

# Highlands United Methodist Church



## The Meaning of Lent

Lent, as practiced in modern times has become more ritual than true spiritual practice of purification, which usually entails giving something up for Lent after gorging ourselves on Shrove (Fat) Tuesday. We may give up sweets, such as chocolate, forego some other gastronomic delight, or go on a diet.

Ash Wednesday begins the 40 days of the Lenten season with ashes being placed on the forehead as a reminder of our failures, or acts of disobedience, in the past year in order to live the life in Christ Jesus that we promised God. They remind us that we are human, finite and dependent on God for our existence.

The deeper meaning of Lent is much more than giving up a favorite food. It is about being transformed, a continuing growth toward spiritual maturity, about experiencing God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is a time to go deeper into spiritual practices or to begin spiritual practices that will lead us to experience God, and when we experience God, we change.

There are many spiritual disciplines we can practice that will open doors for us to experience the presence of God. Some are practiced individually and some as part of the body of Christ the Church. Individual spiritual disciplines are: prayer, fasting, meditation, stewardship and service. Those practiced corporately as the church are: confession, worship, guidance, and celebration. More details concerning these disciplines can be found in the book *Celebration of Disciplines*. It helps us understand the purpose of practicing spiritual disciplines is to experience the presence of God and open oneself to the transforming work of the Holy Spirit.

Lent is also a time of participation so that we can experience the full power of Easter, enabling us to live a resurrected new life now.

Our Lenten schedule and sermon series for Highlands UMC:

Feb. 25, 2009	Ash Wednesday Service - "Experience God"	6:30p.m.
March 1, 2009	"God is always working around you"	
March 8, 2009	"God pursues"	
March 15, 2009	"God invites"	
March 22, 2009	"God speaks"	
March 29, 2009	"God's invitation leads to crisis of belief"	
April 5, 2009	"Making major adjustments"	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
April 12, 2009	"Experiencing God" (Musical & Message)	<b>Easter</b>

During Holy Week:

Maundy Thursday	"A Christian Seder Meal"	6:00p.m.
Good Friday	"Journey to the Cross"	Noon
Sunrise Service		6:45a.m.
Pancake Breakfast		7:45a.m.- 9:00a.m.

The Lord is here with you. Will you be open to experiencing God's transforming presence as He pursues a deeper spiritual relationship with you? There is no Easter, without first experiencing God's presence.



## **YOU ARE INVITED!**

**Spring Break Mini-Camp – Vacation Bible School**

**March 30 – April 3, 2009 9:00AM – Noon**

**FREE! FREE! FREE!**

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarteners through Fifth Graders  
Come to the **BEACH PARTY!**

**FUN! CRAFTS! MUSIC! BIBLE STORIES! SNACKS!**  
Field Trip to the BEACH!

**Highlands United Methodist Church**  
1955 Broward Road Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Call to reserve your place: 757-7909



## **EASTER PARTY**

**Come One!! Come All!!**

**April 4th  
10:00a.m.**

**EASTER  
EGG HUNT!**



**Please come eat, drink, decorate eggs,  
Praise our Lord, Scavenger Hunt,  
and hunt eggs on this  
fine Spring Saturday at  
Highlands UMC.**

## Wesley-Mulcahy Circle

The Wesley Mulcahy Circle met February 3, 2009 in the fellowship hall at the church. It was a cold, winter day, and Jeanine Thompson's homemade chicken noodle soup just hit the spot.

We did not clean the sanctuary as scheduled in January, but we are happy to report it was accomplished in February.

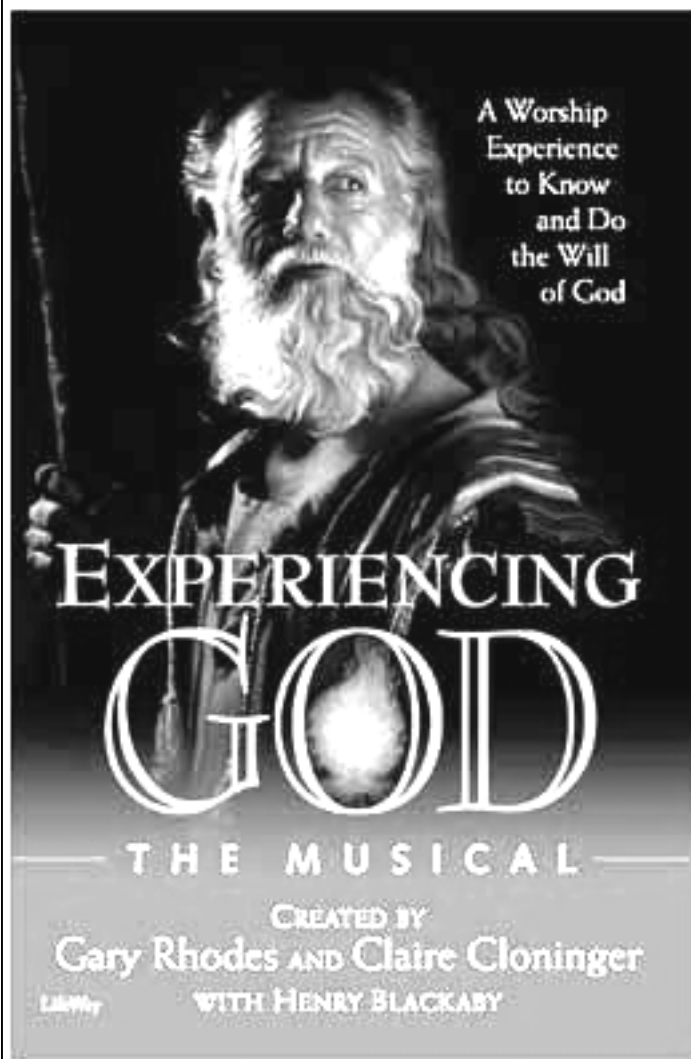
Thanks to Charlotte Greene and Joann Overstreet, we had ten lap robes to give to give Community Hospice. We put the final touches on them after the meeting, and we thank Hazel Fleming for delivering them.

The United Methodist Women's annual Spiritual Retreat at Epworth by the Sea was discussed. It is scheduled for March 6-8.

Our March 3rd meeting will be at the church and Juanita Webb will be our hostess. Jeanine Thompson will give the devotion and Joann Overstreet the program.



## Women's Circle



Joins us  
Easter Sunday, April 12  
at 10:45

For a  
Unique Easter Worship  
Experience in song  
**Experiencing  
God**

Presented by  
Highlands United Methodist  
ist

# March 2009 Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <i>Celebrate Jesus Colby Ave.</i>	<b>2</b> <i>CJ - Stephanie Berry S-Patsy Butterbrodt LT - Bruce Stevens  Colby Ave.</i>	<b>3</b> <i>LT-Kathy Walther SST-Anna Hayner SS-Judy Whitter  Colby Ave.</i>	<b>4</b> <i>S-Pastor Joe LT-Bob McNeill Journey to Jesus  Colby Ave.</i>	<b>5</b> <i>S-Anita Hutchins LT-Carol Stevens SST-Bill &amp; Trish McCann Colby Ave.</i>	<b>6</b> <i>SST-Hazel Fleming B-Nancy Foster SS-Alice Orosz  Colby Ave.</i>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Celebrate Jesus Broward Rd.</i>	<b>9</b> <i>S-Anna Hayner B-Joann Hebblethwaite CJ-Mary Ann Gay  Broward Rd.</i>	<b>10</b> <i>SS-Selina Murray LT-Evelyn Davis Journey to Jesus  Broward Rd.</i>	<b>11</b> <i>B-Sherrie Fekete SS-Sandy Kirby CJ-David &amp; Jeanine Thompson Broward Rd.</i>	<b>12</b> <i>SS-Mary Powell LT-Ike Mathews B-Jean Silsby  Broward Rd.</i>	<b>13</b> <i>LT-Eva Mathews SS-Brandi Coffelt CJ-Hazel Fleming  Broward Rd.</i>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <i>Celebrate Jesus Biscayne Blvd.</i>	<b>16</b> <i>LT-Jack Mathews B-Joan Bryant SST-Bob McNeill  Biscayne Blvd.</i>	<b>17</b> <i>SS-Kim Lane LT-Joanne Talbott CJ-Bruce &amp; Carol Stevens Biscayne Blvd.</i>	<b>18</b> <i>SS-Carol Perry LT-Bill McCann LT-Pastor Joe  Biscayne Blvd.</i>	<b>19</b> <i>LT-Mary Ann Gay SST-Tammy Crotts LT-Patsy Butterbrodt  Biscayne Blvd.</i>	<b>20</b> <i>B-Bruce Stevens SS-Barbara Baugh Celebrate Jesus Mission Biscayne Blvd.</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <i>Celebrate Jesus Loyola Dr.</i>	<b>23</b> <i>SST-Eva Mathews LT-Anita Hutchins SS-Julie Dowling  Loyola Dr.</i>	<b>24</b> <i>Military &amp; Troops President &amp; Staff Vacation Bible School  Loyola Dr.</i>	<b>25</b> <i>Shut Ins/Homebound Economy/Country Journey to Jesus  Loyola Dr.</i>	<b>26</b> <i>HUMC Volunteers Military &amp; Troops Celebrate Jesus Mission Loyola Dr.</i>	<b>27</b> <i>HUMC Volunteers Summer Mini Camp Vacation Bible School  Loyola Dr.</i>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <i>Celebrate Jesus Bucknell Ave.</i>	<b>30</b> <i>Policemen &amp; women Local Government Celebrate Jesus Mission</i>	<b>31</b> <i>HUMC Volunteers Shut Ins/homebound Summer Mini Camp</i>	<p>Please pray for those listed each day. Please pray for the residents on the streets listed each week as we will be coming into contact with them very soon during our Celebrate Jesus Mission Week.</p> <p>S - HUMC Staff      SS - WCDC Staff      B - WCDC Board      LT - Leadership Team SST - Sunday School Teachers      CJ - Celebrate Jesus Team</p>			

# March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship Service <b>2:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>2</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:00 PM</b> Friendship Circle	<b>3</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Wesley Mulcahy Circle <b>6:30 PM</b> Girl Scouts (Library) <b>7:00 PM</b> Health Team	<b>4</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>5</b> <b>6:15 PM</b> Journey to Jesus	<b>6</b> <b>UMW Spiritual Enrichment Retreat</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>7</b> <b>UMW Spiritual Enrichment Retreat</b>
<b>8</b> <b>UMW Spiritual Enrichment Retreat</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship Service <b>2:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>9</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:00 PM</b> VBS Training	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Leadership Team	<b>11</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>12</b> <b>6:15 PM</b> Journey to Jesus	<b>13</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship Service <b>2:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>16</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Girl Scouts <b>6:30 PM</b> Worship Committee	<b>18</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> WCDC Board <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>19</b> <b>6:15 PM</b> Journey to Jesus	<b>20</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>21</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> UMW Unit Brunch
<b>22</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship Service <b>2:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>23</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Prime Timers <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>26</b> <b>6:15 PM</b> Journey to Jesus	<b>27</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship Service <b>2:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>30</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Spring Break VBS <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Spring Break VBS	<b>1</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Spring Break VBS <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>2</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Spring Break VBS	<b>3</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Spring Break VBS <b>7:00 PM</b> Spanish Church	<b>4</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Girl Scout

## BIRTHDAYS

3-1	MC Carr	3-14	Jamie Morris
3-2	Chloe Loudermill	3-15	Ken risberg
3-4	Tyler Morris	3-22	Donald Lacouture
3-4	Jamie Phelps	3-23	Vicky Hinson
3-6	Mary Beth Swint	3-26	Kyle Sell
3-11	Bob Hebblethwaite	3-27	Kathy Walther
3-12	Parker Loudermill	3-28	Sharon Jones



## ANNIVERSARIES

3-17	Stan & Ann Hoffman
3-22	MC & Marilyn Carr
3-23	Bart & Allison Wofford



# February Leadership Team Highlights

Mission Vital Signs (MVS) - A new program that will measure our fruitfulness in making disciples based on the Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation. The MVS have been created to address two purposes:

To bring practical clarity to the mission of congregations in their community

To help leaders know if their ministry is becoming more or less effective

Lay Leadership is lacking an Outreach Chairperson. The Leadership Team is looking at those with the gift and is praying for an answer.

Spring Break VBS is from March 30<sup>th</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Volunteers are still needed to help lead kids from one activity center to the next.

Celebrate Jesus Team members met with counselors from the Mission to review our Mission Planning Tool for the upcoming event. The Team's goal is that 80% of our congregation will participate in some way with this event. Folks are needed for prayer, hospitality, block party celebration, visitation and follow-through. Many have already volunteered to participate and some have begun bringing water bottles and supplies for the block party.

The Natural Church Development Team (Healthy Church Team) has been discussing affirmations and is encouraging everyone to have intentional spiritual discussions with others. What is going on with your soul?

The Trustees are concerned about the ongoing plumbing problem with the Sanctuary bathrooms. Serious consideration is being made into purchasing a 100 foot snake to maintain the system ourselves rather than call a plumber each time.

The Finance Committee Treasurer's Report for January stated:

\$22,613.59 Total Inflow

\$23,710.47 Total Outflow

Decrease in cash (-1,096.88)

The Finance Committee General Fund Report for January stated:

\$27,274.04 - Checking Balance 1/31/2009

\$25,252.37 - Amount of Funds that are designated 1/31/2009

General Fund Balance - \$2,021.67

The Leadership Team brainstormed ideas to increase our General Fund:

Increase personal pledge

Invite your friends and family to Church and Sunday School

Rummage/Yard Sale

Fish Fry

Community Dinner

Analyze expenses to trim back spending

Sponsor an expense for a week/month or year

Please contact a member from the Team if you have suggestions or ideas that can be of help. Members are listed on the back.

#### LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

2009

(\* non-voting member)

JOANNE TALBOTT	TRUSTEE CHAIRPERSON
CAROL STEVENS	SPRC CHAIRPERSON
KATHY WALTHER	CO-LAY LEADER
BRUCE STEVENS	CO-LAY LEADER
BILL McCANN	WCDC LIASION
EVELYN DAVIS	FINANCE CHAIRPERSON
IKE MATHEWS	NURTURE CHAIRPERSON
MARY ANN GAY	WITNESS CHAIRPERSON
JACK MATTHEWS	WORSHIP CHAIRPERSON
JOAN BRYANT	LAY DELEGATE TO CONFERENCE
EVA MATHEWS	UMYF CHAIRPERSON
BOB McNEILL	UMM CHAIRPERSON\
LORETTA SCRIBNER	UMW CHAIRPERSON
JOE ALLINDER*	TEAM CHAIR/PRES. LAY LEADERSHIP
ANITA HUTCHINS*	TREASURER/SECRETARY
PATSY BUTTERBRODT*	CHOIR DIRECTOR



## Highlands United Methodist Church

### Vision Statement:

Highlands United Methodist Church is committed to being a spiritually safe place for all people to develop meaningful relations with

Jesus

Others

Yourself

### Who's Who:

Joseph E. Allinder, Pastor

Patsy Butterbrodt, Music Director

Anita Hutchins, Administrative Asst.

Anna Hayner, Nursery Attendant

Selina Murray, WCDC Director

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 - Traditional Worship Service

9:45 - Sunday School - All Ages

11:00 - Contemporary Worship Service

5:00 - UMYF

### Choir Practice -

Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Prepared especially for:

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Highlands United Methodist Church