

At your request, we are adding a new feature with this edition – Recipe of the Month. It seems that this congregation has been blessed with many good cooks, and we have all enjoyed many of your favorite dishes at one of our “eating meetings.” In the future, if there is a dish at a church function that you particularly like, let me know who brought it and I will try to get the recipe and feature it in a future issue.

February’s Recipe of the Month

Chicken and Dressing Casserole

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 4 cups cooked chicken (bite-size) | Drain before adding: |
| 1 8 oz. pkg. herb seasoned stuffing | 1 small can sliced mushrooms |
| 1 ½ cups chicken broth | 1 small jar chopped pimentos |
| 1 stick butter or margarine (melted) | 1 can sliced water chestnuts |
| 1 cup onion chopped | |
| ½ cup mayonnaise | |
| 2 eggs, beaten | |
| 1 ½ cups milk | |
| 1 10 ¾ oz. cream of mushroom soup (undiluted) | |
| 1 cup cheddar cheese grated | |

In a large saucepan, pour broth over stuffing to soften. Combine with all other ingredients except cheese. Place in a 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish. Cover and refrigerate over night. Bake in a 350 degree oven about 1 ½ hours or until set and browned. Sprinkle grated cheese over the top and return to oven until melted.

*For a time saver, I use a lemon pepper rotisserie chicken.

Enjoy! ~ from Ruth Anne Wynn – prepared by Evelyn Brown

Chaires UMC Newsletter

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Chaires UMC

Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 2

February, 2007

Our Featured Members ~ Joe & Leota Gregory



The term “The Greatest Generation” is often used to describe the generation who suffered through the “Great Depression” and fought in World War II. The term certainly fits Joe and Leota Gregory. The following is a detailed and to me impressive account of the valiant sacrifices that Joe made in serving our country and to marry Leota, his loving wife. She faithfully awaited his return and blessed their marriage with six children. In addition, they have ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren for whom they are very thankful.

Joe Gregory knows well the life of loss and hardship. He was the ninth child of ten and lost his father when he was only four years
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Pastor’s Column



On February 11, 2007, from 6 pm to 8 pm, we will be hosting our first cluster gathering, inviting Wacissa, Lloyd,

and Sardis United Methodist Churches to join us for a time of praising God and fellowship. It will be a great time of sharing our ministries with our sister churches, fellowshiping with new people and renewing old relationships. As we prepare for this time of fellowship, let us ponder the words of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Luke.

In Luke 9: 1–5, Jesus sent out the twelve disciples to tell everyone about the coming of the Kingdom of God. But before they leave, he instructs them not to carry a walking stick, a bag, or any money. Then in Luke 10: 1–12, we find Jesus is sending out seventy-two other disciples in pairs. Again,
~ cont'd on Page 2

News From Our Youth



Much has been happening with the youth at Chaires UMC over the last couple of months. In the beginning of December we were able to go and serve food and sing advent music at the Haven of Rest shelter in Tallahassee. Fortunately, we had plenty of help and food to go with us. With the contribution of food from Chaires UMC, we were able to give enough food to allow them to have meals for almost four days. The full-time workers and volunteers at that local mission were grateful for the break in preparation that the extra food provided. . At school, finishing up in December, we participated in a ‘lock-in’ with several other
~ cont'd on Page 4

news & announcements

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Church Expansion Update

The Trustee Committee held its 2007 organizational meeting January 11th. The members are: Shane Marshall, Leota Gregory, Barbara Palmer, Jon Berry, Don Dampier, Bob Glover, Lance Harrison, Dot Spence, and Bob Stephenson. The elected committee officers are: Bob Glover, Chair; Don Dampier, Vice-Chair; and, Barbara Palmer, Secretary.

The Building Committee selected at the Charge conference last month was formally recognized as a sub-committee of the Trustee Committee. The members are: Margaret Boyette, Lynne Fannin, Gordon Lightfoot, Marty Raggett, Jon Berry, Bob Glover (ex officio, Chair Trustee Cmte), Dale Thompson (ex officio, Chair Admin Cmte) and Bill Ingram (ex officio, Pastor). Jon Berry was elected to Chair the Building Committee.

The first official meeting with our Architect will occur during the first week of February to begin the design process. After this meeting, we should be able to better determine our milestone schedule for the development of our expansion project.

Your continued support is truly appreciated.

TRUSTEE Committee.
~ contributed by Jon Berry

~ Pastor's Column – cont'd from Page 1

he instructs them not to carry any money, a bag, not to stop to talk to anyone, to stay in the same house and to eat what is set before them.

Why do you think Jesus gave such instructions and are these instructions applicable to our lives today? Ask yourself the following questions?

- **Carry no purse:** What does a purse or wallet represent for us? A place to carry our cash and identification. Without these, what is a disciple to rely on?
- **Carry no bag:** What does baggage represents for us? If we are carrying emotional baggage around, how does it affect our service?
- **Carry no walking stick:** With no walking stick, we do not have a way to defend or protect ourselves. What is Jesus message to us who serve in His name, without protection?
- **Don't talk to anyone who might try to discourage you.** What voices discourage us? Which voices might encourage us?
- **Stay in the same house:** What is the role of relationships in the mission experience? Why is this important in ministry? How can you develop and maintain relationships?

Perhaps Jesus' message for us today can be summed up this way. First by sending out seventy-two other disciples proves that the twelve disciples did not have an exclusive claim on Jesus' call to carry the message of Good News to the world. The same applies to churches today. God has called and equipped each congregation to serve their community in various and unique ways, which is the case with the churches in our cluster. Second, they were sent out without resources as a way to identify with the poor. In addition, without resources puts them in a position of having to rely on God.

I want to encourage you and your family to mark February 11 down on your calendar, plan on coming and bring along enough of your favorite finger foods to share with all. Remember we are all called to show hospitalities to our neighbor. It is our prayer that the Spirit of God will make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world.

Many Blessings,

Bill

ECHO has a need for furniture and household goods. If you have any items you would like to donate, please call them at 224-3246. They will provide pickup service for you.

~ Neva Holland, ECHO Chairperson

Chaires UMC Newsletter

February 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					Ground Hog Day	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Communion <u>Sunday</u> <u>Echo Sunday</u> Ladies Bible Study - 4pm Men's Bible Study - 5pm			Family Night <u>6:00 pm</u> Choir <u>7:00 pm</u>	Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<u>BSA Sunday</u> Ladies' Bible Study - 4pm Men's Bible Study - 5pm Cluster Gathering/6pm	Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	UMM & UMW Meetings - 6:30 pm	Valentine's Day Adult Bible Study 10:30am Choir <u>7:00pm</u>		UMM & UMW Valentine's Day Dinner 6:30pm	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Men's Bible Study - 5pm	President's Day	Mission Trip Meeting 7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Choir 7:00pm	George Washington's Birthday		Koinonia Dinner
25	26	27	28			
1 st Sunday of Lent			Adult Bible Study 10:30 Choir 7:00pm			

Birthdays

Louis Poskey	1	Caroline Parker	9	Jack Dull	23
Dianne Matthews	2	Gwen Thompson	10	Lana Kempton	24
Noah Messer	3	Bob Glover	12	Sharon Lenzo	24
Vasti White	4	Alice Linzy	17	Maggie Ingram	26
Davis Matthews	8	Brent Glover	22	Adam Harrison	28

~ Joe & Leota Gregory - cont'd from Page 5

whatsoever – not even an aspirin.” He removed the bullet as I was held down by two other men. Two nuns came in every day to take the bandages off and wash and dry them and put them back on.”

”When I got better I was sent to Stalig VIIA, a prison camp in Germany. I was there about a year and each day I was fed only one piece of light bread and a piece of blood sausage about as big as a half dollar. We had only one bath the whole time and lice was eating us up. All we talked about was food and nothing else.”

“One morning, we heard artillery fire and we knew that U. S. Army troops were nearby. The Army liberated us about 1:00 p.m. that day. They set up big tents and as we entered them we had to take off all our clothes and were sprayed down with white powder. We then took a shower, and went outside where there was a long line for issuance of new clothes and shoes. We were then taken back to the tent where you we were allowed only a little bit of food at a time for about a week, since we were starving from malnutrition.”

“On June 12, 1945, the Army sent in big trucks and we were picked up and flown back to the U. S. to Camp Blanding for examination. I stayed there about six weeks and then they called us all in to see what we wanted to do to finish our time in the service. I told the Sergeant that there wasn't any use in me telling him because I hadn't gotten anything I wanted from the Army, anyway!”

The sergeant said “I'll tell you one thing, you may not have gotten what you wanted so far, but you will sure get what you want now.” I told him I wanted to be in the MP's, guarding prisoners. He said “I can't guarantee that, but I will sure get you in the MP's!”

“I was then sent to Washington, D. C. and on August 21, 1945, I received the Battle Star for Rome, two Overseas Bars, American Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Purple Heart, EAME Ribbon, European Theater of Operations ribbon with one bronze star, and on September 18, 1944, I received the Silver Star for gallantry in action (for fighting alone in a rear guard action). I was then given a furlough home before returning to D. C. for about eight weeks of training as a military policeman. They put me on riding trains out of D. C. checking for furlough passes. I did this until I was discharged and got out of service on points as Corporal Joe H. Gregory.” (Note: Joe also has a German Swastika that he says he “got honest!”)

Joe received an Honorable Discharge from the U. S. Army on November 7, 1945, at Ft. Myers, Virginia. He returned home to Perry, Florida, and he and Leota were married on December 6, 1945 (over sixty one great years of married bliss)!

It all started near the end of Joe's service time when he came home on furlough and for recuperation after being overseas. There were very few cars, tires or anything else that could be used for wartime. He went to Jacksonville from Perry and bought an old Ford convertible. Very impressive for all the girls – but Leota was the chosen one. She had been working in Perry and was about to cross the street one day when it started raining. Joe happened to be driving by and stopped to see if she needed help crossing the street. She said, “Sure,” (just like Bobbie did when Talmadge offered to help “under the hood!”) Joe valiantly put his raincoat over Leota's head and they crossed the street together. She was waiting for him when he returned from the war and all of his valiant endeavors and we know the “rest of the story!”

Joe also served thirty two years on the Tallahassee Police Department and retired as Sergeant. He was known for his willingness in helping young people and his Boy Scouts work. His early experiences in life prepared him for a wonderful life with family and friends.

~ submitted by Joe and Leota Gregory

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Jamey Earl Lightfoot - U.S. Navy Reserve



Gordon and Lucia Lightfoot were very proud and thankful to know that their nephew, Jamey, had made it home from Afghanistan in time for Christmas. Jamey is one of fifteen Lightfoots that Gordon has documented in four generations of Lightfoots serving their country.

Jamey is a banker in Jacksonville by trade and has a wife, Leilani and two daughters, Diana and Abigail.

The following has been submitted by Jamey, and as we all know, we never know where our obedience to God and country will lead us.

“I joined the Navy Reserve in late 2000, hoping to possibly travel on the Government's dime. At that time it seemed unlikely that I would ever see active duty, much less ever step foot in a combat zone. Then September 11 happened and the rest is history. In the span of 6 years I went from no Military experience to serving with the most elite forces in the world and being as close to anyone to the fight against those who attacked us. My travels have taken me from FL, to IL, to VA, SC, NC, London, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Germany. I served as an Intelligence Analyst for a Special Operations Task Force in support of the Global War on Terrorism. I was forward deployed to locations in Afghanistan and was engaged in numerous operations which sought to target Al Queda, Taliban and ACM (Anti Coalition Militias). Shortly after arriving in theater, I was thrust into a leadership position as the LPO (As a newly frocked E6, I replaced an Officer who was an O3) of our group. We scored many victories during our tour with out suffering a single loss of one of our guys, we also witnessed what some have called the heaviest fighting since the war began.

Currently I am with a Reserve Unit that has a more traditional role of providing Intelligence to forward deployed Naval Assets, namely those forces deployed to the CENTCOM AOR (Area of Responsibility). “

~ contributed by Gordon Lightfoot

Boy Scout News

In January we sent our adult leaders to training. Saturday, Jan 20 found our leaders at a POW WOW, which is “fun activities” training. The BSA Leader and Parent training includes Advanced Knots and Lashing; Board of Reviews, Courts of Honor, Dutch Oven Cooking, Flag Etiquette, Metal Working; Troop Committees and Such; Troop-master; Scouting the net. The Cub Scout Packs with leaders were also at the POW WOW.

Adam Church is working on his eagle project, which is replacing the steps in the club house. The first thing we did was stabilize the steps. Next, Adam will prepare a project plan.

We are also working on re-chartering in February. That means that I'll be going out in the community to recruit new scouts.

We're still working on the Merit Badges for Metal Work and Composite materials. The verbal material has been presented; the projects are yet to be completed. The metal working projects are building a "steel flint striker" and making a "tin lantern". The composite materials projects are making a "composite bow" and "composite skate board."

~ submitted by Terry Hague

Outreach Ministry

It's the time again to reach out to fellow Christians and ones that need to be led to the Lord. So grab your tennis shoes and a bottle of water and join us at thechurch at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 25th to go door-to-door and welcome people to CUMC. It may be just what they have been waiting for. Many thanks from Jeanne Robbins to everyone who can participate in this very rewarding endeavor for the Lord

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Children's Ministry

What a wonderful new year we are having with the children! Beginning January 7, children have been celebrating the news of Jesus's birth! We recently had a birthday party for Jesus and all sorts of people were there to help us

celebrate. We had Mary, Joseph, the Innkeeper, shepards, angels, and kings helping us celebrate the wonderful news of the birth of Jesus, our savior. The children all agreed that we should celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ year round by helping others and wearing smiles.

The children have also decided to use their Sunday School offering to help a family who recently lost their home due to fire. They believe this is what Jesus would want them to do. In just two weeks they have raised about \$40.00!

We would like to thank Ms. Judy for the lesson she shares with the children each Sunday and also Ms. Sharon for her dedication to our music program. What a blessing the two of you are!

Our children's worship service is from 8:45-11:00 Sunday mornings. This service is for children in kindergarten through third grade. The children in the nursery participate from 10:30-11:00.
~ submitted Joy Marshall and Brenda Messer

~ News From Our Youth – cont'd from Page 1

youth. The youth were from churches and school all over the surrounding area. This seemed to be a wonderful way to end the mid-year school blues, and a chance to meet other youth. A bonfire, food, music, movies, and games accompanied a great opportunity for fellowship and the Gospel message.

During Martin Luther King Day weekend in January, Alex Taylor and other youth from other churches went on a 'men only' camping trip to Falling Waters State Park and to Torreya State Park. The boys had a fun time and had a chance to reach out to some other youth who did not know Christ. All had a great time exploring God's beauty in the world and the natural wonders that had surrounded us.

As the new year is beginning, we are look forward to the many different events and opportunities that God may bless us with. Now is the time that we need to consider summer youth camps, summer work missions, summer programs, and summer outreach. For some of our youth the summer is a transition from being a high school student to a high school graduate. For the youth that will be staying with us for more years or those who are going to move on to pursue their dreams and callings, this spring and upcoming summer is a great opportunity to grow in Christ and learn how to serve Him
~ submitted by Peter J. Marvin, Youth Minister

Teen Challenge

I would like to challenge all teenagers to read this month's and other feature/military articles. Joe Gregory and other veterans at CUMC, along with those on our Military Bulletin Board, are a vital part of U. S. history. We CAN do all things through Christ, who strengthens us. Phil 4:13

God Bless You
Evelyn Brown, Editor

Global Missions

Not long now! Our global mission team is scheduled to leave for Panajachel, Guatemala in less than TWO months (March 17-24). Members have been working hard to raise the necessary funds. Pancake breakfasts, garage sales, dinners, whew, have we been busy! We have raised \$7,200. This leaves us with \$4,800 to go! We thank you all for your monetary and spiritual support. We feel the Lord is at work.

Our project in Panajachel is to first, spread the word and love of Christ and secondly, build a home for a family who lost their home in a hurricane. We would appreciate your prayers for the mission and the team members.

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UMW News

We are starting a new quilt! Margaret Boyette could really use a lot of help in getting it all together. Please see her if you are interested in volunteering some time for this very worthwhile and rewarding project.

COME ONE – COME ALL!!! VALENTINE'S BANQUET!
February 16, 2007 at the church. This will be a covered dish dinner and some great entertainment is being planned. It will be a really fun time that we will remember in years to come.

~ submitted by Margaret Boyette - UMW President

Chaires UMC Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 2

Editor - Evelyn Brown

Layout - Mulder Brown

If you wish to contribute, please notify Evelyn Brown in person, by phone at 877-1975 (H) or at 487-3579 (W), or, if you prefer, by email at ~

evelynbrown@comcast.net

~ Joe & Leota Gregory – cont'd from Page 1



old and his mother when he was about five and a half. He was raised by his sisters, Berta and Ruby. Many fun days were spent growing up with friends in the community of Boyd in Taylor County. As a young adult he worked many hard hours as a paper cutter at the Port St. Joe Mill. He was also employed as an automobile serviceman.

Then World War II came along and on October 30, 1942, Joe was inducted into the U. S. Army, serving in the 361st Infantry and the 91st Division at the age of seventeen. Joe says, "I was stationed at Camp Blanding, Florida for basic training and then went to Camp White, Oregon for about a year of advanced training. From there I went to Norfolk, Virginia for about a month, and then we were sent out to sea. I woke up one morning and we were in a convoy of many ships, along with aircraft carriers and destroyers for protection. Weeks later, on April 1, 1944, they told us to get ready for the invasion of North Africa which we went in and took."

"Later we took Anzio Beachhead, suffering 85% casualties!, and then went on into combat in Italy where some of us were captured. As we were walking down an old paved road to put out communication lines the Germans opened fire. I jumped into a ditch, laid there and reached out to touch a buddy, Fred Wendleton's leg. It was then I realized that he was dead, which made me mad because he was a good friend. I started firing back at the Germans and crawling back and as I did so, I knew I was going to get killed. I started praying to my heavenly Father, not to save my life, but to save my soul. Then something white lit up around me like I'd never seen before, and I felt just as safe then as I do right now."

"I crawled on down the ditch and got into a culvert. A German stooped down at the other end of the culvert and said "Rouse" and motioned his hand for me to come out. I had been shot in my arm and the bullet went up into my shoulder. They took me back to what they called a hospital. A Canadian doctor had been captured also, and he came up to me and said "Soldier, if we don't get that bullet out of your back, gangrene will set up in it and kill you. I can take it out, but we have no medication

~ cont'd on Page 6