



June

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Freedom, what is it, really?

The other day I got to thinking about freedom. Freedom is a very interesting word and is said to have many levels in its understanding and interpretation. For example there is the freedom from something such as sin, or a situation, a lifestyle or a commitment. Picture someone being released from prison and we'd say that, that person is finally free. Free from what? Free from prison, free from an obligation, a commitment. Same goes in terms of a job, and even at times a bad relationship. However there is more to freedom than just walking away from something, there is the freedom to vote, to make choices, the freedom of speech, and the freedom to deal with things like debt and credit. In other words is it freedom in that we have a credit card to buy what we want when we want it, or is it freedom to be able to save for the things we want by working hard? You see freedom is very perplexing, or not, or is it perplexing because of what we have allowed freedom to become in our lives? What about our freedom to be? As Christian we say that we are free because of what Jesus Christ has done but then how has what He has done changed our lives? What has He done that has made us free? Today many of the Christians that I meet if asked about being free, most would so no pastor I do not feel free. I find it very interesting that through conversation, many of the freedom that we address today are the freedoms that appear more like goals in our lives. It's all about attaining positions, places and things like perhaps getting out of debt. How many of us believe that true freedom is being debt free?

There is no way to cover this in the detail I'd love to talk about, but let me say this. In the end what matters is our heart. Who we loved vs. what we've love and who we trust vs. what we trust in. Freedom must if it is to be true freedom, change the heart. And guess what? There is only one true freedom that changes the heart of man, and it's called the grace of God. That's true freedom. Freedom that can only be found in the grace of God, which by the way is the only thing in life that is truly free and free for all.

Pastor Bob



United Methodist Women

June 2011 UMW NEWS:

UMW furnished the graduation cake and decorated Fellowship Hall for a **special recognition of this school year's graduates** at the Crossroads pot-luck lunch on Sunday, May 15.

The graduates were listed in the Sunday bulletin, including our **Crossroads Children's Center VPK** graduates on June 3; Potter's Wheel Academy high school graduate on May 21, **Kevin Suter**; USF Sarasota—Manatee on 12/12/10, **Jean Felicita**- BS degree in General Business; and USF-Tampa on May 6, **Paul Reynolds**-MA in Economics. **Josheb Reynolds** also is graduating from VPK at USF, Tampa

Eleanor Sandbach and UMW President, **Jean Henry**, represented our group at the UMW Southwest District meeting at the Lake Placid Memorial UMC on Saturday, May 14. They joined 124 other UMW women to pursue the theme, "Living Peace", learning more about membership and communication through talks, small groups, skits, fellowship, and worship.

Ecclesiastes 3: 1 "To every thing there is a season,"

The summer season of spoiling grandchildren, visiting friends and relatives, vacationing, or returning to northern homes or cabins is upon us.

UMW Members invite all church women and friends in town to join us for "Dutch Treat", order-from-the-menu, fellowship lunches at 11:30 a.m. the fourth Tuesday each month.

Please mark these dates on your calendar and watch Sunday bulletins and/or e-mails for monthly choice of restaurants.

Tuesday	June 28th	Barnacle Bill's (near the Church on North Trail)
Tuesday	July 26	TBA
Tuesday	August 23	TBA

Call Bonnie Pentecost at 957-1122 to reserve each month.

June 7th-10th

9:00am-12:00pm

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Special Art Show
Friday June 10th 6pm
Presented by the
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Featuring all of our
children's art work

- . Bible teachings
- . Art projects
- . Fun activities
- . Snacks and refreshments

Crossroads Church
4726 N. Tamiami Trail,
Sarasota 34234

LIBRARY LINES

A recent book donation to our library will answer your wish for some good summertime reading. "No Woman So Fair" is a thrilling story of Sarah and Abraham. Best selling author Gilbert Morris fills in the details, making the biblical account come alive.

"Although their life of faith is peppered with doubts and temptations, God reveals plans bigger than Sarai and Abram could have imagined-- proving that all things are possible with Him." (From the book jacket)

Readers will find many other good religious fiction books in our library.

For further information, contact Eleanor Sandbach.

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry's purpose is to provide food for those that come into the church office in need of food. This is to assist with the immediate needs the person (mostly those that are homeless) may have. The handouts include: soup, breakfast bars, canned goods, macaroni & cheese and other sundry items. All food donations are greatly appreciated. Check the bulletin for current food needs. For further information contact **Anne Snyder**.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST

Do you need a special prayer? Do you have a special need? Would you like others to be surrounding you with prayer for strength and comfort? Would you like to pray for others? Contact Carol in the Church Office or Crossroads Prayer Chain 355-7089.

Thinking of Christmas in June??

We are! The **Hope for Christmas** planning team is organizing into work groups on Sunday, June 12th, in the Fellowship Hall at 12:45 pm. Areas of planning include food, toy and clothing distribution, children activities, entertainment, advertising, getting donations, set-up, and clean-up. If you are excited about reaching out to the community, to the less fortunate, and to see happy children's faces, **please join us!**



The **BAG LADIES** - Toiletries are needed to be put in each sleeping bag. These include socks, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, washcloths, hand towels, soap and any devotional booklets (i.e.) Guidepost or Upper Room (doesn't have to be current.) If you want good fellowship and like any phase of sewing join us at 12:30 Monday afternoons in Room 8. You will find it very rewarding.

WANTED:

Musicians to play on the worship team. Do you have a special musical talent? Or do you like to vocalize? See Pastor Bob.



You can help support **CHRIST'S PANTRY at CROSSROADS** by saving your aluminum cans & copper.

We are accepting these items at church and will then take them to the recycle facility on Myrtle St.

Drop your things off at church.

Bob Fellows,
Project coordinator



Keep saving CAMPBELL SOUP labels (UPC codes only,) PEPPERIDGE FARM labels and BOX TOPS for Education.

There are zip lock bags to collect these on the bulletin board in the lobby and in the kitchen. Also save used printer cartridges and give these to Becky or Bob Doll, who turn them over to Bradenton Christian School. Thank You.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Lee Snyder 6/4
- Morgan Crimi 6/6
- Kim Apollaro 6/9
- Dori Crimi 6/9
- Patricia Ferranti 6/11
- David Schar 6/14
- Janet Park 6/15
- Krysten Bright 6/17
- Eli Reynolds 6/17
- Nancy Oliver 6/18
- Michael Reed 6/23
- Jay Martin 6/25
- Richard Smith 6/26
- Amber Ingram 6/30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Jonathan and Leigh Serrie 5/4 9 years
- Murl and Sherry Mitchell 5/6 52 years
- Pastor Bob and Dyana Suter 5/7 34 years
- David and Diane Oliver 5/18 45 years
- John and Brenda Raum 5/22 12 years

JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

June 19th

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Crossroads A United Methodist Church of the 21st Century 4726 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34234 PHONE: (941) 355-5485 FAX: (941) 351-3837						
5 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:10 Adult Bible Studies—LB, FH 10:10 Youth Bible Study—FH 10:10 Sunday School—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB	6 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8	7 9:00 Art Camp—FH	1 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 7:00 AA—YB	2 7:00 Praise Band—S	3 6:30 VPK Graduation Play—FH	4
12 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:10 Adult Bible Studies—LB, FH 10:10 Youth Bible Study—FH 10:10 Sunday School—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB 12:45 Hope for Christmas meetings—FH	13 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8 7:00 WSLR	14	15 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 7:00 AA—YB	16 9:00 Art Camp—FH 7:00 Praise Band—S	17 9:00 Art Camp—FH	18
19 Father's Day 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:10 Adult Bible Studies—LB, FH 10:10 Youth Bible Study—FH 10:10 Sunday School—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB	20 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8	21	22 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 7:00 AA—YB	23 7:00 Praise Band—S	24	25
26 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:10 Adult Bible Studies—LB, FH 10:10 Youth Bible Study—FH 10:10 Sunday School—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB	27 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8	28 11:30 UMW Luncheon - Barnacle Bill's	29 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 7:00 AA—YB	30 7:00 Praise Band—S	Abbreviations: S—Sanctuary FH—Fellowship Hall LB—Library YB—Youth Building	



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Worship Times

Sunday

9 am (Choir) 11 am (Praise Band)

Bible studies

Wednesday 10:00 am (Women's Bible Study)

Sunday 10:10 am

We're on the Web
www.ourcrossroad.com

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