

"The Church in the heart of the city with the city in its heart."

The Downtowner



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Let me tell you some of the things that I have observed about FUMC in the few months that I have been here.

This church enjoys laughing. And I have enjoyed laughing with you.

This church loves to sing. You are teaching me new music and for that I am grateful.

This church appreciates its youth. You were so supportive of the 10 young people who performed a drama of Acts 5 recently in worship.

This church loves its children. We celebrated a beautiful baptism together.

This church serves the community. We continue to feed 180 homeless men and women each Friday and Sunday morning and will now add a new morning on Wednesdays.

This church loves the Lord. We express this love through acts of kindness to one another and to the community of downtown Miami.

It is important for us to remember these strengths as we move into challenging times. In recent years, it has become increasingly difficult for us to provide the ministry we dream of with decreased giving and membership numbers. We face the stark reality that most organizations do in this economic climate which is that difficult decisions have to be made regarding priorities and necessities. Just like I am sure your households have done over the last several months, our church will also be reassessing its budget based on financial constraints as we faithfully seek to meet a balanced budget for 2010.

I would ask two things of you over the next few weeks. First, as you are able, be present in worship. We will be examining the biblical examples of stewardship throughout November in preparation for our **Harvest & Stewardship Sunday on November 22**. Twenty-five percent of what Jesus said dealt with money and our use of it so I suppose it's safe to spend one month talking about it in worship! I am excited about the opportunity to do so because there is no greater way to grow deeper in our relationship to God than to thank God for those gifts and to continue to reassess how God would have us use them.

The second thing I ask is for your prayers. Pray for the list above and other ways you have experienced FUMC to be a church that shares God's love. Pray for God's wisdom to guide us. And pray for God to guide your participation in the sharing of this love. If you live far from us and are among our beloved "friends of FUMC" that are scattered throughout this country, please be in touch with us as we love to hear from you, and are praying for you as you pray for us.

I believe God has called us to a great task in the midst of a great city and I am grateful to be sharing this ministry with you.

Grace and peace to each of you,

Pastor Cynthia Weems

Our Vision

God's transforming grace in Jesus Christ calls us to become one dynamic church of diverse people in downtown Miami, offering a new life of Christian discipleship to the community.

Our Mission

To proclaim the gospel in all we do; to encourage and build disciples.

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SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAY
 Informal Service 8:30am
 Traditional Service *10:55am

WEDNESDAY
 Fellowship Dinner 5:45pm
 Prayer and Praise 6:45pm

SATURDAY
 Contemporary 7:00pm

*NURSERY PROVIDED

**HARVEST AND
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 22, 2009
COME & CELEBRATE!**

November is Stewardship month at FUMC and all are invited to worship together as we take time to honor God's gifts, give thanks, and return a portion for the Lord's work.

You will be receiving in the mail within the next two weeks a **pledge card** for you to pray over and complete before November 22. These gifts will be our offering to God and our pledge of intention for 2010. They will be critical in helping the church plan for a faithful budget in 2010.



Also on November 22 we will celebrate **Harvest Sunday** in traditional ways as the sanctuary will be decorated to remind us of God's bounty. Come ready to celebrate the harvest of God!

In response to this bounty we will also be receiving that day a **Harvest offering** that will go toward continuing the strengthening of our ministries at FUMC. Prayerfully consider a gift you can make on Harvest Sunday to return thanks to God for the many gifts God has offered in the year that has past.

**MORE MEALS!
FUMC AND TRINITY EPISCOPAL TO EXPAND
ITS PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE FOOD FOR THE
HOMELESS IN DOWNTOWN MIAMI**

Mary Weden, Missions Chairperson at FUMC, and Lucia Eldredge of Trinity Episcopal, have worked for some time to put together the pieces necessary to accomplish beginning another day of meals for the homeless in downtown. Starting the first week of November, Wednesday morning meals will begin to be served along with the usual Friday and Sunday morning schedule. The Wednesday morning meal will be a partnership between FUMC and Trinity and here is a way you can be a part of its success. Check out the list below and see where you might be available to participate in this important ministry of service.

**Tuesday & Thursday meal preparation
2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall**

**Wednesday & Friday meal distribution
6:30-7:00 a.m. FUMC parking lot**

**Saturday meal preparation
2:00-3:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall**

**Sunday morning Breakfast Club
7:15-8:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall**

**A commitment to donate 2 dozen boiled eggs
on the 1st Sunday of each month**

RESTROOM RENOVATION PROJECT!

In September, the Church Trustees approved the complete renovation of both lower level restrooms on the east side of the church. This is a wonderful opportunity for our church to improve our welcome and hospitality to the community and congregation. **Will you consider supporting this important effort?**

The labor for the project is being donated and estimated total costs are \$22,000. We already have secured more than \$14,000 in donations which leaves us with **\$8,000 more to raise**. If you are able to contribute to this effort, please make your **checks payable to FUMC with "Restroom Renovation" in the Memo line**. Please contact Scott Galvin, Trustees chairperson, with any questions at Scott@scottgalvin.com or 305-895-1755.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

Did you know that every member of the church is lifted up in prayer? Weekly. By name.

And the names of those given the pastor on Sunday morning are lifted up in that weekly prayer session.

A Wednesday Afternoon Prayer Team meets at 4:30 p.m. every week in the conference room. The group engages in a brief meditation which includes singing, prayers of preparation, and then prayers for the people.

The prayers are not long and drawn out. The group has a list it uses. The list consists of every church member, persons lifted up the previous Sunday in the Sunday morning worship service, and names of people for whom prayers have been requested.

Each name is reverently spoken. When the group comes to a name for whom there is a special need, that particular need is lifted up.

Team members take turns reading a page at a time, about 50 persons. There are about 750 names on the entire list, but it varies from week to week. After the names are read, opportunities for general prayers exist. The group prays, as needs are felt, for the community, those in need, the world and peoples of the world, the church universal and its mission, and the communion of saints.

The session generally lasts about an hour. You can participate in two ways. You can submit names for prayer. You can join the team for one session or more regularly if you like.

"Pray without ceasing" is one of the biblical injunctions that First United Methodist Church of Miami takes seriously. **Know that your are being prayed over.**



2009 CHARGE CONFERENCE

The 2009 Charge Conference will be held on **Sunday, November 15. The business session for the First United Methodist Church of Miami begins at 2:00 p.m. At 3:00 pm. join with other cluster congregations for a time of worship. Please plan to attend.**

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

FAITH IN THE CITY COMMUNITY GARDEN

Volunteers from FUMC, Temple Israel, Trinity Episcopal and Lotus House gathered for the Community Garden Dedication and Planting Day on Sunday, October 25, 2009 at 12:30 p.m. It was a wonderful celebration. Now we are in need of volunteers to help water the garden during the week. If you have any free time during the work day to help tend and water the garden (1 hour), please contact the church office.

HOT MEALS PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY

Assistance with publicity and marketing
Assistance with programs and meal distribution
(Mon-Thurs & Sat)

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Opportunities to serve in our office in the morning and afternoon as a way of offering welcome to our community and assisting with office tasks.

Christmas Angel Tree

Purchasing gifts for children in partnership with Shalom Community Church. Begin purchasing now for children ages infant-teenager within the range of \$15 or less. The Angel Tree will appear just after Thanksgiving in the narthex.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Lay Leadership Committee: November 1 at 12 Noon
Trustees: November 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Education: November 11 at 7:30 p.m.
Church Council: November 18 at 7:30 p.m.
Approval of preliminary 2010 Church Budget
Finance: November 25 at 7:30 p.m.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Daylight Saving Time will end Sunday, November 1. Please remember to set your clocks **BACK ONE HOUR.**



ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Offices will be closed Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving.

The United Methodist Women (U.M.W.) will meet Saturday, November 7.

11:00 a.m.— General meeting.
 12:15 p.m. Luncheon in Fellowship Hall.
 All are invited. Please make lunch reservations with Circle Chairperson or with the Church Office.

Circle information:

- ◆ **Miriam Circle will meet Thursday, November 12, at 2:30 p.m. in the Epworth Village Green Room.**
- ◆ **Esther Circle Meeting will meet Friday, November 13, at 11:30 a.m. at the home of Jan Orgaz, 7105 S.W. 109 Street, Miami. Bonnie Massey, hostess, will serve lunch.**
- ◆ **Ruth Circle Meeting—To Be Announced**



KEENAGERS

Keenagers will meet Friday, November 20, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.



THANKS FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS

- ◆ *Gifts in memory of John Massey were received from: Betty & Howard Roxborough, Norma Z. Jensen, Cecile Karlson, Patricia Eaton, Helen M. Whiting, Sonia M. Rodriguez, Robert & Janet Parkerson, Arthur & Gweneth North, Paul & Betsy Jamieson, Mildred Wright, Barbara Buckland.*
- ◆ *Gifts in memory of Elizabeth Snider were received from Larry Winebrenner and Mildred Wright.*
- ◆ *A gift in memory of Albertha Henry was received from Larry Winebrenner.*
- ◆ *A gift in honor of Owen P. Weilbacher's baptism was received from Larry Winebrenner.*
- ◆ *Gifts to the Bathroom Renovation Fund were received from: Reyna Sabina, Manuel & Aleida Hernandez, Gloria Bolen, Ginnie Cronk, Ginette Grey.*
- ◆ *Gifts to the Breakfast Club were received from: Louise Quinon-Teza, Evelyne Green, Richard Norwood, Kay Reinert.*

A special thank you to all these people for their generosity and continued support of our church and its ministries.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to our new members who joined the church on October 18, 2009:

Steve Wilkinson
Amauri Silva
Felipe Silva (12) and Mariana Silva (3)

INFANT BAPTISM

Owen Patrick Weilbacher was baptized on Sunday, September 20, 2009, by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Weems, pastor of FUMC of Miami, in the presence of family and friends. Owen is the son of Ken and Julie Galvin Weilbacher, born May 20, 2009. His grandparents are John and Opal Galvin, uncle is Scott Galvin. His paternal grandfather is Bob Weilbacher, and paternal great-grandmother is Aggie Weilbacher, both of Miami.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 SERVICES 7:30am Homeless Breakfast 8:30am Informal 10:55am Traditional	2 9:00am Hot Meals Program	3 9:00am Hot Meals Program	4 6:30am Homeless Ministry 9:00am Hot Meals Prog. 5:45 Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Prayer/Praise 7:30pm Trustees	5 9:00am Hot Meals Program	6 6:30am Homeless Ministry	7 9:00am Hot Meals Program 11:00 am UMW 7pm Contemporary Service
8 SERVICES 7:30am Homeless Breakfast 8:30am Informal 10:55am Traditional	9 9:00am NO Hot Meals Program	10 9:00am Hot Meals Program	11 6:30am Homeless Ministry 9:00am Hot Meals Prog. 5:45 Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Prayer/Praise 7:30pm Education VETERANS DAY OBSERV.	12 9:00am Hot Meals Program 2:30 pm Miriam Circle 6:45 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	13 6:30am Homeless Ministry 11:30 am Esther Circle	14 9:00am Hot Meals Program 7pm Contemporary Service
15 SERVICES 7:30am Homeless Breakfast 8:30am Informal 10:55am Traditional CHARGE CONFERENCE	16 9:00am Hot Meals Program	17 9:00am Hot Meals Program	18 6:30am Homeless Ministry 9:00am Hot Meals Prog. 5:45 Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Prayer/Praise 7:00 Ad Council Mtg.	19 9:00am Hot Meals Program 6:45 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	20 6:30am Homeless Ministry 11:30am Keenagers	21 9:00am Hot Meals Program 7pm Contemporary Service
22 SERVICES 7:30am Homeless Breakfast 8:30am Informal 10:55am Traditional	23 9:00am Hot Meals Program	24 9:00am Hot Meals Program 5:00 pm Homeless Ministry @ CPH	25 6:30am Homeless Ministry 9:00am Hot Meals Prog. 5:45 Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Prayer/Praise 7:30 Finance Comm.	26 9:00am NO Hot Meals Prog. NO Bell/Chancel Choir Thanksgiving Day OFFICE CLOSED	27 6:30am Homeless Ministry Holiday OFFICE CLOSED	28 9:00am Hot Meals Program 7pm Contemporary Service
29 SERVICES 7:30am Homeless Breakfast 8:30am Informal 10:55am Traditional	30 9:00am Hot Meals Program					



BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Michael Dreaden | 23 Clynne Morgan |
| 4 Betty Buckland | 28 Maria Dreaden |
| 5 Joseph Boyett | 29 Steven Carter |
| Scott Dareff | Laverne Gayle |
| 6 Tiffani Christopher | Sandra Roe |
| Steve Forde | 30 Robert Delaney |
| 7 Walter Baggesen | |
| Scott Manning | |
| 10 Gail Gleaton | |
| 11 Nicole Harry | |
| 14 Maeva Hipps | |
| Jay McElroy | |
| 15 Betty Blonder | |
| 16 Olga Sierra | |
| 19 William Steele | |
| Christine Wallace | |
| 21 Paula Simmons | |
| 22 Zoilo Perez | |



ANNIVERSARIES FOR NOVEMBER

- 10 Miriam & James Hutson
- 15 Cathy & Charles Winebrenner
- 20 Helen & Ariel Arias
- 24 Cynthia Weems & Amauri Silva
- 25 Opal & John Galvin
- 30 Deborah & Steve Carter

SPECIAL DATES

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2009
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, November 1, 2009
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2009
- Christ the King Sunday, November 22, 2009
- Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2009
- National Bible Week, November 22-29, 2009
- First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2009

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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Cynthia Weems cweems@fumcmiami.com
Church Administrator	Mayra Hernandez
Director of Music	Mihai Valentin Bogdan
Financial Secretary	Chantal Falby
Chef	Raul Abuchaibe
Custodian	Maria Lopez
Missionaries	Marilyn Beecher Delbert and Sandy Groves

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

November 7— United Methodist Women's meeting at 11:00 a.m.

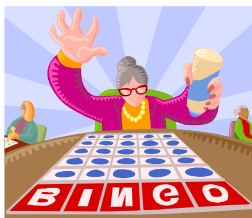
November 12 — MIRIAM CIRCLE 2:30 p.m. in the Epworth Village "Green Room".

November 13 — ESTHER CIRCLE 11:30 a.m. at home of Jan Orgaz, lunch will be provided.

November 20 — Keenagers will meet with a covered dish luncheon. Doors open at 11:30 a.m.

Circle Meeting: RUTH CIRCLE— **To Be Announced**

SUPPORT YOUR HOT MEALS PROGRAM



BINGO FIESTA

Saturday, November 14

10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

\$5 Donation

(Includes 1 Game Card, Lunch and Dessert)

Join us for this fun-filled event!

Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, December 12

10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Market goods,
clothes, food,
prizes and many
other surprises!!

