

Joy Notes

Fruit Cove Baptist Church Women's Ministry

What "Tugs" at your Heart?

Most of us have experienced the sudden emotion that surfaces when faced with this idiom we refer to as "tugging at our heart."

For some of us, it's the holiday season that brings that tug...even with tears as memories of a loved one no longer present in our lives comes to mind. For others, it might be seeing the poverty of the children represented on the Compassion cards—and don't forget the shoe boxes and the stories that accompany their impact around the globe. It might be something as simple and nostalgic as revisiting A Charlie Brown Christmas, as the characters discover the true meaning of Christmas. Consider for a moment...what does it for you?

This experience is so individual and yet common to humanity. But the problem with "a tugging at the heart" is that it doesn't always lead to action. For many of us it simply remains an emotion that quickly fades as the feeling subsides...an ever so genuine intention, that doesn't become a reality. And that's what separates our human heart from God's heart.

If we want to be men and women—after God's own heart—it requires much more than a "tug." It requires an "undoing" if you will, a breaking of our hearts for the things that break His heart. It means "responding" when we have an opportunity to share the incredible story of God's great compassion and love that rescues and redeems the hearts of mankind. It sometimes requires us to be uncomfortable, stretched, challenged and sacrificial with our time, resources and even relationships. There is a cost and an action required, but what a privilege to share this good news that we know to be Truth.

Let's not experience and then ignore what tugs at our heart, we need to participate in acts of kindness and compassion, but more importantly, let's be sensitive to the Holy Spirit, who dwells within every believer-God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us (Rom. 5:5)...guiding us with wisdom and insight to fulfill the plans and purposes of God. His promptings will always be for the purpose of making Jesus known through us and throughout the world.

For God so loved the world that He acted, He came to us, He gave, and He died for all of us, so that we might live eternally together with Him. What a gift we have to share!

With Love,
Linda

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SPOTLIGHT ON MISSIONS	2
GIVE A GIFT TO GIVE	3
2018 FALL BIBLE STUDIES	4
SUPPORT GROUPS	5
PLANTING HOPE	6
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	6
DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS	6
GETTING TO KNOW...	7
NIGHT OF WORSHIP	7



Spotlight on Missions

2018 was an exciting year for missions at Fruit Cove as teams traveled to two places never visited by our church: Montreal and London. Under the leadership of our Missions pastor, Jonathan Wilson, our church sent out mission teams to many different places on the globe, opening the eyes and hearts of the volunteers to the people groups who need to hear the Good News, some for the first time!

The MOVE weekend Oct. 22-23 introduced our church family to the many places we are serving. Creating a prayer walk and displays of countries visited, plus hearing pastors from the mission cities and towns we served. They wanted to convey their gratitude, but also impress upon our membership that there are still needs waiting to be fulfilled by next year's teams.

Christ placed a call on every single believer: "Go therefore into all the world and teach all nations; baptize them in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to observe all that I have commanded you, and remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the world." Matthew 28: 19-20. He also said, before He ascended, "But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the very ends of the earth." Acts 1:8.

A few years back, missionaries referred to the "10-40 window." They were referring to the latitude and longitude on the earth's surface in which a majority of unreached people groups resided. Reading current newsletters and magazines from mission organizations, this window has narrowed, not because the unreached people groups have been won to the kingdom, but because the darkness has invaded these groups so prolifically, the Christian "army" finds it difficult to invade the darkness significantly. Realistically, keeping missionaries in the "window" boils down to dollars and cents. That is where the Lottie Moon Christmas offering enters the "window". Every cent we give goes to those missionaries needing our support. Please give generously and add to that: **praying every single day** that those families and individuals who answered the call will be encouraged, kept healthy and marriages stay vibrant. Try to imagine the obstacles they face daily and your struggles will pale in comparison. Giving generously and praying daily will change your focus and purpose, introducing joy and peace into the daily rhythm of life on this side.

Below is a list of mission trips available in 2019. Prayerfully consider going as a family, as a couple or as an individual. Talk to some of the members who have participated in the past and let them tell you of the blessings they received from surrendering to the call Christ placed on all of us over two thousand years ago!

Guatemala: January 26-February 2
 Puerto Rico: March 15-20*
 London: March 15-19 (HS Seniors)
 Miami: March 15-19 (College)
 Montreal: May 25-28
 NYC/Jersey City: May 25-28*
 Romania: July 5-July 13
 Montreal: August 29-September 2
 Montreal: November 23-27 (College)

Kuala Lumpur: January 14-24
 Orlando: March 21-24 (9th Grade)
 NYC/Jersey City: March 16-23 (10th/11th grades)
 Cuba: April 27-May 4
 London: May 25-June 1 (College)
 Haiti: June 15-22
 Mission JAX: July 22-26
 Guatemala: November 23-November 30 (High School)

*Family Mission Trips

~Suzanne David~



Give a Gift to Give

what

Help us provide Christmas joy to children at the Trinity Rescue Mission and other outreach missions by bringing a new unwrapped gift for ages 3-12.

where

Bring your gift to the Women's Ministry table at the Pavilion.

collection dates

Dec. 2-Dec. 16

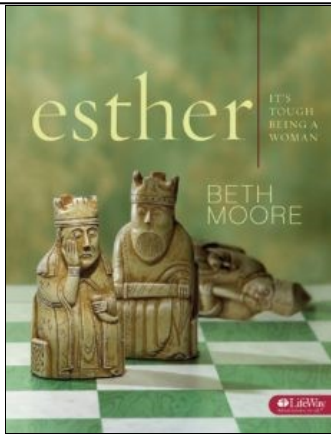
gift ideas

Toys, games, stuffed animals, dolls, hair accessories, books, sports items, backpacks, clothes, etc., as well as helping with wrapping paper and accessories.

questions

Call Peggy Weeks at 704-7653





Esther
Mondays
Beginning
Feb. 25, 2019
10:00am, ROC-202

The Old Testament story of Esther is a profile in courage and contains many modern parallels

for today's overloaded and stressed woman. Esther, while a queen, lived as an outsider in a hostile environment. Women will learn strong lessons of faith, providence, and hope to equip them to live courageously "for such a time as this."

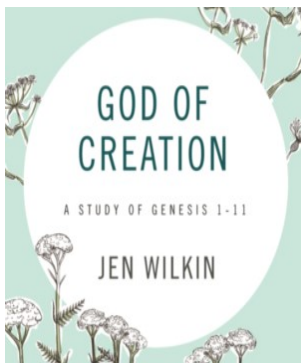
Facilitated by Peggy Weeks
No Childcare



Ten Women of the Bible
Tuesdays
Beginning
Jan. 22, 2019
9:30am, ROC-FH

These women lived in a different world than our own, but we find ourselves facing the same issues they faced. Yet, they can show us there is a God who sees us where we are and loves us for who we are.

Facilitated by Ricki Marshall
Childcare by Reservation
Childcare by Reservation



God of Creation
Tuesdays
Beginning
January 15, 2019
6:30pm, Bldg A-106

It all began with the Word. The opening chapters of Genesis teach us fundamental truths about God. We watch Him bring light after darkness, order after chaos, and rest after toil—all through the power of His Word. dive into Genesis 1-11 . As God reveals Himself through Scripture, we can only begin to understand ourselves when we first glimpse the character, attributes, and promises of our Creator.

Facilitated by Lisa Hess
No Childcare



The Seven Churches
Wednesdays
Beginning
January 9, 2019
6:15pm,

ROC-Game Room

The book of Revelation begins by addressing the spiritual condition of seven churches in Asia Minor. In this overview we'll take a look at each church; its culture, its weaknesses- what it lacked- its strengths- what it was doing right and the promise from the Lord Jesus Christ, to "him who overcomes."

Facilitated by Linda Warne
Childcare Provided

For Childcare Reservations, please contact Drema in the church office:
drema@fruitcove.com, or by phone, 287-0996

The cost for the study books is \$13.

Support Groups

JEWELS Journey

Jewels-Journey Ministry, a widows support group dedicated to helping other widows through care, understanding, empathy and God's Word. We did not choose to be widows, to be alone or to raise our children without their father, but we can choose to make things better for ourselves with the help and support of other widows as well as God's constant love.

This group meets once a month on the fourth Saturday of the month @ 9:30am in Bldg. A. After sharing brunch, they enjoy a time of sharing testimonies, guest speakers, and always find a way to laugh even though their common bond was a time of sadness.

Questions? Please call Ruth Hartley, 904-536-9648



Single Moms Support

January 9, 2019

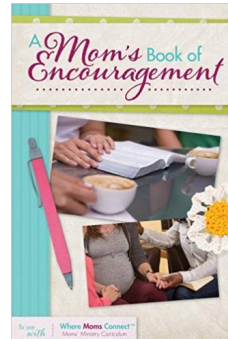
6:15 pm, Bldg. 3, Room 3

Facilitated by Denise Hodges

Childcare Provided

In this new study by Lysa Terkeurst a safe guide is offered with fresh biblical insight for living assured when life doesn't turn out as planned. With grit, vulnerability and humor, Lysa helps readers to better face unmet expectations and disappointments, and learn to be steadfast and strong while depending on God for His strength to see us through.

Mom to Mom



A biblically based parenting program designed around the Titus 2:4 concept of older women teaching and encouraging younger women. This curriculum is designed to take a close look at what God's Word has to say about our mission as moms and wives and what that looks like for 21st century women. As we explore God's Word together, we will gain godly mom-confidence in a confused

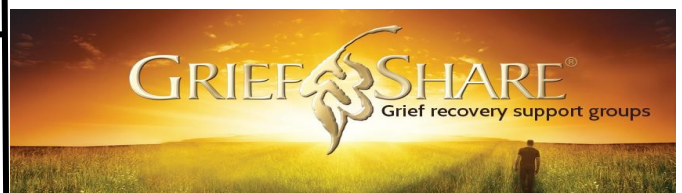
world, learn to create contagious Christian community amidst a chaotic culture, and grow in our ability to build Christ-like character in our kids.

Begins Thursday, January 10, 2019

ROC-FH 9:30-11:45 AM

Childcare Provided by Reservation

Cost of Book \$10



If you've lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel.

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. Many GriefShare alumni tell us the program helped them move from deep grief to peace and a sense of joy again. If this is a need in your life or if you know someone who is walking through grief, please encourage them to join us!

Begins Wednesday, January 9, 2019

6:15pm, BLDG. 3, Room 1

Childcare Provided

Facilitated by:

Cecille Hammond, Butch Bentley & Ken Kennedy

Childcare Provided

A Journey from Mourning to Joy

For Childcare by reservation, please contact Drema in the church office:

904-287-0996 or drema@fruitcove.com



2018-2019 Outreach Opportunities

Give A Gift to Give **December 2-16, 2018**

**Providing gifts for the women and children at
Trinity Rescue Mission**

Baskets of Love **February 13, 2019**

**Honoring our local Fire & Police men and women,
Community Organizations and specific individuals
with baskets of baked goods**

Baby Bottle Boomerang

April 14 - May 12, 2019

**Collecting money for First Coast Women's
Services in support of Lifel**

Florida Baptist Children's Home

Diaper Drive

Month of September

Collecting diapers for state of Florida



In His Image Ministry Planting Hope

*A Faith-based support
group for families with
special needs children.*

Meets first Tuesday of
every month @ 6:30pm.
Beginning January 8th in ROC-202

For more information regarding this ministry:

- ◆ Barbara Campbell at
barbara.inhisimage@gmail.com
- ◆ Church office @ 904-287-0996
- ◆ Childcare available by
reservation



Planting Hope is a monthly faith-based support group for mothers of children with special needs regardless of diagnosis.

Together, we laugh, we cry, we share the struggles, joys, and victories of special needs motherhood, and ultimately, we find strength in Christ for our unexpected journeys.

Our meetings provide:

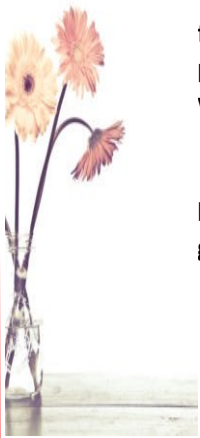
- A warm, inviting atmosphere – Camaraderie and friendship
- An opportunity to share if you'd like – Small-group discussion
- Application of God's Word to our lives – Prayer with and for one another

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

If you desire to connect with other women to grow in your faith, enjoy fellowship, develop friendships and find encouragement in your faith journey-consider joining one of our monthly discipleship groups. There are presently more than ten groups meeting on different days throughout the month. Times are based on what works best for each group.

Using the "IF Table" format of 6-7 ladies, 4 questions, 2 hours, and 1 simple meal once a month...women are building Christian community by engaging in Christ-centered conversations. If you are interested in joining a group or perhaps hosting in your home, call Linda Warne at 287-0996 or email at linda@fruitcove.com.

"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts." (Acts 2:46)



Getting to Know...Lisa Sheffield



If you have called the church office for any reason concerning our SportsLife ministry, you have more than likely talked with Lisa Sheffield, so this is your chance to get to know her a little better.

Lisa was born in Jacksonville and was #6 of the 7 children born to her parents. When Lisa was 4 years old, her parents divorced. Lisa's mom, Jackie, worked at the Thompson House (now BB's), and life changed when a kind, caring man named Joe Davis spotted the attractive waitress working there. He went in every day to buy coffee, just to get to see her. The fact that she had 7 children, did not alarm him! They married and added another child to the mix! Lisa graduated from Sandalwood High and met her husband, Mike on a blind date set up by a mutual friend. They dated for one year and married in 1986. They have 2 sons, Brandon & Ben, and a daughter, Traci. Lisa had grown up in Baymeadows Baptist Church and joined the church at an early age, but during a revival led by Rev. Bailey Smith at Southside Estates in 1987, both she and her husband, Mike were saved. Both Mike and Lisa have served in many capacities in their church life. Mike was ordained a deacon at San Jose Baptist and has taught adult Sunday School classes for years. Lisa's heart has always been with children and has taught Sunday School and for the last several years has been a teacher in GA's, our mission program for girls. In fact, she and Angie Young began teaching together and over 5 years ago began teaching a particular group of young 1st graders, they have promoted this group every year and are now teaching these same girls—now 5th graders!

Lisa worked at American Federal Savings & Loan before beginning work in the church office at Southside Estates, where she worked for 7 years. She was a stay at home mom for 17 years. Mike & Lisa joined Fruit Cove in 2004, and she began working in the church office as the administrative assistant to Mark Neal, our first SportsLife pastor, and she is now the Admin to our SportsLife pastor, Neil Muniz. As you know, our SportsLife Ministry brings many unchurched families to our campus all year long. Whether it is for the Spring Festival and Car Show, Uncle Ken's Fishing Tournament or through Upward Sports—the Gospel is proclaimed and often, families connect with Fruit Cove as their new church home.

Lisa's mom and dad have been constant examples of faith, teaching Lisa that no matter the circumstance, God is there—even in the darkest time! Lisa's family home burned when she was 12—losing everything—except her mom's Bible and a New Testament! She still has this Bible and treasures the reminder of God's faithfulness and that His Word endures forever! Her brother became a quadriplegic in a horse accident and was cared for by their parents for 20 years until his death less than 2 years ago. Again, Lisa witnessed the power of faith and strength in her parents, even in the hardest of circumstances. The sudden death of her brother was soon followed by the illness and death of her best friend—her mom. Though this past couple of years has been very difficult for Lisa, she relies on her faith, and she knows where her brother & mom are! This brings the peace that passes all understanding and comfort found only in Him. She is now attending Grief Share, and says that she "didn't realize how much I needed it, and as difficult as it is, knows it is a necessary part of healing."

When not working at Fruit Cove, Lisa's greatest joy is spending time with her family. She loves photography, riding her bike, traveling, cruises, and yes...She loves Disney and Mustangs—the four wheel kind!

If you have a chance to meet Lisa, stop and say "Hello", and of course...she is always needing volunteers in SportsLife!

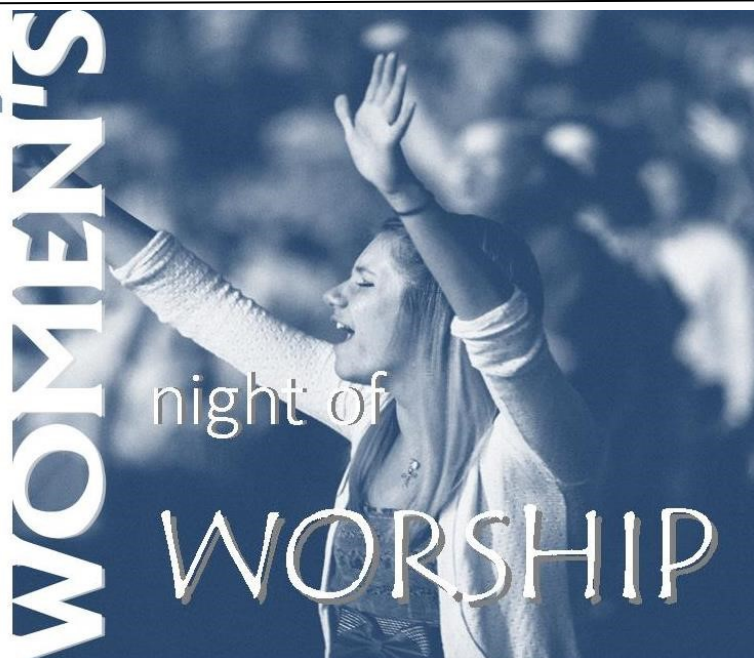
~Vicki Denney~

Friday, March 29th
Fruit Cove Baptist Church

6:30pm
Coffee Fellowship

7:15pm-9:00pm
Worship
Scripture Reading
Testimonies

Registration begins in January!
fruitcove.com/womens
for more details



Women's Ministry
 Fruit Cove Baptist Church
 501 SR 13
 Jacksonville, FL 32259

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 JACKSONVILLE, FL
 PERMIT NO. 897

Current Resident or

Lessons Learned...

In a world that is performance oriented, it is often difficult to face the ongoing battle we wage with being “good enough”, with our homes being “perfect” and even with our family— “being real”. We are bombarded with information and ideas that on the surface, are supposed to make life easier and more beautiful. I love to see the finished product when someone can implement a Pinterest idea and actually make it look like it was intended, Maybe, I am the only one who has had colossal fails when it came to some of those Pinterest attempts—both in crafting and cooking. I was brought down to a harsh reality this past week when my six year old granddaughter so gently and politely told me after days of working to prepare the “perfect” Thanksgiving meal and other meals for her family, “Nana, the food here—it just isn’t good.” You probably think this came during a tantrum or one of those “pre-school” moments—but, No—she waited until the two of us were alone and she so sweetly said, “Nana, can I tell you something?” “Of course, sweetheart, you can tell Nana anything”! Then she dropped the bomb on me! Now, the adult in me knows that this six-year old, who weighs a whopping 43 lbs. is going through one of those “I don’t like anything that is good for me” stages, but as a Nana who doesn’t get to see her grandchildren nearly often enough—for a moment felt that flash of failure. I know Roxie loves her Nana and Papa, so I tried to move on from this conversation, knowing her love isn’t based on my cooking or really anything except that she knows she is loved and treasured!

But maybe, that is why this morning as I drove to work, the song, “Fully Known and Loved by You” seemed to touch a sweet spot in my spirit. I needed to be reminded that no matter what I do—He knows me—sees my failures and loves me! His love for us is not based on our performance, but on His character—on His measureless grace! We are fully known and loved by Him! How real! How wide, How rich, How high is His heart for us! What a matchless treasure to be loved by Him!

~Vicki Denney~

Crystallized Orange Nuts

1/4 cup orange juice
 1 cup sugar
 2 cups pecan halves

Combine sugar and orange juice in a 12x7, 12x8 or 9” glass baking dish and stir well with a wooden spoon. Stir in pecans. Microwave for 6 minutes at medium-high (60% power) with the turntable off. Stir and then continue cooking for another 6-7 minutes on medium-high (60% power).

Remove dish from microwave and stir pecans until sugar starts to crystallize.

Spread nuts in a single layer on a greased cookie sheet to cool.

Store in a tightly covered container.

~Pat Busby

This is a great recipe to use for gifts!