week vacation the first week of May, to hike part of the Appalachian Trail with my kids. Then, I will have my annual sermon planning trip to North Carolina. Every year, right after Easter, I plan my sermons for the upcoming year (Easter to Easter). While I am gone, I would so appreciate your prayers for wisdom and discernment and the ability to know not only what I am to preach, but the right resources to find. This trip is so helpful to me every year as it helps me set the direction for my preaching which in turn influences the direction for the church.

Lastly, let me close with the thought I had on Easter Sunday afternoon, as I reflected on the events of Holy Week. It feels to me that we are the new version of the old Shepherd's Community. Those who have been around a while will understand what that means and why I am very excited about it. God is good.

Yours in the Journey,
Pastor Tim



PARENTING SEMINAR... IT'S ALMOST HERE!!



Do you want to know how to raise Exceptional Children? On **Saturday, May 14th from 8:45am-2:30pm**, we're excited to be hosting **THE National Center for Biblical Parenting** who will be teaching parenting techniques and family-focused ideas based on biblical principles. Plus, while you are fine-tuning your parenting skills, your children will be in a fun program that teaches the same principles you're learning. This is an incredible opportunity for parents of 2 year olds through 18 year olds and we will be hosting parents from all over Central Florida! The cost is \$25/couple (\$15/individual) and includes lunch for you and your kids.

Register **RIGHT NOW!** Go to www.scumc.net/

MOMMY & ME

Every month we have a Mommy & Me time with our mommies, babies and toddlers. This month, we'll be playing on **Saturday, May 21st at 10am** at The Lobozzo's Home.

Please let

Melissa know if you can make need The



it and if you directions. daddies will be organizing a morning of paintball while the mommies and babies play. (*All men are welcome for paintball.*) Feel free to invite a friend! Contact Melissa in person or at mlobozzo@scumc.net.



SUMMER DAY CAMP

Can you believe summer is upon us? It's almost time for our Summer Under

the Sun Day Camp. Children elementary school age can attend for a day, a week or the summer...it's up to you! Your child will enjoy daily bible stories, crafts, math and reading skills, swimming, movies and so much more! Camp will begin Monday, June 13th and will be held daily from 7am to 6pm. There is a \$25 registration fee. The weekly rate for church members is \$90 or \$22/day. If you would like more information, please contact Sandra Roth.



As a follow-up to the Parenting Seminar, a 6-week Biblical Parenting Class will begin Sunday, May 22nd. This series will offer **FREE** take-away activities each week to help you implement these fun ideas into your family. If you would like childcare, please contact Emily Carson at ecarson@scumc.net.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to add a prayer request to the prayer requests that are emailed out on Tuesdays, please send your requests to Carolyn Cobb at cobbcataol.com.





The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on **Tuesdays from 10:00 am to noon at SCUMC in Room 7**. The Prayer Shawl Ministry has added “prayer squares” to their ministry. These will be available to you to share with family or friend that is in need of encouragement.

A “prayer square” is a tangible item that carries the message of love and caring, the message of God’s constant love for the individual and of your love and prayers for them.

On Sunday, May 15th, the initial group of “squares” will be dedicated during the service. “Squares” will then be available whenever you would like to share one with someone. If you are unable to attend on Tuesday but would like to work on projects, we would love your help! Please check with Linda Westbrook 646-1127 for more information about the group or to donate materials.



Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School is July 25-29th from 9am-12:15pm daily!



Everyday Parents
**CAN Raise
Extraordinary Kids!**

WHAT: Biblical parenting seminar
WHO: Parents of children ages 2-18!
WHEN: Saturday, May 14th
TIME: 8:45am-2:30pm
WHERE: SCUMC
LUNCH: Included!
COST: \$25/couple or \$15/individual

CHILDCARE: A children’s program will be held simultaneously so the children will be learning the same biblical principles.

REGISTER NOW www.scumc.net