

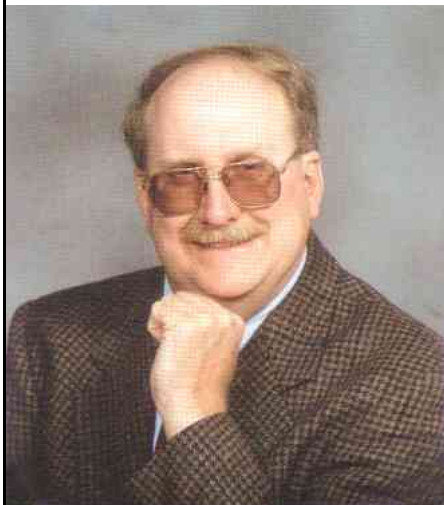
Chaires UMC

Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 4

April 2007

Our Featured Member ~ Alan Eddy



A fine gentleman; a walking miracle; proof of God's graciousness. We are blessed to have Alan as a member of Chaires United Methodist Church.

Alan was born on May 5, 1961 and has been attending Chaires United Methodist Church all his life. He sang in the youth choir when he was in middle school and the church choir in high school. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1979, and went to work with his father.

Have you ever noticed the terraced areas along the north side of Buck Lake Road just east

of the Chaires Crossroad intersection? That is, across the road from the pasture with all of the goats in it? Some years back, Alan Eddy's father ran a fish hatchery there. Although it's overgrown with brush and pine trees now, you can still see where the earth is "scooped out" in a series of areas, each one lower than the next.

I've often wondered what was there and now I know! It was Alan's
 ~ cont'd on Page 6

Christmas Delayed!

David Few, Cpl. U. S. Marines (age 20) has been deployed for the last 9 months in different areas of the Pacific - Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, the Philippines and Guam. His platoon of marines was assigned to a large ship for much of this time. The ship was near Guam on Christmas Day and the men were allowed to go ashore for a couple of days. They felt they were living a life of luxury when they were able to rent hotel rooms overnight where they could get a "real" shower and sleep on "real beds" - very unlike their months on the ship. The USO had quarters within the hotel and the servicemen were served a "Christmas dinner" and given a free telephone card with 2 hours of time so that they could call home to their families. (God bless the USO!) David appreciated this very much, but it sure was not like home. This was David's first Christmas away from home and family ever.

Christmas is always a joyous occasion in our family and we all gather
 ~ cont'd on Page 5

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Here comes
 Peter
 Cottontail,
 Hoppin' down
 the bunny

trail, Hippity hoppity Easter's on its way. Bringin' ev'ry girl and boy, A basketful of Easter joy, Things to make your Easter, Bright and gay.

The children's song Peter Cottontail informs us that Easter is on its way. As well as the azaleas and the dogwoods blooming are signs that springtime and Easter are on their way. But where would our Christian faith be without Easter? It would be nothing - a waste of time. That's what the apostle Paul says: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins" (1 Cor. 15:17).

The reason for this is that Christ's resurrection not only gives us hope for eternal life, but it also confirms that what Jesus said in his earthly life was true. Jesus said He

~ cont'd on Page 6

news & announcements

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Boy Scout News

April through May is the recruitment period for Boy Scout Troop 25. My message this month is intended for all parents of young men aged eleven through seventeen.

You may ask, "So as a parent why would I desire to have my son join Troop 25?" Well for me, it's simple; Scouting is fun with purpose. The journey through scouting guides young teenagers to learn to make the most of themselves; to develop good judgment skills; find their selfreliance and initiative; embed the ability to lean by listening, learn by doing, learn by teaching and learn by seeking and modeling after quality mentors/role-models.

The young men learn to get along with others, develop friendships; understand how to work as a team and to become leaders. This builds a sound foundation for that young teenager to find his way in the world.

The troop leadership works diligently to provide safety and meaning to the meetings and adventures in which the troop partakes. We provide adult supervision and guidance to the scouts. We partner with the local BSA Council to utilize their expertise and quality activities. For example, we're planning to go to summer camp from June 10– 16, where our scouts will be learning from the Suwannee Area River Council's finest scouts, including many eagle scouts.

The Troop 25 program provides an active & adventurous outdoor program which includes camping, canoeing and backpacking just to name a few. We also work in onehundred-thirty-four special interest subjects called Merit Badges. Our current scouts average achieving around eight merit badges each yearly.

The Troop meets weekly at Chaires United Methodist Church on Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. The cost to join is twenty-five dollars per member which includes Boy Scouts of America registration, activity insurance and a subscription to the Boys Life Magazine. We assist families without the financial means for their son to become a scout.

--Please call Terry for more information @ 877-8363 or contact him via e-mail at thague@comcast.net.

~ submitted by Troop Leader Terrance Hague

Please continue to bring nonperishable food items and any pots and pans you would like to donate for those less fortunate.

ECHO Coordinator, Neva Holland

Children's Ministry

We had a blast at our Children's Game night! Friday March 15, was filled with fun and laughter. The kids exploded with enthusiasm as they raced their potato sacks to the finish line and ever so carefully walked their eggs in a spoon to their partners. What great fun!

Coming up in April we have some special activities so mark your calendars:

April 1: Palm Sunday Service

Students participate in the waving of the palm procession in the sanctuary.

April 8: Easter Service

Special Children's Ministry Lesson

April 29: Children's Music

Special Performance for Congregation

~ submitted by Joy Marshall

Military Bulletin Board

Most of you are aware of the Military Bulletin Board in the church sanctuary. It is there to honor our loved ones or acquaintances who are serving in the military and also as a reminder to the congregation to remember them in prayer. If you have or know of such a person now serving, please lend me a photograph (it will be copied and returned) and let me know their location, branch of service, address, etc., so that they also may be honored and remembered.

Evelyn Brown

news & announcements

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PFC Aaron Bartelt– U. S. Army



PFC Aaron Bartelt has been serving in Iraq with the U.S. Army since the beginning of November 2006. He is stationed in the Forward Operations Base, which is near Balad and about 40 miles NW of Baghdad.

Aaron spent Christmas Eve late night to early morning in one of the base guard towers. He remarked in a letter to his grandmother about how cold and foggy

it was, making it extremely difficult to see anything. His Battalion Team is sent on regular patrol and convoy missions; their exact locations are not known to us, but he has been engaged in combat on these missions.

On these patrols in their HumVees, Aaron serves as the gunner. He says that he is grateful for the “angel” that was with them one night when he spotted an unknown object in the road ahead. He alerted the driver who stopped and notified the demolition unit. It turned out to be one of the larger IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices – or bombs) that have been proven so very lethal to the troops. In another patrol incident Aaron told us he was very grateful for a chance to help save a driver of a U.S. fuel truck one night when it was bombarded. He and a buddy were able to pull the man free from the cab and get him a safe distance from the ensuing explosion, while repelling the enemy long enough for a rescue.

Aaron is the nephew of Scott and Brenda Bartelt who spoke to the Chaires UMC congregation last fall. Aaron’s grandparents are Carl and Elaine Bartelt of Talahassee.

Aaron was recently given a short leave to visit his wife, father and mother in Phoenix, AZ, but he has been back in Iraq since the end of February. He does not expect another leave for the duration of his deployment (now scheduled to be the end of the year) unless his orders are changed. Aaron and all of his family greatly appreciate the concern and prayers of Chaires UMC members for him and all the troops serving our country.

~ submitted by Elaine Bartelt

**EGG HUNT, Chaires
UMC, April 7, 11:00am -
1:00 pm
(Lunch will be served)
Sponsored by UMW**



Emergency Planning

To be prepared for emergencies (the upcoming hurricane season, tornadoes, as well as potential manmade disasters) follow the **ABC**’s of emergency planning:

“A” stands for have A family disaster plan and A disaster supply kit. To

put together a disaster plan for your family and business/faith based organization, go to

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/family/>.

All members of our congregation are urged to prepare disaster kits.

As recommended by the Florida Division of Emergency Management, you should have the following items in the disaster kit: emergency potable drinking water packets, flashlights, batteries, NOAA Weather Radio – that would allow you to receive warnings for tornados issued by your local National Weather Service office. Other items for the kit are: toiletry items like shampoo, soap, as well as dust masks, gloves, first aid kit, duct tape, utility knife, emergency blanket, poncho & staple food items to last at least 72 hours.

We will have additional articles of interest in this area in the May and June issues.

~ submitted by Pam Thompson

news around the church

from United Methodist News Service – <http://umns.umc.org>

Ministry trades toys

for toy guns in Iraq

TURIN, Iowa — Two small churches in rural Iowa have found a way to outsmart insurgents in Iraq, using boxes filled with soccer balls and stuffed animals to spread good will and save the lives of children in Fallujah. The ministry began last year after Janet Wakehouse, a member of Turin United Methodist Church, heard insurgents gave children realistic-looking toy guns in hopes that a U.S. soldier might mistakenly shoot a child and incite anger against the United States. Members of the Turin church and the United Methodist Church in neighboring Onawa began gathering soccer balls, backpacks, Beanie Babies and other toys that American

Youth 2007 brings together United Methodist teens

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — If you can sing, act, slam dunk or play a mean game of Operation, you could be on your way to fame, fortune and loads of fun at Youth 2007. Teens between ages 12 and 18 will have a chance to compete at The United Methodist Church's largest quadrennial youth event, set for July 11-15 in Greensboro, N.C. Fusebox, The Katinas and Superchic[k] are among cutting-edge Christian bands scheduled to perform, and more than 5,000 youth and their leaders already have registered. For more information, visit



Girls, grandmother make doll baskets for needy kids

MARION, Kan. — Eight-year-old Courtney Williams and her 11-year-old sister, Becca, started a project with their grandmother to brighten other children's lives by making doll baskets for needy families in the Wichita area. "A lot of kids, they always get a lot of stuff. And those other kids, they don't have much," says Courtney, a member of Aulne United Methodist Church. The girls and their grandmother scour garage sales looking for new or gently used dolls, along with baskets to keep them in. Together, they have made about 50 doll baskets in the past year, donating most

Higher education board increases scholarship support

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The amount of money a United Methodist college student may borrow annually from a denominational loan fund will double to \$5,000, while the interest rate for repayment will decrease to 5 percent. Meeting in early March, governing members of the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry approved a four-pronged approach to help students finance their higher education and seminary education. The changes will take effect in



Working to keep you connected
<http://umns.umc.org>

New United Methodist TV commercial debuts March 26

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Igniting Ministry, the national advertising campaign of The United Methodist Church, unveils its "Finding Yourself" television commercial on March 26. The new TV message recognizes that what people show on the outside is not always what is happening in their hearts. The message will air 963 times, across 15 cable networks, and run for two weeks through

Christia n Fun - Noah's Ark

Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark...

- **One** : Don't miss the boat.
- **Two**: Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- **Three** : Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- **Four**: Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
- **Five**: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- **Six** : Build your future on high ground.
- **Seven**: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- **Eight**: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- **Nine** : When you're stressed, float a while.
- **Ten**; Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- **Eleven**: No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting

"Those woodpeckers will have to go..."

~ courtesy of
Moore's Chapel
United Methodist Church
Elkton, MD

~ Christmas Delayed! – cont'd from Page 1

to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and the love we share as family. Grandma (alias Carol Jones) could not bear for David to miss out on this. Afer being gone for many months he was recently sent back to his base in Norfolk, Va. He was reassigned to Camp Pendleton, CA and was given leave to go home and then relocate to California. He arrived in Tallahassee on Saturday, March 17. That evening David and his parents went to his grandparents' home. He was suprised to see the Christmas tree still fully decorated - lights and all standing in the living room with gifts for him under the tree. The dining room was decorated with all the familiar things- red table cloth, lit candles on the table, etc.

Afer enjoying a "real" Christmas dinner- turkey and dressing and all the trimmings, we went to the living room for David to open his gifts. He remembered the long standing tradition that his Papa (alias Lewis Jones) always does at Christmas. Papa puts an envelope for each family member on the tree that contains an "alternative" Christmas gift. The envelopes are passed out and each recipient reads aloud what his or her gift is. David's alternative gift was vaccine for a child in a thirdworld country. He then opened his other gifts. What a happy celebration we had!

The family is also celebrating a lage event in David's life. On March 5, 2007 David married his sweetheart, Jamie Cepeda, who is in the Navy stationed in Norfolk. They have the paperwork in process to get her reassigned to San Diego, CA so that she and David can be together. They were married in a civil ceremony and plan a church wedding possibly this summer.

~ submitted by Carol Jones

~ Alan Eddy - cont'd from Page 1

Dad's fish hatchery. Alan worked there as a youngster with his Dad. After his father passed away, Alan went to work in construction for a number of years, until 1996, when he went to work at Lowe's.

In 1992, however, Alan was having some unexplainable pains and lost quite a lot of weight. He went to his doctor, who referred him to a specialist who was able to make a diagnosis; cancer! But by this time, Alan had lost quite a bit of weight and was down to 175 pounds. He started going to Dr. Sheedy for cancer treatments. When he first saw him, Dr. Sheedy told Alan that he needed to start treatment as soon as possible. He started the treatments right away and was in the hospital for five days. He then had a two-week break after the hospital stay and then treatments each Friday. This took place from the end of June until the end of August. The first week after his first treatment, Alan gained back 6 pounds. Doctor Sheedy told Alan he could not remember anyone gaining back weight so soon. By the time his treatments ended, Alan had gained back 50 pounds bringing him back to his original weight of 220 pounds. Alan remembers Doctor Sheedy saying at their first meeting, that if he made it 6 months, he would make it for 10 years. That was 14 years ago! Alan also remembers that at the beginning of these treatments, he prayed and said that he would put his life in God's hands. If he was to die, that it was His will, and if he was to live, it was also His will. From that time forward Alan says that he decided to do whatever the doctors told him to do and that he would worry whether or not he was going to live or die because he had left it up to God.

Alan still feels that God has something he wants him to do, but he is not yet sure what it is. And he has promised the Lord when he finds out what it is; he will do his best to do it. He attends CUMC every Sunday that he is not working, which is every other Sunday. He started working at Lowe's in 1996 after working in construction.

Alan likes to go fishing and kayaking at various lakes in the Tallahassee area on his time off. And he has to say that he does a wonderful "Elvis" impersonation (remember the Ladies' Conference)? He has a real testimony and God has truly blessed him. Alan says that it is now a joy to live each and every day for the Lord!

~ submitted by Alan Eddy/Evelyn Brown

~ Pastor's Easter Message – cont'd from Page 1

He would rise from the dead. If He hadn't, who would have taken His teachings seriously.

"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead," Paul says (1 Cor 15:20). The resurrection was God's stamp of authenticity on Jesus, proclaiming, "Yes, Jesus is my Son. Yes, He has overcome death. Yes, what He told you is true. Trust him! Follow him!"

There will be special worship opportunities at Chaires United Methodist Church during Holy Week and on Easter Sunday. These include:

- April 5 – Thursday – Agape Supper – 6:30 PM
- April 6 – Good Friday – Meditation at the Cross – an open communion service– 6:00 – 8:00 pm.
- April 8 – Easter Sunday
 - Sunrise Service – 7:00 AM – Petrandis Farm – breakfast will be served after service.
 - Easter Cantata – 10:00 AM

We look forward to seeing you on Easter Sunday in celebrating Christ's resurrection.

In the joy of Christ,
Bill

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion  Sunday Echo Bible Study 4pm	2	3	4 Choir 7pm	5 Agape Supper 6:30pm BSA Troop Meeting	6 Good Friday 6pm - Meditation at the Cross	7 Easter Egg Hunt 11am - 1pm Youth Activities 5:30pm
8 Sunrise Service & Breakfast 7am Bible Study 4pm	9 BSA Troop Meeting	10 UMM/UMW Meeting 7pm	11 Adult Bible Study 10:30am  Choir 7pm	12 Church Council Meeting 7pm	13	14 Youth Activities 5:30pm Cub Family Weekend
15 Widow's Mite Offering Cub Family Weekend	16 BSA Troop Meeting Cub Family Weekend	17	18 Choir 7pm	19	20	21 Youth Activities 5:30pm
22 Native American Ministries Sunday	23 BSA Troop Meeting	24	25 Adult Bible Study 10:30am  Choir 7pm	26 SPRC Meeting	27	28 Koin onia Dinner Youth Activities 5:30pm
29 Dinner on the Grounds! 	30					
Anniversaries			Birthdays			
Michael/Debbie Pahl	9	Ray Thompson	2	Everett Matthews	15	
Dale/Susan Thompson	11	Craig Messer	8	Debbie Pahl	15	
Jerry/Lynne Mulder	24	Gordon Lightfoot	9	Barbara Palmer	17	
Joy/Shane Marshall	29	Suzanne Oltman	10	Langley Payton	18	
		Hazel Wagner	12	Franklin Chaires	23	
		Jeanette Wood	14	Mike Stallings	27	
				Renee Kempton	29	

April's Recipe of the Month

Hawaiian Candied Sweet Potatoes

8-10 large sweet potatoes, boiled
2 cups sugar
1 T cornstarch
Pinch of salt
1 cup of water
#2 can of crushed pineapple, drained (optional)
1 stick margarine

Cook, cool and peel potatoes. Mix sugar, cornstarch, salt and water. Boil 10 min. Remove from stove, add pineapple and margarine. Cut up potatoes and place in baking dish. Pour pineapple mixture over potatoes. Bake at 350 degrees F. for about 30 min or until syrup thickens.

Submitted by Alice Raggett
Another great 5th Sunday Dish

If you have a recipe that's a real winner, please either bring it to church and give it Evelyn or Mulder Brown or email it to evelynbrown@comcast.net. We will try to make sure it is shared in an upcoming newsletter for all to enjoy! Thank you for sharing.

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Editor - Evelyn Brown ~ Layout - Mulder Brown

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

Chaires UMC Newsletter

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Return Service requested