



United Church of Gainesville

APRIL 2009

Larry Reimer & Sandy Reimer
Ministers

Andy Bachmann
Associate Minister

Lisa Goldstein
Editor

NEWSLETTER

WHOEVER YOU ARE, WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, WE WELCOME YOU.

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There is no Gainesville
Worship on Retreat
Sunday, April 26

“What Really Matters”

UCG’s Annual Retreat

at Lake Yale— April 24 to 26

Join us as we focus on our enduring values, the simple gifts of life and community, and our deep connections with nature and with the Spirit. Whether you say *What Really Matters?* or *What Really Matters!*, this Retreat offers a multitude of experiences for finding both refuge and perspective on these challenging times in our lives and in our world.

If you are lucky enough to go on Retreat, you are lucky enough!



United Church of Gainesville
RETREAT 2009

Time and Talent

If you did not have a chance to complete a Time and Talent form or to volunteer as a member of a board, committee, team or as a church school guide, please look for the form on the counter in the foyer as you come to church these next three weeks. You can fill out your form and put it in the box in the foyer as you leave. You can also e-mail the church office and we’ll send you a form electronically.

The Journey to Easter and Beyond

- Palm Sunday – 9:30 & 11:00 Services – Sermon by Larry Reimer, “The ‘I Am’ Enigmas of Jesus”
- Maundy Thursday – 7:00pm Tenebrae Service – child care provided
- Easter Sunday – 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00am Services – Sermon by Larry Reimer and Sandy Reimer, “Saving Paradise”
- The Sunday After Easter – “Earth Sunday” – 9:30 & 11:00 Services – Sermon by Andy Bachmann

Mary and Mary Magdalene loved in such a way that they shed their fear. Empowered by their faith and their encounters with Jesus, they proclaimed what they had seen and what they knew to be true. Certainly they grieved and experienced their hope flagging during the dark moments surrounding Jesus’ death. But their faith remained a small steady flame that was fanned to brilliant bold new life in the light of that Easter dawn.

These women invite you and me to such faith. Their testimony stands through the ages. It is a reminder to us to rekindle the gift of God that is within us,for God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power and love.
~ (2nd Timothy 1:6-7)

What's Happening in April

PNO (Parent's Night Out) on Friday, April 17

Need a night out? PNO is for parents of babies through K/1 and their siblings. The kids can go to the UCG church school wing on Friday, **April 17th** from 5:30 to 8:30pm - where they eat pizza*, watch movies, play games, and have fun with their friends and our child care staff. The cost is \$10 for the first child and \$5 for each additional child. RSVPs are required so we have sufficient staffing for the children. **Please RSVP by noon on Tuesday, April 14** to alysonm@ucgainesville.org. *Due to life-threatening food allergies, no outside food can be brought in.

PattiCake Potluck on Sunday, April 19

Join Doug, Salina, Xander and Simini Kiker as they host a PattiCake potluck on **Sunday, April 19 at 3:30pm**. Please bring a dish to share and your children, babies through 1st grade and their siblings. For more information please call Cindy Martin at 336-7403.

Another Supper Club Dinner is coming up on Saturday, May 2 at 6:00pm

The last Supper Club event before summer break will be a Mediterranean picnic on Saturday, May 2 at 6:00 pm at the home of Janet and Ron Haase in Melrose. Enjoy a beautiful lake-view setting for sharing good food and conversation. You will be asked to provide an appetizer, hearty salad, or dessert, and the costs of all food and wine will be shared equally. Please contact Pat Atkins (patkins_1@msn.com), Sue Hartman (373-1049, hartlman@cox.net), or Susan Kirkland (332-2962, susetack@gmail.com) by **April 20** to sign up or to ask for more information.

Registration for the Helen Aller Oster Memorial Golf Tournament begins in April

The event is scheduled for: **When – Sunday May 3, 2009 at 1:15pm**

Where – Ironwood Golf Course

Cost – \$50

What's Included – Green fees, cart, lunch, drinks and prizes

This Tournament is a scramble format. All levels, from beginner to experienced, are encouraged to join in. Because we go to the best shot of your foursome, your shot can only help your team. For more information, contact Mike Chance at 374-4656 or e-mail at mdchance@hotmail.com

RECURRING THROUGHOUT THE MONTH

- ★ **Dances of Universal Peace** meets in the West Wing at 7pm on the second Friday of each month. The dances are meditative in nature and cultivate connections with yourself and others. All dances are taught incorporating sacred phrases and chants from world religions and are based on simple folk dance movements. No partner or previous experience needed, just come with an open heart.
- ★ **Friendship Group** meets in Room 8, at 11:00am, on the first and third Sundays of the month. Denise Follenius facilitates this group for church teens and adults with special needs.
- ★ **BYO Lunch Groups** meet at noon on Fridays - Men's in the Kitchen and Women's in the Library. All are welcome to these informal gatherings. Child care is provided if you call the church office by noon on Thursday. No Lunch Groups on April 24th.
- ★ **20 +/-** meets Sundays at 12:15pm in the Courtyard. This group is open to all young adults who have finished high school who are in school, in the work force, or where-ever. Contact Rachele Degraff at JFsmiley1@comcast.net or Phillip Clemons at sclemons@ufl.edu for details.

UCG ANNUAL RETREAT

“WHAT REALLY MATTERS” - APRIL 24 TO 26

AT LAKE YALE CONFERENCE CENTER NEAR LEESBURG

Registration continues:

**at the church office, 9:30 to 4:30pm through Friday, April 3rd;
Sunday April 5th from 10:15 to 12:15pm in the Memory Garden;
and Sunday April 12 from 10:30 to 11:00am.**

Mary Ellen Cross, Registrar, and Martha McInnes, Assistant Registrar, are happy to answer any questions you have about Retreat. We hope that you'll sign up for this wonderful UCG tradition. The Retreat includes worship, recreation, workshops and activities for all ages, a variety show, and lots of fun and relaxation! There is great child care for babies and toddlers during the day, and for all children in the evening. The Conference Center is situated on a large and beautiful lake; the facilities include a swimming pool as well as basketball, softball, soccer and volleyball areas. All meals are provided. Housing is in dormitory cabins, with some options for semi-private rooms. Adults who attend without children have the additional options of tent-camping, RVs, and motel rooms. Visit the Lake Yale website at www.flbaptist.org for more information about the camp

Information packets and directions are available at the registration tables, at the church office, and online at www.ucgainesville.org. Financial aid is available for UCG members in the form of scholarships or loans. Every adult attending retreat volunteers to help with one activity during the weekend. Parents of elementary school children are encouraged to lead a one-hour session with the children doing something you and they enjoy. You can sign up for the activity of your choice on posters when you register. Please note that you will need to pay when you register.

Other important information:

- check-in on Friday evening at Maguire Auditorium. First-time Retreat attenders will have a special check-in table with helpful welcomers to facilitate a smooth and happy arrival!
- adults, please bring your own insulated coffee mug, labeled with your name
- bring your own refillable water bottle. UCG's Social Justice Committee is selling water bottles on Sunday, April 19 that are great to bring!
- You can order t-shirts (adults \$10; youth and children, \$6) at registration **if you register by Sunday, April 5th**. A sample of the T-shirt logo will be available.

There is a meeting for all parents of babies – 5th graders, who are going on Retreat, on **Sunday, April 19 at 10:45am** in the West Wing with child care and children's program coordinators. Please mark this date on your calendar!

Calling all people of variety! Do you have a hidden, or not so hidden, talent that you would like to share with your fellow UCG'ers? Well, now is your chance! Please consider signing up for the UCG Family Retreat Variety Show, happening the Saturday night of the Retreat. Look for Shanna Johnson and Tracy Bachmann at Retreat Registration on Sunday, April 5th to sign up. **Please remember:** All acts must consist of at least two people, be PG rated and suitable for even the youngest audience member, containing no references to drugs, alcohol or tobacco.

Retreat Jazz Band! If you're coming on retreat and play a jazz band instrument, sign up at church or let the church office know. I'm going to decide what we'll play based on what instruments we have. The music is typically of a quality middle school band level of difficulty. We're rehearsing Wed., April 22, at 7:00 p.m ~ Larry

The Seventh Trumpet

Yesterday I got to be the first person to use the new UCG Bike Share Program® (see article, p.8). Sandy and I had a rather complicated afternoon of being different places at the end of the day. So I checked out the new purple 21 speed bike, adjusted the seat to fit my height, adjusted the helmet to fit my long narrow head, pedaled home, and then pedaled back. I commend trying one of our UCG bikes if you have errands or business near the church or university. What with the exercise, saving of gas, and non-polluting thing, you can feel very righteous.

I've found our Lenten bookmark, "The winds of grace are always blowing, but you have to raise the sail" by Ramakrishna, to be a helpful guide for my own journey. Whether it's riding a bike, signing up for a church board, giving up my before bed romance with ice cream, or exploring the scriptures for Lenten sermons, I like hoisting the sail for new energy for my spiritual journey. For Palm Sunday, I am going to look at the enigma of Jesus' "I am" statements. We've all been plagued by Jesus' statement in John, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me." That's been a biblical club that uncomfortably narrows the range of Christianity for me. I've found some new "I am" statements of Jesus, both in our bible and in the Gnostic scriptures which are intriguing for Palm Sunday.

Maundy Thursday, April 9, is our beautiful 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae service with the extinguishing of candles and the readings of the last day of Jesus' life. It's an important Lenten tradition for me.

Finally, in describing resurrection, Kathy Galloway, in Sandy's "Melodies of Grace" Lenten booklet writes, "I expect one day I'll get up/ and find that it (resurrection) sneaked up/ on me while I wasn't looking,/ and maybe even that/ it's been there all along. /That's as may be. There's no point in trying/ to see things before/ you are ready. You have/ to walk before you can run." I like that, the sneaking up of resurrection again this Easter. Lent for me is the walking we have to do before we're ready for the run of Easter.

Blessings,

Larry

PS - Update on acoustical progress

We have just completed installing acoustical tiles in the Fellowship Hall and West Wing, and I believe you'll notice quite a difference in sound. The echoes and reverberations are gone. Large groups should not seem nearly as noisy, small groups should be able to hear one another, and seminar leaders should be more distinct. This was all done with money from the UCG Endowment Fund, and it is a noticeable improvement.

We're looking into the price of personal hearing loops for the sanctuary. These are inconspicuous wires, hung around the neck that broadcast directly to hearing aids equipped with t-coils. Meanwhile, if you have difficulty hearing any part of the service, try out one of the current hearing assistance devices. Wayne Nagy has them at the sound board. They're like a small walkman with a single ear bud. Those who use them find them very helpful.

If you have hearing questions or concerns, please contact me. Thanks.

THRESHOLDS

. . . . SANDY REIMER

One of the gifts of my ministry here at UCG is creating our Advent reflection booklets since 1996 and the Lenten reflection booklets since 2000. Throughout the year, I enjoy finding and saving poems and readings that seem appropriate. When the season comes, I love putting all those pieces together in some coherent form for the booklet. After that, it's a little like giving birth, as the booklets come forth from the printer, are picked up by members of our congregation, and then go off on their own, on paths I can't begin to fully know. What's really satisfying to me is when I hear from someone about a reading that really spoke to them or a reading that they've used in another context: at a meeting, or a wedding, or a letter to a friend, or even at a memorial service. It reminds me of the March 22 selection from this year's booklet, about "that which comes to us as seed goes on to the next as blossom and that which comes to us as blossom goes on as fruit."

I have the same feeling about the Memorial Gifts and the gifts to the UCG Endowment Fund that enable so much to blossom in our church. I want to share one of these blossoms with you today. In 2001, Casey Upshaw, a fine man and church member, died. His wife, Nona, established a memorial fund in his name at UCG and asked that we use those funds to create a place in our chapel where people can come and light a candle as they pray for a loved one. The path to make this wonderful idea a reality has been circuitous, yet it is now happening. We have two beautiful new tiled-top tables in the Chapel. We have lovely containers for small candles. And, beginning in May, every Sunday, it will be possible to go to the chapel, light a candle in prayer, and sit quietly with the light. There will be more information in the May newsletter.

As we move into Holy Week and Easter this month, I hope that your Lenten journey has been fruitful, that you have been able to let go of something for which you've needed to forgive yourself or accept forgiveness, and that you've found ways to be open to the winds of grace in your life and in your spirit. On Easter Sunday, Larry and I will share some insights on "Saving Paradise," with a fresh perspective on heaven here on earth and in the hereafter. Here's a hint: In their book by the same name, Rita Nakashimi Brock and Rebecca Ann Parker note that there was no representation of hell or eternal suffering in any Christian religious art until the ninth century. What brought that change and how does that still affect us today?

May this Easter be for you a moment when, as Fra Giovanni said in the 16th century, *the day breaks and the shadows flee*.

PASSAGES...

- ◆ We celebrate with Linda Galloway and Jim Ferguson on the arrival of their granddaughter Lucy T. Linnenbach, born February 21 weighing 5lbs 11oz. Lucy and her parents, Asheley and Carlton Linnenbach, are doing great!
- ◆ Blessings to Helda Montero and Andy Frenock on the birth of their twins sons, Diego and Carlos on Saturday, February 21 weighing 5lbs 1oz and 5lbs 7ozs. They join their four year old sister Elena.

ANDY'S CORNER

This week, our high school group, Youth United is making our 5th Work Tour to the gulf coast, to help rebuild homes and hope after Hurricane Katrina. This year we are actually heading into the Big Easy, working with our disaster response team through our denomination (the United Church of Christ). On our first work tour in April of 2004 we worked in Biloxi, Mississippi doing home repair BEFORE Katrina.

On that trip we took a side jaunt into the city of New Orleans, and had a blast strolling the French Quarter, riding the streetcars and taking a riverboat cruise up the mighty Mississippi. I'm anxious to get back there to see how the great city has changed since we were there these many years ago now.

Apparently the rebuild of New Orleans is still slow going. Many neighborhoods have simply been demolished or abandoned. Less than one third of the original residents still live in New Orleans. The city still wrestles with the same major issues it had before Katrina (crime, poverty, violence), only now

the problems have been exacerbated due to the depressed local economy and slow process and high cost of rebuilding.

Still, in the midst of these hardships the people power on. And we are once again, going to do what we can, in the short time we have there, to help. Please hold our entire group in your prayers during this year's Work Tour. Pray that we will have a safe journey, pray that we will have a positive impact on the people we work with, and pray that we will deepen and strengthen our faith through the simple ministry that we do.

Of course, Work Tour is not the only thing happening at UCG during April. All eyes look to the All Church Retreat as well. Both youth groups have some great stuff planned, complete with geo-caching, digital camera scavenger hunts and a new variation on the Youth-wide Sunday Morning Scavenger hunt. You won't want to miss it!

MSG

April 5 & 12 Spring Break– No group. However, Sarah Ingley will be having a rehearsal for those of you who are interested in singing in an upcoming church service. We will be offering a piece suggested by Dave Reiser.

April 19 Earth Day-Skit planning and rehearsal with Casey Kumar! After group, MSG members can join with members of YU to go Clean the Creek for Earth Day!

April 24-26 All – Church Retreat

YU

April 5-10

Work Tour 2009 to New Orleans, Louisiana

April 12

Easter Sunday - No group

April 19

Video pre-shoot **and** Clean the Creek for Earth Day

April 24-26

All Church Retreat

UCG Contributes Generously

Our annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering was Sunday, March 22. Thanks to your generosity, UCG is contributing \$2110.00 toward international development and relief in partnership with Church World Service.

A Little Child Shall Lead Them

UCG Children's Program ~ Heidi Stein, Director

Who's a Who?

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Seuss Rotation. It was so much fun. Our next rotation will be focusing on Earth day and start May 5th after retreat. There is still time to get in on the planning for this rotation so if you have an interest please contact me Heidi Stein at steinags@cox.net.

Tribal Camp?

Applications and brochures can be picked up in the church office. Camp is at a prime time August 3rd thru the 14th right here at UCG so reserve your spot right away. Members of UCG have set the theme for the camp as Compassion in Action. Campers will see compassion in the way they treat each other, the world we live in, and themselves.

Don't miss the fun.

One of the great things about the rotation model is that the children get to bond with each other and their guides. We are seeking nurturing and caring individuals to be guides next year. This is such a rewarding experience ! Tom Williams and Dotty Faibisy who are retiring this year have been at it for over 13 years. Guides are the consistent leaders who bond with the Church School kids. You do not have to have a child in the program to be a guide. There are two guides per group and the time commitment is approximately 15 Sundays a year with major holidays off. Please contact Heidi Stein at steinags@cox.net if you are interested in this fun and rewarding experience.

Schedule

- 4-05-09 Spring Break - Extended Activity Time
- 4-12-09 Easter Egg Hunt
- 4-19-09 Sing - Practice Retreat Songs
- 4-26-09 Retreat
- 5-03-09 New Rotation – Earth Day



UCG Rummage Sale Coming in May!

Are your closets getting full of gently used items? Have an abundance of plastic shopping bags, clothes hangers and newspapers gathering dust? Never fear, The UCG Rummage Sale is just around the corner, and we'd love to take those items off of your hands! Friday, May 15th and Saturday, May 16th are the big days, so mark your calendars. Drop-off times (Tuesday the 12th thru Thursday the 14th) will be posted as Rummage time draws closer. Make a note that there will be many drop-off opportunities, since there will be **NO PRE-STORAGE** this year. We'll also be recruiting helpers for all sorts of job duties, so keep an eye out for the sign-up table in the next couple of weeks.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Salina Briseno-Kiker salinadoug@hotmail.com, Shanna Johnson (butterbean1016@gmail.com), or Tracy Bachmann (tracy.bachmann@cox.net). Hope to see you there!

NEWS FROM BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Associate Minister Search Committee

The committee continues to carefully examine information from a diverse set of applicants. We have had 48 applicants now. We are narrowing the group to some exciting people whom we are now looking at more closely. Be assured that we will let members of the congregation know as soon as there is definite information to share. I greatly appreciate the support of the ministers in this search, as well as the other members of the search committee: Jamie Baldwin, Mark Burlingame, Kristin Wolcott Farese, Reisa George, Ann Gill, Hal Smith, Jerry Steinberg, David Thaler, and Trish Thoburn. Everyone has worked so hard for us to get to this point. ~ Joanne Pohlman, Chair

Compassion in Action Committee

In conjunction with Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) the Compassion in Action Board is asking for new or gently used books for children of all ages, including teenagers. Please take one, or more of the book marks in the foyer and return with the book by April 12th. These books will be delivered to local children who are victims of child abuse.

Social Justice Committee

Bottles and Bikes ~ Celebrate Earth Day 2009 by helping save our water and air!

The Social Justice Committee will be selling the remainder of our collapsible water bottles between services on Sunday, April 19th in celebration of Earth Day. Bottles are only \$5.00 and would be great to take on the UCG Retreat, hiking or biking or as you enjoy any other Earth Day activities.

Also, you can help us save our air quality by riding one of the two bicycles now available at UCG. The bikes are available for members to "check out" at the Church Office and include a helmet and combination lock. Use them to bike to work at UF or anywhere else close to UCG; to run errands; to take a bike ride or any other use you can think of.

In the beginning of UCG's "Share A Bike" program, we ask that you use bikes during office hours. If this program is popular with members, the Social Justice Committee will purchase more bikes. Join the Social Justice Committee and celebrate Earth Day 2009 by helping save our water and air!

OTHER CHURCH NEWS

Note from Our Accountant - All check and reimbursement requests are processed on Thursday afternoon each week. Any requests submitted by noon on Thursday will be processed that week. Those submitted after this deadline will not be processed until the next week. Please keep this in mind if you are spending personal funds or need a check for church business.

Parking News- UCG's Board of Business has been reviewing the parking situation, particularly in the east lot. As we all know, space there is limited and the beautiful trees create special challenges for successful and efficient parking. We have observed that parking appears more uniform during football season when the reserved parking signs are in place. BoB elected to try new signage in the "off season" to see if the signs could help drivers align their cars and use our limited space more resourcefully. We look forward to your suggestions on how to improve the use of our east parking lot.

Attention Writers - Writing with others is fun for me. Some people prefer writing alone. By strange circumstance of fate, right now there is a group at UCG that you might enjoy, whichever type of writer you are. Please contact Davis McGlathery @ 352-318-3046, davismcg@hotmail.com or Doris Harvey @ 352-374-6610, gville-doris@hotmail.com for more information. We meet at the UCG library from 7 to 9pm, the first and third Mondays of each month and would welcome new writers.

Sundays in April

Regular Sunday Schedule

9:15 - 12:15	Nursery & Toddler Care
9:30	Worship with Children's Story
9:45 - 10:45	United Tribes - after Children's Story
10:30	Fellowship Time
10:45 - noon	Children's Activity Time
11:00 - noon	Worship, Adult Seminars, Middle School Group
12:15	Youth United & Post High Group

April 5– Palm Sunday

8:30– Meditation in the Chapel with Mary Fukuyama

9:30 and 11:00 Worship- “The ‘I am’ Enigmas of Jesus” Larry Reimer– At the 9:30 service, the children will be part of a parade of palms.

10:15-12:15– Retreat Registration in the Courtyard

11:00 - Friendship Group

11:00- Adult Seminar

Sustainable Retirement - Traditionally, retirees have relied heavily on financial investments, pensions, rising real estate values, Social Security and Medicare to provide the resources they need in retirement. But with the recent turmoil in the financial, energy and real estate markets, many people are looking for a new model to help guide them in their retirement planning. Join Ed Brown in a discussion about Sustainable Retirement, a new and durable approach to retirement providing solutions for the challenges facing retirees.

April 12–Easter Sunday - Sermon at all services: “Saving Paradise” by Larry Reimer and Sandy Reimer

8:00 – Sermon and Communion

9:00 - *Coffee and fellowship; please bring a finger food to share.*

9:30 – Children's story, Sermon, Children's Choir, brass and all- church singing of the “Hallelujah Chorus.”

10:30 - *Coffee and fellowship; please bring a finger food to share.*

11:00 – Sermon, adult choir, brass, and all-church singing of the “Hallelujah Chorus.”

Child care is available from 7:45am to 12:15pm

Note: There are no United Tribes, youth groups or seminars this Sunday.

April 19 - Earth Day

8:30 – Meditation in the Chapel with Mark Burlingame

9:30 & 11:00 Worship – Earth Day – Sermon by Andy Bachmann

10:30 - Fair Trade Coffee Sales

Water Bottle Sales for Earth Day

10:45 – Meeting for parents of babies – 5th graders going on Retreat with child care and children's program coordinators in the West Wing.

11:00 - Friendship Group

Adult Seminars - see next page

cont'd on next page

Sunday's Continued...

April 19– cont'd

12:15 – Meeting of all Retreat child care aides

12:15 - Board of Membership

3:30 - Patticake Potluck hosted by the Kikers

Adult Seminars-

Earth Dances - Lift your feet – and your spirits – on Earth Sunday with celebratory Dances of Universal Peace led by Mary Fukuyama. The dances are so easy that even people with two left feet can perform them. Instructions and a walk-through provided at the beginning of each dance. Come join the fun!

Into the Greenbrier Wilds - In this hands-on living laboratory exploration, naturalist and botany professor Jack Putz will take you into the wild world that exists right outside our doors. During the seminar, you'll be handed a 10x magnification hand-lens to take an up-close and personal look at catbrier vines – their stems and rhizomes (storage “roots”). You'll learn how these familiar plants might have been used for food by Amerindians and contemplate the sorts of questions ecologists might ask about them. You might even come away with a deeper appreciation of the thorny vines that pop up all over your shrub beds and hedges.

April 26 - All Church Retreat at Lake Yale Retreat Center – “What Really Matters”

No Sunday service in Gainesville ~ Come join us for morning worship at 11:00 a.m. on retreat.

May 3

8:30 – Meditation in the Chapel

9:30 & 11:00 – Worship—Larry Reimer

“Who Was That Person I Just Spoke To?” A New UCG Photo Directory Is Coming

The larger the church is, the harder it becomes to know let alone remember everyone's name. So it's time to do a new UCG photo directory. We've got a great photography studio setting this up, but the directory is only as good as the number of people who have their pictures taken. The directory will be especially important to our new associate minister scheduled to arrive this fall. Make plans to be part of it.

For those of you who have not been here for one of our directories, here is how it works. Make an appointment for a sitting for your family. All partners and children, members or not, are welcome. Appointments are from Tuesday May 5- Friday, May 8, 2:30-to 8:50pm and Saturday, May 9, 9:30am to 4:30pm. Sign ups for appointments begin Sunday, April 19. You can make appointments by calling the church office, e-mailing the church office info@ucgainesville.org or going directly to the photographer's link <https://www.appointment-plus3.com/ap/unitedchurchofgainesville/index.php?page=10> The link is also available on our website www.ucgainesville.org.

Everyone gets a free 8x10 photo and a free directory. There will also be a complete online photo directory that members can access via password. There is no charge to you or the church. The reality, however, is that the directory company makes its money by selling you photo packages. They promise to be low pressure, but be prepared for the fact that they will ask. You have no obligation to buy.

Also note that for each family photographed, this photographer donates \$2.00 to a food bank of our choice and any family that brings a non-perishable food item to their appointment will receive a coupon for \$5.00 off any additional portrait purchase.

Let's get all of our faces on board.

APRIL 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Council Exec 12pm Meditation* 12pm Taize' Service 6:30 Annual Reports Due	2 Meditation *12pm BPM 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm	3 Lunch Groups 12pm	4 Playground Workday 9am-12pm
5 Palm Sunday Worship 9:30 & 11:00am Retreat Registration 10:15 Friendship Group 11am YU Work Tour departs	6 Writing Group* 7pm	7 Retreat Adult Programs Subcommittee 7pm	8 Meditation* 12pm	9 Meditation *12pm Maundy Thursday Service 7pm Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm	10 Lunch Groups 12pm Dances of Universal Peace 7pm YU Work Tour returns	11
12 Easter Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 CIA Book Drive ends Friendship Group 11am Retreat Registration ends	13 Meditation with Lama Bole* 7pm	14 Budget Summit 1:30pm SJC 6:30pm CIA 7pm BOB 7:15pm MS Team 7:30pm	15 Meditation* 12pm CMRB 12pm Church Council 5:30pm	16 Meditation *12pm BCM 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm	17 Lunch Groups 12pm PNO 5:30pm	18
19 Worship 9:30 & 11am Water Bottle sales Parent's Retreat meeting 10:45am Friendship Grp 11a BOM 12:15pm PattiCakes 3:30	20 Meditation with Lama Bole* 7pm Writing Group* 7pm	21	22 Meditation* 12pm HS Team 5:30pm Retreat Jazz Band Rehearsal 7pm	23 Meditation *12pm Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm	24 All Church Retreat at Lake Yale No Lunch Groups	25 All Church Retreat at Lake Yale
26 All Church Retreat at Lake Yale No Worship in Gainesville this week	27 Meditation with Lama Bole* 7pm	28	29 Meditation *12pm	30 Meditation *12pm	1 Annual Report Submissions due	

* Pre-registered Adult Small Group

UNITED CHURCH
OF GAINESVILLE

1624 NW 5th Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32603

Phone: 352-378-3500

Fax: 352-378-0501

E-mail: info@ucgainesville.org

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 - 4:30

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**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: TUESDAY, APRIL 14
FOR MAY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

Looking Ahead at the United Church of Gainesville

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| May 1 & 2 | UCC Florida Conference Annual Meeting |
| May 17 | One worship service at 9:30am
Spring Congregational Meeting- 10:30am |
| May 20 | Annual Planning Conference for incoming officers
and board chairs |
| May 15 & 16 | Board of Children's Ministry Rummage Sale |
| May 24 | Memorial Day Weekend– begin summer schedule
– one service at 10:00am -Senior Sunday |

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: TUESDAY, APRIL 14
FOR MAY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**